Pre-1850 Western manuscripts11.MWalB02545

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on July 02, 2021.
eng
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summary Information</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Information</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Controlled Access Headings</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Inventory</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary Information

Repository: Brandeis University
Title: Pre-1850 Western manuscripts
ID: 11.MWalB02545
Date [inclusive]: 1150-1850
Date [bulk]: 1450-1850
Physical Description: 5.00 Linear Feet
Physical Description: 33 items other_unmapped
Physical Description: 33.00 Items
Text [other]: 33 items
Abstract: For more information about each item, please consult the item descriptions in the box and folder listing.

Preferred Citation

Pre-1850 Western manuscripts, Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University

Scope and Contents

The pre-1850 Western manuscripts collection contains handwritten works from the twelfth century to the mid-nineteenth century, on subjects including Christianity, Judaica, music, art, English history and law, American history, Italian history, French history, German history, classics, philosophy, literature, sartorialism, and the history of science.

Return to Table of Contents
Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Brandeis University

415 South St.
Waltham, MA
URL: https://findingaids.brandeis.edu/

Conditions Governing Access

Access to the collection is in accordance with the policies of the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University. Please contact the department for more information.

Conditions Governing Use

Requests to reproduce or publish material from the collection should be directed to the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University.

Method of Acquisition

The materials in this collection were the gifts of various donors.

Controlled Access Headings

- Jewish literature
- Germany -- History
- Art -- History
- Christianity -- History
- Catholic Church -- Doctrines -- Early works to 1800
- Catholic Church -- Prayers and devotions. Latin
- Catholic Church -- Sermons -- Early works to 1800
- Great Britain -- History
- France -- History
- Jews -- History
- Italy -- History
- Manuscripts, Latin (Medieval and modern) -- Massachusetts -- Waltham
• Theology, Doctrinal -- Early works to 1800
• Gregorian chants -- Instruction and study
• Music theory -- History -- 15th century
• Painting -- Early works to 1800
• Music -- History
• Sermons, Latin -- Early works to 1800
• Bible -- Manuscripts, Latin
• Books of hours -- Specimens
• Books of hours -- Texts -- Early works to 1800
• Illuminations of books and manuscripts, Medieval
• Church history
• Books of hours -- Texts

---

**Collection Inventory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manus 1: Catholic Church. [Book of Hours : Use of Rennes], 1420-1430</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date:</strong> 1420-1430</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Contents**

Language: Latin. Date: c. 1420-1430. Title: [Book of Hours : use of Rennes]. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: France. Physical description: Vellum, 70 leaves ; 22 x 16 cm. Summary: Catholic Church Liturgy and Ritual. Hours of the Virgin Mary for the use of Rennes in Brittany. Incomplete: Penitential Psalms and Office of the Dead lacking. Contents include calendar (ff. 1-12 v.), Gospel lesson [John 1:1-13] (ff. 13 r. – 14 v.), Obsecro Te [Prayer of Indulgence to the Virgin Mary] (ff. 15 r. – 19 r.), and the Hours of the Blessed Virgin Mary (ff. 20 r. ff.). The script is common in French provincial scriptoria in the 2nd quarter of the 15th century and is no indication of either date or location. Not in the Di Ricci/Wilson catalogue. Formerly identified as "Italian Missal" (cf. bookseller's description pasted inside front cover). A full scan of the manuscript is available online through the Brandeis Special Collections website, http://lts.brandeis.edu/research/archives-speccoll/exhibits/bookofhours/index.html. See also the transcription available at http://www.chd.dk/gui/Brandeis_gui.html. Note: Written in a single conservative gothic hand (littera textualis) ; text in a single column of 15 lines ; writing block 8 x 10 cm. ; rubricated in pale red. Ten full-page miniatures (The Virgin Mary enthroned with the Child (f. 15 r.) ; Annunciation (f. 20 r.) ; The Kiss of Judas (f. 39 v.) ; Christ before Annas (f. 41 r.) ; Christ before Caiphas (f. 42 r.) ; Flagellation of Christ (f. 48 r.) ; Carrying of the Cross (f. 52 v.) ; Crucifixion (f. 56 v.) ; Descent from the Cross (f. 61 r.) ; Entombment of Christ (f. 65 r.)) with full borders of acanthus leaves in pink, red, blue, and green.
flecked with flowers in color and gold; gold foliate initials
on red, blue, and pink grounds; line fillers. Colors of royal
blue, pale blue, red, pink, rose, mauve, green, yellow, and
gray. Bound in original blind-tooled gilt Grolier full leather
over wooden boards; bookseller's description pasted inside
front cover; leaf count excludes front free endpaper; housed
in protective library buckram case. Unknown provenance. Gift
of Philip D. Sang. Former Call #: Ms. 1 Call #: Manus 1

Manus 2: Catholic Church. Biblia Sacra [Latin Vulgate Bible], late
12th or early 13th c.
Date: late 12th or early 13th c.

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin.

Date: late 12th or early 13th c.

Title: Biblia Sacra [Latin Vulgate Bible].

Creator: Unknown.

Place of creation: Unknown.

Physical description: Vellum, 606 leaves; 16 x 11 cm.

Summary: Dominican Vulgate Bible with dictionary of
biblical terms. [Note, April 2013: scholars have suggested that
this is a Paris university bible, not Dominican.]

Note: Bound in old full pig vellum over thin paper boards;
raised bands to spine; manuscript title on top and bottom
edge and on spine; white endpapers. Text written in black
and red ink on extremely fine thin vellum in a single, neat,
miniscule gothic hand. Running titles (occasionally trimmed)
and chapter numbers in alternately red and blue; rubricated
with lead; illuminated throughout with decorated letters in
red, pink, light and dark blue, yellow, green and gold. Shaft
divided into fillets of blue and salmon with filigree penwork
extensions occasionally ending in leafy patterns and dragon-
like beasts, tails interwined with scrolls. Includes dictionary of
biblical terms, p. [561-606]. In double columns; text 47 lines
per column, dictionary 49 lines per column. Writing block:
112 x 66 mm. Occasional marginal notes. Gift of Philip D.
Sang.

Former Call #: Ms. 2

Call #: Manus 2

Manus 3: Catholic Church. [Book of Hours : Use of Rome]. (Italy),
15th c.
Date: 15th c.
Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: 15th c. Title: Officium Beatae Mariae Virginis [Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary] ; [Book of Hours : use of Rome]. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: Italy. Physical description: Vellum, 201 leaves ; 11 x 8 cm. Summary: Catholic Church liturgy and ritual. Contents include : Calendar (ff. 1 – 12 v.) ; Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary (ff. 13 r. – 106 r.) ; Seven Penitential Psalms (ff. 106 v. – 132 v.), including the Litany of the Saints (ff. 122 r. – 128 r.) and the Preces [Traditional prayers after the Litany] (ff. 128 r. – 132 v.) ; Prayers to the Virgin (ff. 133 r. – 137 v.) ; Office of the Dead (ff. 138 r. – 194 r.) ; Hours of the Holy Cross (ff. 194 v. – 200 r.) ; Si quaeris miracula [Hymn for St. Anthony] (ff. 200 v. – 201 v.). Text begins on f. 13 r.: Incipit off[iciu]m be[aat]issime virginis marie secundu[c]onse[tue]dinem romane curie usus. Note: Manuscript written in a single, neat gothic book hand, except final 3 pages (ff. 200 v. – 201 v.), the Si quaeris miracula of St. Anthony, which are written in a later hand. 3 large historiated initials surrounded by full borders, marking the beginning of the Office of the Virgin, the Penitential Psalms, and the Hours of the Cross, respectively: Virgin and Child (f. 13 r.) ; King David Praying (f. 106 v.) ; Christ on the Cross (f. 195 r.). Space left in manuscript on f. 137 v. for an historiated initial for the Office of the Dead, which was never drawn ; thus Office of the Dead is missing the first several words, and begins: [Dilexi quoniam exaudiet dominus] vocem orationis mee. A great number of large initials in colors and gold ; additional small initials in red and blue, many with filigree pen decoration ; colors of blue, green, red, purple, gold, and pink. Bound in full old green morocco over paper boards ; gilt border to front and rear cover ; gilt decoration and title to spine ; white endpapers ; front free endpaper detached ; binding separated from text block at front hinge ; first gathering loose. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume is unknown ; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang. Former Call #: Ms. 3 Call #: Manus 3

Manus 4: Unknown. Sermones [Book of Sermons], c. 1475

Date: c. 1475

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: c. 1475 Title: Sermones [Book of Sermons]. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: Unknown. Physical description: Paper, 254 leaves ; 16 x 11 cm. Summary: Catholic Church ; Book of Sermons. Contents include Sermo de passione Domini [A Sermon on the Passion of the Lord] ; Sermones de confessionibus non pontificibus [Sermons on Confessors-not-Bishops] ; Alia sermo de dedicatione templi [Another sermon on the dedication of a church] ; etc. The sermons seem to follow a liturgical order, proceeding from the Dedication of a Church, through Doctors and Confessors, to the Feast of the Epiphany. Note: Bound in old full blind-stamped leather over wooden boards ; five brass bosses to front and rear cover ; brass hardware
for single leather clasp on covers, clasp now missing; red edges; morocco label with gilt title to spine. Majority of the manuscript in a single cursive gothic hand; occasional marginal notes in the same hand; front endpaper includes text in another hand, and leaves in this same hand are bound in at various places in the manuscript, including most notably the final 8 leaves. Red initials; margins ruled in grey; writing block: 62 x 95 mm. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume is unknown; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang.

Former Call #: Ms. 4 Call #: Manus 4

---

Manus 5: [Book of Hours]., c. 1525

Date: c. 1525

**Scope and Contents**

Language: Latin.

Date: c. 1525

Title: Book of Hours (Ms. Brandeis University. MS 5).

Creator: Unknown.

Place of creation: Probably written and decorated in Paris.

Physical description: [100] manuscript leaves, bound : col. ill. ; 155 x 100 mm.

Summary:

Note: Fragment, signatures a-c2 and p8 missing. Signatures: c³# d-o# p#. Written on vellum; rubricated in pale red, with fourteen full-page woodcut illustrations and varied woodcut scenes in the borders. Initial letters colored alternating blue and red, some also with gold. The full-page woodcuts are identical with the Book of hours published in Paris by Thielman Kerver for Gilles Remacle, around 1500. Original calf binding with blind-tooled gilt emblems on both sides. With the original owner's woodcut bookplate. Gift of Philip D. Sang.

---

Manus 6: Bonaventura, da Brescia. Breviloquium Musicale., c. 1450

Date: c. 1450

**Scope and Contents**

Language: Latin.

Date: c. 1450.

Title: Breviloquium Musicale.

Creator: Bonaventura, da Brescia; Unknown.
Place of creation: Unknown.

Physical description: Vellum, 32 leaves ; 18 x 13 cm.

Summary: Manuscript treatise on music theory by the Italian Franciscan friar Bonaventura da Brescia, also known as Anterus Maria de San Bonaventura. The treatise deals with the principles of performing both notated music of the time and Gregorian Chant, and represents a shortened version of the Brevis collection artis musicae. This version was printed by Angelo Britannico in Brescia, in July 1497, and appears to have been very popular, as it went through a number of editions. No effort has yet been made to compare this manuscript version with the printed text.

Note: Written in several hands ; majority of the text (ff. 1-28) written in a single hand in dark brown ink in two columns ; writing block 123 x 85 mm ; rubricated in light brown ink ; initials and chapter headings in red. Folios 29-32 written in what appear to be seven distinct hands ; musical notation in red and black on f. 30 v.-31 v. ; dime-sized hole to f. 29, affecting text. Bound in original full undecorated red pig vellum over wooden boards ; vellum missing from most of spine and a large portion of the rear cover. Three gatherings, of 12, 12, and 8 leaves, respectively ; f. 30 r. blank. Vellum endpapers ; large indentation in wood of the inside of the front cover. Gift of Philip Neufeld, n.d.

Date: 1485

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin.

Date: 1485.

Title: De Pictura [On Painting].

Creator: Alberti, Leon Battista ; Unknown.

Place of creation: Unknown.

Physical description: Paper, 39 leaves ; 27 x 20 cm.

Summary: A late 15th century manuscript copy of the first known treatise on the art of painting, by Leon Battista Alberti, an Italian humanist whose life is described in Giorgio Vasari's Vite (cf. Vasari, The Lives of the Artists, trans. Julia and Peter Bondanella (NY: Oxford UP, 1998) [N6922 .V2213 1998]). Alberti wrote the Latin De Pictura in 1435, and then produced a vernacular translation, Della Pittura in 1436. He dedicated the volume to the artist and architect Filippo Brunelleschi. Leonardo Da Vinci greatly admired Alberti, and was familiar with this treatise, which almost certainly inspired his own work on painting, Trattato della Pittura.

Note: Small folio. Fine humanistic script in dark brown ink on paper in a single hand ; four chapter-headings in red ; one large initial drawn in ink on f. 1 r. ; several other initials penciled in for illumination. First two leaves written in two columns ; text block 18 x 14 cm. ; leaves rubricated in lead ; manuscript notation in other hands on front free endpaper and on f. 39 v. ; includes a few marginal notes, some trimmed by binding. Bound in vellum backed undecorated paper boards and housed in a protective plastic sleeve and slipcase. Gift of Bern Dibner, n.d.

Former Call #: Ms. 8

Call #: Manus 8

Date: 15th c.

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin.

Date: 15th c.


Creator: Aquinas, Thomas, Saint ; Unknown.

Place of creation: Unknown.

Physical description: Paper, 157 leaves ; 32 x 22 cm.

Summary: Catholic Church theology. Part three of the Summa Theologica of St. Thomas Aquinas, perhaps the single most important theological work of the later Middle Ages.

Note: Folio. Written in a single hand in a cursive gothic script ; 2 columns of varying numbers of lines (40-70) ; writing block is 220 x 64 mm. Ruled in lead ; red initials, running titles, and chapter headings. One large decorated initial on f. 85 r. (a man's face, floral decoration, and a dragon) ; hand-drawn colored bookplate pasted to front free endpaper. Bound in original blind-stamped doeskin over heavy wooden boards ; vellum label and manuscript title to spine ; brass bosses and manuscript title to front and rear cover, 3 of original 10 bosses now missing ; some worm damage to cover (common with doeskin) ; housed in quarter leather box. Gift of Peter H. Brandt, n.d.

Former Call #: Ms. 9

Call #: Manus 9


Date: 1767, 1786-1823

Scope and Contents

variously "Conestbel," "Constuble," "Constable," etc.) was
a yearly office, as the name that accompanies the title is
different each year. Note: Bound in contemporary full dark-
stained vellum over paper boards; manuscript title(?) on front
cover, though now almost completely illegible; text written
in multiple neat English cursive hands. In addition to a loose
leaf containing the accounts of 1767, several other small
contemporary scraps of paper are present in the manuscript.
History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume unknown;
possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang. Call #: Manus 10

Manus 11: Setenca do Padre Frey Diogo da Assumpcam. (Lisbon,
Portugal), c. 1710

Date: c. 1710

**Scope and Contents**

Language: Portuguese. Date: c.1710. Title: Setenca do Padre
Frey Diogo da Assumpcam. Creator: Unknown. Place of
creation: Lisbon, Portugal. Physical description: Paper,
8 leaves (16 p.); 22 x 16 cm. Summary: Persecution of
Marranos; Inquisition in Portugal; Conversion to Judaism.
Full manuscript title: Setenca do Padre Frey Diogo da
Assumpcam, Frade Capucho Antoninho, parte de Christao
novo, natural de Vianna de Caminha, de ordens de Evangelho.

O qual sahio a queimar vivo no Auto publico da Fee, que se
celebrou no Terreiro do Paco de la Cidade de Lisboa aos 3 de
Agosto Anno de 1603, por hereje Apostata de nossa Santa Fee
Catholica, convicto, confesso, pertinaz, impenitente e excluido
para sempre de juridicam eccleziastica e ordens, etc. Diogo da
Assumpção (1569-1603) was a Marrano martyr killed during
the Inquisition in Portugal:

Assumpção was born at Viana in Portugal. Only partly
Jewish by descent, he was brought up as a devout Christian
and became a Franciscan friar. His attention was directed
to Judaism because of the ferocity with which it was
persecuted, and in due course he made no secret of the fact
that he accepted its tenets. Arrested by the Inquisition while
attempting to escape abroad, he at first professed penitence,
but later proudly confessed himself an adherent of the Law of
Moses, "in which he lived and hoped to die, and to which he
looked for salvation." Even in prison, he attempted to observe
the Sabbath and dietary laws as he understood them, refused
to take an oath on the Gospels, and argued vigorously against
the theologians brought to convince him of his error. His
execution by burning alive at the auto-da-fé held at Lisbon
on Aug. 3, 1603, created a profound impression. He was
considered one of the exemplary martyrs of the Inquisition
by the communities abroad, and a number of elegies were
composed in his honor. In Portugal, some devout Marranos
formed a religious association in his memory, called the
Brotherhood of S. Diogo in order to divert suspicion. His
martyrdom inspired in particular the Marrano group in the
University of Coimbra led by Antonio Homem [Roth,
Cecil. "Assumpção, Diogo da" in Encyclopaedia Judaica,
This manuscript contains an account of Assumpção's trial for heresy and its aftermath, and is described by the bookseller as unpublished. For more information on Assumpção, see Cecil Roth's *A History of the Marranos* (Philadelphia: Press of the Jewish Publication Society of America, 1947): 149-151. Note: Disbound. Pages numbered 121-136. Written in brown ink in a neat cursive Portuguese hand. Sale price visible in pencil in upper left margin of first leaf. Description from bookseller's catalogue pasted to cover of archival folder in which manuscript was originally housed. Possibly originally part of the same manuscript as "Setenca do…Padre Luiz de Azurar Lobo," since both were purchased from the same seller and identified as being written in Lisbon around 1710; leaves are very close in size and hands look very similar, though here the ink is lighter. Gift of the Abner A. Wolf Foundation in memory of Mrs. Sadie Mannheimer, n.d. Call #: Manus 11

**Manus 12: Setenca do…Padre Luiz de Azurar Lobo.** (Lisbon, Portugal), c. 1710

**Date:** c. 1710

**Scope and Contents**

Language: Portuguese. Date: c.1710. Title: Setenca do…Padre Luiz de Azurar Lobo. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: Lisbon, Portugal. Physical description: Paper, 8 leaves (16 p.) ; 22 x 16 cm. Summary: Persecution of Marranos ; Inquisition in Portugal ; Conversion to Judaism. Full manuscript title: Setenca do S[anc]to Officio que derao os Inquisidores, e maes Deputaors contra Padre Luiz de Azurar Lobo p[ar]te de Christam novo natural, e morador na villa de Montemor o velho em 31 de Marco do Anno de 1662, Domingo 4to da Quaresma. Pela qual foi relaxado a Justicia Secular por herege, Apostata de nossa Santa Fee, e declarado por convicto, ficto, falso, simulado, confitente diminuto, impenitente variante, e levogante, deposto, e degradado das Ordens, etc. According to the bookseller's description, Azurar Lobo was a Catholic priest who "confessed to being a Jew, keeping Sabbaths and Fasts and abstaining from pork and fish without scales" (See bookseller's description pasted to original archival folder housing manuscript). This manuscript contains an account of Azurar Lobo's trial for heresy and its aftermath, and is described by the bookseller as unpublished. Note: Disbound. Pages unnumbered. Written in dark brown ink in a neat cursive Portuguese hand. Sale price visible in pencil in upper left margin of first leaf. Description from bookseller's catalogue pasted to cover of archival folder in which manuscript was originally housed. Possibly originally part of the same manuscript as "Setenca do Padre Frey Diogo da Assumpcam," since both were purchased from the same seller and identified as being written in Lisbon around 1710; leaves are very close in size and hands look very similar, though here the ink is darker. Gift of the Abner A. Wolf...
(Philadelphia), 1758
Date: 1758

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: 1758. Title: De Vita R Proudi
Physical description: Paper, 5 leaves (10 p.) ; 22 x 18 cm.
Summary: Autobiography of Robert Proud, classicist,
educator, and historian of Philadelphia. Proud was born in
Yorkshire, England on May 10th, 1728 and emigrated to
Pennsylvania in January of 1759 at the age of 31, where he
taught Latin and Greek at the Friends' Latin School (A Quaker
school, as the name suggests), eventually rising to the position
of headmaster. During the Revolution, he was a strong
Royalist. In 1791 he began his history of Philadelphia. He died
at the age of 85 on July 7th, 1813. He is described as tall, with
a Roman nose, and "with most impending brows. Domine
Proud wore a curled grey wig, and a half-cocked, ancient
hat. He was the model of a gentleman" (qtd. in Simpson,
Henry. The Lives of Eminent Philadelphians, Now Deceased.
also Proud, Robert. The Proud papers (Robert Proud, historian
of Pennsylvania) embracing, original manuscript[s], early
American almanacks, newspapers, Paxton boy Pamphlets.
Early histories of Pennsylvania, Franklin, Bradford and other
imprints; and a collection of Americana, to be sold. May 8,
'03. (Philadelphia: Morris Press, 1903). Note: Rebound in 20th
century quarter brown leather over brown marbled boards ;
gilt title to spine. Leaf count disregards multiple blank leaves
at front and rear of manuscript inserted at time of binding.
Written in black ink in a small and somewhat messy hand.
Bookseller's description pasted inside front cover. Gift of
Philip D. Sang, n.d. Call #: Manus 13

Manus 14: Giannone, Pietro. Professione di Fede ; Abbiura di Pietro
Giannone ; Nota per il Doctor Pietro Giannone. (Italy), Mid 18th c.
(after 1738)
Date: Mid 18th c. (after 1738)

Scope and Contents

Language: Italian ; Latin. Date: Mid-18th century (after 1738).
Title: Professione di Fede ; Abbiura di Pietro Giannone ;
Nota per il Doctor Pietro Giannone. Creator: Giannone,
Pietro (1676-1748) ; unknown scribe. Place of creation:
Italy [Turin?]. Physical description: Paper, 1-53 numbered
leaves, [1], 54-64 numbered leaves ; 28 x 21 cm. Summary:
Texts from the posthumous works of Pietro Giannone of
Naples, Italy, written during his time in prison in Turin
from c.1736-1748. For comparison with an early printed
copy of the text, see Opera Postume di Pietro Giannone (Venice: Giambatista Pasquali, 1768). Pietro Giannone was an important Italian historian of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century, perhaps best known for opposing papal influence in Naples in his polemical survey of Neapolitan history, Istoria civile del regno di Napoli (1723). This work, and his later Il triregno, ossia del regno del cielo, della terra, e del papa (“The Triple Crown, or the Reign of Heaven, Earth, and the Pope”) were two of the first texts to deal systematically with the relationship between church and state from the perspective of the history of institutions of power and an historical account of sovereignty, which he called Istoria civile, “civil history.” As a result of his writings, in which he took a polemical stance on the side of the civil powers in their conflicts with the Church hierarchy, Giannone was excommunicated and his books were placed on the Index Librorum Prohibitorum, after which Giannone left Italy to live in exile in Geneva. However, several years later on a visit to a Catholic village in Sardinia, he was captured and turned over to the authorities in Turin, where he spent the last twelve years of his life in prison. He was well respected as a historian during his own time, and Gibbon drew on his work heavily in the later volumes of the The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, thus ensuring his reputation in England. Today he remains a significant figure in Italian history of the 18th century. It is difficult to date this manuscript precisely, though it may be traced with some confidence to the mid-18th century, which places it very close to the date of Giannone’s original writings (1738). A scholarly comparison of this manuscript to other extant manuscripts of this work, such as those used in preparing the 1768 edition of Giannone’s posthumous works, may be a worthy project for a researcher in Neapolitan history. For more information on Gianonne, see Harold Stone, "The Record of the Losers: A Consideration of Pietro Giannone" in The American Scholar Vol. 54, Issue 1 (Winter 1984-1985): 111-118 ; and Hugh Trevor-Roper, "Pietro Giannone and Great Britain" in The Historical Journal, Vol. 39, No. 3. (Sept. 1996): 657-675. See also a modern Italian critical edition of Gianonne’s works, Opere di Giannone Pietro, ed. Sergio Bertelli and Giuseppe Ricuperati. (Milano: R. Ricciardi, 1971). Note: Bound in 18th century full vellum over paper boards ; gilt decoration to covers and spine ; marbled endpapers. Leaf count disregards 2 blank and unnumbered leaves at front one at rear of manuscript. Written in dark brown ink in a single hand. First and final pages contain stamp of “Malvezzi, Duca di Santa Candida.” The title of Duke of Santa Candida was granted to the Malvezzi (or Malvinni) family by Carlo VI in 1784, thus this volume must have been in the family’s possession some time after that date. History of Brandeis’s acquisition of the volume unknown ; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang. Call #: Manus 14

Manus 15: La Vie de S. Clotilde...et La Conversion d’Hermenigilde. (France), 1671

Date: 1671
Scope and Contents

Language: French. Date: 1671. Title: La Vie de S. Clotilde...et La Conversion d'Hermenigilde. Creator: unknown. Place of creation: France. Physical description: Paper, 85 leaves (170 numbered pages) ; 15 x 10 cm. Summary: This small manuscript gives an account of the lives of two Catholic saints who opposed the Arian heresy in France and Spain during the early Middle Ages. Both stories feature women who convert their husbands from heresy to orthodox Catholicism. The first work in the volume is the Life of S. Clotilda (Fr. Clotilde). Catholic Burgundian princess Clotilda (c. 474 – June 3, 548) wed Clovis I, King of the Franks in 493. Her encouragement led her pagan husband to convert to Catholic Christianity, ensuring the triumph in Gaul of Roman Catholicism over paganism and Arianism, as Clovis's dynasty, the Merovingians, survived until the rise of the Carolingians in the 8th century. Gregory of Tours in his Histories provides extended accounts of the arguments that Clotilda used to convince her husband of the truth of the Christian faith. After Clovis's death, Clotilda retired to Tours, where she was known for her charity and sanctity of life. Clotilda is buried beside Clovis in the church they co-founded in Paris, now Sainte-Genevieve, and her feast day is celebrated in the Roman Catholic Church on June 3rd. Following the description of the life of Clotilda, the manuscript turns to another Catholic saint lauded by Gregory, the Spanish prince and Catholic martyr Hermenegild (Fr. Hermenigilde). Hermenegild was the eldest son of the Visigothic king Leovigild of Spain. He married the princess Ingunthis, the Catholic daughter of Sigebert, King of Austrasia, in France. Like Clotilda, Ingunthis persuaded her husband to convert to orthodox Catholicism from Arianism, for which he incurred his father's wrath. Leovigild captured his son during a rebellion, and after failing to persuade him to return to Arianism, he had him executed in 585. Hermenegild is buried in Seville, and his feast day is celebrated on April 13th. For more information see Alban Butler, The Lives of the Fathers, Martyrs, and Other Principal Saints, v.4 (D&J Sadler and Co., 1864), available online at http://www.ewtn.com/library/MARY/HERMENEG.htm. For more information on Clotilda see the Catholic Encyclopedia article on her by Godefroid Kurth, translated by Joseph P. Thomas (NY: Robert Appleton, 1908), available online at http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/04066a.htm. Note: Bound in 17th century full undecorated vellum over paper boards ; plain white endpapers. 16mo. Written in dark brown ink in a single hand. Includes dated title page and table of contents (p. 3). Pages numbered and with running titles: "Clotilde" (p. 6-41) and "Hermenegilde" (42-170). Ex Sir Thomas Phillipps Collection, England, #1131 ; Phillipps Collection stamp and number on front fly-leaf. Purchased by Sir Thomas Phillipps from Verbelen de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium), 1824. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume unknown ; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang. Call #: Manus 15
Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: unknown [pre-1500]. Title: Graecismus [fragment]. Creator: unknown ; Eberhard of Bethune (13th c.). Place of creation: unknown. Physical description: vellum, 2 leaves (4 pages) ; 21 x 17 cm. Summary: Two leaves excised from a volume of Graecismus, a medieval Latin grammar composed in verse by the 13th century Flemish grammarian Eberhard of Bethune, from Arras. Bethune’s popular grammar was evidently one of those Erasmus studied during his time in school, and four lines from these leaves are quoted in P.S. Allen’s discussion of the text in his The Age of Erasmus. Allen remarks that “its name, Graecismus, was based upon a chapter, the eighth, devoted to the elementary study of Greek, a feature which constituted an advance on the current grammars of the age.” Allen goes on to quote the lines: Quod sententia sit bole comprobat amphibolla, Quodque fides broge sit comprobat Allobroga,... Constat apud Grecos quod tertia littera cima est, Est quoque dulce cimen, inde ctmeterium. These four lines may be found on the verso of the second leaf, the first two beginning seven lines above the somewhat large initial C near the center of the page, and the final two beginning with that large initial C of Constat, which indicates that this leaf comes from the important eighth chapter on Greek grammar from which the work takes its name. To call this a section on Greek grammar is somewhat generous, as the text generally confines itself to tracing Greek etymologies, many of which, including the above reference to “cemetery,” are ultimately spurious. Aside from his grammatical works, of which there are several, Eberhard wrote an important treatise against the Waldensians, entitled Antihaeresis. For more information, see P.S. Allen. The Age of Erasmus: Lectures Delivered in the Universities of Oxford and London. (NY: Russell and Russell, 1963): 39-41, available online at http://www.openlibrary.org/details/ageoferasmus007430mbp. Offprints of these pages are kept in the folder with the manuscript. Note: Disbound. Written in dark brown ink in three or possibly four distinct hands. Main body of the text supplemented by copious marginal notes, as well as some interlinear notation, much of which is written in a difficult to read cursive gothic script. Includes one large illuminated initial O(?), heavily damaged, in red with blue decoration and a partial border on f. 1 r. Additional initials in red. Trimmed from original size such that the two leaves are not of the same width (f. 2 is 17 cm. wide, f. 1 only 15), affecting the marginalia on both leaves. The upper and lower margins of both leaves have been trimmed also, again affecting the marginal text. These leaves may well have been used as the endpapers of a later volume, as discoloration around the edges suggests the former presence of paste downs. Folio 2 r. also retains traces of glue and paper from a time when the manuscript was pasted to another surface. Ex collection of Victor Berch, Brandeis Special Collections Librarian. Donated by Berch to Brandeis, March 2008. Call #: Manus 16
Manus 17: Histoire Succinte des Revolutions arrivées dans les principaux États de l'Europe depuis le commencement de ce Siécle. (France), 18th c.

**Date:** 18th c.

**Scope and Contents**

Language: French. Date: 18th c. Title: Histoire Succinte des Revolutions arrivées dans les principaux États de l'Europe depuis le commencement de ce Siécle [A Brief History of the Revolutions in the Principal States of Europe Since the Beginning of this Century]. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: France. Physical description: Paper, [1 leaf], 61 numbered leaves, [6 blank leaves, numbered in pencil in a later hand] ; 25 x 18 cm. Summary: Diplomatic history of wars and monarchical successions in Europe during the 17th century. No printed edition of this text has yet been located. Note: Rebound in full brown marbled leather with gilt decoration to cover and spine ; morocco label with gil title to spine ; initials "I.T.E." (?) stamped in gilt on front cover. Bookplate of Edwin S. Kassing pasted inside front cover ; leaf count excludes flyleaves at front and rear. Writing in a single hand, only to recto of the leaves ; text occasionally altered or corrected (cf. ff. 29, 35, 36, etc.). Ex Sir Thomas Phillipps Collection, England, #3090 (?) ; Phillipps Collection stamp and number on f. 1 r. Purchased by Sir Thomas Phillips from Jacob Henry Burn, Covent Garden. Gift of Philip D. Sang, n.d. Call #: Manus 17

Manus 18: Nisbet, Charles. Questions and Answers. (Carlisle, Pennsylvania), c. 1798-1802

**Date:** c. 1798-1802

**Scope and Contents**

Language: English. Date: c. 1798-1802. Title: Questions and Answers. Creator: Nisbet, Charles (1736-1804) ; Bell, Samuel (1776-1854). Place of creation: Carlisle, Pennsylvania [Dickinson College]. Physical description: Paper, 45, [3], 70, [2], 274 numbered pages ; 21 x 13 cm. Summary: Charles Nisbet, born in Scotland on January 21, 1736, was elected the first principal, or president, of Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1784. He served the college both in this capacity and as a professor, teaching subjects including moral philosophy, mental philosophy, belle lettres, logic, systematic theology, and pastoral theology until his death in 1804. This manuscript consists of notes taken by one of Nisbet's students, Samuel Bell, during a series of Nisbet's lectures on philosophy. The first section of the manuscript is concerned with the subject of Philosophy broadly construed, the second section appears under the title "Metaphysics," and the third and longest section is dedicated to Moral Philosophy, untitled but beginning with the question, "What is moral philosophy?" It would appear that at least one other copy of the material on moral philosophy that comprises the bulk of the manuscript exists in the Grace Doherty Library of...
Centre College under the title, "Questions and Answers on Moral Philosophy," though there has as of yet been no detailed comparison of the two texts. For more information on Nisbet, see the biographical note to the Charles Nisbet Family Papers, 1769-1865, Dickinson College Archives and Special Collections; finding aid available online at http://chronicles.dickinson.edu/findingaids/mc2001.07.pdf. See also Samuel Miller, Memoir of the Rev. Charles Nisbet, D.D., Late President of Dickinson College, Carlisle (NY: R. Carter, 1840), and, for a different perspective on Nisbet's accomplishments, see David W. Robinson, "Enlightening the Wilderness: Charles Nisbet's Failure at Higher Education in Post-Revolutionary Pennsylvania" in History of Education Quarterly, v. 37, no. 3 (Autumn, 1997): 271-289. The Dickinson College alumni records list Samuel Bell as a graduate in the class of 1802; no additional information is provided about his later life and career. Note: Bound in original full brown undecorated leather boards; morocco label with title, "Nisbet's Questions and Answers," to spine. Written in dark brown ink in a single hand. Signature of "Sam[uel] Bell" on front fly-leaf and in left margin of f. 1 r. Leaf count excludes flyleaves at front and rear. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume unknown; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang. Call #: Manus 18

Manus 19: Walker, Isaac R. An Address upon the Close Connection of Education with the Welfare of "Our Country." (Pennsylvania?), 1846

Date: 1846

Scope and Contents

Language: English. Date: 1846. Title: An Address upon the Close Connection of Education with the Welfare of "Our Country." Creator: Walker, Isaac R. Place of creation: America [Pennsylvania?]. Physical description: Paper, 22 leaves (final 2 blank); 18 x 12 cm. Summary: "An address...delivered before the Great Valley Debating Association on the evening of Wednesday October 21st, 1846." The manuscript records a rather immoderate patriotic speech delivered by Dr. Walker before this debating association. The text begins with a bit of doggerel verse, the first few lines of which read: "There lives in the bosom a feeling sublime, / of all 'tis the strongest tie; / Unvarying through every change of time, / And only with life does it die." The manuscript continues in this vein, primarily in the form of an exposition of the phrase "Our Country." A representative passage reads: "'Our Country!' What an infinite number of thoughts and ideas this short sentence calls up in the mind of every patriotic American citizen – I ponder the phrase: Our Country! My Country! Sweet land of liberty! America, 'tis of thee I speak." The precise location of the debating society has not been identified, as there are several "Great Valleys" in the United States, though the most likely candidate is a town in Pennsylvania. Likewise, no additional information is known about the author of the manuscript, Dr. Isaac R. 
Walker. Note: Notebook of 22 leaves ruled in red in four columns. Leaves sewn in a single gathering; binding is limp undecorated leather over thin paper boards; spine reinforced by buckram library tape. Written in a single hand. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Apfelbaum, Mr. and Mrs. Kronenberg, and Mr. and Mrs. Richter in honor of Donald Menchel on his fifty-fifth birthday, n.d. Call #: Manus 19

Manus 20: Geleitbrief; incipit: "Von Gottes gnaden Philipp Abbt des Kays." (Germany), 1763

Date: 1763

**Scope and Contents**

Language: German.

Date: March 15, 1763.

Title: Geleitbrief; incipit: "Von Gottes gnaden Philipp Abbt des Kays."

Creator: Philipp abbot of the imperial monastery of Corvey [= Philipp von Spiegel zum Desenberg].

Place of creation: Corvey, Germany.

Physical description: Paper, 2 leaves; 35 x 22 cm.

Summary: This document was a letter of domicile issued to German Jews in the eighteenth century. Possession of a Geleitbrief was the only means for a German Jew to reside and live freely in a designated town. This particular Geleitbrief appears to have been issued to Salamon Berend in "Stael" (now Stahle, part of Höxter, Germany). For additional information, see the transcription of the manuscript housed with the document.

Note: Unbound document. Written in dark brown ink in a single hand; one embellished initial; includes intact red wax seal. Some portions stained and dirtied along earlier folds. Hermann Sternau's transcription of the document is included in the folder with the original manuscript. Gift of Hermann Sternau in memory of his father, Julius Sternau, June 6th, 1966.

Call #: Manus 20

Manus 21: De Lingua Hebraica, early 18th c.

Date: early 18th c.

**Scope and Contents**


Place of creation: Unknown. Physical description: Paper,
124 numb. leaves, [2 blank leaves] ; 21 x 17 cm. Summary: Lecture notes in Latin for a course in the history of Biblical texts. A note housed with the manuscript dates the text to the early 18th century and identifies its author as Protestant: Judging from the author's desire to establish the fact that Hebrew is the oldest of all languages, the manuscript dates from the early 18th century. This was a favorite thesis of 17th century biblical scholars. But he is writing somewhat later, for he cites the Walton Polyglot Bible of 1697 (p. 124). The Author is Protestant, for he eschews the elaborate references to "Sacra Scriptura" characteristic of Catholic writers, and uses the names of saints, e.g., Jerome, Augustine, without the designation "Saint." The text contains, among others, sections devoted to the division of the scriptures, to the Talmud, and to various translations of the Biblical texts, e.g. "De versionibus arabicis," "De versionibus Latinis," etc. Note: Bound in original quarter brown leather over marbled paper boards. Gilt decoration and title to spine ; blue speckled edges ; cream endpapers. Text written in a single hand, only on recto of leaves ; right margin of most leaves ruled in gray. Hinges cracked ; front cover detached. Gift of Bern Dibner, n.d. Call #: Manus 21


Date: 1831

Scope and Contents

Language: German. Date: 1831. Title: [Diary of Wilhelmina Louise Dietrich]. Creator: Dietrich, Wilhelmina Louise, "Mimi." Place of creation: New Orleans, LA. Physical description: Paper, 93 leaves ; 17 x 11 cm. Summary: See extensive description of the contents of the diary housed with the manuscript, which begins: This Diary is a sort of apologia pro vita sua written by Mimi to her beloved Heinrich, with whom she is living – apparently in sin – in New Orleans. The New Orleans part of the diary covers only about one month, January 1831; it is sandwiched between two sections of the autobiography-cum-mishpokhology [at f. 50ff.]. The summary goes on to detail the rather flamboyant and extraordinary details of a life that prompts its compiler to quote Oscar Wilde's remark in The Importance of Being Earnest that, "I never travel without a diary. One should always have something sensational to read on the train." Note: Text written in dark brown ink in a single small and neat hand, presumably that of "Mimi." Initial leaf has been roughly excised, as has leaf 86 ; remaining leaves appear intact. Leaf count includes the two excised leaves. Manuscript written on light blue paper and bound in full leather boards with gilt-embellished borders ; spine reinforced with brown paper ; gilt edges ; marbled endpapers. On recto of rear endpaper upside-down signature, "Mimi, New Orleans, Marz (i.e. March), 1831, and signature of "W[illia]m Kraft," former owner(?), in left margin. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume
Manus 23: Sermini, Gentile. Novelle. (Italy), 16th c.(?)

Date: 16th c.(?)

Scope and Contents

Language: Italian. Date: Unknown ; [16th c. (?)] Title: Novelle. Creator: Sermini, Gentile (15th c.) ; unknown. Place of creation: Italy. Physical description: Paper, 194 numb. leaves, [5 blank leaves] ; 32 x 22 cm. Summary: Sermini was born in Sienna near the beginning of the 15th century, but little else is known of his life. He wrote a collection of 45 tales (novelle) in the manner of Bocaccio, eleven of which were published in 1796 at Livorno in v.1 of the Pogegiali collection, to which the editor added Sermini's short work on the sport of boxing. These tales have all subsequently been published and many have been translated into English as well, including several in the recent Renaissance comic tales of love, treachery, and revenge, ed. and trans. Valerie Martone and Robert L. Martone (NY: Italica Press, 1994) [PQ4257.E5 R46 1994]. See also Gentile Sermini, Novelle, ed. Giuseppe Vettori (Rome: Avanzini e Torraca, 1968). Note: Folio. Rebound in early 19th c. citron morocco, textured with gilt border ; gilt decoration and title to spine ; gilt edges ; endpapers replaced. Written in a single hand. Letter of the author to Boccaccio (f. 1) ; 40 tales ; 34 poems ; short work Giuoco della pugna (on boxing) intercalated at f. 48 r. Gift of Philip D. Sang, n.d. Call #: Manus 23

Manus 24: Lens, André Corneille. Le costume, ou, Essai sur les habillements et les usages de plusieurs peuples de l'antiquité, prouvé par les monuments. (Anvers, Belgium), 1776

Date: 1776

Scope and Contents

Language: French. Date: 1776. Title: Le costume, ou, Essai sur les habillements et les usages de plusieurs peuples de l'antiquité, prouvé par les monuments. Creator: Lens, André Corneille (1739-1822). Place of creation: Anvers, Belgium. Physical description: Paper, [1 missing leaf (t.p.?)], iii-xxiv, 324 p. ; 33 x 21 cm. Summary: Text on the history of clothing and dress. Printed at Liege, Belgium by Bassompierre, 1776 (OCLC record #2640084). Given the date of the volume and the signature by the author, this would appear to be Lens's original manuscript copy of Le Costume from which the text was printed later that year, and thus a scholarly comparison of the manuscript with the first edition of the printed text should be made. Brandeis holds a copy of the second edition, see André Cornelis Lens, Le costume des peuples de l'antiquité, prouvé par les monuments (Dresde: Walther, 1785) [SpecialCollections - Restrict GT530 .L4 1785]. Note: Folio. Originally bound in vellum over paper boards ; vellum has been cut away, leaving the original paper
Manus 25: Taylor, Nathaniel William; William Wallace Atterbury [scribe]. Notes of Lectures on Theology. (New Haven, CT), 1846

Date: 1846

Scope and Contents

Language: English. Date: 1846. Title: Notes of Lectures on Theology. Creator: Taylor, Nathaniel William (1786-1858); William Wallace Atterbury (1823-1911). Place of creation: New Haven, CT. Physical description: Paper, 520 numbered pages [pages 493-520 blank]; 20 x 16 cm. Summary: Reverend Nathaniel William Taylor was an important Protestant Theologian of the early 19th century. He received his B.A. from Yale in 1807 and was named Professor of Didactic Theology there in 1822. Taylor's influence on American religious history derives primarily from his development and exposition of a position that came to be known as the "New Haven Theology." This system was largely an attempt to modify traditional Calvinist doctrine to cohere with the religious revivalism of the Second Great Awakening. In the process of developing this system, Taylor rejected Calvinist predestination, and, more troubling to his dissenters, he also rejected the doctrine of Original Sin and the traditional understanding of the Atonement, arguing that Christians have the full power to turn from sin and lead a godly life and that Christ's death is the means by which God urges sinners to be converted. These alterations led many to conclude that his theology was in fact Pelagian, and traditional Calvinists generally reject his teachings as erroneous and even heretical. Taylor's thought was an important influence on New England Congregationalism, and it has been argued that New Haven Theology was a major factor behind the church's decision to embrace Liberal Theology beginning in the late 19th century. This large manuscript records Taylor's lectures in four areas: "Moral Government" (1-21), "Natural Theology" (22-120), "Evidence of Christianity" (121-180), and "Revealed Theology" (181ff) and is thus an important and fairly comprehensive depiction of his mature thought. It was written by the Reverend William Wallace Atterbury, who graduated from Yale College with a B.A. in 1843, after which he attended Yale Theological Seminary (now Yale Divinity School), graduating in 1847. It was during his tenure at the seminary that he composed this manuscript from notes taken during the lectures of Nathaniel Taylor. After graduation, Atterbury spent several years as an evangelist with the American Home Missionary Society, then served as pastor of two Presbyterian churches before he moved to New York City and took a position with the New York Sabbath Committee, where he remained for the
rest of his career. He shared his name with his nephew, the famous General William Wallace Atterbury, who also graduated from Yale and, after distinguishing himself in WWI, became an important railroad executive. See Obituary Record Yale Graduates: 1911-1912 (New Haven: Yale University, July 1912): 168-169; available online at http://mssa.library.yale.edu/obituary_record/1859_1924/1911-12.pdf

Note: Bound in original quarter black leather over marbled paper boards; speckled edges; cream endpapers; title, "Taylor's Theology," in gilt on spine. Includes frontispiece, a portrait of Rev. Taylor, tipped in. Manuscript written in dark brown ink on light blue paper in a single hand. Pagination irregular, as follows, 1-66, 75-492, 493-496, 67-74, 497-520 [blank]. Hinges very weak; front cover on verge of separating. Anne Borowitz Memorial Collection; gift of David Borowitz, n.d. Call #: Manus 25

Manus 26: [Armorial]. (Austria?), 17th c.

Date: 17th c.

Scope and Contents

Language: German; Latin. Date: 17th c. Title: [Armorial]. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: Unknown [Austria?]. Physical description: Paper, 57 leaves, [9 blank leaves]; 20 x 16 cm. Summary: A book of 67 coats-of-arms, accompanied by the names and brief histories of the bearers and descriptions of the shields. The majority of the book (ff. 1-54 r.) is written in German in a single hand, and was probably done during the first half of the 17th c.; the final 4 leaves (ff. 54 r.-57 r.), written in Latin in a different hand, were likely added during the second half of the 17th c. A single line in a third hand in the upper margin of f. 57 r. was probably inserted in the mid-18th c. The Armorial may be Austrian, cf. Sigismundus Franciscus archidux Austriæ [Erzherzog Sigismund Franz (1663-65)], f. 55. Note: 4to. Bound in undecorated vellum over paper boards; front fly-leaf detached, as is f. 7 (numbered 9-10). Volume is numbered by the coat-of-arms rather than by the physical number of pages or leaves. Includes 67 hand-colored coats-of-arms, each 7 x 8 cm. Manuscript written in dark brown ink in 2 hands, ff. 1-54 in German in a single hand, ff. 54-57 in Latin in a different hand; f. 57 r. includes a single line written in a third hand; text block delimited by ruled box. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume unknown; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang. Call #: Manus 26

Manus 27: Vita di Alessandro VI Borgia, et del Duca Valentino Suo Figlio. (Italy), early 16th c.

Date: early 16th c.

Scope and Contents

Rodrigo Borgia (1431-1503), later Pope Alexander VI, was a member of a prominent Spanish aristocratic family, and when his uncle, Alfonso Borja, was named Pope Callixtus III, he began a long career in the Church with the help of his uncle's patronage. Known as much for his simony and nepotism as for his skilled diplomacy and bureaucratic gifts, Alexander VI was a controversial figure, and his election to the papacy succeeded with a bare two-thirds majority of the vote, with his own ballot tipping the balance in his favor. He might best be described as a politician of consummate ability, with only partial interest in the spiritual concerns of the Church. He was especially focused on advancing the careers of his children, including the son whose life is described in this manuscript, Duke Valentino. This volume, composed soon after the death of Alexander, is not referenced in the standard works on the period. A modern manuscript note in Italian on the front free endpaper records the suggestion that the work was written "perhaps by Greg. Leti or Tommasi." For manuscript authorities, cf. Pastor's History of the Popes, as well as Villari's Life of Machiavelli. For a detailed biography of Pope Alexander VI, see James F. Loughlin's article in The Catholic Encyclopedia (NY: Robert Appleton Co., 1907) ; available online at http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/01289a.htm ; an offprint of the article is kept in a folder with the manuscript. Note: Bound in vellum over paper boards ; gilt title to spine ; marbled edges. Manuscript written on thick paper in dark brown ink in a single early 16th c. humanist hand ; includes table of contents at rear of volume (ff. 173-182). Pagination 1-344 [p. 344 blank], table of contents unnumbered. Vellum split at front hinge. Gift of Bern Dibner, n.d. [Da Vinci collection? – stamp present on f. 1 r.]. Call #: Manus 27

Manus 28: Da Vinci, Leonardo. Trattato della Pittura. (Italy), early 18th c.

Date: early 18th c.

Scope and Contents

Language: Italian. Date: early 18th c. Title: Trattato della Pittura [Treatise on Painting]. Creator: Leonardo Da Vinci ; unknown. Place of creation: Italy. Physical description: Paper, 82 leaves ; 30 x 22 cm. Summary: So valued was Leonardo Da Vinci's Treatise on Painting that sometimes an artist would copy the entire book by hand when he could not afford a printed edition of the text. This copy dates from the early 1700s and is illustrated with very fine red chalk drawings and pen and ink sketches. Chapters 351 and 353 have been omitted by the writer. Note: Small folio. Bound in undecorated vellum over paper boards ; manuscript title to spine ; housed in protective dark red cloth case. Written in a single hand. Includes 56 manuscript drawings, 23 executed in pen and ink in the text and 33 drawn with red chalk on china-paper and pasted into the manuscript at the appropriate places. Purchased
by Bern Dibner from C.E. Rappaport, Rome, 1947. See letter from Rappaport to Dibner, housed with manuscript. Early facsimiles of several leaves of the text are also housed in the case with the manuscript. Gift of Bern Dibner, n.d. [Da Vinci collection?]. Call #: Manus 28

Manus 29: Chronik von Augsburg. (Prague, Czech Republic), 1571

Date: 1571

Scope and Contents

Language: German.

Date: 1571.

Title: Chronik von Augsburg [Chronicle of Augsburg].

Creator: Unknown.

Place of creation: Prague, Czech Republic.

Physical description: Paper, 300 leaves [final 5 blank]; 20 x 16 cm.

Summary: History of the city of Augsburg in chronicle form, beginning in the 13th century and continuing up through the 16th century. Booksellers description of the manuscript from c.1970:


Note: 4to. Bound in undecorated vellum over paper boards; paper labels to top and bottom of spine with manuscript title and shelf mark, "Ms. 251"; blue edges; remnants of green cloth ties to front and rear cover. Written in a single old-German hand. Leaves have been renumbered (every 10th leaf) to exclude front and rear flyleaves; margins ruled in red. Purchased by Brandeis from Mr. Rockito’s Books, Canada, March 2008.

- Page 26-
Manus 30: Catholic Church. Breviary [fragment]: Feast of Epiphany. (Northern Italy), 14th c.

Date: 14th c.

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: 14th c. Title: Breviary [fragment]: Feast of Epiphany. Creator: Unidentified. Place of creation: Northern Italy. Physical description: Vellum, 1 leaf (2 p.); 25 x 31 cm. Summary: Roman Catholic Church liturgy and ritual. Matins of the Feast of Epiphany (6 Jan.). In the Western Church, Epiphany commemorates the Journey of the three Magi to visit the infant Jesus. The first scripture reading (recto, right column) is Isaiah 55:1ff., the second (verso, left column) Isaiah 60:1ff., and the third (verso, right column) Isaiah 61:10ff., as specified in the Ordo Romanus XIIIa (see Andrieu, Michel. Les Ordines Romani du Haut Moyen Age, v.2. (Louvain: Specilegium Sacrum Lovaniense Administration, 1971): 487). Exhibited at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1940; exhibited at the Wadsworth Athenaeum, 1948. For more information, see "Special Collections Spotlight" entry of 2/28/2008, available online at http://brandeisspecialcollections.blogspot.com/2008/02/14th-century-italian-illuminated.html. Note: On recto, miniature of the visit of the Magi to Herod in the D of Deus; two scenes depicted in lower margin: on left, the Baptism of Jesus, on right, the Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness; three-quarter border in red, blue, orange, green, brown, and gold leaf, which includes two unidentified figures, two foxes(?), and two small roundels with depictions of a woman's face (Mary's?); verso contains two initials in red, blue and white with a partial border. Vellum damaged and cruelly repaired, with some small loss of text to recto, verso badly damaged and faded, with some portions now nearly unreadable; page appears to have been foreshortened from original height, though efforts were made to spare the illuminations. Gift of Eugene Gabarty (c. 1960?); formerly part of the collection of Adolf von Beckerath, Berlin. Call #: Manus 30

Manus 31: Breviary(?)[fragment]. (France), early 14th c.

Date: early 14th c.

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin.

Date: 13th c.

Title: Breviary(?)[fragment].

Creator: Unknown.

Place of creation: England.
Physical description: Vellum, 1 leaf [fragment] ; 8 x 5 cm.

Summary: Text reads: Et factum est. This phrase occurs many times in the scriptures, and thus it is quite difficult to try to identify the passage in question, though given the subject of the illumination, Luke 9:18 ff. is a likely candidate:

Et factum est cum solus esset orans erant cum illo et discipuli et interrogavit illos dicens quem me dicunt esse turbæ at illi responderunt et dixerunt Iohannem Baptistam alii autem Heliam alii quia propheta unus de prioribus surrexit dixit autem illis vos autem quem me esse dicitis respondens Simon Petrus dixit Christum Dei

[And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am? They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again. He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God.] (Luke 9:18-20, Latin Vulgate ; King James translation)

This passage, sometimes called "Peter’s Declaration," is an important moment in the Christian scriptures in which Peter recognizes Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. This text would explain the depiction of Peter, kneeling before Jesus in the upper half of the image, as well as Jesus teaching the disciples below, and its importance may well have prompted the illuminator to choose this scene to embellish with an historiated initial. As seen above, the King James translators render Et factum est as "And it came to pass," one of the most distinctive phrases of this well-known translation.

Note: One large very fine historiated initial "E" of Et factum est, cut from a breviary(?) leaf. Two scenes depicted in the initial : in the upper loop, St. Peter kneeling before Christ ; in the lower loop, Christ preaching to the disciples. Background of initial done in gold leaf, as is the remainder of the phrase, -t factum est, beneath the initial ; colors of pink, blue, white, brown, and gold. Leaf is mounted on a red background and framed in a dark wooden frame ; frame is housed in a protective slipcase. Gift of Eugene L. Gabarty, 10/3/1962.

Call #: Manus 31


Date: 15th or 16th c.
Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: 15th or 16th c. Title: Breviarium [fragment]: Fourth Sunday of Advent. Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: Unknown. Physical description: Vellum, 1 leaf; 84 x 60 cm. Summary: The invitatory and the beginning of the Divine Office for the fourth Sunday of Advent (Dominica quarta Adventus, on recto). The fourteenth century Peterborough Antiphoner contains a similar version, see "Dominica 4 Adventus" in The Peterborough Antiphoner: An antiphoner of the fourteenth century from the Benedictine Abbey of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Andrew, Peterborough, Northamptonshire (Magdalene College, Cambridge, Ms. F.4.10.) ; available online at http://www.cursus.uea.ac.uk/ms/peterborough. Note: Huge, elephant folio vellum leaf; some wrinkling, but very minor given the size of the leaf; slight damage to lower-right corner, not affecting the text; recto of leaf is numbered xcviii (98) in upper-right margin. Written in red and black in a single, very large (6 cm. tall) gothic hand; rubricated in red; 11 lines to a page. Three large illuminated initials (the largest 9 x 12 cm.) in red, blue, purple, and green; six smaller initials (c. 8 x 7 cm.) embellished in green, yellow, and pink. Housed in a large floating frame, thus both sides of the leaf are visible. History of Brandeis's acquisition of the leaf is unknown. Call #: Manus 32

Manus 33: [Book Label ; Himmerod Abbey, Germany). (Germany), 1540

Date: 1540

Scope and Contents

Language: Latin. Date: c. 1540. Title: [Book Label : Himmerod Abbey, Germany] Creator: Unknown. Place of creation: Himmerod Abbey, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. Physical description: Paper, 1 leaf; 6 x 16 cm. Summary: A label once affixed to a book belonging to the monks of Himmerod Abbey in Germany. The text reads: Iste liber pertinet [c:o][n]ventui cruciferor[um] in valle S. Mathie al[jia] nigre[palud]is dicto sito in territorio meroden[sis] prope dueren. Et [c:o][n]tinent in eo – [1] Sap[ientis] platine omnia opera ; [2] Iustin[us] de omnib[us] regnib[us] terraru[m] ; [3] [Text lost] de rebus romanibus. [This book belongs to the convent of the cross-bearers in the valley of Saint Matthias, also called the black swamp, situated in the territory of [Him]merod, near Düren. And it contains in it (the three following titles)]. Himmerod Abbey, founded in 1134, was the fourteenth monastery founded by Bernard of Clairvaux, and the first he established in Germany. Beginning in the twelfth century, it was a "convent of the Holy," here rendered in the Latin as [c:o][n]ventui cruciferorum. As described in the history of the convent, the founding monks decided to build their monastery in the valley of the Salm river, relatively close (c. 100 km. [62 mi.]) to the important city of Düren (L. Dueren), because they wished for the seclusion and penitential hardship of living in the untamed swamp that covered this
region. In this manuscript, the scribe writes of the abbey being "in the valley of Saint Matthias," a quite pleasant name for the place, but called by others, it seems, nigrepaludibus, or "the black swamp." In the Renaissance, the abbey was an important center of learning in the region, and a library was dedicated at Himmerod in 1506, from which this label most likely comes. The label was almost certainly initially fixed to the Bap. Platinae Cremonensis, de Vitis ac Gestis Summorum of Bartolomeo de Sacchi di Piadena (Coloniae, 1540) [Temporary Call #: Spertus 51], which is the first work listed on the label. The names of the other texts mentioned do not appear in this volume and have not yet been matched to any standard texts, but it may well be that they are casual references to works that would be familiar to a scholar of the period. The second is likely the Historiarum Philippicarum of Marcus Junianus Justinus or Justin, the famous Roman historian. There are three additional lines of script on the manuscript, written in a later hand, which appear to refer to a subsequent owner, but this portion of the text has not been fully deciphered. For more information see Abtei Himmerod at http://www.abtei-himmerod.de/home.html.

Manus 34: Thomas, W. [Letter Book]. (India, etc.), 1793-1802
Date: 1793-1802

Scope and Contents

Language: English.

Date: 1793-1802.

Title: Letter book: letters to captains and admirals of the British navy.

Creator: Thomas, W.

Place of creation: Bombay and Calcutta, India; Prince of Wales Island [in modern Alaska?]; Canton [Modern Guangzhou, China]; Cape of Good Hope [in modern South Africa], etc.

Physical description: Paper, 73 leaves (146 p.) ; 24 x 19 cm.

Thomas was a member(?) of the British navy stationed, during the years recorded in this manuscript, at various places
in the Empire including Bombay and Calcutta, India and Canton, China. In this book he kept a copy of each piece of correspondence he sent to captains and admirals in the British navy, providing important evidence of the process of colonial administration in these territories. Unfortunately, no more definite information about the identity or biography of the author has yet been determined.

Note: Bound in contemporary full blind-stamped brown speckled leather; "Letter Book" and "1793" stamped on front cover; bookseller's (?) notes on volume written in pencil inside front cover; leaf count excludes flyleaves at front and rear, but includes two blank but numbered leaves at beginning of manuscript. Written in brown and black ink in a single hand. Water damage to outer margin of first 25 leaves, affecting text though writing is still legible. Note in pencil inside front cover reads "Kennedy Purchase." No further information about the history of Brandeis's acquisition of the volume is known; possibly the gift of Philip D. Sang.

Call #: Manus 34