

ALEXANDER DE ROES, *Memoriale de prerogativa imperii romani* (Reminder of the Prerogative of the Roman Empire); English Act of Accord of 1460 in Middle English; REGINO OF PRÜM, *Chronicon* (Abridgment); Abbreviated Chronicle of the Archbishops of Cologne (*Kölner Bischofschronik*); Excerpts or Abbreviations of Chronicles of the Archbishops of Trier, Mainz, Tongeren and Liège; ANDREAS VON REGENSBURG, *Chronica de principibus terrae Bavarorum* (Chronicle of the Princes of Bavaria)
In Latin and Middle English, illuminated manuscript on paper
Germany, Rhineland (likely Cologne), partially dated 1457 and c. 1475 with additions until c. 1490

the Emperor and electors [described below];

f. 2v, Table of contents;

ff. 3-13v, incipit, "Mentes hominum divinis informate virtutibus omnem arrogantiam et omnem adulationem ..."; [f. 3v],
"Multifarie multisque modis dominus.."; [f. 12], , incipit, "Istis prelibatus velut ab alio ... et crescat ad laudem et gloriam nostris sui. Qui est benedictus in secula seculorum amen," ;

Alexander de Roes, ; see Grundmann, 1930, pp. 10-36; and Grundmann and Heimpel, 1958.

Alexander de Roes (d. before 1300) was from a patrician family of Cologne where he was a Canon of St. Mary's on the Capital; he

The War of the Roses, fought roughly between 1455 and 1485, opposed the Houses of Lancaster and York (both branches of the Royal Plantagenet House). In 1422, the Lancastrian Henry VI ascended to the throne but after bouts of mental illness a council of regency was appointed, headed by the powerful Richard of York. The Act of Accord was a statute of Parliament enacted on 25 October 1460 and passed in November 1460. Under the terms of the Act, Henry VI was confirmed as king, but after his death the throne was to pass to Richard, Duke of York, and his heirs. The ensuing Battle of Wakefield at Christmas 1460 was a complete Lancastrian victory. Richard of York was slain in the battle, and both Salisbury and York's 17-year-old second son, Edmund, Earl of Rutland, were captured and executed. Margaret ordered the heads of all three placed on the gates of York. The Act of Accord and the events of Wakefield left the 18-year-old Edward, Earl of March, York's eldest son, as Duke of York and heir to his claim to the throne.

It is very curious that the Act of Accord, an intrinsically English affair, should figure in the present manuscript, a manuscript not only copied in Cologne, but one whose contents are otherwise focused on the history of the Holy Roman Empire. Moreover, the Act is the only piece redacted in Middle English in this composite manuscript, the rest of the texts being all in Latin. These few leaves were clearly copied by an insular hand. How and why did it make its way into this miscellany?

In the fifteenth century, there were men who served both the English kings and the Holy Roman Empire; Sir Hartung von Clux (d. 1455), whose epitaph is copied in this manuscript (see above, Provenance), is a well-known example from the generation before this manuscript was copied. One can also point to the strong economic connections between Cologne and England. Cologne was a member of the powerful Hanseatic League, a mercantile confederation which provided protection and privileges for the towns and seaports of Northern Europe. Cologne established business branches and strong ties in strategic Hansa towns such as Bruges, Antwerp and especially London. In the twelfth century, Henry II granted merchants the same rights as English traders. These ties could account for the circulation of English documents or the interest in English affairs in Rhenish Cologne (and for the presence of English-speakers).

ff. 18-30v,

Abridgment of Regino Abbott of Prüm, [Chronicle]. The present text is apparently an abridgement of the larger Chronicle by Regino, Abbot of Prüm. It does not seem to have been published and seems to have been composed by the compiler of the other works in this collection (see below). Clearly the compiler had access to the complete , which he acknowledges in the rubric, but the work is only inspired by the source-text.

Regino (died 915), who was Abbot of Prüm and also an historian and scholar, was active during the Carolingian era, and was central in the writing and re-writing of history and chronicles that defined the period. Regino dedicated his Chronicle to Bishop Adalbero of Augsburg in the year 908, and as such is regarded as the last great historian of the Carolingian Empire since he wrote in the aftermath of the empire's disintegration.

f. 17v, Coats of arms, of main ancestors of Richard, Duke of York, justifying his claims to the throne of England and France, beginning with Edward III, King of England and France; John, Count of Hannover; Peter, King of Spain; John, King of Portugal; Edmund, Count of March; Leonellus, Duke of Clarence; Thomas Holland, Count (Earl) of Kent; Richard, Count of Arundel. Between the two columns of heraldic shields are inscribed genealogical elements.

These pictorial additions are an interesting feature of this manuscript, especially the full-page composition now on f. 1v (probably mounted in disorder and probably originally the opening leaf). This and the two small historiated initials (Saint Maternus of Cologne and Pope Adrian IV [an Englishman!]) should be studied in relation to Cologne illumination and book production. In addition, the core of the manuscript contains several small heraldic shields that enliven the historical narrative.

LITERATURE

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ONLINE RESOURCES

Genealogy of the Richard III, Duke of York

<http://translate.google.fr/translate?hl=fr&langpair=en%7Cfr&u=http://www.royalist.info/execute/tree%3Fperson%3D72>

List of bishops and archbishops of Cologne

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