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Edited by Joseph Rawson Lumby

Excerpt

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POLYCHRONICON RANULPHI HIGDEN
MONACHI CESTRENSIS.

VOL. V.

A

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POLYCHRONICON RANULPHI HIGDEN
MONACHI CESTRENSIS.

LIBER QUARTUS.

CAP. XIII.

[*De Trajani regno.*]

ULPIUS¹ Crinitus Trajanus, Hispaniæ oriundus, reg- Trajani.
navit² annis novemdecim. Hic inter amicos liberalis,
in rebus bellicis sedulus, in civilibus lenis, in suble-
vandis³ urbibus efficax; Dacos,⁴ Scythas,⁵ Sarmatos,
Hiberos, Colchos,⁶ Arabes perdomuit; in mari Rubro
classem instituit, ut Indiæ fines debellaret. Æqualem se

¹ *Vulpius*, A.

² *imperavit*, B.

³ *sullevandis*, MS.

⁴ *Dachos*, A.

⁵ *Shitas*, MS.

⁶ *Colchos et*, A.B.

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TREVISA'S TRANSLATION.

Capitulum tertiumdecimum.

ULPIUS¹ CRINICUS² TRAIANUS was i-bore in Spayne, and TREVISA. —
 was emperour nyntene þere. Among [his]³ frendes þis⁴ was
 free of herte, and besy in dedes of armes, and asy⁵ in govern-
 aunce of þe citeseyns,⁶ and myȝty in relevynge⁷ of citees
 and of⁸ townes. He chastede⁹ þe Danes, Schites,¹⁰ Sarmates,
 Hiberes, Colches, and Arabes; he ordeyned a navey in þe
 Reed see for to synde¹¹ in Ynde. He made hym self everich
 manis felowe, and visited ofte his frendes, for he wolde be y-
 gete¹² of hem, and wete how þey ferde; he greved no man,

ANONYMOUS TRANSLATION OF THE FIFTEENTH
CENTURY.*Capitulum tertiumdecimum.*

Ab urbe. VULPIUS Crinitus Traianus, borne in Speyne, was emperour MS. HARL. 2261.
 xix. yere. This emperour Traianus was liberalle amonge his
 frendes, besy in batelles, hauenge grete delectacion to repaire
 citees; whiche made tame the Danes, men of Scichia, Sarmates, A transmi-
 men of Hiberia, men of Colchos, and of Arabye. Also he gracione.
 sette a fleete of schippes, or a nauy, in the Redde see, that he
 myȝhte ȝiffe batelle to the costes of Ynde; schewenge hym
 egalle to alle men, visitenge his frendes for cause of salutacion, f. 217. a.
 hurtenge not eny man. This Traian toke not þe goodes of he

¹ *Vulpius*, a., β., γ., and Cx.² *Crinitus*, β. and Cx.³ From Cx. (not γ.)⁴ *þis*] bes, γ.; *he*, Cx.⁵ *esy*, a., β., γ., and Cx.⁶ *governynge of cyteseyns*, Cx.⁷ *revelynng*, Cx.⁸ *of*] om. Cx.⁹ *chastisede*, β.; *chastysed*, Cx.¹⁰ *Scytes*, Cx.¹¹ *werre*, a., β., γ., and Cx. In the MS. this word seems to have been *synne* at first, and then a *d* written over the second *n*.¹² *gret*, a.; *y-gret*, β. and γ.; *salewed*, Cx.

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4 POLYCHRONICON RANULPHI HIGDEN

omnibus exhibens, amicos causa salutationis visitavit. Neminem læsit, nil egit injuste, ut fiscum augeter, sed familiares ditavit. Amicis eum culpantibus quod circa omnes tam communis esset, respondit se talem imperatorem esse privatis, quales sibi fore¹ privatos imperatores optasset.² *Ranulphus*.³ Helymandus⁴ refert quod cum Trajanus aliquando equum ascenderet, ad bellum pro republica profecturus, vidua flebilis apprehendit pedem ejus, rogans sibi justitiam fieri de his qui filium ejus⁵ occiderant.⁶ Cui ille, “Ego cum rediero “ tibi satisfaciam.” At illa: “Quid si nunquam redieris?” Et ille: “Successor meus tibi satisfaciat.” Tunc illa: “Quid proderit tibi si alius mihi benefecerit? tu mihi

¹ *foro*, B.² *optassent*, MS.³ *Ranulphus*] Helymandus, C.D.⁴ *Helmandus*, A.B.⁵ *suum*, B.⁶ *occiderant*, from A.; *occiderunt*, MS.

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dede noþing wrongfulliche for to have¹ [the more]² and³ þe gretter enchetes.⁴ But he made his servauntes riche, þat hem nedede⁵ to greve no man. His frendes blamede hym, for he was so comyn to alle manere men; he answerde and seide: “I⁶ wil “ be suche an emperour to oþer men as y⁷ wolde þat⁸ þey were “ to me and⁹ þey were emperours.” [R.]¹⁰ Helmandus¹¹ seiþ [that]¹² in a tyme Traianus was i-lope¹³ to hors for to wende¹⁴ to a¹⁵ bataile for þe comunte,¹⁶ and þere come a wydewe¹⁷ wepyng, and took hym by þe foot, and praide hym þat he wolde do hir som riȝt.¹⁸ “I schal do þe right,” quod þe emperour, “whan I⁶ come aȝen.” “What,” quod sche,¹⁹ “ȝif þou comest nevere aȝen?” “ȝan,” quod he,²⁰ “myn “ successour schal doo þe right.” “What profit,” quod sche, “shal þat²¹ be to þee, ȝif anoþer man doop²² me good? þou

TREVISIA.

Ab urbe.

other men to encrease his treasure; a man of grete mekenesse and of familiarite, whiche answerede to his frendes blamenge hym that he was so commune and familier to alle men, seyenge that he wolde be suche an emperour to priuate persones as an emperour wolde desire, and haue that the priuate persones scholde be to hym. R. Helmandus rehersethe that a poore wedowe come to Traian theemperour, takenge his horse for the commune utilite, wepyng soore toke hym by the foote, preyenge hym to do ryȝhteuousnesse to theym that hade sleyne her son. To whom he seide, “I schalle satisfye the when “ y come ageyne.” The poore wedowe seide to hym, “What “ and if thow comme neuer ageyne.” Traian theemperour seide, “My successor schalle iugge and do to the satisfacion.” The wedowe seide, “What schalle that profite the “ and if thy successour do satisfacion for me or any other;

MS. HARL.
2261.A transmi-
gracione.

¹ *habbe the more and, γ.*
² *From γ.*
³ *and] om. Cx.*
⁴ *echetes, α.; eþchetes, β.; echeetes, γ.; eschetes, Cx.*
⁵ *neodede, γ.*
⁶ *Ich, β.*
⁷ *I, Cx.*
⁸ *þat] om. Cx.*
⁹ *and] if, Cx.*
¹⁰ *From α., β., γ., and Cx.*
¹¹ *Helimandus, β.; Helymandus, γ. and Cx.*

¹² *From β., γ., and Cx.*
¹³ *lepte, Cx.*
¹⁴ *wende] go, Cx.*
¹⁵ *a] om. Cx.*
¹⁶ *comunte, Cx.*
¹⁷ *widwe, β.; wydue weopyng, γ.*
¹⁸ *som riȝt] reȝt of hem þat hadde y-slawe here sone, α., β., and γ.; right and justice of hem, &c., Cx.*
¹⁹ *heo, β. and γ.*
²⁰ *themperour, Cx.*
²¹ *þat] om. Cx.*
²² *doo, Cx.*

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“ debitor es, secundum merita recepturus. Et fraus est
 “ nolle reddere quod debetur cum possit reddi. Cum suc-
 “ cessore tuo bene agetur si seipsum liberavit.” His
 verbis motus Trajanus descendit de equo, et viduæ
 satisfacit,¹ unde et statuam sibi fieri Romæ promeruit.
 Item cum filius Trajani equum indomitum agitaret, filium
 ejusdam viduæ contrivit, quamobrem Trajanus filium
 suum reddidit viduæ pro filio ejusdem. Pro tam² insigni
 justitia beatus Gregorius videtur animam ejus ab
 inferis revocasse.³ Alexander papa successit Evaristo Alexander
papa.
 Gratia. CII. Trajani. III. martyrizato annis decem. Hic constituit aquam asper-
 sionis cum sale benedici, et in domibus fidelium aspergi.

¹ *satisfacit*, A.² *tam*] om. B.³ *Johannes Evangelista moritur
secundum Herreneum*, added in C.D.

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“ art dettour to me, and þou schalt fonge¹ as þou disservest
 “ be² þyne owne dedes, and [so]³ it is a fraude for to zelde⁴
 “ nouȝt what is detty⁵ whanne it may be ȝolde.⁶ Þy suc-
 “ cessor schal fare wel, ȝif he bereþ⁷ hym wel, and doop⁸
 “ as he schulde.” Traianus was meoved⁹ by these wordes,
 and liȝt down [of his hors],¹⁰ and dede þe womman¹¹ riȝt, and
 perfore he was worþy to have an ymage at Rome. Also in¹²
 a tyme Traianus his sone rood¹³ on a wilde hors, and slowh¹⁴
 a widewe¹⁵ sone; and perfore Traianus ȝaf þe widewe his
 sone¹⁶ for hir sone. For so¹⁷ greet riȝtwisnesse it semep þat
 Seint Gregorie wan his soule out of helle. *Trevisa.* So it
 myȝte seme to a man¹⁸ þat were worse þan wood, and out of
 riȝt bileve. Whanne Evaristus¹⁹ was i-martired,²⁰ Alexander
 come after hym, and was pope ten ȝere; he ordeyned²¹ holy
 water to be i-blessed wip salt, and to be spronge²² in²³ Cristen

TREVISIA.

Ab urbe.

“ þow arte dettor to me to receyve after thy meryte, and hit is
 “ a frawde not to restore that is dewe; hit is sufficiaunte for
 “ þy successor if he do satisfaccion for hym selfe.” Traian
 themperour, hauenge compassion of that wedowe, lepede downe
 of his hors, and did satisfaccion to the wedowe, wherefore he
 hadde an ymage sette in the cite of Rome made to his simili-
 tude. Also hit happede, the son of this Traian themperour,
 rydenge on a wilde horse, to haue pereschede and sleyne the
 son of a pover wedowe; wherefore Traian toke his son to
 the wedowe for her childe þat was sleyne. For whiche
 hye ryȝtheousenes hit semethe Seynte Gregory to haue
 revokede that sawle of his²⁴ from helle. Alexander the
 pope succeeded Euaristus martir x. yere. This pope
 ordeynede water to be blissede with salte, and to be caste

MS. HARL.
2261.A transmi-
gracione.¹ *resseyve*, Cx.² *be*] *by*, Cx.³ From Cx.⁴ *zulde*, γ .⁵ *that is due*, Cx.⁶ *yolden*, β . and Cx.; *yȝulde*, γ .⁷ *bere*, Cx.⁸ *doo*, Cx.⁹ *meved*, Cx.¹⁰ From α , β , and Cx.¹¹ *wydue*, α , β , and γ ; *wydowe*,
Cx.¹² *on*, Cx.¹³ *rode*, Cx.¹⁴ *slouȝ*, α , β , and Cx.¹⁵ *widue*, β ; *wydue*, γ ; *wydowes*,
Cx.¹⁶ *his owne sonne to the wydowe*,
Cx.¹⁷ *For so*] And bycause of this,
Cx.¹⁸ *So myght a man wene*, Cx.¹⁹ *Enariscus*, α . and Cx.²⁰ *martred*, β .²¹ *ordeygned*, Cx.²² *sprenged in*, β ; *spryngt*, Cx.²³ *in*] among, γ .²⁴ *of his*, written above the line.

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[More information](#)Gratiæ.
CVIII.
Trajani.
IX.Hic addidit in missa, *Qui pridie quam pateretur*,¹ etc.usque *Hoc est corpus meum*. Statuit etiam ut in calice aqua vino misceretur, ad designandum unionem ecclesiæ ad Christum; item ordinavit quod oblata fieret de azymo pane in modica quantitate, dicens quod quantoGratiæ.
CIX.
Trajani.
X.

hæc oblatio sit rarior, tanto potior. Symon seu

Symeon, filius Cleophæ, successor Jacobi minoris in ecclesia Jerusolimorum, crucifixus est, mirantibus omnibus quod senex centum viginti annorum pati posset.²Successor
Jacobi
Symon
frater.Gratiæ.
CX.
Trajani.
XI.

Ignatius episcopus Antiochiæ, beati Johannis discipulus,

Romam perductus, bestiis traditur; et cum patiendo Jesum jugiter inclamaret, cor³ ejus post mortem minutatim⁴ divisum est, in cujus qualibet parte nomen¹ *comperetur*, A.² *potuit*, B.³ *corpus*, B.⁴ *minutatim*, from A.; *minuatim*,

MS.

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mennis hous; ¹ he put to, in þe masse, “qui pridie quam pate-
 “ retur,” and so forþ anon to ² þese wordes, “hoc est corpus
 “ meum.” Also he ordeynede [þat] ³ water shulde be i-melled ⁴
 wip wyn in þe chalys, ⁵ for to by tokene þe onynge ⁶ and þe
 unite ⁷ of Crist and of holy chirche; and he ordeyned þat þe
 oyst ⁸ schulde be of þerf brede and ⁹ a ¹⁰ litel quantite, and seide
 þat ¹¹ þe scarser þe ¹² oyst be þe better it is. Symon, þat heet
 Symeon also, Cleophas his sone, þe lasse Iames his successor,
 was y-nailled to þe crosse in þe chirche of Ierusalem, and al
 men wondrede ¹³ þat so oolde a ¹⁴ man of sixe score þere myȝte
 suffre þe ¹⁵ passioun. Ignacius bisshop of Antiochia, Iohn ¹⁶
 his disciple, was i-brouȝt to Rome, and i-prowe ¹⁷ to wyld
 bestes, and while he was i-tormented ¹⁸ he cride [besiliche] ¹⁹
 alwey ²⁰ Iesus. Þanne after his deth his herte was i-hakked ²¹
 to ²² smal gobettes, and in everiche gobette ²³ was i-founde Cristes

TREVISIA.

Ab urbe. on peple and in their houses. Also he ordeynede that MS. HARL.
 brede ordeynede to synge with scholde be pure brede and 2261.
 clene, litelle in quantite, seyenge that a rare oblacion is
 more myȝhty then and if hit were of moore quantite. Also
 he addede in the masse, “Qui pridie quam pateretur” un to
 “ Hoc est corpus meum.” Also he ordeynede that water
 scholde be mixte with wyne in the chalice, to betoken the
 union of the church un to Criste. Symon other Symeon, the f. 217. b.
 sonne of Cleophas, the successor of Seynte Iames, byschoppe
 of Ierusalem, was crucifede, the peple meruellenge that a man
 of a c. and xxⁱⁱ yere in age myȝhte suffre suche peyne.
 Ignacius the bisshop of Antiochia, and disciple of Seynte
 Iohn Euangeliste, brouȝhte to Rome, and taken to bestes, callede
 to helpe ofte the name of Ihesu in his peyne; the herte of
 whom was diuided after his dethe, in whiche or in euery parte

A transmi-
gracione.¹ houses, Cx.² unto, Cx.³ From a., β., γ., and Cx.⁴ medled, β. and Cx.⁵ chalyce, Cx.⁶ onyng, β. and Cx.⁷ and þe unite] om. Cx.⁸ oost, β. and Cx., et infra;

hoyst, γ.

⁹ and] in, γ.¹⁰ a] of, β.¹¹ þat] om. Cx.¹² þe] þys, γ.; this, Cx.¹³ wondride, β.¹⁴ a] om. a.¹⁵ þat] a., β., γ., and Cx.¹⁶ Iones, β.; Iohans, Cx.¹⁷ throwen, Cx.¹⁸ turmented, β.¹⁹ From a., β., and Cx.; bysylych,

γ.

²⁰ bisilich, β.; cryed alwey besyly

Cx.

²¹ y-hakket, γ.²² hewen into, Cx.²³ every gobbet, Cx.

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CXI.
Trajani.
XII.

Christi aureis literis inscriptum est repertum. Plinius secundus, Novocomensis, orator et historicus, claret. Hic fuit magister Trajani imperatoris, et in multis mitigavit eum ne Christianis noceret.¹ Hic etiam, non obstante militari exercitio, cui jugiter insudabat, triginta septem libros de bellis Romanis, necnon² triginta septem³ libros de historia naturali composuit, in quibus⁴ mundum cum suis contentis luculenter dimensionavit et descripsit. Qui tandem, cum ad rimandum⁵ secretas causas⁶ arenarum quæ sunt in ora maris Adriatici inter Italiam et Græciam accessisset, ipsis arenarum molibus, ut fertur, oppressus est, et sic obiit.⁷

Gratiae.
CXIII.
Trajani.
XIV.

Sixtus papa, post passionem Alexandri, succedit undecim fere annis;⁸ qui infra actionem⁹ missæ constituit cantari trisagium,¹⁰ id est *sanctus, sanctus, sanctus*, et ut corporale altaris non fieret de sindone aut serico, sed de lino mundo,¹¹ non tincto, et ut mulier non tangat

¹ *ne Christianos læderet. Iste plurimis, C.D.*

² *et, C.D.*

³ *alias, C.D.*

⁴ *qua, C.D.*

⁵ *rimandum, A.B.*

⁶ *C.D. add liburtinarum.*

⁷ *et sic obiit] om. A.B.; est extinctus, C.D.*

⁸ *Passo Alexandro papa cum Evencio et Theodolo successit Sixtus papa annis fere undecim, C.D.*

⁹ *canonem, B.*

¹⁰ *C.D. omit.*

¹¹ *mundissimo, C.D.*