

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)

Ancient Classics.

216. CLAUDIANUS. DE RAPTU PROSERPINÆ. *Without Date, Place, or Printer's Name. Folio.*

As there is every reason to conclude that this impression of the RAPE OF PROSERPINE only, was printed before the subsequent one of the ENTIRE WORKS of the poet, it is here placed as an anterior article. This work was formerly the cause of much surprise and discussion; as it was published under the following title: CLAUDIANI SICULI viri imprimis doctissimi de Raptu Proserpinæ Tragediæ duæ Heroicæ.' But Maittaire, in an unusually long and particular analysis of the work, proved that the Claudianus Sicilianus was no other than CLAUDIANUS ALEXANDRINUS, the present author. He supposed, erroneously, as Count Reviczky has properly observed, that the printer was John of Westphalia; whereas it is evident, from a comparison with their other works, that the impression was executed by Ketelaer and De Leempt, and was, in all probability, published near the same time with Cornelius Gallus; which is printed in the same type, and is concluded to have been executed in 1473: see p. 6, post. The account of Maittaire is so copious and particular, that references to other authorities are unnecessary, *Annal. Typog.* vol. i. p. 383-5, edit. 1719.* This work

* This account is not repeated in the reprint of the volume in 1733; page 753: but the note only is inserted. The note may be worth submitting to the reader's attention.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)

was introduced in the *Cat. de la Valliere*, vol. ii. n°. 2676, among the modern Dramatic Authors. We shall now give a bibliographical description of the volume.

The present copy, which is the identical one examined by Maittaire, (it having been given to Lord Spencer by the late Duke of Devonshire) is appended to a translation of the ‘*Dieteria Plutarchi—quæ et additiones ad Valerium Maximum recte dici possunt*,’ by Franciscus Philelphus (of which, in its proper place): and to an impression of Petrarch ‘*De Vera Sapientia*:’ both these tracts being printed in the same type. The work of which this article treats, commences on the recto of the leaf, thus:

**Claudiani siculi viri iprimis doctissimi de raptu
proserpine Tragedia prima heroica incipit feliciter
Argumentum.**
ij quibus innumerū tetri famulant auerni
d Vulg' inhers. opib' quoz donat auaris
Quicquid ī orbe perit. q's scix liuētib' ābit
Interfusa vadis. et quos fumantia torquens
Equora gurgitibus flegeton perlustrat hanelis
&c. &c. &c.

This Argument includes the seven following verses. Then commences the Drama; thus:

**Poeta. Lathesis. Pluto.
Ceres. Jupiter. Actus. i.**
d Ur heredi quondā tumidas exarsit in iras
Prelia morturus superis. q' solus egeret
Connubiis. sterilesq; diu consumeret annos
Impatiens nescire thorum. nullasq; mariti

—‘*Claudiani tres de Proserpinæ raptu libros in duas Heroicas Tragœdias, constantes tribus Actibus singulas, vir quidam nescio quis artificiosè distribuit, Poetæque ipsa verba integra ordinemque inuolatum servavit. Libet hic lectori curioso totum opus farum certè nec ubivis obvium describere. Hunc vidi librum in lectissimâ ILLUSTRISSIMI DUCIS DEVONIÆ Bibliothecâ, cujus adeundæ copiam mihi sæpe dat vir ille prænobilis et perhumanus. Ibid.*

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)*Vicentia*; 1482.] CLAUDIANUS.

3

**Illecebras. nec dulce patris cognoscere nomen
 Jam quecūq; latent ferali monstra baratro
 In turmas aciemq; ruunt. contraq; tonantem
 Coniurant furie. crinataq; sontibus p̄dis
 Thesiphone quatiens infausto lumine p̄num
 Armatos ad castra vocat pallentia manes
 Pene reluctatis iterum pugnancia rebus
 Sup̄is̄ent elementa fidem. penitusq; reuulso
 Carcere laxatis pubes typtania vincis
 Vidisset celeste iubar. rursūmq; cruentus**

The preceding, with the exception of the seven verses following those before extracted from the Argument, occupies the first page. A page contains 31 lines. On the reverse of the 16th and last leaf, the work ends thus; at bottom:

Mors nisi turbasset iuida cōiugiū. Explicit.

The present is a genuine copy, with a considerable amplitude of margin. From the binding, in old red-morocco, it appears to have been formerly in the Harleian Collection.

**217. CLAUDIANUS. OPERA OMNIA. Printed by
 Jacob Dusensis. Vicentia. 1482. Folio.**

EDITIO PRINCEPS. Count Reviczky informs us that Heinsius, in composing his edition of 1650 and 1665, was not able to meet with more than one copy of this edition, which he found in the library of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and that he conceives its rarity to be extreme. Burman (in the preface of his edition of 1760) speaks highly of its correctness, and supposes it to be taken, faithfully and literally, from an ancient ms. unspoiled by the interpolations of the editor: *Introd. to the Classics*, vol. i. p. 292. It remains to give a more particular description of it than will be found in the works of preceding bibliographers.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)

4 ANCIENT CLASSICS. [*Claudian*; 1493.

On the recto of the first leaf begins the address of Barnabas Celsanus to Bartholomæus Paiellus; filling the entire page on sign. A z (for A 2), and concluding thus :

Perlege igitur Claudianum solū :
cuius uitā : ut potuimus : in hūc modū edidim⁹. Errata autē
si qua inueneris : partim humanæ imbecillitati : partim li-
brariorum incuriæ uelim ascribas. Vale musarū decus.

On the reverse is a brief genealogy of the poet, terminating with some verses (quoted by St. Austin), in which the victory of Theodosius against Eugenius, ' the impious king of the Gauls,' is described.

On the recto of the following leaf, A 3, commences the preface to the Rape of Proserpine, with the poem itself. A. B. has eight leaves to a signature. Then a to k in eights : l in six; concluding on the reverse of l vj, at top, thus :

Finis operum CL. Claudiani : quæ nō minus
elegantè q̄ diligenter impressit Iacobus Dusen-
sis Milesimo quadrigentesimo octagesimo secū-
do sex. cal. Iun. Vicentiæ.

The Register is beneath. Copies of this very rare edition will be found in the *Bibl. Reviczk.* p. 132; *Bibl. Askev.* no. 1390; *Bibl. Pinell.* n°. 9436 (edit. 1790); *Bibl. Creven.* vol. iii. n°. 4105; *Bibliogr. Instruct.* vol. iii. n°. 2845; Panzer, *Annal. Typog.* vol. iii. p. 516. The supposed edition of 1470, mentioned by Dempster, in his notes to Corippus, is not deserving of refutation or notice. The present is an exceedingly beautiful and almost uncut copy. It is bound in blue morocco.

218. CLAUDIANUS. OPERA. *Printed by Angelus Ugoletus. Parma. 1493. Quarto.*

On the recto of the first leaf is the title of the work thus, ' CLAUDIANI OPERA.' On the reverse of the same leaf is the address of the printer's brother, Thadæus Ugoletus; in which a careful collation and correction of preceding editions is said to have taken place before the printing of the present impression. On the recto of the ensuing and

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)

Without Date.}] COLUMELLA. 5

second leaf, sign. a ii, commences the first book 'In Ruffinvm.' The signatures run from a to p in eights: p q r s t having each six only. On the recto of t vj we read the imprint, as follows:

Opera Claudiani diligenter emendata per Th/
dæum Vgoletum Parmensem. Impressa autem p
Angelum eius fratrem Parmæ: Anno domini
MCCCCLXXXIII. Nono Kalendas Maias.

REGISTRVM.

abcdefghijklmnopno. omnes sunt quaterni
pqrst. sunt terni.

On the reverse is the printer's device, with his initials A. V. in white, upon a black ground. See *Introd. to the Classics*, vol. i. p. 293. In calf binding.

219. COLUMELLA. *Without Date, Place, or Name of Printer.* Quarto.

THE EDITIO PRINCEPS of this work is probably among the *SCRIPTORES DE RE RUSTICA*, 1472; for which, vide post. The present (as indeed are all the separate publications of Columella, printed in the Roman character, in the 15th century,) is a very uncommon impression; and appears to have escaped Audiffredi and Panzer. It is by no means the same to which the latter refers (as being printed with the types of J. de Westphalia,) in his *Annal Typog.* vol. i. p. 523, n°. 107. It is clear, from Panzer's brief account, where the authority of 'Viss.' p. 57, is only inserted, that this impression had never been inspected by him. Audiffredi, *Edit. Rom.* p. 381, notices a very different edition; and Panzer, vol. iv. p. 115, n°. 366, speaks of an edition without date or place, as executed in the Gothic type. It remains to describe this rare volume.

On the recto of fol. 1, we read:

Lucii Iunii Moderati Columelle de Cultu
hortorum Liber. xi. Quem. Pub. Virgilius
.M.ī Georgicis Posteris edendum dimisit
Ad eiusdē Carmen Prefatio.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)

6 ANCIENT CLASSICS. [*Columella*;

The preface occupies nearly the first leaf. At the bottom of the reverse of this leaf, and at the beginning of the top of the second, we read as follows :

Hortorꝫ quoque te cultus Siluine docebo.
 Atq; ea que quōdā spatiis exclusus iniquis
 Quō caneñt letas segetes & munera bacchi
 Et te magna pales nec nō celestia mella.
 Virgilius nobis post se memorāda fliqt.
 &c. &c. &c.

In the whole, 10 leaves. At the bottom of the 10th leaf, reverse, it is as follows :

.D. .FINIS. .S.

A full page contains 24 lines, or verses. There are neither signatures, numerals, nor catchwords. From the very brief and jejune description of it by Maittaire, vol. i. p. 750, note 5, it is manifest that he had but a slight knowledge of the existence of this impression. The present is a clean copy of a beautiful little volume : bound in green morocco.

220. COLUMELLA. *Without Date, Place, or Name of Printer.* Folio.

This impression contains the COMMENTARY of FORTUNATUS. It is always pleasant, when searching amidst a variety of bibliographical writers for the most correct account of a rare volume, to meet with an accurate reference to Fossi's *Bibl. Magliabechiana* (vol. i. col. 563.) Panzer, vol. iv. p. 114, n^o. 365, makes this reference, as well as to Maittaire, vol. i. 750; which latter authority is sufficiently barren : but Fossi is rather copious and instructive. Yet the following account may be useful.

On the reverse of the first leaf, we have the same address or title, which is mentioned as being printed on the recto of the first leaf in the preceding edition, and of which the first 4 lines are before quoted. On the recto of a ii, begins the text, surrounded by the commentary of Fortunatus. The prefix is as follows :

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)*Without Date.*] CORNELIUS GALLUS. 7IVLII POMPONII FORTVNATI INTERPRETATIO
IN CARMINIBVS COLVMELLE.

The work contains signatures a and b, in sixes. The text and commentary occupy but 10 leaves; On the reverse of the 10th leaf are the same letters as at the conclusion of the previous edition; which see. On the recto of the ensuing and last leaf (being 12 leaves' from the beginning,) are some elegant and interesting verses, inscribed 'Marcus Antonius Alterius ad Romulū Quirinum, beginning thus:

Sepultum tibi siluium quirine
Et flaccum tineis satis peresum
&c. &c. &c.

The present is a fair genuine copy of an impression held in no small estimation by the curious. It is bound in russia.

221. CORNELIUS GALLUS: sub Nomine MAXIMIANI *Without Date, Place, or Printer's Name.* Folio.

A rare and not incurious volume; and probably the EARLIEST IMPRESSION of the work under consideration. We will give a more particular description of it than is to be found in either of the authorities quoted below. On the recto of the first leaf, at top, we read

**Maximiani philosophi atq; oratoris clarissimi
ethica suavis et periocunda Incipit feliciter.
Multa quid celsas finē properare senect'
Cur et infelso corpore tarda venis
Solue ꝑcor miserā de tali carcere vitā
Mors est iam requies biuere pena michi
Non sum qui fueram. ꝑijt pars maxima nostri
Hoc quoque nō supest langor et horror habet
&c. &c. &c.**

A full page contains 31 lines. In the whole, the volume comprehends 12 leaves. On the recto of the 12th, we read the following:

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)**Explicit ethica maximiani philo
sophi atq; oratoris clarissimi.**

We have, next, epitaphs upon Popes Nicholas V. and Eugenius IV.; upon Laurentius de Valla, Ovid, and a 'ridiculous epigram' in 5 verses, not worth quoting; although De Bure thought otherwise: *Cat. de la Valliere*, vol. ii. p. 142. At the end of the last line of this epigram, is the concluding word 'Explicit.' Bibliographers have properly assigned this production to the press of Ketelaer and De Leempt. On a comparison with the edition of '*De Mirabilibus Scripturae*' of St. Austin (noticed in vol. i. p. 188-9,) this conclusion is incontrovertible. According to an authority (*Viss.* p. 55), quoted by Denis, *Suppl. Maitt.* p. 614, n°. 5377, there was a doubt whether it might not have been an ancient production of the Harlem press. Panzer, vol. iii. p. 548, borrows literally the whole of the account of Denis. A copy was in the Pinelli collection: *Bibl. Pinell.* vol. ii. p. 434, n°. 5404. It may be necessary to add that this impression is destitute of signatures, catchwords, and numerals.

Count Reviczky, in his ms. addenda, observes that Fabricius and Ernesti were ignorant of this impression; which he conjectured to have been printed about the year 1473. He further remarks that, in the *Menagiana*, where there is an 'accurate and exquisite discussion' concerning these elegies, and the author of them, no knowledge is evinced of the present publication. This is a fair, genuine copy, bound in dark red morocco.

222. DARES PHRYGIUS. *Without Date, Place, or Name of Printer; but probably executed at Cologne by Ulric Zel.* Quarto.

EDITIO PRINCEPS. I have ventured to call this impression the earliest edition of the author, since it is evident that it is printed with the same types and kind of paper as were used by Ulric Zel at Cologne. Panzer, vol. v. p. 173, briefly notices several editions, without date or place, and refers, vol. iv, p. 281, in support of one of them, to Braun's *Notit. Hist. Lit.* pt. i. p. 65; where I should conceive the *present* one to be described, from the number of leaves specified, and from its being noticed among some opuscula of Gerson and St. Jerom, evidently the production of Ulric Zel's press—except that, a preliminary epistle,

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)*Without Date.*] DARES PHRYGIUS. 9

from Cornelius Nepos to Sallust (see the ensuing impressions), is there specified as preceding the text; which is wanting in this copy. The terminating verses seem to be precisely the same. Panzer assigns it, gratuitously, to the press of Veldener; but Braun is silent respecting the supposed printer of it. There is no ground to conclude that Veldener* executed the present volume; which, on the contrary, is clearly the production of the early Cologne press. Boni and Gamba talk vaguely of a dateless edition, supposed to be the first, and executed at Mentz, about the year 1470. *Biblioteca Portatile*, vol. ii. p. 305. It remains to describe the volume before us.

On the recto of the first leaf, as a title to the work, we read

Incipit hystoria troiana daretis frigi

There are 24 lines beneath; but a full page contains 26 lines. In the whole, 22 leaves. On the recto of the 22d, at bottom, commence the verses which were thought deserving, by Caxton, of forming the conclusion of the English Recueil of the Histories of Troy; supposed to have been printed by him, in 1471; vide post.

**Dares frigi^o q̄ huic bello infuit ex vtriusq;
ptis principes vidit hanc hystoriā r̄scripsit.**

**Ergama flere volo. fata danais data solo
Solo capta dolo. capta redacta solo**

21 similar monkish verses are on the reverse of this last leaf. In the absence of signatures, catchwords, and numerals, and from its similarity to the other early productions of the Cologne press, I should apprehend this edition to have been printed by Ulric Zel not later than the year 1470. The present copy is sumptuously bound in blue morocco.

223. DARES PHRYGIUS. *Without Date, Place, or Name of Printer.* Quarto.

We have here another, and most beautiful, copy of an early edition of this author, published without indication of date, place, or printer's name. As there are neither signatures nor catchwords, this impres-

* A fac-simile of the type of this printer will be found in the third volume of this work.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-05108-8 - Bibliotheca Spenceriana: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Books Printed in the Fifteenth Century and of Many Valuable First Editions in the Library of George John Earl Spencer: Volume 2

Thomas Frognall Dibdin

Excerpt

[More information](#)

10

ANCIENT CLASSICS. [*Without Date.*]

sion was, in all probability, printed before the year 1472. On examining Panzer, and a variety of authorities, it appears to be an almost unknown edition. Whatever may be its intrinsic value, considered in a typographical point of view it is very precious; since it exhibits a beautiful specimen of a cast of characters, apparently quite new, and struck with the puncheons of an early Venetian artist: exhibiting a mixture of the type of Hailbrun, Valdarfer, and Adam de Ambergau.

On the recto of the first leaf we read as follows:

HISTORIA DE ORIGINE
TROIANORVM: FOELICI
TER LEGE.

RIGO TROIANO
RVM. DARD
NVS FVIT: qui ex Io
ue & electra filia atlantis
natus. ab italia ex responso
locum commutans. per traciamsamon de
latus est: quam samotraciam nominavit. &
hinc ad fugiam deuenit. quam Dardaniã
&c. &c. &c.

A full page contains 25 lines. The volume comprehends 27 leaves. On the reverse of the 27th, at bottom, the conclusion is thus printed,

De bello troiano liber explicit.
TELOS:·

This copy has been unluckily much cut in the binding; but it is very clean, and elegantly bound in red morocco.