

Hermann von Wied, *Simplex et pia deliberatio*

¶ A composite volume, part manuscript, part print. The manuscript carries a translation by the Dutch theologian Wouter Deleen (c. 1500–1563) from the German-language edition of Hermann von Wied's work printed at Bonn in 1543, a copy of which—presumably Deleen's own—is bound in behind the manuscript; the source-notes given in the margins of the manuscript reproduce those of the printed book and Deleen also faithfully translated all the edition's preliminaries. Hermann von Wied (1477–1552, *sedit* 1515–46), archbishop-elect of Cologne and a Lutheran, was excommunicated in 1546. In England, Deleen became 'biblioscopus' to King Henry VIII (see *History*), and this volume by its binding was clearly intended for the Royal Library. It is a notable text to be able to locate so close to the king's inner circle of scholars, for Archbishop Cranmer laid the *Pia deliberatio* much under contribution in expositive sections of his 1549 Prayer Book (C. J. Cuming, *A History of Anglican Liturgy*, 2nd edn (London 1982), 45–69). Cranmer's own copy of the *Pia deliberatio* is at Chichester Cathedral. An English translation of the work was published at London in 1547 under the title *A Simple and Religious Consultation* (STC 13213).

A

1 (fols. 1r–28r) (*ep.*) Henrico Octauo Dei gratia Angliæ, | Franciæ, et Hiberniæ Regi, | in Christo inuictissimo: fidei | defensori, inque terra ecclesiæ | Anglicanæ, et Hiberni | cæ, capiti supremo: lon | gum regnare precatur. || Quoniam Reges, multa tum audisse; tum uidisse oportet, | multas quoque aures et oculos habere dicuntur: Maxime | quidem, quum et ipsi, quae suis auribus nec audiunt, nec pro | priis uident oculis, ea suorum subditorum famulorumue et | audiant et videant . . . (1v) . . . si longo sermone morer tua tempora Ter Rex. || Tuæ Maiestatis mancipium | Galterus Delœnus. || (2r, *prol.*) Titulus libri hic est. || Simplex piaque meditatio Hermanni, Dei gratia Archiepi | scopi Coloniensis, Romani Imperii electoris etc. Vnde | Christiana quidem in uerbo Dei fundata reformatio, pro|moueri queat: ad reformandum doctrinam, usum sacrorum | sacramentorum et ceremoniarum. . . . (6r) . . . Finis catalogi. || (6v, *inc. text*) De doctrina. || Nostra salus, filius Dei Iesus Christus, qui adparuit | excelsam illam atque absconditam Dei uoluntatem de sa|lute humana reuelaturus, dixit apostolus suis: Sicut mi|sit me pater, ita et ego mitto vos. — Etiam de peccati et perditionis origine, deque | consolatione eisdem opposita.

(Martin Bucer and Philipp Melanchthon for) Hermann von Wied, *Einfältiges Bedenken, worauf eine christliche, im Worte Gottes gegründete Reformation . . . anzurichten sei* (pr. Bonn 1543 &c.), here in a Latin translation by Wouter Deleen, known only from this copy. The opening dedicatory epistle to King Henry VIII is Deleen's. The translation is incomplete, and breaks off at the end of the chapter on the origin of sin and death (c. 6). The preliminary contents page was, however, translated in full. A different, more widely circulated Latin translation of *Einfältiges Bedenken* was printed under the title *Simplex et pia deliberatio qua ratione Christiana reformatio tantisper instituenda sit*, Bonn 1545 &c.

2 (fols. 28v–29v) Cum librum hunc vna cum interpretatione mea com|pactori traderem, incidi fortuito in quendam libellum qui An|tididagma inscribitur: libellum (ita me Deus bene amet) vere | papisticum, & passim nihil præterquem vetus pharisæorum fer|mentum spirantem: — et intelligentia prudentium eius sese | abscondet.

Known in this copy only, Wouter Deleen's (low) opinion on *Antididagma* (Cologne 1544), the vituperative reply of the cathedral chapter of Cologne to the reformation proposed by Martin

Bucer, Philipp Melanchthon, and Archbishop Hermman von Wied. The Electorate of Cologne remained catholic until 1794. Deleen ends with a lengthy quotation from Isaiah about darkness and ignorance (Is 59:10; 29:11–14). There are quotations from *Antididagma* in BL MSS Royal 7 B. XI and XII (known as ‘Archbishop Cranmer’s Commonplace-Books’), and there is a copy of the 1544 edition at Lambeth Palace.

As Deleen states at the outset, he came upon the *Antididagma* after he had sent the present volume to the binder. This item would therefore have been written on to blanks at the back of the quire after the volume had been bound; the different, browner ink and the writing, which becomes a little congested as it reaches the gutter, would bear this out.

fols. 30r–32v are ruled but blank.

B

This second component in the volume is a discrete printed book.

3 (fols. 33–195) Von Gottes genaden || vnser Hermans Ertzbischoffs zû || Cóln/ vnnd Churfürsten &c. einfaltigs bedencken/ warauff ein || Christliche/ in dem wort Gottes gegrünte Reformation/ an Lehr/ || brauch der Heyligen Sacramenten vnd Ceremonien/ Seelsorge/ vnd || anderem Kirchendienst/ biß vff eines freyen/ Christlichen/ Gemeinen/ || oder Nationals Concilij/ oder des Reichs Teutscher Nation || Stende/ im Heyligen Geyst versamlet/ verbesse=||rung bey denen so vnserer Seelsorge be=||folhen/ anzurichten seye.|| . . . ||

(Martin Bucer and Philipp Melanchthon for) Hermann von Wied, *Einfältiges Bedenken, worauf eine christliche, im Worte Gottes gegründete Reformation . . . anzurichten sei*, printed Bonn: Laurenz von der Mülen, 1543 (*VD16* K1734). It was from this edition that Wouter Deleen derived his translation (item 1 above). The copy is complete (sigs. a⁶ A–Y⁶ Z⁴ Aa–Cc⁶).

Construction: Paper throughout. v + 195. Modern pencil foliation across both parts (fols. 1–32 are manuscript, 33–192 a printed book). Flyleaves, of different but coeval paper stock, are blank. Pastedowns are medieval parchment covered by paper. The script showing beneath small rips in the paper shows that the parchment came from an Italian glossed book, probably a legal text (s. xiv). The paper stock is watermarked . . . with a Greek cross on a shield?? Flyleaves have the familiar hand and flower. *Dimensions*: 300 × 195 mm, written space 202–7 × 125–8 mm. *Collation*: a⁸ (fols. i–v; 3 cancelled, 1, 2 are unnumbered stubs) | 1³² (fols. 1–32) | sigs. a⁶ A–Y⁶ Z⁴ Aa–Cc⁶ (foliated 33–192) | b⁶ (fols. 193–195; 4, 5 are stubs, 6 is pastedown). The manuscript text is held in one quire; there are no quire signatures. *Layout*: Nineteen long lines per page, faintly frame-ruled in red crayon, the vertical bounding rules at each side going to the edges of the page, likewise the first two and last two horizontal rules at top and bottom. Written below top line. *Secundo folio*: Titulus libri hic est

Script and decoration: Written carefully throughout in the regular, upright italic hand of Wouter Deleen (c. 1500–1563); other specimens of his hand are to be found in the Royal collection (BL MSS Royal 7 D. XX, 8 B. II, 12 A. XXXII, 12 B. II, 12 B. XIII, App. 80). Ink is dark grey (item 2 is browner). Punctuation is by comma, colon, full stop, and *punctus interrogativus*. There is no decoration.

Annotations: There are no annotations in either part of the volume.

Binding: Contemporary gold-tooled binding of pasteboard covered with brown calf, by the Flamboyant Binder. Three other bindings from the same shop are known, all connected with Wouter Deleen (see Nixon, *Five Centuries of English Bookbinding*, no. 11; and ‘Early English gold-tooled bookbindings’, 2. 299). A frame of three blind fillets encloses an elaborately tooled panel, a plumed scroll extending diagonally from each corner. Two roll-frames, the inner one only partial, blind in the lower half where it meets the scrollwork above the lettered panel. The royal arms above, crowned, flanked by *H* and *R*, with Tudor roses and cornucopias among the scrollwork. In the lower quarter of the panel, in capitals: ‘Henry the VIII. by | the grace of God Kyng | of England. Fraunce. | and Irelande. and. C. | with Godes help. | Ano. D. M. D. XLV.’ The back board is more or less a match, albeit the scrollwork is more

restrained. In the lower panel is a different inscription: 'O. Iesv. miserere. mei. | dum. tempus. est. | miserendi.' and then in a discrete panel below that: 'VVivat. Rex. | Amen.' (illustrated by I. G. Philip, *Gold-tooled Bookbindings* (Oxford 1951), pl. 5). Originally gaufered fore-edges brushed with gold, now rather faded. Sewn on seven split bands, raised at the spine and there embossed with a gold fillet, the panels between decorated with a fleuron. Spine rebacked. Endbands sewn in red and blue. Fixture holes for two fore-edge clasps or ties, both boards. Four holes for a chain-staple towards the foot of the upper board's fore-edge, with corresponding rust-marks carried through the first five pages.

Labels and marks: Parchment fore-edge ticket in usual position, marked 'Hermannum Archiepiscopum Colon' De reformatione Ecclesiae. 136'. No spine-label. On inside of front board is inked '136' and facing, fol. i^r, where it is written over two lines in the hand of the main scribe: 'Consultatio simulationis nescia, Archiepiscopi Coloniensis, Principis Electoris, &c.' New College Library stamp below this, but otherwise only sporadically.

History: Apparently an escapee from the Royal Library. The detail of the binding shows that the volume was intended for the library of King Henry VIII, to whom the work was dedicated. The other books that are associated with the same author and binder are still in the royal collection (see above). The manuscript is in the hand of Wouter Deleen (c. 1500–1563), the Dutch theologian, professor of Hebrew in Amsterdam, who fled to England in 1535 and later became 'biblioscopus' to King Henry VIII, a word perhaps describing some sort of scholar-librarian or reading-secretary, charged with finding and vetting books for the king's attention. (See further R. A. Leaver, *Goostly psalmes and spirituall songes: English and Dutch Metrical Psalms from Coverdale to Utenhove, 1535–1566* (Oxford 1991), 118.) This Latin translation, dedicated to Henry, was also Deleen's own. Its incompleteness argues against its having been a New Year's gift to the king. There is no Westminster palace inventory number (albeit it is not clear that numbers continued to be applied after 1542). The form of the name that Deleen used here, Galterus Deloenus (fol. 1^r), is the form he used when publishing his *Testamentum nouum latinum* in 1540 (STC 2799, the royal dedication copy of which, formerly in the king's library at Westminster, is now Lambeth Palace, **E 1975 1540). The date on the binding of our book is 1545. The work was therefore abandoned—if abandoned it was—before Hermann von Weid's deposition and excommunication in 1546. It may be that Deleen gave up further work in 1545 when a Latin translation was published in Bonn (VD16 ZV18285). It is not clear that the book actually entered the royal library, or, if it did, how it should have escaped. {{Exchanges between Patrick Young and Thomas James??}} It was certainly at the College by 1698 when it was reported there for the *Catalogi librorum manuscriptorum Angliae et Hiberniae*.

Booklists: CMA no. 1100.

Bibliography: Coxe, 50; H. M. Nixon, *Five Centuries of English Bookbinding* (London 1978), 34 (no. 11); id. 'Early English gold-tooled bookbindings', in *Studi de bibliografia e di storia in onore di Tammaro de Marinis*, 4 vols (Verona 1964), 2. 283–308, at 299.