Miscellanea astronomica et medica

¶ A Sammelband, manuscript and print, all parts of which originated in the Netherlands. Some of the manuscript tracts are written in Flemish of a north-eastern dialect and in Limburgish; all are rare. The printed portion comprises Dutch editions of 1502 and c. 1500. The volume was brought together in its present arrangement very soon after production.

Fols. [i]—[iv] are two leaves of stout parchment, rotated through 90 degrees and folded across the centre, from a Book of Hours with New Testament readings, written in a skilful Textura quadrata of s. xv/xvi, ornamented with many hair-lines. No rubrication or decoration in the reserved spaces. On fol. [iv]^r a coeval hand, seemingly that of the main scribe, added a contents list that encompasses the whole volume as we have it: 'Continencia libri ¶ Kalendarius Johannis de monte regio ¶ Canones computi ecclesiastici bartholomei coloniensis ¶ Almanach quinque planetarum et capitis draconis ¶ Ephemerides Johannis de monte regio pro principio ¶ Astronomia theoremata ¶ Practica cirurgie thome scelling continens quattuor partes ¶ Cyrurgia minor lancfranci ¶ Lancfrancus de vngentis et emplastris ¶ Remedia diuersarum infirmitatum ¶ Tractatus magistri Nicolai de stomacho ¶ Compendium Hypocratis.

Α

This first component in the volume consists of two printed books divided as three.

I

1 (fols. 1r-18v, 27r-38v) Kalendarius cum vero motu solis et duplici mo||do inueniendi verum motum lune. vulgari. scilicet || per litteras et astronomico perspicacissimi astro||nomi magistri Ioannis de Monte Regio. Nec || non vere coniunctiones solis et lune || . . . || (18v) Mccccxxx Eclipsis lune In octobre vij xij xij i. l. || . . . || (27r) Almanach quinque planetarum capitis que draco||nis pro triginta duobus annis || . . . || (38v) Almanach quinque planetarum capitis que draco||nis pro triginta duobus annis.

Iohannes Regiomontanus (Johann Müller) (1436–1476), *Kalendarium*: pr. [Nuremberg 1472] (*Bod-inc* R-033), &c. The present edition is that printed Zwolle: Peter Os van Breda, 1502 (Nijhoff & Kronenberg, *Nederlandsche bibliographie*, 1, no. 1226). The portion of the text that is the *Almanach* is misplaced here, separated by the following item; but the overall copy is complete (sigs. a⁸ b⁶ c⁴ a⁸ b⁴). There are woodcut images, tables, and the volvelle is intact on sig. [b4^r].

II

2 (fols. 19r–26v) Bartholomei Coloniensis Canones vna cum || declarationibus eorundem in tabulas Compu||ti ecclesiastici. in pulcherrimum Compendium subti||li ingenio. miraque arte redacti. felici sydere inci||piunt. || . . . || Ad lectorem distichon || Quisquis auet modius comprehendere festa figuris || Hoc breue spectet opus sic bene tutus erit. || Impressit petrus ossensis calcographus zwollensis.

Bartholomaeus Coloniensis, *Canones cum declarationibus eorundem in tabulas computi ecclesiastici*: pr. as here. The present edition is that printed Zwolle: Peter Os van Breda, [after 31 Oct. 1503] (*Bod-inc* B-072; Nijhoff & Kronenberg, *Nederlandsche bibliographie*, 1, no. 238). The copy is complete (sigs. A⁴–B⁴).

III

Fol. 39r. In ink, a detailed diagram of the eye, entitled 'Oculus phisicus'. It shows the eye in vertical cross-section, the cornea to the left and the optic nerve extending to the right; each part of the eye is carefully labelled in Latin. It shows the crystalline lens ('humor cristallinus') placed centrally, in accordance with the common medieval belief. (See further C. T. Leffler & others in *Clinical Ophthalmology* 10 (2016) 649–62.) Beneath this, a diagram by the same man, also labelled, of the eye in front view, with hatching to suggest shadow.

3 (fols. 39v-43v) ¶ Tabula regionum. || Hibernia . . . || ¶ Tabula quantitatis dierum . . . || ¶ Tabula ascendentis . . . || Residuum tabule ascendentis . . . || ¶ Tabula domorum . . .

Tables excerpted from Abraham Zacutus (1452–1515), Ephemerides siue Almanach perpetuum, Latin tr.: pr. Leiria 1496 (GW 115–16), &c. The work was commonly attributed, even in modern times, to Iohannes Regiomontanus. For Zacutus, see J. Chabás & B. R. Goldstein, Astronomy in the Iberian Peninsula: Abraham Zacut and the Transition from Manuscript to Print (Philadelphia, PA, 2000).

4 (fols. 44r-45r) ¶ Iohannis de monte regio germanorum | decoris, etatis nostre astronomorum principis | Ephemerides. || Usum ephemerides (sic) cuiuslibet | breuiter exponemus. In primis adest numerus anni | ad quem spectat almanach — ad aliosque vsus ciuiles innumeros, proprio deinceps | comentario abunde explicabitur. || (45r) ¶ Characteres signorum zodiaci . . . ¶ Tabella lune . . .

An ephemeris attributed to Iohannes Regiomontanus also in BnF MS lat. 10271, fols. 160r–161v, where the *Tabula lunae* is followed by the *Tabula regionum* that in our manuscript is part of the preceding item.

5 (fols. 45r-50v) ¶ Sequitur Canon tabularum quantitatis | dierum: ascendentis: et domorum. || (45v) Tabula quantitatis dierum et noctum: et tabula ascendentis | et domorum . . . si noctur|na promptissime commonstrabit || Sequitur tabella horarum | inequaliunt. || (46r) Hore | Diei — videlicet Martius: Aprilis: Maius: Septemb' et October (sic). || Et hec in tacuinos dicta sufficiant.

A further ephemeris, including the best times for bloodletting, pharmacy, and cultivation of plants.

6 (fol. 50v) Om een vater toe maken dat wan | wonderlicken craften is: et est secretum quoddam | Recipe filinghen van yser . ende wan stael ende wan coper — ist ter stont genesen. Hec operatus fuit magister Theodricus Bolzwerdie.

A tract on the medicinal use of water: unpr.; Jansen-Sieben, *Repertorium* O130:2.1. Dirck Bolsward is otherwise unknown.

7 (fols. 51r-73v) ¶ Incipit Tractatulus Astronomie theore|mata tocius mundialis machine disposicionem | celestium et elementalium regiones situm orbis | cum generali mappa dilucidans. || De principiis astronomie De difinicionem nominis origine | et primo inuentore. Capitulum primum. Magister | Astronomia est certa lex et regula superiorum corporum magnitu|dines et motus considerans Corpora autem superiora celos et astra | intelligamus. Discipulus Cur igitur astronomia — Hec astrologia non astronomia edocet que | ex motibus coniunctionibus aspectibus et influenciis celestium corporum inferiorum mutaciones considerat. [two lines erased] || ¶ Explicit tractatulus astronomie | theoremata Anno 150vijo mensis Marcii.

An excerpt taken from Gregorius Reisch, *Margarita philosophica*, *lib*. VII *tract*. 1: pr. Strassburg: Johann Schott, 1504 (*BSB-Ink* R-1264); L. Andreini, *Gregor Reisch e la sua Margarita philosophica* (Salzburg 1997). This excerpt was probably copied from the Strassburg edition, albeit the preamble, c. 1, has been omitted here and the chapters renumbered. Note also that the final two lines have been erased and partly overwritten by the explicit. These were lines in which the student asks for further conversation on the subject of astrology and the master suggests that they make a separate discussion of that, a discussion which forms *tract*. 2. Since the scribe was ending his excerpt here, he erased these lines and overwrote them.

8 (fols. 73v) ¶ Vnguentum in paralisi optimum. | In paralisi valet vngentum laudatum ab ebemmessue in passionibus cordis cum quo | vngitur collum dorsum et membra lesa — paralisis et erat primo suis.

A short recipe for a plaster for paralysis, abbreviated from Guido de Cauliaco, *Chirurgia*, tract. III *De vulneribus*, doct. 1 c. 1 (see edn, vol. 1, p. 153, l. 31–154, l. 11). Guido de Cauliaco (d. 1368), *Chirurgia*: ed. M. R. McVaugh, *Guigonis de Caulhiaco (Guy de Chaliac), Inventarium sive Chirurgia magna*, 2 vols (Leiden 1997); Wickersheimer, 214–15, suppl. 95–6; Thorndike/Kibre 1076, 1301. The work was first printed at [Lérida c. 1479–80] (*ISTC*), and there was another edition printed in time to be used here, at Venice 1498 (*GW* 11696). But the work was widely available in manuscript, and it is more likely that this excerpt was taken from there, or an intermediate source.

Fol. 73v. The remainder of the page is blank.

9 (fols. 74r-171v) ¶ Incipit summa artis Cyrurgie | cum Practica Thome Scelling vm|bra medici de cenismonte que tho|masia vocatur. Prohemium || (prol.) Ad laudem et gloriam | dei Ic Thomas Scellingh, umbra | medicus, hebbe ghemerct dat | haue ende goet te gaet, ende guede | consten ende sciencien . . . (75r) . . . ende wermordense. Hyr | neint onse prohemium (sic) dat eynde || ¶ Capitula prime partis. xx^{ti} . || Primum capitulum. wan wat gedachte sullen syn dy cyrur|gun met haren werken folio ij. || . . . (75v) . . . ¶ xx. capitulum. Vanden summe vanden gemeyne curen wan alle can|keren, ende wan haer occusione, folio xxxiij. || Incipit tractatus primus Capitulum primum || Nu suldi weten lieue kynder, | Dat Elch Cyrurgun sal hebben yn synen werken | redenen ende dinghen, dy hem helpen te siren | redenen yn alle wonden thoe genesen — wan sade wan mancop ende menget altoegader ende siedent yn twe vaten . . . (breaks off, half a page blank).

Thomas Scellinck Van Thienen (d. after 1343), *Boeck van surgien*: ed. E. C. van Leersum, *Het 'Boeck van Surgien' van Meester Thomaes Scellinck van Thienen*, Opuscula selecta Neerlandicorum de arte medica, fasc. 7 (Amsterdam 1928); Jansen-Sieben, *Repertorium* O130:2.2. Leersum's edition was made without knowledge of this manuscript, using the two witnesses then known, BL MS Harley 1684 (s. xvⁱⁿ), and The Hague, Koninklijke Bibliotheek, MS 78 C 27 (s. xv²). Jansen-Sieben adds ours as well as Mainz, Stadtbibliothek, MS I 514, and Milan, Biblioteca nazionale Braidense, MS AE XII 38. Our copy follows the readings of the Harley text but ends imperfectly, breaking off in the description of *Oleum mandragore* towards the end of Bk IV (edn, p. 264). (The ordering of oils in this section differs from that printed from the Hague manuscript.) The scribe has left two and a half blank pages in Bk IV (fols. 166v–167v) where there must have been a lacuna in his exemplar.

Fols. 172r–174v are blank, although ruled and included in the original foliation.

10 (fols. 175r–199v) ¶ Incipit practica siue Cirurgia | minor magistri Lancfranci. || Dit is die Slotel van Cyr|urgien. Ende begint dat erste capittel | vanden iiij elementen. Dat erste ys dy | loecht. — dar af ende plaester gemacht ende dar opgelet. || ¶ Finis Anno 1506. (185v) ¶ Incipit tractatus magistri Lancfranci de | diuersis vngentis et emplastris | Et primo De repercussiuis: || (inc.) Aldus Mactkmen repercussi|uen . die

sweren wed' slaen . dy heet | syn van naturen — ende siedent yn wyn, ende saluen dy leden daer mede &c.

The 'Jonghe Lanfranc', Chirurgia, in Middle Dutch: unpr.; Jansen-Sieben, Repertorium O130:2.3.

11 (fols. 199v–203r) ¶ Incipit tractatus de stomacho quod | magister Nicolaus de Gouderaen ordinauit || Maghe ys een koeck vanden | leden. Wanner dy mage dy spise quellick | begert soe ys dy maghe syeck — Electuarium restrictuum in omni casu Recipe Risi contusi boli armenici coriandri, cynamomi, puluerisa et misce cum melle. || Finis de stomacho.

Nicolaus de Goudriaan (fl. 1349), Tractatus de stomacho: ed. from this manuscript by R. Jansen-Sieben, 'Het Maagtraktaat van Nicolaus van Goudriaan', in Medizin in Geschichte, Philologie und Ethnologie. Festschrift für Gundolf Keil, ed. D. Gross & M. Reininger (Würzburg 2003), 275–88; ead. Repertorium O130:2.4. Our manuscript seems to be the only surviving copy of any of the works attributed to this Parisian master.

12 (fols. 203r–204v) Aldus seeptmen doeken. Nemt heet raats ... Quicumque vult scire de rebus conis|sis vel furatus. Primo scribat nomina coram ... Om thoe maken sal armoniaeck | (?)Recipe xij mengelen gestelde ... Pectorale in omni causa in omni morbo | pectoris ... ¶ Nota de ytinerantibus | Itinerans si constipatus fuerit ... Ad faciendum potum vt homo reuelet | omnia que ab eo interrogatur ... ¶ Om schoen toe wassen of toe wollen | wullen wijt laken | Gebraden hollantse erde ... ¶ Om scrinen of glasen myt prenterie | toe wersiren of to becseden: Accipe gummi tragant ...

Alchemical recipes, with one for constipation, in Latin and Middle Dutch: unpr.; Jansen-Sieben, *Repertorium* O130:2.5.

13 (fols. 205r-213r) ¶ Incipit compendium Ypocratis || Die guede wroede ypocras ende dy beheen|dichtste bouen allen medicos seit dat dy — is mere dan enich vanden anderen ser schemerende | ende soe clar dat het scynt off sy raden neder liet gan. || ¶ Explicit compendium Ypocratis.

A pseudo-Hippocratic tract on medical astrology, in Limburgish: ed. from this manuscript only by R. Jansen-Sieben, De Pseudo-Hippokratische Iatromathematika in vier Middelnederlandse Versies, Scripta 11 (Brussels 1983), 32–45; ead. Repertorium O130:2.6. Surviving in two other manuscripts:

14 (fols. 213v–221r) ¶ Die teykenen vanden seuen pla|neten | Saturnus. || Om dat Saturnus is die overste alder planeten | so wil ick eerst van hym scriuen twesen ende | die gedante — plenius curiosus instructur in libris Astrologie philosophorum &c. || ¶ Explicit libellus iste ad gloriam et | laudem Christi Anno M° CCCCC° vij° | xv kalendas Marcii sub pontifice maximo Iulio 2° | maximiliano cesare [per manus fratris . . .].

A tract in Middle Dutch on planetary influence, unpr.; Jansen-Sieben, Repertorium O130:2.7.

15 (fol. 221v) ¶ Om wlecken wtden clederen toe doen | Recipe eyn pynt waters — het sal wers bliuen || In caustum vino: oleum liquore fabarum | Vinum lacte laua . reliquat mundat aqua.

Four brief alchemical and medical recipes in Latin and Middle Dutch, inc. (Jansen-Sieben, *Repertorium* O130:2.8).

Fol. 222r is blank.

Fol. 222v. In two hands more or less contemporary to the main text, notes on herbs used for strengthening the constitution, and remedies for piles, asthma, and pain.

Fols. 223–226. Four flyleaves from the same Book of Hours as at the front with New Testament readings.

Construction: Paper. iv (flyleaves of medieval parchment) + 222 + iv (medieval parchment flyleaves, foliated 223-226). A medieval foliation is revealing about the book's construction. Fols. 74-174 are separately foliated, by the main scribe using the same Hybrida formata that he used for headings and tituli, in the form 'folium j.'; these marks are in the upper right-hand corners, underlined in red. After fol. 174 ('fol' cij.'), two leaves have been excised; the foliation continues on fol. 175 with 'c.v.', i.e. counting the two excised leaves. This continuation uses roman numerals only, in a browner ink and seemingly by another hand; it continues to the end (fol. 222). There are three separate sequences of quire signatures in ink at the foot, often ploughed away, by the same hand but in another ink, each taking the same alphanumerical form of 'a j', 'a 2', and so on: the first sequence runs from fol. 51 to 73; the second, 74 to 174; a third begins at fol. 175 but is lost sight of before the end of the volume. A separate foliation in early twentieth-century Bodleian pencil is continuous across all parts of the volume and is the foliation followed here. Dimensions: 210×145 mm, written space of $160 \times 90-100$ mm. Collation: i^4 (fols. [i]–[iv]) || sigs. a^8 b^6 c^4 A^4 B^4 a^8 b^4 (foliated 1–38) || 8^{20} (fols. 38–58) 9^{16} (fols. 59-73, 8 and 9 glued together as one) 10-218 (fols. 74-169) 228 (fols. 170-174, 6-8 excised) 23-258 (fols. 175–198) 26⁶ (fols. 199–204) 27⁸ (fols. 205–212) 28¹⁰ (fols. 213–222)|| 29⁴ (fols. 223–226). Foreedge tabs for the start of each discrete portion of this composite volume, as well as each book of item 7, is marked with a tab of red leather, a thin strip wrapped around the fore-edge and glued. Paper is in good condition, firm and clean. The watermark is only rarely found and is unidentified, a quatrefoil on a thin stem, two leaves, and a bifurcated root (as seen at the gutter between fols. 172 and 173). Chainlines are laid horizontally, 23 mm apart. Endleaves are of stout parchment, but clean and well prepared, ivory in colour, rather rough on the hair-sides. Layout: Frame-ruled in lead point, vertical rules only, single lines passing to the edges. Writing is on long lines in the range of 35 to 48 per page. Secundo folio: Januarius. Sol in capricorno (print); Tabula quantitatis dierum (MS, table); Characteres signorum zodiaci (MS, text).

Script: Two scribes writing Netherlandish Secretary, the principal hand smaller and more upright, the secondary with a rather more typical splayed aspect. Scribe A's ascenders are looped, a is always single-compartment; d is mostly uncial but can be double-backed; s is tall in all positions; initial v for u. Incipits and explicits and chapter headings are given by the same man in a bold, soft Textura, underlined in red. At the end of the text on 204v is the note, 'Jo' Kalk' for Iohannes Kalk, and it is possible that this was the scribe's name. (The Dirck Bolsward referred to on 50v was probably the author—'hec operatus fuit', for apparatus—rather than the scribe, particularly since it was the same scribe who wrote both these names.) Scribe B writes from 205r, line 10 to 219v, line 10, with a change of style at the top of 209r. Using a broader nib, his script has more of the prickliness of continental Secretary with elaborated ascender loops, particularly of double-backed d, which sweeps over the several letters in front. Scribe A uses a black ink, Scribe B's is a shade lighter. Punctuation throughout is not extensive, the start of new sententiae being signalled by majuscules touched with red, sometimes with a preceding paraph; Scribe A also uses a virgule to mark the end of a sentence, Scribe B goes without.

Decoration: The volume is replete with diagrams, tables, and images. The printed portion is illustrated with woodcuts, including the volvelle for showing the stations of the moon (fol. 12r), intact here. In the manuscript portion the diagrams have been perfectly executed in the text ink by the main scribe, copying very exactly from his exemplar, which was the edition of Gregorius Reisch's *Margarita philosophica* printed at Strassburg in 1504. The drawing (68v) of the sight lines to a tower on shore from a ship at sea, one man badly sighted on deck and another well sighted in the crow's nest, actually improves on the original in its handling of the swirling surface of the waves. It has a grisaille effect and pale red wash. The two diagrams on fol. 66v have been pasted to the leaf, perhaps to replace a previous attempt.

Initials are bold lombardic majuscules done in ink. Major initials are found on fols. 51r, 74r, 109r, 131r, 162r. The most elaborate is on fol. 74r, originally the first page of a booklet, as affirmed by the scribe's 'folium j.' in the top outer corner. The large, eleven-line A is done in plain blue with decoration on the shafts and hast left in reserve; red penwork flourishing is extensive, travelling to the

top and bottom of the margin; the overall effect is rather spectacular. The others are similar, having the same motifs left in reserve on a blue initial, but they are smaller and lack the red penwork. Other initials are plain lombards in red ink. There is much use of rubrication throughout, for paraphs and underlining as well as stroking of first letters in a new sentence. A marginal comment on fol. 98v next ot a drawing of a medical drill ('forma instrumenti siue terebri') was done in the same red ink by Scribe A, which suggests that he was responsible for the decoration and rubrication throughout.

Annotations: There are hardly any annotations in the volume. In the printed portion, a hand of s. xvii, clearly a university man, writes 'in the coll.' in the kalendar against 7 October and 'Michael terme begins' against the 10th (fol. 7v). Maniculae are drawn against the 'Iudicia vulgaria' on fol. 25r–v. Fore-edge tabs of red leather were applied to the first leaf of each discrete portion of the volume.

Binding: Early sixteenth-century Netherlandish blind-stamped binding of tanned, stained leather over wooden boards shaped with a gentle cushion bevel. The varnish is now mostly rubbed away. Tripled fillets 30 mm from the outer edges run in both directions, crossing unmitted at the corners. Stamped central panel of fillets in diaper; small-tool decoration at the centre of each lozenge, alternating rows of open flower heads with fleurs-de-lis; further small-tool decoration in the outer borders. Sewn on three unsplit thongs of whittawed leather, raised at the spine. Lifted pastedowns on both boards reveal a short lacing path, longer at head and tail, pegged at the ends. Offsets to both boards. On the upper board are paired latten catch-plates at the fore-edge for clasps that are now missing. The metal housings for the leather clasps are *in situ* on the back board; these are plain half-octagons in shape, secured by two nails; clasps were cut flush to the board; stubs of the leather remain. The catch-plates are more decorative, beak-shaped to the spine with three fillets across at the fore-edge end and some etching like sunbursts around the two nail-holes. Below the upper plate a patch of leather is torn away and two nail-holes are visible, to suggest the one-time presence here of a chain-staple.

Labels and marks: The number '312' is inked at the top outer corner of fol. [i]^v, adjacent to the fore-edge ticket, which is intact but too discoloured to be read. At the foot of the spine is the paper label, partly torn away, with the Bodleian shelf-mark written on, 'MS. New Coll. [[--]] 312'.

History: The printed portions of the volume date from c. 1500 and 1502. Two of the manuscript portions were signed with dates: 1506, 19 February 1507, and March 1507 (fols. 175–221, 39–73). The remaining portions are of the same date and involve the same hand. The contemporary date of the binding shows that these booklets were assembled in their present arrangement soon after their creation, at which point the principal scribe added a contents list to a flyleaf. (The latter portion of item 1 was already misplaced.) Nothing is known of the book's creator or first owner, although it would be plausible to identify him as this principal scribe. He named himself in a colophon on fol. 221r but a subsequent owner has obliterated the inscription. The words 'per manus fratris' are recoverable under the erasure, showing that he was in religious orders, but the name itself has been wiped out under a smudge of black ink. Perhaps he was the John Kalk whose name appears at the end of the text on fol. 204v.

The circumstances of our manuscript's arrival in England are mysterious, as are those of its arrival at New College. Its latest owners appear to have been Oxford men, from Merton College and Oriel. It belonged to William Daunton, probably the man who was fellow of Merton, 1590–99. His ownership inscription reports that he had received it from Thomas Lewis of Oriel: 'Liber Gulielmi Dauntoni ex dono Thomae Leuisii quondam orialensis' (fol. 1r, s. xvi^{ex}). For William Daunton, who matriculated at St Mary Hall in 1585, was fellow of Merton College, 1590–99, and subsequently rector of Stourmouth in Kent, see *Alumni Oxon*. 375.

Bibliography: Coxe, 112–13 (not mentioning the printed portion of the volume and ignoring it in his foliation); Watson, Dated Oxford, no. 861; Alexander & Temple, no. 1011; R. Jansen-Sieben, Repertorium van de Middelnederlandse Artes-Literatuur (Utrecht 1989), O 130 (p. 425–6); W. Nijhoff & M. E. Kronenberg, Nederlandsche bibliographie van 1500 tot 1540, 3 vols in 6 (The Hague 1923–61), vol. 1, nos. 1226, 238.