

THE MS. BRUXELLES, B.ROYALE 3540-47, RADULPHUS BRITO AND THE SOPHISTICI ELENCHI

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The Ms. Bruxelles Bibl.Royale 3540-47 is a XVth Century collection of logical writings. As the description in the catalogue is rather unprecise and since neither Glorieux¹ nor Ch.Lohr² cover all the items of the Ms. I give some supplementary information on the contents.

1. Ff. 1-32r: Anonymus, Quaestiones in parva mathematicalia (Algorismum, Sphaeram, Computum, Astrolabium).

Inc.: Sicut dicit Seneca 8.epistula ad Lucilium "philosophare oportet si tibi vis ut alia libertas contingat...

Expl.:... ad hoc quod fiat sensus in actu et etiam intellectus per consequens, ideo non valuit.

As all other texts of this Ms. can be attributed to Radulphus Brito it is not unlikely that he, too, is the author of these mathematical questions. The tituli of the questions are close to the late-XIIIth century questions in the Ms. Clm 14246 f.125-32 described by Grabmann (Mittelalterliches Geistesleben II, 231-232).

2. Ff. 33r-163v: Radulphus Brito, Quaestiones super Artem veterem, i.e. Porphyrium (ff.33r-69v), Praedicamenta (ff.70r-101v), Perihermeneias (ff.101r-133r), Sex Principia (ff.134r-163r).

For further Mss. of these questions cp. Lohr l.c. However, our Ms. is interesting as it contains another and longer version of these texts as compared to the text offered by the Mss. Paris Arsenal 697, Vat.lat.2141 and 3043³. A similar, longer version is contained in the Ms. Nürnberg, Stadtb. Cent V 21 (ff.59-124); the Nürnberg Ms., moreover, intersperses a number of questions, to which no counterpart is found in the other Mss. There is strong evidence that at least some of these questions belong to another series; this is also suggested by the mysterious Explicit: "Expliciunt quaestiones super quatuor libros veteris artis Britonis et Hytpibbij (sic!) simul collectae". The problems of these different redactions can only be solved after a thorough investigation into the sources.

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1. P.Glorieux, Répertoire des maitres en théologie de Paris au XIII^e siècle, under No.215: Raoul de Hotot.
 2. Ch.Lohr on Radulphus Reginaldi Britonis in Traditio 28 (1972) 384-88.
 3. For these Mss. cp.also J.Pinborg in: Miscellanea Mediaevalia VIII (1971) 275.

3. Ff. 163v-195v: Radulphus Brito, Quaestiones super librum Topicorum Boethii, i.e. De differentiis topicis.

Inc.: Hiis habitis circa librum Topicorum Boethii quaeritur. Primo de subiecto, utrum locus sit ibi subiectum...

Expl.: ... differentiam locorum dialecticorum et a locis rhetoricis quam e contrario. Ideo etc. Expliciunt quaestiones magistri Radulphi Britonis super libro Topicorum Boethii.

The Ms. contains questions on the I., II. and IV. (incomplete?) book of the De differentiis topicis. I know of no other Ms.

4. Ff. 196r-277r: Radulphus Brito, Super librum Topicorum Aristotelis. This is the same version as the one known from a number of Mss. (cp. Lohr l.c.).

5. Ff. 277v-370r: Radulphus Brito, supra librum Priorum Analyticorum.

6. Ff. 372r-460r: Radulphus Brito, supra librum Posteriorum Analyticorum.

7. Ff. 460r-472v: <Radulphus Brito>, Quaestiones super librum Divisionum.

Inc.: Primo circa librum Divisionum quaeritur utrum de divisione sit scientia, videtur quod non, quoniam de compositione non est scientia...

Expl.:... per illam albedinem non denominatur simpliciter albus. Et sic ad illud.

I know of no other Mss. XIIIth century commentaries on De divisione are rare.

8. Ff. 480r-543v: <Radulphus Brito>, Quaestiones super librum Elenchorum.

Inc.: Sicut dicit Seneca 36. epistula ad Lucilium ad hanc te transfer et loquor de philosophia...

Expl.: (incomplete)... quia maius bonum est semper magis eligendum. (This is in the middle of the 2nd question of book II).

For a list of questions cp. above p. 32-35.

This is the wanted commentary of Radulphus Brito on the Sophistici Elenchi (cp. Cahiers 9, 1973, pp.80-82). All the fragments there printed can be verified in our Ms., except for fragment 7, where the actual quotation is far shorter than assumed:

Frg. 1	=	Brux. f. 519 r.	Frg. 5	=	Brux. f. 533r (v. below)
Frg. 2	=	Brux. f. 520 r.	Frg. 6	=	Brux. f. 534 r.
Frg. 3	=	Brux. f. 528 v.	Frg. 7	cp.	Brux. f. 533 v.
Frg. 4	=	Brux. f. 531 r.			

One example suffices to prove the case: Frg. 5 (Cahiers 9, p. 81) versus Brux. f.533 rB. The argument refuted is referred to Egidius et eius sequaces, when it is first mentioned, Brux. f. 532 vA):

Frg. 5 (Cahiers 9,81)

In praedicto exemplo philosophi non sunt praemissae non-causa ad concludendum conclusionem falsam, ut ibi fiat status. Sed ut ex illo falso aliquis persuadeatur civitatem esse destruendam, propter hoc quod malum videtur ex ea sequi. Unde ibi realiter licet non expresse sit syllogismus ad impossibile, tamen virtualiter est talis syllogismus.

Brux.3540-47 f. 533 rB.

Sic igitur patet quod in praedicto exemplo philosophi ibidem non est non-causa ut causa quantum ad conclusionem falsam quae sequitur ut ibi fiat status. Sed ut ex illo falso aliquis persuadeatur civitatem iam esse destruendam, ex eo quod malum ex ea videtur sequi.

9. Ff. 544r-554v: (in another hand) Anonymus, Dubia I. libri Topicorum.

Inc.: Circa initium primi libri Topicorum primo quaeritur, utrum dialectica sit scientia, et videtur quod non, quia omnis scientia est ex propriis...

Expl.:... Et sic est finis dubiorum libri Topicorum.

ADDENDA to THE SOPHISMATA OF RADULPHUS BRITO

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(Cp. Cahiers 8, p.33-34 & 9, p.79)

To the Mss. of Sophisma I, add:

Paris, BN lat.nouv.aquis. 1374 f.107rA-109vA (here with the titulus: Omnis homo de necessitate est animal).

To the Mss. of Sophisma III (Rationale est animal), add:

Vaticana, Vat.lat.6768 f.241-42. (fragmentary). Anja Inkeri Lehtinen, Helsinki, kindly informed me of this new Ms.