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Chroust's *Monumenta Palaeographica Monumenta Palaeographica: Denkmäler der Schreibkunst des Mittelalters. Erste Abtheilung: Schrifttafeln in lateinischer und deutscher Sprache.* Unter Mitwirkung von Fachgenossen herausgegeben Dr. von. Anton Chroust, Professor an der kgl. Universität Würzburg. Lieferungen ix–xii. F. Bruckmann: München, 1903. Each part 20 m.

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CHROUST'S *MONUMENTA PALAEOGRAPHICA*.

Monumenta Palaeographica: Denkmäler der Schreibkunst des Mittelalters. Erste Abtheilung: Schrifttafeln in lateinischer und deutscher Sprache. Unter Mitwirkung von Fachgenossen herausgegeben von Dr. ANTON CHROUST, Professor an der kgl. Universität Würzburg. Lieferungen ix-xii. F. Bruckmann: München, 1903. Each part 20 m.

THE four parts of Dr. Chroust's work which have appeared since our last notice of it (*C.R.* xvii. 67) complete the first half of the first series; and there can now be no doubt that the whole undertaking, when it is achieved, will realise very adequately its main intention, namely the illustration of the history of handwriting in mediaeval Germany. It does not aim at covering the whole field of palaeography, nor can it be pretended that the portion of the field to which it is devoted is the most important. Germany never stood in the forefront of palaeographical development in the way that Italy, France, and England at different periods did. Nevertheless it is a portion of the field which needed study, and all the more because it has hitherto been somewhat neglected; and Dr. Chroust's treatment of it promises to be very thorough. The manuscripts selected for reproduction have been well chosen, since nearly all of them can be assigned to a definite place and a definite date. The plates are satisfactory in execution; and Dr. Chroust's descriptions of the several hands exhibited in them are full and careful.

In the earlier parts Dr. Chroust, it may be remembered, dealt at some length with the schools of writing at Regensburg and Salzburg. In Part ix. he continues the subject begun in Part v., the school of Würzburg. The manuscripts reproduced in Part v. included some foreign MSS. (Italian and French) which found their way early to Würzburg and may have helped to form the local style, and also gave examples of Würzburg MSS. from about 800 to 1000. Part ix. carries on the narrative from 1069 to about 1237. Six of the specimens now shown are examples of bookhand and three of charter hand, all being taken from documents relating to the ecclesiastical foundations of the town. Books of the twelfth century, though common enough, rarely contain precise dates; hence for accurately

dated examples it was necessary to have recourse to documents written in bookhand, of which a sufficiently plentiful supply was fortunately forthcoming. In England and the north of France the twelfth century witnessed the development of a very handsome style of writing, perhaps on the whole the handsomest in the entire period between the rise of the Caroline minuscule and the invention of printing; but in Germany no such special style was achieved, and the course of development went on smoothly from the eleventh to the thirteenth century without any marked change of level of artistic merit. The most interesting document in this part in respect of its contents is the last, a catalogue of the miracles wrought by the relics of St. Bruno of Würzburg, apparently drawn up at the time when his canonisation was being considered.

Part x. is more miscellaneous in its contents. It opens with a copy of the Pauline Epistles, written in 1079 by Marianus Scotus, founder of the Irish monastery at Regensburg. It is consequently a rather late example of a manuscript written by an Irish monk on the continent; but the hand is quite continental, except in the case of the Celtic words which occur in some of the subscriptions. The second plate is again in the autograph of a known scribe, Leo Marsicanus, but in this case the hand is Italian, proceeding from Monte Cassino between 1098 and 1117. Two plates are taken from a Missal at Salzburg. Dr. Chroust regards it as written throughout by one scribe, though in different styles; the point is one on which it is difficult to form an opinion without studying the whole MS., but in the pages here reproduced the difference is more evident than the identity. The MS. also contains miniatures in the characteristic German style of the twelfth century. The two next MSS., a Lectionary and a Psalter, both from Würzburg and of the thirteenth century, also illustrate the history of German art; one of the pages shown of the latter, a miniature of the Resurrection, closely resembles the representation of the same subject in a British Museum MS. (Add. 17687), reproduced in the third series of Mr. Warner's *Illuminated Manuscripts in the British Museum*. The part concludes, by a sudden transition, with three specimens of German writing between 1460 and 1504, the first an autograph poem by

Hieronymus Rotenpeck, written in Italy in a very 'italianate' hand; the second the autograph chronicle of Veit Arnpeck, in a very ugly northern hand; and the third an autograph treatise by Hartmann Schedel, written at Nürnberg, but in a hand strongly influenced by Italian models.

Part xi. is the most interesting of the four now under review. It begins with the well-known MS. of Hilary of Poitiers on papyrus, written in Italy in the sixth century; a page from it is also given in the Palaeographical Society's publications. Somewhat later is a manuscript at Vienna, containing ecclesiastical and grammatical treatises; the earlier among them are in a half-uncial hand, smaller than that of the Hilary, but not unlike it in general characteristics. Part of the MS. is palimpsest, the lower writing being a Lucan, very handsomely written in large rustic capitals, resembling those of the Codex Romanus of Virgil. Dr. Chroust accepts the date of the fifth or sixth century assigned to this hand by Father Ehrle (whose name he misspells). The upper writing in this part of the MS. is an Irish minuscule of the eighth century. Plate 4 takes us to the school of Charlemagne, representing the Psalter of Charlemagne, written by Dagulf; Dr. Chroust is inclined to follow Berger in assigning all this group of MSS., so familiar to us in the various 'Golden Gospels' included in it, to the palace schools at Aix. Certainly they were produced at some place accessible to the influence of Northumbrian models; and for them we have a certain and influential channel in the presence of Alcuin at Charlemagne's court. Plate 6 contains the annals of Lorsch, a record of the years 795 and 796 in an apparently contemporary hand.

Then follows the bible of Rado, another of the Caroline school, assigned to the period between 790 and 808, but looking decidedly later. Another Lorsch chronicle, written at Fulda about 815, is in a definitely English hand. The part concludes with two plates from a Sacramentary of Liège, here dated about 860; but again one would be inclined to look to a somewhat later date. This part is palaeographically of great interest, though it has less direct bearing upon specifically German writing. It may be observed that all the MSS. from which the plates are derived are in the Hofbibliothek at Vienna.

Part xii. on the other hand, is thoroughly German, late in date, and of little general interest. It consists of a series of plates from the imperial registers, compiled in the chancery of the empire, and now preserved (with the exception of one document from Karlsruhe) in the Staatsarchiv at Vienna. In date they range from 1401 to about 1500, and all are written in what may be called register-hand. In England we are sufficiently familiar with this type of hand in our episcopal registers, and it is a branch of diplomacy which unquestionably deserves study, but in which each country must do the work for itself and cannot expect to find it excite much interest abroad. Dr. Chroust is quite right to include such a series in his publications; though it might have been better, in view of the limits of the space at his disposal, to have covered a longer period of time.

In conclusion it is only necessary to express a cordial wish for the continuance and success of this useful work.

F. G. KENYON.

IN REPLY TO A CRITIQUE ON A RECENT GREEK AND LATIN VERSE TRANSLATION.

(SEE *C.R.* XVII., PP. 365 *sqq.*)

I HAD hoped to deal more in detail with the kindly *critique* of Prof. Tyrrell in the *Classical Review* for October last; to which it seems now absurdly out of date to recur, and which, owing to remoteness and isolation, I did not even see or hear of until it had been several months in print. But a semester intervening so far robs any reply of any interest it might once have possessed, that, on a hint from the editor, I cut it

short—limiting it in effect to the two general issues of structure—hexametrical in Greek and Galliambic in Latin.

1. The older school of versicular theorists did not accept the doctrine which bans the trochaic caesura from the fourth foot of the Greek heroic hexameter except when the verse ends with a polysyllable (Prof. Tyrrell's 'Munro' doctrine). Spitzner, Hermann, and Hoffman were the recognized