Bibliophilie et reliure | Mélanges offerts à Michel Wittock
In the Shadow of Van Hulthem
Pierre Lammens and his Collection of Medieval Manuscripts

The reading of nineteenth-century biographical notes on meritorious contemporaries is for readers of the beginning of the twenty-first century often frustrating, even irritating. They contain of course useful information on the career, the functions, publications and realizations of the person under discussion, but their insistence on his merits, his zeal for the good cause, his civil virtues, his disinterestedness, etc. often seem exaggerated, sham or hollow. Without denying the person’s greatness and good qualities, we would like to hear more about his real merits, his mistakes, his shortcomings.

This is the reflection one makes when reading the existing biographical notes dealing with the bibliophile Pierre Constantin Lammens (1762–1836). They are few and largely dependent on each other. The earliest is to be found in the introduction to the sixth volume of the catalogue of the library of the famous Flemish book collector Charles Van Hulthem, by Auguste Voisin, published in 1837 shortly after Lammens’ death. More detailed is the biographical note occurring in the first auction catalogue of his library, of the year 1839 (here at least one understands that it was felt that an unlimited laudation of the deceased owner was expected to raise the sale prices of his books). Another was written half a century later, in 1890, by a successor of Lammens as librarian of the Ghent University Library, Paul Bergmans, a scholar of some merit. His article in the Biographie Nationale is largely a shortened rendering of the preceding note. There is also a more extensive contribution in Linig’s Bibliothèques et ex-libris belges. But apart from this, it is hard to find information on this important bibliophile, which is the more surprising as Lammens’...
friend and fellow-townsmen, the already mentioned Charles Van Hulthem, has been celebrated and is still celebrated in countless publications. It is common knowledge that Van Hulthem (1764-1832) had assembled an even larger collection than Lammens, now one of the treasures of the Royal Library Albert I in Brussels. It is said to have contained 64,000 items, manuscripts and printed books alike, while Lammens’s collection was estimated at 45,000 volumes.² It is also true that Van Hulthem was active in other fields too: botany (he was the founder of the Ghent Botanical Garden), the arts (he was the founder of the Ghent Museum of Fine Arts) and politics: under each of the political constellations which succeeded each other in the Southern Low Countries at that time he had a prominent role in the public life of the city or the country. And he was the founder of the City Library in Ghent, the direct predecessor of the University Library, to which we will have to return soon.

In comparison with Van Hulthem, Lammens seems to have been a more obscure figure. Born in Ghent on 8 October 1762, he studied at the university of Louvain and in 1786 obtained the diploma of licencié in law. He then was sent by the government to Vienna, in order to study ways to improve the education system of the Austrian Low Countries. Emperor Joseph II appointed him to the chair of literature at the university of Louvain, but due to the emperor’s death in 1790 this appointment remained without effect. The government provided him with an indemnification. The political troubles of the year 1793 were an incentive for him to undertake long travels through Europe, visiting libraries and meeting librarians and book-collectors "pour compléter son éducation bibliographique", as Bergmans writes. No doubt his personal fortune at that time allowed him to indulge his bibliophilic inclinations.

Back in Ghent in 1795, he offered his services to the French administration and became a member of the Jury temporaire des sciences et des arts for the département de l’Escaut, i.e. the later province of East Flanders. It was this commission’s task to bring together in Ghent all the manuscripts, printed books, archival documents, works of art and objects of natural history previously owned by the ecclesiastical and civil institutions abolished by the new regime. As far as the books are concerned, they were to form the basis of the library of the newly founded Ecole centrale of the département, to which Van Hulthem would soon be appointed librarian.⁷ Both the latter and Lammens are said to have been secretary of the Jury; as young bibliophiles, they no doubt had the capacities for and were interested in this job. Of Lammens it is said that, in the confusion created by the confiscations by the French government and the struggle of the ecclesiastics to retard the delivery of their holdings or to put them in safety, the task of the Jury’s members was indeed most delicate and the honesty of the bibliophiles among them was put to a serious test. We will never know in what circumstances Lammens acquired such an important number of manuscripts from the Ghent abbeys of Saint Bavo and especially of Saint Peter, books which evidently should have found their way to the Ecole centrale. He possessed at least five codices from Saint Bavo⁸ and eighteen from Saint Peter.¹⁰

The difference between these figures may be related to the following. No details are available about the adventures of the Saint Bavo manuscripts during this period. As far as the codices from Saint Peter are concerned, however, part of them seem to have been hidden by abbot Van de Velde and taken with him on his flight to Amsterdam, as recent research by Ludo Collin has demonstrated.¹¹ From there they were taken to Bruges, but it was not before 1809 that Van de Velde could be induced to hand over to the authorities the five ‘gigantic’ cases containing manuscripts and early printed books. On 17 (or 19?) August of that year they were added to the holdings of the Public Library of Ghent, which in 1804 had been created after the city administration had taken over the library of the abolished Central School. This narrative is slightly deviating from the traditional version, according to which the five cases arrived in Ghent on August 19 after having been seized in Amsterdam by the Administration des Domaines at the very moment they would be shipped to England "pour les délices des bibliophiles de ce pays". It is said that the city librarian Van Hulthem, who had just returned from his legislative functions in Paris to his “paisibles occupations bibliographiques”, was over-joyed in receiving this important acquisition for his beloved library.¹⁲

Probably Lammens could take profit of the long wandering of an important part of the Saint Peter holdings to enlarge his own collection with so many manuscripts from this medieval library. He also acquired manuscripts from other abolished institutions on the territory of the département de l’Escaut: one codex from the Premonstratensian abbey of Drongen has been identified¹³, and one from the Regular Canons of Saint Augustine in Elzegem near Oude­naarde. The latter convent, however, had already been abolished in 1782 and its library was auctioned in Ghent in the same year.¹⁴

During the same period which saw the troublesome transition from ecclesiastical to public libraries Lammens could lay hands on large sections of the holdings.
of two important abbeys in Hainault, outside the département de l'Escaut: the Cistercians of Cambron and the Benedictines of Saint Martin in Tournai. He possessed at least thirteen codices from the former institution, nine from the latter. The history of the dissolution of both libraries is unfortunately not well documented; their medieval manuscripts are anyway now spread all over the world. Cambron was a first time suppressed by emperor Joseph II in 1783. Although this suppression did not become effective before the beginning of 1789, and was undone in the same year, part of the manuscripts had been taken to Saint Peter’s abbey in Ghent and had been dispersed. In the beginning of the French occupation the abbey was looted and the majority of the manuscripts were sold. The final suppression followed in 1797.

As for Saint Martin’s in Tournai, the monks had dispersed a number of manuscripts before the French authorities started the seizure of the abbey holdings. In 1804 a citizen of Tournai handed over to the Régie des Domaines 35 codices from Saint Martin; instead of being placed either in the city library of Mons or in the city library of Tournai, they were sold. Still a larger number of codices of the same provenance were dispersed in 1805.

In both cases Lammens will have had ample occasion to buy medieval manuscripts at low cost.

We do not know in what circumstances he acquired a couple of codices from two abolished French institutions: the Carmelites of Dijon and the Carthusians of Saint-Omer, and some manuscripts from Liège and Sint-Truiden.

There is a little more information on how the largest lot of manuscripts having the same provenance came into his possession. These are the codices from ecclesiastical institutions in Trier, now such a prominent and unexpected part of the manuscripts in Ghent University Library. He possessed no less than 36 manuscripts, mostly early ones and containing important texts (e.g. Hildegard of Bingen’s Liber divinorum operum), from abbeys in Trier and its neighbourhood; among these there are 29 from the abbey of Saint Maximinus, 3 from the abbey of Saints Eucharius and Matthias and the same number from the abbey of Saint Martin. It has been assumed formerly that Lammens misdirected these codices to Ghent at the time he worked in Paris as a commissioner of the King of the Netherlands (1815-6), an activity to be discussed hereafter. The absence in these manuscripts of the stamp of the Bibliothèque nationale or other marks of a possible sojourn in Paris invalidates this hypothesis. Since the fundamental research of Hermann Kraus it has become evident that Lammens possessed the said codices already at an ear-

7 Le cabinet des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque impériale (nationale), 1, Paris, 1868, p. 306.
8 LIEVIN, Bibliothèques (see preceding a.), p. 141 (for Lammens).
10 L. COLLIN, "De Syn-Pietersabdij van de opheffing tot het overlijden van de laatste monnik", in Gand & Blandinium, De Gentse abdijen van de opheffing (Academie royale de Belgique, Classe des Lettres, Mémoires, coll. in-8°, 2nd s., vol. 58, fasc. 4); LIEVIN, Bibliothèques (see preceding a.), p. 141 (for Lammens).
11 LIEVIN, Bibliothèques (see preceding a.), p. 141 (for Lammens).
13 LIEVIN, Bibliothèques (see preceding a.), p. 141 (for Lammens).
15 Nos. 28, 30, 44, 49, 59, 64, 68, 98, 109, 113, 132, 162, 167, 16 Nos. 12, 27, 29, 32, 43, 176, 177, 180, 185.
16 Nos. 12, 27, 29, 32, 43, 176, 177, 180, 185.
Van Hulthem did all he could to have Lammens as his successor, and for the second time he failed. It is no doubt surprising that the authorities (this time the city authorities) did not follow the advice of so influential a man as Van Hulthem, but appointed instead a certain Walwein de Tervliet as librarian of the Public Library of Ghent, a man who has traditionally been described as vain and incompetent. This decision may, however, have been inspired by a latent distrust towards Lammens from the side of the authorities, who may not have seen in him the most fit person for this function. This idea, never advanced before, seems compatible with what we know about Lammens’s later career.

It is especially substantiated by a letter, which Walwein in December 1809 wrote to the Mayor of Ghent de la Faille (a relative of him by the way), in which he defended himself vigorously (if not elegantly) against the agitations of Van Hulthem tending to undo Walwein’s nomination and have Lammens appointed instead. “M. Lammens”, he wrote, “desire cette place parce que faisant le commerce de livres il pourra en profiter pour placer les ouvrages et livres qui n’étant plus d’aucun usage lui restent sur les bras”. Whatever Walwein’s vainness, these prophetic words would come true a few years later at the time Lammens would be finally appointed librarian of the newly founded university of Ghent. In the same letter the offended Walwein also argued that Lammens would never go so far as to donate parts of his own collection to the City Library if appointed, as Van Hulthem had suggested he would do (in this respect, too, Walwein was to be right).

As has been said, the librarian appointed by the city authorities has always been considered an incompetent person. He was extremely proud of his titles, as appears from the title-page of his catalogue of manuscripts in the City Library of Ghent (1816): “Ecuyer, ci-devant Commissaire ou Sous-Intendant du District d’Ipres, depuis Haut-Echevin du Pays de Waes, actuellement Membre des Etats de la Flandre-orientale et de la Classe de la Littérature de la Société royale des Beaux-Arts de Gand, etc.”, and seems to have lacked a good deal of common sense. Like many of his successors and fellow librarians Walwein was repeatedly exhorted by the authorities to start cataloguing of the holdings – the principal task of a librarian, and one on which authorities in the nineteenth century seem constantly to have insisted with their reluctant personnel. Walwein at least published a catalogue of the manuscripts in 1816. Its smallness and insufficiencies have been denounced, but the booklet is still indispensable for who wants to see what were the manuscript holdings of the Ghent City Library on the eve of the foundation of the university and the accession of
Lammens as City and University Librarian. That Walwein used the ten-page preface to the Ghent Mayor for an ill-placed oratio pro domo and a detailed exposition of the classification system he had invented for the books in the library speaks a lot about the man’s ideas and character.

In the mean time great political changes had taken place. After the fall of Napoleon and the creation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands the French and the Netherlands governments came to an agreement on 22 November 1815 about the recuperation of the manuscripts, printed books and works of art that had been taken to Paris by the French authorities two decades before. King William I invited Van Hulthem to preside the commission that would go to Paris to select the works to be recuperated. Van Hulthem declined the invitation, but once again proposed Lammens for the job. This way one of the two men who had been the most active in the jury temporaire des Sciences et des Arts installed by the French government became the royal commissar charged with bringing back to “Belgium” the treasures confiscated by the French.

This seems to have been Lammens’s chance and a turning-point in his life, which hitherto had been marked by failures to get officially involved in library affairs. He resided during nine months in Paris searching through the innumerable holdings heaped up in the Bibliothèque nationale, and succeeded in sending back to the Burgundian library in Brussels, on 13 November 1816, two immense cartloads of manuscripts and precious books — only one manuscript from Ghent was taken to Paris and returned at that occasion. He succeeded also in bringing back numerous paintings. Is it any wonder that “la manière dont Mr. Lammens s’est acquitté de cette mission honorable lui valut, outre une indemnité, la plus vive reconnaissance de toutes les villes qui rentrèrent en possession de leurs monumens, dont elles avaient été si injustement spoliées”? As far as the manuscripts and printed books are concerned his mission is said to have been very delicate, because the French commissars never had made any inventories or given receipts of what they took with them. This is, however, contradicted by the more recent biographer of Van Hulthem.

The royal commission with which Lammens had been honoured opened for him the doors of the Brussels Academy and the Institute of the Netherlands, assured him a knighthood in the Order of the Belgian Lion, and gave him the opportunity, at the age of 55, to enter a career which had till then been denied to him. Indeed, on 20 December 1817 the city of Ghent decided to place its library at the disposal of the newly founded university on specific conditions. The King confirmed this transfer in January 1818, and it was executed on 9 February of the same year. At the same date Lammens assumed his functions of First Librarian of the University Library and Professor at the Faculty of Arts, to which King William I had appointed him already on 15 November of the preceding year. The City Librarian Walwein de Tervliet was dismissed. The latter’s disappointment was of course extreme, and so were the steps he took, bringing his case for the courts, which even seem to have decided in his favour against Lammens. As late as 1821 he wrote to the trustees of Ghent University, claiming that “le prof. Lammens ne satisfait pas aux engagemens qui lui ont été imposés par le décret royal du 15 novembre 1817”. The

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22 There was already a manuscript from Saint Maximinus in the Public Library in Ghent before 1816 and consequently before the sale of part of Lammens’s collection to this institution; our no. 165. It was probably acquired from Lammens. See KNAUS, “Die Trierer Handschriften”, p. 6, n. 12.
23 See e.g. Cat. Lammens I, p. (2).
24 LELEUX, Charles Van Hulthem (see n. 6), p. 163-172. The quotation about Lammens is on p. 166, the one about Walwein on p. 172, n. 1.
25 For this and the following, see LELEUX, Charles Van Hulthem, p. 172-177.
26 The letter is quoted in LELEUX, Charles Van Hulthem, p. 175-177.
27 See e.g. A. APERS, “Schetsen”, p. 37, 64-7.
29 See a mitigated judgment in VOISIN, Documents, p. 334.
31 The inventory of the manuscripts returned by the French government, signed by Lammens, is in Brussels, Royal Library, MS 1815-90.
32 Ghent, University Library, MS 246 (317-8); A. ALDEHLMUS, De virginitate; Sedulius, Carmen paschale, s. xi-xii. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey. The codex contains two fragments of a sixth- or seventh-century manuscript of Jerome (CLA X, 1556), and will for that reason have attracted the attention of the French commissars.
33 Cat. Lammens I, p. (3).
34 See n. 30.
35 About the beginnings of Ghent University Library, see APERS, “Schetsen”, p. 22-24, 34-38, 48, 55-56, 67-68, 77-78; J.-E. MEVE DE MEVERGNIES, Gand sous le régime hollandais, 1814-1830, Ghent, 1935, p. 158-159; the file Ghent, University Library, MS 0.12917 contains original documents and letters covering the years 1816-1830.
whole affair is unfortunately not well documented. Walwein in the end could not prevail and Lammens was left alone.

In the mean time Walwein could take a bitter comfort in the thought that he had been right in denouncing the commercial spirit of his rival. Indeed, far from donating books from his collection to the library which came under his care, Lammens arranged for a sale of an extremely large section of it to the new university as part of the agreement which made him a librarian. In the last days of the year 1817 the trustees of the university received instructions from the Minister of the Interior for the acquisition of Lammens’s library for the enormous sum of 32,000 guilders, to be paid on the budget for the first academic year of the three universities of Ghent, Louvain and Liège. The collection acquired this way by the university amounted to some 13,000 or 14,000 printed books (according to Apers 18,000 volumes) and some 200 manuscripts. Even if Lammens afterwards agreed to buy back the doubles for the sum of 7,550 guilders, this acquisition signified a dramatic growth of the library holdings – the number of manuscripts was almost doubled. The library, housed in the former abbey of Baudelo, had to be closed for several months in order to make the alterations necessary for placing the newly acquired books. The latter constituted a treasure on which up to the present day a large part of the fame of Ghent University Library is based. As early as April 1818, however, it was felt that they were not exactly in the line of the needs of a university library:

“Cette collection, jointe à ce que la bibliothèque de Gand possède déjà, offre un grand nombre d’ouvrages rares et précieux, mais présente peu de ressources pour les sciences qui sont l’objet du haut enseignement dans les universités.”

As far as the medieval manuscripts are concerned, the catalogue given in the appendix demonstrates the extent and the value of Lammens’s collection which now became the property of the library. We do not know on what principles he selected the manuscripts to be included in the sale, except for one group: almost all his manuscripts from Trier were among those sold to the university: for one reason or another, he decided not to keep these codices. The medieval codices acquired at that occasion by the University Library numbered some one hundred and three.

During this last period of Lammens’s life two events relating to his collection are to be mentioned: In 1825 he offered Thomas Phillipps, who was due to become the most famous of all nineteenth-century collectors of manuscripts, 75 codices, of which the baronet bought no more than eight for the price of £ 82. In addition, one other Lammens manuscript found its way to Phillipps’ collection. One may presume that the prices requested by Lammens were too high for Phillipps to agree in the purchase of the entire lot. Four years later Lammens had the occasion to make a final series of acquisitions of exceptional importance: on 22 October 1829 and following days the memorable sale took place of the manuscripts of the Premonstratensian abbey of Parc near Louvain. Induced by poverty, the canons decided to sell their library, which miraculously had remained intact during the French occupation. The auction catalogue does not mention the provenance of the manuscripts and in view of the sale the coats of arms of the abbey, which adorned the bindings of all the codices, were systematically erased. The Louvain auction was the meeting-place of the fine fleur of Europe’s bibliophiles and is at the origin of the worldwide dispersion of the Parc manuscripts. Lammens bought a considerable series of codices – at least 38 of them, many of great textual interest.

Little is known of his activity in the University Library and in the Faculty of Arts. Under his direction the catalogues were made which the authorities had requested for so long; they are the work of his indefatigable assistant Jean-François De Laval (1774-1859) – a man who finally would lose his eyesight for excessive copying, and a bibliophile in his own right. Lammens’s professorship was purely honorific and involved no teaching duties. He nevertheless for some time insisted on receiving the same emoluments as his teaching colleagues, which of course caused some commotion in the Faculty.

When he resigned both functions on 4 February 1836, the authorities accorded him a pension equal to his salary. He would, however, not enjoy retirement for a long time, as he died already on 9 June of the same year, three years and a half after his friend and protector Van Hulthem, and like the latter seemingly without having taken measures for the future of his huge collection. In 1838 his heirs offered 306 manuscripts for sale to the Royal Library in Brussels for a sum of 30,000 francs – perhaps hoping that the acquisition of Van Hulthem’s entire collection by the Belgian state, two years earlier, would constitute a favourable precedent. Either because the sum of 279,400 francs needed for the latter acquisition had exhausted the total budget of the department of Letters, Sciences and Arts, or for another reason the deal of the Lammens manuscripts was off.

It was then decided to sell the entire collection by auction. A catalogue was made (principally by P.-C. Vander Meersch according to Bergmans) and printed by the Ghent printing-house D.J. Vanderhaeghen-Hulin in four volumes corresponding to as many auction sales, to be
held in Ghent in the years 1839-41. Commissions were to be placed with De Laval. The first sale, dealing with 6000 printed books, took place on 15 April - 3 May 1839; the second one (6397 printed books and 152 manuscripts and documents) was held on 21 October – 9 November 1839; the third one (6874 printed books and 146 manuscripts) on 26 October – 13 November 1840; and the final one (1847 + 597 printed books and 20 manuscripts) on 12 July 1841 and following days. The descriptions of the medieval manuscripts were rather well-made for their time and often allow the identification of the codices with surviving copies. Some descriptions are on the contrary too concise as to be useful. The dates given to the manuscripts are of course mostly unreliable.

The Lammens sales were among the most important ones held in Ghent during the nineteenth century and attracted a lot of important buyers, although foreigners do not seem to have assisted in great numbers. Most medieval manuscripts were bought by De Laval acting for diverse persons and institutions at home and abroad, among which the Royal Library in Brussels was the principal. One of his other clients was Bertram, 4th Earl of Ashburnham. De Reiffenberg, too, Director of the Royal Library (later University of Ghent, University Archives, 3: A. V. Proceedings of the Board of Curators of 18.04.1820, p. 19-20. See Linnig, "La bibliothèque de l'abbaye de Gand", in Fédération Archéologique et Historique de Belgique. Annales du Congrès d'Amiens 1930, Antwerp, 1931, p. 415-431 (423-424). The inventory of the books acquired through that sale is in Ghent, University Library, ms 2637; it does not include the manuscripts. Lammens's library was until then housed in the convent of the Augustinian Friars in Ghent. 38 Ghent, University Archives. 3: A. V. Proceedings of the Board of Curators of 19.04.1819, p. 53. The abbey of Baudelo as repository of the City Library (later University Library) of Ghent was the worst choice Van Hulthem could have made, as was experienced by his successors during the 140 years that these premises were occupied. It very soon appeared that the marshy soil was highly detrimental to the preservation of books. Van Hulthem preferred Baudelo above more favourable locations as e.g. the abbey of Saint Peter. On the Blandinium hill, because only Baudelo offered sufficient space for installing the botanical garden so near his heart. 39 Ibid., p. 52.

40 The eight manuscripts acquired by Phillips in 1825 bear the numbers 1777-1784 in his catalogue; with the exception of Phillips ms 1283 all are medieval. Six of them have been identified: our nos. 3, 49, 52-53, 57 and a manuscript last sold in 1975 (see our Appendix). Phillips ms 4527 (out no. 186) was acquired separately. See A. N. L. Munk, Phillips Studies, 111, Cambridge, 1954, p. 33, 147, 157.

41 On this sale, and on the medieval library of Parc in general, see E. Van Balberghe, Les manuscrits médiévales de l'abbaye de Parc. Recueil d'articles, Brussels, 1992, especially p. 31 and following. The articles included in this volume were mostly written between 1967 and 1974.


43 See the correspondence of the library under his direction in the file mentioned in n. 35. Lammens's shaky handwriting no doubt betrays ill health during the whole period of his librarianship.

44 On De Laval, see E. Van Reiffenberg in Biographie nationale de Belgique, v. Brussels, 1876, col. 335-336. In addition to many bibliographical works, he composed some 100 manuscripts on the history of Ghent, fruit of his incessant labour.

45 Ghent, University Archives, 3: A. V. Proceedings of the Board of Curators of 08.11.1820. 46 The list of the manuscripts is in Brussels, Royal Library, ms 111.1763. On the acquisition of the library of Van Hulthem for the newly founded Royal Library in Brussels, see Lefoux, Charles Van Hulthem (see n. 6), p. 480-490.

47 In the copy of Cat. Lammens in the University Library of Ghent the names of all buyers and the price paid for each item are added in manuscript. See on the Lammens sales Linnig, Bibliothèques et ex-libris (see n. 5), p. 142-143.

48 Hitherto unretrieved. The long description in Cat. Lammens II, 85, begins as follows: "La fleur des histoires. 2 vol. gr. in-fol. demi-rel. Superbe ms. du xve siècle, de 580 feuillets, avec vingt-cinq miniatures, dont 17 occupent presque la grandeur des pages ...". The manuscript was bought by Polain for 680 francs.

49 No. 95. 50 Nos. 4, 146, 150, 181.
few contain Dutch, French or Greek texts. A typical pre-occupation of nineteenth-century collectors was the acquisition of historical manuscripts, which would throw light on the past of the nation. Hence the large number of post-medieval manuscripts in Lammens's (and even more so in Van Hulthem's) library, which are generally considered less interesting to-day.

Lammens's books are marked by a simple rectangular printed ex-libris, containing the text "EX BIBLIOTHECA / P.P.C. LAMMENS." in a typographical decorative border. It is pasted in the upper corner of the front pastedown of his books. He probably did not adopt this bookmark before 1818, as it does not occur in the printed books and manuscripts acquired in that year by Ghent University Library. This austere ex-libris contrasts with the beautiful engraved bookmarks used by Van Hulthem, and no doubt is characteristic of a great but obscure collector, of whom neither writings nor a portrait have come down to us.

A Check-List of Located Medieval Lammens Manuscripts

Signs used
* Red library stamp with Minerva head of the Public Library of Ghent
‖ Lammens's printed ex-libris (recorded only in the manuscripts seen by the author)

Amiens, Bibliothèque municipale
1] Lescalopier 10: Tractatus theologici, s. xii. Prov: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 12.

Arras, Bibliothèque municipale

Berkeley (ca), Library of the University of California

Brussels, Royal Library of Belgium
The Lammens manuscripts kept in the Royal Library in Brussels arrived there by various ways. A large part was bought for the library at the Lammens sales of the years 1839-41. Other codices were acquired at the same sales by collectors and dealers such as Van Alstein, Vergauwen, Polain, De Meyer, etc., and came afterwards to the Royal Library. Still others were acquired by the library at the dispersal of the collection of Thomas Phillipps.

6] 18229-30 (3388): Leven van St. Bavo; Leven van St. Livinus, s. xv. Cat. Lammens ii, 25.
7] 18391 (1380): Albinus, Epistola ad Heribertum Colonensem episcopum, etc., s. xv. Cat. Lammens iii, 23.
9) 18397: Boethius, De musica, s. xii/xiii. Prov.: Cornelius Duyn, Amsterdam. Cat. Lammens iii, 110.
10) 18401 (1703): Guillelmus Brito, Gesta Philippi Augusti regis Francorum, s. xiv. Cat. Lammens iii, 35.
12) 18421-29 (3241): Vitae sanctorum, etc., s. xii-xiii. Prov.: Tournai, Saint Martin's abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 15.
13) 18430: Laidoens (fragm. of a Middle Dutch chivalric romance), s. xiv. Cat. Lammens iii, 91.
24) 21837 (1010): Hieronymus, Explan. in Prophetas Minores, s. xii. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens ii, 5.
25) 21838 (1398): Odo Cameracensis, Expos. in canonem missae; Formula confessionis, s. xii-xiv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens ii, 58.
34) 21856 (1631): Varia theologica, s. xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 45.
35) 21860 (1335): Isidorus Hispalensis, Liber soliloquiorum; Flores epistolorum Hieronymi et Augustini, etc. s. xiii. Prov.: Parc abbey. Not in Cat. Lammens.
37) 21864 (1289): Gregorius Magnus, Dialogi, s. xiv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 16.
38) 21865 (1470): Tractatus theologici et ascetici, s. xiv-xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 29.
39) 21866 (1725): Tractatus theologici, s. xv. Prov.: Not in Cat. Lammens.
40) 21869 (911): Origenes, Homiliae, s. xii. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens ii, 2.
44) 21887 (981): Rufinus, Historia ecclesiastica, s. xiii. Prov.: Cambrin abbey. Cat. Lammens ii, 106.
45) 21957: Cicero, Tusculaneae questiones, s. xv. Cat. Lammens iii, 55.
47) 21989 (2206): Tractatus mystici, theologici et ascetici, s. xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 18.
48) ii.719, 58: Tractatus medicus (fragm.), s. xiv. Cat.
49) ii.971: Seneca, Epistolae et tractatus, s. xiii. Prov.: Cambrin abbey. Phillipps MS 1278.
50) ii.1469: Grammatica; Excerpta, Florence, 1472. Cat. Lammens iii, 75.
51) ii.1626: Hieronymus, Epistolae, etc., s. x. Cat. Lammens ii, 37.
52) ii.2611 (1337): Vita S. Remaci, s. x. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. Phillipps MS 1282.
53) ii.2621: Facetus, s. xiv. Phillipps MS 1280.
54) ii.3592: Tractatus iuridici, s. xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 126.
55) ii.3593: Tractatus iuridici, s. xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 134.
56) iv.192: Die erste bisscap von Maria, s. xv. Belonged later to C.P. Sereure.
57) iv.1102: Froissart, Chroniques, s. xv. Phillipps MS 1277.
Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum
58) 241: Evangelium, s. xii. Prov.: Parc abbey. Cat. Lammens ii, 8.
Florence, Biblioteca Medicea-Laurenziana
Ashb. 1196: Cassiodorus, Vigilius, Solutiones objectionum Historiarum, s. xii. Prov.: Cambron abbey. Cat. Lammens iii, 94.

Ghent, University Library
The large majority of the manuscripts mentioned hereafter were acquired by Ghent University together with the major part of Lammens's printed books when the latter became library director in 1817-8. All of them are marked by the red stamp with Minerva head, rendered hereafter by an asterisk (*). The others Germany, s. xv (1430-1431, acquired after 1839-41 by Auguste Voisin, Lammens's successor, with the exception of MSS 664, 702 and 913, acquired after 1849-52. The latter codices are indeed Trier, abbey of Saint Maximi minus. *


22 (203): Codex iustinianus, cum glossa, s. xii. Prov.: Cambron abbey. Cat. Lammens ii, 87.

31 (267): Enguerrand de Monstrelet, Chroniques, vol. i, s. xv. *

79 (273): Jean Bouthillier, Somme rural, s. xv. *

80 (283): Johannes Lector, Summa confessorum, s. xiv. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter's abbey. *

94 (452): Florus Diaconus, Expositio epistolorum Pauli, s. xii. Prov.: Cambron abbey. *

95 (529): Augustinus, Quaestiones Veteris et Novi Testamenti, s. ix. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *

106] 249 (530): Sententiae et epistolae sanctorum patrum, s. ix. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
107] 250 (448): De titulis psalmorum, etc., s. xii. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey. *
108] 251 (534): Gregorius Magnus, Dialogi, s. x. Prov.: Trier, Saint Martin’s abbey. *
109] 252 (580): Excerpta ex libris sententiarum, etc., s. xii. Prov.: Cambren abbey. *
110] 253 (582): Bernardus Claraevallensis, Homiliae; Ambrosius, De officiiis, s. xv/xvi. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey. *
111] 254 (445): Expos. in Prophetas Minores, s. x. Prov.: Trier, Saint Martin’s abbey. *
112] 256 (494): Regula S. Benedicti, etc., s. xv. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Bavo’s abbey. No stamp, first folio is missing. Not mentioned in the catalogue by Walwein, so probably from Lammens’s collection.
113] 289 (662): Sulpicius Severus, Vita S. Martini, etc., s. xii. Prov.: Cambren abbey. *
114] 290 (574): Tractatus ascetici, s. xv (1456, 1462). Prov.: Saint-Omer, Chartierhouse. *
116] 292 (533): Augustinus, Epistola ad Armentarium et Paulinum, etc., s. x. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
117] 293 (513): Breviarium, s. XIII. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Bavo’s abbey. *
118] 294 (578): Iohannes Chrysostomus, De reparatione lapis, s. XI. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
119] 296 (487): Caeremoniale, s. xiv. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey. *
120] 298 (588): Theodoricus de Monasterio, De vitio proprietatis, s. xv. Prov.: Damm, Regular Canones of Saint Augustine; Louis Robyn, 1719. *
121] 299 (431): Epistolae Pauli; Ps.-Augustinus, Altercatio ecclesiae et synagogae, s. x. *
122] 301 (435): Hieronymus, Comm. in Matthæum, s. x. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
123] 305 (442): Gregorius Magnus, Expos. super Cantica Canticorum; Vitae sanctarum, s. xii/xiii. *
125] 307 (556): Smaragdus, Diadema monachorum; Vitae sanctarum, etc., s. x-xii. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
126] 310 (535): Taio Caesarius Augustanustus, Sententiae, s. x. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
127] 311 (577): Thomas a Kempis, Opera, s. xv. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey (same binding as MS 436). *
128] 312 (536): Gregorius Magnus, Homiliae in evangelia 40, s. x. Prov.: Trier, Saint Martin’s abbey. *
129] 313 (556): Hugo de Folieto, De claustru animæ, s. x. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
130] 314 (444): Gregorius Magnus, Homiliae in Ezechiel; Sententiae, s. xii. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
131] 315 (469): Missale, s. xi and xiv/xv. Illuminated. *
132] 316 (446): Epistolae Pauli glosatae, etc., s. xii. Prov.: Cambren abbey. *
135] 322 (282): Raymundus de Pennafort, Summa de casibus conscientiae, s. xiv. *
136] 323 (334): Richardus de Pophis, Ars dictaminis, s. xiv. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
137] 324 (581): Alcainus, De Trinitate, etc., s. xi. Prov.: Trier, abbey of Saint Maximinus. *
138] 333 (495): Regula S. Benedicti, s. xiv. *
139] 336 (321): Elogia Theoduli, cum glossa, s. xiv. *
140] 337 (289): Alexander de Villa Dei, Doctrinale, etc., Italy, s. xv. *
141] 338 (291): Grammatica Latina, Italy, s. xv. *(Similar to MS 337). *
142] 385 (425): Biblia, s. xiii. Was in the xvth cent. in Italy. Prov.: Martino and Giorgio Grasso. *
143] 395 (296): Cicero, Ps.-Cicero, Ps.-Sallustius, Tractatus et orationes, s. xiii and xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. # Cat. Lammens ii, 60.
144] 401 (152): Vita S. Brandani, s. xi. *
145] 402 (151): Passio S. Caloceri, s. x. *(Similar to MS 401; MS 336, 401 and 402 have the same binding). *
146] 404 (24): Guido de Columna, Historia Troiana, s. xv. Illuminated. Prov.: Philip I Conrault, abbot of Saint Peter’s, Ghent. *
147] 405 (160): Jacobus de Voragine, Legenda aurea, s. xiv. Prov.: Dijon, Carmelites. *
148] 408 (171): Menologium in ancient slavonic, Bulgaria, s. xv illuminated. *
149] 415 (201): Baudouin d’Avesnes, Le trésor des histoires, a vols., s. xv. Prov.: Philip I Conrault, abbot of Saint Peter’s, Ghent. *
150] 416 (133): Flavius Blondus, Roma triumphans, s. xv. Illuminated. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey (Philip I Conrault, abbot?). *
151] 418 (144): Faits et ordonances de Tamerlan, s. x. *
152] 421 (162): Vita S. Odulphi; Vita S. Frederici, s. x. *
153] 422 (161): Vita S. Rumoldi, s. xiv/xv. *(Same size and binding as MS 421). *
154] 423 (157): Vita S. Catharinae Alexandrinae, s. xiii/xiv. *(On the spine of MS 421-423 there is a handwritten title-label). *
155] 435 (543): Hieronymus, Epistolae, s. xv. Prov.: Andreas Bouchout. *(Binding similar to MS 106 and 241). *
156] 436 (561): Bernardus Claraevallensis, Epistolae, s. xv. Prov.: Ghent, Saint Peter’s abbey. *
159] 474 (590): Tractatus morales, s. xv. Prov.: Parc abbey. # Cat. Lammens iii, 93.

161] 502 (584): Guillelmus de Mandagoto, De electionibus praetatorum, cum glossa, s. xiv. *


166] 532 (597): Leo Magnus, *Sermones*, etc., Pfalzel near Trier, s. x (1451?). *


168] 542 (613): Gillis de Wevel, *Leven van St. Amandus; Tondalus' vision*, s. xv. *


LIEGE, University Library


LONDON, British Library


LOUVAIN, City Archives

182] Oude Handschriften H/S/L
(Formerly City Museum, Htl): *Henricus de Frimaria, Tractatus in x praecepta; Sermones*, s. xiv (1351). Prov.: Parc abbey. II Cat. Lammens iii, 24.

LOUVAIN, University Library


MANCHESTER, John Rylands Library


NEW HAVEN, Yale University, Beinecke Library

186] 246: *Actus Apostolorum, Apocalypse*, in Greek, s. xvi. Phillipps MS 4527.
APPENDIX

Unlocated Medieval Lammens Manuscripts

Phillipps MS 1281: Ioannes ad Fulgentium de musica;
Philippus Cancellarius, Cantus, s. xii.

Phillipps MS 1284 = Cat. Sotheby, 26.11.1975, no. 825: Evangelia et Epistolar, in Greek, s. xii. Illuminated.


Cat. Lammens III, 1, 3, 4, 8-11, 17, 22, 25-6, 31-2, 36, 38-9, 41-4, 47, 76, 80, 88, 92, 117, 129, 144-5.