

Albertus Magnus, saint, bp. of Ratisbon, 1193?-1280.

De homine.

MS 2.

Italy (in Latin).

Ca. 1460.

In the De homine, the second part of the Summae de creaturis, St. Albert, the German Dominican philosopher, analyzes the Aristotlian definitions of the soul. He discusses its vegetative, sensitive, and rational properties and operations. A treatment of the five senses leads him to consider how knowledge is acquired. After discussing the nature of the speculative intellect and reason, Albert takes up such topics as the existence of the soul and the nature of man's free will.

Folio, 29 x 21 cm.

339 leaves (2a-3b and 339b are blank). Foliated.

Old binding, blue leather with a pattern of crossed rectangles and squares over boards. Remains of two brass clasps on cover.

Fair copy in a single unknown hand. Marginalia consisting of illustrative diagrams (f. 97b, 100b, 102a, 171b). Chapters numbered (252) usually with titles and numerous references to sources quoted in the text. The watermark on f. 339b appears to be an "O" exclusively used at Pavia in 1456 (Briquet no. 8443).

From the Berlin Collection acquired from Calvary Brothers in 1891. Previously in the library of the Marquis Taccone, treasurer of the king of Naples in the late eighteenth century. See De Ricci, Census, I, 554; and Goodspeed, Descriptive Catalogue, p. 4.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Albertus Magnus. Opera omnia (ed.) Auguste Borgnet 38 vols. (Paris, 1890-99). For other MSS and early editions, see I, xlvi; for the text see vol. ~~XIX~~. ~~XXV~~

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G.S. Sipek