

Vom Greulichen laster des volsauffens ein schoner Bergkreye (hymn; with a list of books).
MS 67.

Germany.

Ca. 1554-1577.

The first two leaves of this manuscript contain the text and music of a hymn entitled "Vom Greulichen laster des volsauffens" (Concerning the terrible vice of drinking). The first verse (":/: Grosgunstige lieben Hern :/: ich wolt euch gerne singen, / wens euch nit wolt beschwern.") is written twice, once under the corresponding music in the bass clef and again under the notes in the tenor clef. The following 23 verses contain admonitions to the Christian to refrain from excessive drinking. The manuscript gives no indication as to the author of the text, the composer of the music, or the date of composition; and the song is not mentioned in the large collections of German hymns and religious songs from this period (Wackernagel, Erk/Böhme). At the bottom of 1r are written the words: "This is a new poem, [set to] an old melody; I hope it does no harm." (These lines are probably the second verse of the song.)

The second part, written in the same hand, consists of part of a list of titles. At least one leaf is apparently missing between the two sections, for the first title is listed as number 10. Nine works are enumerated, some only by title and others with author and date as well. Three of the works are included in the Catalogue of the British Museum:

- MS 14. Nicolaus von Amsdorff. Das Doctor Pommer vnd Doctor Maior mit jren Adiaphoristen ergernis angericht haben. (Magdeburg, 1551);
- MS 11. Nicolaus von Amsdorff. Das nie nöter gewest ist wider den Römischen Antichrist zu schreiben. (Magdeburg, 1551); and
- MS 16. Eine Schrift der Theologen zu Wittenberg an die Prediger zu Nürnberg anno 1540 widder die Adiaphoristen. (Magdeburg, 1550).

These three works and the remaining six as well are all religious pamphlets written by Lutheran theologians around 1550. All appear to be related to the

adiaphorist controversy which was raging between orthodox and more liberal Lutherans after the signing of the Leipzig Interim (a provisional scheme of compromise between Catholics and Lutherans, regarding - among other things - adiaphora, "things indifferent," points neither enjoined nor forbidden in Scripture) in 1548. The head of the orthodox faction, centered in Magdeburg, which opposed the Interim was Mathias Flacius (1520-1575), who is listed as the author of two of the works mentioned here. Two of the other authors whose names appear on this list are Nicolaus von Amsdorff (1483-1565) and Nicolaus Gallus (1516-70), both of whom were theologians who sided with Flacius in the adiaphorist controversy. Thus the list of works in this manuscript may have been compiled by someone connected with the orthodox Lutherans in Magdeburg. The latest date on the list is 1554, but the controversy was not finally settled until the signing of the Formula Concordiae in 1577; this manuscript was therefore probably compiled sometime between these dates.

4°, 20 x 15 cm.

4 leaves.

In folder.

Latin script, very legible.

The MS is described in Edgar J. Goodspeed, A Descriptive Catalogue of Mss. in the Libraries of the University of Chicago (Chicago, 1912), 87; and De Ricci, Census, I, 563.

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