

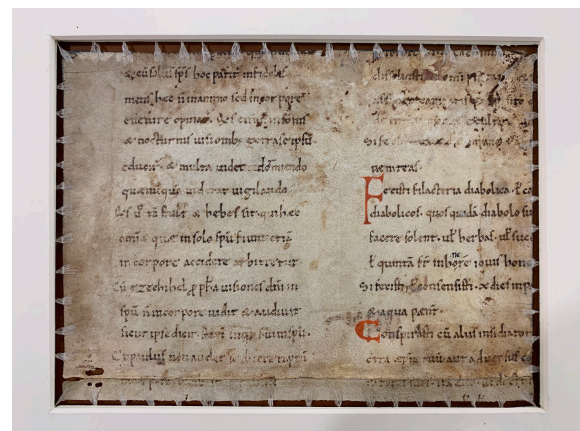
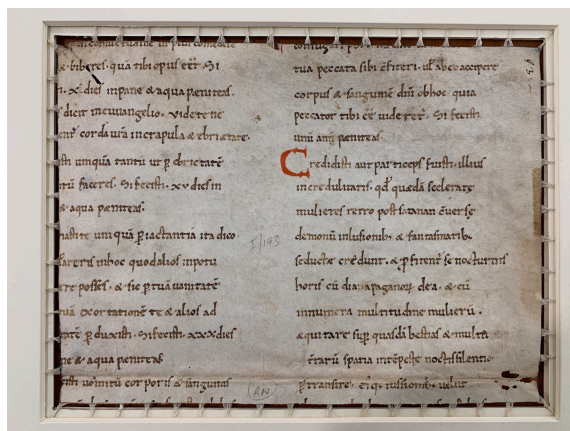
Contents

The *Decretum*, an extensive collection on church government and discipline (in twenty books), compiled by Burchard (c. 965-1025), elected Bishop of the City of Worms in 1000. The passages in the fragment are from Book 19, called “The Corrector and Physician”. It is a penitential guide written in the form of an interrogatory, by which the confessant is questioned on his/her sins, followed by the terms of penance for atonement. The passages (incomplete) are concerned with the vices gluttony and inebriety, impiety, the magical arts and superstition.

Compared against the text used by Migne, PL 140, 497 ff., 963-964 and Cologne, Erzbischöfliche Diözese und Dombibliothek Cod. 119 (f. 165r column a, lines 15-31 to f. 165v column b, lines 15-29).¹

The transcription follows the double column layout of the written text. The original punctuation is retained, expanded scribal abbreviations are underlined and capital initials coloured red. Square brackets frame text that is effaced or cropped.

Transcribed by R. Faunce, March 2023.



[recto]

- 1 [Habui]sti in consuetudine ut plus comedere
- 2 et biberes. quam tibi opus³ esset. Si
- 3 [fecist]i. x dies in pane et aqua pœniteas.
- 4 [dominu]s dicit in euuangelio. uidete ne
- 5 [grau]entur corda uestra in crapula et ebrietate.⁴

...²coniugati p[res]bitri ita dico ut nolles
tua peccata sibi consiteri. uel ab eo accipere
corpus et sanguinem domini obhoc quia
peccator tibi esse uideretur. Si fecisti
unum annum pœniteas

¹ Access digital facsimile at <https://digital.dombibliothek-koeln.de/hs/content/titleinfo/284343>

² The question, which is cropped, begins: Spreuisiti missam uel orationem uel oblationem ...

³ *neesse* in place of *opus* in PL 140 and Cologne Cod. 119.

⁴ Luke (21: 34) Attendite autem uobis, ne forte grauentur corda uestra in crapula, et ebrietate.

6 [Bib]isti umquam tantum ut per ebrietatem
7 [uom]itum faceres. Si fecisti. xv dies in
8 [pane] et aqua pœniteas.
9 [Inebri]asti te umquam per iactantia ita dico.
10 [ut glori]areris in hoc quod alios in potu
11 [uinc]ere posses. et sic pertuam uanitatem
12 [et per] tuam exortationem te et alios ad
13 [ebrei]tatem perduxisti. Si fecisti. xxx dies
14 [in pa]ne et aqua pœniteas.
15 [Fec]isti uomitum corporis et sanguinis
[Domini propter ebrietatem] ...

[verso]

1 ... et cum solus spiritus hoc patitur infidelis
2 mens hæc non in animo sed in corpore
3 euenire opinatur. Quis enim non in somnis
4 et nocturnis uisionibus extra seipsum
5 educitur. et multa uidet dormiendo
6 quæ numquam uiderat uigilando /
7 Quis uero tam stultus et hebes sit. qui hæc
8 omnia quæ in solo spiritu fiunt etiam
9 in corpore accidere arbitretur.
10 Cum ezechihel propheta uisiones domini in
11 spiritu non in corpore uidit et audiuit
12 sicut ipse dicit. statim inquit fui in spiritu.⁷
13 Et paulus non audet se dicere raptum
14 in corpore⁸ [omnibus itaque publice] ...
15

Credidisti aut particeps fuisti. illius
incredulitatis. quod quœdam fclerate
mulieres retro post satanan conuerse
demonum inlusionibus et fantasmatibus
seducte credunt. et profitentur se nocturnis
horis cum diana paganorum dea. et cum
innumera multitudine mulierum.
æquitare super quasdam bestias et multa
terrarum spatia intempeste noctis silentio.
pertransire. eiusque iussionibus uelut ...

... bibisti et cachini[s ora]
dissoluisti et omni p[ietate et]
aff[ectu caritatis postpo]sito [quasi]
de [fraterna] morte exultare [uisus es]
si fe[cisti x]xx die[s in] pane et a[qua]
pœniteas.
Fecisti filacteria diabolica uel c[aracteres]
diabolicos. quos quidam diabolo su[adente]
facere solent. uel herbas. uel suc[inos]
uel quintam feriam in honorem⁵ iouis hono[rasti]
Si fecisti uel consensisti. x⁶ dies in p[ane]
et aqua pœniteas.

Conspirasti cum aliis insidiator[bus]
contra episcopum tuum aut aduersus co[ope-]
ratores suos ita dico. ut doctri[nam]...

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⁵ *horem* corrected to *honorem* – correction mark beneath ‘o’ with ‘no’ inserted in the interline.

⁶ *quadraginta* in PL 140 and Cologne Cod. 119.

⁷ Apocalypse (4: 2) Et statim fui in spiritu: et ecce sedes posita erat in cælo, et supra sedem sedens.

⁸ 2 Corinthians 12: 2-4

English translation⁹

[recto – left column]

... Hast thou habitually eaten and drunk more than was needful to thee?

If thou hast, thou shalt do penance for 10 days on bread and water.

For the Lord says in the Gospel: “Take heed not to make thou heart heavy with overindulgence and drunkenness.”¹⁰

Hast thou drank so much that through thy drunkenness you threw up?

If thou hast, thou shalt do penance for 15 days on bread and water.

Hast thou ever been drunk through vainglory, in such wise, I say, that thou boasted in this, that thou were able to surpass others in drinking, and so through thy vanity and through thy urging led thyself and others to drunkenness?

If thou hast, thou shalt do penance for 30 days on bread and water.

Hast thou vomited up the Body and Blood [of the Lord from thy drunkenness?]...

[right column]

... [Hast thou refused to attend mass or prayers] or to make an offering to a married priest, by which I mean hast thou not wished to confess your sins to him, or receive from the Body and Blood of the Lord from him because thou thought he was a sinner?

If thou hast, thou shalt do penance for one year.

Hast thou believed or taken part in the kind of faithfulness that some wicked women, turning back to Satan and seduced by the illusions and phantasms of demons, believe and proclaim: in the night hours they ride on certain animals with the pagan goddess Diana and a countless multitude of women, and they cross a great span of the world in the stillness of the dead of night, and they obey her commands as if she were a noble lady...

[verso – left column]

... and while only the spirit suffers this, the unfaithful mind thinks that these things happen not in the spirit but in the body. For who is not in night visions led out of himself, and who while sleeping does not see many things which he never saw while awake?

Who then is so foolish and stupid that he supposes that those things which take place in the spirit only, happen also in the body?

When the prophet Ezechiel saw and heard visions of the Lord in his spirit, not in the body, he spoke thus: “Immediately, I was in the spirit”.¹¹ And Paul does not venture to say that he was “caught up” in the body¹²...

[right column]

... and hast thou drunk there and burst into laughter, and, setting aside all compassion and emotion of charity, hast thou appeared as if rejoicing over the death of a brother?

⁹Based on translations provided in John T. McNeill and Helena M. Gamer, (eds.) *Medieval Handbooks of Penance* (New York: Octagon Books, 1965), 332-33; John Shinnars (ed.), *Medieval Popular Religion 1000-1500: A Reader* (University of Toronto Press, 2009), 462-63. Quotations from the Bible are from the Douay-Rheims translation of the Latin Vulgate.

¹⁰Luke 21: 34

¹¹Revelation (Apocalypse) 4: 2

¹²2 Corinthians 12: 2-4

If thou hast, thou shalt do penance for 30 days on bread and water.

Hast thou made diabolical phylacteries or diabolical characters, which some are accustomed to make at the persuasion of the devil, or [used] herbs or amber; or hast thou observed the fifth day¹³ in honour of Jove?

If thou hast done or consented to such [deeds], thou shalt do penance for ten days on bread and water.

Hast thou plotted with other conspirators against thy bishop or against his associates so, I say, as to ridicule or mock at either the teaching. . .

¹³Thursday; originally called *dies Iovis* – day of Jove or Jupiter. In the Catholic religion it was not allowed to consecrate days to pagan gods.