

Oxford, St John's College, MS 41

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CODEX SJC 41

EUSEBIUS, THE PROOF OF THE GOSPEL

Circa 1542 Paper 1,264,1' 317 × 224 mm

(Fol. i) The shelf mark is written in black ink by a nineteenth-century hand, "M.S.S. 41."

DIVISIONS OF CODEX

One part

CONTENTS

(Fols. 1–265) (Eusebius Pamphilus Caesariensis Episcopus, *Demonstratio Evangelica*, Libri 10) (Ms. *Demonstratio Evangelica* [Εὐσέβιου, εὐαγγελικῆς ἀποδείξεως], ed. I. A. Heikel, *Eusebius Werke, Band 6: Die Demonstratio evangelica, Die griechischen christlichen Schriftsteller*, 23 (Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1913), 1–492. – (Fols. 1–24v) Liber 1, *Incipit*: ἡ παιδείσκη σου· καὶ ὁ προσήλυτος ὁ ἐν ταῖς πόλεσί σου. (Liber 1, sec. 3, line 14). – (Fols. 24v–25) Index. – (Fols. 25–48v) Liber 2. – (Fol. 48v) Index. – (Fols. 48v–77v) Liber 3. – (Fols. 77v–78) Index. – (Fols. 78–105) Liber 4. – (Fol. 105rv) Index. – (Fols. 105v–31) Liber 5. – (Fol. 131) Index. – (Fols. 131–55) Liber 6. – (fol. 156) Index. – (Fols. 156–184v) Liber 7. – (Fol. 185) Index. – (Fols. 185–214) Liber 8. – (Fol. 214) Index. – (Fols. 214–37) Liber 9. – (fol. 237) Index. – (Fols. 237–65) Liber 10. – (Fol. 265v) blank.

PAGINATION

The upper and lower endleaves were foliated in pencil in roman numerals (i–ii), and arabic numbers were written in pencil on the top right corner of the recto of each folio. Foliation was done on 29 March 1990 (note on the inside of the lower board of the binding). The numeration skipped number 122.

QUIRES

1–33⁸.

QUIRE NUMBERS AND CATCHWORDS

(Fols. 1–265) Quire numbers probably were written in the lower right corner of the recto of the first folios of the quires, but many numbers were lost when the paper was trimmed. A portion of the number appears on fol. 162v. Another set of quire numbers (α'–λγ') were written by an unidentified scribe on the lower right corner of the recto of the first folio of each quire. Some of these also appear to have been lost when the folios were trimmed. Catchwords were written vertically by the scribe (Johannes Mauromates) underneath the bottom line below the inner margin of the verso of the last folio of each quire.

WATERMARKS

Fol. ii: Grapes, similar to Sosower Raisin 1 (Salamanca, ca. 1570) – Fols. 1–112: Crossbow = Sosower Arbalète 14 (Venice, ca. 1542) and Crossbow = Sosower Arbalète 16 (Venice, ca. 1542). – Fols. 113–20: Crossbow = Sosower Arbalète 16 and Crossbow "C" – Fols. 121–37, 162–69, 178–85, 202–65: Crossbow "C" and Crossbow "D" very similar to Sosower Arbalète 9. – Fols. 138–45, 186–201: Crossbow "C." – Fols. 146–53: Crossbow = Sosower Arbalète 16. – Fols. 154–61: Crossbow = Sosower Arbalète 16 and Crossbow "D." – Fols. 170–77: Crossbow = Sosower Arbalète 14.

SCRIBES

fols. 1–265v: Johannes Mauromates, identified from his handwriting; see Gamillscheg and Harlfinger, *Repertorium der griechischen Kopisten*, 1:99, no. 171. Another scribe wrote the title on the top margin of fol. 1.

PROVENANCE

The codex was written in the workshop of Johannes Mauromates in Venice ca. 1543, probably for Diego Hurtado de Mendoza, while he was ambassador of Charles V. The manuscripts he collected in Italy accompanied Hurtado to Madrid in 1554, where Mendoza lived until 1568; in that

year, he transferred his library to Granada, where he spent the remainder of his life. He bequeathed his manuscripts to Philip II, and in 1576 his manuscripts were transferred to the Royal Library at the monastery of San Lorenzo at El Escorial. This codex probably strayed from the monastery shortly after fire caused extensive damage to the building in 1687. It entered St. John's College prior to 1697. (See the Introduction for a more detailed discussion of the provenance.)

WRITING STYLE

29 lines. Writing dimensions 240 × 130 mm. On fol. 1 Mauromates did not write the title, nor was there space for a large initial letter. He indented the titles of the sections of books, and the initial letter of the first word of the title was red. The initial letter of the first word of each chapter was red and slightly enlarged. He wrote corrections in the margin. Chapters were numbered in the margin with red numbers. Section titles were indented, with an enlarged initial letter written in red in the margin. The sections were numbered in the margin with red or black numbers. Chapters in the indices of the books were numbered in red, and the initial letter of each chapter title was red. Some of the indices were written in two columns and others in one column.

ILLUMINATIONS

The title of book 6 (fol. 131) is black with a large red initial letter, and the scribe drew a simple, single-line headpiece in red and black ink. The title of book 8 (fol. 185) was in red, and below the scribe drew a simple, single-line red headpiece.

BINDING

This is an inboard binding with raised supports, measuring 325 × 233 × 67 mm (h × w × t). The binding appears to be English, dating to the seventeenth century and not contemporary with the text. No evidence of any earlier binding was seen. This binding is similar to SJC MS 32.

Endleaves

The endleaves have been disturbed during repairs to the binding. Upper and lower endleaf construction is the same and consists of a pastedown of plain white laid paper and a flyleaf (upper, fol. i; lower fol. i') of the same paper joined by a strip of white laid paper running along the inner joint (under the pastedown and tipped to the verso of the flyleaf). The first and last leaves of the text-block have been tipped to this paper strip (upper: fol. 1; lower: fol. 265).

Originally, the construction was a sewn single fold of

plain white paper with the outer leaves adhered to the boards (as pastedowns). During repairs to the binding, the flyleaves appear to have been pasted down to conceal the repair leather which was turned in directly over the original pastedown. The paper strip was added to strengthen the inner joints. The lower pastedown is distorted where it was lifted to insert the new inner joint (paper strip). There is red pigment around the edges of the pastedowns and flyleaves, indicating that they were present when the volume was trimmed and the edge coloured. Chain staple and turn in impressions on fol. i and impressions of turns ins and fore-edge ties on fol. i' indicate that these leaves are in their original position.

Sewing

The text-block is sewn on six raised supports of slit tanned skin with a medium-weight, natural coloured, S-twist sewing thread. Due to restricted opening of the binding caused by a heavy adhesive layer on the spine, it was difficult to examine the sewing pattern but it is abbreviated in the early quires. The last quire is sewn all along. Approximately 50mm from the head edge and 2–3mm from the spinefold, a thick thread (or thin cord) has been stabbed into one hole near the spinefolds of the earlier quires; this is not related to the current sewing.

Edges

The edges of the text-block are plain cut and stained red. Trim evidence is found on the upper corner of fol. 251 which shows that the head has been trimmed by 5mm, and the fore-edge by 20mm.

Endbands

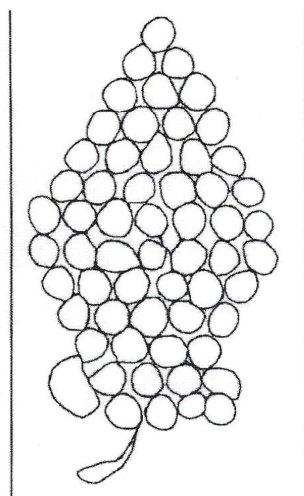
Decorative endbands have been worked with a front bead over a rolled paper core in blue and white thin thread (?cotton, S twist). Four tie downs were seen.

Spine/linings

The spine is slightly rounded. A small piece of parchment manuscript waste is visible under the lower right corner of the upper pastedown; this can be seen running under the cut edge of the upper pastedown to about halfway across the board (95mm from spine edge of pastedown) and is also visible through a hole in the upper pastedown (central, 20mm from head-edge) where an annotation has been scraped away. This may be the remains of the extensions of a spine lining brought onto the inner face of the board.

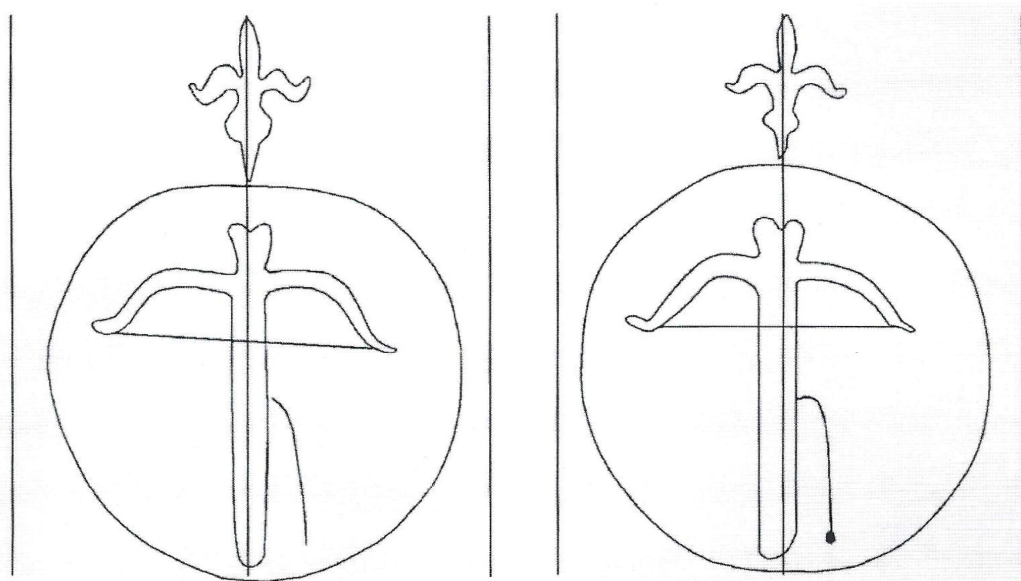
Boards/attachment

In pulpboards, with a strong woven impression, measuring



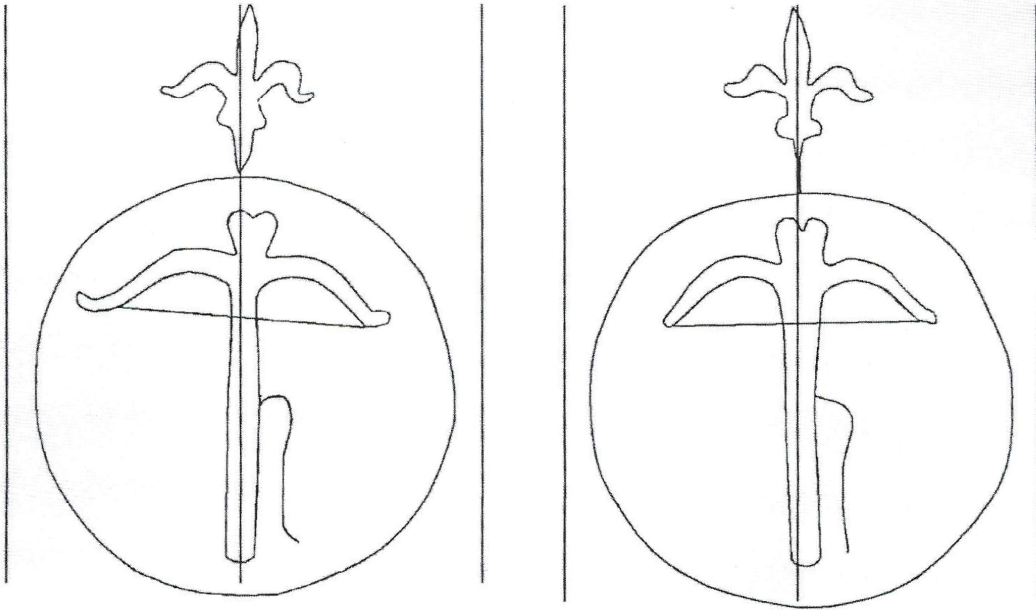
SJC 4r, f. 1'
 Raisin (Grapes)
 Saec. xvi <Italy> Scribe: <no scribe>
 (SJC 4r, folio: 1')

Watermark dimensions: 57 × 30 mm
 Chain-lines around watermarks: 36 mm
 Chain-lines in blank portion of paper: 35 mm
 Laid-lines in 20 mm: 19 lines
 Note: Only watermark in codex



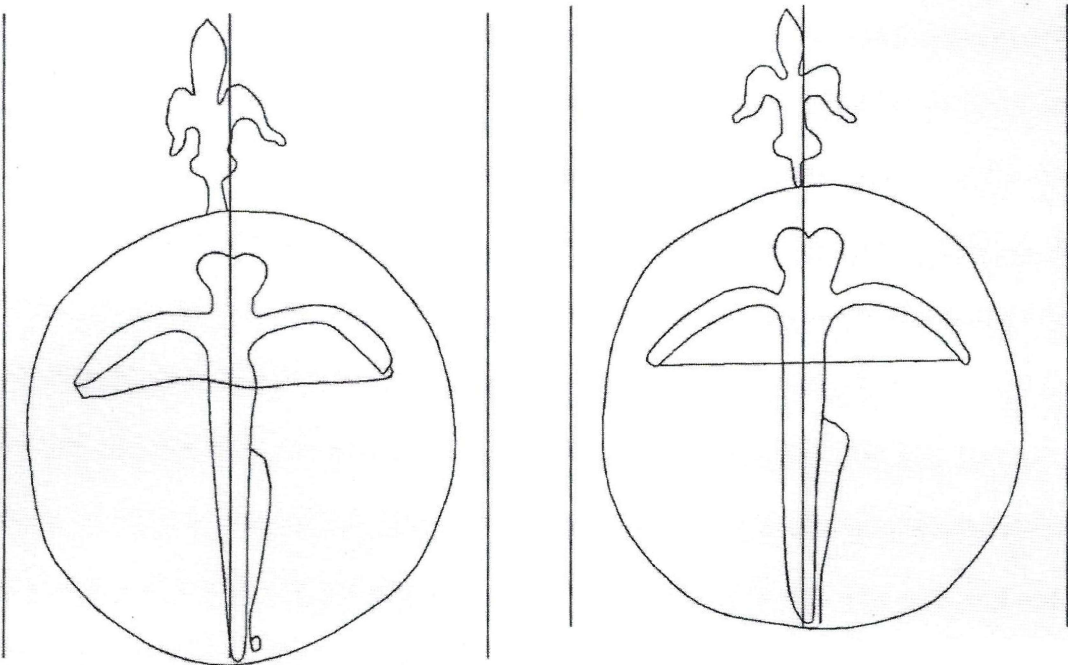
SCJ 4r, f. 3
 Arbalète (Crossbow)
 Circa 1542 <Venice> Scribe: <Johannes Mauromates>
 (SJC 4r, folios: 3, 5)

Watermark dimensions: 70 × 50 mm; 70 × 51 mm
 Chain-lines around watermarks: 29 mm, 30 mm; 28 mm, 30 mm
 Chain-lines in blank portion of paper: 36 mm, 37 mm
 Laid-lines in 20 mm: 24 lines



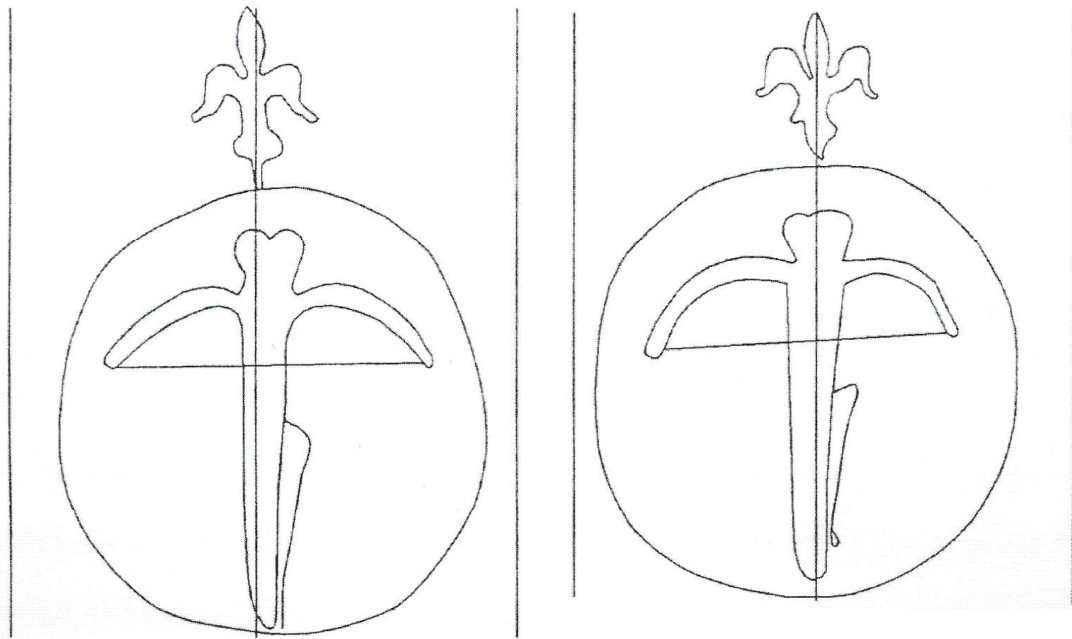
SCJ 41, f. 17
 Arbalète (Crossbow)
 Circa 1542 <Venice> Scribe: <Johannes Mauromates>
 (SJC 41, folios: 17, 20)

Watermark dimensions: 71 × 50 mm; 72 × 50 mm
 Chain-lines around watermarks: 28 mm, 29 mm
 Chain-lines in blank portion of paper: 36 mm, 38 mm
 Laid-lines in 20 mm: 24 lines



SCJ 41, f. 118
 Arbalète (Crossbow)
 Circa 1542 <Venice> Scribe: <Johannes Mauromates>
 (SJC 41, folios: 118, 120)

Watermark dimensions: 78 × 51 mm; 75 × 51 mm
 Chain-lines around watermarks: 27 mm, 31 mm; 28 mm, 32 mm
 Chain-lines in blank portion of paper: 31 mm, 32 mm
 Laid-lines in 20 mm: 26 lines



SCJ 41, f. 121
Arbalète (Crossbow)
Circa 1542 <Venice> Scribe: <Johannes Mauromates>
(SJC 41, folios: 121, 126)

Watermark dimensions: 75 × 51 mm; 70 × 50 mm
Chain-lines around watermarks: 29 mm, 31 mm
Chain-lines in blank portion of paper: 30 mm, 32 mm
Laid-lines in 20 mm: 26 lines

6mm in thickness and squares on all sides measuring 5mm. The boards have been slightly back cornered. The lower portion of each of the slit supports has been cut off at the joint and only the upper portion is laced into the boards through two holes; this is visible from the wear pattern of the leather over the supports. All supports are laced in. The lacing pattern is (upper) slanting upward and (lower) downward.

Covering

This is a tight-back binding covered in full mid-brown tanned calfskin. The turn ins are untrimmed and irregular in size/shape. Two textile fore-edge ties measuring 25mm wide by 260mm long are present on both boards. The ties are coarsely woven in a twill pattern and striped green and natural linen.

Shelfmarks/decoration

There is a manuscript shelfmark '41' in black ink on the fore-edge which appears to have been started then erased. In the first spine panel, there is a round paper label with the printed shelfmark '41'. There is a manuscript shelfmark '43' in black ink in the second spine panel. Around the fore-edge of the lower board (central) can be seen the remains of a small paper label (see SJC 168).

The boards have been blind tooled with a triple fillet around the perimeter and at the quarter line, forming a rectangular compartment. The board edges have been gold tooled with a single fillet. The spine has been blind tooled with triple fillets on either side of the raised supports and blind hatching along the top of the supports. A blind line has been tooled around the pastedowns with a single fillet. The lower portion of spine panel 7 has been blind tooled with a triple fillet in a diaper pattern.

Condition/repairs

In good general condition. A new leather headcap has been made which extends to just below the first sewing support with new leather turned over the board edges, under the current pastedown and new inner joint (paper strip). This appears to be a nineteenth-century repair done at the same time as strengthening the inner joints.

REFERENCES

- Bernard, *Catalogi*, 60.
Coxe, *MSS. Collegii S. Johannis Baptistae*, 12–13.
Gamillscheg and Harlfinger, *Repertorium der griechischen Kopisten*, 1:99.
Annaclara Cataldi Palau, "Il Copista Ioannes Mauromates," in *I Manoscritti greci tra riflessione e dibattito, Atti del V*

Colloquio Internazionale di Paleografia Greca (Cremona, 4–10 ottobre 1998), ed. Giancarlo Prato (Florence: Edizioni Gonnelli, 2000), 393.

Martin Sicherl, "Die Vorlagen des Kopisten Valeriano Albini," *Illinois Classical Studies* 7 (1982): 327–28.