

Ovid, *Tristia*

2° f°: Carmina feccessum

Paper: the quires are regular groups of two sheets and one half-sheet (in quires 5-7, the half-sheet without watermark), folded in quarto (the lost leaf after fol. 89 had half the mark). Probably a single watermark of type *Drache/Basilique* (although on one of the moulds the dragon's tail is significantly narrowed); the mark resembles a variety of specifically Ferrarese stocks, perhaps most closely Piccard 10 (*Fabeltiere*) ii, no. 452 (1442), but cf. nos 442-52 (produced from the late 1420s on) and, for the severely pinched tail mould, nos 414-33 (mostly of the 1470s).

Fols ii + 89 + ii (numbered fols iii, iv). Overall 239 mm x 167 mm (writing area c. 150 mm x 90 mm). Written in long lines, about 21 lines to the page. No prickings, bounds or rules. Written in Italian humanistic cursive. Punctuation by line-ending point, double point (also at pauses within the line), and punctus interrogativus.

CONTENTS

Fols 1-86^v: 'Publij Ouidij Nasonis poete clarissimi Liber primus de tristibus incipit Parue nec inuideo sine me liber ibis in urbem | Hei michi quod --- iam facis ille monendo | Laudat et hortatu Comprobat acta suo Finis Publij Ouidij Nasonis de tristibus'.

OID, *Tristia*, ed. S. G. Owen (Oxford, 1915). There is a considerable amount of glossing, diminishing throughout the volume, in a very small version of the text hand. Most of this indicates grammatical relationships, but, e.g., a sequence of five citations from Tibullus appear as a marginal gloss on fol. 30. Fol. 86^v has only four lines and the colophon, and the remainder, including fols 87-89^v, is blank. The MS has been previously described, Ker *MMBL*, 3:609.

COLLATION 1-8¹⁰ 9¹⁰ (-10, a blank). Catchwords written vertically along the inner edge of the writing area; no signatures.

TEXTUAL PRESENTATION AND DECORATION Headings in red at the opening and at book divisions. At the opening of the text and of its sections, two-line red Roman capitals, unflourished. Red sidenotes indicate important topics. Initials at the opening of each couplet in an offset column. Running titles in red, the book number in Roman capitals.

BINDING Brown russia letter, gilt stamps and bit tooled, s. xviii, over millboards. Sewn on three thongs. In the spine compartments 'Ovidius de tristibus M.S. saec. xiv' in gilt. Endleaves and pastedowns marbled paper, a College bookplate on the front pastedown. At the head, the marbled leaf and a modern paper flyleaf; at the rear, a modern paper flyleaf and the marbled leaf (iii-iv).

PROVENANCE There is continuous evidence of ownership from the early nineteenth century: (a) 'Celotti' '159' (fol. i^v); his sale, 14 March 1825, lot 217. (b) Sir Thomas Phillipps at Middle Hill, his nos 960 and 2767 (in ink, fol. i; the

stamped ex-libris, fol. ii). (c) Sold by Sotheby, 18 June 1898, lot 887 (a note from the sale catalogue, pasted on fol. i^v), purchased by Leighton for 1 guinea. (d) Dobell catalogue 48 (1925), no. 14 offered for 10 guineas (the page pasted to fol. i), whence purchased by S. G. Owen, who bequeathed the book to the College, as he did the previous MS.