[Latin text]

[Page 27]

[Image ID: 10897512]
[Text from the page, translated into modern Latin or another language if possible]
Deum incipit quod commendandum est

[Text continues in Latin, densely packed, with typical medieval script]
[Text from the image]
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A XIIIth Century Codex of the Articella.


Manuscript on 143 leaves of vellum, sm.folio (270 x 165mm). Neatly written in two columns in a small but regular and clear hand, in the second half of the XIIIth century, probably in an Italian University (Padua?). In the old monastic binding of stamped calf on wooden boards with brass bosses and clasp-catches (clasps gone). £105. --.

A most interesting manuscript showing the typical form of a medical textbook of the XIIith century.

The text of Hippocrates is given sentence by sentence underlined with red ink and preceded by a red H. Then follows Galen's commentary, beginning with a red G. Similarly in the last section Galen's text is underlined in red and followed by an H, which here stands for Haly.

The ample margins bear numerous notes and comments by a XIIIth cent. student, some quite brief, but many quite extensive annotations, which would no doubt repay closer study. For they are clearly annotations based on XIIIth cent. university lectures probably from Padua.

The four treatises contained in this Codex form the nucleus of that handbook of medicine used in Salerno in the XI, and XII, cent. and due to the activity of Constantinus Africanus as a translator from the Arabic. All these texts are not direct translations from the Greek, but Latin versions of the Arabic redactions. (See Garrison p.149, Sarton I.611).

In the course of time various other useful treatises were added to the standard collection which ultimately appeared in print under the traditional designation of ARTICELLA. A number of incunable editions of this collection are known and are analysed and described by Choulant: Böcherkunde pp.398ff.

Our MS. ends on fol.143 halfway down the first column with the words: Explicit tagui galeni. The rest of the page is blank. On the verso of the leaf an elaborate diagram giving a classification of all Nature, a XIIIth century Systema Naturaee.