

SALVIANUS, PRESBYTER MASSILIENSIS

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PREFACE.

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Extant manuscripts, chiefly at Paris and in Italian libraries, show that Salvian's works were circulated in the Middle Ages. No evidence has been found of any commentary before that composed by Brassicanus for the first edition of *De gubernatione Dei*, which he published at Basel in 1530 under the title *De vero iudicio et providentia Dei et ipsius gubernatione hominum et rerum mundi huius*. This edition was based on a manuscript discovered by Brassicanus at Buda. Cujas made use of Brassicanus' edition in his works on civil law. *Ad ecclesiam* was first published, with *Epistula ix*, the only one of Salvian's letters then known, by Sichardus at Basel in 1528, without commentary. The first complete edition of Salvian, including the nine letters, was brought out by Pierre Pithou, Paris, 1580, with variant readings but without commentary. That Salvian attracted more interest in the 17th century is indicated by the extensive commentary of Conrad Rittershusen on *De gubernatione Dei*, published at Altdorf in 1611. This in turn was superseded by the commentary of Stephen Baluze, first published in 1663, and frequently reprinted, the best known edition being that published at Stadtamhof in 1742.

I. DE GUBERNATIONE DEI

1. Johannes Alexander Brassicanus

Introductory letter dated Vienna, March 1, 1530.

Dedic.: (ed. Basel, 1530), verified by M. P.

Josserand Ad... Christophorum a Stadion, Episcopum Augustensem. Quod Marcus ille Antonius Imperator cojuomento Pius et Philosophus de scipso scripsit...hoc ego de me quamlibet infimo homine citra omnem invidiam dicere possum, quippe qui a puero nihil vel honestius aestimarem vel antiquius duxerim, quam optimos quosque libros et praecipue veteres scriptores nondum in lucem editos qua diligentia possem conquirere ac a situ tenebrisque vindicare...[Account of the library at Buda follows]... Inpraesentiarum autem, ut ex latinis gustum aliquem eruditae praebeam, Salvianum episcopum Massyliensem eruditissimum, sub tuo...nomine prodire volui, Salvianum inquam et restitutum et a densissimis tenebris erutum, in quo unico licebit intelligere quantum in aliis eiusdem integritatis ac eruditionis proceribus amiserimus...Ad haec suae aetatis excidia quaedam et post excidia etiam crescentia vitia sic ob oculos ponit, sic luculenter exponit, sic historica fide narrat, ut mihi videre videar hoc corruptissimum saeculum tanquam in tabula graphice expressum; adeo strenue a nobis desudatum est, ne superiorum etiam aetatum perversissimis hominibus videremur ex aliqua parte esse meliores...Vale principum excellentissime, episcoporum doctissime ac inter utrosque optime. Viennae Austriae Martii die 1, Anno MDXXX.

[Commentary fols. 54-58 of 1530 edition, following the text].

Annotationes aliquot in Salviani Episcopi

doctissimi loca vel subobscura, vel quae propter exquisitam elegantiam atque reconditam eruditionem digna visa sunt, ut et attentius observarentur, et dilucidius etiam explicarentur, auctore Ioanne Alexandro Brassicano.

[*Inc.*]: In Prooemium: *Ad Salonium*. Huius Salonii Viennae Galliarum episcopi, cui Salvianus librum suum nominatim inscripsit, saepissime meminit Sidonius Apollinaris in Epistolis, et Gennadius etiam in Salviano.

Omnes admodum homines. Usus est ferme Salustiano exordio...

In Librum Primum: *Magistrum suum philosophiāe*. Magna laus Pythagorae...[No commentary on Book II: that on III begins: In Librum Tertium, quoniam in Secundo nihil non apertum est].

[*Expl.*]: *Coitus*. Conventus ita vocavit, et eiusmodi improborum conventicula.

Editions:

1530, Basileae (Basel): ex officina Frobeniana. BM; BN.

(*) 1575, Parisiis (Paris): [H. de Marneuf?] BM.

(*) 1594, Parisiis (Paris): apud H. de Marneuf (reprint of 1575 ed.). BM; BN.

(*) 1627, Rothomagi (Rouen): apud J. Osmont. BN.

(*) 1629, Oxoniae (Oxford): G. Turner for H. Curteyn. BM.

(*) 1633, Oxoniae (Oxford): reprint of 1629 ed. BM.

Note: Selections from Brassicanus' commentary are included with other commentaries in the second and later editions of *Salviani Massiliensis Opera Omnia, curante Cunrado Rittershusio* (Nürnberg 1623, Bremen 1688, etc. MH).

Biogr.:

Johannes Alexander Brassicanus (Köl, or Kohlburger). Was b. in the province of Württemberg c. 1500; d. Vienna Nov. 27, 1539. He studied at Tübingen and was called philosopher, orator and poet laureate at 18. He was professor of humanities at Tübingen and Vienna, and held the title of Jurisconsult. He was sent on an embassy to Buda, and described Corvinus' library there in the dedicatory letter of his edition of Salvian; this letter has often been separately printed.

Works: He commented on Salvian, *De gubernatione Dei*, and Petronius; he translated the Homeric Hymn to Apollo and Gennadius Scholarius, *De sinceritate christianae fidei dialogus*; he edited Calpurnius and Nemesianus, the *Geoponica*, Eucherius of Lyon, Haimo of Halberstadt's *Enchiridion*, and various works of Lucian; he compiled *Proverbiorum Symmicta*, chiefly from Iamblichus, and wrote poems, letters, and treatises.

Bibl.: *Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie* 3. 259-260; Gesner I 590; Hoefer VII 270-271; Jöcher I 1342; Nicéron 32.234-238; Schoenemann II 827; Schottenloher I 67.

(*) Hummel, 'De Iohannis Brassicani institutionibus grammaticis,' *Musarum Remissio* (Altdorf 1766).

II. TIMOTHEI AD ECCLESIAM LIBRI IV

Issued under the pseudonym Timotheus. No commentary before 1600.

III. EPISTOLAE IX

No commentary before 1600.