

**THE SAM FLEMING
ILLUMINATED MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPT
AND
EARLY PRINTING
COLLECTION**

MSS # 640

**Arranged and described by Molly Dohrmann
January 2007**

**Special Collections
The Jean and Alexander Heard Library
Vanderbilt University
419 21st Avenue South
Nashville, Tennessee 37240
Telephone: (615) 322-2807**

Biographical Note

Sam Fleming was born on April 29, 1908 in Franklin, Tennessee. He graduated from Battle Ground Academy in 1924 and from Vanderbilt University in 1928. Fleming served in active duty with the U.S. Naval Reserve from 1942-1945. After college he worked for a time in New York and then came to Third National Bank in Nashville in 1931 and by 1950 was appointed president where he served until his retirement in 1970. He was active in many areas of business and commerce in Nashville and in committee, fundraising, and other charitable work.

He served on the Board of Trust of Vanderbilt University from 1952 until 1981 and as its Chairman from 1975 to 1981. He was Chairman of the Board of Trust at the time of the merger with George Peabody College for Teachers in 1979 and as such played an important role in bringing the two institutions together. He also was instrumental in the creation of the Owen Graduate School of Management in 1969 and for the creation of the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt in 1981.

Sam Fleming held many civic memberships and served in leadership roles as community activist and philanthropist in Nashville and nationally, and was an elder of the First Presbyterian Church.

He was married to Josephine Cliffe Fleming who preceded him in death and then to Valerie Ellis Fleming. He and Josephine had two children, Joanne and Daniel. Sam Fleming died on January 21, 2000.

This Collection was a gift from Mr. Fleming to the Library in 1985. He was a great patron of the Vanderbilt Library and in addition to donating a number of important Bibles from the late 16th and early 17th (the Geneva version of the so-called "Breeches" Bible, reference to Genesis 3:7) centuries, in his will he endowed the Sam Fleming Southern Civilization Collection in Special Collections, a growing collection of books on the history, culture, literature, and biography of the South since 1865.

Scope and Content Note

This Collection of Illuminated Medieval Manuscripts and Early Printed Leaves is 1.04 linear feet and is comprised of 85 vellum leaves from a Latin Manuscript Bible of the late 13th century and 80 pages from a Missal printed in the first part of the 16th century. The illuminated leaves from the Latin Bible have been damaged and repaired.

An analysis of this collection was done under the guidance of Ernest Cadman Colwell President of the School of Theology at Claremont in California in the spring of 1965. (These documents are part of the Donor File.)

The collection is comprised of as stated two distinct areas of Collection:

The Illuminated Medieval Manuscript part is made up of 85 manuscript leaves of vellum from a Latin Bible dating from 1290 to 1300 . It is believed that this copy was made in a French Carthusian monastery between 1290 and 1300 and later became the property of the monastery at Villeneuve-les-Avignon.

In the fall of 1985 Bookseller Anthony Garnett gave this appraisal of these leaves (this information now found in the Donor's file):

they... are visually very attractive, but since they all come from incomplete works should be considered as decorative pieces rather than scholarly ones. They are none the less attractive for that and would find a ready market.

Leaves from a manuscript Latin Bible from a French Charterhouse of the late 13th Century. These contain a number of very nice illuminated initials—but these are not the original ones, and have been neatly added into the spaces left when the original illuminations were excised. Hence all illuminated leaves are damaged and repaired—resulting in pages that are visually acceptable, but with the text on the verso destroyed. The calligraphy is excellently neat and finely decorated—even on those leaves without miniatures.

*58 leaves of Biblical text without illuminated initials, but rubricated in red and blue
14 leaves with illuminated capitals—all damaged to some extent, with illuminations supplied from another manuscript. The quality of the initials used is good, and the resulting pages are visually excellent.*

7 leaves rubricated showing the liturgical readings for each day and 6 leaves of glossary

The second distinct part of this collection are the 80 printed and decorated leaves from a Missal for the Use of the Diocese of Chartres, printed in Paris by Thielman in 1529.

Anthony Garnett gives this appraisal in October 1985:

These are finely printed and rubricated, but the paper is very fragile and often damaged. Pages have been mounted on very acid card which has helped the process of deterioration. Nonetheless, the leaves are very decorative, especially those with decorated initial letters.

*39 leaves with one or more initials
41 leaves without initial letters*

At the request of Sam Fleming, Ernest Tune, Library Director at the School of Theology at Claremont California made this statement about the Kerver Missal:

The name of Thielman Kerver is associated with the printing of some of the most beautiful liturgical books produced at Paris during the first half of the 16th century, his most notable works being various editions of "Books of Hours." After his death in 1522, the printing house founded by Thielman in 1497 continued under the direction of his widow who specialized in reprinting Thielman's earlier publications which were in demand. Eventually the business came under the management of Thielman's son, Thielman the 2nd, and finally passed to the third generation, Thielman the 2nd's son, Jacques Kerver. The style of the Kervers shows some imitation of, and is no doubt indebted to, the Paris publisher and artist Simon Vostre. Jacques Kerver is celebrated for his 1546 French edition of the Aldine Polifilo, Songe de Poliphile. It has been praised for being one of the most beautiful illustrated books of the Renaissance. The Kerver typographical mark is a shield with the letters T K upon it which stands before a tree with a unicorn rearing up on each side of the shield.

All of these leaves were originally donated to the Divinity Library at Vanderbilt in 1985 and were transferred to Special Collections after that.

Abbreviations and notes are as follows: M==mounted; numerals in parentheses ()=lines per page; cap=illuminated capital; ovly=overlay of extraneous material created by repairing capital on reverse side of leaf; A= recto; B=verso

Box 1

Catalog of Leaves from Latin Bible Illuminated Medieval Manuscript:
Folder Listing:

1)M	A. Jerome's prologue to Pentateuch	(55) lines per page	
	B. Prescript; Genesis 1.1-2.7a	(55)	
2)	A. Genesis 2.7b-4.4a	(55)	
	B. Genesis 4.4b- 6.2 a	(55)	
3)	A. Genesis 18.5b-18.13a	(55)	
	B. Genesis 18.13b-22.17a	(55)	
4)	A. Exodus 28.27b – 29.28 a	(56)	
	B. Exodus 29.28b-30.32 a	(56)	
5)M	A. Numbers 33.53b-35.19a	(56)	
	B. Numbers 35.19b-end: Dt.1-1.8	(56)	
6)M	A. Jerome's preface to Regum	(56)	1 cap
	B. Preface; I Regum 1.1-1.19a	(56)	ovly
7)M	A. II Regum 24.14b-24.25 (end); III Regum 1.1-1.24a	(56)	1 cap
	B. III Regum. 1.24b -2.7 a	(56)	
8)M	A. IV Regum 25.4b- end; Preface	(55)	1 cap
	B. Preface; I Paralipomenon 1.1-1.22a	(55)	1 cap
9)M	A. Ps 36.36b-39.12a	(56)	1 cap
	B. Ps 39.12b-43.17a	(56)	ovly in Ps 39
10)M	A. Ps 60.3b-65.8a	(56)	
	B. Ps 65.8b -68.7a	(56)	1 cap
11)	A. Prologue; Preface; Haggai 1.1-2.4a	(50)	1 cap
	B. Haggai 2.4b-2.24 (end); Prologue to Zechariah	(50)	1cap excised
12)	A. I Maccabees 2.50b-3.25 a (Apocrypha)	(50)	
	B. I Maccabees 3.25b-3.58a	(50)	

13)	A. Mt. 9.9b-10.9	(50)	
	B. Mt. 10.10 -11.6a	(50)	
14)	A. Mt. 11.6b-12.14	(50)	
	B. Mt. 12.15-13.4	(50)	
15)	A. Mt. 13.5-13.37 a	(50)	
	B. Mt. 13.37b-14.18a	(50)	
16)	A. Mt. 14.18b-15.23a	(50)	
	B. Mt 15.23-16.21a	(50)	
17)	A. Mt. 16.21b-17.26a	(50)	
	B. Mt. 17.26b-18.33	(50)	
18)	A. Mt.21.12b-21.44a	(50)	
	B. Mt. 21.44b-22.45a	(50)	
19)	A. Mt. 22.45b-23.39	(50)	
	B. Mt. 24.1-24.44a	(50)	
20)	A. Mt. 24.44b-25.36a	(50)	
	B. Mt. 25.36b-26.30a	(50)	
21)	A. Mt. 26.30b-26.67a	(50)	
	B. Mt. 26.67b-27.30a	(50)	
22)M	A. Mt. 27.30b-28.4a	(50)	1 cap ovly
	B. Mt. 28.4b-end; Prologue to Mark	(50)	1 cap
23)	A. Mk. 1.1-1.44a	(50)	
	B. Mk. 1.44b-3.6a	(50)	
24)	A. Mk. 6.45b-7.27a	(50)	
	B. Mk. 7.27b-8.32a	(50)	
25)	A. Mk. 8.32b-9.29a	(50)	
	B. Mk. 9.29b-10.19a	(50)	
26)	A. Mk. 12.8b-13.1a	(50)	
	B. Mk. 13.1b-14.3	(50)	
27)	A. Mk. 14.4-14.43a	(50)	
	B. Mk. 14.43b-15.12a	(50)	

28)	A. Lk. 2.8b-2.48a	(51)	
	B. Lk. 2.48b-3.34a	(51)	
29)	A. Lk. 3.34b-4.36	(51)	
	B. Lk. 4.37-5.26a	(51)	
30)	A. Lk. 5.26b-6.25a	(51)	
	B. Lk. 6.25b-7.10a	(50)	
31)	A. Lk. 7.10b-7.45	(50)	
	B. Lk. 7.45b-8.28a	(50)	
32)	A. Lk. 12.19b-12.58 a	(50)	
	B. Lk. 12.58b- 13.34a	(50)	
33)	A. Lk. 13.34-15.1a	(50)	
	B. Lk. 15.1b-16.2a	(50)	
34)	A. Lk. 16.26 17.3	(50)	
	B. Lk. 17.4-18.9a	(50)	
35)	A. Lk. 18.9b-19.7	(50)	
	B. Lk. 19.8-19.46a	(50)	
36)	A. Lk. 19.46b-20.36a	(50)	
	B. Lk. 20.36b-21.32a	(50)	
37)	A. Lk 20.32b-22.40a	(50)	
	B. Lk. 22.40b-23.13a	(50)	
38)	A. Lk. 23.13-23.55a	(50)	
	B. Lk, 23.55b-24.43a	(50)	
39)M	A. Lk 24.43b -24.53 (end-Amen); Prologue to Jn; John 1.1-1.15a	(50)	1 cap
	B. Jn. 1.15b-2.6a	(50)	ovly in Jn 1.31
40)	A. Jn. 6.8-6.45a	(50)	
	B. Jn. 6.45b-7.17a	(50)	
41)	A. Jn. 7.17b-8.6a	(50)	
	B. Jn. 8.6b-8.43	(50)	
42)	A. Jn. 8.43b-9.24a	(50)	
	B. Jn. 9.24b-10.25a	(50)	

43)	A. Jn 10.25b -11.28a	(50)
	B. Jn.11.28b-12.10a	(50)
44)	A. Jn. 12.10b-12.50	(50)
	B. Jn 13.1 -14.2a	(50)
45)	A. Jn. 14.2b-15.9a	(50)
	B. Jn. 15.9b-16.19a	(50)
46)	A. Jn. 18.36-19.27a	(50)
	B. Jn 19.27b-20.19a	(50)
47)	A. Acts 2.47b-4.12a	(50)
	B. Acts 4.12b-5.12a	(50)
48)	A. Acts 5.12b-6.7a	(50)
	B. Acts 6.7b-7.30a	(50)
49)	A. Acts 7.30b-8.10a	(50)
	B. Acts 8.10b-9.10a	(50)
50)	A. Acts 9.10b-10.6a	(50)
	B. Acts 10.6b-10.47a	(50)
51)	A. Acts 10.47b-12.10a	(50)
	B. Acts 12.10b-13.22	(50)
52)	A. Acts 13.23 -14.11a	(50)
	B. Acts 14.11b-15.24a	(50)
53)	A. Acts 15.24b-16.23a	(50)
	B. Acts 16.23b-17.20a	(50)
54)	A. Acts 17.20b-18.25a	(50)
	B. Acts 18.25b-19.34a	(50)
55)	A. Acts 19/34b-20.35a	(50)
	B. Acts 20.35b-21.34a	(50)
56)	A. Rom. 3.27b-5.18a	(50)
	B. Rom. 5.18b- 7.21a	(50)
57)	A. Rom. 7.21b -9.6a	(50)
	B. Rom. 9.66-10.21	(50)

Box 2

- 58) A. Rom. 11.1-12.15a (50)
B. Rom. 12.15b-14.23 a (49)
- 59)M A. Rom. 14.23b-16.17a ovly in 16.2-4 (49)
B. Rom. 16.17b-16.27 (end); “Argumentum”; I Cor. 1.1.1.29a 2 caps (49)
- 60) A. I Cor. 1.29b-4.5a (49)
B. I Cor. 4.5b-6.12a (49)
- 61) A. I Cor. 6.12b-7.37a (49)
B. I Cor. 7.37b-9.27a (49)
- 62) A. I Cor. 9.27b-11.20a (49)
B. I Cor. 11.20b-12.31 (49)
- 63) A. II Cor. 3.5-5.14a (49)
B. II Cor. 5.14b-7.13a (49)
- 64) A. II Cor. 7.13b -9.10a (49)
B. II Cor. 9.10b –11.15a (49)
- 65) A. Gal. 1.18b -3.15a (49)
B. Gal. 3.15bb—5.3a (49)
- 66)M A. Gal. 5.3b-6.18 (end); “Argumentum”; Ephesians 1.1-1 .4a 2 caps (49)
B. Eph. 1.4b=3.4a ovly in 1.19-20
- 67) A. Eph. 3.46-4.31a (49)
B. Eph. 4.31b- 6.17a (49)
- 68)M A. Col. 2.23b -4.18; “Argumentum” ovly 1 cap (49)
B. “Argumentum”; I Thess 1.1-3.4a ovly 1 cap (49)
- 69)M A. I Thess 3.46-5.23a ovly in 5.4-7 (49)
B. I Thess 5.23b-5.28 (end) “Argumentum”; II Thess 1.1-3.2a 2 caps (49)
- 70)M A. I Tim. 5.26- 6.20a (49)
B. I Tim 6.20b-6.21 (end), “Argumentum”, II Tim 1.1-2.19a (49)
- 71) A. Heb. 7.25b -9.20a (50)
B. Heb. 9.20b-10.38a (50)
- 72) A. Heb. 10.38b -11.40a (50)
B. Heb. 11.40b -13.12a (50)

- 73) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar; vellum
- 74) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar, vellum
- 75) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar, vellum
- 76) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar, vellum
- 77) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar, vellum
- 78) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar, vellum
- 79) Manuscript Leaf from a Lectionary, Scripture lesson according to the Church Calendar, vellum
- 80) Manuscript Leaf from a Glossary—Lexical aids, arranged alphabetically—proper name of the Bible “A”; vellum
- 81) Manuscript Leaf from a Glossary—Lexical aid, arranged alphabetically—proper name of the Bible “B-C”; vellum
- 82) Manuscript Leaf from a Glossary—Lexical aid, arranged alphabetically—proper name of the Bible “I”; vellum
- 83) Manuscript Leaf from a Glossary—Lexical aid, arranged alphabetically—proper name of the Bible “I”; vellum
- 84) Manuscript Leaf from a Glossary—Lexical aid, arranged alphabetically—proper names of the Bible “S”; vellum
- 85) Manuscript Leaf from a Glossary—Lexical aid, arranged alphabetically—proper names of the Bible “S”; vellum

Box 3

80 Leaves from a Missal for the use of the Diocese of Chartres, Printed by Thielman, Paris, 1529

Folder List:

- 1) Decorated initial letter "A" and miniature
- 2) Decorated initial letter "B"
- 3) Decorated initial letter "C"
- 4) Decorated initial letter "D"
- 5) Decorated initial letters "D" and "I"
- 6) Decorated initial letters "D" and "O"
- 7) Decorated initial letters "D" and "O"
- 8) Decorated initial letters "D" and "S"
- 9) Decorated initial letter "E"
- 10) Decorated initial letter "E"
- 11) Decorated initial letter "E"
- 12) Decorated initial letter "G"
- 13) Decorated initial letter "I"
- 14) Decorated initial letter "I"
- 15) Decorated initial letter "I"
- 16) Decorated initial letter "I"
- 17) Decorated initial letter "I"
- 18) Decorated initial letters "I" "L" "O"
- 19) Decorated initial letters "I" "O"
- 20) Decorated initial letter "K"
- 21) Decorated initial letter "L"
- 22) Decorated initial letter "M"
- 23) Decorated initial letters "M" "O"
- 24) Decorated initial letters "M" "S"
- 25) Decorated initial letter "O"
- 26) Decorated initial letter "O" and miniatures
- 27) Decorated initial letter "R"
- 28) Decorated initial letters "S" "C"
- 29) Decorated initial letter "S"
- 30) Decorated initial letter "S"
- 31) Decorated initial letters "S"
- 32) Decorated initial letter "S"
- 33) Decorated initial letter "S"
- 34) Decorated initial letter "S"
- 35) Decorated initial letter "V"
- 36) Decorated initial letter "V"
- 37) Decorated initial letter "V"
- 38) Decorated initial letters "V" and others
- 39) Decorated initial letters
- 40) "Aprilis" Calendar

- 41) "Mayus" Calendar
- 42) "Julius" Calendar
- 43) "September" Calendar
- 44) "November" Calendar
- 45) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 46) Leaf without decorated initial letter, the night of the Nativity
- 47) Leaf without decorated initial letter, for the day of Epiphany
- 48) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 49) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 50) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 51) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 52) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 53) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 54) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 55) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 56) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 57) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 58) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 59) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 60) Leaf without decorated initial letter, Feria
- 61) Leaf without decorated initial letter, Feria
- 62) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 63) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 64) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 65) Leaf without decorated initial letter, Gloria in Excelsis, Credo
- 66) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 67) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 68) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 69) Leaf without decorated initial letter, Kyrie Eleison
- 70) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 71) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 72) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 73) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 74) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 75) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 76) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 77) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 78) Leaf without decorated initial letter
- 79) Leaf without decorated initial letter, Evangelia de Beata Maria
- 80) Leaf without decorated initial letter