

SUR UNE PAGE DE JONAS D'ORLÉANS (DE INSTITUTIONE LAICALI 1, 1)¹

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The *De institutione laicali* of Jonah of Orleans, gubernatorial *grand fromage* under Louis the Pious, is a seminal *Fürstenspiegel* that addresses the ticklish question whether the lewd (< *laicus*) can be oxymoronicallly pi. This *opus aureum* (so d'Achery) has now received the critical edition that is its aureate due². The second paragraph of Jonah's own preface (ll. 28-32 D.) points out that this work makes substantial use of scripture and the Fathers. The correct identification of these references is accordingly very important. "La page" at issue in the present note would appear to indicate that Dubreucq's *recherche de sources* is as open to censure as her *traduction*.

"La page en question" is the end of the first chapter of the first book of this first of Jonah's works (p. 148 D.). In the penultima-

1 The title of this note is an echo of Y.-M. DUVAL, "Sur une page de s. Cyprien chez s. Ambroise (*Hexameron* 6, 8, 47 et *De habitu virginum* 15-17", *REAug* 16 (1970) 25-34, where the issue is likewise *Quellenforschung*. The present note is a *petit hommage* to this distinguished and recently deceased colleague, who devoted a contrastively *grand ouvrage* to the Orleanian Jonah's Ninevan eponym: *Le livre de Jonas dans la littérature chrétienne grecque et latine*, 2 vols., Paris 1973.

2 O. DUBREUCQ, *Jonas d'Orléans: Instruction des laïcs* 1-2, Paris (Sources Chrét. 549-50) 2012-13. On this pair of volumes cf. the review by the present writer, forthcoming in *Latomus*, where the sole concern is with mistranslations due to Dubreucq's failure to appreciate Jonah's rhetorical aureation.