Manuscripts written in the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem are not only rare, but practically unknown. When the researches of Dr. Hugo Buchthal of the Warburg Institute in London are completed our knowledge will be much extended as well as placed upon a much firmer foundation. Nevertheless one of these MSS. from the Latin Kingdom has been known to liturgical scholars for a considerable time. This is the so-called Pontifical of Apamea, in Syria, which made its first appearance in print in 1700 in Dom Martène’s great work De Antiquis Ecclesiae Ritibus. Dom Martène knew of the Pontifical of Apamea from a copy of the original communicated to him by Jean Deslions, the Dean of Senlis. This copy made for Deslions with copies of other pontificals has been identified by Professor Michel Andrieu of Strasbourg as Cod. 570 in the Bibliothèque Municipale at Lyons. From this it appears that the original belonged to the Cistercian abbey of Chaalis. Professor Andrieu has further studied the text of the Apamea Pontifical in the first volume of his monumental edition of the medieval Roman Pontifical. Here he has given a most careful analysis of the contents and characteristics of Deslions’ transcript. From this examination he has concluded that the Pontifical of Apamea was not textually at any rate an eastern composition, but a copy of a particularly well developed specimen of the Roman Pontifical as it existed at the end of the twelfth century. One thing alone has been needful. The original from which Deslions’ copy was made has apparently been lost since the end of the seventeenth century.

However on 3 July 1946 there was sold in a London Sale-room a MS. which was described in the auctioneer’s catalogue as follows: — „Rituale Romanum. Manuscript on vellum, 208 leaves, in a large well-formed gothic hand in red and black, initial containing miniature of a Bishop on

\footnotesize{1 For further information see Andrieu 1936. 2 Andrieu 1936, 338. For a further description of Lyons Cod. 570 see Leroquais, I, 186–94. 3 Andrieu 1938. 4 See particularly Andrieu 1938, 34–43. 5 Andrieu 1938, 100–14.}
first leaf, numerous other initials in red and blue. At the end is the scribe’s note Normandus scripsit hoc opus, brown pigskin over wooden boards, fragments of the original covers preserved (255 mm × 190 mm). French, 15th century”. By a piece of good fortune the present writer saw it, and recognizing that the script was neither French nor fifteenth century, was able to secure it in the sale. Shortly after I mentioned the MS. to Dr. Buchthal who directed me to Professor Andrieu’s article in the Revue Benedictine. After comparing the description of Deslions’ copy with the new MS. it became quite clear that I had secured the long lost original of the Pontifical of Apamea.

The characteristics of Deslions’ archetype were quite clearly defined. First there was a profession of obedience to the archbishop of Apamea introduced into the order for the consecration of a bishop. Second was a longish form of a profession of obedience from a bishop-elect of Valania (Bâniyâs) in Syria to the archbishop of Apamea, dated 1214. Thirdly there was a scribe’s note Normandus scripsit hoc opus, followed by a presentation poem of ten lines. Besides these specific characteristics the Pontifical of Apamea preserved a number of textual readings quite special to itself. A collation of the newly found MS. revealed that all the characteristics and all the peculiar readings of Deslions’ original are to be found there.

The MS. is written on vellum throughout, except for a few modern paper flyleaves, and consists of 206 folios plus three flyleaves of vellum and one paper flyleaf. The flyleaves have been numbered i–iv, the remainder in Arabic numerals. The leaves measure 285 mm × 185 mm, and the writing space 175 mm × 106 mm. There are nineteen lines to a page, and the ruling is drawn in plummet. The gatherings are in all cases, save one, of eight leaves; the last, no. xxvi consisting of six leaves only. Each gathering is numbered with a Roman numeral, i–xxv, placed in the middle of the verso of the last leaf of each gathering. On the whole the decoration is simple and confined to a series of good pen-work initials in red and blue, with an occasional use of gold. On f. 1, at the beginning of the text is a fully coloured initial O with the head and shoulders of an archbishop, wearing the pallium, in it. The quality of the art is not particularly high, through the pen-work initials are by no means of inferior quality. In a

6 Andrieu 1936, 341. 7 Andrieu 1936, 341, 342. 8 Andrieu 1936, 343. 9 Printed under the symbol L in Andrieu 1938.