







The Nuns' Network

How letters from a medieval convent turn digital in an Anglo-German collaborative project

3. Project group meeting in the Old Library, St Edmund Hall, Oxford 4. Prototype of open access edition in the Wolfenbüttel

Digital Library

Shetland

Islands

Orkney

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- 2. Letter collection, Klosterarchiv Lüne, Hs. 15, fol. 1r
- 1. Medieval buildings at the Benedictine Protestant Kloster Lüne

Reval

Riga

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SO Marienwe

POLA

Thorn

Tartu

Dvina

Novgorod

Polotsk

Pskov

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- Islands mero a Malmo DENMARK Falsterbo Kalin Gdańsk Elbing Stralsung Montau O. übeck Rostock
- **ENGLAND** Gr. ningen Boston III Hamburg Kampen King's Lynn Yarmouth nabrück Ipswich | Utrecht O Nijmegen Q Phil **Bristol** Damme____Antwerp London Dortmun Bruges Cologne Ghent() Brussels O OAachen LiègeO Frankfurt am: Main O Rouen OParis Strasbourg

Anna greets her parents and lets them know that she is well. She thanks them for all that they have given her and prays that God will repay them. She hopes that when she is older and serves God in this vineyard that her prayers will have an effect and be worthy. She will maintain what she has promised and will be obedient to God, the prioress and the all the nuns. She has not confronted anything bad in her praise of God. The prioress loves her as she loves herself, she eats from the same bowel as her and drinks with her. The prioress provides her with the best bites to eat, including chicken legs and wings, and lets her choose what she wants to have. Anna would often say to the prioress that she wished that her parents knew how well she was. If she were a little bird and had two wings then she would fly to her parents and tell them how much she loved the prioress and how much she has given her. But the prioress would respond that she could not go without her and would ask the holy spirit that it fly to her parents in the form of a white dove and let them know in their hearts how well Anna is. Anna also thinks that if she had two wings and could fly then she could not take everything with her. Therefore the parents should be satisfied and come and visit as soon as they can so that she can talk with them and say in words what she cannot put in writing. They themselves should have 300,000 good night wishes and be commended to a healthy and long life by God. Dictated from the mouth of Anna Molen and written by a different hand.

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Stettin

Frankfurt

an der Oder

Kyntlike leue to-voren! Myn Alderleueste N vnde N, ik, juwe leue dochter, do juck lefliken wethen, dat ik uan godes gnaden sunt vnde wol to passen byn vnde mach hir gherne wesen in dessem Closter vnde ik dancke juw des van alle mynem herten, dat gy mynen willen dån hebbet vnde hebbet my dar-to holpen, dat ik hir-inne-komen byn vnde hebbet my dar-to gheuen allent, wes ik bederff hebbe; dar hebbet gy my dat wol inne bewiset, dat ik juwe leue kynt byn vnde dat kan ik nu noch van joget weghen nicht vor-denen jeghen juw, men [Scan 23 14r]

Wismar

Maddeburg

Berlin

Lüneburg

Brunswick

ik hope, wan ik nu groter werde, dat ik dem leuen gode hir in dessem wyngarden denen mach, so wil ik dat myd to alle des sude more fadelich iste dar fealle evalenchage I ste bet vi dan fitte locof fulpe vi monde mote vá hav. vit to awayte gite Wicht meer man puno lane doche in alle sure lend wegte un modden out vice shirter faine but in co. m, gute nacht this mede mofer gode bushe (it vit saled so latte syde Amo, Shefeline nã bej aben dasque na fiere Dires dasque HZPAHUZU LULLE BO VOZE TAT AL Surleway 507 474 1/2 jum were body to just white with dit to me godes frace for ou wal to payle upon ou made you four ne west stellen el the vie de dacte pin det va alle in . 4th Sat gy m. will? date 4. va 4. my due to your dand by the bonie by a va

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Significance

FRANCE

- ❖ Quantity: Largest collection from medieval Germany (1,800 letters!)
- Quality: New insight into high educational standards of women
- Creativity: Use of code switching between Latin and Low German
- * History: Women's voices on reform and reformation
- **Economy**: Contextualising archival material on how a convent functioned

Base

Sponsored by the Gerda Henkel Stiftung, VolkswagenStiftung & Klosterkammer Hannover, in cooperation with Kloster Lüne, hosted by the Herzog August Bibliothek Wolfenbüttel