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The late Fifteenth-Century Utrecht Chronicle of the Teutonic Order : manuscripts, sources, and authorship

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**The Late Fifteenth-Century Utrecht Chronicle of the Teutonic Order:
Manuscripts, Sources, and Authorship**

Proefschrift

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de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden,
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Rombert Jouke Stapel
geboren te Hardenberg
in 1983

Promotiecommissie

Promotor: prof.dr. J.A. Mol

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Overige leden: prof.dr. J. Sarnowsky (Universität Hamburg)

prof.dr. P.C.M. Hoppenbrouwers

dr. R. Stein

Dit proefschrift is tot stand gekomen met steun van de Fryske Akademy, het Professor Van Winter Fonds en de Ridderlijke Duitse Orde, Balije van Utrecht.

Table of contents

Table of contents	III
Maps of the Teutonic Order	VIII
Preface	X
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Narrative traditions in the military orders	5
Myths of origin	5
Other narrative traditions	13
1.3 The <i>Croniken van der Duytscher Oirden</i>	19
Editorial history	19
Scholarly interest.....	22
New material and new research questions.....	25
2 Manuscripts	27
2.1 Dissemination of the <i>Croniken</i>	27
General overview	27
Dissemination in the Low Countries.....	38
2.2 Manuscript We₁ (Vienna, Deutschordenszentralarchiv, Hs. 392)	53
Writing material	53
Collation	56
Quire structure	58
Quire and leaf signatures	59
Dimensions	60
Page layout.....	60
Script	60
Corrections	63
Hierarchy and textual structure	64
Rubrication	67
Illustration	67
History of the manuscript, ownership, and user marks	69
Binding and guard leaves	70
2.3 Localization and date	71
Key parameters	71
Phased genesis	75

2.4	An author's copy	85
	Editorial amendments	87
	Working direct from the source	90
	We ₁ and the various <i>Croniken</i> traditions	92
	Evidence from the manuscript production	96
2.5	Conclusion	98
3	Sources and Composition	99
3.1	Introduction	99
3.2	Concept and method of the author	103
	A shift from the land to its members: choosing a template for the order's history	103
	General notes on the author's methods of composition	111
3.3	The long prologue: bibles and crusading literature	117
	Inspiration: from guidebooks to the <i>Legends of the Hospital</i>	121
	Bibles and religious texts.....	126
	Crusading literature.....	138
	Dutch presence at Acre: <i>Chronicles of Holland</i>	143
3.4	The Teutonic Order's historiography and archival material	153
	Sources on Prussian history.....	154
	Sources on the Livonian history	163
	Archival material and non-written sources	175
	Privileges and indulgences	177
	Bailiwick chronicle.....	181
	Outside Utrecht's sphere of influence	186
3.5	Remembering Jerusalem: thematic and methodological continuity	198
	Legend of the coat of arms.....	198
	Seventh Crusade.....	206
	Acre, 1291	208
3.6	Availability of sources	215
	The Utrecht bailiwick's libraries	215
	Collecting sources.....	219
	Saint Elisabeth and the Marburg connection.....	224
	Sources from Prussia and Livonia.....	232
	Dynamics of exchange.....	239
3.7	Conclusion	248
4	Authorship	250
4.1	Introduction	250

4.2	Profile of the author	251
4.3	Possible candidates	256
	Bishop of Paderborn	256
	Hendrik Gerardsz. van Vianen	258
	Johan van Drongelen	265
	Career 265	
	Family and genealogy	271
	Historiography	283
4.4	Shared responsibilities	290
	Introduction	290
	Quantitative analysis	291
	Method 291	
	Experiment: privileges	294
	Analysis Croniken	295
4.5	Composition of the text	299
4.6	Conclusion	302
Conclusion		304
	Introduction	304
	The Utrecht bailiwick within the Teutonic Order	305
	Creating the <i>Croniken</i>	310
	Dissemination and reception	318
A	Appendices	323
A.1	The manuscripts	324
	Spelling preferences in manuscripts We₁ , Ge , Ut₁ and [Ma₁]	324
	Character combination “-ghe-” and “-ge-”	324
	Diphthongs “-ei-” and “-ey-” (or “-eij-”)	325
	Spelling of ‘brother’: “broeder” and “brueder”	326
	Diphthongs “-oe-”, “-oi-” and “-oo-”	327
	Diphthongs “-ae-”, “-ai-” and “-aa-”	328
	Spelling of ‘there’: “daer” and “dair”	330
	List of editorial amendments	331
A.2	Sources and composition	333
	List of narrative sources	333
	Explicit references to sources	338
	Book inventories, libraries and writing and binding activities Utrecht bailiwick	341
	Utrecht commandery	341
	Bunne commandery	343

Dieren commandery	344
Doesburg commandery.....	344
Katwijk commandery	344
Middelburg commandery	346
Rhenen commandery.....	346
Schelluinen commandery.....	347
Schoonhoven commandery	348
Tiel commandery.....	350
List of privileges and indulgences.....	351
List of cities and castles in Prussia and Livonia (ms. We ₁ , c.717–26)	356
A.3 Question of authorship	361
Use of first person	361
List of land charters by Hendrik van Vianen.....	362
List of persons invited or attending Drongelen’s entry ceremony.....	364
Genealogical tables	368
Stylometric analysis: comparison of different sample sizes.....	374
Varying size of ‘window’ of the Croniken.....	374
Varying training set sizes.....	375
A.4 Conclusion.....	377
Commanderies and churches in Utrecht and Alden Biesen bailiwicks.....	377
Dates of the extant manuscripts of the <i>Croniken</i>	378
A.5 Manuscript descriptions	379
<i>Croniken van der Duytscher Oirden</i> (extant manuscripts).....	379
As: Assen, Drents Archief, Familie Van Heiden Reinestein, inv.nr. 1623	379
Be: Berlin, Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Ms. Boruss., Fol. 242	380
Gd: Gdańsk, Biblioteka Gdańska Polskiej Akademii Nauk, rps 1262.....	382
Ge: Ghent, Stadsarchief, Ms SAG/2.....	384
Ma ₂ : Utrecht, Universiteitsbibliotheek, hs. 1253 vol. 13.....	386
Pr: Prague, Národní Museum, Cod. XVII C 8.....	387
St: Stockholm, Riksarkivet, Skoklostersamml., E8722.....	389
Ta: Tartu, Ülikooli Raamatukogu, Mscr. 154.....	391
Up: Uppsala, Carolina Rediviva, H. 152.....	392
Ut ₁ : Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitse Orde, balije van Utrecht, inv.nr. 181.....	393
Ut ₃ : Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitse Orde, balije van Utrecht, inv.nr. 181-bis.....	395
Ut ₄ : Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitse Orde, balije van Utrecht, inv.nr. 181-ter.....	396
Ut ₅ : Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitse Orde, balije van Utrecht, inv.nr. 181-quater.....	397
Vi ₁ : Vilnius, Lietuvos mokslų akademijos biblioteka, F15-5.....	398
Vi ₂ : Vilnius, Lietuvos mokslų akademijos biblioteka, F15-1.....	399
We ₁ : Vienna, Deutschordenszentralarchiv, Hs. 392	400

<i>Croniken van der Duytscher Oirden</i> (missing manuscripts)	402
[Al-Sc]: Collection Van Alkemade & Van der Schelling	402
[Fu ₁], [Fu ₂]: Collection Johann Funck	402
[Kö]: Königsberg, Königliche und Unversitäts-Bibliothek, Hs. 1569	402
[Ma ₁]: Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitsche Orde, balije van Utrecht.....	403
[Mx]: Library of Archduke Maximilian III of Austria.....	404
[Pü]: Pürksi, Collection Baron Rudolf von Ungern-Sternberg	405
[Ri]: Riga, Stadtbibliothek, Fol. 2316	405
[Ut ₂]: Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitsche Orde, balije van Utrecht.....	405
[Wa]: Utrecht, Archief van de Ridderlijke Duitsche Orde, balije van Utrecht; Library of Wachtendorff	406
[Ws ₁], [Ws ₂]: Collection Van Westreenen van Tielandt	407
Derivative texts of the <i>Croniken</i> and other manuscripts.....	408
Ha ₁ : Utrecht, Het Utrechts Archief, Archief van de familie Van Hardenbroek, inv.nr. 2393, ff. 150r–159v.....	408
Ha ₂ : Utrecht, Het Utrechts Archief, Archief van de familie Van Hardenbroek, inv.nr. 2396-1, ff. 64v–72r	408
Ha ₃ : Utrecht, Het Utrechts Archief, Archief van de familie Van Hardenbroek, inv.nr. 2400-2, ff. 10a–20.....	408
Ka: Cambrai, Médiathèque municipale, CGM : 868, ff. 31r-39v	408
We ₂ : Vienna, Deutschordenszentralarchiv, Hs. 103	409
Den Haag, Koninklijke Bibliotheek, 133 H 4	410
Quantifying palaeographical preferences in the <i>Sachsenspiegel</i> and land charters	412
B Edition.....	414
B.1 Edition principles.....	414
B.2 Diplomatic edition of ms. We ₁ (attached separately)	416
Bibliography	417
List of Tables	449
List of Figures	452
Curriculum Vitae	457
Propositions	458

Maps of the Teutonic Order

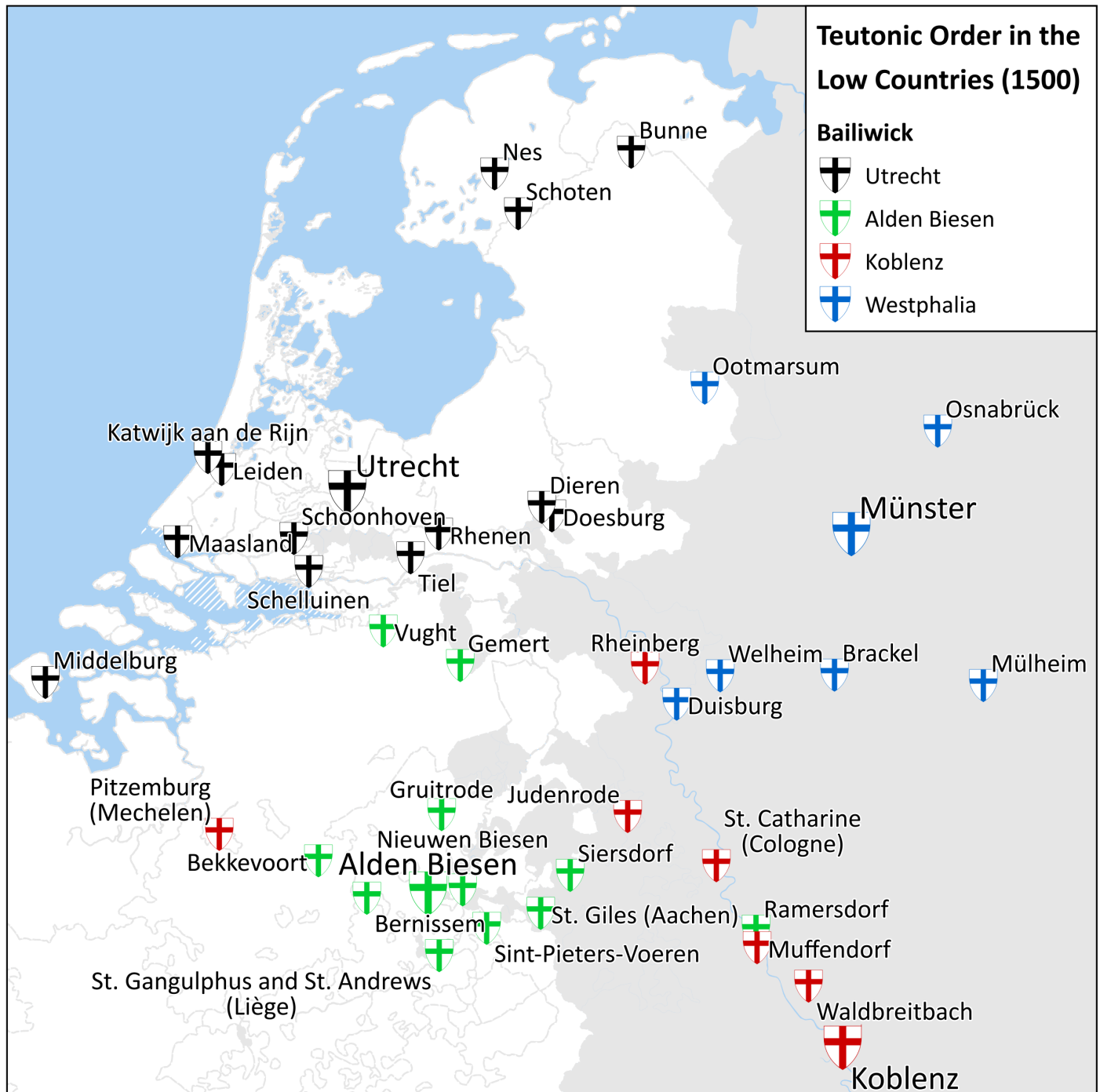


Figure 0.1 Map of the Low Countries and the commanderies of the Teutonic Order around 1500.



Figure 0.2 Map of Prussia and Livonia, after the Second Peace of Toruń (1466).

Preface

The work on this dissertation, which was generously funded by the *Ridderlijke Duitse Orde, Balije van Utrecht* and the *Professor Van Winterfonds*, started in 2008. On my first day of work at the Fryske Akademy, my colleague Han Nijdam intervened when I enthusiastically told him I started working on the edition of the chronicle. In Microsoft Word. He handed me a printed introduction to the *Text Encoding Initiative*, which altered the direction of my dissertation more than we both may have thought at the time.

Like this, many have contributed in some way or another to this dissertation – not all can be named. Still, I'd like to mention my colleagues of the Medieval History section at Leiden University, those at the Fryske Akademy, my fellow PhD students in Leiden, and my colleagues at the International Institute of Social History. It has been an enriching experience to work in such different environments.

I am especially indebted to my supervisor, Hans Mol, who, because of our fruitful discussions and his continual enthusiasm played a vital role in the conception of this dissertation. Antheun Janse, who once steered me in the direction of the Utrecht Chronicle of the Teutonic Order during my master's degree, became my initial co-supervisor. His premonition at one of our earliest project meetings, that there might be a greater role for Utrecht Land Commander Johan van Drongelen in the creation of the chronicle, proved to be prophetic. Unfortunately, his health prevented him from continuing as co-supervisor. His role was taken over by Sjoerd Levelt early in 2015. His ability to dissect my argumentation was confrontational in a phase where I – naively – thought I was approaching the finish. However, it was an essential process which improved the dissertation greatly.

Further thanks to Annesietske Stapel for her assistance in the bailiwick archive of the Teutonic Order in Utrecht and to Karina van Dalen-Oskam and Mike Kestemont for introducing me to the digital humanities community.

Finally, I wish to thank my friends and family. Particularly, my parents who fostered my inquiring nature early on and helped me develop an interest in history. Last but not least, Christel. Often it proved difficult to convey my enthusiasm for the nitty-gritty aspects of this dissertation to you, but you were always there to put things in perspective when needed. I am hugely grateful I made this journey with you by my side.

Leiden, January 2017