

A Brief Chronicle Radbod, Bishop of Utrecht

Trans. by W. L. North from the edition in J.-P. Migne, Patrologiae Latinae132, cols. 547A-548A.

In the year of the Lord's incarnation DCCCC (900) there appeared in the sky a wondrous sign. For the stars seemed to pour forth around the North Pole (cardo poli) as if from on high down to the depths of the horizon, and almost all seemed to fight amongst themselves. There followed upon this prodigy sad calamities of nature, namely the wildest weather, constant whirlwinds, and rivers overflowing their banks. It was a terrifying image, almost like that of the Flood. And what is even more foul than these things, there were dire storms of men who rebelled against God. In this same year (but before the Epacts changed), Fulk, metropolitan bishop of Reims, and King Zwentibold were killed. Not many days before, I, the sinner Radbod, merited to be inscribed among the servants of the holy church of Utrecht. O would that deserve to gain a share of eternal life with them as well!