

243. London, British Library, Cotton Vespasian D. vi

Book of Proverbs, Alcuin "De virtutibus et vitiis," Hymn, Psalm 50, "Disticha Catonis," Eddius "Vita S. Wilfridi," etc.

[Ker 207 (Part 1), Gneuss 389, 390]

HISTORY: Part 1 (ff. 1-77) dated to the mid-10c, Part 2 (ff. 78-125) to 11c. Associated with St. Augustine's, Canterbury (cf. pressmark and ex libris on f. 2r); note also the added hymn for St. Augustine on f. 77r. The glosses are Kentish in Part 1, but the origin of the manuscript and its later history remain unknown, although in view of the notes on f. 125r, Colgrave (1927: xiii) suggests that the manuscript "was removed from somewhere in Yorkshire to Canterbury."

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: [i] + 125 + [ii] leaves, foliated 1-125. F. 2 worn and darkened, suggesting that the codex was without a cover for some time. Prickings are visible in the outer margins visible until f. 52. Text written in dark brown ink on leaves ruled for 18 lines, with Old English glosses added in a number of hands. In the "Parabole Salomonis," initials letters and, commonly, whole words are tinted with red ink, especially in the bowls of letters. A late hand has entered chapter numbers in the margins (in Arabic numerals), ending with "31" on f. 36v. The text on f. 37v/9ff. is added in a different hand; yet another hand has added the text on f. 38r. The text on ff. 38v-66v/10 contains a number of scattered glosses and shows underlinings and notes by Joscelyn, whose hand can be seen elsewhere in the manuscript. As with the "Parabole Salomonis," initials are tinted with red ink. Titles and chapters numbers are written in red until [chap. 22] "De inuidia," after which no color is used and titles and numbers disappear beginning at f. 60v. Joscelyn has added chapter numbers and titles, ending with "de virtutib(us) quattuor. cap. 35." On f. 66v, he adds a concluding section: "Hoc tibi disticissime fili Guido breui sermone.... coronabitur gloria. Explicit." "Kentish Psalm-50" (ff. 70r/10-73v/16) is ruled for 17 lines on ff. 70r-72v, but for 21 on f. 73r and 23 on f. 73v. The change in line-

ation and the further truncation of rubricated psalm verses that punctuate the alliterative verse suggest that the scribe was adjusting the lineation to fit the space he allotted for the verse in his copy. The "Disticha Catonis" (ff. 73v/17-76v/12) is ruled for 22-23 lines. The four added hymns are in three different hands, the first two by the same scribe. The note "probatio penne" is added by still another hand. F. 77v is rubbed and darkened; apparently, the hymns were added after the leaf had reached this state, since the end of the main text is faded while the hymns are quite clear. Ff. 78ff. were not part of the original manuscript, as the darkened f. 77v, the change in initial letters from f. 78 onward, and the different vellum confirm. In addition, an older foliation can be seen beginning on f. 93r with "16" and ending on f. 125r with "48" (the numbers 1-15 have been trimmed away). The leaves of Part 1 of the manuscript are stiff and smooth, and the hair sides are noticeably a darker yellow, while the leaves of Part 2 (ff. 78ff.) are suede-like. The arrangement of leaves in Part 1 is hair on the outside; it is difficult to tell the arrangement in Part 2. The leaves throughout have been trimmed, with some loss of parts of tops of first lines in Part 2. Leaves are ruled for 25-28 lines and measure 185 x 137 mm. The writing grid in Part 1 measures 159 x 106 mm; in Part 2, 180 x 107 mm. One modern flyleaf at beginning of codex and two at the end, the first of which bears an examination date of 1884 and a second examination date, after re-binding, of December 1958. Modern repairs visible throughout (e.g., ff. 12, 13, 35, 58, 80, 90). Ff. 68 and 69 were misnumbered, but crossed through and corrected.

COLLATION: I⁸ (wants 1; table of contents tipped in before f. 2 and numbered f. 1) (ff. 2-8), II⁸ (ff. 9-16), III⁸⁺¹ (f. 22 added) (ff. 17-25), IV⁸ (wants 6 after f. 30) (ff. 26-32), V⁶ (ff. 33-38), VI⁶ (ff. 39-44), VII⁸ (ff. 45-52), VIII⁶ (ff. 53-58), IX⁸ (ff. 59-66), X⁶ (ff. 67-72), XI⁶ (ff. 73-77), XII⁴⁺¹ (f. 82 added) (ff. 78-82), XIII¹⁰⁺¹ (center bifolium wanting after f. 87, f. 83 tipped in) (ff. 83-91), XIV⁸ (ff. 92-99), XV⁸ (ff. 100-107), XVI⁸ (ff. 108-115), XVII⁸⁺² (ff. 124-125 comprise a bifolium) (ff. 116-125).

CONTENTS:

Part 1

f. 1r Cottonian list of contents.

- f. 1v Blank, except for British Museum stamp.
- ff. 2r-37r/8 "Liber Proverbiorum": 'Parabole salomonis filii Dauid... Et laudent eu(m) i(n) portis opera eius' (numerous OE glosses ed. Zupitza 1877: 1-44; corrections Zupitza 1878).
- f. 37v/9-end Lemmata and glosses to "Liber Sapientiae," randomly ordered: **Liber Sapientie** | 'Extermino i(d est) extra terminos mitto. Sicamina i(d est) siccomoros... Vno filio lib(er)ato i(d est) moise'.
- f. 38r **Parabola solomonis**. 'Nouit iustus animas iumentor(um) suorum... kana eni(m) zelus interp(re)tatur' [with Latin glosses].
- ff. 38v-66v Alcuin "De virtutibus et vitiis": 'Primu(m) omnium querendum est homini quid sit | uera scientia uerati; sapientia quia scriptu(m) e(st)' (scattered OE glosses ed. Zupitza 1877: 44; corrections Zupitza 1878) ["Alcwinus ad Guidonem" written in 17c hand on f. 38v vertically in left margin].
- ff. 67r-68v/10 'Abbas macharias habitabat in loco nimis | deserto... Senex uero intrauit in cellam | suam adorans et gratias agens d(e)o amen'.
- ff. 68v/11-69v/3 "Kentish Hymn": 'Wuton wuldrian weorada dryhten halgan hliodor|cwidu(m)' (ed. Dobbie 1942: 87-88).
- f. 69v/4-14 'Fram adame þam ærestan mænn 7 fra(m) fræmðe | middangeardes oð ðane flod' (ed. Napier 1889: 4; Förster 1925: 194-97).
- ff. 69v/15-70r/9 'Fra(m) fruman middangearde oð cistes hider|cyme' (ed. Napier 1889: 4; Förster 1925: 194-97) [treated by editors as continuation of above, but distinguished in manuscript by a large initial].
- ff. 70r/10-73v/16 "Psalm 50": 'Dauid wæs haten diormod hæleð israela | brega æðelæ 7 rice cyninga cynost criste | liofost' [with intercalated psalm-verses in red] (ed. Dobbie 1942: 88-94).
- ff. 73v/17-76v/12 "Disticha Catonis": 'Cum animaduertere(m) qua(m) plurimos' (Book 1 and first 26 1/2 distichs of Book 2, ending at 'non uideto').

Hymns to the Virgin Mary, all neumed, 11/12c:

- f. 76v/13-19 'Alleluia. | Aue paradisi uernans liliu(m) uincens | & magdaleneae nardi pisticum suaue super | balsamum'.
- f. 77r/1-5 'Felix namq(ue) es sacra uirgo MA|RIA & omni laude dignissima'.
- f. 77r/6-7 'Alle[luia] psallite caeli reginae omnes una uoce mente simul & ore | laudes sanctae MARIAE in excelsis proferte dicite [alle]luia'

['Alle' of 'Alleluia' begins prayer, and 'luia' ends prayer].

- f. 77r/9-12 A<ntiphona> 'Gemma sacerdotum rutilans lux alma pio-
r(um) Anglorum | doctor pariter protho nec ne sacerdos Augustine
tuis' ['probatio penne' written above and also to lower right].
- f. 77v/1-6 OE glosses to six lines, mostly names of relationships: 'pater
: fe[der]', 'mater : modo[r]', 'frater : broðo[r]', etc. (ed. Zupitza 1877:
44).
- f. 77v/7-17 Hymn: 'Uenite filii eue uenite ad filium Marie' [neumed].

Part 2

- ff. 78r-125r Eddius Stephanus's life of Bishop Wilfrid: **De humili excusatione scribentis**, and added in a later (Cottonian) hand **per Hed-
dium Stephanum Monachum Cantuar. An(n)o 720** 'Preceptor(um) uestror(um) magnitudine o uenerabilis | d(omi)ni' [Late
chapter numbers added in the margins. Two leaves missing after f.
87v, which ends abruptly in chap. 15 'pacifice initio consilio'; the text
begins again on f. 88r with chap. 18 'facie agnoscentis'. The 17c chap-
ter numbering does not note the loss, although a 17c note at the
bottom of f. 87v reads: 'Multa hic desiderantur'.] (ed. and trans. Col-
grave 1927).
- f. 125v Late scribbles, miscellaneous notes of 12c and 14c (ed. Colgrave
1927: xiii, n. 2).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Colgrave, Bertram, ed. and trans. *The Life of Bishop Wilfrid by Eddius
Stephanus*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1927, repr. 1985.
- Dobbie, Elliott Van Kirk, ed. *The Anglo-Saxon Minor Poems*. The An-
glo-Saxon Poetic Records, 6. New York: Columbia University Press;
London: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1942.
- Förster, M. "Die Weltzeitalter bei den Angelsachsen." In Fr. Wild, ed.
*Neusprachliche Studien: Festgabe Karl Luick zu seinem sechzigsten Ge-
burtstage dargebracht von Freunden und Schülern*, 183-202. Marburg a.
d. Lahn: N. G. Elwert, 1925.
- Napier, A. S. "Altenglische Kleinigkeiten." *Anglia* 11 (1889): 1-10.
- Keefer, Sarah Larratt. *Psalm-Poem and Psalter-Glosses: The Latin and Old
English Psalter-Text Background to "Kentish Psalm 50."* American
University Studies. Series VII: Theology and Religion, vol. 95. New
York: Peter Lang, 1991.

- Zupitza, Julius. "Kentische Glossen des neunten Jahrhunderts." *Zeitschrift für deutsches Alterthum und deutsche Literatur* 21 (1877): 1-59.
- Zupitza, J. "Zu den kentischen Glossen Zs. 21, 1ff." *Zeitschrift für deutsches Alterthum und deutsche Literatur* 21 (1878): 223-26.