

### 381. Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Hatton 48 (4118)

#### “Regula S. Benedicti”

[Ker 327, Gneuss 631, 653]

**HISTORY:** Hatton 48 contains the oldest surviving copy of the “Regula S. Benedicti” (7/8c). Part of the last chapter is missing and a section of f. 48 has been cut out, but otherwise the text, all in Latin, is complete. Two scribbles, described below under “Early additions” are the only OE in the manuscript. The book is beautifully written in a formal uncial script, with well-executed decorated initials. It was clearly a lavish production in its time and must have been associated with a center where the Rule had special significance. The script and decoration are unmistakably English, but they cannot be assigned with certainty to any particular center. Recent speculations include Bath (Sims-Williams 1990: 204–5). The binding leaf (f. 77), a fragment of the “Enchiridion” of St. Augustine, was written in Worcester in the middle or early in the second half of the 11c (see Ker 1941 and Farmer 1968: 21); the manuscript must have been in Worcester by then. It was still in Worcester in 1622–1623 when Patrick Young catalogued the Worcester Cathedral Library (see Atkins and Ker 1944: no. 216 and p. 8). Sometime before August 1644 Christopher, Lord Hatton, borrowed it along with several other Worcester manuscripts, none of which was ever returned. After his death in 1670 Hatton 48 and most of the rest were sold to the London bookseller Robert Scot from whom the Bodleian Library obtained them in 1671. Formerly known as Hatton 93.

**CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:** Ff. i + 76 + i, foliated i, 1–77. Leaves measure ca. 300 x 205–210 mm. Written space ca. 210 x 155 mm.; each column about 65–70 mm. HFHF. One leaf, containing the end of the last chapter, is missing after f. 76. A large piece has been cut out of f. 48 with some loss of text. The top margin of f. 49 has also been removed but without any loss. Of the binding, Pollard (1975) says he knows no other one like it and describes it, accompanied with a diagram: “306 x 212 mm. Oak boards covered with whittawed sheepskin

rebacked with brown goatskin after 1900. Sewn on 6 bands of double cord without kettle stitches" (140); "we may reasonably describe this binding as sewn on original eighth-century cords drawn into new boards at Worcester towards the end of the 11th century" (142). A fragment of the earlier back (that is, the spine), with some shelfmarks visible, is pasted onto the inside front cover.

F. i is a paper flyleaf, and f. 77 is a parchment binding leaf of the 11c, bound upside down and back to front. Prickings are on the inner and outer bounding lines and at the top and bottom of verticals, above and below the written space. Ruling was done with a hard point, two or three at a time, usually after the gathering was formed. Ruled for double columns of 22 lines with single bounding lines. Chapter headings and numbers, the 12 Roman numerals in the margins on ff. 18v–23v, and the Maltese cross over the initial 'A' at the beginning of the preface on f. 1r are in red vermilion. The red headings are sometimes nearly invisible. The first two lines on f. 1ra following the 'A' are written in large letters outlined in black and filled with red. The large initials at the beginning of each chapter are outlined in black, filled with red, and almost always surrounded with red dots. Sometimes horizontal and/or vertical lines of red dots are also found around or inside the initials, e.g., on ff. 41r–42r; sometimes triangles of red dots decorate the initials, e.g., on f. 46r. Red dots sometimes surround the letter after an initial, e.g., on f. 6v. Smaller initials, e.g., on ff. 4r–6v and 18v–23v, are outlined with red dots. On f. 57b the last initial 'D' is also touched with green.

The text, headings, and many contemporary corrections appear to be the work of a single person. Lowe (1960: 20) describes him as a "master scribe." The corrections show that he had access to a second version of the Rule. The uncial script is described in detail by Farmer (1968: 13–14). One heading, f. 40vb, is in Insular minuscule, possibly because too little room was left to use the normal uncials.

Early additions: The only OE in the manuscript is two scribbles (9c or 10c) on f. 18v 'cni<sup>h</sup>' and f. 42v 'cniht ic drink', both written just above the first column. The name 'ægel|mær' appears on f. 44v between the two columns, very faint, and in the same hand on the same folio in the outer margin is 'menes' (ca. 1000). Around the same time neumes were added on ff. 20v, 23v, 29v, 44v, and 62r, apparently unrelated to the text. On f. 59v an 11c hand wrote 'ie(sus) (christu)s' in the bottom margin. A few other minor additions are noted by Farmer (20). Ff. 1r–16r received attention in the 13c from a scribe with "rough shod meth-

ods" (Lowe 1929: 11) who added word division and made minor alterations to the text.

Later additions: The inscription in the top margin of f. 1r 'Regula S(anc)ti Benedicti' is in the same hand as inscriptions in other Hatton manuscripts. Just below is 'MS. Hatton 93'. A 16c hand wrote 'Thomas bryne' above the second column on f. 9r. A 17c hand wrote across the top of f. 77 (the binding leaf) 'A peice of ven Antiquity'. In the 19c Bulkeley Bardinell added a note on f. i recto on the use of Hatton 48 by Mabillon (d. 1707).

**COLLATION:** I<sup>8</sup> 3 and 7 halvesheets (ff. 1–8), II<sup>8</sup> 3 and 6 halvesheets (ff. 9–16), III–VI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 17–48), VII<sup>8</sup> 2 and 7 halvesheets (ff. 49–56), VIII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 57–64), IX<sup>8</sup> 3 and 6 halvesheets (ff. 65–72), X<sup>6</sup> wants 5 and 6 (ff. 73–76). Quires are marked on the verso of the last leaf with a 'q' at the bottom of the first column and number from 'i' to 'iiii' at the bottom of the second; letter and number reversed for the first quire. Quire VIII only has a capital 'Q' (f. 64v). Letter and number have three parallel graded lines above and below.

#### CONTENTS:

- f. i recto-verso Blank apart from Bardinell's note (see above) and modern inscriptions on the recto.
- ff. 1r/1a-4r/16a Prologue: PRAEFATIO [REG]ULAE | 'AUSCUL|TA  
O FILI. | PRAECEPTA MAGI|STRI... ERIMUS | HEREDES  
REG|NI CAELORUM.' (coll. de Vogüé and Neufville: 1971–1977: 1:  
412–22/39) [heading is red and nearly invisible].
- ff. 4r/17a-6v/13a Table of contents: CAPITULA REGU|LAE INCIP(I-  
U)NT | 'I DE GENERIB(US) `UE`L UITA | MONACHO|  
'R`UM' (coll. de Vogüé and Neufville: 1: 426–34) ['IB(US)', 'UE',  
and 'R' in a different hand].
- ff. 6v/14a-76v/22b "Regula S. Benedicti": I DE GENERIBUS | MO-  
NACHO|RUM | 'MONA|CHORU(M) | QUATTU|OR ESSE  
GENERA | MANIFESTUM | EST.' Ends imperfectly: 'QUA|RUM  
OBSERUA' (coll. de Vogüé and Neufville: 1: 436–2: 672/2).
- f. 77rv Binding leaf from St. Augustine, "Enchiridion": 'demostravi eam  
fidem ... (et) quod cuiq(ue) necessariu(m)' (PL 40: 263–66 [chaps. 67–  
72], with some text missing from chaps. 68–69).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Atkins, Ivor, and Neil R. Ker, eds. *Catalogus Librorum Manuscriptorum Bibliothecae made in 1622-1623 by Patrick Young Librarian to King James I*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1944.
- Farmer, D. H., ed. *The Rule of St. Benedict*. Early English Manuscripts in Facsimile, 15. Copenhagen: Rosenkilde and Bagger, 1968.
- Ker, Neil R. "The Provenance of the Oldest Manuscript of the Rule of St. Benedict." *The Bodleian Library Record* 2 (1941): 28-29.
- Lowe, E. A. *Regula S. Benedicti*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1929.
- Lowe, E. A. *English Uncial*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1960.
- Lowe, E. A. *Codices Latini Antiquiores*. Vol. 2. 2nd ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1972.
- Pollard, Graham. "Some Anglo-Saxon Bookbindings." *The Book Collector* 24 (1975): 130-59.
- Sims-Williams, Patrick. *Religion and Literature in Western England 600-800*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- de Vogüé, Adalbert, and Jean Neufville, eds. *La Règle de Saint Benoît*. 7 vols. Sources chrétiennes, 181-86. Paris: Éditions du Cerf, 1971-1977.
- [MS O]