305. London, British Library, Sloane 1044, f.2 Fragmentary Gospel Leaf (with BL Cotton Tiberius B. v, f. 76 and C.U.L. Kk.1.24) [Ker 22, Gneuss 21, Lowe 2.*138]

HISTORY: Top part of a leaf from the final text leaf of an 8c English Gospel Book containing bits of John 21. The lower half of the leaf is British Library, Cotton Tiberius B. v, f. 76 [229], which contains the adjoining text of John and an OE document from Hatfield, Herts. on bottom of verso; the leaf was taken from the end of the Gospel Book Cambridge University Library, Kk.1.24 [102], perhaps by Thomas James. Sloane 1044 was a collection of manuscript and print fragments collected by the London bookdealer John Bagford (c.1650–1716) and acquired from him by Sir Hans Sloane about 1707; Bagford's original volume was rearranged in Sloane's collection; it was acquired by the British Museum with the Sloane collection after Sloane's death in 1753 and was further split into manuscript and print items in 1891 (Nickerson 1983: 53–54; Gatch 1985: 97, 110). See the descriptions of [229] and [102].

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: A single strip, 212 mm wide x 65 mm high, written line 175 mm, hair recto. Old item number '285' cancelled at top of recto. There are four lines of writing (recto and verso) in Sloane, in Tiberius there are 13 lines on recto (+ 1 of original text on verso). Kk.1. 24 has generally 21 lines of writing, leaf size 306 x 223 mm, writing area 250 x 175 mm. Between Sloane (top) and Tiberius (bottom) four lines of writing are missing on both sides; missing text (John 21.17-18) between the recto side of the two fragments is (Sloane f. 2r/4): 'quia dixit ei tertio amas me' ["et dicit ei domine tu omnia nosti tu scis quia amo te. dicit ei pasce oues meas amen amen dico tibi cum esses iunior cingebas te et ambulabas ubi volebas cum autem se ..." (Tiberius f. 76r/1) '... nueris extendes manus'. The text runs as it should from the bottom of Tiberius 76r to the top of Sloane verso: 'sermo iste in fratres || quia discipulus' (John 21.23); missing text on the verso side of Sloan/Tiberius is (Sloane line 4v: 'testimonium perhibet de his' ["et scripsit haec et scimus quia uerum est testimonium eius sunt autem et alia multa quae fecit iesus quae si scribantur per singula nec ipsum arbitror mundum capere

posse eos qui"] (Tiberius f. 76v/1, partly cut off along the top) `scribendi sunt libros`). The Sloane reading (recto 3–4) 'contristatus | simon petrus' agrees with that of the Book of Armagh, as does the omission of "amen" at the end of the text on Tiberius 76v.

CONTENTS:

- Recto (hair): John 21.16–17 'ait illi etiam d(omi)ne tu scis quia amo te...simon petrus quia dixit ei tertio amas me'.
- Verso (flesh): John 21.23–24 'quia discipulus ille non moritur et non . . . Hic est disci pulus qui testimonium perhibet de his'.

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A.N.D.