

320. London, Wellcome Historical Medical Library, MS 46

Medical Recipes

[Ker 98 (cf. p. lxiv & Supp.), Gneuss 523]

HISTORY: A single leaf, OE writing dated s. x/xi by Ker. As Ker says, probably originally a blank endleaf on which various texts have been entered. An endorsement on the verso (by William Henry Allnutt of the Bodleian Library, 1889, according to Moorat 1962) says it was used as a wrapper to P. Mosellanus, *Tabulae de schematibus et tropis*, Antwerp, 1558, a book in the library of Thomas Charles Agar-Robartes, 6th Viscount Clifden [1844–1930], Bodmin, Landhydrock; the Mosellanus volume is not in the Wellcome Library. Allnutt called Napier's attention to the OE texts (Napier 1890: 324). This leaf was separately kept by the Robarteses in a volume of binding fragments. Purchased by the Wellcome Trust at Sotheby's 11 December 1956. It is now preserved in a sealed glass frame. Below the endorsement on the verso is a pencil reference to B.L. Harley 585, f. 189 [265] (remedies for wens and heartache, Grattan and Singer 1952: nos. 183–84).

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: Because the leaf has been permanently framed, matted recto and verso, and covered by glass, front and back, it is not possible to measure the dimensions exactly or examine the parchment properly. The photographs actually give a better impression of the full sheet, since the leaf has now been pressed perfectly smooth and its edges are covered by the matting. The Moorat catalogue gives 19 x 14 cm., but the height must be 4 or 5 mm. more than this. Judging by the color and look of the parchment, the side with the recipes (recto) is the flesh. Text area is about 162 x 120/125 mm. Ink blackish-brown, and about the same color in all OE texts. No evidence of pricking or scoring. The leaf at present shows no signs of its having once been a wrapper—no evidence of glue, undue discoloration, or folding; in the photograph there seems to be the impression of a spine running across the page at lines 11–14. Three contemporary 11c A-S hands in the OE texts: recipes numbers 2, 4, and 5 are in one hand and 1 and 3 in another. Presumably 1 was written first, then 3, and 2, 4, 5 added in remaining blank

spaces. There is a contemporary addition above the line, 'næp', on line 12. A 15c scribble at bottom of recto. To the right of line 2, recto, '115' in red is crossed out, presumably a number referring to the Clifden collection of fragments; above this is a faint '2' in pencil. What appears to be an earlier number, '44,' is crossed out on in the left margin, line 10, recto. The pentrials (11/12c) on the verso indicate this was once the last leaf of its volume.

CONTENTS: (items 1–5 ed. Napier 1890: 325–27)

1. Recto 1–5 Recipe: 'Wið heort æce genim brade bisceopwyrte'.
2. Recto 6–8 Recipe: 'Wiþ lungen adle hennebelle moran . 7 hare hunan'.
3. Recto 9–15 Recipe: 'Hat wyrcean þe sylf wenn sealfe man sceal niman | clæne hunig'.
4. Recto 16–22: '+ wiþ wennas sealf. h`w`er hwettan moran 7 ane handfulle sperewyrte'.
5. Recto 23–24: 'Wiþ lifer atole nī(m) liferwyrte 7 bere hi man hā(m) onder cneowe . 7 wylle on anes hiwes | cumeolce mengge buteran to'.
6. Verso 1–2, verses attributed sometimes to St. Jerome, in an 11c hand: 'Psallere qui docuit dulci modulamine s(an)c(t)is | Nouerat iste decem legis qui uerba dediss&' (Walther 1959: no. 14885).
7. Verso 3–6, the same verses, with repetitions, in a 12c hand.
Early 16c pen trials.

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- Walther, Hans. *Initia carminum ac versuum Medii Aevi posterioris Latinorum: Alphabetisches Verzeichniss der Versanfänge mittellateinischer Dichtungen*. Carmina Medii Aevi posterioris Latina, 1. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht, 1959.