

20. Brussels, Bibliothèque Royale 8558–63 (2498)

1. Chrodegang of Metz, “Rule,” Augustine, “Soliloquies”;
2. Pseudo-Theodore, “Penitential”;
3. OE and Latin Penitential texts (“Wulfstan’s Commonplace Book”)
[Ker 10, Gneuss 808]

HISTORY: An English manuscript consisting of three originally distinct parts (ff. 1–79, 80–131, 132–153), containing a collection of ecclesiastical rules, admonitions, and penitentials in Latin and OE. Part 1, in square A-S minuscule, is 10c. Part 2, partly in square A-S minuscule, partly in anglo-caroline minuscule, is also 10c. Part 3 is in several hands of the early 11c, with additions of the early 12c. Parts 2 and 3 are related by content to the large nexus of manuscripts containing penitential and legal material known as the “Commonplace Book of Wulfstan” (see Sauer 1980, also Bethurum 1942). Ker, *Cat.*, pp. 9–10, holds that the parts were probably bound together at an early date because the OE on both ff. 80 and 140 displays south-eastern characteristics. The manuscript was probably still in England in the 13c when Part 1 was annotated by an English hand. It is not known when it was shipped to the continent, but in the 17c it belonged to the Bollandists (MS 31), whose library was transferred to the Bibliothèque de Bourgogne in 1773. It arrived in the Royal Library in 1837. In 1832 the Record Commission had tracings made of ff. 132–153, which are now British Library, Add. 9384.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: Three originally distinct manuscripts, combined into one, now [i] + 154 + [i], foliated 1–103, 103bis, 104–153. Membrane, measuring 210 × 150 mm., except for f. 11 which was trimmed at the bottom to 188 × 150 mm. Ruling is in drypoint, with prickings occasionally visible in the margins. The hard and thick parchment makes the imprint of the ruling sometimes difficult to see.

The manuscript is bound in leather, with the title ‘LOIS ANGLO-SAXONNES’ stamped in gold on the spine. One paper flyleaf was pasted on to

the first folio. The top margin of f. 1 carries the Bollandist signature: '† ms. 31'. At the back there is a now detached flyleaf with 19c notes on the contents of the manuscript.

Part 1 (ff. 1–79, quires I–X) 10c: Arranged HFHF, though hair and flesh sides are difficult to distinguish in the first two quires. Page size 210 × 150 mm.; written space 160 × 105 mm. This section of the manuscript is ruled for 24 lines, which do not continue into the margins. Double vertical bounding lines continue into the top and bottom margins. There are 24 lines of text, written on the top-line; written in English square minuscules (Dumville 1987: 175, "Phase II"), with occasional insular characteristics. Chapters begin with black initials; chapter headings are in red and there is rubrication. There are six OE glosses in this part, which seem to be in a different hand from main text and Latin glosses. Quires III–X are numbered 'iiii.–.xi.' in a contemporaneous hand in the bottom margin of the first page of each quire, which indicates that one quire was missing at the beginning of Part 1 at the time.

Part 2 (ff. 80–131, quires XI–XVI) 10c: Arranged HHHH; written space 157 × 108 mm. Ruled in drypoint for 20 lines, with double vertical bounding lines continuing into the top and bottom margins. There are 20 lines of text, written on the top-line in insular minuscule, which at f. 113r switches to anglo-caroline minuscule. Some initials are colored dark orange.

Part 3 (ff. 132–153, quires XVII–XIX) 11c: Quire XVII is arranged HHHH, XVIII and XIX are HFHF. Ff. 132–139 have a written space of 170 × 121 mm., ruled in drypoint for 23 lines of which the first and the last two continue into the margins. Double vertical bounding lines continue into the top and bottom margins; the gutter is left blank on the left side of the page and used on the right side. There are 23 lines of text, written on the top-line, except for f. 132r which contains 22 lines of text below the top-line. Ff. 140–153 have a written space of 171 × 116 mm., ruled as before, but with 25 long lines of which the first and the last continue into the margins. There are 25 lines of text, written on the top-line. Ker distinguishes three hands: hand 1 on ff. 132–139 and hand 2 on ff. 140v–153 from the first half of the 11c, and hand 3 (f. 140r) from the earlier part of the 12c. On f. 139 the text breaks off abruptly, and Ker (*Cat.*, 8) supposes that at least a quire is missing there. Higher-ranking initials are red, and on ff. 132–139 the first letters of sentences are red as well.

COLLATION: **Part 1:** One quire missing before I; I–VIII⁸ (ff. 1–64); IX⁸ wants one after 5, stub visible between ff. 69 and 70 (ff. 65–71); **Part 2:** X⁸ +

2 half-sheets after 4, stubs showing after ff. 84 and 85 (ff. 80–89); XI–XIV⁸ (ff. 90–103, 103^{bis}, 104–112); XV¹⁰ (ff. 113–122); XVI⁸ + 1 half-sheet after 4, stub showing before f. 127 (ff. 123–131). Part 3: XVII⁸ 3 and 6 half-sheets, stubs showing before ff. 134, 137 (ff. 132–139); XVIII⁸ (ff. 140–147); XIX⁸ 7 and 8 cancelled (ff. 148–153).

[Note: At least one quire is missing after f. 139 (see Ker, *Cat.*, 8, C.(g)).]

CONTENTS:

Part 1:

1. ff. 1r–38v/3 Chrodegang of Metz, enlarged “Rule” (Latin only) (begins imperfectly near the end of chapter 9; chapter titles in black; this is Langefeld’s text B): ‘[. . . officii]is diligent(er) erudiant(us) [recte -ur]. Vt scilicet & pistoria arte’; ends: ‘(ue)l que(m) episcopus expulisset | agnouit;’ | EXPLICIT LIBER CANONICĒ REGVLĒ (ed. Langefeld 2003: 192–338 versos; Napier 1916: 18–101).

[Note: Five contemporary OE glosses are noted by Meritt in the outer margins of ff. 16r, 21r, 28r (ed. Meritt 1945: no. 14); another marginal OE gloss on f. 4r ‘gemi`e`lte’, was noted by Schlutter (1903: 509) and Langefeld (2003: 201).]

2. ff. 38v/6–77v/14 Augustine, “Soliloquies”: SOLILOQUIORVM LIBER PRIMVS IN|CIPIT. BEATI AGVSTINI | ‘VOLVENTI MIHI MVLTA ACVARIA | mecu(m) diu’; (f. 56v/21) INCIPIT LIBER SECVNDVS | SOLILOQUIORVM || ‘SATIS INTERMISSV(M) EST | opus n(ost)r(u)m’; ends: ‘A(men). Fiat ut speramus.’ (ed. Hörmann 1986: 1–98).

[Note: Marginalia added later are e.g. on ff. 61r, 64r. From f. 39v, there are signs in the margins that serve to mark cross-references.]

3. ff. 77v/15–79v/14 Caesarius of Arles, Sermon 179 (sections 1–7, abridged): S(AN)C(TU)S AGVSTIN(VS) DE IGNE PVRGATORIO. | ‘Audiuimus f(rat)r(e)s ap(osto)l(u)m dicentem . . . Euge serue bone et fidelis intra in gaudiu(m) d(omi)ni tui. | Cui e(st) honor et gl(ori)a in s(e)c(u)la s(e)c(u)l(or)u(m). amen’ [rest of f. 79v blank] (ed. Morin 1953: 724–28; ed. as no. 104a in *Sermones suppositiitiis, de Scripturis* wrongly attributed to Augustine, PL 39.1946–1949).

[Note: Morin (pp. 723–24) says “Inter omnes Caesarii homilias nulla fere ita frequens in codd. mss. occurrit, nulla fortasse tanta auctoritate apud medii aevi theologos fuit, sive quod ad dogmata purgatorii, sive quod ad distinctionem peccatorum in minuta et capitalia pertinet. Qua puto de causa textus huius sermonis de cursu temporis mire immutatus ac depravatus est.” On f. 79v, at the end of the last quire of Part 1, faded letters have been traced in black ink.]

Part 2:

1. ff. 80r–131v Pseudo-Theodore, “Penitential” with contemporary inter-linear OE gloss to the first six lines: (lines 1–13) [. . .] **capitalia crimina** | ‘Nunc igitur capitalia crimina expli|cabo. prima superbia sicut scriptum est (gl.: ‘nu æfter þes senne deplice her beginneþ | þ(æt) is. erest ofe`r`modnesse swa hit gewriten is’) . . . ista sunt ergo | capitalia crimina’; (line 13) text begins: **incipiunt iuditia pae|nitentium de superbia**. | ‘D(EU)S dicit in euang(e)|i)o qui se exaltat. hu|miliabitur’; ends imperfectly near end of ch. 46: ‘Beatus uero gregorius de cura p(er) mortuis geren|da ita;’ (ed. Thorpe 1840: 2. 7–55; OE gloss ed. Schlutter 1909: 513; cf. Frantzen 1983a: 132–33 and 1983b; Schmitz 1883: 513; Charles-Edwards 1995: 141–43).

[Note: F. 80r, rubric is faded. There is a short section not in Thorpe on f. 127r/8–15: **de pluribus malis**. Pencil notes in a 19c hand give different chapter numbers, titles (e.g. f. 113v, ‘De Communionem hereticorum’, f. 118v, ‘De his qui aecclesiastica jejunia | absque necessitate dissolunt, etc.’) and occasionally references to an edition, e.g. f. 86v/12: ‘283; f. 89r/3: ‘p. 284 Edit.’ See the references written on the back flyleaf. Dumville (1993: 51–52) supposes this section is a product of Worcester in the time of Cenwald, Dunstan’s predecessor at Glastonbury. The only other copy of this text is in CCC 190 [38], Part A (Ker, *Cat.*, pp. 70–73).]

Part 3:

1. ff. 132–139 A collection of penitentials (the texts occur in the same order in Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 265 [45], pp. 72–83, less the titles, and CCC 201 [42], pp. 114–26):
- a. ff. 132r–132v/3 **INCIPIIT ORDO CONFSSIONIS S(AN)C(T)I HIRONIMI** | **qualit(er) confiteri debeat chr(is)tian(us) peccata sua**. | ‘Quando aliquis uoluerit confessione(m) facere . . . ut om(ne)s iniqui(ui)tates eius ceteri indulgentia | deleantur. p(er)’ (ed. Mone 1830: 529, Thorpe 1840: 2.260–61);
- b. ff. 132v/4–133r/16 ‘Ðæt sceal geþencean se þe byð monna saula | læce . . . Ælce dæde toscade man wærlice for god 7 for | worolde’ (ed. Mone 1830: 530; also Thorpe 1840: 2.260–61, OE secs. 1–4 of “De confessione”);
- c. ff. 133r/17–137v/8 ‘Ðas þeawas man healdeþ begeondan sæ . . . Swa swa him man tæce’ (ed. Mone 1830: 830: 532–42; cf. Raith 1933: 76–80);
- d. f. 137v/8–21 **BE SCRIFTUM** | ‘ON wisu(m) scrifte swiðe byð forðgelang forsyngodes | mannes nyd help . . . 7 sumu(m) ealle lifdagas’ (ed. Mone 1830: 542; Thorpe 1840: 2.278, secs. 1–3 of “Be dædbetan”);

- e. ff. 137v/22–138v/4 **Be synna lacnunge**. ‘Se læce þe sceal sare wunda | wel gehælan . . . 7 his sylfes geornful|nesse’ (ed. Mone 1830: 542–43; Thorpe 1840: 278–89, secs. 4–9 of “Be dædbétan”);
- f. f. 138v/4–20 **Be læwedra manna dædbota** | ‘Deoplic dædbot byð `þ`æt læwede man his wæpna | lecge . . . aginne he hit georne’ (ed. Mone 1830: 543–44; Thorpe 1840: 2.280, secs. 10–12 of “Be dædbétan”);
- g. ff. 138v/20–139v/22 **Be dædbotum**. | ‘Dædbota syn gedihte. on mistlice wisan’; ends imperfectly [at least a quire missing]: ‘ænigne brohte. gebringe hine [. . .]’ (ed. Mone 1830: 544–46; Thorpe 1840: 2.282–84, secs. 13–16 of “Be dædbétan”).
2. f. 140r/1–24 (addition written on an originally blank page in a different and later hand from those immediately before and after): ‘GYF mæsseprest his agen líf rihtlice fadie ðonne is | riht þ(æt) his wurðscipe wexe . . . þ(æt) he næfre on | wimmannes bedde forð ne gewite’ (ed. Mone 1830: 547–48).
3. ff. 140v–153r Pseudo-Egbert, “Penitential,” Bk. 4:
[Note: These texts occur in the same order in Oxford, Bodleian Library, Laud Misc. 482 [398], ff. 14r–27v; cf. Ker, *Cat.* p. 9, art. 2[f] and p. 420, art. 5 for the arrangement and sources of these sections; cf. also Frantzen 1983b: 40–41.]
- a. ff. 140v–145r/19 **HIT IS ðEAH TO WITANNE HWI ðEOS FEOR|ÐE BOC SY UNCAPITULOD**. þ(æt) is forþon ðeos feorðe | boc is genumen of þam þrym bocu(m).’ . . . (f. 140v/6) **ALIA**. | ‘Gyf hwylc bisceop man ofslea’; ends: ‘gif he wile mid | soðre godes lufan him sylfum þingian’ (ed. Mone 1830: 501–12, secs. 1–70; cf. Raith 1933: 46; Spindler 1934: 183–84 [19a], 190–92 [26d, e–f, h–k, 27a–b, 29a–b, 30a–b]; Ker, *Cat.*, p. 9, item C.2.[a]);
- b. ff. 145r/19–146r/10 **ALIA**. | ‘And on halgum gewritum is geræd . . . nu to dæg þu bist mid | me `on` mines fæder rice’ (ed. Mone 1830: 512–14, secs. 71–83; cf. Spindler 1934: 174 [z]);
- c. f. 146r/10–15 **ALIA** | ‘And þ(æt) nis na to forlætenne . . . 7 | mid teara agotennesse’ (ed. Mone 1830: 514, sec. 84; cf. Spindler 1934: 174 [x]);
- d. f. 146r/15–146v/19 **ALIA**. | ‘S(AN)C(TU)S GREGORIUS SE HALGA PAPA GEGADERODE SINOð | on rome . . . forgifnesse geearnian mid soðum | geleafan untweogendum’ (ed. Mone 1830: 514–15, sec. 85; cf. Raith 1933: 71 [Anhang I]);
- e. ff. 146v/19–153v/2 Articles arranged in short sections: **ALIA**. | ‘Ne sceal se bisceop him sylf næ(.)nie abb(od)geceosan . . . Swa hwylc man swa ðas scriftboc tilige to abrecanne | ecre fordemednysse he sy fordemed. AMEN’ (ed. Mone 1830: 515–27, secs. 86–219);

- f. f. 153v/2–8 Ember days: De | **q(ua)|tuor tempor(ibus)** ‘Dis synt þa riht ymbrendagas . . . on þa nyhstan | wucan CRISTES MÆSSAN’ (ed. Mone 1830: 528, sec. 220; Henel 1934: 61).
4. f. 153v/9–13 In the blank space is an added extract (partly erased): **Clemens papa in ecclesiastica regula** | ‘Post hec ingrediunt(ur) ad missas’.

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