

## 156. Leiden, Universiteitsbibliotheek Vossianus Lat. F. 24

“Abavus maior” and other glossaries

[Ker, App. 17; Gneuss —]

**HISTORY:** The manuscript dates from the late 9c or early 10c and according to Bischoff, on the basis of the dotted ‘Z’ on f. 103v/8d, originates from western France or Brittany (Bischoff 1974: 233, n. 1), a conclusion indicated also by about a dozen 11c marginal glosses in Old Breton (Fleuriot 1964: 5), but there are no other clues as to its exact provenance. In the early 17c it belonged to the Paris scholar Paul Petau, whose son Alexander sold his father’s enormous library to Queen Christina of Sweden in 1650. The Dutch philologist Isaac Vossius, who had concluded this transaction for the queen, became the next owner of the book after he received a selection of Christina’s library by way of remuneration for her debts. After Vossius’s death in 1689, the curators of Leiden University purchased his library, by then in Windsor, and shipped it to its present location. Old shelfmark Vossius 38 (f. 1r).

**CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:** v + 111 + iv folios, membrane; arranged HFHF, although sometimes sides are difficult to distinguish. The 16c (so de Meyier 1974: 1.49) foliation in Roman numerals (‘ix–cxix’) shows that one quire of 8 has been lost since then at the beginning. 19c Arabic foliation. On the last versos of the first twelve quires are signatures ‘B–H, K–M’, the signature surrounded by a star-burst pattern, done presumably by the scribe himself, with the first quire missing and Quire VIII (ff. 58–61) remaining unsigned. The folios measure 340 × 275 mm., written space 295–300 × 215–230 mm., though some are irregularly sized. The folios are divided into four columns, and ruled in drypoint for 40 lines (ff. 1r–8v), 50 lines (ff. 9r–61v, 70r–111r), 49 lines (ff. 62r–69r). Prickings as well as the impression of the ruling are on the outer bifolium of the quires, e.g. ff. 1r and 8v. Neumes and text in the top margin of f. 7r show that the manuscript was trimmed.

De Meyier (1974: 1.49) recognized six hands: 1 (ff. 1r–61v, 87rc–87v), 2 (ff. 62r–87rc), 3 (ff. 88r–95v), 4 (ff. 96r–101r), 5 (ff. 102r–106r), 6 (ff. 106v–111v); f. 101v contains various contemporary hands. All scribes wrote in caroline minuscule. Several folios show damage through spilling of liquid, e.g. ff. 27v, 73r, 85v, 86rv. Ff. 1–92 contain large initials at the beginning of a new section, some of which are embellished with animals or interlacing in red, yellow, and black. Smaller red initials occur from f. 88 onwards. The first letters of words are often colored.

The manuscript has a 19c binding of board and leather with the Leiden University coat of arms. At the front there are five paper flyleaves, of which the first is pasted on to the binding. At the back there are four similar flyleaves, the last one pasted on to the binding. At each end there is also a multi-colored sheet.

[Note: A list of published notices relating to the manuscript is pasted on f. [iii] verso. On f. [v] recto appears a formal inscription ‘Codex Vossianus Latinus in Folio N° 24 111 foliorum’, the entry for this item from the 1716 catalogue, and several jottings listing publications.]

**COLLATION:** wants one quire of 8 at beginning; flyleaves [ff. i–viii]; I–VI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 1–48), VII<sup>10</sup> wants 8 (ff. 49–57), VIII<sup>4</sup> (ff. 58–61), IX–XI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 62–85), XII<sup>2</sup> ff. 86 and 87 half-sheets pasted together; XIII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 88–95), XIV–XV<sup>6</sup> (ff. 96–107), XVI<sup>4</sup> (ff. 108–111).

## CONTENTS:

1. ff. 1r–87v/46c “Abavus maior,” an alphabetical glossary in ABC-order [first part is lost with the original first quire], beginning imperfectly: ‘Anathematus. abominat(us), exsecrat(us). `foris missus’; ends: ‘Zozomim. hęc cogitationis | ut supra’ [ends at line 46c, rest of f. 87v blank] (ed. J. F. Mountford in Lindsay 1926–1931: 2.36–121).

[Note: The text contains 47 OE integral glosses, which are, with the exception of three, also found in the Épinal-Erfurt Glossary, Épinal, Bibliothèque Municipale 72(2) [128]; Erfurt Glossary, Erfurt, Stadtbücherei, Amplonianus f. 42 [129], and/or in the Corpus Glossary, Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 144 [31] (OE glosses ed. Schlutter 1910: 246–51; Meritt 1945: 59–60; cf. Pfeifer 1974: xxxix). There are also some marginal Breton glosses (ed. Thurneysen 1898: 83–85). Marginal notes occur in various hands. A drawing of a peacock on f. 13v is later. In the top right corner of f. 28r is a scratched figure of a horse, of which the head has been filled in with ink.]

2. ff. 88r/1A–89r/44a epitome of Eucherius, “Glossae Spiritales,” in alphabetical order: INCIP(IU)NT | GLOSE SPIRI|TALES IUXT(A) | EVCHERIU(M) | EPI(SCOPU)M | ‘AGRICOLA. D(EU)S | Ager. Mundus’; ends: ‘Zelum. Indignacio’ (ed. Wotke 1888: 428–39).

3. ff. 89r/45a–92r/52c Attributed to Cicero: “Synonyma”: **INCIPIUNT SYNO|NIMA(.) | CYCERONIS |** (Preface:) ‘V&urio. cycero salutem. . . .’ (Synonyms[89r/12b]): ‘ABditum. oportum. abscon|ditu(m). obscurum’; ends: ‘op(er)it(ur). presto|lat(ur). expectat. sustin&.’ | **EX-PLICIT. SYNO|NIMA CYCERONIS | ARTIS RETHORICE** (ed. [with differences] Mahne 1850: 1–69).
4. ff. 92r/1d–100r/7b Isidore of Seville, “Etymologiae,” Book X with additional lemmata: **INCIPIUNT NOMINA | PER ALFABETUM DIS|TINATA [sic] DE RELIQUIS | NOMINIBUS IUXTA | ORDINEM ELEMENTORV(M) | DE QUIBUSDAM UOCABVL(IS) | HOMINUM PER DENO|MINATIONEM |** ‘Lic& origo. nominum. unde | ueniant. a philosophis. &iam. | teneant. Racionem’; ends: ‘Vectes. dicti quod manibus | uectentur unde hosteas | ex aque uolluntur’ (ed. Lindsay 1911: 1. cc3v–ee4v; Lindsay’s ed. ends at “vestigatores” = f. 100r/29a).
- 5a. ff. 100r/30b–105v/15b Glossae collectae closely related, where the collections overlap, to the “Leiden Glossary” (Leiden, Rijksuniversiteit, Vossianus Lat. 4° 69 [157], ff. 20r–36r): **DE PROLOGO | GENESEO. | ‘NENIAS. UANITATES | Sintagina [sic] conpo|sitionem . . . Ciatius. pars sexta emi|ne est’** (biblical sections only ed. Vaciago 2004: 259–92; cf. Hessels 1906).

[Note: The collections are **DE PROLOGO | GENESEO** (f. 100r/30b), **DE EXODO** (f. 100r/37d), **DE LEUITICO** (f. 100v/8d), **DE NUMERO** (f. 101r/27b), **DEUTERONOMIO** (f. 101r/36c), **IN OSEE** (f. 101v/1a), **IN LIBRO PSALMORUM** (f. 101v/1b), **DE HIESU NAUE** (f. 102r/1a), **DE LIBRO IUDICUM** (f. 102r/25a), **DE LIBRO RUTH** (f. 102r/47a), **DE LIBRO REGUM** (f. 102r/4b), **DE PAR(A)LYPPOMENON** (f. 102v/22a; cf. “Leiden” VII, Hessels 10–11), **DE SALAMONE** (f. 102v/32a; cf. “Leiden” VIII, Hessels 11), **DE CANTICA CANTI|CORUM** (f. 102v/7b; cf. “Leiden” X, Hessels 11–12), **DE SAPIENTIA** (f. 102v/16c; cf. “Leiden” XI, Hessels 12), **DE ECCLESIASTICO** (f. 102v/41c; cf. “Leiden” XII, Hessels 12–13), **DE ESAIE P(RO)PH(ETA)** (f. 102v/44d; cf. “Leiden” XIII, Hessels 13–15), **DE HIEREMIAE** (f. 103r/37b; cf. “Leiden” XIV, Hessels 15–16), **DE EZECHIE’ h’EL** (f. 103r/33c; cf. “Leiden” XV, to no. 34, Hessels 16)), **DE DANI’ h’EL** (f. 103r/30d; cf. “Leiden” XVI, Hessels 17), **DE IOHEL** (f. 103v/7a; cf. “Leiden” XVII, Hessels 17–18), **DE LIB(RO) IOB** (f. 103v/25a; cf. “Leiden” XIX, Hessels 18–19), **DE TOBIA** (f. 103v/20b; cf. “Leiden” XX, Hessels 19), **DE IUDITH** (f. 103v/31b; cf. “Leiden” XXI, Hessels 19–20), **DE HESTER** (f. 103v/14c; cf. “Leiden” XXII, Hessels 20), **DE EZRE** (f. 103v/8c; cf. “Leiden” XXIII, Hessels 21), **DE MATTHEO** (f. 103v/31c; cf. “Leiden” XXIV, Hessels 21), **DE MARCO. ET LUCA | ET IOHANNE** (f. 104r/6a; cf. “Leiden” XXV, Hessels 21), [Isidore] **DE LIBRO. OFFICIORU(M)** (f. 104v/31a; cf. “Leiden” XXVI, Hessels 22), **DE LIBRO ROTARUM** [Isidore, “De natura rerum”] (f. 104v/38a; cf. “Leiden” XXVII, to no. 18, Hessels 22), **DE ‘Li[bro]’ ANTONII** (f. 104v/3b; cf. “Leiden” XXVIII, Hessels

22–23), **INCIP(IT) UERBORU(M) | INTERP(RE)TATIO** (f. 104v/6b; cf. “Leiden” XXIX, to no. 42, Hessels 25–26), **SECUNT(UR) NEGOTIIS ALIA | UERBA OCCULTA** (f. 104v/22c; cf. “Leiden” XXIX, nos. 43–73, Hessels 26–27), **DE CATALOGO HIERO|NIMI IN PROLOGO** (f. 104v/18d; cf. “Leiden” XXX, Hessels 27–29), **INCIPIT DE PON|DERIBUS** (f. 105r/45b; cf. “Leiden” XXXI, Hessels 29–30), **DE PONDERIBUS** (f. 105r/20d–105v/15b; cf. “Leiden” XXXII–XXXIII, Hessels 30–32).]

5b. ff. 105v/16b–108rd Various glossae collectae not closely related to “Leiden”: f. 105v/16b ‘Inter rasilem. id. e(st). | sculptum’; f. 106r/42a **DE EXODO** | ‘Ex aduerso. e diu(er)so’; f. 106v/42c **DE SALOMON** | ‘Prolo. ubi p(rae)munt(ur)’; f. 106v/41d **DE ECLESIAS(T)ICO** | ‘Hanc. occupationem pessima(m) | id auaricia(m)’; f. 107r/45d **DE LIBRO IOB.** | ‘Obliquus. Obscurus’; f. 107v/28a **DE LIBRI OFFICII** | ‘Classib(us). agminib(us)’; f. 107v/1b **DE LIBRO EUSEBII | HISTORIARVM** | ‘Archisynagogus maximus. | custos. Sinagogę (‘e’ corr. from o); f. 108r/1a **DE LIBRO ANASTASII** ‘IN agello. in agro’; f. 108r/33a **DE LIBRO ROTARUM.** | ‘Suprema. quando sol. ad occa|sum. rep(ri)mit(ur)’; ends f. 108r/10d: ‘Duodecim logionos (*sic*) angelorum. | lxxii. milia sunt in quo gentes. | linguas. lxxii. habent diuisas.’ **EXPLICIT:** [On f. 107 there are three small burn holes.]

[**Note:** On ff. 101r–108r there are scattered integral OE glosses (ed. Steinmeyer and Sievers 1879–1922: 4.256 [xli], 261 [lxxv], 268 [cxv], 273 [cc], 278 [cclxv], 281 [ccxcviii], 283 [ccccxv], 284 [cccxxxvii], 333 [dxciii], 335 [dcccxi], 335 [dcccii], 342 [dcclxi]; also Schlutter 1910: 249–51).]

6. ff. 108r/10d–110v/10c Eucherius, “Instructiones ad Salonium,” Book 2: **INCIPIT PROLOG(US)** | ‘Q(uonia)m, fili k(arissi)me’; f. 108r/29d **INCIPIT DE NOMINIB(US) | HEBREORUM ATQ(UE) | GRECORUM | ADONAI. IN LATINUM.** si|gnificat d(omi)n(u)s’; f. 108v/31b **INCIP(IT) INTERP(RE)TATIO P(RO)P(H)E|TARUM.** | ‘Helia. d(omi)ni d(e)i’; f. 108v/4c **INTERPRETATIO | APOSTOLORUM.** | ‘Symon. pone merorem (ue)l obediens’; f. 108v/37c **DE LOCIS** | ‘Eden. in genesi. dilicias’; f. 108v/6d **DE UA|RIS. UOCABULIS.** | ‘ALLelua. in latinum. sonat | laudate d(omi)n(u)m’; f. 109r/2a [DE] **POSITIONE DIVERSARVM RERVM.** | ‘MANDR(A)GORA. in genesin. genus polmi’; f. 109r/5d **DE GENTIBUS** | ‘Gomer. In genesi. id(est) galathe’; [the section “De Locis” begins without a title at f. 109v/32a ‘Ieb(us) ipsa e(st) hierusalem’] f. 109v/49b **DE FLUMINIB(US)** | ‘Geon. fluuius a&’h’ iopię de pa||radiso emergens’; f. 109v/24c **DE MENSIBUS ANNI** | ‘Nisan. In libro hester m(en)sis. | que dicunt marcius’; f. 109v/3d **DE SOLLEMNIB(US)** | ‘Anus iubeleus’; f. 110r/13a **DE IDOLIS.** | ‘Idola. simulacra grecum e(st)’; f. 110r/6b **DE UESTIBUS.** | ‘Ephoth. uestis sacerdotalis’; f. 110r/10c

DE AUIBUS. | ‘Pellicanus. auis. parua que so|litudine delectat(ur)'; f. 110r/36c DE BESTIIS UEL REPENT(IBUS) | ‘Rinocoron. fera terribilis.’; f. 110r/7d DE PONDERIBUS | ‘Talentum. e(st) pondus. lxii semis’; f. 110v/1a DE MENSURIS | ‘Chorus e(st) mōd(i) xxx’; f. 110v/32a DE GRECIS NOMINIBUS. | ‘Theos. d(eu)s’; ends (f. 110v/10c): ‘Parabola. similitu’d’o | Anastasin. resurreccio’ (ed. Wotke 1894: 140–61, Mandolfo 2004: 185–216).

7. ff. 110v/11c–111r/22a Class-glossaries in the same style, but not from Eucherius: SIMILITER. DE HEBREOR(UM) NO|MINIBUS. | ‘Raphael. medicina d(e)i’; 110v/33d DE LOCIS ‘Syon. specula & recte . . . Roma uirtus’.
8. f. 111r/23a–49a Animal voices: UOCES. UARIE ANIMAN|CIUM. | ‘Ouis. bobat . . . curs(us) aquarum murmurat’ (ed. from this manuscript, though with rearrangement of the items, Loewe 1884: 248–49; cf. Marcovich 1971: 402).
9. ff. 111r/1b–111v/31b(?) Dialogue between Pippin and Alcuin: CUM ALBINO. SCO|LASTICO DISPUTA|TIO REGALIS ET NO|BILISSIMI IUUENI | PIPPINI. | ‘PIPPINUS DIXIT. | Quid est littera . R(ES)P(ONDIT) Albinus | Custus istorie’; text on f. 111r goes to ‘P quomo[do] potest e(ss)et pande [mihi] | A Imago (est) In aqua [..]’ (ed. Wilmanns 1869: 531–44; Daly and Suchier 1939: 134–46).

[Note: F. 111r goes to Daly and Suchier no. 87. F. 111v is badly rubbed and the text is nearly effaced, but the Dialogue continues on the verso until at least f. 111v/31b. Several lines up from there can be made out ‘P [Nomine est] | & re non e(st) A quid [est tacit(us)] nuntius’ etc. (= Daly and Suchier 1939: nos. 107–108; Suchier, the editor of this text, apparently does not know of this copy). There are other faint traces of writing in the four-column format, overlain with a monumental inscription and a pen trial.]

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