

421. Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, anglais 67

Ælfric, "Grammar," fragment

[Ker 363, Gneuss 876]

HISTORY: A damaged bifolium from an Ælfric "Grammar" manuscript, dated "s. xi¹" by Ker. According to Meyer (1873) it was found "in a binding of an old book at Blois." A note pasted on to a flyleaf (f. iv recto) reads: 'Histoire — 1^r décembre 1873 — n 21 | Envoi de M l'abbé Landau | Fragment de grammaire Anglo-Saxonne d'Ælfric, | offert par M l'abbé Landau, | aumonier de l'Ecole normale de Blois | Renvoi à la Bibliothèque nationale.' Marked 'Don. 1519. | 1873.' on bottom f. 1r. BN stamps in red on f. 1r and one on f. 2r. Zupitza's "P".

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION [based on notes by Phillip Pulsiano]: Two conjugate and adjacent leaves forming the central bifolium of a quire. The leaves are wrongly folded and the correct order is ff. 2rv, 1rv. Ff. 1v and 2r, the original outer leaves, are much damaged, showing staining and wear, with text faded in many places. Some damage from worms. F. 1 measures 289 × 287/89 mm., with a written space of 260–65 × 136 mm. F. 2 has been cut along its length, so that the top width now measures 138 mm. and the bottom 50 mm. First lines on f. 2rv are lost, partly lost on f. 1r and mostly lost on f. 1v. Ruled in dry point for 32 lines, with double vertical bounding lines. Insular minuscule for both Latin and OE. Text is in brown ink, section heads (f. 1r/22 and 2r/7) and larger initials in oxidized red ink. F. 2v/8–9 shows alterations to the text in a later (13c) hand, and there are a number of scribbles in the margins of ff. 1r and 2v.

Foliated (wrongly, because of the folding) in pencil in the upper right corners. Four paper flyleaves on either side of the fragment. A notice referring to Somner's Dictionary and Meyer (1873) is pasted on f. iii recto. Binding of heavy mottled cardboard. Description in Ebersperger 1999: 18–20.

CONTENTS:

Ælfric's "Grammar":

- f. 2r from "De quarta coniugatione" and "De verbo passivo": 'geþeodnysse. of þam gef[eged nequeo ic ne mæg. nequiu] | <ue>l nequii . . . (line 7) [. . .] UERBO PASSI[UO] . . . (line 31 [32]) auditi essetis. auditi essent. Et [. . .]' (= Zupitza 1880: 193/13–195/10);
- f. 2v from "De verbo passivo": (line 1 almost entirely trimmed, line 2) '[au-diti] fuissem[us a]uditi fuissetis. auditi fuissent. . . . (line 32) [me]te. mensus. mentior. ic leoge.' (= Zupitza 195/13–197/14);
- f. 1r from "De verbo passivo" and "De verbis anomalis vel inequalibus": (top part of line 1 trimmed) 'mentit[us sum. orior ic up] aspringe. ortus su(m). ortus | est sol. sunne is up agan. . . . (line 22) DE UERBIS ANOMALIS <UE>L INEQUALIBUS. . . . (line 32) On eallum oðrum stowum hit filigð þære þriddan geþeodnysse.' (= Zupitza 197/14–199/13; pr. and trans. Dubois 1943: 370–72, facs.: 269);
- f. 1v from "De verbis anomalis vel inequalibus": (line 1 mostly trimmed) 'Uolo ic wy[ll]e. [uis ðu wylt. uult he wyle. et pluraliter uolumus] | we wyllað. uultis. ge willað. . . . (line 32) Et pl<uralite>r estote. beon ge. suntu <ue>l suntote. [beon hi]' (last letters blotted) (= Zupitza 199/14–202/4).

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- Förster, Max. "Die altenglischen Texte der Pariser National-bibliothek." *Englische Studien* 62 (1927): 113–31.
- Meyer, Paul. Untitled notice in *The Athenæum* 8 Nov. 1873: 598.
- Zupitza, Julius. *Ælfrics Grammatik und Glossar: Erste Abteilung, Text und Varianten*. Sammlung englischer Denkmäler in kritischen Ausgaben 1. Berlin: Weidmannsche Buchhandlung, 1880; repr. ed. Helmut Gneuss, Hildesheim: Weidmann, 2003.