

## 77. Cambridge, Trinity College B.11.2 (241)

### Amalarius of Metz, "Liber officialis"

[Ker 84; Gneuss 174]

**HISTORY:** A copy of Amalarius of Metz's (c. 775–c. 850) allegorical and exegetic commentary on the liturgy, written in the 9c, known as the "Liber officialis". The manuscript was written in a fine A-S square minuscule at St. Augustine's, Canterbury in the middle decades of the 10c (Bishop 1957: 324–26; Barker-Benfield 2008: 3.1812–13) and has been more specifically dated to the 930s (as representative of Phase II square minuscule) by Dumville (1991: 43; 1992: 132 n. 351; 1993: 88–89; 1994b: 139), though Gameson suggests that this early date "fits ill" with the decoration and display script (Gameson 1996: 167–68, n. 152); Bishop identifies the scribe's hand in several other manuscripts (Bishop 1957: 324–26). The version of Amalarius's text is the "retractio prima," an abridged and intermediary version of the work from the mid to late 9c (Hanssens 1948–50: 162–69). The "retractio prima" is extant earliest in Breton and English manuscripts that were made or circulated in the first several decades of the 10c (Dumville 1994a; Keynes 1992: 16–17) and, along with excerpts from another Amalarian work on the liturgy, later came to be a source for Ælfric's "Letter to the Monks of Eynsham" (Jones 2000 and 2001: 175).

The manuscript is decorated with beautiful colored initials and very lightly glossed in Latin, partly by the main scribe, and partly by later users or readers from the 10c through the 11c. There are two OE glosses of the 10c (ed. Ker, *Cat.*). To the main manuscript, a folio (f. 112) was supplied, perhaps by the original scribe after an interval (Bishop 1957: 326) or perhaps by a second scribe (Keynes 1992: 16) in the later 10c. This supply leaf was originally left blank on the lower half of f. 112v, and a late 10c or early 11c hand added an antiphon in Anglo-Caroline minuscule. An inscription of the first half of the 11c on the front fly (f. i recto) naming 'bryhtricus presbiter' may indicate an owner. The manuscript had come to Exeter by the third quarter of the 11c, and perhaps before; a quire of six leaves was added (foliated 113–115, 115a, and 120–121) in an Exeter hand (Ker, *Cat.*;

Keynes 1992: 16–17; Drage 1978: 157–58) with further Amalarian material, some of which represents a variant form of the “retractio prima” which may lie behind Ælfric’s “Letter” and is otherwise only represented in (though partly lost from) Salisbury, Cathedral Library 154 (Jones 2000 and 2001). Another Exeter scribe (Drage’s scribe 10) on f. 3 added a note on the “dies aegyptici” (Drage 1978: 163) and a third (Drage’s scribe 2) added the Leofrician donation inscription in Latin and OE on f. 121v. An entry in Leofric’s inventory — one “liber officialis amalarii” — suggests that Leofric donated the book to Exeter in 1072 (inventory ed. Lapidge 2001: 136; Conner 1993: 232). The front fly bears pen trials and scribbles of the 12c.

The manuscript was still in Exeter when catalogued in 1327 as “Liber Amalarii. Postquam scripsi libellum” (Oliver 1861: 303); the 1506 inventory has a “Collectio Amalarii” which may represent Trinity B.11.2 (though Drage (1978: 336) suggests this entry does not pertain to this manuscript. Drage reports that in John Joscelin’s (1529–1603) copy of the Exeter donation list, there is a note on the entry “Amalarius” stating that Matthew Parker (1504–1575) borrowed the copy from Exeter and returned it (Drage 1978: 336). However, a red crayon inscription on f. 1r by Matthew Parker (Keynes 1992: 17) names John Parker (1532–1592), and it was (ca. 1560) in John Parker’s collection at Beakesborne (Ker, *Cat.*). It was subsequently bequeathed to Trinity College by Archbishop John Whitgift, upon his death in 1604.

**CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION:** The text block is foliated, perhaps in the 16c, in ink at top right recto corners, ‘1–112’ with numerous leaves skipped, and a pencil correcting; f. 9 in pencil with cancelled ink ‘8’; on f. 20, ink ‘0’ in the ‘20’ smudged, pencil ‘20’ just below; ff. 38 and 48 having both a pencil and ink foliation; f. 72a in pencil; on f. 82, ink smudged, pencil duplicated; f. 83 in pencil; f. 91a in pencil; f. 96a in pencil; f. 97 in ink, ‘100’ incorrectly penciled over it; f. 107 has been cancelled and ‘110’ incorrectly added above; the last six leaves (now detached and in independent plastic sheaths) continue the foliation in ink, ‘113–115’, followed by ‘115a’ in pencil, ‘120’ in pencil above a cancelled ink ‘116’, no foliation on f. 121. In the film, an older leaf is photographed, no longer present in the book, foliated ‘122’ in pencil above a cancelled ‘118’; the last paper flyleaves have no foliation. The pencil hand that added the foliations with ‘a’ (ff. 72a, 91a, etc.) postdate the making of the film and are thus not visible in present microfiche facsimile. The front and back flyleaves are not foliated.

The 10c leaves range from cream-colored to beige parchment, occasionally a bit splotchy, but for the most part in excellent condition. The

manuscript is in quires of eight and arranged HFHF, except for a single 'experimental' quire arranged FHFH (Dumville 1994b: 141–42), though the quality of preparation is such that hair and flesh sides are difficult to distinguish. There are no visible quire signatures. The leaves are cropped to ca. 297 × 204 mm., with a writing grid of 215–220 × 145–150 mm., pricked in the outside margins and ruled with a dry-point for 26 long lines per side. The writing space is vertically double bounded in dry-point rules ca. 8 mm. apart, with the rules running to the edge of the leaves. Ample upper (25 mm.) and lower (55 mm.) margins, with an outer margin of ca. 28 mm., and an inner margin of ca. 15 mm.

The main text is a clear, precise, and regular A-S square minuscule, in a very dark brown ink. There are numerous large decorated initials with delicate vine interlace, biting animal heads, and human faces (Wormald Types I and IIa); these are washed in various colors: two shades of red (one pinkish and one more orange); two shades of green (one light and one dark), blue, yellow, and green. Headings at the beginning of books in capitals, often washed in bands of color with first lines in large display capitals, with each letter washed in color. Chapter headings in capitals, washed in color, with two- or three-line decorated initial capitals. Glossing hand is most frequently that of main scribe, much smaller but in same ink, usually interlinear; some rare marginal glosses as well.

The supply leaf, f. 112, is of slightly different quality parchment, in a different ink, and ruled for 27 lines; the script seems to be a careful imitation of the main text hand. Lower half of f. 112v left blank, and an Anglo-Caroline hand of the late 10c or early 11c in a lighter ink added an antiphon with neumes. The added quire (ff. '113–121', but actually only six added leaves) is on a rougher quality parchment with similar writing space and lineation; the script is a typical minuscule from Exeter of the third quarter of the 11c, badly faded on the last several leaves. The first parchment fly (not foliated) has been cut down vertically, leaving approx. 293 × 135 mm. of yellower and blotchier parchment. There are numerous additions in various scripts on this leaf: alphabetic pen-trials, words, and the 11c name 'bryhtricus presbite[r]'.<sup>1</sup>

At the front of the book, there are two modern paper flyleaves (unfoliated), followed by an older paper flyleaf with modern title 'Liber officialis Hamalarii' at top center recto, and the ink cancelled shelfmark 'B.10.33' as well as the bookplate for Trinity College on the verso. This old paper fly is followed by a paper stub, which is part of the restoration of the damaged first quire, then the cut parchment flyleaf, and then two modern paper flyleaves and then the 10c text block. At the back of the book the leaves have

been detached and are now in individual plastic sheaths (ff. 113–115, 115a, 120, and 117). In the book, f. 112 is followed by two new paper stubs, six new paper flyleaves, one older paper fly, all blank.

[**Note:** The film/fiche, taken in 1949, still shows this last quire of leaves bound in the book. In 2004, when visited, the book was in the process of being conserved; in late 2012 the book remained in the same state as in 2004: loose leaves in plastic sheaths at the back of the book, and the filmed f. 122 not present in the book (p. c. Mr. Sandy Paul, 2012).]

Bound in brown leather with the gold-tooled arms of Whitgift on the front and back; the fore-edges show holes for now missing clasps. The spine shows four sewing bands plus the two endbands, with no shelfmark on the backing. Modern paper pastedowns inside both covers.

**COLLATION:** ii modern paper + i early modern paper + i medieval parchment flyleaf + ii modern paper + 123 medieval leaves + vi modern paper flyleaves + i early modern paper flyleaf (last six medieval parchment leaves in plastic sheaths, detached from book); I<sup>8</sup> remounted (ff. 1–8); II<sup>8</sup> (ff. 9–16); III<sup>8</sup> paper stub follows 2 (f. 18) as a result of restoration (ff. 17–24); IV<sup>8</sup> 8 cancelled (ff. 25–31); V–IX<sup>8</sup> (ff. 32–71); X<sup>8</sup> (ff. 72, 72a, 73–78); XI<sup>8</sup> (ff. 79–86); XII<sup>8</sup> (ff. 87–91, 91a, 92–93); XIII<sup>10</sup> (ff. 94–96, 96a, 97–102); XIV<sup>10</sup> wants 10 (ff. 103–111); XV<sup>1</sup> added singleton supply for lost material at the end of quire XIV (f. 112); XVI<sup>6?</sup> (see note).

[**Note:** Quire XVI is now impossible to reconstruct as all leaves are detached and held in plastic sheaths in a folder at the end of the volume, ordered ff. 113, 114, 115, 115a, 120 ('116' cancelled) and "121" (no modern foliation visible, '117' erased but visible on film); James (1900: no. 241) appears to take f. 112 as part of the last quire (his 15, presently XVI), and gives this last quire as of eight lacking the eighth sheet. Keynes (1992: 16) notes six leaves. Drage (1978: 335) gives the last quire as of ten (ff. 113–21 wanting 10), but this does not appear to account for the irregular foliation. The filmed f. 122 ('118' cancelled) present in the 1949 filming, but no longer present in the book, appears to have been a blank paper fly, modern, possibly early modern.]

#### CONTENTS:

- f. [i] recto (early modern paper flyleaf) blank but for modern ink title, top center, 'Liber officialis Hamalarii'
- f. [i] verso cancelled ink shelfmark, 'B. 10. 33' and Trinity College bookplate
- f. [ii] recto medieval parchment flyleaf, cut down, 14c ink title, lib(er) eccl(es)iasticis officio. . . and 11c inscription, 'bryhtric(us) presbite[r]'; 12c ink 'leo & vi[. . .]'; (at bottom, reversed) alphabetical pentrials and 'iupelen'

f. [ii] verso blank

1. Amalarius, “Liber officialis”:

[Note: The “retractio prima” recension, in two books, rather than four, as in the editions of PL (105.987–1242) and Hanssens; see Hanssens 1948–50: 1.162–69 on the contents and disposition of material in the “retractio prima” as against Hanssens’ edited text.]

- a. ff. 1r/1–1v/22 capitula, Bk 1: COLLECTIO AMALARII VIRI DOCTISSIMI | DE ORDINE ROMANÆ AECCLĒSIAE. QVI | VOCATVR LIBER OFFICIALIS. | ‘i. De ordine orationum In missa ante epistolam’; ends: ‘xxxviii De obseruatione dierum per annum et recapitulatione’ (as Hanssens 1948–50: 1. 163–65); top center f. 1r, ‘Ioh(ann)es parker’ in orange crayon;
- b. ff. 1v/23–3r/7 capitula, Bk 2: INCIPIVUNT CAPITVLA LIBRI SECVNDI. | ‘i. De duodecim lectionibus’; ends incompletely: ‘De sexta feria. EXPLICIUNT CAP(ITULA) LIBRI .II. (as Hanssens 1948–50: 1.165–68).
2. f. 3r/8–13 incomplete note on “24 Egyptian Days” (in 11c hand, on formerly blank lines): ‘Hic commemorantur dies aegyptiaci q(ui) eo m(od)o in anno circulo sunt | obseruandi. ne in his sanguis minuat(ur) aut potio ad soluendum p(rae)b&(ur) | [I]n p(ri)ncipio itaq(ue) m(en)sis ianuarii dies p(ri)mus | & ante eius exitu(m) dies septimus | A p(ri)ncipio mensis februarii dies .iiii. | & ante eius exitu(m) dies .iii.’ (cf. Charonnens 2007: 347–92) [remainder of f. 3r blank].
3. f. 3v two early modern notes on Amalarius: ‘Tritomius fol. ss. vocat hunc Hamulariu(m) fortunatum Archip(iscop)um | Treuereunsem. . .officialis roma(n)ę eccl(es)ie’ and ‘Lib 2 | Cap. 1. Qua lingua olim Lectiones. . .vide Lib. primo 23’.
- 1c. ff. 4r/1–43v/23 Bk 1: INCIPIIT COLLECTIO AMALARII VIRI DOCTIS(S)IMI DE ORDINE ROMANÆ ÆCLESIAE. | QVI VOCATVR LIBER OFFICIALIS | (Prooemium) ‘POSTQVAM SCRIPSI | libellum qui a mea paruitate uocatur | de ecclēsiastico officio ueni romam . . .sup(er) septenariu(m). & quinarium(m). | & t(er)nariu(m) numeru(m)’; (f. 7v/3, ch. 1 “De Septuagesima” beg.) ‘Septuagesima computat(us) s(e)c(un)d(um) traditionem’; ends: ‘qua d(omi)n(u)s resurrexit et sunt omnes dies ta(m)qua(m) dominica’, with lines 3–20 blank, and at line 21: EXPLICIT LIBER PRIMVS (as Hanssens 1948–50: 2.13–18, 26–193 with chapters and additional material from Book IV and Hanssens 1948–50: 2.545–65; see the table at Hanssens 1948–50: 1.163–65) [remainder of 43v blank];

- d. ff. 43v/24–112v/15 Bk 2: **INCIPIT LIBER SECUNDVS || .I. DE .XII. LECTIONIBVS | ‘SEX LECTIONES | ab antiquis romanis. grece et latine legebantur’**; ends: ‘digneque in sexta feria memorat(ur) eius passio p(ro) ceteris | noctib(us) quia in ea per acta est’ (as Hanssens 1948–50: 1.197–460 with interpolations, rearrangements, and additional material from Hanssens 1948–50: 2.545–65, as given in the table at Hanssens 1948–50: 1.165–68).
- OE glosses at f. 47v/10, interlinear: ‘untodælendl(ice)’ on ‘indifferenter’; f. 62r/23 far right margin, ‘g(e)sib[.]’ probably on ‘pacata’.  
[Note: Early modern notes, upper outer margin f. 44r and on f. 45v outer margin. Both cropped. Original 10c manuscript is incomplete at end of f. 111v, breaking off at midsentence; f. 112 has a supply text that picks up where text left off, completing the text through the section ‘lxii. De vi<sup>a</sup> feria’. Remainder of f. 112v was originally blank.]
4. f. 112v/17–20 added neumed antiphon, in late 10c or early 11c Anglo-Caroline hand: ‘A Venite adoremus d(omi)n(u)m & p(ro)cidamus . . . qui transduxit nos ad celestia sempiterna gaudia alleluia’ (cf. Van Dijk 1963: 1. 42; Hartzell 2006: no. 60).
5. ff. 113r/1–117r/19 excerpts from Amalarian work on Good Friday: **DE PARASCEVE. | ‘ORAMUSTED(OMI)NEDOMINORV(M) | magister rationis æt(er)nę’**; ends: ‘Non eni(m) nos oportet separari a chr(isto) in | tribulationib(us) sed coniungi. in sabbato id est in requie. Dicam(us). Mihi | aut(em) adherere d(e)o bonu(m) est’ (ed. Jones 2001: 200–10) [f. 117r/20–26 blank].
6. f. 117v/1–6 Leofrician Donation Inscription (Latin and OE): ‘Hunc librum dat leofricus ep(iscopu)s eccl(esi)ę s(an)c(t)i petri ap(osto)li in ex[. . . . .]de(m)[. . .] | episcopale(m). p(ro) remedio animę suę ad utilitate(m) successor[.] suo[.] [. . . . .] aut[.] | illum inde abstulerit p(er)petuę maledictioni subiaceat Fiat. | Ðas boc gef leofric b(iscop) into s(an)c(t)e petres minstre on exancestri [.]þær his | biscopstol is. his æfter filgendum to nit weorðnysse 7 gif hig hwa ut | ætbrede hæbbe he ece geniðerunge mid eallum deoflum. Amen’ (coll. Förster in Chambers et al. 1933: 11–12; pr. James 1900: 1.327, Drage 1978: 32).
- f. 117v/18–20 Early modern copy of the Latin portion of Leofric’s donation inscription.  
[Note: Remainder of f. 117v blank except for Trinity College Library stamp. Remainder of leaves in book blank.]

**PHOTO NOTE:** Enhanced images of ff. 114v–117v are provided on a supplementary fiche.

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