

365. Oxford, Bodleian Library, Bodley 708 (2609)

Gregory, "Cura Pastoralis"

[Ker 316; Gneuss 590]

HISTORY: A complete copy of Gregory's Latin "Pastoral Care," representative of an insular textual family of the early uncorrected recension of the "Pastoral Care" (Clement 1985: 1–13; Dekkers in Rommel et al. 1992: 1.106). Written in an anglo-caroline minuscule of ca. 1000, probably at Christ Church, Canterbury. Bishop identified three scribes, one of whose work is extant in several other manuscripts from Christ Church, representing some of the earliest English caroline minuscule at that foundation (Bishop 1971: no. 10, p. xxv and 1959–63: 94 and 420–22). The manuscript likely was acquired by Leofric for Exeter from Christ Church; it appears he acquired other manuscripts from Canterbury, at least one from Christ Church (Oxford, Bodl. Lib., Auct. F.1.15 [343]) (Bishop 1959–63: 415; Drage 1978: 271 and 406; Treharne 2009: 524). Leofric donated the book to Exeter at some point between 1050 and 1072, and, Drage suggests, later rather than earlier in this period (Drage 1978: 37); Leofric's donation inscription was added by one of the scribes of the Exeter scriptorium in the third quarter of the 11c (Drage 1978: 405–6); Bodley 708 has been identified with one of the items donated and listed in Leofric's "Inventory": the "liber pastoralis" (inventory ed. Lapidge 1994: 137; ed. Conner 1993: 232–33). The manuscript appears to have remained at Exeter through the later Middle Ages, as it is listed in the inventories of 1327 and 1506 (Oliver 1861: 302 and 367). The manuscript was among those donated in 1602 by the Dean and Chapter of Exeter to the Bodleian Library and subsequently rebound.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: Ff. ii + 116 + 1. Main text block consists of fine off-white parchment, with very matte finish; damaged by purple-grey splotching of mold at beginning and end, most noticeably in the edges, with decay at the edges of the first several folios. Leaves ca. 300–305 × 215–220 mm. mainly arranged HFHF in quires of eight; quire XIII is of ten and the last quire may have been a bifolium at one point, with a leaf

appended in the later 11c. The leaves are ruled for a written space of 220 × 135–40 mm. in dry-point, pricked in the outside margins and with double bounds of about 10 mm. width. The upper margin outside of the text-grid is ca. 33–35 mm., outer margin is ca. 40 mm., and the lower margin is ca. 45 mm. The ruling is for 24 lines per page, with a line height of about 10 mm. In the last three quires, each line is double ruled (though with only one set of pricks). Foliated in pencil from first flyleaf ‘i–v (ult.)’ and then in ink at the top right hand corner ‘1–113’ (with disorder noted below) and a pencil foliating the last leaf ‘114 (ult.)’. In the first and last parts of the book, where the water damage has been worst, the folios have been set in paper frames and bound disordered, running ff. i–v, 1–5, 13, 7–12, 6, 21, 15–20, 14, 22–110, 112, 111, 113. It seems the outer bifolia of quires II and III were reversed by the rebinder, as were ff. 111–112. In Quire IV, the outer bifolium (ff. 22 and 29) is a replacement, written by the scribe of ff. iii–v (Bishop 1971: 8).

Throughout, the ink is clear and dark, written by three scribes producing varied iterations of anglo-caroline minuscule (Bishop 1971: 8; Dumville 1993: 102–3 and 107). For scribal stints, Bishop gives the ‘firm’ scribe 1 ff. iii–v, 22, 29, 54r/22–112, and a correction on f. 49r and the ‘ugly but proficient’ scribe 3 ff. 2v–21, 23–28, and 30–54r/19; thus the ‘idiosyncratic and slightly mannered’ scribe 2 is responsible for 1–2r (Bishop 1971: 8). For the most part, two- or three-line capitals in red or green open each chapter with an initial line of red or black rustic capitals and a red roman numeral for the chapter number. Occasionally a chapter opens with a large, more elaborate initial and text in monumental capitals, sometimes followed by a line in rustic capitals (as at f. 1r or f. 35v). Initials of sentences often in-filled in red, many showing oxidization. On f. 1r there is an elaborate fifteen-line initial ‘P’ with interlace, leaves, and a biting head (Wormald type IIB). Scribe 1 has supplied a bifolium (ff. 22/29) to complete or correct another’s work; he appears to have completed the work in less space than the original bifolium, and in the space remaining, f. 29v/14–24, he has added a Latin poem. The text is outlined in green and red and each line has a colored initial alternating in green, red, purple, or blue. An insular insertion mark in green relays the text from f. 29v/13 to a second green *signe de renvoi* at the the first line of f. 30r/1 with no loss.

The last medieval leaf, f. 113, is an appended singleton with the Leofric inscription in Latin and OE, presumably added at Exeter between 1050 and 1072; this leaf has a rust mark at the bottom center, perhaps from chaining in the later medieval Exeter library. The front binding leaf, f. ii, has offset unidentifiable Latin text in later script perhaps bound into the book in a

later medieval or early modern refurbishment. The same leaf shows the mark of a former clasp in upper outer foreedge.

Rebound in speckled brown leather with blind tooled rectangular pattern, perhaps over earlier boards, with early modern paper pastedowns on inside front and back covers and an early modern paper flyleaf with stub at front (f. i). Earlier shelfmarks on ff. i (paper) and ii (medieval parchment); f. ii may be a lifted pastedown, as its recto has traces of paste as well as offset text. Spine tooled in gold, 'SVP. ART. | D. 10', with an old label affixed showing only a red 'x'; at base of spine a torn sticker label, 'Arch. [. . .] | c. 19 [. . .]'. Boards on front and back fore-edges at top and bottom have holes likely from now-lost clasps. There are three sewing stations in the spine plus endbands.

COLLATION: i + i + 116 + 1. The first three quires are disordered and set in paper frames, so the collation is a reconstruction based on the foliation and hair-flesh arrangements: i (single paper fly) + ii (singleton parchment fly) + I⁸ (ff. iii–v, 1–5); II⁸ (ff. 6–13); III⁸ (ff. 14–21); IV⁸ outer bifolium a contemporary supply (ff. 22–29); V–VIII⁸ (ff. 30–61); IX⁸ 6 cancelled after f. 66 (ff. 62–68); X–XI⁸ (ff. 69–84); XII⁸ (ff. 85–92); XIII¹⁰ (ff. 93–102); XIV⁸ (ff. 103–110); XV²⁺¹ bifolium of ff. 111–112 inverted when rebound at some point, f. 113 an appended half-sheet of later Exeter origin now glued onto a stub after f. 112; (ff. 112, 111, 113) iii (single paper flyleaf, f. 114 (ult.)).

[Note: Present collation differs from Drage's collation: 1⁸ (ff. iii–v, 1–5) 2⁸ (ff. 6–13), 3⁸ (ff. 14–21), and 4⁸ (ff. 22–29) each with variations; 5–13⁸ (ff. 30–101); 14¹⁰ (ff. 102–110, 112); 15² (ff. 111 and 113) (Drage 1978: 405).]

CONTENTS:

f. i recto early shelfmarks, '(2609) | Bod. 708. | [kept as Arch. F. c. 19]'; first two lines in older ink, the last in more recent pencil [not on film]

f. i verso blank

f. ii recto blank but for offsets from a Latin text

f. ii verso ink capital 'A' top center; earlier shelfmarks in center, 'MES. M⁸ 10 | G. 6. 8.'

1. Gregory the Great, "Pastoral Care" ("Regula Pastoralis") (CPL 1712) (as Rommel et al. 1992, PL 77.13–128):

[Note: The text is not divided into books, despite the evidence of the list of capitula, but is numbered straight through 'i.' to 'lxvii.' (on the varied divisions of the text, see Dekkers in Rommel et al. 1992: 1.110–11).]

a. ff. iii recto – iii verso/14 capitula, fragmentary, parts one, two, and the first chapter of part three represented as a single book: PASTORAL(IS)

GREGORII. | INCIPIVNT CAPITVLA LIBRI SUBSEQVENTI | 'NE VENIRE IMPERITI AD MAGISTERIUM AUDEANT. | ii. Ne locum regiminis subeant qui uiuendo non proficiunt (gl.: 'ue| p(er)') | quae meditando didicerunt'; ends: 'xxiii. Quanta debet esse diuersitas in arte predication[is]' | FINIUNT CAPITULA LIBRI PRIMI;

- b. ff. iii verso/14 – v recto/18 list of chapters in Parts 3 and 4 of the regularly divided text: INCIPIVNT CAPITV[LA] [the remainder of the heading lost due to damage] | 'xxiii. Quod aliter ammonendi sunt uiri atq(ue) aliter [feminae]'; ends: 'lxvii. Hic ostenditur magna humilitas summi pontificis | huiusque libri auctoris gregorii' (items a, b. as Rommel et al. 1992: 1.116–22; preface taken as a chapter; last capitula not in Rommel's ed.);

[Note: Remainder of f. v recto and all of f. v verso blank. Earlier shelfmark added in ink at top of f. iii recto, 'MS. sup. D. Art. 10' and repeated at bottom of f. 1r]

- c. f. 1r/1–1v/15 Preface: INCIPIT LIBER PASTORALIS CURÆ EDITUS A S(AN)C(T)O | GREGORIO PAPA URBS ROMAE | 'PASTORALIS | CVRÆ ME PONDERA FVGE|RE DELITESCENDO VOLVISSE. | BENIGNA FRATER CARISSIME ATQUE HUMILLIMA INTEN|tione reprehendis . . . á præcipationis suæ ausibus in ipsa lo-|cutionis n(ost) ræ ianua repellantur';

- d. ff. 1v/15–112v/22 text of "Pastoral Care," beg.: 'ii. NULLA ARS DOCERI PRESUMATUR. NISI INTENTA PRI(US) | meditatione discatur'; ends: 'ut quem pon|dus proprium deprimit. tui meriti manus | leu&.' EXPLICIT LIBER PASTORALIS.

2. ff. 29v/14–24 a poem of 10 elegiacs and a hexameter perhaps drawn from Hrabanus Maurus, "De laudibus sancte crucis" (PL 107.139–40): 'Eripe caute piis monitis precibusq(ue) sacratis . . . Te uigilem seru& qui non dormitat in æuum'.

[Note: This is written by the main scribe in the remaining space of the contemporary supply outer bifolium (ff. 22/29) of Quire IV. On f. 66r in lower outer margin, a sketch of an eagle with nimbus, perhaps for St. John the evangelist, has been lightly added.]

3. f. 113r/1–8 Leofric's donation inscription in Latin and OE: 'Hunc libru(m) dat Leofricus ep(iscopu)s eccl(esi)e s(an)c(t)i petri ap(osto)li in | exonia ad sedem sua(m) episcopale(m) p(ro) remedio anime suę ad utili|tatem successoru(m) suor(um). Si q(ui)s aute(m) illu(m) inde abstulerit p(er)petuę | maledictioni subiaceat. Fiat. | Ðas boc gef leofric b(iscop) into s(an)c(t)e petres minstre on exancestre | þær his biscopstol is. his æfterfiligendu(m) to nittweorðnisse. | 7 gif hig hwa ut ætbrede. hæbbe he ece geniðerunge mid | eallu(m) deoflu(m). Am(en)';

(coll. Förster in Chambers et al. 1933: 11–12; pr. Drage 1978: 36–37) [remainder of ff. 113r and 114 (ult.) blank but for Bodleian Library stamps and a smudged pentrial ('mos') on f. 113v].

PHOTO NOTES: ff. i recto and 114 (ult.) verso are not photographed. Two shots of 112v–113r.

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