

61. Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 449

Ælfric, “Grammar” (incomplete) and “Glossary”

[Ker 71; Gneuss 115]

HISTORY: Composite of two distinct manuscripts comprising Ælfric’s “Grammar” and “Glossary”. Part A (ff. 1–41) is a 16c supply of the missing first half of the “Grammar”. Part B (ff. 42–96) is of A-S origin, written in the first half of the 11c by a single scribe, with some corrections in the main hand; the vernacular minuscule shows the features of the first half of the 11c (Scragg 2012: nos. 180–81) while the Latin script is an anglo-caroline style I, with features associated with Æthelwold of Winchester, perhaps suggesting a date closer to 1000 (Stokes 2014: 69). By the 16c, the manuscript came into Matthew Parker’s possession and much of the 11c book must have been missing. Parker had Part A added with text copied in imitative script from London, BL Royal 15 B.xxii [303] (Ker, *Cat.*, 121; Page 2003: 183; Hill 2007: 286); conversely, CCCC 449 supplied the missing ending of the “Grammar” in Royal 15 B.xxii (see Doane 2007: 47). James (1912: 1.xvi) suggests that these additions were by ‘Lyly’; if so, this would have been Peter Lyly (d. 1569), registrar of Parker’s consistory court who was skilled in imitating old scripts (Crankshaw and Gillespie 2011). Parker also repaired the book by the addition of strips of membrane grafted on to the existing leaves. Furthermore, he had supplied a half page of membrane with 16c text pasted onto the bottom half of f. 42r (see “Codicological Description” below). He marked up the book in a red ochre crayon characteristic of his usage and added 16c tags marking content. Bequeathed by Parker (Register, §19) to Corpus Christi College in 1575 (N.19 on f. i verso). Modern foliation and quire numbers added. Bound in the 18c, it appears, as Ker reports an 18c binding (Ker, *Cat.*, 121) and subsequently rebound in 1956 by John P. Gray of Cambridge, but this binding is no longer present as the manuscript was disbound in the first half of 2009. Each quire is now stored in a separate fascicule. The gray binding is retained separately.

CODICOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION: 100 leaves (plus four modern binding leaves) of which 55 (Part B) are A-S, while the preceding 41 membrane leaves of Part A are 16c: ff. ii (modern paper) + ii (membrane) + 41 (early modern membrane) + 55 (medieval membrane) + ii (membrane) + ii (modern paper). Modern foliation (i-ii, 1-98v) in pencil at top right rectos with the quires likewise numbered in the bottom right-hand corner of the recto of the first leaf. Ff. 45-61 (quires VII, VIII and the 1st leaf of quire IX) are numbered consecutively 1-17 in the top left-hand corner of the recto side. First and last parchment endleaves (ff. i and 98) are former paste-downs and may have come from a 16c document, as they show offsets of 16c text. Membrane measures 187 × 137 mm. Part A was designed to match Part B in size but has a different layout. Part A has a written space 163 × 106 mm. with 21 long lines. No prick-marks are visible, no doubt cropped by a binder, but the leaves are ruled in dry point with the vertical frame lines extending to the edge of leaves and the horizontal lines sometimes extending to the edge of leaves on a random basis. Part B has a written space 173 × 99/105 mm (inner/outer) with 33 long lines. There are holes in the membrane on ff. 58, 70, 80, but apparently no loss of text. There is a dry point frame rule with a double column on the outer side and 33 long lines with the bottom line ruled to the outer edge; ff. 95-6 are ruled for 34 long lines. Because the A-S manuscript has been heavily cropped by an earlier binder there is little left of the original prick-marks, some relics of the pricking for the horizontal lines being visible at the outer edges of ff. 42-4, 68, 73-6. Some annotations (11c) also lost or damaged by the cropping.

Part A on fairly bright and clear membrane is written in black ink in an imitative script that maintains the A-S practice of distinction between Latin and OE scripts (Lucas 1997: 158); it replicates headings in black and large initial capitals to open each section. Furthermore, the 16c transcript keeps interlinear glosses and occasionally makes use of catchwords, as at ff. 8v, 25v, 33v, and 41v, which then initiates the surviving Part B. Part A has no color.

Part B's membrane is worn, often stained or mottled with patched edges. Make-up (sometimes difficult to determine because the manuscript has been well used): quire VI FH; quires VII-VIII HFHF; quire IX H(?H)HF; quires X-XII HFHF; quire XIII HF. It is written in black English vernacular minuscule and anglo-caroline by a single hand. The anglo-caroline is characterized by 'laterally extended' ligature of ct, st, and ra with both caroline and cc forms (Stokes 2014: 69). Headings are in rustic capitals in oxidized red, now metallic or black. Sections open with a large initial, likewise in oxidized red. A 16c piece of membrane has been affixed to the lower half of

f. 42r and 16c text of the “Grammar” supplied there. Red Parkerian crayon marked ff. 42 and 43 with ‘a’ and ‘b’ respectively at the top left recto. The same crayon is also used for an underline on f. 42r. On f. 89r there is a note by Parker in the right-hand margin (Page 1993: 100 and pl. 59). Membrane tags with 16c notes relating to textual content have been attached to ff. 65r, 68v, 69r, 87r, 89r, 95r. The 1956 binding, now kept separately, was in pale tan native goatskin over millboards; it had two paper endleaves front and back, both bifolia, labelled a/b and c/d, but as these are no longer present they are omitted from the “Collation” below (1956 binding and arrangement are shown in the fiche).

COLLATION: Two membrane endleaves front and back (ff. i–ii, 97–8) of the 16c: ff. i recto and 98v, having been pastedowns, show a partial offset of some ?16c document. Part A (16c): I⁸ (ff. 1–8); II⁸ (ff. 9–16); III¹⁰ wants 2 (ff. 17–25); IV⁸ (ff. 26–33); V⁸ (ff. 34–41); Part B (11c): VI⁴ wants 1 (ff. 42–44; f. 42r has 16c piece of membrane affixed to its lower half); VII⁸ (ff. 45–52); VIII⁸ (ff. 53–60); IX⁸ (ff. 61–68); X⁸ (ff. 69–76); XI⁸ (ff. 77–84); XII⁸ (ff. 85–92); XIII⁴ (ff. 93–96).

[Note: Binding strips that belonged with the 1956 binding used to occur between quires, holding together ff. i–ii, quires I, II, separating off quires IV, VI, VIII, X, XII, and dividing quire XIII from ff. 97–8, visible in the fiche photos of the 1956 ensemble.]

CONTENTS:

Ælfric’s “Grammar” and “Glossary” (ed. Zupitza 1880, Part B coll. as C, rpt. 1966.)

Part A (16c):

f. i recto blank, former pastedown

f. i verso blank but for Parkerian inventory number: ‘N.19’.

f. ii recto blank

f. ii verso/1–8 16c note ‘M(emoran)d(um) Q(uo)d in hac Grammatica Saxonica, quid De nouo | scribuntur habent glosam interlinearem . . . hanc glosam scripta in medio | et fecit contextus’

1. a. f. 1r/1–1v/15 Latin Preface to Ælfric’s “Grammar”: **Incipit præfatio huius libri.** | ‘EGO ÆLFRICVS ut minus sapiens | has excerptiones de Prisciano minore . . . quia nec deus | arti grammaticæ subiciendis est. | Valete o pueruli in d(omi)no’ (as Zupitza 1966: 1–2);

b. ff. 1v/16–2v/12 OE Preface to Ælfric’s “Grammar”: ‘IC Ælfric wolde þas lytlan boc awændan to | englisum gereorde of þam stæfcræfte . . . 7 hit

- bið þon(ne) his pleoh na min mycel | yfel deð se unwritene gif he nele
his woh gerihta(n)' (as Zupitza 1966: 2–3);
- c. ff. 2v/13–41v/22 Ælfric's "Grammar": *INCIPIUNT excerptiones de arte | Grammatica anglice | Secundum Donatum. omnis uox aut arti|culata est aut confuse . . .* (line 18) *Stemn is geslagen lyft gefred|endlic on hlyste'*; ends: *'Pris|cianus segð þ(æt) man sceal tocnawan ælces dæ|les mihte 7 getacnunge. 7 swa undergitan. hwæt he / sig [catchword]'* (as Zupitza 1966: 3–111/15);
- Part B (11c):
2. ff. 42r/1–89r/13 Ælfric's "Grammar": *'sig. na be þære declinunge. Gyf seo declinatio þ(æt) ys | declinung'*; ends: *'7 ús dyrne | wæron. SIG ðEOS BÓC ðUS HER GEENDOD'* (coll. Zupitza 1966: 111/15–296). Line 14 blank
- f. 89r/15–18 Units of measure from Ælfric's "Grammar": *'On leden spræce menigfealde getel . . . fif penegas gemaciað | anne scillinge. 7 .xxx.a penega anne mancus'* (coll. Zupitza 1966: 296).
- [Note: Text on f. 42r/19–32 (Zupitza 112/17 'laudas'-113/16 'axigendlic') supplied on membrane piece grafted on in the 16c.]
3. ff. 89r/19–96v/28 Ælfric's "Glossary": *INCIPIUNT NOMINA MULTARUM RERUM | ANGLICE NOMINA. | 'D(EU)S omnipotens þ(æt) ys 'god' ælmihtig'*; ends: *'we ne magon swa þeah ealle Naman. awritan | ne furþon geÞENCAN. | Deo gratias (about 13 letters erased)'* (coll. Zupitza 1966: 297–322).

PHOTO NOTES: Occasional dark shadowy patches in Booklet B make legibility difficult, e.g., f. 43r. The fiche documents the manuscript before the 1956 cover and endleaves were removed, so the front and back covers, as well as binding leaves front and back are included there. As noted above, these are detached at the time of writing (2014). Digital facsimile available at *Parker Library on the Web* (http://parkerweb.stanford.edu/parker/actions/page_turner.do?ms_no=449).

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