

26. MATTHAEI PARIS CHRONICA MAIORA I. { C. 9
T. James 30

Vellum, $14\frac{1}{5} \times 9\frac{3}{8}$, ff. 2 + 6 + 140 + 2 + 1, double columns of 56 lines. Cent. xiii, written at St Albans, and presented to the convent by Matthew Paris.

Collation: a² | A⁶⁽⁰⁾ | I¹⁰ (+ 3 half-leaves after 7) II¹⁰ (+ 3 half-leaves after 8) III¹² IV¹⁰–VI¹⁰ VII¹² (2 canc.) VIII⁸ IX¹⁰ X⁸ XI¹⁰ (5 canc.) XII¹² XIII¹⁴ (+ 2 leaves after 2, and 1 at the end) | B² | 1 flyleaf.

The full text of the *Chronica Maiora* contained in these two volumes **26** and **16** was edited in the Rolls Series by Dr H. R. Luard. They are described by Sir F. Madden in the preface to *Matt. Paris Historia Anglorum* (Rolls pp. liv–lxi), and by Sir T. Duffus Hardy *Catal. of Materials* III 117–119. Madden was of opinion that the two volumes were largely in the autograph of Matt. Paris: Hardy in the introduction to vol. III of his *Catalogue* contests this opinion with success, and shows that only small portions of the nature of corrections and supplements can be safely assigned to the hand of Paris himself. His discussion is accompanied by facsimiles of the various manuscripts which have been supposed to be in Paris's handwriting. The following are taken from our MSS.

pl. x, xi from **26**. pl. xii–xvi from **16**.

In what follows I summarize the descriptions of Madden and Hardy, and add a survey of the illustrations, chiefly marginal, which occur in the two volumes. Many of these have been reproduced, notably in the illustrated editions of Green's *Short History* and of *Social England*; but I do not know that any convenient list of them exists, though they are mentioned as they occur in the footnotes to Luard's edition¹.

The Cotton MS. Nero D. v contains a copy of the text of both volumes made at St Albans later in the xiiith century.

No. **26** contains the first part of the *Chronica Maiora S. Albani* of Matthew Paris, from the Creation to the end of the year 1188.

It belonged to Edward Aglionby of Balsall Temple, who lent it to Parker.

There are two flyleaves at the beginning from a Canon Law MS. (xiv: double columns, closely written).

It begins with an unidentified computation reaching to the year 231 A.D. and continues with the text of Roger of Wendover corrected and supplemented by M. Paris. The supplements are either on the margins or on inserted leaves: these inserted leaves are now paged as 15–20, 31–2, 37–8, 253–256.

¹ The drawings of shields are described by Luard *Chron. Mai.* vi, App. 1. He also gives facsimiles of the writing in vols. I and II.

The remainder of the volume is in two hands. The first writes pp. 1-14, 21-30, 33-36, 39-117, 193-252, 257-282. The second, a somewhat rounder hand, appears to extend from p. 117 to p. 192.

Marginal additions are few at first, but become more numerous after the year 1100. At the end of the year 1188, in the lower margin, is this note by a hand of cent. xiv (which also appears in **16**, on f. 37 *b*): Anno dominice incarnationis MCLXXXIX est uera continuacio historie Mathei Parisiensis in alio uolumine eiusdem manus. This refers to no. **16**.

The preliminary matter consists of :

- a.* Itinerary from London to Jerusalem with a description in French, similar to one in the Royal MS. 14, C. vii but containing some interesting variations. It occupies seven pages. The portion from London to Dover is engraved by Gough *Brit. Topogr.* pl. vii, fig. 2. The text is printed by the Soci  t   de l'Orient Latin, *Itin  raires Fran  ais*, p. 125.
- b.* A brief genealogical chronicle "Cronica sub compendio abreuiata a fratre M. Parisiensi" f. iv *b*
 Considerans prolixitatem Cronicorum Anglie.
 It runs from Alfred to Edward the Elder: then a leaf has been cut out. This took place at an early period, for a copy of it of cent. xiii late in Tiberius E. vi (f. 5) terminates in the same manner. At the end of the volume on p. 285 it is resumed and continued to Henry II.
- c.* Circular Paschal table v *a*
- d.* Table of Concurrentes etc. from 1116 to 1620: a similar one is in Royal 14, C. vii v *b*
 Diagram of the winds with verses. Sunt subsolano socii.
 Attributed to M. Paris in Nero D. 1, f. 184 *b*.
- e.* Kalendar. See below vi

The following are my own notes on illustrations, etc.:

The itinerary from London to the Holy Land, ff. i-iv *a*, is illustrated with conventional cities, and with ships and figures of men every now and then.

On iv *b*. Genealogy: circular diagram with bust of Alfred in *C*.

On v *a* the circular Paschal table is made to revolve: head of metal pin in *C*. Spandrels of beautiful ornament.

Another table or diagram formerly stuck to the lower part of the page is gone.

On v *b*. Table of Concurrentes. Diagram of winds etc. (French and English names).

On vi. Kalendar, six months on page.

- Jan.* 3. Genouefe *red.*
 4. Oct. dedicac.
 5. Dep. S. Aedwardi *red.* De S. Aedwardo comm.
 7. Dep. S. Aedwardi reg. et c. hic fiet festum *red.*
 19. Dep. S. Wlstani *red.*
 27. Festum Reliquiarum in eccl. S. Albani *blue.*
- Feb.* 28. Osuualdi archiep.
- Mar.* 2. Ceadde ep. C.
 10. Inuencio S. Oswini Reg. M. *red.*
 25. Ermelandi.

- Ap.* 11. Guthlaci C. Added, Ob. Michael de mentemor. Abb. (1349, date in lower margin).
 19. Aelphegi archiep. M. *red.*
 24. Inuencio S. Yuonis Ep.
 30. Erkenuualdi Ep. *red.*
- May* 7. Johannis Archiep.
- June* 7. Transl. S. Wlstani Ep. *red.*
 14. Basilii Archiep. *red.*
 17. Botulfi Abb. *red.*
 21. Leofredi Abb. (*black*). De S. Albano iii lect. *red.*
 22. Passio S. Albani Anglorum prothomartiris *blue.*
 23. Aetheldrede V.
 25. Inuencio S. Amphibali sociorumque eius *blue*, with octave.
- July* 2. Swithin *red.*
- Aug.* 2. Inuencio S. Albani *blue and red*, with octave.
 5. Oswaldi *red.*
 20. Oswini reg. m. *red*, with octave.
- Sept.* 4. Transl. S. Cuthberti *red.*
 17. Lamberti *red.*
- Oct.* 13. Transl. S. Ae(d)wardi Reg. C. *green.*
 17. Transl. S. Etheldride V.
- Nov.* 17. Hugonis Ep. C. *red.*
 20. Aedmundi Reg. M. *blue.*
- Dec.* 3. Birini.

Illustrations :

- p. 7. Brutus worshipping Diana, who has deer's horns and winged feet.
- p. 11. Lear and his three daughters: *Cordeilla* has scroll, *tant as tant vauz tant te pris pere.*
- p. 24. Alexander sits holding globe: feet on lion and dragon.
- p. 28. Cassibelanus? seated king.
- p. 30. The Virgin reclining: child in manger: ox and ass: curtain on rod.
- p. 32. The three kings on camels gallop to *R.*
- p. 35. Crucifixion with Virgin and St John: four nails.
- p. 36. A man stones Stephen kneeling.
- p. 39. A small figure of the Virgin.
- p. 66. Merlin half-length only partly inked in: below two dragons and boar, in pencil.
- p. 87. Machometus: below his feet a red pig *sus*: he holds two scrolls. Poligamus esto. Scriptum est enim Crescite et multiplicamini. Presentes delicias pro futuris non spernite.
- p. 105. Bust: Offa in cowl, crown falls off showing tonsure: another of a woman in cowl and crown.
- p. 116. Alban beheaded. Executioner catches his (own) falling eyes in *L.* hand.
- p. 117. Offa directs two men, who dig up Alban's coffin.
- p. 129. Alfred half-length in medallion with scroll, *Primus in anglia regnavi solus.*
- p. 160. Single combat on horseback between *Aedmundus ferreum latus* and *Cnuto rex Dacie.* *Angli* and *Daci* in two towers *R.* and *L.*
- p. 165. *Mimekan nanus* cuts off legs of *Rodogan gigas* (lightly inked in).
- p. 172. Shield and crown of Harold (*az.* lion rampant *or*).
- p. 174. The same reversed. Shield of William (*gu.* 3 leopards *or*).
- p. 180. William's shield and crown reversed. William II's shield and crown (the same).

- p. 197. Crosier (of Abbot Richard of S. Albans).
- p. 211. Hand holding taper (opposite description of the Holy places : and account of William's court in Westminster Hall).
- p. 212. Shield and crown of William II reversed : bow and arrow below.
Shield of Henry I.
- p. 218. Crosier and cross reversed (death of Anselm).
- p. 220. Two Templars on one horse.
Hospital founded by Matilda in London.
- p. 222. Men fall out of ship (wreck of the White Ship).
- p. 223. Bust of Alexander of Scotland ?
- p. 225. Shield and crown of Henry I reversed.
Shield of Stephen.
- p. 234. Bust of David of Scotland.
- p. 238. Shield of Stephen reversed. Shield of Henry II.
- p. 254. Baptism of the Soldan of Yconium by the patriarch of Antioch : in a tub.
A cleric holds box of chrism.
- p. 261. Shield of the young king Henry, party per pale *gu.* and *sable* to denote death.
The crown above, not upright.
- p. 263. Murder of Becket : the four knights ; Grim with cross interposing. Becket falls away from altar on *R.*
- p. 265. Falling walls (Leicester).
- p. 267. Bust of William of Scotland, crown falling off. Bust of a Scotchman with axe, weeping.
- p. 270. Robert Mercer of S. Albans, and two men digging up S. Amphibalus.
- p. 274. Crown and shield of Philip of France (*az.* six fleurs-de-lys *or* 3, 2, 1).
Reversed crown of Louis.
- p. 275. Crowned mitre of Prester John.
Crown and shield (half black) of the young Henry, reversed.
- p. 279. Battle. *Salaadinus* and *Guido rex* struggling for *Crux Sancta*.

After the text, a full page with three splendid coloured drawings. Busts of crowned Virgin, and Child with cross-nimbus : border of clouds below.

Below this on *L.* Head of the dying Christ. On *R.* Head of Christ full-face with jewelled collar of tunic.

Mappa mundi on verso, Gough *Brit. Topogr.* i 66, 86. The map in Nero D. v was copied from this. Genealogy of kings, one leaf.

On the last flyleaf are notes, viz.:

- a.* *Title.* Cronica ab origine mundi usque ad a. d. millesimumsimum videlicet usque ad mortem henrici (II) Regis anglie.
 - b.* iiii marce auri dedit ... de ... pro pace.
vii marce dabantur comiti leg̃ S. pro carta quam habuit a rege de custodia Wascon.
 - c.* S. Patrick prophesies greatness of the unborn S. David.
 - d.* Circa carleolum *patria* est dicta aluedele.
Hic. uersus austrum cocormue villa. *patria.* complem.
Aqua dorecte et currit (?) per cocormue.
 - e.* Edwarde Aglionby of Balsall Temple (xvi).
 - f.* Ihesus maria Johnes (xv).
 - g.* Note on dispersion of Apostles and division of the world.
 - h.* List of Saxon kings, Egbert to Ethelred.
- Verso covered with paper apparently blank.