

**Ranulf Higden OSB, Polychronicon. Biblia pauperum etc.****R. Higden Polychronicon. Biblia Pauperum etc.****Codicology:** Vellum, mm 299 x 202, (11.5 x 8.1 in.), ff. 1+ 42 + 18 + 34 + 2, four portions of cent. **xiv, xiii, xv.****Multivolume:****Volume I:** Cent. **xiv late**, well written, 39 lines to a page.**Volume II:** Cent. **xiii**, small hands: double columns of 55 etc. lines.**Volume III:** A Biblia Pauperum, drawings in outline with washes of yellow, brown, red, purple. Cent. **xv early**.**Volume IV:** Cent. **xv**, double columns of 46 lines, small hand.**Collation:** 1 flyleaf, 1<sup>8</sup> 2<sup>10</sup> 3<sup>8</sup>-5<sup>8</sup> | A<sup>12</sup> (11, 12 canc.) B<sup>8</sup> || a<sup>12</sup> b<sup>12</sup> c<sup>10</sup> || d (two).**2 fo.:** “uocionis”.**Provenance:** At the bottom of f.  $\text{¶}$ , [1r] is:“liber m. Johannis Gunthorp decani Wellensis<sup>¶</sup> emptus a dauid lyene<sup>¶</sup> 13<sup>a</sup> Julii a<sup>o</sup> vij<sup>o</sup> h(enrici)<sup>¶</sup> vij<sup>mi</sup> pro iiiij<sup>s</sup> iiiij<sup>d</sup>.”  
Gunthorp<sup>¶</sup> was a considerable collector of books. He was Dean of Wells<sup>¶</sup> and died in 1498.**Additions:** (f. iv) The flyleaf, of smaller size than the rest, has a late list of contents.**Foliation:** ff. a-b + i + 1-94 + ii-iii + c-d**Language:** Latin.**Contents:****Volume I**

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## 1.

**1r-42v** **Ranulf Higden OSB<sup>¶</sup>, Polychronicon (incomplete)****Ranulphi Higdeni<sup>¶</sup> polychronici Lib. I. et pars 2ndi**Prologue to Higden<sup>¶</sup>'s *Polychronicon*1r *Incipit:* Post preclaros arcium scriptores

4r This page is left blank for a large circular diagram of the world

25r The poem on Wales<sup>¶</sup> is in triple columns

Liber II begins f. 37v; ends f. 42r with ch. vi

42r *Explicit* Ninus<sup>¶</sup> et Semiramis<sup>¶</sup> ampliaruntRolls ed. II 250<sup>[Babington 1869]</sup>42v blank: pencil note: “numerus fo. script. 41” (**xv**)

42v () A sketch of a ship drawn with dry point

**Volume II**

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## 2.1.

**43r-50v** **Hugh of Fouilloy OSA<sup>¶</sup>, Auicularius (De auibus)****Moralizationes avium****[Nasmith:] In hoc tractatu spatia ubique occurrunt vacua figuris avium ut videtur designata****2a**

Begins with a portion of an imperfect tract: about the Fall, and origin of Evil

43r (1r) *Incipit:* Quod quia falsum est a deo hoc esse necesse est. Nam quia ab alio hic sit quam a solo deo cum ex ipso auctore operis mali non sit

43v (1v) Ending unfinished

43v () *Explicit* cui omnis est subiecta ratio nature quam ut aiunt in muliere. hoc

Change of hand

**2b**

43v (1v) Libellus cuiusdam ad Rainerum de tribus columbis: no title

43v () *Incipit:* Desiderii tui karissime petitionibus satisfacere cupiens columbam cuius penne etc.Another copy, illustrated, is at Sidney Sussex College, no. 100<sup>[CSS100]</sup> in my Catalogue: another at Sion College, London<sup>[LAML28]</sup>. The tract not infrequently accompanies Bestiaries

Printed with the works of Hugo de S. Victore II 394

Spaces are left here for 28 pictures

Ends with a section on the eagle

50r (8v) *Incipit:* Aquila uocata ab acumine oculorum50v () *Explicit* dum se ipsum christo per bonam operationem conformem redditAs in the copy at Sion College<sup>[LAML28]</sup>

## 2.2.

**50v-50v** **Cyprian of Carthage<sup>l</sup>, *De dominica oratione***

**2c**

- 50v (8v) *Rubric*: Ex tractatu beati cipriani martiris<sup>l</sup> de oratione dominica  
50v () *Incipit*: Sit orantibus sermo et disciplina  
Followed by extracts from Jerome<sup>l</sup>, Augustine<sup>l</sup>, Gregory<sup>l</sup>

**3.**

**50v-54r** **Hugh of Fouilloy OSA<sup>l</sup>, *De rota praelationis***

*Tractatus de rota fortunae; cum duabus illuminationibus ipsius rotae fraterculis circumdatae, omni venustate denudatis*

- 50v (8v) Prologue (no title)  
50v (8v) *Incipit*: Sicut comperi non est tibi frater honorosum diu fuisse discipulum  
50v () *Explicit* rotam praelationis in capite presentis opusculi pingam  
51r (9r) List of capitula (18). (1) de pictura rote; (2) de hiis que sunt in rota; (3) de axe; (4) de modiolis etc.; (18) qualis debeat esse prelatus teste beato Gregorio<sup>l</sup>  
51r () *Incipit*: Uiri religiosi uita sicut rota uoluitur  
51r () Half the page is occupied by a picture of the wheel of Prelacy. At the top is throned the Abbas with crosier: on each side is a monk turning the wheel by the tyre. At bottom sits another with book on desk. All are in black habits. Many inscriptions in red explain the picture. The twelve spokes of the wheel, and its other parts, symbolize virtues  
52v (10v) The first part ends  
52v (10v) *Explicit* si culmen praelationis ascendere contradicat  
52v (10v) Part II  
52v (10v) *Incipit*: Post rotam uere religionis locuturi sumus frater de rota simulationis iob  
52v () *Explicit* a legente facilius intelligi possint  
52v () Capitula (14). (1) de pictura rote...; (14) de circuito rote  
52v () Half the page is occupied by a picture of the same character as before. Abbot at top, monk in brown on L. in black on R., one at bottom sits dejected. These four are respectively Honor possidentis, labor adquirendi, dolor amittentis, pudor nil habentis. The parts of this wheel symbolize vices  
The edges of 2 leaves following f. 42r, |52v| are intrusive, apparently  
Text  
53r (11r) *Incipit*: (S)tatura rote similitudinem designat ypocrite  
54r (12r) *Explicit* Et hoc iterum de predictis rotis sufficiat donec de his aliquis potiora dicat  
This text occurs, without the prologue, in Bodl. MS. Digby 171 f. 71<sup>[OBL772]</sup>

**4.**

**54v-60v** **Sermons**

*Sermones in diversos festos*

- 54v (12v) Sermons  
54v () *Incipit*: Sufficit tamen de una uirgine loqui uerum  
Treats of various classes of feasts  
56v (14v) *Incipit*: Sapientia edificauit sibi domum  
59v (17v) *Incipit*: Adorna thalamum  
60r (18r) *Incipit*: Septuagesima in alterius rei memoriam  
60v (18v) *Incipit*: Vi(n)centi dabo manna absconditum  
60v () Pencil note. "Numerus fo. script. 18"

**Volume III**

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**5.**

**61r-94v** **Biblia pauperum**

*Delineationes historiarum veteris et novi testamenti numero XCVII haud inelegantes, coloribus leuiter tinctae*

The pictures (lacunae excepted) exactly coincide with a set in British Museum (King's MS. 5)<sup>[LBLK05]</sup> of Flemish (Dutch) work, very finely coloured. The arrangement in the copy before us is peculiar. The two types are on the Left page one above the other; the antitype on Right page with four busts of prophets bearing scrolls:

The text on the Left page is a brief explanation of the type, beginning: "Legitur [Gen. cap. xxix<sup>o</sup>] quod..."

On the Right page are usually three verses, e.g. for Epiphany

- 63r () Plebs notat hec gentes christo iungi cupientes.  
Christus adoratur aurum thus mirra letatur.

Hoc tipice gentem notat ad christum uenientem,

of which the 1st and 3rd refer to the types and the 2nd to the antitype

A reduced facsimile of two pages is given in Camb. Ant. Soc. Proceedings Vol. VII, pi. xii<sup>[CAS]</sup>

The British Museum MS. has its pictures arranged as a series of triptychs  
I give a list of the subjects, with notes from the British Museum MS.<sup>[LBLK05]</sup>, which I will call k

**1**

The types are gone: in k they are the Fall and Gideon<sup>o</sup>'s Fleece

61r (1r) Annunciation

**2**

61v (1v) Burning Bush. Aaron<sup>o</sup>'s Rod

62r (2r) Nativity

**3**

62v (2v) Abner<sup>o</sup> comes to David<sup>o</sup>. Queen of Sheba<sup>o</sup>

63r (3r) Adoration of the Magi

**4**

63v (3v) Purification of women. Hannah<sup>o</sup> offers Samuel<sup>o</sup>

64r (4r) Presentation of Christ<sup>o</sup>: 4 is wanting in k

**5**

64v (4v) Flight of Jacob<sup>o</sup> from Esau<sup>o</sup>. David<sup>o</sup> let down from window

65r (5r) Flight into Egypt<sup>o</sup>

**6**

65v (5v) Moses<sup>o</sup> destroys the Golden Calf. Dagon falls (Two priests carry a jewelled shrine: two images fall)

66r (6r) Idols of Egypt fall. (Joseph<sup>o</sup>, and Mary<sup>o</sup> on the ass, enter on left)

**7**

66v (6v) Abraham<sup>o</sup> and the three Angels. The Three Children in the Furnace

67r (7r) The Transfiguration. 7 is wanting in k.

**8**

67v (7v) Nathan<sup>o</sup> convicts David<sup>o</sup>. Miriam<sup>o</sup> smitten with leprosy

68r (8r) Magdalene<sup>o</sup> washes Christ<sup>o</sup>'s feet

**9**

68v (8v) Darius<sup>o</sup> bids Ezra<sup>o</sup> build the Temple. Judas Maccabaeus<sup>o</sup> cleanses the Temple

69r (9r) Christ<sup>o</sup> cleanses the Temple

**10**

69v (9v) Elisha<sup>o</sup> (Elijah<sup>o</sup>) raises the widow's son. Elisha<sup>o</sup> stretches himself on the Shunammite's son

70r (10r) Raising of Lazarus<sup>o</sup>

**11**

70v (10v) Judith<sup>o</sup>'s return with Holofernes<sup>o</sup> head. Sons of the prophets meet Elisha<sup>o</sup>

71r (11r) Entry into Jerusalem

**12**

71v (11v) Melchizedek<sup>o</sup> and Abraham<sup>o</sup>. The Manna

72r (12r) The Last Supper

**13**

72v (12v) Joseph<sup>o</sup> sold to the Ishmaelites. Joseph<sup>o</sup> sold to Potiphar<sup>o</sup>

73r (13r) Judas<sup>o</sup> and the Priests

**14**

73v (13v) Joab<sup>o</sup> kills Abner<sup>o</sup>. Tryphon<sup>o</sup> betrays Jews

74r (14r) The Betrayal

**15**

74v (14v) Jezebel<sup>o</sup> slays prophets. Danie<sup>o</sup> cast into the den

75r (15r) Dampnacio Christi<sup>o</sup> ad mortem (Pilate<sup>o</sup> washing his hands)

**16**

75v (15v) Joseph<sup>o</sup> stripped by his brothers. Absalom<sup>o</sup> conspires against David<sup>o</sup>

76r (16r) Conspiracio in mortem Christi<sup>o</sup> (Jews on Right Christ<sup>o</sup> bound on Left)

**17**

76v (16v) Shame of Noah<sup>o</sup>. Elisha<sup>o</sup> mocked

77r (17r) Christ<sup>o</sup> mocked and crowned with thorns

**18**

77v (17v) Isaac<sup>o</sup> carries the wood. Elijah<sup>o</sup> and the widow with two sticks

78r (18r) Bearing the Cross

**19**

78v (18v) Sacrifice of Isaac<sup>o</sup>. Brazen serpent

79r (19r) Crucifixion

**20**

79v (19v) Creation of Eve<sup>o</sup>. Rock smitten

80r (20r) The side pierced

**21**

80v (20v) Joseph<sup>□</sup> put in the pit. Jonah<sup>□</sup> cast overboard  
81r (21r) The Entombment

22

81v (21v) Samson<sup>□</sup> carries the gates. Jonah<sup>□</sup> cast up  
82r (22r) The Resurrection

23

82v (22v) David<sup>□</sup> kills Goliath<sup>□</sup>. Samson<sup>□</sup> rends the lion  
83r (23r) Harrowing of Hell

24

83v (23v) Reuben<sup>□</sup> finds the pit empty. The spouse in Canticles finds the bedchamber empty  
84r (24r) The Women at the Sepulchre

25

84v (24v) Habakkuk<sup>□</sup> brought to Danie<sup>□</sup> finds him alive in the den. The spouse in Canticles finds her beloved  
85r (25r) Noli me tangere (Christ<sup>□</sup> has the spade)

26

85v (25v) Joseph<sup>□</sup> makes himself known (the brethren are in a ship). So also in k. The Prodigal's return (the fatted calf slain: a man sharpening his knife)  
86r (26r) Christ<sup>□</sup> appears to the Virgin and Apostles

27

86v (26v) Gideon<sup>□</sup> and the angel. Jacob<sup>□</sup> wrestles with the angel  
87r (27r) Incredulity of Thomas<sup>□</sup>

28

87v (27v) Enoch<sup>□</sup> translated. Elijah<sup>□</sup> translated  
88r (28r) Ascension

29

88v (28v) Giving of the Law. Elijah<sup>□</sup>'s sacrifice: fire descends  
89r (29r) Pentecost

30

89v (29v) Bathsheba<sup>□</sup> seated by Solomon<sup>□</sup>. Esther<sup>□</sup> seated by Ahasuerus<sup>□</sup>  
90r (30r) Coronation of the Virgin

31

90v (30v) Judgment of Solomon<sup>□</sup>. The Amalekite slain (2 Sam. i)  
91r (31r) Last Judgment

32

91v (31v) Job<sup>□</sup> and his children feasting. Jacob<sup>□</sup>'s ladder  
92r (32r) Gaudia bonorum. The Heavenly Palace with a crowned head at each window

33

92v (32v) Dathan<sup>□</sup> and Abiram<sup>□</sup> swallowed up (standing in earth up to their knees). Sodom<sup>□</sup> and Gomorrah<sup>□</sup> destroyed  
93r (33r) Pena dampnatorum. Souls and devils in Hell mouth  
93v (33v) On this page a pencil note. Numerus fo. pict. 33. Numerus fo. script, et pict. totius libri 92 ff. 34r, |94r|-34v, |94v| blank

## Volume IV

### 6.

iir-iiiv **François de Meyronnes OFM<sup>□</sup>, *Moralia siue Liber de uirtutibus (excerpt)***

*Fragmentum sermonis*

*The Moralia of Fr. de Mayronis<sup>□</sup>, imperfect*

iir *Incipit:* Auditu auris audiui te etc. quia uero audicio diuina pertinet etc.

See MS. Merton College, Oxford 201. 1<sup>[OME201]</sup>

CCC: space available for notes on the current status of the encoding

- text: copied from James.txt BA
- markup: BA
- markupCheck: checked by BA, CF
- msCheck: NJM 28/11/2008
- remarks: