Old English Bede

Beda Historia Saxonice

**Codicology:** Vellum, mm 340 x 205, (13.7 x 8.5 in.), ff. 244 + 2, 25 lines to a page (27 in quires K-N). Cent. xi, in two principal hands of which one is remarkably large. Both are clear and black.

**Collation:** 1 modern flyleaf, 1°² 3°-12° 13°-40° (4 canc.) 41°-30° 31° (wants 6), 1 flyleaf modern. The first quire with an old mark is F (6); this marking goes to M or perhaps N (13): 14 is marked A; this marking runs to R(30): 31 has no mark.

**Provenance:** The volume was one of those given by Leofric⁴ to Exeter. On 244v, [488] is his inscription in good round minuscules, in Latin and Anglo-Saxon (Cameron B16.10). It is the middle of cent. xi, and that assigned by Dr G. F. Warner⁵ is 1030-1040.

**Research:** This MS. was used by Abraham Whelock for his edition of 1644. Various notes on flyleaves and margins are in his hand.

**Language:** Old English and Latin.

**Contents:**

1. 1-488 *Old English Bede* with marginal additions

*The History of Bede* in the Anglo-Saxon version

Cameron B9.6⁶[Cameron 1973]

1 Begins with Capitula

1 0 Rubric: DIS / IS / SEO / GESETNDES DISSE / BRYTENE OD HIBERNIA / etc. in capitals which gradually diminish in size


8 Marginalia: Masses for Sexagesima and Quinquagesima, continued on following pages (p. 13 Feria iii infra quinquag., p. 14 Sabbatum)

16 Marginalia: Dom. int(ium) xi (1st Sun. in Lent). Masses, continued up to Good Friday (p. 36 and 38-39)

18 Preface of Bede⁵: Initial and first words not inserted

22 Text begins: Initial and first words not inserted

45 Marginalia: Mass for St Benedict⁸

46 Marginalia: Office for Easter Eve

60 Marginalia: SS. Philip⁹ and James¹. Invention of the Cross

61 Marginalia: 61 sqq. Antiphons, etc. for Advent

66 Liber II. Initial not inserted

75 (74) Marginalia: For the Christmas season

There is no more marginal writing until p. 122

122 Marginalia: “On bone forman deex on geare þæt is on pone ærestan geohel daeg”. (Of Christmas Day and the marvels accompanying the Nativity)

124 Liber III. Initial not inserted

124 A bit of ornament in the margin. Nothing more till p. 161 where is an initial in fine outline
with a human figure hanging by the neck. The next is at p. 175

124 Marginalia: “On bone ilcan daeg cristes acennewesse godes circean arporniðað sanctam anastasiam”
125 Marginalia: “(O)n done forman daeg bið sancta eufemiandi tid”
126 Marginalia: Similar notice of St Stephen
127 Marginalia: (l. 4), St John Evangelist
128 Marginalia: The Innocents
129 Marginalia: St Silvester. A blank follows
For the above matter (from p. 122) see Old English Martyrology (E. E. T. S.) ed. Herzfeld [Herzfeld 1905]
131 Marginalia: Mis(sa) quam sacerdos pro se debet
132 Marginalia: Latin prayer: “Pietatem tuam quesumus donec nostrorum absolve uno vincula delictorum”

133 0 Marginalia: Anglo-Saxon follows: þið ymne nim eorþan ofer peorp mid þinre spīran handa under þinum spīran fet 7 cpet fo ic under fot funde ic hit hpet eorbe meg, etc. (Cockayne, Saxon Leechdoms, Rolls Series I 384 [Cockayne 1864])
Cameron A43.8 [Cameron 1973]

134 Marginalia: pp. 192-194. Offices for the Eve and Feast of All Saints
135 Marginalia: pp. 196-198. Fragment of Salomon and Saturn, used by Kemble [Kemble 1845-48] and other editors. It supplements the only other known MS. (MS 422 [CCC422] in this collection)
Cameron A13 [Cameron 1973]

136 0 Incipiit: Saturnus creād hpet ic iglanda
137 0 Explicit: ofer mægene 7 hine eac ofslēhð. T. (l. 189 Kemble [Kemble 1845-48])
206 initial in pencil
On p. 207 sqq., initials in plain black
Cameron A43.9, A43.10, B23.1.1 [Cameron 1973]

139 Marginalia: “Ne forstolen ne forholen etc.
Gif feoh ymne undernumen etc.
... Petur pol patrie pilip marie brigit felic in nomine dei 7 chirci <Cyriacus> is coupled with Patrick in the hymn Rogo patrem in Harl. 7653 [H.B.1] and the Leabhar Breac [I.B.2987]>> qui querit(i) inuentit”

What follows has not been printed

207 Marginalia: “Christus illum siue (= sibi) in terris ficarium qui de gemino captivi liberet seruuitio pleroseque / de seruitute quos redemet hicam innumeros de solabii obsolet dominio ymnos / cum apocalipsis salmosque cantat dei cuscous et edificationem dei tractat pupulum quem legem / in trinitate sacre credent nominis tribusque personis unum · Sona domine (zona domini) precintus diebus ac noctibus (sine) intermissione deum oriet dominum cucit ingentes laboris pepturis pepturis (sic) premium / cum apostoli(s) regnatur sciremper adsursum laudes omnes amantes deum sancta merita uiri in Christo / beati patricii episcki · quomodo bonom ab actum simulatur angelines perfectum / que est propter uiaum / equatur apostolis patricii laudes semper dicamus ut nos cum illo defendat deus. / Crux Christi reducat Crux Christi perrit et iuuenta est habraehem tibi uias montes / p. 208 / siluas semitas fluminas andronas cluat Isaac tibi tenebra inducta Crux iacob te / ad iudicium ligatum perducet iudei christum crucifixerunt persium / () sibimet ipsum perpetuauert / opus celuarunt quod non potuerunt celare sic nec hoc furtum celatur nec celare (-ri) possit / per dominum nostrum”. Space follows. Cf. Cockayne loc. cit. 60, 286 [Cockayne 1864]

208 0 Marginalia: Receipt: “þið eah peerce”, etc. Cockayne I 382 [Cockayne 1864]
Cameron B21.5.1 [Cameron 1973]

The lines from “Christus illum” to “deffendat deus” are the last stanzas, very corruptly written, of the Hymn of SS. Sechnall or Secundinus on St Patrick, of which only four complete copies are known. This fragment has not been noticed. Special efficacy was attached to the stanzas here quoted. See Bernard and Atkinson (The Irish Liber Hymnorum) [Bernard and Atkinson 1889]

224 Liber IV. Initial
225 (Liber IV) initial in outline, the first of a numerous and very pretty series
226 Marginalia: pp. 224-225. Office for the Invention of the Cross

Cameron B3.4 [J. J. 1893]

228 Marginalia: Interrupted at p. 272 by a prayer in Latin:
“þið ealra feoa grimessum. Dextera domini fecit uirtutem, dextera domini exaltatu me” (Cockayne I 386 [Cockayne 1864])
Cameron B23.1.2 [Cameron 1973]

Copied for Professor Napier: apparently only in this MS.
Cameron B3.3.21 [Cameron 1973]


Cockayne I 399 [Cockayne 1864]

Cockayne I 399 [Cockayne 1864]

Cockayne I 399 [Cockayne 1864]
Copied for Professor Napier: apparently only here


Copied for Professor Napier: also in MS 303, p. 72[CCC303]

Cameron B3.2.29 and B8.5.3[CCC303]

Marginalia: Charm. “þið sarum eagem. Domine sancte pater omnipotens aeterne deus sana occulos hominis istius N etc.” (Cockayne I 387[Cockayne 1864])

Cameron B23.1.3[CCC303]

Marginalia: “þið sarum earum” (Cockayne I 387[Cockayne 1864])

Marginalia: “Rex glorie Christe [raphaelem angelum] exclude fandoro[a]hel auribus famulo dei illi mox recede ab aurium torquenti sed in raphaelo angelo sanitatem audiuit componas. Per. þið magan segenesse”. (Cockayne I 387[Cockayne 1864])

Marginalia: “Adiuua nos deus salutaris noster exclude angelum sanielem angelum malum qui stomachum dolorem stomachi facit sed in dormieli sancto angelo tuo sanitatem serui tuo in tuo sancto nomine sanatione[m] ad ad tribuere. per” a black initial, and then some omitted

Marginalia: “Creator et sanctificator pater et filius et spiritus sanctus ut sit benefictio tua super omnia dona ista. per. + sator · arepo · tenet · opera · rotas. Deus qui ab initio fecisti hominem et dedisti ei in adiutiorum similem sibi ut crescerie [vel nt] et multiplicure [vel nt] da super terram huic famulam tuam N ut prospere et sine dolore parturit”

Marginalia: pp. 350-353. Charm. (Wanley, p. 115[Wanley 1781], Cockayne I 388[Cockayne 1864])

“Ic me on jisse gyrdle beleuce”

Marginalia: initial

Marginalia: initial

Liber V. No initial

Marginalia: pp. 370-373. Masses for Common of Saints and Pro rege. Rubrics in red capitals (very rough)

Marginalia: initial (very rough)


“Men ða leofestan us is to pordianne 7 to mersianne seo gemind þaes halgan heale engles sanete Michaelis” (hand changes on p. 408).

Copied for Professor Napier: apparently only here

Cameron B3.3.24[CCC303]

Marginalia: initial (very rough)

Marginalia: a very pretty initial, with a small figure of Christ, beardless, on the Cross, the Divine Hand above (within the Cross)

Marginalia: a sketch of a man with two rings confining his legs

On f. 436 and 448 are scribbles in runes Cameron B25.4.1[CCC303]

Marginalia: a bit of ornament in pencil


Marginalia: Responses etc. for S. Martin1

Marginalia: Responses etc. for John Baptist1 and Peter1 and Paul1

Marginalia: “For þone cyng 7 for þone byscceop 7 for eall cris(tene...edge of leaf gone)”

Marginalia: A Mass (a pagnarorum nos defende periculis)

Old English Bede ends

Explicitò this daga ende drihten herigan. Amen

Marginalia: pp. 485-489. Following the end of the text. Homily giving the story of the Passion. “Men þe gehirano hu hu (space) drihten pæs sprecende on þas tid to his geferun”. Copied for Professor Napier: apparently only here

Cameron B3.2.19[CCC303]

Marginalia: Unimportant scribbles. Above the Leofric1-inscription is: “Atte le”

Marginalia: [Added: “gepeorþe ðæt”] This is the end of the scribe’s prayer which is given in full by Wanley [Wanley 1781], by Miller [Miller 1806] and by Schipper

Marginalia: surrounded and partly written over by later text, is part of a fine figure of Christ crucified: it lacks the left arm. The head is bearded, the Cross not drawn

Marginalia: pp. 484-488. Following the end of the text. Homily giving the story of the Passion. “Men þe gehirano hu hu (space) drihten pæs sprecende on þas tid to his geferun”. Copied for Professor Napier: apparently only here

Cameron B3.2.19[CCC303]

Marginalia: on the next page is a small nude figure (also written over) standing on rocky ground and holding up his hands, spread out on a level with his shoulders

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