

## The Dover Bible, Volume I

## Bibliorum Pars I

**Codicology:** Vellum, mm 547 x 372, (21.7 x 14.5 in.), ff. 273, double columns of 45 lines. Cent. **xiii**, in a fine hand much resembling that of MS 2<sup>[CCCC0021]</sup>.

**Collation:** I<sup>47</sup> (wanting 1, 4) II<sup>8</sup>-XXXV<sup>8</sup> (wants 8). Old foliation and numeration of quires incorrect.

**Provenance:** From St Martin's Priory, Dover<sup>¶</sup>. On the lower margin of f. 4r is the press-mark of that house: “: : I : Prima pars Bible ... es inter omnia animancia ... 273.”

It is entered in the old catalogue of 1389.

See my *Ancient Libraries of Canterbury and Dover*, pp. 413, 522<sup>[James 1903]</sup>

**Foliation:** ff. i + 1-273.

**Language:** Latin.

## Contents:

## 1.

1r-273v *The Dover Bible, Volume I*

- f. 1 gone
- 1r (2r) *Incipit:* Incipit ordo librorum catholicorum qui in ecclesia romana ponuntur in anni circulo ad legendum
- 1r () *Explicit:* In octauas theophanie eosdem psalmos eademque lectiones quas in theophania preter has festiuitates quas superius diximus
- 1r (2r) *Rubric:* Incipit prologus Jeronimi<sup>¶</sup> presbiteri in Genesim
- 1r () *Incipit:* Desiderii mei
- 2r (3r) Capitula (84)  
f. 4 (frontispiece to Genesis with word IN) gone
- 3r (5r) Genesis, beginning: “principio”: four lines in large coloured capitals
- 23r (25r) *Rubric:* Explicit liber Bresith id est Genesis. Incipiunt capitula libri Hellesmoth idest Exodus
- 23r () Capitula (149)
- 24r (26r) Initial to Exodus of fine conventional foliage on blue ground. It contains a bust of Jacob<sup>¶</sup> in medallion in the cross-bar of the H and busts of the twelve patriarchs in four groups of three below
- 41r (43r) Capitula to Leviticus (89)
- 41v () Initial to Leviticus: decorative, contains lion and dragon
- 53v (55v) Capitula to Numbers (74)
- 54v (56v) Initial to Num. (L.) containing six busts in medallions, the topmost one an angel, the others men
- 72r (74r) Capitula to Deuteronomy (154)
- 73v () Initial to Deuteronomy (H). Above, on blue ground, Moses<sup>¶</sup> nimbed, pointing to *Mons Horeb* on L. and holding scroll which hangs down into the lower half of the letter, inscribed, in wonderfully fine capitals: “sufficit vobis quod in hoc monte mansistis”. Below, two groups of men (five in each) on yellow ground, receiving the scroll
- 89r () *Rubric:* Explicit ad dabarim quod grece dicitur deuteronomium VIDC (= 1600)
- 89r (91r) Praefatio in Josue<sup>¶</sup>
- 89r () *Incipit:* Tandem finito
- 89v (91v) Capitula (33)
- 89v () Decorative initial to text
- 100v (102v) Capitula to Judges (18)
- 100v (102v) Initial. IOSVE<sup>¶</sup> ET CALEPH<sup>¶</sup>, two figures on brown ground robed, each holding sword and shield, one shield (L.) is *or* seven bends sinister *vert*, the other checky of *az.* and *arg.* a chief *or* fretty *sable*
- 112r () *Rubric:* Explicit liber soptim id est iudicum V II DCCL
- 112r (114r) Decorative initial to Ruth<sup>¶</sup>, with dragon and grotesque head: bust of Ruth<sup>¶</sup> in medallion
- 113v (115v) Prologue to Kings
- 113v () *Incipit:* Uiginti ed (!) duas
- 114v (116v) Capitula of 1, 2 Reg. (96)
- 114v () Initial. Blue panel on green. Goliath<sup>¶</sup> in mail shirt, peaked helmet, kite-shaped shield, long spear. David<sup>¶</sup> small on L. slings at him. At the tail of the letter Goliath<sup>¶</sup> fallen, with broken spear, helmet fallen off showing nose-piece. David<sup>¶</sup> stands on him and beheads him
- 131r (133r) 2 Reg. Initial. David<sup>¶</sup> throned rends his clothes, a courtier at each side weeps. The Amalekite kneels on L. holding up crown and ring. At the tail of the letter, a man beheads the Amalekite
- 143v (145v) Capitula of 3, 4 Reg. (86)
- 144v (146v) B Reg. Decorative initial

- 159v (161v) 4 Reg. Initial. Blue ground, coloured clouds above. Christ nimbed in car drawn by two dappled horses surrounded by red flames (He holds the reins) grasps the wrist of Elijah<sup>0</sup> on L. who is in a single brown garment. Below his feet the mantle. At bottom Elisha<sup>0</sup> looks up and holds scroll (damaged) “Pater mi Pater mi currus Israel et auriga eius”
- 173v (174v) Prologue to Isaiah<sup>0</sup>
- 173v (174v) *Incipit*: Nemo cum prophetas
- 173v () Initial. Isaiah<sup>0</sup> (on blue and green ground) with scroll “ve genti peccatrici”. He holds his hand to his face
- 195r (196r) Prologue to Jeremiah<sup>0</sup>
- 195r (196r) *Incipit*: Ieremias<sup>0</sup> propheta cui hic
- 195r () Initial. Christ (Aand ðon the background) holds scroll, “Prophetam in gentibus dedi te”. Outside the letter, on brown ground, Jeremiah<sup>0</sup> (beardless). Above him the words “A, A, A, domine deus”
- 220r () *Rubric*: Lamentatio ieremie<sup>0</sup> prophete
- 220r (220\*) *Incipit*: Et factum est
- 222r *Rubric*: Finit lamentatio Jeremie<sup>0</sup> prophete. Oratio Jeremie<sup>0</sup> prophete (Lam. v)
- 222v () *Rubric*: Explicit liber Jeremie<sup>0</sup> prophete secundum Hebraicam translationem
- 222v () Prol. to Ezekiel<sup>0</sup>
- 222v *Incipit*: Ezechiel<sup>0</sup> propheta cum ioachim<sup>0</sup>
- 222v () Initial decorative
- 245r () Prologue to Daniel<sup>0</sup>
- 245r *Incipit*: Danihelem<sup>0</sup> prophetam iuxta
- 245v Initial. Daniel<sup>0</sup> pointing upward to bust of Christ. Scroll, “cum venerit sanctus sanctorum cessabit unctio”
- 255r () Prologue to Twelve Prophets
- 255r *Incipit*: Non idem ordo
- 255r () Hos. Initial. Hosea<sup>0</sup> with scroll in both hands. “Recte vie domini iusti ambulabunt in eis”
- 258r Joel. Initial. Joel<sup>0</sup> nimbed with scroll. “Magnus enim dies domini et terribilis valde”
- 259v Amos<sup>0</sup>. With scroll. “Ve desiderantibus die(m domi)ni”
- 261v Obadiah<sup>0</sup> with scroll. “In monte Sion erit salvatio et vocabitur sanctus”
- 262r Jonah<sup>0</sup> baldheaded, with scroll in both hands. “Adhuc xl dies et ninive subvertetur”. Below his feet the fish, with Jonah<sup>0</sup>'s head protruding from its mouth
- 263r Micah<sup>0</sup>, beardless with scroll. “Erit mons domus domini preparatus in vertice montium”
- 264v (265r) Nahum<sup>0</sup>. Preface
- 264v (265r) *Incipit*: Naum<sup>0</sup> consolator
- 265r Initial. Nahum<sup>0</sup> with scroll. Dominus patiens est et magnus fortitudine
- 265v Habakkuk<sup>0</sup>. Preface
- 265v *Incipit*: Abacuc<sup>0</sup> luctator
- 265v Initial. Habakkuk<sup>0</sup> with hand to head and scroll. “Domine audivi auditionem tuam et timui”
- 266v Zephaniah<sup>0</sup>. Preface
- 266v *Incipit*: Sophonias<sup>0</sup> speculator
- 266v Initial. Zephaniah<sup>0</sup> nimbed with scroll. “Sol convertetur in tenebras et luna in sanguinem”
- 267v Haggai<sup>0</sup>. Preface
- 267v *Incipit*: Aggeus<sup>0</sup> festius
- 267v Initial. Bust of Haggai<sup>0</sup> in medallion at top with scroll. Ecce veniet desideratus cunctis gentibus
- 268v Zechariah<sup>0</sup>. Preface
- 268v *Incipit*: Zacharias<sup>0</sup> memor
- 268v Initial like the last, scroll. “Exulta satis filia syon ecce rex tuus venit”
- 272r Malachi<sup>0</sup>. Preface
- 272r *Incipit*: Malachias<sup>0</sup> aperte
- 272r Initial. Malachi<sup>0</sup> beardless with scroll. “Quis poterit cogitare diem adventus domini”  
Each of the minor prophets is described in title and colophon as “secundum hebraicam veritatem”
- 273r Text ends

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 14/08/08
- remarks: