

THE MEDIEVAL
MANUSCRIPTS OF TRINITY
COLLEGE, OXFORD:
A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE

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OXFORD
THE OXFORD BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY
2018

are underlined in red and flagged in the margin. The catchwords are boxed in red. For early modern annotation see Contents above.

DECORATION

The incipits of the seven Books (8^v, 20^r, 35^r, 56^r, 82^v, 135^r, 159^r) are marked by a plain red initial, 2 to 3 lines high, plus (in the case of Bks. II–VII) a red rubric. Similar initials mark: 1^r (ll. 1 and 9), 1^v (l. 43), 2^r (l. 69), 8^r (l. 348), 10^r (l. 438), 17^v (l. 806), 38^v (l. 1818), 46^v (l. 2216), 49^v (l. 2374), 53^v (l. 2570), 57^v (l. 2788), 69^v (l. 3354), 74^r (l. 3566), 79^r (l. 3802), 85^v (l. 4105), 101^r (l. 4857), 103^v (l. 4957), 106^v (l. 5109), 107^v (l. 5147), 109^v (l. 5235), 113^v (l. 5422), 126^v (l. 6010), 128^v (l. 6115), 164^v (l. 7780), 166^v (l. 7872), 173^v (l. 8172), 189^r (l. 8890), 196^v (l. 9243), 201^v (l. 9472), and 202^v (l. 9578).

PROVENANCE

(1) S. xv/xvi–xvi^r, circle of a Thurstan Tytley, William Warde, and Joshua Wesley (inscription with all three names on fol. 49^r; also inscription on 27^r: ‘Be it known unto alle men that Thrustan Tytley gave receiuyed of William ?hakyn of Stone prentys -?- mayster James Colyere’). (2) S. xvi, an individual called Cox (inscription fol. 34^v, ‘Sum Coxi liber’). [Though just conceivably one of the two copies of the text owned by Thomas Unton (nos. 12–13 on the list of his MSS: see Appendix II), these are far more likely to be MSS 16A and 16B—q.v.—which would therefore also be the two copies listed in Bernard, p. 66 as MSS 77 and 78.] (3) Trinity College, donor unknown, at some point between 1697 and c.1840. Trinity College shelfmark, i^v: ‘77/15’ (in ink).

Pl. XXVII(a),
XXXVIII(e)
Fig. 31

16A

Prick of Conscience

England; s. XV¹

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: low quality with glaring H/F contrast and many imperfections throughout; arrangement within quires variable (HF, FH throughout Qq. III and X; HF, HF throughout IV, and VII–IX; elsewhere mixed, generally with H side outermost, except Q. VI which has F side outermost). Fols. i (modern) + 116 + i (modern, foliated ‘117’). Modern pencil foliation (pre-dates current binding).

Size: 225 × 148 mm (trimmed subsequent to modern foliation). Text-block: 161 × 68 mm. Lines: 32 in Q. I; 34 in Q. II; generally 40 in Qq. III–X (but 41 on 53^v, 39 on 81, 44 or 45 on 92–6 and 103, 43 on 112^v, 41 on 113^r, 39 on 115^{r–v}, 47 on 116^r, and 35 on 116^v). Space between lines, 3–4 mm (except the top two and bottom two, where only 2 mm); height of minims, 2 mm. The scribe normally starts writing on line 3 and stops on the penultimate line (i.e. not using the two extended lines at the top of the frame, nor the second of the two at the bottom). Pricking: knife. (Only preserved at the very outer edge of a few leaves.) Ruling: hard point. The quires were generally through-ruled after folding, with re-ruling and new ruling as necessary. Double vertical

bounding lines. Top two and bottom two horizontals extended (but these more narrowly spaced than the rest).

Collation: I–IX¹²; X⁸. Two sets of signatures: (a) brown ink, lower margin right (mainly trimmed or rubbed away), ‘g’ plus roman numeral; (b) red ink, upper margin right, roman numerals. Leaf numbering associated with (b): red roman numerals throughout the first half of each quire, lower margin right.

2^o folio: Wheche aftur pys lyf

BINDING

Calf, s. xix, by Hering (stamp on the verso of the front parchment endleaf); gold-tooled armorial book-stamp of Trinity College on both covers; gold-tooled turn-ins; title of contents in gilt on spine; upper, lower, and fore-edges gilded; parchment pastedowns and end-leaves, from rebinding; 237 × 160 × 35 mm.

CONTENTS

Fols. 1^r–115^v. *Prick of Conscience*. Fol. 1^r. [P—guide-letter only] Rofitabule book ys pys to [erasure] \lerune / ... for hit is callud of conciens pricke ... Sey we to

heȝ ȝe schul heȝum done anon
 Now þat god made alle þing for mon
God to monkynde hatȝ gret loue
 Whenne he ordeide to moune biȝ houe
 þe heȝs and heuene hym to glade
 in myddulstȝet mon lastȝ he made
 þike to hym self in fayne statȝe
 To be mostȝe þeȝȝ creatȝe
 By fȝre alle creatȝus of þeȝe
 he ȝat hym þeȝe skylle and mynde
 fȝre knowȝe þeȝe god and ille
 and ȝet hym þeȝe to a þeȝe wille
 fȝre cheȝe and fȝre þeȝe hȝe
 And ouȝȝe ille þeȝeȝe he fȝlde
 And ordeide into alle to dwelle
 To leuȝe in eȝe þeȝe flesche and felle
 his þeȝes to knowȝe and hym þeȝeȝe
 And his þeȝes euȝe to þeȝe
 And if he be to god þeȝe
 þeȝe þeȝes þeȝe euȝe to þeȝe
 And þeȝeȝe if he þeȝe þeȝe
 To þeȝe he ȝeȝe outȝe þeȝe
 þat man if he ȝeȝe ful þeȝe
 þat þeȝe þeȝe heuȝe ȝeȝe þeȝe
þeȝe goddeȝe of god aneȝeȝe mon
God made mon of mostȝe dyȝȝe
 of alle creatȝus also mostȝe þeȝe
 And also to his ouȝe þeȝeȝe
 As to þeȝe By fȝre þeȝeȝe þat þeȝe
 And mostȝe þeȝe þeȝeȝe and ȝet þeȝeȝe
 þan to any creatȝe þeȝe þeȝeȝe
 and more ȝet þeȝe þeȝeȝe þeȝeȝe
 þeȝeȝeȝe þeȝeȝe ȝet he þeȝe do

Fig. 31. MS. 16A, fol. 2^v (reproduced at 93%).

god þus hym preyng [= Prologue]. Þet myȝt of þe
fadir almyȝty / þe wyt of þe son al wytty ... seȝuth
alle amen. [Fol. 1^v] *her Biginuth as ȝe schul se / Of
þys bok þe entre.* E[*r*]e þan any þyng wroȝt was /
Or any Bygnyng of noȝt was ... Fol. 115^v ... To
þe wheche place he alle us Brynge / þat for oure
hele on rode con hyng. AMEN.

Printed (without the prologue found here): Morris,
Prick, ed. Hanna and Wood; this MS. listed on p. 381.
Lewis and McIntosh, *Guide* (1982), Main Version 88:
reduced by c.8%; dialect, south Shropshire; Group
IV, Lichfield subgroup. The Latin is always written
in red. English titles to each book; occasional English
subtitles within the text. Additions by the main scribe
on fol. 86^r (ll. 6943–86), lower margin: *Quid retribu-*
uam domino pro omnibus que retribuit mihi (Ps. 115:
3); 93^r (ll. 7515–53), lower margin: *Domine miserere*
mei (Ps. 40: 5, etc.); and 109^r (*Domine*).

Major disjunctions in the order of the text across
fols. 19^r–20^v were remedied (by the original scribe)
via a series of *signes de renvoi* plus instructions written
in red. At the end line 5 on fol. 19^r appears a diamond
cross (with red dots at its corners and centre), and the
next line of the text has been replaced *in rasura* by the
rubric ‘Turne ouur to þe dowur cross’. A version of
the diamond cross reappears at the very top of fol.
19^v, whence the reader can progress uninterrupted
to the bottom of fol. 20^r. Here, however, there is
a pointing hand plus, as the final line on the page
(this time not written *in rasura*), the rubric ‘Turn a
ȝeyn wer to þe dowur hond’. The hand in question
reappears back on fol. 19^r (a couple of lines below the
first diamond and first inserted rubric). Then at the
bottom of fol. 19^r is the further added rubric, ‘turne
ouur to suche a syng’, followed by ‘Be : war’
(presented within a red box); this latter legend then
reappears in its turn above the top line on fol. 20^v.

More problems were to follow shortly afterwards
on fol. 20^v, but here the slip appears to have been
recognized and remedied almost immediately by a
much simpler expedient: in his initial transcription
the scribe jumped from l. 1294 to l. 1298, omitting the
Latin quotation in between; spotting the error after
ten words, he crossed through the line and a bit of
English in question, added the Latin, and recopied
the English words that he had just deleted, continu-
ing therefrom as normal. In a similar case, where
the Latin quotation that belongs at ll. 4417–18 was

slightly misplaced (to after l. 4421), he simply drew
red lines to indicate its proper position. Minimal
annotation—a few casual scribbles.

SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

(1) Main text an Anglicana formata, varying in formality
and neatness (and generally more formal for the Latin
than the English) but almost all by one protean hand
(the exception being the short passage by scribe 2 noted
below). On a few occasions (56^v, 97^v, 102^v, 106^v) the
scribe continued into the lower margin, writing some
or all of the next line in script of a slightly smaller
gauge; on each occasion the line is repeated at the
top of the facing verso; none is a junction between
quires. Headings and quotations (all in red) in fere-
Textualis with cursive / Anglicana features, workman-
like. (2) Fol. 2^v, lines 18–24 (text ll. 84–90). Anglicana
formata, neat, much smaller gauge than the work of
scribe 1. + Fol. 2^v (l. 13): a single correction by a ?s.
xvi hand.

DECORATION

Part incipits and other subdivisions marked by plain
initials, 3+ lines high, blue (except those on fols. 7^r
and 75^r, and the first of the two on 83^r, which are
red); in general, several of the following letters are
stroked with red. Fols. 1^r (l. 1), 1^v (l. 9), 2^v (ll. 69 and
101), 7^r (l. 372, Part I), 8^r (l. 442), 9^v (l. 552), 13^v (l. 806),
15^v (l. 994, Part II), 17^r (l. 1054), 23^r (l. 1486—space for
initial unfilled), 23^v (l. 1516), 25^v (l. 1666, Part III), 26^r
(l. 1690), 26^v (l. 1742), 27^r (l. 1762), 27^v (l. 1836), 32^r (l.
2216), 34^r (l. 2374), 36^r (l. 2570), 37^v (from 2690 to
2709, Part IV), 38^v (l. 2788), 39^r (l. 2825), 39^v (l. 2892),
44^r (l. 3274), 44^v (l. 3352), 47^r (l. 3562), 51^v (l. 3963, Part
V), 53^v (l. 4153), 60^r (l. 4685), 60^v (l. 4738), 62^r (l. 4857),
63^r (l. 4957), 65^r (c. ll. 5109–5114, and l. 5149), 56^v (l.
5239), 68^v (l. 5422), 75^r (l. 6010), 76^v (l. 6115), 80^r (6419,
Part VI; and 6437), 82^r (l. 6591), 82^v (l. 6633), 83^r (ll.
6671 and 6695), 83^v (l. 6729), 84^r (l. 6793), 84^v (l. 6837),
85^r (l. 6891), 86^v (l. 7005), 87^r (l. 7045), 87^v (l. 7093), 88^r
(l. 7131), 88^v (l. 7169), 89^r (l. 7229), 96^r (l. 7293), 93^r (l.
7530, Part VII), 93^v (l. 7566), 96^r (l. 7810), 97^r (l. 7906),
100^v (l. 8184), 103^r (l. 8374), 103^v (l. 8444), 104^r (l. 8482),
104^v (ll. 8522 and 8552), 105^r (l. 8598), 107^v (l. 8822),
109^v (l. 9530). Paraphs mark further subsections within
text. Every verse capital is stroked in red. The final
‘Amen’ (116^v) was done in black capitals outlined in
red and linked by crude red flourishing. The scribe

also drew and rubricated: pairs of diamond crosses and pointing hands to help guide the reader through the major textual disjunctions on fols. 19^r–20^v; a little face in the margin of 56^v (beside l. 4421—associated with a slight hiccup in the text and its remedy); and a pentangle-cum-cross, resembling a notary's sign, on 103^v.

PROVENANCE

(1) S. xv/xvi, John Leche II (b. by 1460, d. by 1498) or John Leche III (b. c.1480, d. before 1553) of Nantwich, Cheshire (inscription, fol. 116^v: *Liber Johannis Leche*—this version of the signature has points in common

with that in MS. 13, but is more distant from the version found in both MS. 14 and MS. 49; discussed by Bale, 'Book-Owners'. (2) Thomas Unton (d. 1693) (as he owned all three of the other Leche books that came to Trinity, it is highly likely that this MS, too, was his; and since it does not feature the title of the text in Latin, it can be identified as no. 12 on the list of his MSS: see Appendix II; and cf. MS. 16B). Whence to (3) Trinity College in 1694. Bernard, p. 66, no. 2014 (as MS. 77). College shelfmarks: fol. i verso: '78 [crossed out] / 16a' (in ink); fol. 1^r, '77' (pencil), crossed out, '16' (ink); added beside them in ink: 'Bis occupit Y 15'.

I6B

Prick of Conscience

England; s. XIV/XV

Pl. XXVI(a)

Fig. 32

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: poor quality, variable in tone and texture; holes and imperfections. The rough texture has sometimes affected the quality of the script; the scribe had to write around holes on 112. Generally arranged FH, HF, except in Q. II (where HF, FH, FH, HF). Fols. i (modern) + ii (fols. '1–2', medieval flyleaves) + 114 + i (modern, foliated '115'). Modern pencil foliation (pre-dates present binding—occasional number cropped).

Size: 244 × 158 mm (except Q. VI, where 238 × 158 mm). Text-block: 183 × 93 mm. Lines: 34 or 35 (space, 5–6 mm; height of minims, 2 mm). Pricking: trimmed off, except in Q. VI, where knife and awl. Ruling: lead or crayon. Single vertical bounding lines; first and last horizontals extended; all horizontals irregularly overrun the verticals. (NB: the extra vertical rulings running through parts of the text block on, for instance, fols. 8, 10, and much of Q. XII, suggest that certain sheets were initially prepared for a different context, and re-used here.)

Collation: former pastedown and flyleaf, fols. 1–2, a cut-down bifolium; I–VI⁸; VII⁵ (= 8 lacking leaves 2, 3, and 4 [with loss of ll. 3684–3909]); VIII⁷ (= 8 lacking leaf 6 [with loss of ll. 4658–4743]); IX–X⁸; [lost quire]; XI⁵ (= 8 lacking leaves 1–3 [with loss of ll. 6142–7008]);

XII–XIV⁸; XV⁷ (= 8 with 4 cancelled). First leaves: 3, 11, 19, 27, 35, 43, 51, 56, 63, 71, 79, 84, 92, 100, 108. Original catchwords.

2^o folio (fol. 4^r): *Sipen þe creatures*

BINDING

Calf, s. xix, by Hering (stamp on the verso of the front parchment endleaf); gold-tooled armorial book-stamp of Trinity College on both covers; gold-tooled turn-ins; title of contents in gilt on spine; upper and lower edges gilded; parchment pastedowns and endleaves, from rebinding; 257 × 173 × 37 mm. Fol. 1^r bears faint traces of channels (V-shaped, at inner corners) and of turnovers from an earlier binding.

CONTENTS

(a) Fols. 1–2 (former flyleaves): bifolium from a missal, s. xiv^{ex}–xvⁱⁿ. Fol. 1^{r–v} contains *Feria vi*, *Dominica ii*, and start of *Feria iii* (in *i/ii Hebd. Aduentus*) [cf. SM, pp. 16–17]. Fol. 2^{r–v} contains *Dominica iii* [*Adventus domini*] to *In uigilia natalis domini* [cf. SM, pp. 24–5, but the lections here for Vigilia are Luke 7: 17 ff. and Mark 8: 15 ff.].

Cut down. Text-block: 212 × 132 mm; two columns (width: 60 mm); lines, 41; space between lines, 6