

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

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SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

Textualis semi-quadrata, a bold and weighty hand. Seemingly one scribe. Marginal annotation by several hands, s. xiv–xv, in (a)–(e) as detailed under Contents. Late medieval pointing hands (e.g. 26^r, 84^r).

DECORATION

The start of (a) is marked by a decorated initial, 6 lines high, adorned with simple foliate curls, accompanied by long border extensions, pink, red, blue, and gold. Each subsequent incipit is headed by a two-colour (red and blue) initial, 6+ lines high, flourished in both colours, with penwork extensions and 'waterfalls' in the borders. Subdivisions are marked by 2-line-high initials, generally blue flourished in red but sometimes red flourished in blue. Red and blue paraps throughout. Running headings in red and blue capitals, flanked by simple penwork curls in red, blue, or both. Diagrams

(all fairly crudely done): within text block on 140^v, 148^r, 150^v, 151^v; added to margins on 165^v, 166^r, and (even weaker) 178^r. Drolleries, informally added to edges of text by an early corrector or annotator on 10^r, 79^v, 81^r, 82^r, 84^v, 85^r, 86^r, and 94^v; motifs include dragons, a hooded beast-head, hybrids, serpents, and human heads (that on 81^v with three faces in which the beard of one forms the hair of the next). Drawing of 'heraldic' swan rampant (or of a swan badge), added s. xvi to the formerly blank 252^v.

PROVENANCE

(1) St Peter's, Chertsey OSB (s. xiv–xv inscription fol. 251^v: 'Liber monasterii Certeseye'); noted *MLGB*, p. 49. (2) Sir Thomas Pope (c.1507–59) (signatures, 2^r and 251^v). Whence to (3) Trinity College. Bernard, p. 64, no. 1960 (as MS. 23). College shelfmarks: fol. 1^r, pencil '23' and '67'.

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Jerome, *In Ezechielem*

England; s. XII^{4/4}

Fig. 75

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: stout and fairly even; flaws rare. Arranged HF, FH. Damp damage (mottled mould spotting) along the bottom margin of most leaves (causing some loss of text from 166 to 173). Fols. i (modern parchment) + 173 + i (modern parchment, foliated '174', currently detached). Modern pencil foliation.

Size: 367–70 × 250 mm. Written area: 282 × 161 mm. Two columns (width: 75 mm). Lines: 41 (space, 7 mm; height of minims, 3 mm). Pricking: awl; done in both side margins. Ruling: lead or crayon. Double verticals at either side of text block; triple in the inter-columnar space. First, third, last, and antepenultimate horizontals extended.

Collation: preliminary leaves (1–2)²; I–XX⁸; XXI¹¹ (= 12 with leaf 12 cancelled). Contemporary signatures (roman numeral flanked by dots) final verso, lower margin, centre. Preserved from 'III' (26^v) onwards, the system evidently started with fols. 3–10 as

I—ignoring the bifolium with preface and capitula list. In addition, a 'C.' appears beside the 'XI.' on 90^v.

2^o folio: et arietes et hyrcos

BINDING

Diced calf, s. xix, by Hering (stamp on verso of front parchment endleaf); gold-tooled armorial book-stamp of Trinity College on both covers; gold-tooled turn-ins; title in gilt on spine; upper and lower edges gilded; parchment pastedowns and endleaves, from rebinding; 387 × 265 × 63 mm.

CONTENTS

Fols. 1^r–173^r. Jerome, *In Ezechielem*. Fol. 1^r. *Incipit prologus Ezechielis prophete*. Ezechiel propheta cum ioachim rege iuda captiuus ductus est in babilonem ... manducans senecias. *Explicit prologus* [S 11006]. *Incipiunt capitula*. i. Uisio quattuor animalium et

que causa extitit ut absconderet
sue avertit faciem suam ab eis. Expro-
brat autem rationibus sed in illud quod scriptum
est oportet et hereses esse ut per beatam ma-
riam infestis fiant. captivitate israel ecclesie
iudicet inquit habitant in gentes domini.
non pollicetur quod reducat in ecclesiam
captivitate iacob quod iudaicum populum
supplantat. et per hereticorum frau-
dibus supplantat est et miserat omnes
domini israel non iuxta carnem sed iuxta spi-
ritum. Et assumam inquit zelum meum
pro nomine sancto meo quod blasphemabat
in gentibus propter hereticos. Ut per quod eos
liberavit. erubescant et confundantur que
fide ecclesiastica derelicta pervertant se
in me. Confundantur autem et erubescant
valde velociter cum habitaverint in terra
sua. terra mitti. terraque sancta et habitave-
runt confidenter sine in pace. neque enim
hereticorum insidias formidant. Tunc
reducens de populis et congregabunt
de terris inimicorum suorum in terram suam.
et edificabunt domos in eis in conspec-
tu gentium perlimant. que et ipse credite
se domino. simulque sit beatitudinis scire
et cognoscere quod ipse sit dominus deus eorum. eo
quod apparuit eis in gentibus. sine tu-
lulit eos de nationibus. et congrega-
vit eos super terram suam. terram iudeam
terram confessionis. terra mitti. terraque
viventium. et ne unum quod reliquerit
heretice pervertant et ut non abscon-
deret faciem suam ab eis. non aduerset illos.
eo quod effudit spiritum gratie sue. de quo et
lobel propheta loquitur. In novissimis die-
bus effundam de spiritu meo super omnem
carnem. Effudit autem super omnem domum
israel. Sin autem per spiritum iuxta litteras. furo-
rem legimus quod in hebraico non habetur.
sic sentendum est. quod ultimum non abscon-

deret faciem suam ab eis. inquit furore suum
ante effuderat. **HEBRAICUM.**

Huc usque in ezechiel propheta de utroque
tam et credimus auxiliante et capi-
ente os nostrum locum sumus. non aliorum si-
quod scripserunt vel deinceps scriptum se senten-
tiam destruentem. sed asserentes quiaque
se nostra. In edificatione autem templi et or-
dine sacerdotum tresque sunt divisione et
flumine egrediente de templo et arbori-
bus. et cunctis: terra semper virentibus et per
singulos menses afferentibus fructum. et re-
liquis que usque ad finem propheta volu-
mine continendo aperte impetum esse
murmur: melius arbitantes inter nichil
quam parum dicere. **Explicit liber nonus.**

Incipit prologus libri duodecimi

Expositionem meam in expla-
natione templi ezechiel.
immo tacendi persequamur
me filia iustitiae presens et domini promissis
la superavit: dicemus per eam et accipi-
tis querite et muenitis: pulsate et
aperiet vobis. Et quoniam nos exultatione usi
sumus. ut in calce anteriorum volumi-
nis diceremus. melius est nichil quam par-
tere. tu iustitiam in contrarium: ut refer-
re putet saltem quod parum nichil dicit.
quod in alio voluntas promissa. in alio
vero operis despectio est. Naturaque huius-
modi hominum esse commemorat: ut
non tantam gratiam habeant per beatum quod tribu-
eris quantum dolore super his que nega-
ueris. **O**more enim studio iurantes
laudant. quam una reprehendunt. Ob-
sequi ergo volumini tue: et stante spiritu
sancto vela suspensam. ignoras ad que
sum littera perventus. et cum hoc eodem
propheta clamant. a quatuor ventis
venit spiritus: fastidiosusque lector immo
aio per duelli nostra littera illud in ex-

rotarum ... Fol. 2^r ... cx. De distributione terre quam hereditate accepit israhel. [A contemporary hand has inserted references to the 14 book divisions in the margins at the relevant points. Fol. 2^v, blank.] Fol. 3^r. *Eusebii ieronimi presbiteri prologus in expositionem Ezechielis prophete Feliciter Incipit*. [F]initis in Isaiam decem et octo explanationem uoluminibus, ad ezechiel ... quadruplici plangit alphabeto. *Explicit prologus. Incipit Liber Primus*. Et factum est in tricesimo anno [et—deleted] in quarto et in quinta mensis. Tricesimus annus non ut plerique estimant ... Fol. 173^r ... hisdem discipulis repromittens. Ecce ego uobiscum sum usque ad consumationem seculi. *Explicit liber XIIII' sancti Ieronimi presbiteri in explanatione ezechielis prophete*.

CPL 587; Lambert no. 213; PL xxv, cols. 15–490; CCSL 75. General prologue and Capitula list are on a self-contained bifolium, fols. 1–2. Book II starts on 16^v, III prologue on 26^r, III on 26^v, IV on 37^v, V prologue on 49^v, V on 50^r, VI on 59^v, VII on 71^r, VIII on 83^r, IX on 94^v, X on 105^r, XI on 115^r, XII prologue on 130^v, XII on 131^r, XIII prologue on 143^r, XIII on 143^v, XIV on 158^v. Fol. 173^v is blank.

SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

Proto-Gothic with residual elements of Late Romanesque Caroline, neat and regular. Seemingly a single hand (which probably also did the rubrics); slightly more spacious in the first two quires than thereafter. Hebrew words are overlined, Greek words sometimes also—alternatively being supplied with a superscript transliteration. Quotations are signalled by diples running down the relevant margins. Nota marks apparently copied as part of the original transcription process (e.g. 44^v, 45^r, 62^r, 104^v). Corrections were first noted in the margin by two contemporary hands: one wrote in ink in a small, less formal script, heavily abbreviated; the other used lead or faint ink and wrote to the same scale as the original text; this hand also noted 'correctus' at the end of Q. III (18^v, lower margin, gutter) and supplied a reference on 123^r ('Orig' super

leviticum omel' vii'). Then, where possible, the main text was rectified *in rasura* by the original scribe. In particularly long cases (e.g. 31^r, 124^r, 132^v) the marginal note was then erased; otherwise it was just left. Running headings, giving the Book number, were supplied by correcting hand 1 up to 102^r, but not thereafter. Also corrected were a few coloured initials, where the wrong letter had been supplied (e.g. 90^v, 107^v).

DECORATION

Prologues and Books headed by 3- to 7-line-high initials, generally one colour, occasionally embellished with others: that to Book I (3^r) is blue, yellow, and ochre; that for the prologue to Book XII (130^v) is green with simple red flourishing. The initial for the general prologue (3^r) was not supplied; that for the prologue to Book V (49^v), originally 5 lines high, was redone at 4 lines high. A lead sketch guided the design of that on 16^v, but there was seemingly no underdrawing for any of the others. Subsections are headed by plain initials, 2–3 lines high, alternately red then green (that on 74^r was reduced in size from 3 to 2 lines high). Guide-letters for the initials in ink, guide-words for the rubric in ink (e.g. 105^r) or lead (e.g. 52^v, 53^r).

PROVENANCE

(1) ?Lanthony Secunda (this being the provenance of all Francis Baber's other MSS [33, 39, 40, 51, and 69]; if so, then possibly no. 116 in the s. xiv^{3/4} Lanthony library catalogue [CBMLC 6, no. A16.116]—'Jeronimus super Ezechielem. magnum volumen'; cf. *MLGB*, p. 112. (2) Dr Francis Baber (1600–69), matric. Trinity College in 1616, chancellor of the diocese of Gloucester from 1630 (cursive inscription, now damp damaged, on fol. 1^r, lower margin: 'Liber Collegii S. et indiuiduae Trinitatis Oxon ex dono venerabilis Viri ffrancisci Baber, LL. Doctoris et Cancellarii Glocestrensis Anno Domini 1633'); see further Introduction, n. 18. (3) Trinity College in 1633 by gift of Baber. Bernard, p. 64, no. 1951 (as MS. 14). College shelfmarks: fore-edge, ink '24'; i^v and 1^r pencil '14', pencil '68'; 3^r pencil '14'.