

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

*by*

RICHARD GAMESON

OXFORD

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A. Robert of Bridlington, *Super Exodum*. B. Gratian, *Decretum*.  
C. Placentinus, *Summa Institutionum*. D. Bulgarus,  
*Apparatus de regulis iuris*

(A) England, s. XII<sup>ex</sup>–XII/XIII. (B) France or Italy, s. XIII<sup>1/3</sup>.

(C) England, s. XII/XIII. (D) England, s. XII<sup>2</sup>

GENERAL

A composite volume of four originally separate parts: (A) fols. 1–131; (B) fols. 132–73; (C) fols. 174–89; and (D) fols. 190–200. Brought together by s. xvi, if not before. Fols. i (modern parchment) + 200 + i (modern parchment, foliated '201'). Modern pencil foliation.

Size: 324 × 233 mm.

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; 338 × 262 × 56 mm.

Fol. 200, seemingly used as a pastedown at one point, bears stains from the metal furniture of an earlier binding: a quincunx of 'diamonds' each defined by four holes, that in the centre having in addition a central circle—i.e. four matching corner studs, plus a distinctive one in the centre.

COMMON PROVENANCE

(1) King Henry VIII's Westminster Library (s. xvi<sup>f</sup> italic inscription and title slip on 1<sup>r</sup> akin to the work of the 'Westminster cataloguer': 'Robertus Bridlington super uetus testamentum [cum ceteris—this in the inscription alone]); cf. Carley, *Libraries*, p. lxxv and n. 144. (2) Sir Thomas Pope (c.1507–59) (signatures 1<sup>r</sup> and 199<sup>f</sup>—thus embracing the current volume as a whole). Whence to (3) Trinity College. Bernard, p. 64, no. 1958 (as MS. 21). College shelfmarks: title and number (both now illegible) on fore-edge; pencil '21' and '70' on i<sup>v</sup> and 1<sup>r</sup>.

Part A (fols. 1–131).

Robert of Bridlington.  
England; s. XII<sup>ex</sup>–XII/XIII

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: fairly low quality, with pronounced H/F contrast, scars, follicle pocking, edgecuts. Arranged HF, FH. Fols. 131.

Written area: 236 × 153 mm. Written above top line. Two columns (width, 69 mm). Lines: 33 (space, 7 mm; height of minims, 4 mm). Pricking: awl. That for the horizontals done in both margins. Ruling: lead/crayon. Five patterns. (1) fols. 1<sup>r</sup>–86<sup>v</sup>; Qq. I–X. Pairs of verticals flank text-block, three in the intercolumnar space, one bisecting the outer margin; first two and last two horizontals extended; a further horizontal in the upper margin. (2) fols. 87<sup>r</sup>–99<sup>v</sup>; Q. XI and start of XII. Same but with first three, middle three, and last three horizontals extended (1–3, 19–21, 31–3). (3) fols. 100<sup>r</sup>–110<sup>v</sup>; end of Q. XII and all of XIII. Same but with first two, middle two, and last two horizontals extended (1, 2, 19, 20, 32, 33) and no horizontal in upper border. (4) fols. 111<sup>r</sup>–127<sup>f</sup>, Qq. XIV–XV and part of XVI. Same verticals (except none in the margin), five pairs of horizontals extended (1, 2, 5, 6, 16, 17, 29, 30, 32, 33) none in the upper border. (5) fols. 127<sup>v</sup>–31<sup>v</sup>, remainder of Q. XVI. Number of horizontals extended varies from page to page.

Collation. I<sup>8</sup>; II<sup>10</sup>; III<sup>12</sup>; IV–XV<sup>8</sup>; XVI<sup>5</sup> (a singleton (fol. 127), followed by a bifolium (128+129), followed by a bifolium (130+131)). Original ink catchwords on quires (survive on 18<sup>v</sup>, 70<sup>v</sup>, 118<sup>v</sup>). In addition, there is a signature (letter, number, or symbol) in lead on every page except the first throughout the first half of each

quire, and a catchword in lead on every verso in the first half of each quire.

2<sup>o</sup> folio: filiis iacob omnes electos

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Fols. 1<sup>r</sup>–131<sup>v</sup>. Robert of Bridlington, *Super Exodum*. Fol. 1<sup>r</sup>. Added titles, upper margin: s. xii/xiii–xiii<sup>m</sup>, ‘Frater Robertus de Bridlintona [corrected by same hand to ‘Bridlintona’], amicis suis salutem’; s. xvi<sup>1/3</sup>, ‘Super vetus test. cum ceteris. FRATER Robertus Bridlington’. Title slip pasted to lower margin, ‘Robertus Bridlington super vetus testamentum’, s. xvi<sup>1/3</sup>.

Fol. 1<sup>r</sup>. [Preface I] Post collectam questionum de operibus sex dierum in genesi, cupiens ... uelut enkiridion conuenientur ualeam colligendo redigere. [Preface II] In primo ordine ueteris testamenti lex quam hebrei thorat nominant ... Fol. 1<sup>v</sup> ... uerba libri supponamus. [Incipit] Haec sunt nomina ... [Exod. 1: 1] ... et cetera. Idem patriarcha dictus est iacob et israel. Sed iccirco dictus est iacob ... Fol. 131<sup>v</sup> ... Dixeruntque Hii sunt dii tui israel qui te eduxerunt de terra egipti. Quod cum uidisset aaron

Breaks off, without punctuation, on 131<sup>v</sup>, col. 2, line 5; the rest of the page is blank. Commentary on Exod. 1: 1–32: 5 only. S 7373. Unprinted. Other known copy: London, British Library, Royal MS. 3 B. iv (provenance unknown). Authorities (Augustine, Bede, Gregory, Hrabanus, Origen, etc.) sometimes identified in the margins by a contemporary hand. Numbering for reference (‘1’–‘12’) was added to the margin of 2<sup>r</sup>, but not elsewhere.

#### SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

(1) Fols. 1<sup>r</sup>–99<sup>v</sup>/col. i. An early Textualis semi-quadrata, fluid but neat; the writing consistently placed 1 mm above the ruled line; diagonal extension strokes applied to the descenders of letters on the bottom lines of pages. Diples for quotations are very small, and are used very sparingly (not, for instance, for the quotations that head subsections). (2) Fols. 99<sup>v</sup>/col. i–128<sup>v</sup>. Starts as Textualis (with more lateral space than that of scribe (1) but soon resolves into Protogothic with some Romanesque Caroline features. Diples (used more regularly than by scribe (1) are large and shaped like a ‘9’ with a slightly open head. (3) Fols. 129<sup>r</sup>–131<sup>v</sup>. Protogothic, angular. Diples (used regularly) are large and S-shaped.

#### DECORATION

Start of text (Preface I, 1<sup>r</sup>) marked by 13-line-high red ‘P’, flourished in blue with details in ochre. Preface II (1<sup>r</sup>) and the incipit of the text proper (1<sup>v</sup>) both headed by a green initial, 6–7 lines high, with simple flourishing in red. Subdivisions (which generally start with a substantial quotation from Exodus) marked by a coloured capital (red, green, or blue), 2–6 lines high. Subsections headed by a red, green or blue capital, 1 line high.

Part B (fols. 132–73).

Gratian, *Decretum*.

France or Italy; s. XIII<sup>1/3</sup>

#### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: modest quality with noticeable H/F discrepancy. Arranged HF, FH. Fols. 42.

Written area: 224 × 133 mm. Two columns (width, 64 mm). Lines: 46 (space, 5 mm; height of minims, 2 mm). Pricking: awl; in outer margin only for horizontals. Ruling: ink. Pairs of verticals flank text-block, three in the intercolumnar space, one in the inner margin, two in the outer margin; first four and last four horizontals extended. Written above top line.

Collation: I<sup>o</sup>; II–V<sup>8</sup>.

2<sup>o</sup> folio: [-]n istis temporalibus legibus

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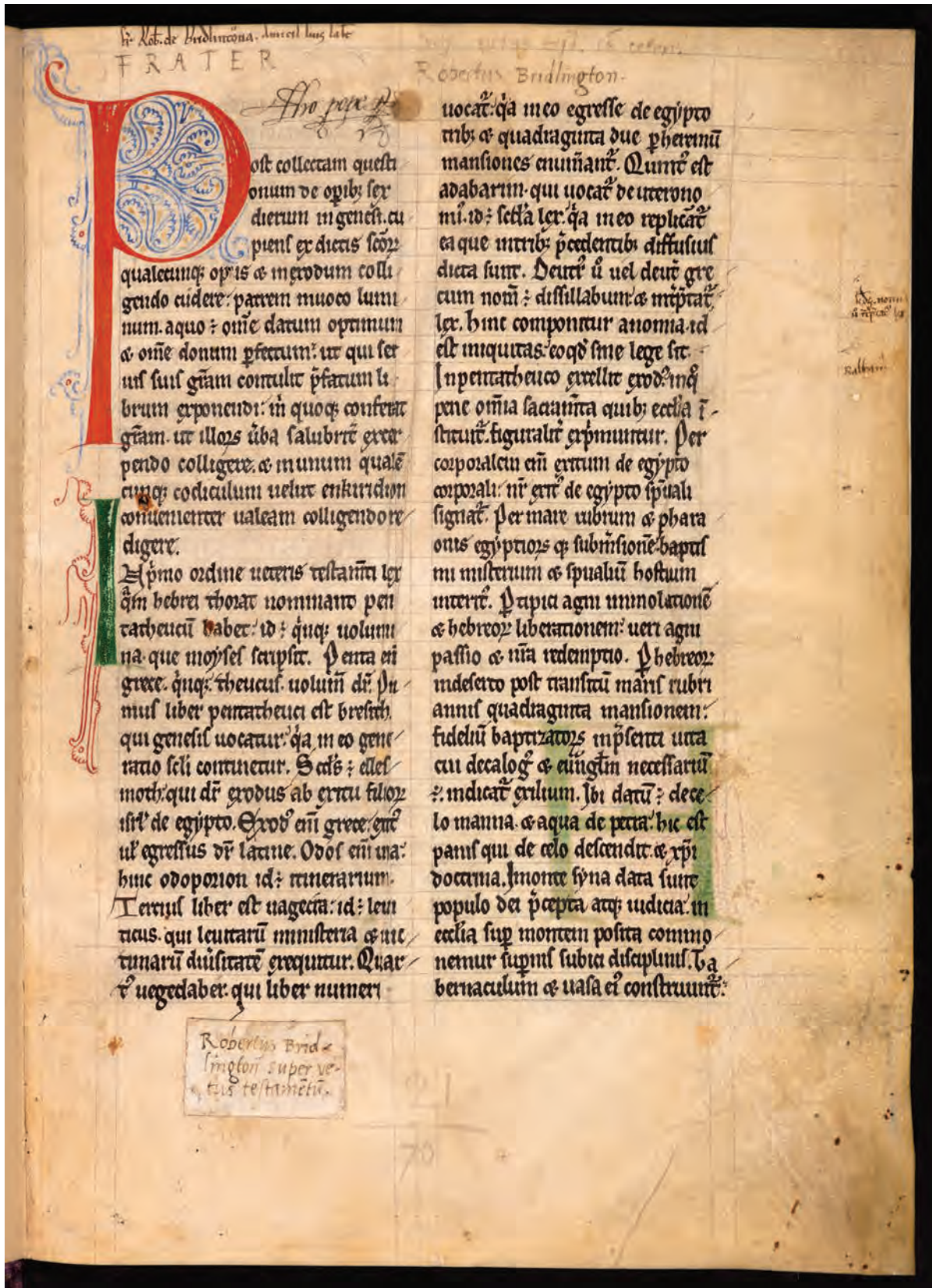
Fols. 132<sup>r</sup>–173<sup>v</sup>. Gratian, *Concordia discordantium canonum*. Fol. 132<sup>r</sup>. [Humanum genus] duobus regitur naturali uidelicet iure et moribus. [I]us est nature quod in lege et in euangelio continentur. Quousque alii iubetur facere quod sibi ... Fol. 173<sup>v</sup> ... [I]n sinodo congregata rome in ecclesia sancti saluatoris, ad exemplum beati adriani apostolice sedis antistitis ... ut ipsi ab eo inuestituram accipiant et conse //

*Corpus iuris canonici*, ed. E. L. Richter, rev. E. Friedberg (Leipzig, 1879–81), i, pp. 1–242, breaking off at c 23 D. lxiii. Set out for glossing, but nothing supplied bar a couple of casual notes in the lower margin of 132<sup>r</sup>.

#### SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

Textualis libraria; all hands small, compact, and functional rather than elegant. Scribally complex: while much of the text seems to have been written by a single scribe (1), there are regular short interruptions



Fig. 77. MS. 70, fol. 1<sup>r</sup> (reproduced at 65%).

by at least three others (2–4), for whom provisional stints are given below. (1) Fols. 132<sup>r</sup>–73<sup>v</sup>, with (from Q. II) regular interruptions as indicated below. (2) Parts of 144<sup>v</sup>/col. i; 147<sup>r</sup>/cols. i and ii; 150<sup>r</sup>/i; 151<sup>r</sup>/i; 154<sup>r</sup>/ii; 161<sup>r</sup>/ii; 162<sup>v</sup>/i, ii; 165<sup>v</sup>/i. (3) Parts of fol. 144<sup>v</sup>/col. ii; and 154<sup>r</sup>/i/bottom. (4) Fol. 163<sup>r</sup>/col. i/23–bottom. + early annotations (now very faint), fol. 132<sup>r</sup>, lower margin.

## DECORATION

No initials supplied: the numerous spaces left for them by the scribes remain vacant. The letters envisaged were evidently modest (the space reserved was a small inset 2 lines high). The one exception was the general incipit ('Humanum genus') for which the first twelve lines of the first column were kept entirely free.

## Part C (fols. 174–89).

Placentinus, *Summa Institutionum*.  
England or northern France; s. XII/XIII

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: low quality, including edge-cuts. Noticeable H/F discrepancy. Arranged: HF, FH. Fols. 16.

Written area: 264 × 192 mm. Two columns (width, 92 mm). Written above top line. Lines: 42 (space, 6 mm; height of minims, 2+ mm). Pricking: awl; done in both margins for the horizontals. Ruling: ink. Single verticals flank text-block, two in intercolumnar space; first two and last two horizontals extended.

Collation: I–II<sup>8</sup>. All but part of the inner column of the final leaf (the only portion with text) has been cut away.

2<sup>o</sup> folio: iuri *naturali*

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Fols. 174<sup>r</sup>–189<sup>r</sup>. Placentinus, *Summa Institutionum Justiniani*. Fol. 174<sup>r</sup>. [I]uris arti professionique boni et equi cunctos litteratorie scientie amatores conuenit insudare, expedit inuigilare ... Fol. 189<sup>r</sup> ... [D]e iniuriis, in hanc summa est utilissimum putauit ... ex lege cornelia non priori sed filio dabitur et priori tribuitur pretoria ut d. //

Remainder of 189<sup>r</sup> and all of 189<sup>v</sup> blank. Text printed: Mainz, 1535 (repr. Turin, 1973); *Placentini Summa Institutionum*, ed. J. D. Adamson (Toronto, 1992).

## SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

Protogothic. Number of hands uncertain, possibly two—the second more compressed, angular, and changeable than the first. (1) ?Fols. 174<sup>r</sup>–184<sup>v</sup>/col. ii, line 20. (2) ?Fol. 184<sup>v</sup>/col. ii, line 21–189<sup>r</sup> (with various changes in aspect, especially on 187<sup>v</sup>/col. i).

## DECORATION

No initials supplied. The spaces reserved for them were very small (1 line high, and the width of 2–3 normal letters). No rubrication (paraphs throughout in ordinary text ink).

## Part D (fols. 190–200).

Bulgarus, *Apparatus de regulis iuris*.  
England; s. XII<sup>2</sup>

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Parchment: modest quality, clear H/F contrast. Arranged HF, FH. Fols. 11. Layout on rectos: a single narrow column of text with space for gloss on both sides. Written area: 260 × 70 mm. Lines 26 (space, 9; height of minims, 4 mm). Ruling (ink): single vertical borders, plus vertical in inner margin; no horizontals extended; ad hoc additions in inner margin for apparatus. Layout on versos: two columns of text.

Written area: 266 × 185 mm. Column width: 90 mm. Lines: 52 (space, 4.5; height of minims, 2+ mm). Double verticals flank the outside of each column, single the inside (so two in total in the intercolumnar space); no horizontals extended. Pricking: awl; only survives in lower margin.

Collation: I<sup>10</sup> + fol. 200 (now) a singleton. (Fol. 200, seemingly used as a pastedown at some point in its history, bears stains from the metal furniture of an earlier binding; see General above.)

2<sup>o</sup> folio: — (acephalous).

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Fols. 190<sup>r</sup>–200<sup>r</sup>. Bulgarus, *Apparatus de regulis iuris*, ?Johannes Bassianus, *Apparatus de regulis iuris*. Fol. 190<sup>r</sup>. [N]emo aliene, rei expromissor idoneus uideatur nisi cum satis datione ... Fol. 200<sup>r</sup> ... [s]eruus rei publicae causa abesse non potest. First interlinear gloss (fol. 192<sup>r</sup> on '[P]enalitia iudicia semel accepta, in ?haredem transmitti possunt'): Non ex delicto ... functus contraxisse et quasi obligatus.



The apparatus on the rectos concludes (200<sup>r</sup>) with a near-continuous column of text, ending: *Illam autem pretendere non permittitur, si seruus rei publice causa abesse dicatur, ut habetur in titulo, Si quis cautionibus iudicio ... seruus*. First (surviving) page devoted to commentary (190<sup>v</sup>): *Non uidetur quierrat consentire et cetera*. [E]rror consensus impedit qui rem contingit ... [End of commentary pages (199<sup>v</sup>):] *Seruus rei publice et cetera ... exceptione tanquam reipublice causa seruus abfuisse minime defendi debet*.

Imperfect. *Bulgari Ad Digestorum titulum, De diversis regulis juris ...*, ed. F. G. C. Beckhaus (Bonn, 1856); Johannes Bassianus, *De regulis iuris*, ed. S. Caprioli and F. Treggiari (Rimini, 1983). See also S. Caprioli, 'Quem Cuiacius Iohanni tribuerat', *Annali di storia del diritto: Rassegna internazionale*, 7 (1963), pp. 131–248; H. Kantorowicz and W. W. Buckland, *Studies in the*

*Glossators of the Roman Law: Newly Discovered Writings of the Twelfth Century* (Cambridge, 1938), 33, 68–III.

## SCRIBES AND SCRIPT

(1) Main text. A late Romanesque Caroline Minuscule with letter-forms that are essentially Caroline but with a lateral compression and broken curving strokes that betoken Protogothic; generally spacious and stately. Most of the commentary and apparatus is probably by the same scribe; but here the script, smaller and more compressed, is more Protogothic in aspect. (2) Fol. 195<sup>v</sup> / col. i; 200<sup>r</sup> / col. ii. Protogothic, smaller and more rectilinear than the commentary hand of Scribe 1.

## DECORATION

No initials supplied. In both his sections, Scribe 2 deployed little beast heads to isolate overruns.

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Fig. 78

Composite clerical handbook (including *Speculum peccatoribus*; *Dormi secure*; *Gesta Romanorum*; etc.)

England (southern, ?Kent); s. XV<sup>med-3/3</sup> (Part C datable ?pre-1448, certainly pre-1475; Part A datable incrementally post 1458–78)

## GENERAL

Paper, strengthened by parchment guards at centres and outsides of quires (an original feature—the writing on 3<sup>v</sup> ends, and that on 4<sup>r</sup> begins, on the parchment strips). Fols. i (modern paper) + i (medieval parchment flyleaf, foliated 'ii') + 156 (foliated '1'–'30', '31+32', '33'–'156') + i (modern paper, foliated '157'). Modern pencil foliation (with some second alternative numberings on certain folios up to 27).

Size: 280 × 200 mm. Three separable sections: (A) fols. 1–6; (B) fols. 7–33; (C) fols. 34–156. They were evidently produced at different dates in s. xv (Part C before Part A—which itself would seem to have been accretive) and then attracted additions. All parts had been brought together by s. xv<sup>4/4</sup> (*teste* notes on ii<sup>v</sup>,

list of contents on 1<sup>r</sup>, and the correspondences between 1 and 156), and were probably joined to the current medieval flyleaf (fol. ii) too (*teste* similarities in script and content between the additions on ii<sup>v</sup> and the material on 1 and 156). They may still have been receiving additions thereafter.

2<sup>o</sup> folio: *Omnibus christianis fidelibus*

## BINDING

Panelled style, s. xviii, probably by Sedgley; blind-tooled mottled and plain calf, a fleuron at each corner of the inner compartment; gold-tooled armorial book-stamp of Trinity College on both covers; red-edged leaves; MS. number in gilt on spine; 288 × 207 × 50 mm.