

**AN EIGHT-CENTURY LATIN-ANGLO-
SAXON GLOSSARY, PRESERVED IN
THE LIBRARY OF CORPUS CHRISTI
COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE (MS.
NO.144), PP. 1-224**

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J. H. HESSELS

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ABINGDON

DEDICATED TO
JOHN EYTON BICKERSTETH MAYOR
PROFESSOR OF LATIN, AND FELLOW OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

263037

INTRODUCTION.

§ 1. In 1884, at the very moment that Mr Bradshaw had called my attention to the present Glossary, preserved in an 8th-century MS. (No. 144) belonging to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, as one that deserved to be published, Prof. Wülcker issued his edition of Thomas Wright's *Vocabularies*, in which he professed to give all the Latin words interpreted in this Glossary by Anglo-Saxon words, omitting all the Latin and Latinised Greek words which it interprets by other Latin words.

§ 2. As it appeared to me that his edition did insufficient justice to the great importance of the Corpus Glossary for the study of A. S. as well as Latin, I still considered that it would be worth my while to copy and publish the whole of it. But as, shortly afterwards, Prof. Zupitza announced in the Academy of 3 May, 1884 (p. 317), that he had copied the Glossary some years ago, and that from his transcript Wülcker had excerpted the Latin-A. S. glosses, and not from the Corpus MS. itself, I asked Zupitza whether I could have his whole transcript for the sake of publishing the entire Glossary under our joint names, in which case I would collate his copy with the MS., and see the work through the press. As he assented, and Prof. Skeat recommended the publication of the Glossary to Dr Atkinson, the Master of Clare College, and at that time Chairman of the Pitt Press Syndicate, the latter kindly persuaded the Syndics to undertake the publication.

§ 3. Before I say more, it is necessary to point out that the plan of publishing the work under Prof. Zupitza's as well as my own name, has, with his consent, been abandoned. His transcript, prepared many years ago for his own purposes, has, indeed, served throughout as a basis for this edition, but before the text could be printed off, so many important matters had to be done and settled by me who alone was able to consult the MS., and saw the work through the press, that it was

resolved that my name alone should appear upon the title-page, and the responsibility for the present edition rest solely and exclusively with me. I have, however, had the great benefit of Prof. Zupitza's revision of the proof-sheets, and on two occasions (p. 76, note 1 and p. 91, note 2) I refer expressly to his transcript, to show the weight which I attached to his readings, in cases where there might be any doubt, but where I thought it necessary to differ from him¹.

§ 4. The Corpus MS. is made up of 33 sheets of vellum, divided into 7 quires or gatherings of 4 sheets or 8 leaves each, and an eighth of 5 sheets or 10 leaves, the first of which has been cancelled², so that the whole MS. is composed of 8 quires or 65 leaves in small folio, measuring $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches (= 235 millimetres) in breadth, and $12\frac{1}{8}$ inches (= 308 millimetres) in height.

The first and last quire bear no signatures; the second to the seventh are marked, on each first page, with the respective signatures II, III, IIII, V, VI and VII. The glossary proper begins on the recto of the second leaf, and is continued without a break till the end of leaf 65. The contents of the first leaf have already been described above (pp. 1 and 2).

After the glossary follows a quire or gathering of two vellum leaves, filled with a Latin treatise (in two columns on each page) on patronymics (*Patronymicorum posita*), in an Irish handwriting of the beginning of the 12th century, which, though a little larger, otherwise strongly resembles that of the Gospels of Maelbrigte, figured on pl. 212 of the *London Palaeographical Society*, and there ascribed to the year 1138. These two leaves are stuck into another blank vellum sheet, the

¹ I must not forget to mention that, when Prof. Zupitza received my proof of p. 91 (where I point out that he had underlined *reorum* in his transcript, and that, consequently, this word appears as A. S. in Wülker's *Vocabularies*), he informed me that "while copying the Glossary, he had underlined every word which appeared as A. S. in Thomas Wright's text, therefore, also *reorum*." This explained why I had found some other words underlined, which were not A. S., while others which were undoubtedly A. S. were not underlined. But I regarded this condition of affairs as natural and unavoidable in a first transcript which had not been revised by him for press, and in no way do I, by pointing it out once or twice, imply the slightest censure on his transcript, which was as carefully prepared as it could possibly be expected to be. And if, in fairness to myself, I claim credit for having corrected it here and there, I readily admit that I could not have hoped to produce a better transcript myself.

² Or perhaps the odd leaf at the end was added by the scribe, when he found that the ordinary quire of eight leaves was not sufficient to finish the book.