

**INQUIRY INTO THE  
SOURCES OF THE "CURSOR  
MUNDI".: INAUGURAL-  
DISSERTATION**

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Inquiry Into the Sources of the "Cursor Mundi".: Inaugural-dissertation by Hugo Haenisch

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**HUGO HAENISCH**

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Inquiry into the Sources of the „Cursor Mundi.“

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**Inaugural-Dissertation**

welche mit Genehmigung der

**hohen Philosophischen Fakultät der Universität Breslau**

behufs Erlangung der philosophischen Doctorwürde

**Dienstag, den 29. April 1884, Mittags 12 Uhr**

**in der Aula Leopoldina**

gegen die Herren Opponenten

Dr. phil. **Julius Aust**

Dr. phil. **Hermann Neufert**

öffentlich vertheidigen wird

**Hugo Haenisch**

Schlesier.



**Breslau 1884.**

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Separatabdruck aus den Prolegomena zu Rev. Richard  
Morris' Ausgabe des Cursor Mundi in den Publikationen  
der Early English Text Society; daselbst wird auch die  
Fortsetzung vorliegender Arbeit erscheinen

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1884

MAIN

Seinem hochverehrten Lehrer

**Herrn Professor Dr. Eugen Kölbing**

in Hochachtung und Dankbarkeit

gewidmet

vom

110035

**Verfasser.**

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This not only helps in tracking expenses but also ensures compliance with tax regulations.

In the second section, the author provides a detailed breakdown of the monthly budget. It includes categories for housing, utilities, food, and entertainment. The goal is to identify areas where spending can be reduced without affecting the quality of life.

The third section focuses on investment strategies. It suggests diversifying the portfolio to include stocks, bonds, and real estate. The author also mentions the importance of regular reviews and adjustments to the investment plan based on market conditions.

Finally, the document concludes with a summary of key takeaways. It reiterates the need for discipline and consistency in financial planning. The author encourages readers to take control of their finances and work towards their long-term goals.

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INQUIRY INTO

**THE SOURCES OF THE "CURSOR MUNDI."**

By DR. HAENISCH.





## INQUIRY INTO THE SOURCES OF THE "CURSOR MUNDI"

THE purpose of the following essay is to find out the sources from which the author of the *Cursor Mundi* drew his information. As the four MSS. of the *Cursor* agree with one another almost word for word, it does not much matter which of them we choose for our quotations. I prefer the Cotton MS., because it is pretty complete, and has preserved the northern dialect. Ten-Brink<sup>1</sup> supposes the following books, beside Holy Writ, to have been used by the poet: Biblical commentators and homilists, apocryphal books, as the *Pseudo-evangelium Matthæi*, *Evangelium de Nativitate Mariæ*, *Evangelium Nicodemi*, and perhaps Robert Grosseteste's *Chasteau d'Amour*. This enumeration, however, which only refers to the Christian period, is, when compared with the various contents of the *Cursor*, neither exhaustive nor accurate enough. From a treatise of Dr. Robert Reinsch<sup>2</sup> we learn indeed that some passages of the *Pseudo-evangelium Matthæi* were certainly known to the author of the *Cursor Mundi*. But I do not think any one else has said a word about this question, which, considering the importance of the poem, undoubtedly deserves our full attention. I have therefore taken it up.

### I.

#### PETRUS COMESTOR'S *HISTORIA SCHOLASTICA*.

In the Latin religious literature of the Middle Ages, there is a book which, owing to its careful and terse wording, was often made a source for religious writings. I mean the *Historia Scholastica* of Peter Comestor, which was composed between 1169 and 1175. As it has been clearly proved<sup>3</sup> that an earlier English poem, called *Genesis and Exodus*, is founded almost wholly on the first part of this work, the author of the *Cursor*, who treated the same subject, is very likely to have made use of the same widely-known original.

<sup>1</sup> *Geschichte der englischen Literatur*. Berlin, 1877. Bd. I. p. 360.

<sup>2</sup> *Die Pseudo-evangelien von Jesus' und Maria's Kindheit in der germanischen und romanischen Literatur*. Halle, 1879.

<sup>3</sup> Ten-Brink, *Gesch. d. engl. Lit.*, p. 274; Kölbing, in *Engl. Studien*, III. p. 273 ff.; Fritzsche, in *Anglia*, V. p. 43 ff.