

**CATALOGUE OF A SELECTION
FROM THE STOWE MANUSCRIPTS
EXHIBITED IN THE KING'S
LIBRARY IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM**

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Catalogue of a Selection from the Stowe Manuscripts Exhibited in the King's Library in the British Museum by Various

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VARIOUS

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1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent and reliable data collection processes to support informed decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in modern data management. It discusses how advanced software solutions can streamline data collection, storage, and analysis, thereby improving efficiency and accuracy.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data security and privacy. It provides guidance on implementing robust security measures to protect sensitive information from unauthorized access and breaches.

5. The fifth part of the document explores the importance of data quality and integrity. It discusses strategies for identifying and correcting errors in data, ensuring that the information used for analysis is accurate and reliable.

6. The sixth part of the document discusses the ethical considerations surrounding data collection and use. It emphasizes the need for transparency in data practices and the importance of obtaining informed consent from individuals whose data is being collected.

7. The seventh part of the document provides a summary of the key findings and recommendations. It reiterates the importance of a comprehensive data management strategy that encompasses all aspects of data collection, storage, analysis, and security.

8. The final part of the document offers concluding thoughts on the future of data management. It suggests that continued investment in technology and training will be essential for organizations to stay competitive in an increasingly data-driven world.

CATALOGUE
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STOWE MANUSCRIPTS
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KING'S LIBRARY
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PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES
1883

Price Sixpence ;
Illustrated with fifteen Autotype Facsimiles, 3s. 6d.

THE Stowe collection of MSS. was formed by the Marquess of Buckingham at the beginning of the present century, and derives its name from Stowe, his country seat, where it was kept.

In 1804 were acquired the MSS. of Thomas Astle, Keeper of the Records in the Tower, who by his will directed that they should be offered to the Marquess of Buckingham. In the event of his refusal, the British Museum would have had the option of purchase. Astle's MSS. comprised the Anglo-Saxon charters, the early English historical MSS., the chartularies, the Hanover Papers and other state-papers and correspondence, the heraldic and other collections of John Anstis, Garter, etc., which now form so large a part of the Stowe library.

The next important addition was the collection of early Irish MSS. which had belonged to Charles O'Conor, of Belanagare, whose grandson, Dr. Charles O'Conor, became the librarian at Stowe and drew up the catalogue which was privately printed in 1818-1819.

Soon afterwards were purchased the papers of Arthur Capel, 1st Earl of Essex, who served as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in the reign of Charles the Second. In this collection are included the Earl's correspondence and various papers connected with his office.

Among the miscellaneous additions made from time to time were: the ancient Irish missal with a metal case, and some early volumes in the Irish language; the correspondence of Sir Thomas Edmondes, ambassador in France and the Netherlands in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I.; the correspondence of the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough with Secretary Craggs in the reign of Queen Anne; and other valuable historical papers.

The Stowe MSS. amounted in all to 996 numbers.

In April, 1849, they were offered to the Trustees of the British Museum, but the negotiations for the purchase failed; and the collection was eventually sold to the late Earl of Ashburnham.

In 1879 the present Earl of Ashburnham offered the whole of his library to the Trustees of the British Museum; and early in the present year negotiations for the purchase of his collections of MSS. were re-opened. The purchase of the Stowe MSS., apart from Lord Ashburnham's other collections, was sanctioned by Parliament at the close of last Session. By order of the Government, the collection has been deposited in the British Museum, with the exception of the MSS. in the Irish language and certain other volumes specially relating to Ireland, which have been transferred to the library of the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin.

The selection which is exhibited comprises some of the most interesting charters, volumes, and historical and literary documents and autographs.

E. MAUNDE THOMPSON.

DEPT. OF MSS.
19th November, 1883.

EXHIBITION
OF A SELECTION FROM THE
STOWE MANUSCRIPTS.

CHARTERS:

(Table-case 1.)

1. GRANT from UIHTRED, King of Kent, to the church of Liming [Lyminge, co. Kent], of land of four ploughs called Wieghestun,* within the boundaries of Bereueg, Meguinespaed, and Stretleg. Witnessed by Berichtwald, Archbishop, Queen Aedilburg, and others [A.D. 697]. *Latin.*

In nomine domini dei nostri Iesu Christi Ego Uihfredus rex Cantuariorum prouidens mihi in futuro decreui dare aliquid omnia tui donanti et consilio accepto bonum uisum est . conferre basilicæ beatae Mariae genitricis dei quæ sita est in loco qui dicitur Limingæ terram . iiii. aratorum quæ dicitur Wieg-helmes . tun . cum omnibus ad eandem terram pertinentibus iuxta notissimos terminos id est Bereueg . et Meguines paed et Stretleg . quam donationem meam uolo firmam esse inperpetuum ut nec ego seu heredes mei aliquid minuere præsumant . Quod si aliter temptatum fuerit à qualibet persona sub anathematis interdictione sciat sé praeuaricari ad cuius confirmationem pro ignorantia litterarum + signum sanctæ crucis expressi et testes idoneos ut subscriberent rogauit id est Berichtwaldum archiepiscopum uirum uenerabilem .

+ Ego Berichtwaldus episcopus rogatus consensi et subscripsi +
+ Signum manus Uihfredi regis

* Originally written in the charter Pleghelrestun, the *PV* having been partially erased and altered to *Wi*. See a copy in Cotton MS., Augustus II. 88.

+ Signum manus Aedilburgae regina
 + Signum manus Enfridi.
 + Signum manus Aedilfridi.
 + Signum manus Hagana.
 + Signum manus Botta.
 + Signum manus Bernhaerdi.
 + Signum manus Theabul.
 + Signum manus Frodi
 + Signum manus Achcha
 + Signum manus Aessica
 + Signum manus Adda.
 + Signum manus Egisberichti
 Actum in mense Iulio indictione . xma.

2. GRANT from OFFA, King of Mercia, to the thane Ealdbeorht and Selethryth his sister, of land of fourteen ploughs in Kent, in places called Ioccham [Ickham] and Perhamstede, with swine pasture in various parts of the Andredeswald, etc. Witnessed by Iaenbeorht, Archbishop, Queen Cynetryth, and bishops and others. Dated in the synod of Celchyth, A.D. 785. *Latin*. A copy of the 9th century.

3. GRANT from COENUOLF, King of Mercia, and CUTHRED, King of Kent, to Uulfhard, the priest, servant of the late Archbishop Aedelheard, of a parcel of land in Sucordhlinca [Swarling] or another parcel at Ecgheannglond, in Kent, at his choice, paying 100 "sikli" of purest gold and as many of silver. Witnessed by Uulfred, Archbishop elect, and others. Dated at Aclaeh [Acle], in the year in which Archbishop Aethilheard "migrabat ad caelestia regna" [A.D. 805]. *Latin*.

4. RECORD of the suit between Archbishop UULFRED and the Abbess CWOENTHRYTH respecting lands at Hearge [Harrow], Herefrethinglond, Wembalea [Wembley], and Geddingcum [Yeading], co. Middlesex, and its final settlement at the Council of Clovesho held under Beornwulf, King of Mercia, A.D. 825. *Latin*. Written in a hand which was used specially by Mercian scribes.

See another copy in Cotton MS., Augustus II. 78 (*Facsimiles of Ancient Charters in the British Museum*, Part ii. 1876, no. 18; Haddan and Stubbs' *Councils*, vol. iii., 1871, p. 596).

5. GRANT, with the consent of ELFRED, King of Wessex, and the Witenagemot, from Archbishop ETHERED and the monastery of Christ Church, Canterbury, to Liaba or Leafa, son of Birgwin, of land called Gilding [Yalding, co. Kent], for 25 [originally 20] mancuses of gold. An addition, in a contemporary hand, at the end of the text of the charter is as follows: "+ Leafa gebohte æt Æðere archiepiscopo and æt his hiawum ðe to Cristes Cirican herað ðis gewrit and ðis land mið ðy friadome ðe hit hær gefriad wæs to Cristes Cirican on ec erfe." Dated A.D. 873. *Latin*.

A contemporary copy written in the hand used by Wessex scribes.

The names of the witnesses, among whom are Æðelulf, King of Wessex [oð. 857], and Archbishop Ceolnoth [oð. 870], have evidently been copied from other charters.

6. RECORD of a grant from ATHULF to his daughter Æthelgyth of land "æt þæm éasteran Hrisán byrge," within the boundaries thus given:—

+ ðis synt þa land gemæro. Ærest of þam garan innan þa blacan hegcean . of þære hegcean nyðer innan þone fulan bróc . of ðam fulan broce wið westan randes æsc. þanon on þæne caldan díc wið westan þa herde wic . of þære díc þæt innan Wealdan hrige [Waldrige, co. Bucks] on Eadrices gemære . andlang Eadrices gemære þæt innan Cynebellinga gemære [Kimble]. andlang gemære þæt on Icenhylte [Icknield way]. andlang Icenhylte oþ þone hæðenan byrgels . þanon on cynges stræt . up andlang stræte on Welandes stócc [Wayland's Stoke; Stoke Mandeville?] . of þam stocce nyðer andlang rah héges ðæt on heg leage . of ðære leage nyðer ðæt eft on ðæne garan.

This record is issued by King Eadweard at the request of the ealdorman Æthelfrith, who had lost the original deed with his other muniments by fire; which were again drawn up "in quantum eos memoriter recordari potuisset." Witnessed by King Eadweard;