The decoration is confined to initials. The prologue has one in gold on blue ground, and filled with colour, the 2nd prologue one in colour. The text, a very handsome panelled gold one on pink ground edged with green, containing conventional foliage in colour and two small lions.

Each chapter has a good one in colour, and each book a somewhat more elaborate one.

I cannot detect any mark of monastic provenance; but the elaborate initial to the text finds many parallels in Christ Church, Canterbury books. The hand is not characteristic of that house.

12. GREGORIUS DE CURA PASTORALI SAXONICE. S. 1

Vellum, 16½ x 10½, ff. 225 + 2, 27 lines to a page. Cent. xi? in a very large bold black hand.

From Worcester Priory, as will appear.

Collation: i flyleaf, i† (wants i) ii—xxvii, xxviii, xxix, i flyleaf.

Quires marked in original hand on last leaf of each.

In last cover a note in Parkerian hand.


At top of f. 1 (erased):

PASTORALIS.

At bottom an erased inscription. The first word in red

line 1. Wer waerf...

line 2. libros

line 3. transtulit

The substance of this note must have been the same as that already quoted.

Contents:

Prologue. ÆLFRED (in red) cyning hateð gretan . . . f. 1

—oðða hpa œtre biprite.

Dis ærend geprit agustinus . . . . . . . 3b

—œlaœ læden spræce læste cuðon.

(Capitula lxv.) 1 ðet te unlaerede etc. . . . . . 4

(Prologue.) Æl leofesta broðor . . . . . . 8b

—ðe hie nane geleornedon.
(Text) For non esse nescit nisi.

A small blank (of 3 or 4 lines) is left at the beginnings of the subsequent chapters, for titles and initials which were no doubt meant to be inserted in red.

Pars 2 a begins f. 30.

Pars 3 a, f. 72. Pars 4 a begins f. 220 b.

Ends f. 225 a esse him lieves drync forloren peord (erased).

Ends f. 225 b blank.

A good many edges of leaves have been cut off and replaced in cent. xvi or later.

Two (or three) Latin glossators have been at work on the text. One hand, which goes all through it and is very copious, is a curious tremulous writing of cent. xii (?). Of this more will be said. There is a firmer and smaller hand also perhaps of cent. xii, and there is also, I think only on f. 8 a, a large book-hand of cent. xiii (?) which has written the Latin of the last six capitula in the margin.

There are, besides, some few notes of cent. xvi.

The MS. was not used for the edition by Sweet (E.E.T.S.).

As to the "tremulous" hand, Wolfgang Keller (Die Litterarischen Bestrebungen von Worcester in Angel-Sächsischen Zeit: Quellen u. Forschungen 84, 1900, p. 20) gives a list of MSS. in which the same hand appears. They are Bodl. Junius 24, 121; Hatton 76, 113, 114, 115; C. C. C. 178, 391; Univ. Libr. Cambr. Kk. 3, 18. To these I can add C. C. C. 12 (the MS. before us) and 198: while I believe that Keller is mistaken in thinking that the hand occurs in 265 (which he also cites). The glossator whose hand it was is probably, as Keller points out, an old man who knew Anglo-Saxon, and added the glosses for the benefit of his brother-monks to whom it was unfamiliar. Several of the MSS. at Oxford in which the hand is found are certainly from Worcester Priory: thus it is safe to predicate of any MS. which shows it, that this, too, is a Worcester book; a remark which applies to the MS. no. 12.

12 b.

Formerly bound with 12, but now separated from it, framed and glazed. It is an Irish ballad printed in Irish character in 1571.

13. Vincentii Speculum Historiale. Libri IX–XVI.

Vellum, 14½ x 10, ff. 326 + 2, double columns of 50 lines. Cent. xiii–xiv, in a fine round hand, with good decoration.


C. C. C. L.