But though pages framed in horse-shoe arches do occur in early Spanish MSS: (e.g. those of Beatus on the Apocalypse) they also occur in Italian art for instance a Monte Cassino martyrology of cent. xii in Mr H. Y: Thompson’s collection (Fifty MSS. i, p. 37). And the popularity of Isidore was early and wide-spread.

Nor is there any clear indication of Spanish habits of orthography in the text. On the whole, it is probably safer to regard the book as of Italian origin.

1 a. Framed in a Saracenic arch. The arch is divided into 17 compartments in each of which is an oval gem with a roughly circular eye.

The shafts are each divided into six compartments: each contains a rough pattern of leaves. Two sprays project from the top of each shaft.

The lettering on this page (and those which follow) is in capitals, drawn in outline with the pen and having the thick strokes coloured with yellow or green.

On ff. 1 b–3 a the writing is enclosed in rectangular frames; these are decorated, some with continuous patterns, others with devices in compartments: green, red and yellow are used.

On f. 3 b the frame takes the form of a Saracenic arch again.

On 4 a and most of 4 b the writing is still in outlined capitals, the strokes filled in with colour. The normal writing begins near the bottom of 4 b.

The colophon of Lib. i is curiously confused. I give a full transcript:

f. 36 a. Red capitals. Sapientissimi uiri Iuuençi:

Black capitals filled with yellow. Liber primus · explicit

Red. Incipit liber secundus

Black capitals filled with yellow. Caluetii : aquilini.

Red, smaller. Inde philippus ait

f. 36 b. Black.

Red. Cernes dubitare quiesce (II 110)

Black. Et proprios huc saepe greges ad pocula duxit (II 264)

Red. Progrediens uide nā oculis tueri licebit. (II 109*)

Text of Lib. ii with red, yellow and green initial then begins:

Nomina sacra. DS XPS SCS SPS DNS IHS.

Neumes have been inserted in one or two places.

305. NOTTINGHAM SUPER EVANGELIA.  

Vellum, $9\frac{4}{8} \times 6\frac{7}{10}$, ff. 2 + 352 + 1, 43–41 lines to a page. Cent. xiv late, clearly written. 2 fo. Da michi or uelaminum.

Collation: a², i₁²–₃₁² (+ 7*) 4₁²–₈₁² | 9⁶ 10₁²–₁₂₁² (+ slip) 1₃₁²–₁₈₁² (+ 1) 1₉₁² | 2₀₁²–₃₀₁² 3₀⁶, i flyleaf.
On ii b:

Inc. quedam extractio extracta ab illa magna compilacione que appellatur Notyngham super euangelia. In hac extractione non exponuntur omnia euangelia sed aliqua que videbantur extractori fore magis proficua minus literatis, etc.
—et sic continuatur illa quotacio foliorum ordinatim ascendendo usque ad finem libri.

This prologue is chiefly occupied in explaining the arrangement of the Gospels treated, and the nature of the table.

Contents:

Text . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . f. 1
Da michi intellectum et scrutabor legem tuam, etc. Dionisius de
idiinis nominibus cae 3o dicit quod ante omne, etc.
—imprimis esse diligencius insistendum.
Inc. pars prima: Cap. 1. Johannis primo. In principio, etc. . 4b
The Table occupies 214 b-222 b.
223, 4 blank.
Ends 339 (349) b:
magis inuenitur in uolu(n)tario paupere quam in quocunque diuite.
Three blank leaves and blank flyleaf follow.

306. Albertanus Brixiensis.

Codex membranaceus in forma oblonga, seculo xiv scriptus, in quo continentur,

Varia opera Albertani causidici Brixiensis, vis.
1. De doctrina tacendi et loquendi liber compositus et compilatus sub MCCXV de mense Decembris.

Vellum, 9½ x 5½, ff. 4 + 92, 44 lines to a page. Cent. xiv early, in good legal hand.

Collation: a4, 18-118 124.

From the Dominicans of London. On iv b at top (xv):

Iste liber est communitis ffratrnum predicatorum london mutuatus ffratri Johanni Tille. ff. 8.

Cf. no. 299.

ff. i, ii blank: on iii, iv a table in the original hand, of the chapters of the first three books.

Contents:

1. Blue and red initial.
   Inicio et medio ac fine
   —ut eterna gaudia nos faciat peruenire. Expl lib. de doctrina, etc.—sub m3 cc xlv de mense decembris.