

Æcerbot Ritual

Manuscript (primary)

British Library, MS Cotton Caligula A.vii, fols. 176r-178r

online facsimile:

http://www.bl.uk/manuscripts/FullDisplay.aspx?ref=Cotton_MS_Caligula_A_VII&index=0

Manuscript index: Gneuss 308, Ker 137.

Ker notes: Heliand on fols. 11-175 in caroline minuscule, English, s. x². Ker notes concerning fols. 176-78 that “OE in an ill-formed hand of s. xi¹: occasional high e ligatures: s round before t, when doubled, and finally. also: fols. 176-78 a bifolium plus a half-sheet (fol. 176). While Heliand is 24 lines, these are 22 lines. format and quality of parchment matches Heliand, so not an independent fragment bound here by Cotton.

Critical edition: *Anglo-Saxon Poetic Records* (ASPR), vol 6: *The Anglo-Saxon Minor Poems*, ed. Elliot van Kirk Dobbie (New York: Columbia University Press, 1942).

Manuscript transcription notes:

- Transcribed from BL images online.
- Hair and flesh side distinguishable. Hair side is slightly darker, pores are visible, and some lines.
- Drypoint ruling visible. 22 lines per page
- Some Latin slightly different in script from OE, at least initially: more widely spaced, use of “s,” and “&.”

Transcription protocols:

- Old English transcribed in Junius Modern, Latin that appears different in Garamond. Same scribe, only a few differences in script: Latin uses “s” and “&”. Some use of Roman numerals (.iii.).
- Long mark over word to indicate abbreviation: word unabbreviated, added letters in italics.
- The “y” with a dot over it, here rendered as “ȳ”
- The letter win transcribed as “w.”
- Insular minuscule “s” transcribed as “s” same as the sinuous [majuscule] “s” used at end of OE words, in majuscule, and in the Latin.
- OE “et” symbol transcribed as number 7.
- Spacing between words follows Krapp and Dobbie ASPR addition, not ms.
- Accent marks (acute) over a letter or word transcribed when available in font, usually over a vowel, such as á; if not available in font, used ’ after the letter it appears over.
- Crossed þ rendered unabbreviated as þ*aet*.
- Additions above line marked with a comma in line, as in ms.
- Words broken at the end of the line and carried over to next line, indicated with a – after first part of word at end of line.
- Punctus are give their own box, except when they surround a numeral, as part of that numeral. Otherwise, periods tend to be either at the end of a sentence or phrase as punctuation (ASPR uses a comma) OR used to demarcate Latin words in front and in back of the word (see list of gossellers’ names). Perhaps these latter punctus indicate a change in the speech acts, and separate description of actions (which tend to be long sentences unpunctuated) from speech acts.

fol. 176r (hair side)

1 ¹	Hēr	ȳs	seo	bót	hv	ðv	meaht

2	þine	æceras	betan	gif	hi	nellaþ	

3	wel	wexan	oþþe	þær	hwilc	unge-	

4	defe	þing	on	gedón	bið	on	drȳ-

5	oððe	on	lȳblace	genim	þonne		

6	on	niht	ær	hȳt	dagige	feower	

7	tȳr'f	on	feower	healfa	þæs	lan-	

8	des	7	gemearca	hu	hȳ	ær	sto-

¹ First line in majuscule, cap "h." The "y" here and throughout has a dot over it, not a long mark.

9	don	.	Nim	þonne	ele	7	hunig	7	beor-

			ælces					
10	man	7	,	feos	meolc	þe	on	þæm

11	lande	sȳ	7	ælces	treowcynnes		

12	dæl	þe	on	þæm	lande	sȳ	gewexen

			dan				
13	butan	hear	,	beáman	7	ælcre	

14	namcuþre	wȳrte	dæl	butan	

15	glappan ²	anon	7	do	þonne	haligwæter

² *Glape* DOE suggests bogbean or buckbean; others translate as burdock; 2 refs, here and Cockayne III (1961):236 or Cockayne III (1866): 292. [eye salve from BL Cotton Faustina A.x., fol. 115b (11th cen); includes a second one used for experiment?]. Bierbaumer: no entry. Could it be error for *glædene*, much more common in medicinal remedies? *Menyanthes trifoliata* Lat for bogbean. On what basis has *glappan* been translated as bogbean? Grendon and Storms translated it burdock (*Arctium*), with Storms noting the burr problem. See place names in charters: *glappan felda*, *gleppan felda* (Sawyer Ch 331, Ch 671, Ch 864); also Glapthorn, Glapwell in PASE. There are other OE words in BT for burdock: clate, clife, cliþe, ea-wyrt.

16	ðær	on	7	drȳpe	þonne	þriwa	on

				. ³		
17	þone	staðol	þara	turfa	7	cwe-

18	þe	þonne	ðas	word	.	Crescite	.	wexe	.

19	&	multiplicamini	.	7	gemænig-	

20	fealda	.	&	replete	.	7	gefylle	.

21	terre	.	þas	eorðan	.	In	nomine

	⁴									
22	patris	.	&	fili	.	et	<i>spiritus</i>	<i>sanc̄a</i>	Sit	bene-

fol. 176v (flesh side) pasted down cut edge visible in gutter.

³ A firm dot in same ink floats above and to slight left of “t” of “turfa.”

⁴ Brown circular stain above “ris,” height of space between lines Darker in center, then lighter circle around, like a stain that spread. Not visible on v flesh side.

1	dicti	.	And	pater	noster ⁵	swa	oft	swa

2	þæt	oðer	7	bere	sipþan	ða	turf	to	circean ⁶

3	7	mæssepreost ⁷	asinge	feower	mæssan	

4	ofer	þan	turfon	.	7	wende	man	þæt	grene

5	to	ðan	weofode	7	sipþan	gebringe

6	man	þa	turf	þær	hi	ær	wæron	ær

7	sunnan	setl	gange	.	And	hæbbe	him

8	gæworht	of	cwicbeame	feower	cris-

⁵ The words “pater noster” are in OE script with tall “s.”

⁶ The “n” under paste down cut edge in gutter (same at end of line 3 also). What does this say about the paste down?

⁷ NB: The “ss” in mæssepreost are sinuous “s.”

9	tes	mælo	7	awrite	on	ælcon	ende	.

10	MatheuS ⁸	.	7	mārcuS	.	LucaS	7	Iohannes	.

								⁹
11	lege	þæt	cristes	mǣl	on	þone	wýt	

12	neopewardne	cweðe	ðonne ¹⁰	.	Crux ¹¹	.		

13	matheuS	.	Crux	.	mārcus	.	Crux	.	lucas	.

14	Crux ¹²	.	Sanctus ¹³	.	Iohannes	.	Nim	ðonne

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⁸ Cap “M” partially into left margin. Final “s” on first three gossellers names are capital S, but not John. Note abbreviations. Have left their names in Junius Modern since it is not clear if this is a script change with the mixture of “s” forms. Spacing does seem wider on Crux and some of the gossellers’ names.

⁹ Light brown irregular circular stain above wyt, filling space between lines and overlapping onto Iohes above.

¹⁰ Note lack of usual abbreviation of þonne here and in line 14.

¹¹ The period not visible in gutter, but presumably there since the next three Crux have it. Same at the end of next line (13) after lucas.

¹² Cap “C” enlarged into left margin, parallel with Matheus in line 10.

¹³ Note addition of Sanctus to John’s name, and that here is name is not abbreviated.

15	þa	turf	7	sete	ðær	ufon	on	.	7	cweþe
----	----	------	---	------	-----	------	----	---	---	-------

16	ðon ^{ne}	nigon	siþon	þas	word	.	Crescite ¹⁴	.		

17	7	swa	oft	.	pater	noster	.	7	wende	be	þon ^{ne}

18	eastweard	7	onlút	nigon	siðon

19	eadmodlice	.	7	cweð	þon ^{ne}	þas	word

20	eastweard	Ic	stande	arena ¹⁵	ic	me

21	bidde	bidde	ic	þone	mæran	.	domine ¹⁶	.

22	bidde	ðone	miclan	drihten

¹⁴ Note that it uses tall OE “s.”

¹⁵ Not finding arena in DOE. Under ar, are (honor, grace, mercy), this spelling is listed, but no entry for this line in the MCharms. Only entry is for line 40. Not finding it with the “n.” BT has arena under ar, an.

¹⁶ As ASPR notes, this should be *dominum*.

fol. 177r hair side

1	bidde	Ic	ðone	haligan	heofonrices

2	weard	.	eorðan	ic	bidde	7	úpheofon

3	7	ða	soþan	<i>sancta</i>	marian	.	7	heofones

4	meaht	.	7	heahreced	þær	ic	mote

5	þis	gealdor	mid	gife	drihtnes

6	toðum	ontȳnan	þurh	trumme	ge-

7	þanc	aweccan	þas	wæstmas	us

8	to	woruldnytte	gefylle ¹⁷	þas

¹⁷ ASPR corrects to gefyllan.

9	foldan	mid	fæste	geleafan	wlitigi-

10	gan	þas	wancgturf	swa	se	witega

11	cwæð	.	þæt	se	hæfde	áre	on	eorþ-

12	rice ¹⁸	se	þe	ælmyssan	dælde	dom-

13	lice	drihtnes	þances	.	wende	þe

14	þonne	.iii.	sunganges	astrece	þonne

15	on	andlang	7	arim	þær	letanias

16	7	cweð	þonne	.	sanctus	.	sanctus	.	sanctus	.	oþ	ende	.

¹⁸The initial “r” rewritten poorly over erasure.

17	sing	þonne	benedicite	aþenedon

18	earmon	.	7	magnificat	.	7	pater

19	noster	.iii.	7	bebeod	hit	<i>chriſte</i>

20	7	<i>sancta</i>	marian.	7	þære	halgan

21	rode	to	lofe	.	7	to	weorþinga

22	7	þam	are	¹⁹	þe	þæt	land	age	7	eallon

fol. 177v flesh side

1	þam	þe	him	underðeodde	sýnt	ðonne	þæt

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¹⁹ Erasure of 3? letters. ASPR adjusts to “and to are þam þe.”

2	eall	sie	gedon	bonne	nime	man	uncuþ
---	------	-----	-------	-------	------	-----	-------

3	sæd	æt	ælmesmannum	7	selle	him	

4	twa	swýlce	swýlce	man	æt	him	nime

5	7	gegaderie	ealle	his	sulhgeteogo		

6	togædere	borige	bonne	on	þam	beame	

7	stór	.	7	finol	.	7	gehalgode	sápan ²⁰

8	7	gehalgod ²¹	sealt	nim	bonne	þæt	sæd	sete

9	on	þæs	sules	bodig	.	cweð	bonne	.	Erce ²²	.

²⁰ Soap, salve, unguent? Usually in LB remedies. BT ref to glossary shows Lat. *lumentum*, but no such word in Latin (iumentum is draft animal). Some other –umentum word? can't find anything relevant. Wrt. Voc. i. 86, 12 (54, 4): A volume of Vocabularies, edited by Thomas Wright. Privately printed, 1857. Quoted by page and number of gloss. sap myhrr. candle wax (tallow), soap.

²¹ Possible erasure after “d” of “halgod.”

²² The three “erce” have a tall “e” but not a cap E.

10	Erce	.	Erce	.	eorþan	modor	geunne

11	þe	se	alwalda	ece	drihten	æcera

12	wexendra	7	wridendra	eacnien-

13	dra	7	elniendra	scafta	hen	se ²³

14	scire ²⁴	wæstma	.	7	þære ²⁵	bradan

15	berewæstma	.	7	þære	hwitan

16	hwætewæstma	.	7	ealra	eorþan

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²³ ASPR corrects to "hehra."

²⁴ ASPR corrects to "scirra."

²⁵ ASPR corrects to "þæra."

17	wæstma	.	geunne	him	ece	drihten
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18	7	his	halige	þe	on	eofonum ²⁶	synt

19	þæt	hȳs	ȳrþ	si	gefriþod	wið	ealra

20	feonda	gehwæne ²⁷	7	heo	si	gebor-	

21	gen	wið	ealra	bealwa ²⁸	gehwyrc

22	þara	lyblaca	geond	land	sawen	.

fol. 178r (flesh)

1	Nu ²⁹	ic	bidde	ðone	waldend ³⁰	se	ðe	ðas

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²⁶ ASPR corrects to “heofonum.” Note number of “errors” on this folio.

²⁷ The win looks corrected over something else, or is oddly shaped.

²⁸ The latter half of word looks blurred, as if water caused letter strokes to spread.

²⁹ The cap N is slightly in left margin. See line 10 below.

³⁰ Vertical cut in parchment running in a narrow v shape running from top edge down into first line and below, crossing between the “n” and the “d.” Scribe wrote around it.

2	woruld	gesceop	þæt	ne	sȳ	nan	to	þæs	cwi-
---	--------	---------	-----	----	----	-----	----	-----	------

3	dol	wif	ne	to	þæs	cræftig	man	þæt	

		ne mæge							
4	awendan	,	woru	d ³¹	þus	gecwedene			

5	þonne	man	þa	sulh	forð	drife	.		

6	7	þa	forman	furh	onsceote	.32	Cweð		

7	þonne	hal	wes	þu	folde	fira	modor		

8	beo	þu	growende	on	godes	fæþme			

9	fodre	gefylled	firum	to	nytte	.			

³¹ An “l” appears to have been erased between the “u” and “d,” changing *woruld* to *worud*. ASPR amends to *word*.

³² The punctus here seem to set off the actions that interrupt the speech act.

10	Nim ³³	þonne	ælces	cynnes	melo	7	abacæ

11	man	Inneweerdne	handa	bradnæ

12	hláf	7	gecned	hine	mid	meolce	7	mid

13	haligwætere	7	lecge	under	þa	forman

14	furh	cweþe	þonne	ful	æcer	fodres	fira

15	cinne	beorhtblowende	þu	gebletsod

16	weorþ	þæs	haligan	noman	þe	ðas

17	heofon	gesceop	7	ðas	eorþan	þe	we

³³ Cap N slightly in left margin.

