

Oon of Foure

2° f°: Tewisday ix. part (fol. 2)
first is (fol. 10)

Vellum (FSOS). Fols iii + 126 + ii. Overall 180 mm x 130 mm (writing area 125 mm x 80 mm). In long lines, 28 lines to the page. A very few prickings survive; bounded and ruled in brown ink and lead. Written in gothic textura quadrata, each item a separate scribe. Punctuation by punctus elevatus, double point, virgula, and occasional middle point.

CONTENTS

1. Fols 1-7^v: 'Here bigynneb a kalender of þe gospels þat ben rad in chirche'.

Ed. FM, 4:683-98 passim. In an anglicana-influenced textura; there are only five lines on fol. 7^v, and fol. 8^v is blank. The MS has been previously described, Ker MMBL 3:595-96.

2. Fols 9-10^v: 'Seynt austyn seip in þe secounde boke of cristen doctrine in þe ende Whateuer þing a man fyndip --- god<d>is spechis in expownynge bi þat we heringe as drinking ben more holpen'.

A prologue to Oon of Foure, ed. FM, 1:44-49 (the page foot) from BL, MS Harley 6333. The text appears in a minority of Oon of Foure MSS, and separately in a transcript of s. xvii at Lambeth Palace Library, MS 594, pp. 47-48.

3. Fols 11-126: 'Clement a prest of þe chirche of lantony gadride alle þe sentensis of foure gospelleris . . . [fol. 17] Here bigynneb þe first part capitulum i. in i^o. capitulo of ioon In þe bigynniynge eiper first of alle þingis was goddis sone -- I deme þat þe world shal not take þe bokys þat shulden be wrytyn Here endip oon of foure þat is book of alle þe four gospelers gadrid shortli into o storye bi Clement of Lantony'.

The Middle English translation of Clement's Unum ex quattuor (Sharpe no. 194 [86-88]), unprinted, but see the partial edition (parts 1-5 only), P. M. Smith (Southampton dissertation, 1984). Owing to a missing folio, the MS lacks parts of 3.3-5; this lacuna corresponds to the text in BodL, MS Bodley 771, fols 17^{vb}/9 'þe stondynge watir'-18^{tb}/37 'in þe citee'. The table of contents for the twelve books follows the prologue (fols 11-16, with fol. 16^v blank). Fol. 126^v is blank but ruled.

COLLATION 1-4⁸ 5⁸ (-1) 6-15⁸ 16⁸ (-8, blank). Catchwords at the end of most quires; no signatures.

TEXTUAL PRESENTATION AND DECORATION Headings in red. At textual divisions, blue lombards with red flourishing, four- and five-line at openings of books, three-line for chapters, two-line in the prefatory quires. Red letters in the margins to identify biblical lections, non-biblical materials underlined in red. Running titles for the parts in red preceded by a blue paraph. The text is divided by red-slashed capitals, red paraphs, and in some portions, blue paraphs.

BINDING Dark brown leather over millboards, with a frame in blind, s. xix. Sewn on four thongs. In the top spine compartment in gilt the title, 'Clementis de Lanthonia Unum ex Quatuor Anglice'. Pastedowns modern paper, the printed Allestree label (see the previous MS) on the front pastedown. At the front, two modern paper flyleaves and one medieval vellum flyleaf; at the rear, two modern paper flyleaves.

PROVENANCE There is only one early addition, a note on the authorship of the work and translation, derived from Bale (s. xvii in., fol. iii). Like the remainder of this collection, the MS was donated by Richard Allestree in 1680.