

## MS. 55

### Bible, omitting Psalms England; s. xiii<sup>1</sup>

#### Text

Bible with prologues; the books in the following order: Genesis to Esther, Maccabees, Major and Minor prophets, Job, Sapiential books, Gospels, Acts, Canonical and Pauline Epistles, Revelation. ‘Stegmüller’ numbers refer to Stegmüller, *RB* (cf. MS. 52); many of the prologues are not from the normal 13th-century series.

1. (p. vi) Added 17th-century table of contents headed ‘Librorum Syllabus.’, followed by a note that two of the Pauline epistles are missing, and that the Psalms are absent, signed ‘Tho: Barlow, manu propria, ut supra.’

[Item 2 occupies quires 1–29]

2. (pp. 1–530) Genesis (pp. 1–46), the original 1:1–14 missing due to the loss of four leaves (which probably also contained the usual prologues, Stegmüller 284 and 285), replaced on a supply-leaf (p. 1); Exodus (pp. 46–83) [[Image](#)]; Leviticus (pp. 83–109); Numbers (pp. 109–46); Deuteronomy (pp. 146–78); Stegmüller 311 (pp. 178–9), Stegmüller 307, Joshua (called ‘Ihesu Naue’ in the rubric and running title) (pp. 179–201); Judges (pp. 201–24); Stegmüller 315, Ruth (pp. 224–7); Stegmüller 323 (pp. 227–9), I Samuel (pp. 229–63); II Samuel (pp. 264–90); Stegmüller 319, I Kings (pp. 290–321); II Kings (pp. 321–51) [[Image](#)]; Stegmüller 328 (pp. 351–2), Stegmüller 327 (pp. 352–3), Stegmüller 326 (pp. 353–4), I Chronicles (pp. 354–82); II Chronicles (pp. 382–417); Stegmüller 330 (pp. 417–8), Stegmüller 329 (p. 418), Ezra (pp. 418–27); Nehemiah (pp. 427–41); Stegmüller 5187 (also found in Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, MS. 48, and Yale, Beinecke Library, MS. 455); Stegmüller 332; Stegmüller 5190, ending at ‘... lumen claritatis promeruit.’ (from Isidore, *De ortu et obitu patrum*, ch. 58; Migne, *PL*, LXXXIII, col. 146B; cf. Ker, *MMBL*, II, pp. 248, 653) (p. 441), Tobit (pp. 441–50); Stegmüller 335 (pp. 450–1), Judith (pp. 451–64); Stegmüller 341+343, Esther (pp. 464–76); Stegmüller 551, I Maccabees (pp. 476–508); II Maccabees (pp. 508–30); p. 531 blank (not ruled).

[Items 3–4 occupy quires 30–60]

3. (pp. 532–880) Major Prophets: Stegmüller 482, Isaiah (pp. 532–75); Stegmüller 487 (p. 575), Jeremiah (pp. 576–627); a table of the Hebrew alphabet (the headings of the sections of Lamentations), with the names of the letters in red on alternate lines, in correct sequence if read alternately from right to left, then left to right, i.e. ‘He. Deleth. Gimel. Beth. Aleph. | Caph. Ioth. Theth. Hech. Zam. Vav. | ... | Res. Sin. Tav.’, each name with a Latin word in black above: ‘Ista. Tabularum. Plenitudo. Domus. Doctrina. | ... | Caput. Iustitia. Fortitudo.’ (p. 627) (cf. *MMBL*, I, p. 66; III, p. 677); Lamentations (pp. 627–31) with the prayer of Jeremiah (pp. 631–2); Stegmüller 491, Baruch (pp. 632–8); Stegmüller 492 (p. 639, rubric on p. 638); Ezekiel (pp. 639–89) [[Image](#)]; Stegmüller 494 (pp. 689–90), Stegmüller 495 (pp. 690–1); Daniel (pp. 691–711); Stegmüller 500, Stegmüller 507 (pp. 711–2), Stegmüller 503+506, Hosea (pp. 712–8); Stegmüller 510 (pp. 718–9), ‘Iohel qui interpretatur domine deus siue

incipiens deo ... quando & micheas.’ (p. 719; cf. Stegmüller 5208; cf. *MMBL*, II, pp. 213, 248, 409, 653, etc.), Stegmüller 509, Joel (pp. 719–21); Stegmüller 3361 (but ending at ‘... ioas domini mora siue temporalitas.’; Migne, *PL*, XXV, 992B) (p. 722, rubric on p. 721), Stegmüller 515, Stegmüller 512 (pp. 722–3), Amos (pp. 723–8); Stegmüller 519+517, Stegmüller 516, Obadiah (pp. 728–9); Stegmüller 524 (pp. 729–30), Stegmüller 522, Jonah (pp. 730–1); Stegmüller 526 (pp. 731–2), Stegmüller 525, Micah (pp. 732–6); Stegmüller 528, Stegmüller 527, Nahum (pp. 736–8); Stegmüller 531 (pp. 738–9), Stegmüller 530 (pp. 739–40), Stegmüller 529, Habakkuk (pp. 740–2), the Canticle of Habakkuk (pp. 741–2) with a rubric ‘*Oratio abacuch pro ignorantibus*’; Stegmüller 534, treated as two prologues, with Stegmüller 532 inserted between ‘... elati sunt oculi mei’, and ‘Iosiam regem iude cuius temporibus ...’ (pp. 742–3), Zephaniah (pp. 743–5); Stegmüller 538 (starting at ‘*Moriente dario ...*’; cf. *MMBL*, II, pp. 195, 213, 653), Stegmüller 535, Haggai (pp. 745–6); Stegmüller 3369 (pp. 746–7) (see references above for MS. 52, fol. 282r), Stegmüller 539 (pp. 747–8), Stegmüller 540, Zechariah (pp. 748–56); Stegmüller 3371, ending at ‘... in primo mensis quinti uenit in ierusalem.’ (fol. 285v; cf. MS. 52), Stegmüller 545, Stegmüller 544 (p. 756), Malachi (pp. 757–9, rubric on p. 756); Stegmüller 344 (pp. 759–60), Stegmüller 357, Stegmüller 350 (pp. 760–1), Stegmüller 349, Job (pp. 761–85), followed by a blank half column; Stegmüller 457 (pp. 785–6), Stegmüller 456, Proverbs (pp. 786–808); Ecclesiastes (pp. 808–16); Song of Songs (pp. 816–20); Stegmüller 468, Stegmüller 455(!), ending at ‘... quam dubiis comodare.’ (*sic*) (pp. 820–1), Wisdom (pp. 821–37); ‘*Multorum nobis ...*’ treated as a prologue (Stegmüller 26,1), Ecclesiasticus (pp. 837–79), with the Prayer of Solomon (‘*Et inclinavit Salomon ...*’) (pp. 879–80).

4. (pp. 880–1135) New Testament: Stegmüller 595 (pp. 880–1), Stegmüller 596, ending at ‘... quam ecclesiasticis uiuis canendas.’ (pp. 882–3), Stegmüller 581 (pp. 883–4), Stegmüller 572, Stegmüller 590, Matthew (pp. 884–916); Stegmüller 607 (pp. 916–7), Mark (pp. 917–37); Stegmüller 620 (pp. 937–8) Luke, with 1:1–4 treated as a prologue, main initial at 1:5 (pp. 938–71); Stegmüller 624, John (pp. 971–97); Stegmüller 640, Stegmüller 631 (p. 998, rubric on p. 997), Acts (pp. 998–1032); Stegmüller 809 (pp. 1032–3), Stegmüller 807, Stegmüller 808, Stegmüller 806, James (pp. 1033–7); Stegmüller 815, Stegmüller 812, I Peter (pp. 1037–41); Stegmüller 818, II Peter (pp. 1041–3); Stegmüller 820, Stegmüller 822 (pp. 1043–4), I John (pp. 1044–7); Stegmüller 823, II John (pp. 1047–8); Stegmüller 824, III John; Stegmüller 826, Stegmüller 825, Jude (pp. 1048–9); Stegmüller 670 (pp. 1049–51), Stegmüller 651 (divided at ‘*Omnis textus uel numerus epistolarum ...*’; cf. *MMBL*, II, p. 654; IV, p. 332), Stegmüller 660, Stegmüller 662+663 (pp. 1051–2), Stegmüller 674 (pp. 1052–1053), Stegmüller 677 (pp. 1053–4), Romans (pp. 1054–66); Stegmüller 685, I Corinthians (pp. 1067–79, rubric on p. 1066); Stegmüller 699, II Corinthians (pp. 1079–87); Stegmüller 707 (pp. 1087–8), Galatians (pp. 1088–92); Stegmüller 715, Ephesians (pp. 1092–6); Stegmüller 728, Philippians (pp. 1096–99); Stegmüller 736 (p. 1099), Colossians (pp. 1099–1102); Stegmüller 747, I Thessalonians (pp. 1102–5); Stegmüller 752, II Thessalonians (pp. 1105–6); Stegmüller 765, I Timothy (pp. 1106–9); Stegmüller 772 (p. 1109); [II Timothy, Titus, and any prologue to Philemon are missing due to the loss of two leaves after p. 1109;] Philemon (p. 1110); Stegmüller

793 or 794, Hebrews (pp. 1110–20); Laodiceans (pp. 1120–1); Stegmüller 835, Apocalypse (pp. 1121–35).

### **Decoration**

Books with four- to nine-line (typically six- to eight-line) parted initials in red and blue, with flourishing of predominantly red penwork with blue details, filled in with predominantly blue scrolling foliate penwork with red details. [\[Image\]](#) [\[Image\]](#) The first words of each book sometimes in alternating blue and red two-line display capitals, with red and blue penwork. Chapters with two-line initials alternately in blue with predominantly red penwork, with some blue, or vice versa (chapters start on a new line); chapter numbers and running titles in alternately blue and red characters; chapter numbers usually in blue prefixed with a red paraph.

### **Physical description**

Parchment, *c.*295 x *c.*210 mm., of good quality, holes carefully repaired with scarfed patches; marginal decoration, chapter numbers, etc., sometimes trimmed.

ff. iii (paper) + 2 (post-medieval parchment) + 570 + iv (paper), text leaves paginated on rectos in ink, [1]–1134 in a 17th(?)–century English(?) hand, except for p. 1 which Barlow seems to have (supplied and ?) paginated himself; the endleaves, and leaves skipped after pp. 272, 290, and 940 by the original paginator, are paginated in modern pencil, so that the pagination is now: i–ix, 1–272, 273a–c, 274–290, 291a–c, 292–940, 941a–c, 942–1143; pp. ix and 1 are the two sides of a single leaf.

Quires mostly of ten leaves each: 1<sup>2</sup> (pp. vii–1) | 2<sup>10-4</sup> (1st to 4th leaves missing) (pp. 2–13), 3–18<sup>10</sup> (pp. 14–329), 19<sup>10-1</sup> (1 leaf cancelled after p. 343(?)) (pp. 330–47), 20–28<sup>10</sup> (pp. 348–527), 29<sup>4-2</sup> (3rd & 4th leaves cancelled) (pp. 528–31); 30–58<sup>10</sup> (pp. 532–1109), 59<sup>10-2</sup> (1st & 2nd leaves missing) (pp. 1110–25), 60<sup>6-1</sup> (last leaf cancelled) (pp. 1126–35); no catchwords, quire signatures, or leaf signatures survive.

Ruled in leadpoint, the top three, middle three, and bottom three horizontal lines extending the full width of the page, two columns each with single vertical bounding lines; with an extra inter-columnar line; the ruled space *c.*195 x *c.*140 mm., each column *c.*65 mm. wide; prickings survive in the gutter margin.

Written with two columns of 42 lines, written above top line, in a clear regular gothic script; capitals sometimes touched in red (e.g. pp. 145–6).

Secundo folio: ‘et sint’ (p. 2), ‘etiam de ligno’ (p. 4).

### **Binding**

Sewn on five slit thongs, and bound in 18th(?)–century brown leather over pasteboards, the covers and spine with simple blind-tooling [\[Image\]](#); lacking pastedowns; flyleaves with a watermark in the form of a loop above a bunch of grapes; the fore-edge of the leaves inscribed ‘Biblia’ [\[Image\]](#); the spine with a paper label printed ‘4’.

### **Provenance**

1. Written in England probably in the first half, probably first quarter, of the 13th century.

2. Inscribed with a cautio note dated 1443: ‘Cauc(i)o M(agist)ror(um) Ioh(ann)is Seynt(?) & Rog(eri)i Marchall ex(posita) ciste S(an)c(t)e Trinit(at)is Anno d(omi)ni 1443<sup>o</sup> | nono die decembris & h(abe)t vnu(m) supple(mentu)m videli(ci)t p(r)ima(m) s(e)c(undae?) s(an)c(t)i Tho(me?) p(ro) ~~~ [... last line partly trimmed]’ (p. 1135) [\[Image\]](#) [\[Image\]](#); there was a Trinity chest at Cambridge, but not Oxford, and there was a Roger Marchall at Peterhouse, Cambridge, at this date: he was admitted in 1437/8, owed Clare Hall 16s. 8d. by 1456, vacated by 1460, and died in 1477; he owned a considerable number of manuscripts (see Linda Ehrsam Voigts, ‘A doctor and his books: the manuscripts of Roger Marchall (d. 1477)’, in Richard Beadle and A. J. Piper, eds., *New science out of old books: studies in manuscripts and early printed books in honour of A. I. Doyle*, (Aldershot, 1995), pp. 249–314, not mentioning the present manuscript; for the use of such chests see Roger Lovatt, ‘Two collegiate loan chests in late medieval Cambridge’, in Patrick Zutshi, ed., *Medieval Cambridge: essays on the pre- Reformation University* (Woodbridge, 1993), pp. 129–65; on the Trinity chest see Graham Pollard, ‘Medieval loan chests at Cambridge’, *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research*, 17 (1939–40), pp. 113–29 at pp. 121–2; cf. the cautio notes in Oxford, Balliol College, MS. 133, and BL, Royal MS. 18 B.vii).
3. ‘Gorgias Cocks [or Corke?] his Booke’, 16th-century (p. 1076; cf. p. 1014). [\[Image\]](#)
4. Thomas Barlow (1607–1691) (on whom see *DNB*; Magrath, *Queen’s*, II, pp. 32–5), provost of Queen’s College, later bishop of Lincoln.
5. William Offley (1660–1724) (on whom see Venn, *Alumni Cantabrigienses*), bequeathed to him by Barlow, whose chaplain he was: inscribed ‘Gulielmo Offley Coll: Regal: A:M: apud Cantab: Socio, Amanuen: et Capellano Domestico – legavit R.P:D: Tho: Barlow Linc: Episcops: Ano: 1691 –’ (p. i). In his will Barlow gave to Offley and Henry Brougham, his chaplains, ‘all his English, Latin, and Greek Bibles and Testaments ...’ (cf. Magrath, *Queen’s*, II, p. 69 n. 1).
6. Queen’s College, given by Offley, 27 April 1723, perhaps in accordance with Barlow’s wishes (as his inscription cited above states, Offley had been a fellow of King’s College, Cambridge): inscribed, apparently by the same hand as the above: ‘Gulielmus Offley Ecclesiae Lincolniensis Canonicus, Bibliothecae coll: Regin: Oxon’: dedit – (Ap: 27<sup>mo</sup>: 1723) –’ (p. i) [\[Image\]](#); inscribed with the former shelfmark ‘E. 4’ on the inner face of the front board (crossed through; cf. spine), above the College bookplate, and below the pencil shelfmark ‘55’.

## Bibliography

Coxe, *Catalogus*, p. 8.

Alexander & Temple, *College libraries*, no. 155.

Status: Draft