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THE DATE OF THE 'TREMULOUS' WORCESTER HAND.

The backward-sloping old man's hand which has annotated a dozen Old English manuscripts from Worcester¹ is seen in marginal glosses and in the word *dedicatio*² in this facsimile of part of f. 10 recto of Bodleian MS. Hatton 114. The glosses have no connexion with the Old English text on f. 10³ and seem from their position, to have been written at a later date than the table of contents which occupies the upper part of the side margin. There can be no doubt that at least the word *dedicatio* was written after the table of contents since it is not a casual scribble but a correction to the last entry in the table. Here *De vno confessore. Uigilate ergo* is copied from the heading on f. 230 to a homily which ends imperfect on f. 235v, and *Item alia* is copied from the heading to a homily on the dedication of a church⁴ which begins on f. 242v and follows another homily on the same subject.⁵ The latter, headless at an early date owing to the loss of two leaves between ff. 235 and 236, was omitted from the table on f. 10 because the compiler failed to notice the change of subject at f. 236. To remedy matters the 'tremulous scribe' entered *dedicatio* at the end of the table, *deficit*⁶ at the bottom of f. 235v, and *De dedicatione* at the head of f. 236.

It is of some importance to be able to decide this question of priority because an approximate date can be assigned to the set hand of the table of contents but not to the 'tremulous'

¹ See S. J. Crawford in *Anglia* 52 (1928), 1ff., for references and a facsimile.

² *dedicatio*, although more firmly written than the glosses, is in the same type of script and certainly by the same hand. A variation in the degree of shakiness is to be found throughout the work of the 'tremulous' scribe in this and other manuscripts.

³ *vnþancwurdlice* is taken from f. 109v and *þrafung* from f. 123v. On these pages the glosses *ingraitanter* and *argumentum* have been entered in tremulous script.

⁴ Unprinted. The last line = A. S. Napier, *Wulfstan*, 1883, 281²⁵-282²¹.

⁵ = R. Brotanek, *Texte und Untersuchungen*, 1913, 4⁴-15.

⁶ He wrote *deficit* also in Hatton 76, f. 14v, and Corpus, Cambridge, 198, f. 247v, to mark the loss of leaves.

nerre. Abrahamey nama pater
patriarum genitorem abraham.
ac god geht harnaman mid
hithine abraham. þiſ man g
dam þa god fæder hithine gefæ
ncoræder. Sapaſ pater þiſ
he min talþoſ. ac god hi het
fealþoſ. þ he on cene ſynode
þoſ geiged. ac forð þihte
þiſ ſeowenne talþa gelyfþoſ
moceonig geapa pater abraham.
ne neogauſ æþha ðe him cilo
aþa him cilo com þa com he mid
þunge þle þunge þuſ þiſ
abrahamey eym þimble þyþan
reccoga moſer. þeall þiþahela
mb þiſ oen hmo a cilo þe

q̄ vii. kl. juli. Haſ
uitat ſc̄i johis baſ.
q̄ iii. kl. juli. S̄c̄oſ
aploſ. pet. ⁊ pauli.
q̄ ſanti petri.
q̄ ſc̄i pauli.
q̄ kl. ſeptemb. Aſſup
cio ſc̄e marie.
q̄ paſſio ſc̄i bartho
lomei ap̄i.
q̄ De Haſuitate ſc̄e
marie.
q̄ iii. kl. octob. Ven
cacio ece ſc̄i ancha
elit arch.
q̄ kl. Nouemb. Haſ
oim ſc̄onum.
q̄ De vno q̄elloſe.
Tugilate ergo.
q̄ Item aha. Dedicatio
q̄ ſc̄i. þ. ellic
þetec. ſi þe ſi
ardice. ſtan moſ
reene mo moſ
þite amencas. de he
iſtan. vñ þanc þun
lice
þiſ þe g. a. d. þiſ
argumtū þiſ
defectus. l. d. d.
q̄m q̄m u. þiſ
violencia. þe
ſc̄e
et. aduſte. i. u. r. a.

Part of Bodleian MS. Hatton 114, f. 10r.

(To face LSE. vi, 28).

hand. The former belongs, probably, to the second quarter of the thirteenth century; it can hardly be earlier than 1225 and may not be much, if at all, earlier than 1250.⁷ The 'tremulous' writer has been assigned, commonly, to the late twelfth century, and it is likely enough that the duct of his script was formed at this time. But there can be no doubt from the evidence of f. 10 of Hatton 114 that he was at work at a much later period.

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NOTE.

The editors are for once departing from their rule and printing a paper by one who has no connexion with their University. This number of LSE. owes much to Mr. Ker's help, and its editors are glad to print his paper, adding the facsimile which is essential to his argument. A further inducement to me was the fact that it supplements work published by my friend Dr. Crawford, a fine scholar who never in his lifetime met with the recognition he had earned.

BRUCE DICKINS.

⁷ Mr. N. Denholm Young kindly permits me to quote his opinion that the hand is of the middle of the thirteenth century.