

Transcription of M.R. James's unpublished description
Cambridge, University Library, MS Dd.3.45

Title	W. Caxton's version of the History of Jason by Raoul le Fevre
Secundo folio	[ryghte]
Language	English
Material	vellum and paper
Measurements	11 x 8 ½ ins.
Collation	1 ¹⁰ (wants 1, 2) 2 ¹⁰ – 5 ¹⁰ (wants 7) 6 ¹⁰ – 11 ¹⁰ (wants 7 – 10); foliation takes account of missing leaves. Sheets 1, 3, 5 in each quire are usually vellum.
Number of leaves	105
Columns	single
Lines to a page	c. 35
Date	cent. XV late
Handwriting	current and ugly but legible
Binding	modern: half calf, paper boards

The provenance is unknown.

Contents

William Caxton's version of Raoul le Fevre's History of Jason. The version according to Mr Bradshaw's note was made about 1477-8. According to him also, this MS was probably copied from Caxton's own edition, on which see Blades, *Caxton* I. 138 ii. 33.

The preface is wanting. Text begins with a handsome initial N (it should be A) on gold ground, in typical English style with partial border.

Nuncyently (Aunc-) the kynges and prynces 3
ending imperfect: (Medea) on booth her knees in greete humylite toffor Jason requiryng and cryeing
In the lower margin is (xvi) Robart Chamber (??).

Throughout the book at short intervals is scribbled 'Ego sum bonus puer quem deus amat', showing, I think, that it was used to teach a boy to read. On f. 31 is (xv, xvi) hylboroghe; on 38 Will. Whytynge (of Norfolk) is mentioned in a draft of a bill. Several such drafts occur. The book was doubtless always in private hands.