Transcription of M.R. James’s unpublished description
Cambridge, University Library, MS Gg.4.12

Title
John Capgrave's Chronicle of England

Secundo folio
O myn

Language
English

Material
vellum

Measurements
12 ½ x 9 ins.

Collation
1² 2⁸ – 13⁸ 1⁴¹⁶ 1 flyleaf [1² 2⁸ - 1⁴¹⁶]

Number of leaves
106

Columns
double

Lines to a page
42

Date
XV

Handwriting
clear blunt hand: thought to be the author's autograph

Binding
usual [rebound 1977]

Moore 40

Very likely from the Austin Friars convent at Lynn.
Names on the last flyleaf: John Welshe, John Campynett (or –ell). Some illegible scribbles on 1⁸.

Contents

Capgrave's Chronicle
To my sovereyn lord Edward ...
in þe blys of hevene. Amen oun servant Capgrave (Rolls ed., 1)

The Chronicle in annalistic form from the Creation
Rolls ed. p. 5
Every year has a line and many hundreds are blank.
Ends 103⁸ [104⁸] in AM 6615, AD 1417: and have voys in þe same eleccion. Unfinished.
At top of 104⁸ in the same hand is Mill. vj. Etas vj, but nothing is written.
Edited in full by Hingeston[-Randolph (R542. 30.1)], Rolls Series 1858, from this MS., with a facsimile. The only other MS is CCCC 167, a copy of this, on paper, of cent. xvi.
On ff. 104, 105 [105, 106] are a number of verses of proverbs (xv-xvi early), the first In papam Calixtum. O bone Calixte nunc omnis clerus odi te, etc. There are also many extracts from the prophecies of St Birgitta, the Sibyls, Cyril etc. Some French lines also occur.
On 105⁸ [106⁸] are English verses, e.g.:
  If Love be -e- O Lord what fele I so, etc.
  When fishes in the water leve their swimmyng, etc., and
  Tuta paupertas
  High towers by strong wyndes full lowe be cast
(Rolls p. xxvi note)

There is a decent initial, in gold, with feathered work, on 1⁸.

[Edition by Lucas now in preparation for EETS. II/80]