## <u>Transcription of M.R. James's unpublished description</u> <u>Cambridge, University Library, MS Ii.2.6</u>

Title: Tobit Esther Maccab. XII Prophetae glosati

Secundo folio: deci]mas suas

Language: Latin

Material: vellum

Measurements:  $13\frac{3}{4} \times 9\frac{1}{2}$  ins.

**Collation:**  $1^{12}$ - $14^{12}$  (wants 7-12)  $15^{12}$ - $23^{12}$   $24^{10}$   $25^{10}$ 

Number of leaves: 289

**Columns:** one to three

Lines to a page: 25

Date: XIII

**Handwriting:** uniform with Ii.2.2 (& Kk.4.3)

**Binding:** black leather

James 187 'Rotheram 171' K.β.2 14

## **Contents:**

From Norwich Priory. On f.1 at top the mark	
G.XXXIIII cf. Ii.2.2 & Kk.4.3 which have	
adjacent marks	
Tobias glosatus	1
Decorative initial	
Judith gl.	17 <sup>b</sup>
Decorative initial	
Hester gl.	36
2 decorative initials	
1. Maccabeorum gl.	50
decorative initial	1
2. Macc gl.	121
decorative initial	
Ends 161. 161 <sup>b</sup> blank, blank leaves cut out after it	1.50
XII Prophetae gl.	162
Osee. Initial cut out	4.00
Joel. 2 decorative initials	188 <sup>1</sup>
Amos. prol. decorative: text. a man pierces the head of	
Amos. Gold ground: The legendary martyrdom of the prophet	199
Abdias. Prol. decorative. text. Two men with square	210
shields fighting: one has a sort of pick	218
perhaps illustrates v.7 Consurgamus aduersus eum in praelium	
Jonas, prol. decorative. Text: Jonah swallowed by the fish	221
in green water	221
Micheas. prol. decorative. Text. A man by a caldron in	
which four people are seen, he holds an infant over	22.4
it by the arm. Another blows the fire with bellows	226 <sup>l</sup>
Naum prol decorative. Text. A nude longhaired woman	
spotted with blood holding up her hands, stands	

between two men with scourges	237
Abacuc. prol. decorative. text. The child in the manger	
Ox and ass seen above	243
Sophonias. Prol. decorative. Text. <u>L</u> . a ruler in cap.	
with sword sits cross legged in a chair. On $\underline{R}$ before	
him, a dark devil with a pink loincloth holds up	
his $\underline{R}$ . claw and lays his $\underline{L}$ . on the heads of two	
nude suppliant children (? Manasseh offering	
children to Moloch)	250
Aggeus. prol. decorative. Text. single figure standing	
on an owl & pouring silver & red objects into a red	
cylindrical bag: they fall out at the bottom	256 <sup>b</sup>
Zacharias. prol. decorative. Text. Single figure standing on	
the back of a nude woman	261 <sup>b</sup>
Malachias. prol. decorative. Text. The prophet with book	
addresses a Jew wh is holding up a lamb over an altar	
on R. & turns to look at him	283
Gloss ends: qui faciunt opera terrena	
Expl. XII prophete	
A list of the kings of Judah & Israel 289. verso blank	

The initials are very notable for subject & execution. Some of the decorative ones are in gold on grounds of white & green foliage set on pink (e.g. 282<sup>b</sup>).

The picture for Micah illustrates Mic. III.3 conciderunt (populum meum) sicut in lebete. For Nahum probably Nah. III.5 ostendam gentibus nuditatem tuam etc. That for Habakkuk is traditional; for Zephaniah probably an allusion to Zeph. I.5 qui jurant in Melchom (the gloss alludes to Manasseh[)] The Haggai picture represents I.6 qui mercedes congregauit, misit eas in sacculum pertusum.

This elaborate treatment of the minor prophets recalls the Amiens series of sculptures, & confirms my idea that the work is French.

L.F.-V. 2002-05-25