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Matthew Paris Edited by Henry Richards Luard
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Chronica Majora

Henry Richards Luard (1825–91), a Church of England clergyman and fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, edited a number of works in the Rolls Series, for which he was noted for the quality of his indexing and the depth of his commentary. This seven-volume work, first published between 1872 and 1883, has been hailed as one of the best editions in the series. It is a rich source for English history from the Creation to 1259, written by England's greatest medieval historian. Matthew Paris (c.1200–59) became a monk at St Albans in 1217 and had access to a wide variety of documents as an acquaintance of such men as Bishop Robert Grosseteste and King Henry III, whom he knew well. Volume 6 is an appendix to the chronicle. It comprises a broad selection of illustrative Latin documents of particular relevance to Paris's monastery, including Henry's confirmation of Magna Carta.

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Chronica Majora

VOLUME 6:
ADDITAMENTA

MATTHEW PARIS
EDITED BY
HENRY RICHARDS LUARD



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RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDII ÆVI
SCRIPTORES,
OR
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AND IRELAND
DURING
THE MIDDLE AGES.

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THE CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS
OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND
DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY, UNDER
THE DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

ON the 26th of January 1857, the Master of the Rolls submitted to the Treasury a proposal for the publication of materials for the History of this Country from the Invasion of the Romans to the reign of Henry VIII.

The Master of the Rolls suggested that these materials should be selected for publication under competent editors without reference to periodical or chronological arrangement, without mutilation or abridgment, preference being given, in the first instance, to such materials as were most scarce and valuable.

He proposed that each chronicle or historical document to be edited should be treated in the same way as if the editor were engaged on an *Editio Princeps*; and for this purpose the most correct text should be formed from an accurate collation of the best MSS.

To render the work more generally useful, the Master of the Rolls suggested that the editor should give an account of the MSS. employed by him, of their age and their peculiarities; that he should add to the work a brief account of the life and times of the author, and any remarks necessary to explain the chronology; but no other note or comment was to be allowed, except what might be necessary to establish the correctness of the text.

The works to be published in octavo, separately, as they were finished ; the whole responsibility of the task resting upon the editors, who were to be chosen by the Master of the Rolls with the sanction of the Treasury.

The Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, after a careful consideration of the subject, expressed their opinion in a Treasury Minute, dated February 9, 1857, that the plan recommended by the Master of the Rolls "was well calculated for the accomplishment of this important national object, in an effectual and satisfactory manner, within a reasonable time, and provided proper attention be paid to economy, in making the detailed arrangements, without unnecessary expense."

They expressed their approbation of the proposal that each Chronicle and historical document should be edited in such a manner as to represent with all possible correctness the text of each writer, derived from a collation of the best MSS., and that no notes should be added, except such as were illustrative of the various readings. They suggested, however, that the preface to each work should contain, in addition to the particulars proposed by the Master of the Rolls, a biographical account of the author, so far as authentic materials existed for that purpose, and an estimate of his historical credibility and value.

*Rolls House,
December 1857.*

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**MATTHÆI PARISIENSIS**  
**MONACHI SANCTI ALBANI,**  
**CHRONICA MAJORA.**

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MATTHÆI PARISIENSIS,

MONACHI SANCTI ALBANI,

CHRONICA MAJORA.

EDITED

BY

HENRY RICHARDS LUARD, D.D.,

FELLOW OF TRINITY COLLEGE; REGISTRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY; AND VICAR OF
GREAT ST. MARY'S, CAMBRIDGE.

VOL. VI.

—
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P R E F A C E.

The whole of the present volume, which forms a kind of Appendix to the Chronicle of Matthew Paris, is derived from the Cotton MS., Nero, D. I, which was written at St. Alban's, the greater portion being executed under Paris's direction, and with corrections in his hand. Various hands have been employed, some of them those of the ordinary scribes of the time, and not always of the especial St. Alban's character. The book contained originally the lives of the Offas, very beautifully written, with outline designs of a very high character as to their art, and the Gesta¹ Abbatum S. Albani, a portrait of each abbat being prefixed to his life. These occupy the earlier portion of the volume, the rest being used by Paris for the insertion of any document with which he wished to illustrate his history, written at different times and in different places of the book, so that there is little order or arrangement throughout. The volume thus became a kind of common place book for the insertion of any matter which was of interest to the monastery, and continued to be thus used after Matthew Paris's death, as in it there are documents of the reign of Edward I., and some even as late as the 15th century. Paris continually refers to the book in the course of his history, but the documents were evidently not all copied into it at the time he wrote the passages referring to them, as in several

¹ See some account of the MS. in Mr. Riley's preface to the Gesta Abbatum, i. p. xi.

instances he speaks of a letter or document as being in the book of Additamenta, which is really in the history itself, or which has been omitted altogether.¹ This occurs many times in the *Historia Anglorum*, where readers are referred to the *Liber Additamentorum* for documents which are not there, but which are in the *Chronica Majora*.

*Liber
Addita-
mentorum.*

The usual title given by Matthew Paris to the collection is "*Liber Additamentorum*,"² or the Book of Additions to the *Chronica Majora*; but it seems at one time to have been his intention to insert the illustrative documents at the end of the history, as he speaks of them as to be found at the "*Finis Libri*" (iii. 233, iv. 400, 586) or in "*Liber qui huic est continuandus*" (iv. 427). However, later, he seems to have determined to keep them separate, as in one place (v. 229) he gives his reason for their being in this *Liber Additamentorum*, namely, that the history might be relieved, "*ut hoc volumen deoneretur.*" Other titles employed are, *Liber "Literarum"* (iv. 518, 619), "*Liber Additamentorum, qui apud S. Albanum repositus,*" (v. 353.) "*Libellus qui est in ipsa ecclesia*" (v. 489), "*Scripta in ecclesia S. Albani* (v. 497), "*Liber Supplementorum*" (*Hist. Anglor.* ii. 387³). Besides this, in the earlier portion of the volume itself, which contains the *Gesta Abbatum*, there are references to documents as being in "*præsens*

¹ Reference to documents which Paris intended to insert among the Additamenta, but which are not there, will be found in vol. iv. 622 (Papal exemption for St. Alban's, unless this refers to No. 77,) vol. v. 229 (injuries done by W. de Valence to St. Alban's and Tyne-mouth), 371 (charter of privileges to Waltham, which in p. 446 Paris says he had not seen,) 497 (miracles at Chichester,) 615 (letter of the Archbishop of Messina,) 635 (absolu-

tion of the Durham monks,) 707 (statutes at the convocation of Oxford in 1258.)

² The first mention of the book is under the year 1215, vol. ii. p. 606. See also p. 604. A curious reference to it may be seen in MS. C., under the year 1248 (vol. v. p. 15, note 2), where the scribe adds, "*sed nescio ubi est ille liber.*"

³ See also *Hist. Anglor.*, vol. ii. p. 452, note 4; iii. p. 6, notes 1, 3 p. 12, note 1.

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volumen" (*Gesta Abbatum*, i. 199, ed. Riley), "Liber Additamentorum" (i. 390), "hoc volumen" (i. 514); the last erroneously, as the document is not here, but in the *Chronica Majora*. What is still more remarkable is that there are references to this volume in the *Chronicle* which goes under the name of "Matthew of Westminster"; these occur (referring to Parker's edition of 1570,) under the years 1259 and 1260; "Literas papales et episcopales . . . in libro Additamentorum," p. 287., the provisions of Oxford, "quos Gallice scriptos, duximus alibi scripturis commendare," p. 289, directions from the Pope to the Archbishop of Canterbury, "quorum tenorem sedulus poterit indagator alibi reperire," (*ib.*) a brief to the sheriffs de passibus periculosus, "cujus tenor videre desiderantibus alibi inter brevia patebit apertius," (p. 292.) A reference also to the final concord in the quarrel between the Bishop of Durham and St. Alban's, so many documents relating to which will be found in the present volume, may be seen in p. 299. As all these documents are contained in the volume of the *Additamenta*, a proof is afforded that by whomsoever the compilation which goes under the name of Matthew of Westminster was made, this portion of it—the history of the years 1259, 1260, immediately after Paris's death—was written in St. Alban's.

The contents of the book are of a very miscellaneous character, varying from writs relating to the privileges of St. Alban's and details concerning the monastery lands to matters of the highest interest concerning the history of the time, both at home and abroad. It is clear that Paris intended it to be a collection of illustrative documents both for the *Chronica Majora* and the *Gesta Abbatum S. Albani*. But it has been impossible to separate these; indeed, as any reader of the history must have observed, the latter portion of the *Chronica Majora* contains much that concerns St. Alban's only,

Character
of the col-
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and which would have more appropriately appeared in the *Gesta Abbatum*. Had Paris lived to revise the whole of the concluding chapters of his work, he probably would have omitted much as irrelevant to the general history of the time, and had these details kept only for his account of his monastery. I have therefore felt that none of the documents could with safety be omitted which Paris had thus left on record. I have of course not reprinted what is to be found in the *Chronicle* itself, or in the *Gesta Abbatum*; and anything inserted after Paris's death could not find a place among his collections. The documents referred to by the compiler called "Matthew of Westminster" would naturally find their place in an Appendix to that *Chronicle*. Most, if not all, of the later documents are in print in various places, and as I have given, besides a complete table of contents to the present volume, a full detailed account (Appendix III.) of everything in the MS., specifying where each entry is to be found in print, it is believed that the whole of this very valuable collection is now *publici juris*.

It is needless here to particularise the chief contents of the volume. Dr. Wats, in his edition of Matthew Paris published in 1640, printed a considerable portion, but left many of the documents, perhaps the larger and more valuable part of the whole, unpublished. The account of the battle of Mansourah, the letter of Q. Sanchia on her coronation at Aachen, the obituary of St. Alban's from 1216 to 1253, the account of the gems and hangings belonging to St. Alban's, may be instanced as among the most valuable, all which are now published for the first time. The obituary, besides giving several valuable entries, is the authority for the date of Paris's entry into the monastery¹ of St. Alban's (p. 270).

¹ This is unluckily clipped in the margin. I have filled up the word | *re-* with *-ligiosum*; perhaps *reli-* | *gionis* would be more correct.

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PREFACE.

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Prefixed to this volume will be found facsimiles of the two pages in which the account of the gems and rings is contained. As the drawings were probably executed by Paris himself or certainly under his direction, they are of very great interest, as they show the different methods in which precious stones were employed in the earlier part of the middle ages, while one of them proves that some attempts had even then been made to cut so hard a stone as the sapphire towards a regular shape.¹

Besides what Wats printed, the very curious and interesting complaint of the French king and bishops to Pope Innocent IV. at Lyons will be found in Brown's Appendix to the *Fasciculus rerum expetendarum et fugiendarum* (Lond. 1690), pp. 238–243. He blames Wats for the omission, but had no clear idea of the reign to which it belonged. Kemble has also printed a few of the early charters from this MS. (not very correctly) in the *Codex Diplomaticus Ævi Saxonici*, published by the English Historical Society, (Lond. 1839–1848).

In the arrangement of the contents of this volume I have endeavoured, as far as possible, to insert each document in its chronological order.² This has been attended with considerable difficulty, as many are not dated, and Paris frequently placed together a number of letters or papers relating to the same transaction, regardless of their being of different dates. But to follow his arrangement would have been impossible, even if advisable, as practically there is none, and the letters seem to have been written in the book from time to time on different pages, the book being opened at random for the purpose. Some are inserted in the

¹ I am indebted for this remark to the Rev. C. W. King.

² In one case I think now it would have been better to have kept to Paris's arrangement. No.

112 would be better with the other charters, No. 209, as they are all in the same hand, and relate to the same foundation.

middle of the lives of the abbats, several occur twice, and some even three times in the volume.

The Ap-
pendices.

The first Appendix to the present volume contains a description of all the shields of arms, which are drawn or described in the MSS. of Matthew Paris. I have arranged them in alphabetical order, as being the most convenient, and when there is no description, or when the description given in the MSS. is deficient, have supplied it. These are probably the oldest heraldic drawings in existence, and so little use has been made of them in the ordinary books on heraldry, that the bringing the descriptions together in this way will, I hope, be of advantage to students.

In the second Appendix I have given the chief various readings of the Vatican copies of the Papal letters included in the history of Matthew Paris, which I have been able to find in the Regesta preserved in the Vatican archives.¹

The third Appendix gives a full table of the contents of the Cotton MS. Nero, D. I, and the fourth a collation of the pages of the chief editions of Matthew Paris's history with those of the present edition for the convenience of reference.

The final preface to the history I reserve for the concluding volume, which will contain the index and glossary.

Cambridge, July 1882.

¹ See the preface to vol. v. p. xviii.

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¹ This is printed in Brown's *petendarum et fugiendarum*. Lon-
Appendix ad Fasciculum rerum ex- don, 1690. p. 238.

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