

GAUFRIDI MONEMENTENSIS HISTORIA REGUM BRITANNIÆ

NOTE TO THE TEXTS

The following Latin text is a faithful reproduction of a MS. in the University Library, Cambridge, No. 1706, old number II. i. 14. The usual manuscript abbreviations are extended throughout; otherwise the MS. is produced exactly as it stands. Scribal errors, omissions, etc., are reproduced without any attempt at editing; and under-dotted letters are indicated, as it is not always possible to determine whether these are the work of the original scribe, or of later editors. Marginal and interlinear corrections, or erasures, are ignored where it is safe to say that these were later; where doubt exists, the fact has been noted in the footnotes. Every difference, including capitalization, has been given in the variant readings, printed separately from the other two Latin MSS. used, the Stadtbibliothek, Bam, MS. No. 568, and Lord Harlech's MS. No. 17. The paragraphing and punctuation of the Cambridge MS. have been observed throughout.

The English translation placed below the Latin texts, is made from the Welsh MS. in the Jesus College Library, Oxford, No. LXXI. Where this MS. is defective, missing letters in names and occasional words have been supplied from a copy of it made in 1695, also in the Jesus Library, and numbered XXXVIII. These additions are put in italic type. As the Welsh mutations would confuse the English reader, and at the same time might have significance in effecting ignorant Latin translators or scribes, the radical form is retained, and the actual mutation is placed in small superscript letters before all proper nouns. The spellings of names are reproduced exactly as given in the MS., however unintelligent. Every effort has been made to follow the Welsh closely, and the translation is as literal as it can be made. Asterisks indicate notes, which will be found at the end of the texts, pages 537-548, by referring to the page and line.

Cum¹ mecum multa & de multis sepius animo reuoluens in² hystoriam² regum britannie³ incidere. in mirum contuli quod infra mentionem⁴ quam de eis gildas⁴ & beda⁵ luculento tractatu fecerant nichil de regibus qui ante incarnationem christi inhabitauerant nichil etiam de arturo⁶ ceterisque compluribus⁷ qui post incarnationem successerunt repperissem.⁸ cum & gesta eorum digna aeternitate⁹ laudis constarent & a multis populis quasi inscripta iocunde & memoriter predicarentur.¹⁰ Talia mihi & de talibus multociens¹¹ cogitanti optulit walterus¹² oxenefordensis¹³ archidiaconus uir in oratoria arte. atque in exoticis¹⁴ hystoris¹⁵ eruditus¹⁶ quandam britannici¹⁷ sermonis librum uetustissimum. qui a bruto¹⁸ primo rege britonum¹⁹ usque ad cadualadrum²⁰ filium caduallois²¹ actus omnium continue & ex ordine perpuleris²² orationibus proponebat. Rogatu itaque illius ductus tam & si infra²³ alienos ortulos. falerata uerba non collegerim²⁴ agresti tamen stilo propriisque calamis contentus. codicem illum in latinum sermonem transferre curauim. Nam si ampullosis dictionibus paginam²⁵ illinissen tedium legentibus ingererem dum magis in exponendis uerbis quam in hystoria²⁶ intelligenda ipsos commemorari oportet.²⁷ Opusculo igitur meo roberte²⁸ dux claudiocestrie²⁹ fauens. ut sic te doctore te monitore corrigatur. quod non ex galfridi³⁰ monementensis fonticulo censeatur exortum³¹ set sale minuerue tue conditum illius dicatur editio quem³² henricus³³ illustris rex anglorum³⁴ genuerit³⁵ quem philosophia liberalibus

¹ Cam. ² hystoriam. ³ ekmriale. ⁴ predicarent. ⁵ oxenefordensis. ⁶ hystoris. ⁷ Berr
⁸ paginem. ⁹ hystoria. ¹⁰ oportet. ¹¹ rex anglie. ¹² gaufridi. ¹³ cadourum.
¹⁴ cuius. ¹⁵ insert ammalus. ¹⁶ extitit.

¹⁷ hystoriam. ¹⁸ britannie ¹⁹ mensioem. ²⁰ Gildas. ²¹ Beda. ²² Arturo. Harlech
²³ quam pluribus. ²⁴ repperisse. ²⁵ ekmriale. ²⁶ predicantur. ²⁷ omitt multociens.
²⁸ W alterus. ²⁹ oxenefordensis. ³⁰ insert erudius. ³¹ caecitis. ³² hystoris. ³³ uetus.
³⁴ britannici. ³⁵ Bruto. ³⁶ britonum. ³⁷ cadualadrum. ³⁸ caduallois. ³⁹ pulchris.
⁴⁰ inter. ⁴¹ hystoria. ⁴² oportet. ⁴³ Koberle. ⁴⁴ Gaufridi. ⁴⁵ Anglorum.