

Masculine Vernacular Versions of the Rule of St. Benedict: Bibliography

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J. Frank Henderson

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This bibliography cites medieval vernacular translations of the Rule of St. Benedict that use masculine vocabulary and grammatical forms. These are of interest because (1) some were used in communities of women; (b) some were derived (e.g., masculinized) from pre-existing feminine versions; (c) they provide a basis of comparison with feminine versions with respect to the use of gendered language; and (d) they provide additional examples of vernacular translations of Latin religious texts.

Manuscripts, editions, studies and bibliographies are included, but not purely linguistic works.

These versions are listed according to language: English, German, French, Dutch/Flemish, Catalan, Other Languages

English

[Aethelwold's Old English Version for Monks]

[Aethelwold, bishop of Winchester, translated the Rule of Benedict from Latin into Old English ca. 960-970. He prepared a masculine version; it is not certain if he also prepared a feminine

version. Very soon, however, both feminine and masculine versions were in circulation (together with the Latin exemplar.)]

Manuscripts:

Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, 178

Oxford, Corpus Christi College, 197

London, British Library, Cotton Tiberius A. 3, leaves 103, 104

Durham, Durham Cathedral Library, B. 4. 24, leaves 98ff

London, British Library, Cotton Faustina A. 10

London, British Library, Cotton Titus A. 4

Edition:

Arnold Schroer, ed., *Die Angelsächsischen Prosabearbeitungen der Benediktinerregel* [1885-1888]. Second edition: Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 1964, with appendix by Helmut Gneuss.

Bibliographies:

Ernst A. Kock, *Three Middle-English Versions of the Rule of St. Benet and Two Contemporary Rituals for the Ordination of Nuns*. Early English Text Society, Original Series 120, 1902.

Reprints: Millwood, NY: Kraus Reprint Co., 1972, 1975

John Edwin Wells, *A Manual of the Writings in Middle English 1050-1400*. New Haven: Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences 1916, 1926,

Studies:

Helmut Gneuss, "Die Benediktinerregel in England und ihre altenglische Übersetzung," in *Die angelsächsischen Prosabearbeitungen der Benediktinerregel*, ed. A. Schroer, 2nd edn. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 1964, Appendix, 263-284; reprinted in Helmut Gneuss, *Language and History in Early England*. Variorum Collected Studies Series 559. Variorum: Ashgate Publishing House, 1996

Mechthild Gretsch, *Die Regula Sancti Benedicti in England und ihre altenglische Übersetzung*. Munchen: Wilhelm Fink 1973

Mechthild Gretsch, "Aethelwold's translation of the *Regula Sancti Benedicti* and its Latin exemplar," *Anglo-Saxon England* 3 (1974) 125-151

Jerome Oetgen, "The Old English Rule of St. Benedict," *American Benedictine Review* 26 (1975) 38-53

John Chamberlin, *The Rule of St. Benedict: The Abingdon Copy*. Edited from Cambridge, Corpus Christi College MS 57. Toronto: Centre for Medieval Studies 1982

Mechthild Gretsch, "The Benedictine Rule in Old English: A Document of Bishop Aethelwold's Reform Politics," in Michael Korhammer, ed., *Words, Texts and Manuscripts: Studies in Anglo-Saxon Culture Presented to Melmut Gneuss on the Occasion of his Sixth-Fifth Birthday*. Woodbridge: D.S. Brewer, 1992, 131-158

Mechthild Gretsch, "Der liturgische Wortschatz in Aethelwold's Übersetzung der Benediktinerregel und sprachliche Normierung in Späلتenglischer Zeit," *Anglia* 111 (1993) 310-354

Mechthild Gretsch, *The Intellectual Foundations of the English Benedictine Reform*. Cambridge Studies in Anglo-Saxon England 25. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999

Background:

J. Armitage Robinson, *The Times of Saint Dunstan*. Oxford: Clarendon Press 1923

R. W. Chambers, *On the Continuity of English Prose from Alfred to More and his School*. Early English Text Society, Original Series, vol 186a., 1932

Helmut Gneuss, "The Origin of Standard Old English and Aethelwold's School at Winchester," *Anglo-Saxon England* 1 (1972) 63-83; reprinted in Helmut Gneuss, *Language and History in Early England*. Variorum Collected Studies Series 559. Variorum: Ashgate Publishing House, 1996

Gale R. Owen, *Rites and Religions of the Anglo-Saxons*. Newton Abbot and London: David & Charles 1981

Robert Deshman, "Benedictus Monarcha et Monachus: Early Medieval Ruler Theology and the Anglo-Saxon Reform," *Fruhmittelalter Studien* 22 (1988) 204-240

David N. Dumville, *English Caroline Script and Monastic History: Studies in Benedictinism, A.D. 950-1030*. Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 1993

Barbara Yorke, ed., *Bishop Aethelwold: His Career and Influence*. Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 1988, 1997

Wells Version

Manuscript:

Wells, Chapter of Wells, loose leaves

Bibliographies:

Ernst A. Kock, *Three Middle-English Versions of the Rule of St. Benet and Two Contemporary Rituals for the Ordination of Nuns*. Early English Text Society, Original Series 120, 1902.

Reprints: Millwood, NY: Kraus Reprint Co., 1972, 1975

Interlinear Version

Manuscript:

London, Cotton Tiberius A. 3, leaves 105ff

Editions:

The Rule of S. Benet: Latin and Anglo-Saxon Interlinear Version, ed. H. Logeman. Early English Text Society, Original Series 90, 1888.

Reprints: Millwood NY: Kraus Reprint Co., 1973, 1975

Bibliographies:

Ernst A. Kock, *Three Middle-English Versions of the Rule of St. Benet and Two Contemporary Rituals for the Ordination of Nuns*. Early English Text Society, Original Series 120, 1902.

Reprints: Millwood, NY: Kraus Reprint Co., 1972, 1975

German

[The following references also cite earlier editions, if appropriate.]

Old High German Version

Manuscript:

St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Codex 916 [early 9th c.]

Edition:

Achim Masser, ed., *Die lateinisch-althochdeutsche Benediktinerregel Stiftsbibliothek St. Gallen Cod. 916*. Göttingen: Vandenhoech & Ruprecht, 1997

Zwiefalten Version

Manuscript:

Stuttgart, Landesbibliothek, Codex theol. et phil. 230 [12th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. Old German Prose Documents I. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 13-47

Hohenfurth Version

Manuscript:

Hohenfurth, Stiftsbibliothek, Codex 30 [beginning or middle 13th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. Old German Prose Documents I. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 48-88

Asbach Version

Manuscript:

Munchen, Staatsbibliothek, Codex Germanicus Monacensis 91 [middle of 13th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. Old German Prose Documents I. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 129-166.

Engelberg Version

Manuscript:

Engelberg, Stiftsbibliothek, Codex 72 [middle of 13th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. Old German Prose Documents I. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 89-128

[“Written for the nuns of St. Andreas, Engelberg.”]

Raitenhaslach (Munich) Version

Manuscript:

Munchen, Staatsbibliothek, Codex Germanicus Monacensis 90 [middle or end of 13th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. Old German Prose Documents I. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 167-205

Admont Version

Manuscript:

Admont, Stiftsbibliothek, Codex 624 [end of 13th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. Old German Prose Documents I. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 206-244

Donaueschingen Version

Manuscript:

Donaueschingen, Hofbibliothek Nr. 420 (L.252) [14th c.]

Edition:

Konrad Schmidt, *Vier deutsche Benediktinerregeln aus dem späten Mittelalter*. Diss. Technische Universität Berlin 1969, 76-142

Nurnberg Version

Manuscript:

Nurnberg, Germanisches Nationalmuseum, MS. 4486a [14th c.]

Edition:

Mary C. Sullivan, *A Middle High German Benedictine Rule: MS. 4486a Germanisches Nationalmuseum Nurnberg: Commendary, Edition, Glossary*. *Regulae Benedicti Studia Supplementa* 4. Hildesheim: Verlag Dr. H. A. Gerstenberg 1976

Altmunster Version

Manuscript:

Munchen, Staatsbibliothek, Codex Germanicus Monacensis 36 [1388]

Edition:

Carl Selmer, *Middle High German Translations of the Regula Sancti Benedicti: The Eight Oldest Versions*. *Old German Prose Documents I*. Cambridge MA: Mediaeval Academy of America 1933, 279-322

London Version

Manuscript:

London, University College Library, ms. ger. 12 [late 14th c.]

Edition:

Carl Selner, "The London Benedictine Rule, an Unpublished Middle High German Manuscript of the Late Fourteenth Century," *Studien und Mitteilungen des Benedictiner-Orderns und seiner Zweige 11. Ergänzungsheft* (1936) 7-85

Trier Version

Manuscript:

Trier, Stadtbibliothek. Codex 1256/587 [beginning of the 15th c.]

Edition:

E. Petri, *Eine mittelhochdeutsche Benediktinerregel: Hs. 1256/587 (Anfang 15 Jh.) Stadtbibliothek Trier. Regulae Benedicti Studia Supplementa 6.* Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag 1978

Wilhering Version

Manuscript:

Linz, Stiftsbibliothek Codex 14 [beginning of 15th c.]

Edition:

Eva Boettcher Lange, *A Middle High German Benedictine Rule, MS. Wilhering, Austria, No. 14.* Latrobe Penn: The Archabbey Press, 1942

Berlin Version (I)

Manuscript:

Prussische Staatsbibliothek, mgqu 1569 [15th c.]

Edition:

Konrad. Schmidt, *Vier deutsche Benediktinerregeln aus dem späten Mittelalter.* Diss. Technische Universität Berlin 1969, 143-216

Zurich Version

Manuscript:

Zurich Zentralbibliothek, Rh. 192 [15th c.]

Edition:

K. Schmidt, *Vier deutsche Benediktinerregeln aus dem späten Mittelalter*. Diss. Technische Universität Berlin 1969, 1-75

Bibliographic Citations:

Edda Petri and John E. Crean, Jr., "Handschriftenverzeichnis mittelhochdeutscher Benediktinerregeln bis 1600," in *Regulae Benedicti Studia Annuarium Internationale*. Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag 1981, 151-154

Fifty-three manuscripts are listed in addition to most of those above; these have not yet been studied.

Franz Simmler, "Zur deutschsprachigen handschriftlichen Überlieferung der Regula Benedicti," *Regulae Benedicti Studia* 16 (1987/1989) 137-204

Simmler lists 94 manuscripts and 13 fragments. While he does not distinguish between feminine and masculine versions, he does indicate that the following had associations with nuns:

"Berliner" Benediktinerregel (II). "Die Handschrift wurde für Benediktinerinnen angefertigt..."
[The Berlin Version named above.]

Eberbacher (=Erbacher) Benediktinerregel. "Da das Exemplar für ein Frauenkloster bestimmt ist..."
[The Oxford Version named above.]

Eichstatter Benediktinerregel (St. Walburga). "...für Nonnen"

Neuburger (a. D.) Benediktinerregel. Inscription refers to "Abbtissin".

Wurzburger Benediktinerregel (St. Stephan III). "der Codex später aus der Frauen Abtei St. Afra...gelangt ist."

French

Norman Version

Manuscript:

Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Douce 320 [21894] [second half of 13th c.]

Edition:

Ruth J. Dean and M. Dominica Legge, ed., *The Rule of St. Benedict: A Norman Prose Version*. Medium Aevum Monographs VII. Oxford: Society for the Study of Mediaeval Languages and Literature 1964

Others

Bibliographic Citation:

Ruth J. Dean and M. Dominica Legge, ed., *The Rule of St. Benedict: A Norman Prose Version*. Medium Aevum Monographs VII. Oxford: Society for the Study of Mediaeval Languages and Literature 1964, 102-104

An additional twelve manuscripts are cited.

Dutch/Flemish

Vorst Version

Manuscript:

Brussels, Royal Library 2485 [1373]

Edition:

Theo Coun, *De oudste middelnederlandse Vertaling van de Regula S. Benedicti*. *Regulae Benedicti Studia Supplementa* 8. Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag, 1980

Owned by a community of nuns. There are thirteen additional manuscripts of this version.

Bibliographic Citations:

Theo Coun, *De oudste middelnederlandse Vertaling van de Regula S. Benedicti*. *Regulae Benedicti Studia Supplementa* 8. Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag 1980

Theo Coun, "Die Niederlandischen Übersetzungen der Regular Benedicti 1373-1664,"
Regulae Benedicti Studia. Annuarium Internationale. Hildesheim: Gerstenberg 1981,
155-160

Coun lists five translations between 1373-1500 and four translations between 1500-1796, each of which existed in between one and fourteen manuscripts.

At least six of these manuscripts/translations were prepared for communities of nuns.

Ruth J. Dean and M. Dominica Legge, eds., *The Rule of St. Benedict: A Norman Prose Version*. *Medium Aevum Monographs* VII. Oxford: Society for the Study of Mediaeval Languages and Literature, 1964, 105

Several Flemish versions are noted.

Catalan

Ripoll Version

Manuscript

Ripoll 164 [14th c.]

Edition:

Anselm M. Albareda, "Textos Catalans de la Regla de Sant Benet," *Catalonia Monastica* 2 (1929) 9-109 [24-109]

Santa Clara Version

Manuscript:

Biblioteca de Biblioteca del monastir benedictin de Sta. Clara de Barcelona [1531]

Edition:

Anselm M. Albareda, "Textos Catalans de la Regla de Sant Benet," *Catalonia Monastica* 2 (1929) 9-109 [24-109]

Bibliographic Citations

Anselm M. Albareda, "Textos Catalans de la Regla de Sant Benet," *Catalonia Monastica* 2 (1929) 9-109 [10-15;17-19].

Ten other Catalan versions are identified; one contains the name of an abbess.

J. N. Hillgarth, "Another Catalan Version of the Rule of Saint Benedict," *Studia Monastica* 10 (1968) 319-320.

The following manuscript is noted: Boston, Harvard University, MS. Span 57 [late 16th c.].

Ruth J. Bean and M. Dominica Legge, eds., *The Rule of St. Benedict: A Norman Prose Version*. Medium Aevum Monographs VII. Oxford: Society for the Study of Mediaeval Languages and Literature, 1964, 105.

The study of Anselm M. Albareda, cited above, is noted.

Other Languages

Occitan (Provençal)

Pierre-Dominique Cheynet, "Les traductions de la Règle de saint Benoît en ancien occitan," *Ecole nationale des Chartes, Positions des thèses*, 1975, pp. 47-52. Cited in *Regulae Benedicti Studia Annuarium Internationale* 6/7. Hildesheim: Gerstenberg Verlag 1981, 85*

Seven translations are noted.

Bibliographic Citations:

Ruth J. Dean and M. Dominica Legge, eds., *The Rule of St. Benedict: A Norman Prose Version*. Medium Aevum Monographs VII. Oxford: Society for the Study of Mediaeval Languages and Literature, 1964, 105-107

One or more versions in the following languages are noted:

Croatian
Italian
Portuguese
Provençal
Spanish
Swedish