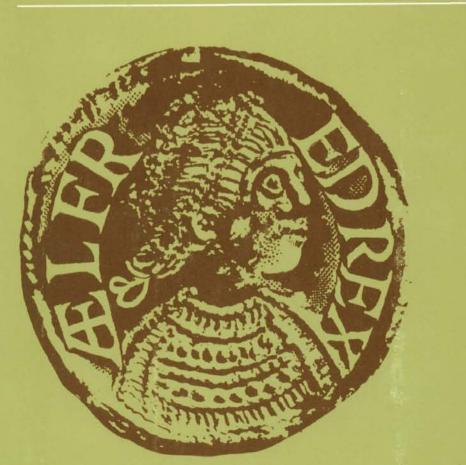
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# Anglo-Saxon England 12

https://doi.org/10.1017/S026366 Published online by Cambridge University Press

#### Anglo-Saxon England 12

EXECUTIVE EDITORS PETER CLEMOES SIMON KEYNES MICHAEL LAPIDGE University of Cambridge

The contribution to knowledge made by this volume is as substantial and diverse as that of any previous issue in this series. Four very different kinds of Anglo-Saxon thinking are clarified traditions, learned and oral, about the settlement of the country, study of foreign-language grammar, interest in exotic jewels as reflections of the glory of God, and (surprisingly, no doubt, to some) a mainly rational attitude to medicine. Publication of no less than three recent discoveries augments our corpus of manuscript evidence. The nature of Old English poetry is illuminated - as a variety of oral expression and as exemplified in a particular poet's treatment of a particular Latin source. A useful summary of the present state of editorial treatment of textual problems in Beowulf is provided.

A re-examination of the accounts of the settlement in Bede's Historia Ecclesiastica and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle yields new insight into the processes of Anglo-Saxon learned historiography and oral tradition. Detailed analysis of the grammatical writings of Aldhelm, Tatwine and Boniface provides a firmer basis for estimating what Late Latin grammatical texts were available in eighth-century Southumbria. The second, concluding, part of a study of lapidary traditions in Anglo-Saxon England identifies some previously unsuspected sources among those Bede used for his Explanatio Apocalypsis and shows that, in its turn, Bede's work was used for a hymn of later, probably Anglo-Saxon, composition. Three newly noticed leaves, here first published, provide fresh evidence, each in its own interesting way, for the history of script or musical notation and for the history of culture. Two of them are survivals from manuscripts otherwise unknown; the third is a detached part of the famous 'Cambridge Songs' codex. A thorough-going analysis of an under-studied major work, Bald's Leechbook,

Her mon mæg giet gesion hiora swæð

# ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND

## I 2

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CAMBRIDGE

LONDON NEW YORK NEW ROCHELLE MELBOURNE SYDNEY

Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP 32 East 57th Street, New York, NY 10022, USA

© Cambridge University Press 1983

First published 1983

Printed in Great Britain by the Alden Press, Oxford

ISSN 0263 6751

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Miss Rosemary Graham's help with the editing is gratefully acknowledged