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Librarian: Prof. R.I. Page Senior Research Associate: Dr M.O. Budny Research Assistant: T.C. Graham Conservation Officer: N. Hadgraft

January 15 1990

The evidence of manuscripts

I suggest we hold another meeting of this seminar on Saturday, 17 March, beginning at 11am.

The subject will be: facsimiles, diplomatic texts and editions. This topic derives from work initiated at the Library which coincided with an approach we had from a group of American professors and librarians some months ago. They asked if we would be interested in preparing a series of sample facsimiles of pages of early manuscripts, with transcripts and commentaries. These would aim to teach postgraduate students the elements of manuscript study; an idea we regarded as both interesting and important. We have been lucky to have the participation of Leslie French, who has applied his expert knowledge of computers to producing close transcripts of texts as printed pages. These form part of our range of representations of manuscript pages and we propose to examine some half a dozen cases and present them for discussion, comment and criticism by the seminar.

We will open with an account of what we are trying to do, given by Leslie French and Milly Budny, no doubt interrupted by Ray Page. In the afternoon we hope to have comments from some of the younger members who remember more clearly their problems on first approaching materials in manuscript: Kathryn Lowe, David Parsons. We would also like comments from others, particularly from those whose expertise lies outside textual material, but who use it in their work.

We expect to have discussion material from MSS 12 (*Cura pastoralis* glossed by the 'tremulous Worcester hand'); 111 (manumissions); 173 (755 annal from *Chronicle*); 183 (Bede's *Life of St Cuthbert*); 197B (Latin Gospel Book); 326 (*Aldhelm* poem and opening of *De laude virginitatis*); 422 (verse *Solomon and Saturn*). The original manuscripts will be available for comparison.

To let us know who we may expect, please fill out the form at the bottom of this page and let me have it as soon as possible.

R.I.P.

To: Wilson, Fell, Budny, Hadgraft, Wormald, Sharpe, Webster, Parsons, Lowe, Hough, Gem, Graham, Graham-Campbell, Bullough, French, Hopper.

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To: The Parker Librarian, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge

I will/will not be able to attend the seminar on Saturday, 17 March.

Signed