

Corpus Reuelacionum sancte Birgitte – editorial principles and orthography

The texts published on this website correspond to those printed in the critical editions (but without the inclusion of the textual variants). However, I have made some minor alterations concerning orthography in order to make the texts more uniform and facilitate the searching of the texts. Recognized printing errors have also been corrected. The orthographic principles used are as follows:

For *u* and *v*, the spelling *v* is adopted initially for the consonant, *u* initially for the vowel and in other positions (*ut, videre, reuelacio, stupor*). The letter *w* is kept in proper names (*Awinio, Norwegia, Swecia* (but also *Suecia*), *Watsztena, Wlfasom*).

The printed letter *i* represents the two graphic variants *i* and *j*.

For original *ae* and *oe*, *e* is used.

For original *ti*, the spelling *ci* is used before a vowel (*eciam, tocius*).

Original *mihi* and *nihil* are spelt *michi* and *nichil*.

Epenthetical *p* is to be observed in e.g. *columpna, dampnum, solempnis, verumptamen*.

The prefixes *ad-*, *con-*, *in-*, *ob-*, *sub-* usually appear assimilated, but not always, e.g. *admiracio, obprobrium*.

The letters *i* and *y* are often confused in medieval Latin. My aim has been to use one spelling for each word throughout the texts, and the following words may be observed: *Babilon, Cain, Caiphaz, Cyprus, dyabolus, dyaconus, dyocesis, dyplois, epiphania, Egyptus, gygas, gyrouagus, hyems, hylaris, ydolum, laycus, Lincopensis, martir, misterium, Pilatus, plebeyus, presbiter, sydus, sillaba, simbolum, symia, simonia* (but *Symon, -nis* for the proper name), *sinon, ydiota, ydolum, ymago, ymmo, Ysaac, Ysaia, Yspania*.

As for the letter *h*, which sometimes is wrongly added or omitted, the following words should be noted: *abominabilis, habundare, ebdomada, Ierusalem, Iesus, Israel, orologium, ortus, ortulanus, ympnum, ypocrites*. The letter *h* is also used in *pulcher* and *sepulchrum*, but not in *lacrima*.

The printed editions of books 4 and 8 show some peculiarities concerning orthography. The editor, prof. Hans Aili, chose to follow the orthography of one particular manuscript, and hardly any normalizations were made. One finds, for example, spellings such as *set, loqutus, loqucio, nunquam, quatinus, sequtus* and *tanquam*. I have normalized these words, and they are thus found in the texts as *sed, locutus, locucio, numquam, quatenus, secutus* and *tamquam*.

As for proper names other than those already mentioned, it should be noted that the spelling *Brigida* appears in *Epistola solitarii* and in book 8, reflecting Alfonso Pecha's way of spelling St. Birgitta's name. Apart from in these texts, *Birgitta* is used. In the *incipit* of book 8 I have changed the incorrect form *Nericis* to *Nericie*. *Psalomon* in book 8 has been changed to *Salomon*.

A few other words should be commented upon. Three different spellings of *cotidie* are found in the printed critical editions (*cotidie, cottidie, quotidie*). I have chosen to use *cotidie*. The spelling *quatuor* has been chosen over *quattuor* apart from in the title *Quattuor Oraciones*. The spelling *gehenna* has been chosen over *iehenna*.

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