

Posted on Monday 14th October 2015

ITSEE is pleased to announce the online publication of two postgraduate theses by Dr W.J. Elliott, undertaken at the University of Birmingham in 1969 and 1974, in the University of Birmingham Institutional Repository (UBIRA).



The Rev Dr W.J. Elliott

Dr Elliott's MA thesis, submitted in 1969, was "An examination of von Soden's 1b (http://theses.bham.ac.uk/4519/) 2 group of manuscripts (http://theses.bham.ac.uk/4519/). The abstract is as follows:

This investigation into von Soden's 1b² Group is divided into four sections, of which sections III & IV contain the nucleus of the work. The other sections only have any value when applied to these two sections and are self-explanatory. Section III, with the general and individual descriptions of the MSS involved, is an attempt to bring together in one place all the known details about the history, the format, the scribe, the script and any other relevant material. This is not new knowledge but a colling of formerly scattered information. Its value is in helping to give as clear a picture of what the manuscripts are without actually reproducing them. In the course of the descriptions it has proved possible to suggest some answers to former riddles, as with clarifying where the text of 440 changes, and even to provide proof of former hypotheses.

Dr Elliott's doctoral thesis, submitted in 1974, was "An examination of von Soden's 1b (http://theses.bham.ac.uk/4520/) 3 group of manuscripts (Acts and Catholic Epistles only) (http://theses.bham.ac.uk/4520/). The abstract is as follows:

This collation of 8 of von Soden's manuscripts is a companion work to my earlier investigation into his manuscripts. A similar division of this thesis is employed, with the nucleus in sections III, IV & V. Section III, with the general and individual descriptions of the MSS involved, is an attempt to bring together in one place all the known details about the history, the format, the scribe, the script and any other relevant material. Section V is itself divided into six parts and is concerned with the singular and subsingular readings. The conclusion is that neither can logically be separated from one another as the interrelationship of individual MSS is far more complex than von Soden makes evident.

We are very grateful to UBIRA for making these theses available online. Several of the doctoral theses undertaken at ITSEE (http://theses.bham.ac.uk/cgi/search/advanced/?screen=Public%2A%3AEPintSearch%4d_aba_fr_merge=ALL&lit_aba_fr=&fulltext_merge=ALL&fulltext=&anyname_merge=ALL&anyname=&title_merge=ALL&title=&abstract_merge=ALL&abstract=&keywords_merge=ALL&keywords=&subjects_merge=ALL&department_merge=ALL&department=&fund_merge=ALL&fund_proj=&supervisors_name_merge=ANY&supervisor_name=parker+burton+houghton+&thesis_title=&date=&sortby=ALL&order=date%2Ftitle_action_search=Search) in the last decade are also freely available on the UBIRA eTheses site (http://theses.bham.ac.uk/cgi/search/advanced/?screen=Public%2A%3AEPintSearch%4d_aba_fr_merge=ALL&lit_aba_fr=&fulltext_merge=ALL&fulltext=&anyname_merge=ALL&anyname=&title_merge=ALL&title=&abstract_merge=ALL&abstract=&keywords_merge=ALL&keywords=&subjects_merge=ALL&department_merge=ALL&department=&fund_merge=ALL&fund_proj=&supervisors_name_merge=ANY&supervisor_name=parker+burton+houghton+&thesis_title=&date=&sortby=ALL&order=date%2Ftitle_action_search=Search).

Congratulations again to Bill Elliott on work which, some 40 years later, has stood the test of time!

