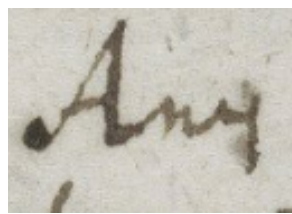
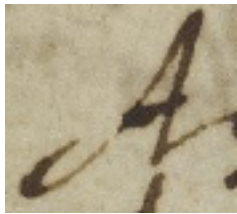
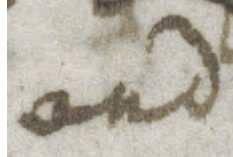


John Ward's Alphabet

Aa



Any

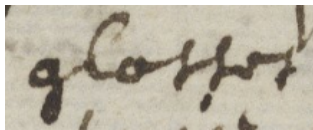


and

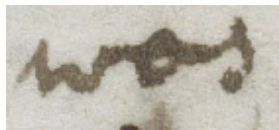


as

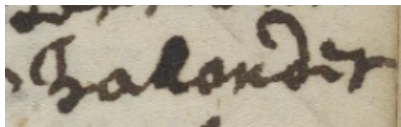
Minuscule a may be indistinguishable from minuscule o



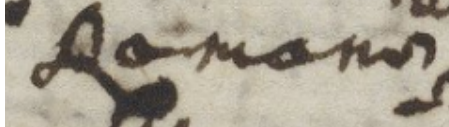
glasses



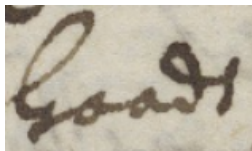
was



Hollander

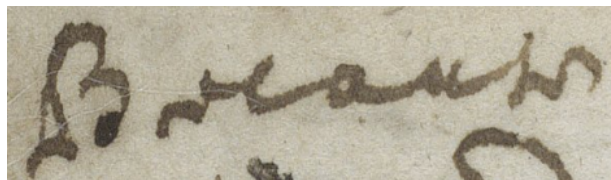
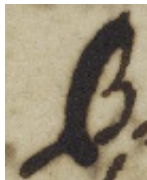


Romane

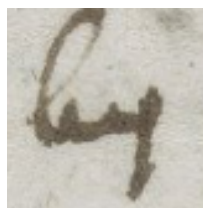
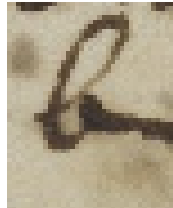
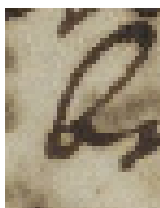


Goods (not Goads)

Bb



Because



by

Cc



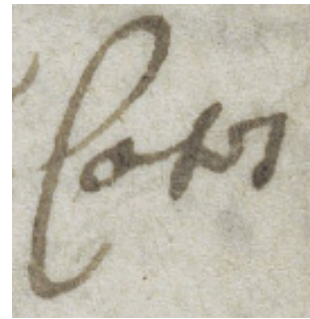
Ca



Co

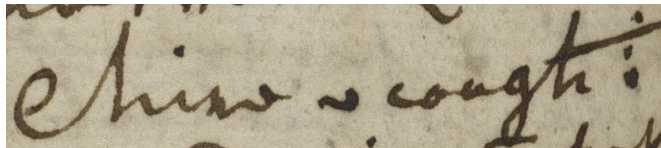


Ch

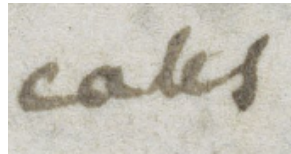


Cases

An unusual example of majuscule and minuscule on the same line



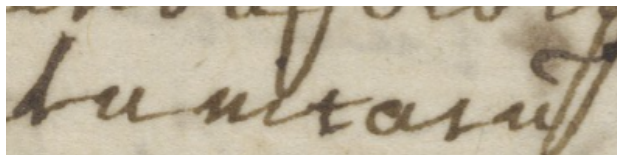
Chine-cough (i.e., whooping cough)



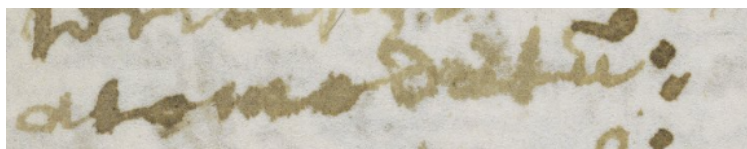
calls



cannot



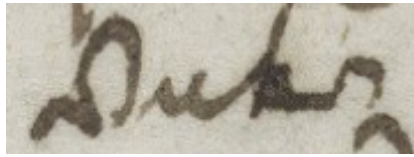
tunicarum (rare example of right-angle c, V.a.284 p. 164)



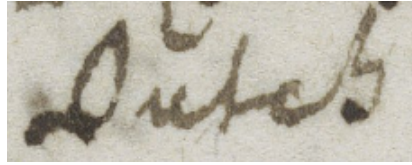
accomodatum

**Interesting example of double "c" resembling double "t;"
V.a.284, 33v**

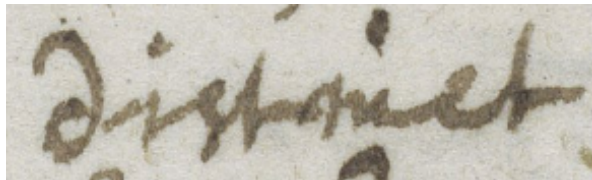
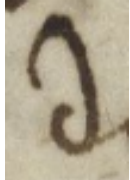
Dd



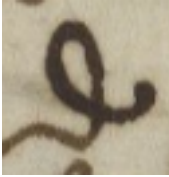
Duke



Dutch

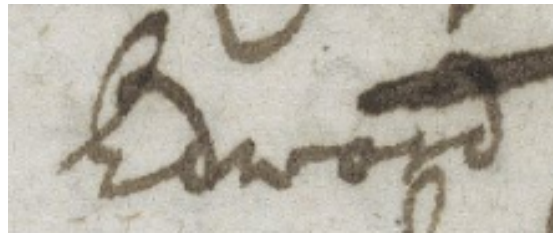
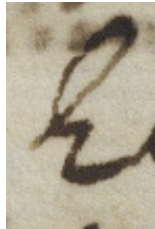
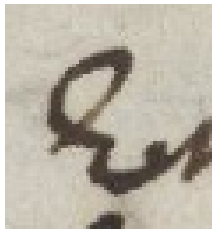


distinct



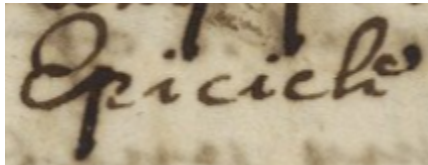
old; see also reverse e, below

Ee; majuscule may lean backward



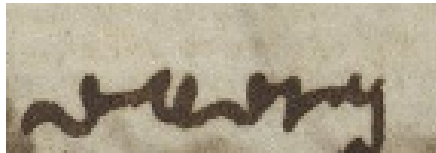
Edward

or forward



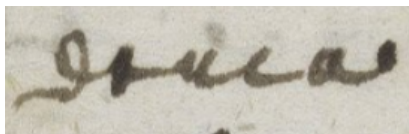
Epicle; see also under minuscule v

e (reverse)



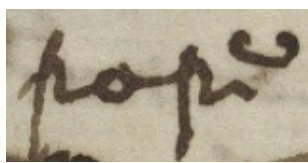
euery

Reverse e can also resemble minuscule d

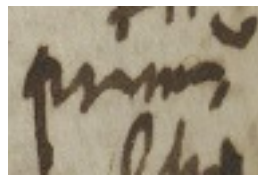


eruca

e (two-stroke; upper stroke often disconnected; see also "Keeper" under Kk)

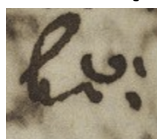


pope



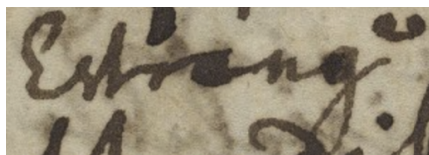
prime

e (two-stroke) may resemble the "equals sign" line end word break (=) or a colon



bee

e (two-stroke); bottom half may be minimal or even absent



Estrange

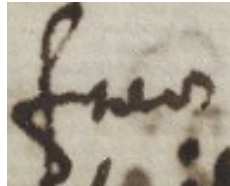
e ("hooked" terminal e; see also "Duke" under Kk)



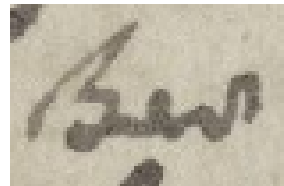
terminal -ee: reverse e + "hooked" e



bee

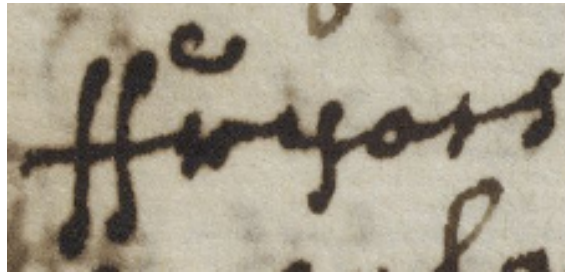


free

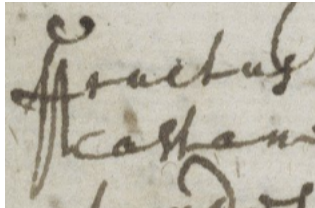


hee

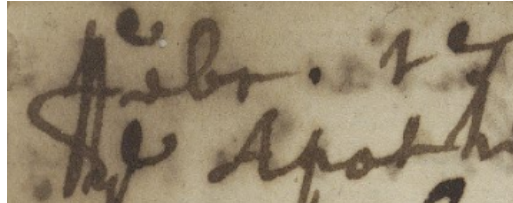
ff (= F), often with a flourish



ffryars

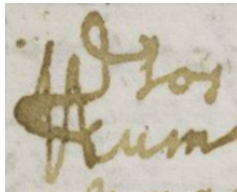


ffructus

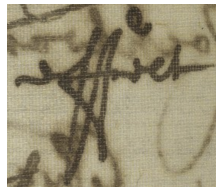


ffabr. 17

the flourish may be connected to an initial ff, or may occur in the middle of a word

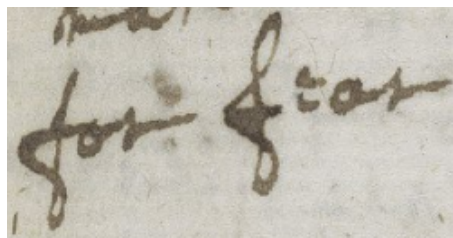
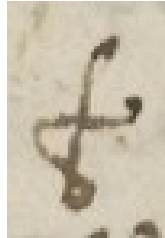


fflos



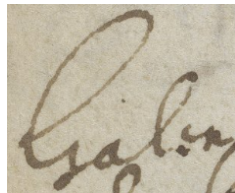
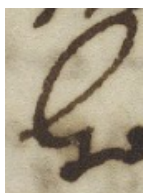
effect

f

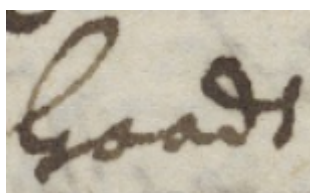


for fear

Gg

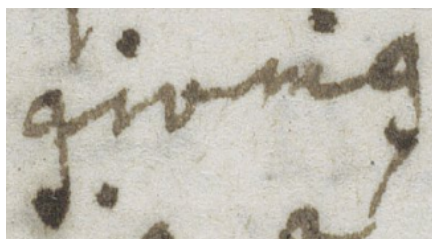


Galen



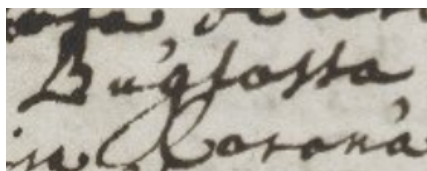
Goods

minuscule g almost always has a bulbous termination

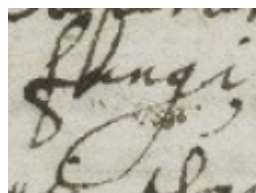


giving

but occasionally doesn't

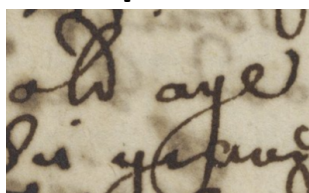


Buglossa

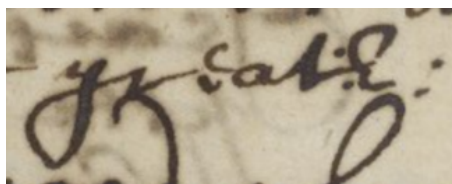


fungi

the top of minuscule g may not be closed

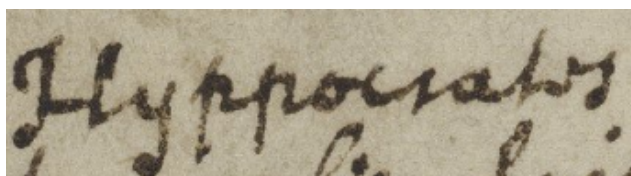
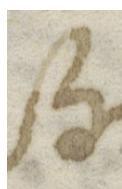
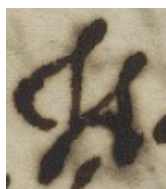


old age



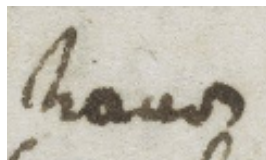
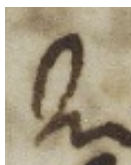
greater

Hh

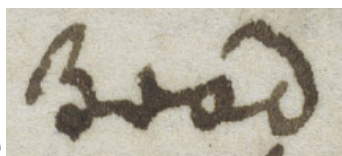


Hippocrates

minuscule h almost always has an approach stroke

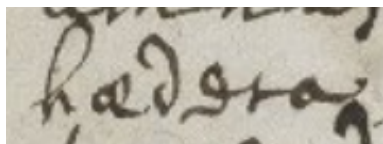


haue

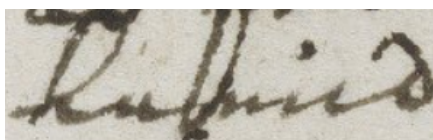


head

but occasionally doesn't and is looped instead

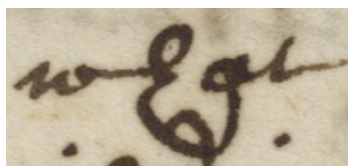


haedera

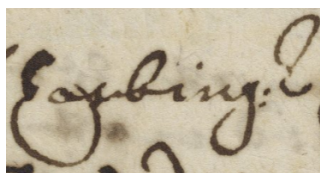


humid

"butcher-hook" minuscule h is uncommon

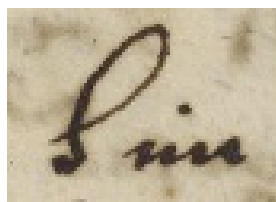


what

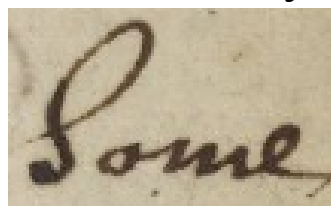


harbinger

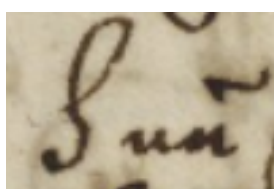
minuscule h can also resemble majuscule S (V.a.284)



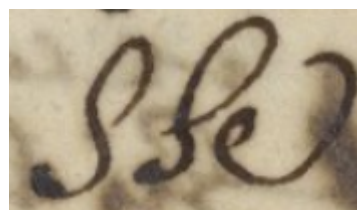
him



home

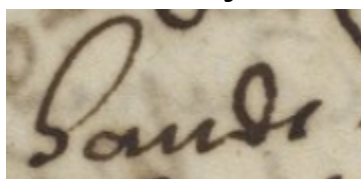


Sunn



She

or even majuscule G

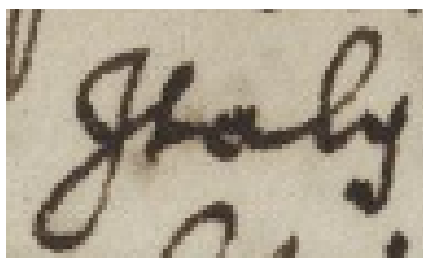


hands

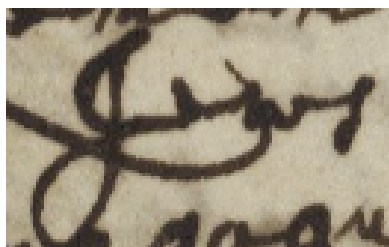
See also "Crossed ascenders and descenders," below

li/Jj

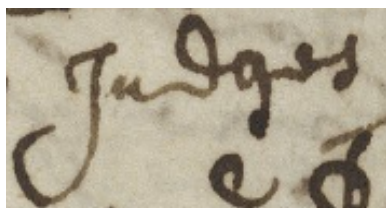
Transcribe initial J as I



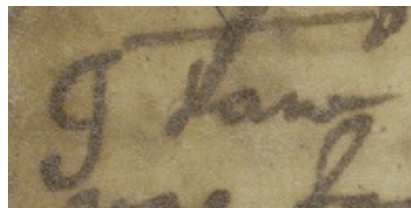
Italy



Jews (Jews)



Judges (Judges)



I saw

Minuscule i is consistently dotted though the dot may wander



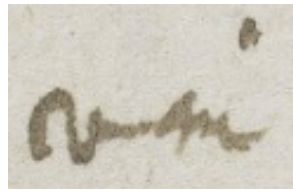
itt



is

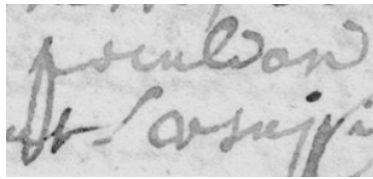


in

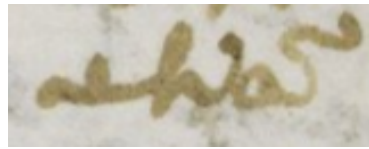


vin

Occasionally JW doesn't lift his pen to dot a minuscule i

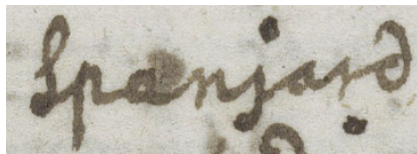


peculiari

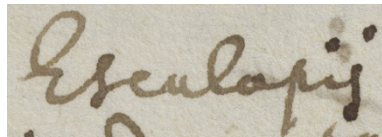


etiam

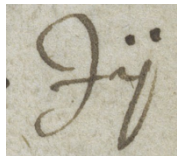
Long minuscule i (j) sometimes appears; transcribe as j when initial or medial in English words; i in receipts or Latin words



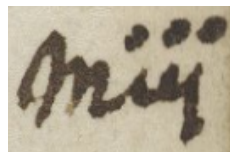
spanjard



Esculapii

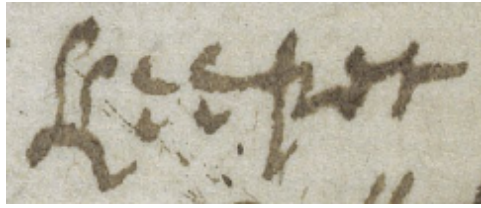


Jij (two scruples)



M iij (3 handfuls)

Kk



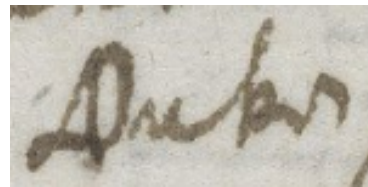
Keeper



King. Henry

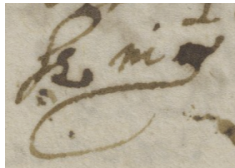


ake



Duke

An unusual minuscule form in V.a.284

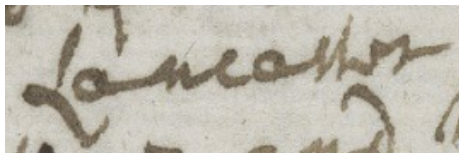


Second part of "see=/ king"

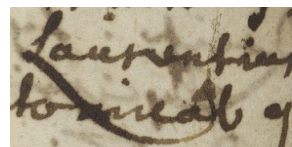
See also "Crossed ascenders and descenders," below

LI: also see General Note following Arabic numerals

Majuscule L usually has long descender, sometimes quite long

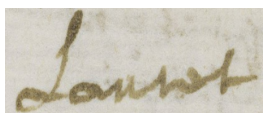


Lancaster



Laurentius

But sometimes smaller and on writing line



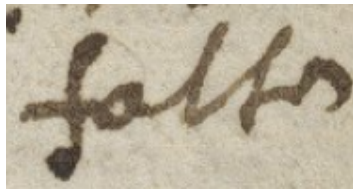
Lancet



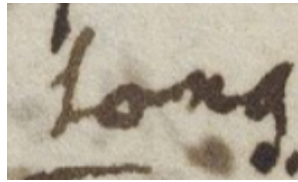
Dr.

Lamphiers

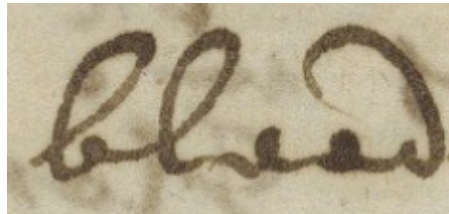
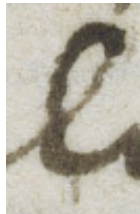
Minuscul e I can be straight or looped



false

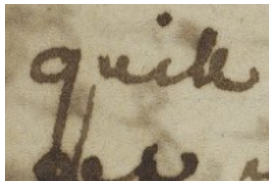


long



bleed

Double minuscule I can appear very similar to double t, though the ascenders are usually slightly further apart



quill



itt will

Mm: minims in minuscule can be flattened almost to a line



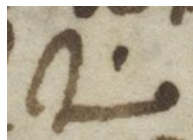
Monk



Mercurie

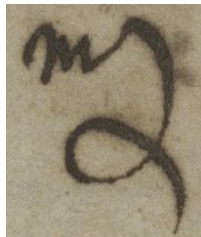


mee



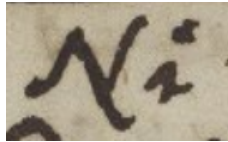
him (note flattened minims)

V.a.291 5v has a decorative minuscule m

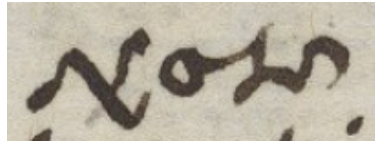


used on this page in abbreviations for manus and misce

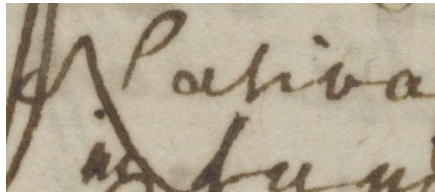
Nn: minims in minuscule can be flattened almost to a line



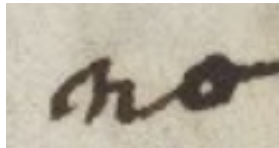
Ni



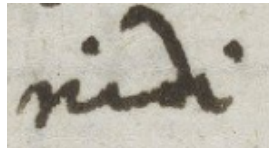
Nose



Nativa (exuberant diagonal)



no

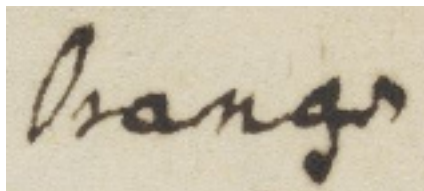


nidi

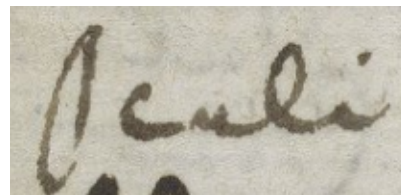


King (note flattened minims)

Oo



Orange

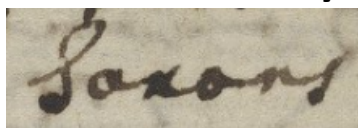


Oculi

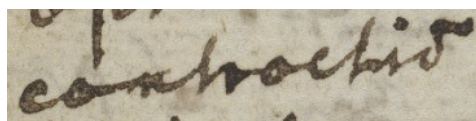


of

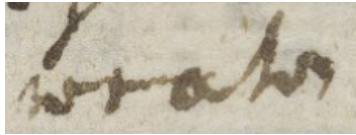
Minuscule o may be indistinguishable from minuscule a



Saxons



contraction

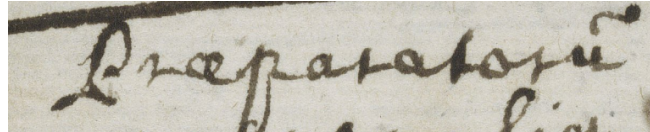
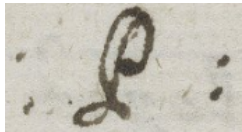


wrote

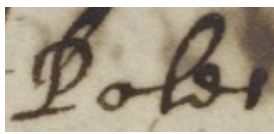


came... or come?

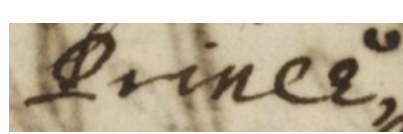
Pp: majuscule P is rare except in V.a.284 and 287



Præparatorum



Poles

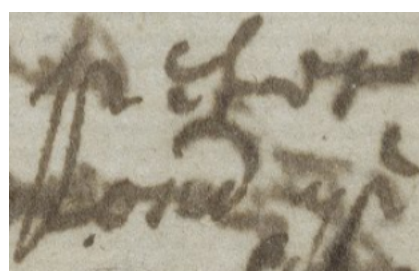


Prince

Even when convention would seem to require a majuscule



pe(lagianisme)

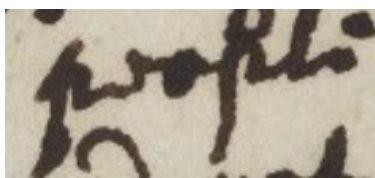


peter

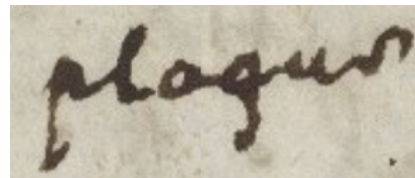


propertius

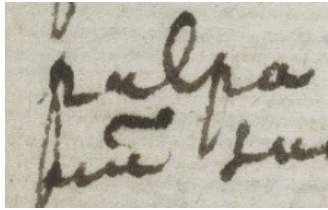
Minuscule p descender may have a hook or loop; or may be straight (see 2nd p in "people")



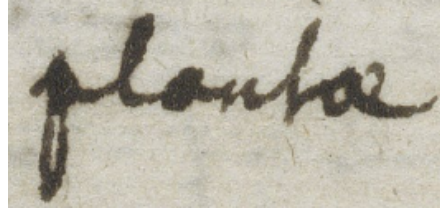
people



plague



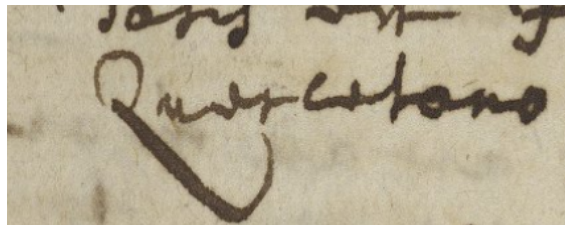
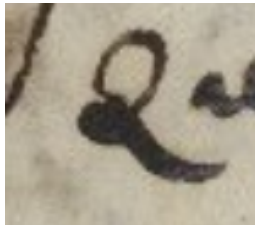
pulpa



plantæ

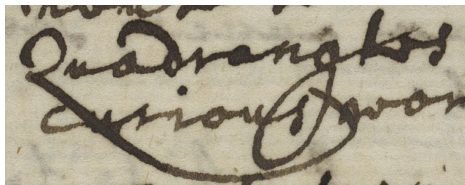
See also "Crossed ascenders and descenders," below

Qq

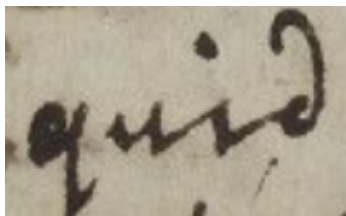


Quercetano

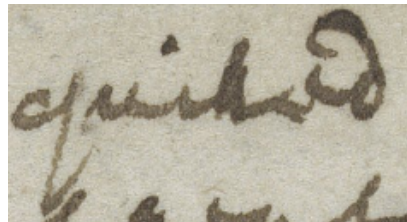
Sometimes the tail of Q is more extravagantly flourished



Quadrangles

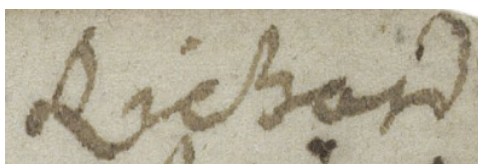


quid



quitted

Rr - also see General Note following Arabic numerals

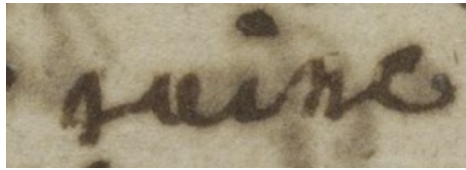


Richard

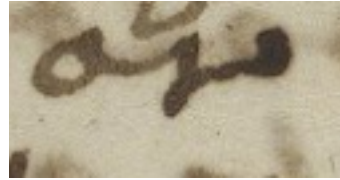


Riolanus

Right angle r is the usual form

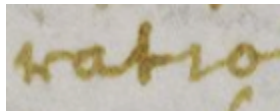


ruine

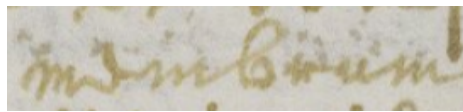


or

“Bucket r” occasionally appears (esp. V.a. 286)

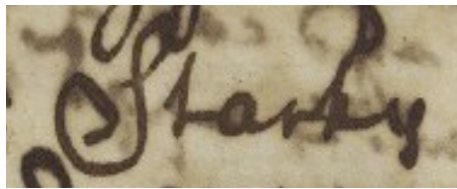


ratio

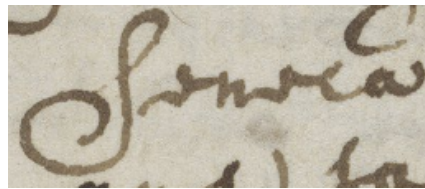


membrum

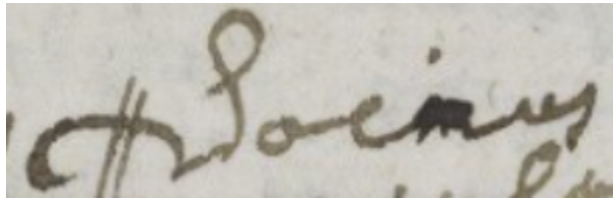
Ss - also see General Note following Arabic numerals



Starky

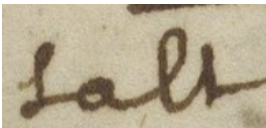


Seneca

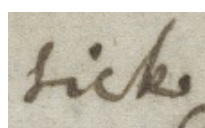


Socinus

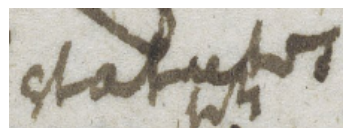
Minuscule s can be tall, or short like modern “s”



salt

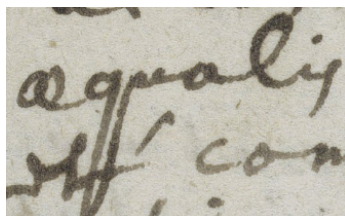


sick

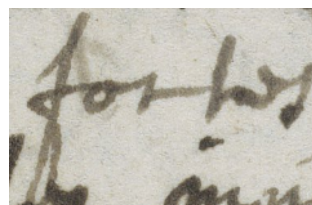


statutes

Terminal s can resemble i or long i (j) but lacks a dot

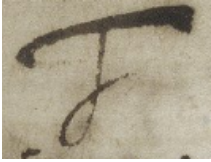


æqualis

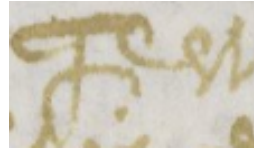


fortes

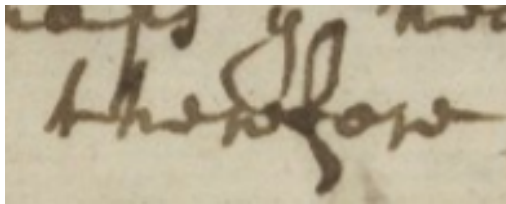
Tt - also see General Note following Arabic numerals



The



Test

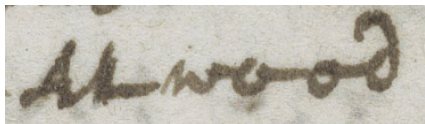


Initial t: therefore



Terminal t: [signific]at

Double minuscule t can look like a single letter



Attwood



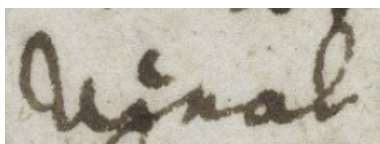
Attorney

Double minuscule t can appear very similar to double l

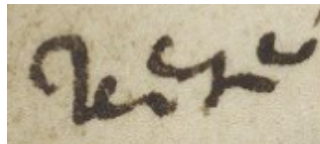


itt will

Uu - majuscule has approach stroke and joins to following letter from or near the bottom of the second stroke; distinguishing from majuscule V may be a judgment call

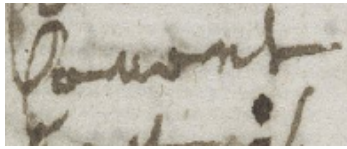


Uenal

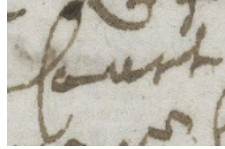


Uere

minuscule joins to next letter from bottom of the second stroke



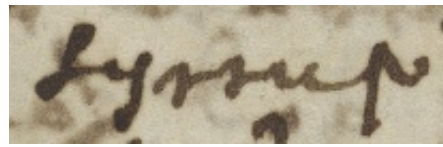
Couent



Court

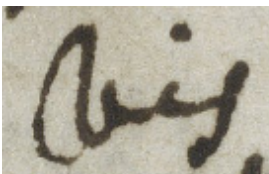


ueins

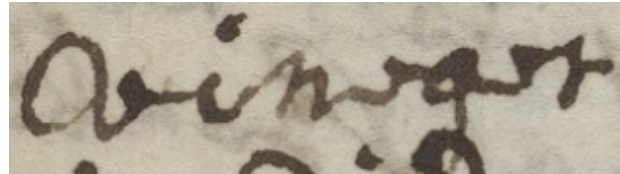


syrrup

Vv - majuscule has approach stroke and joins to following letter from or near the top of the second stroke; distinguishing from majuscule U may be a judgment call

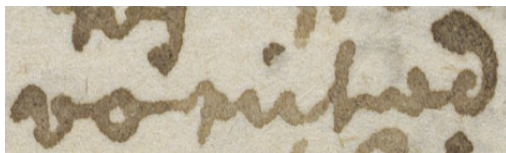


Vis

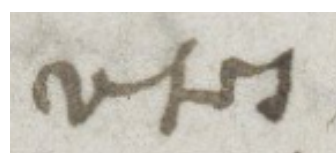


Vineger

minuscule joins to next letter from top of the second stroke

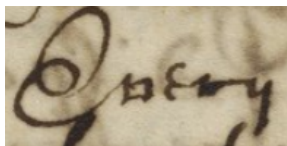


vomited

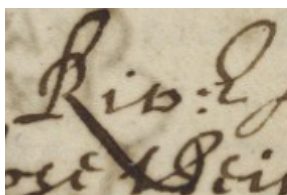


vses

flat-bottomed Secretary minuscule v sometimes appears

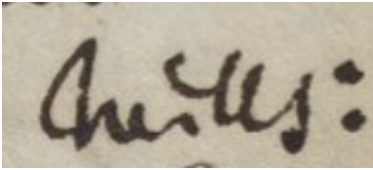


Every (note variation in majuscule E)

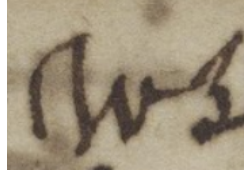


River

Ww



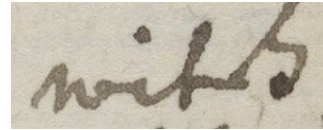
Wells:



Wh

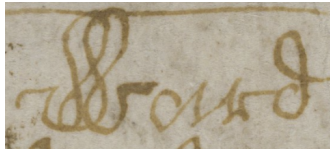


Walwine



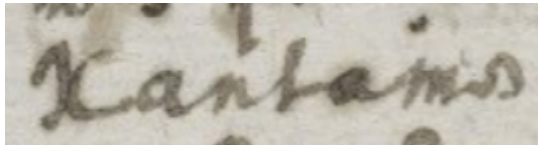
with

sometimes there is a rather exuberant majuscule W

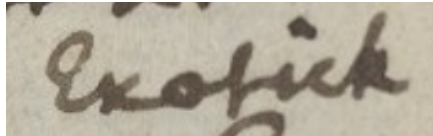


Ward

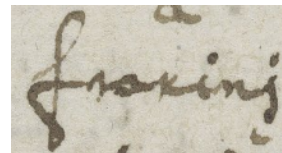
Xx



Xantaine

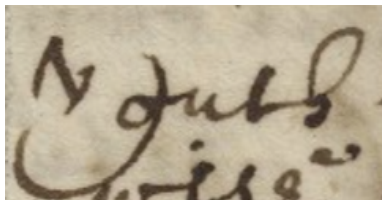


Exotick



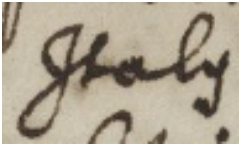
fraxini

Yy: majuscule Y is rare, if it actually exists

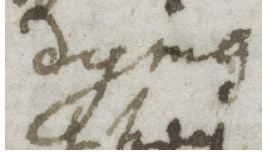


Youth (V.a.284, p. 73)

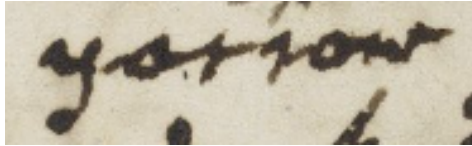
descender of minuscule y may be hooked, looped, or have a bulbous termination



Italy



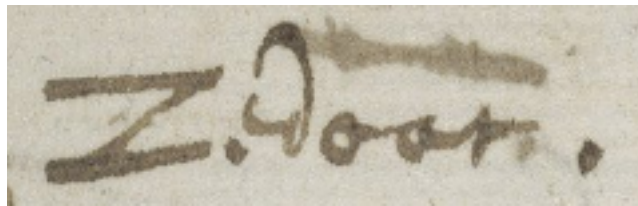
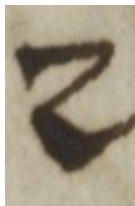
dying



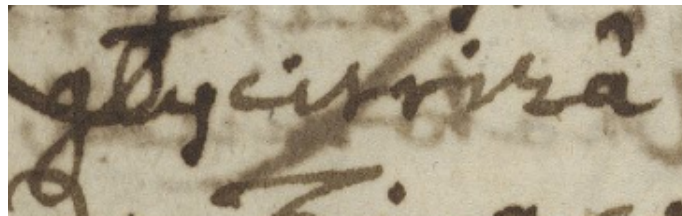
yarrow

See also “Crossed ascenders and descenders,” below

Zz



Zedoar.



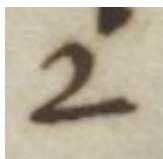
glycirriza

Arabic numerals:

1



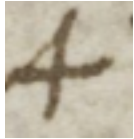
2



3



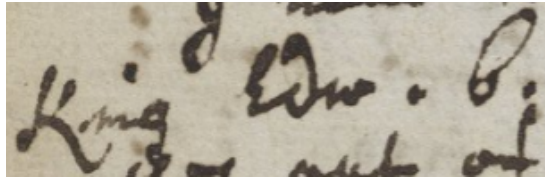
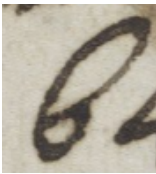
4



5



6 - can resemble minuscule b

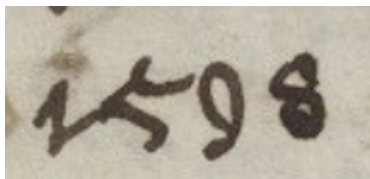


King Edward. 6.

7



8

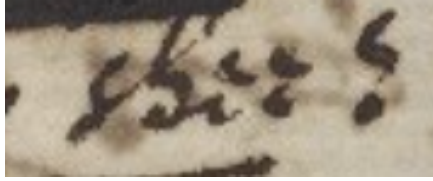


1598.

9



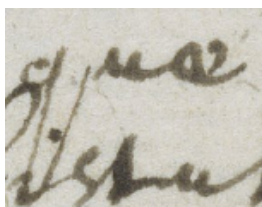
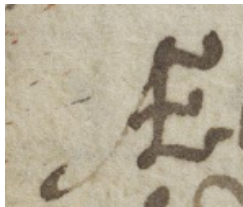
Question mark



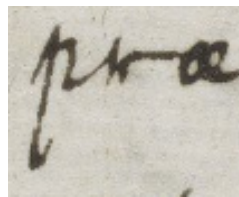
shee?

Graphemes, Ligatures, Abbreviations

Grapheme Æ (Æ), æ (æ), respectively; very common

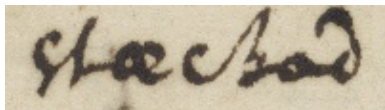


quæ

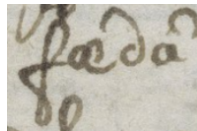


præ

Grapheme œ (œ) looks similar though much less common, context gives the clue



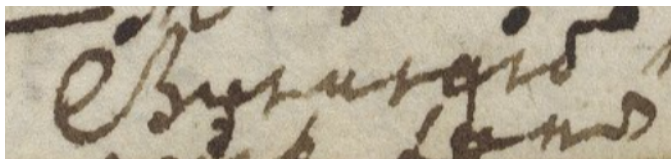
stœchas -adis



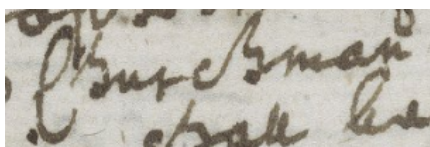
fœda

Ligatures

Ch and ch

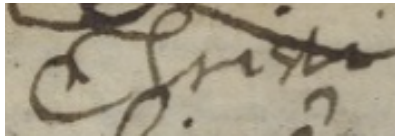


Chyrurgion

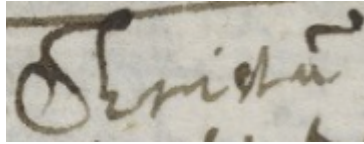


Churchman

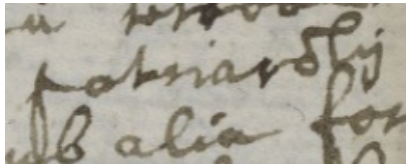
(V.a.286, 2r and 2v, respectively)



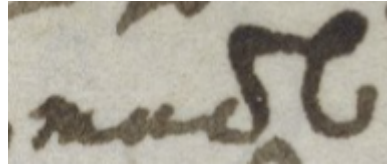
Christi



Christum

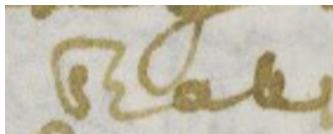


patriarchis

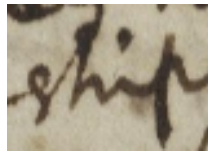


much

sh

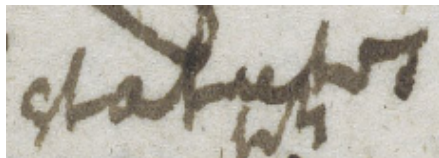


shall



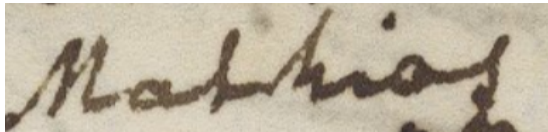
ship

st

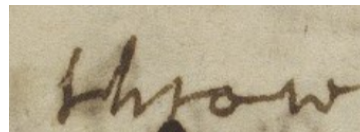


statutes

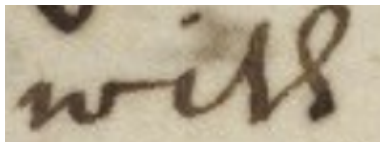
th



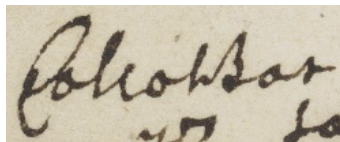
Mathias



throw



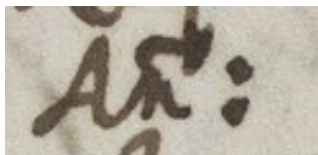
with



Colcothar

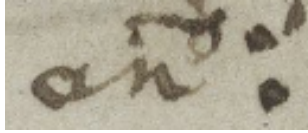
Letter combinations with tilde

An:



Anno:

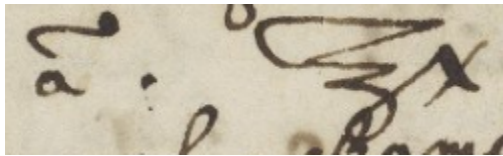
(A<macron>n<ex>no</ex></macron><metamark>:</metamark>



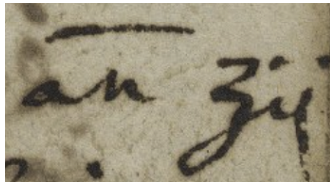
anno:

a may be minuscule, otherwise same transcription

ā. (sometimes “an.” or “aa” with macron) in prescriptions = ana (“of each” in a list of ingredients); for other medical abbreviations see “Ward’s Latin” in Folgerpedia



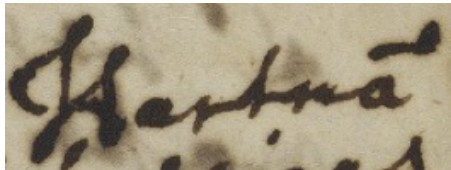
ana. 3x (of each ten ounces)



ana 3ii (of each two drams); distinguish from

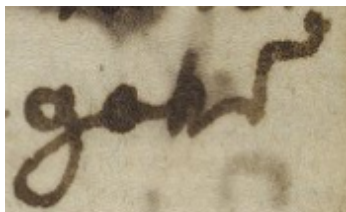
anno

-an with tilde



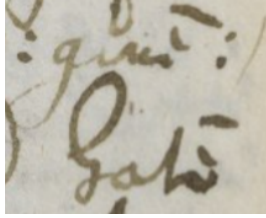
Hartman

-en with tilde



gotten

-en with macron (uncommon)



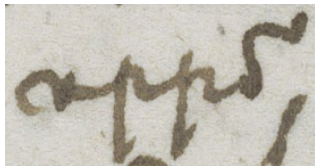
upper line giuen; lower line Galen

-om with tilde



from

-on with tilde



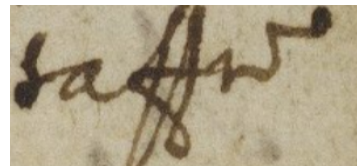
vppon



Ordination

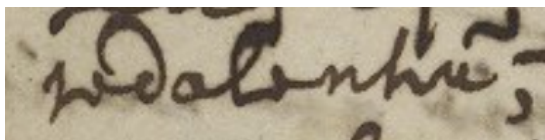


Dr. Alston

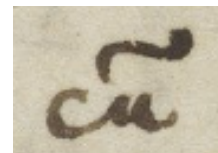


saffron

-um with tilde = -um <macron>u<ex>m</ex></macron>;
extremely common



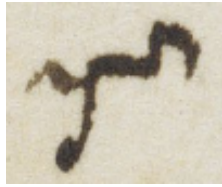
redolentium



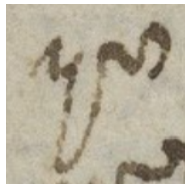
cum

Abbreviations

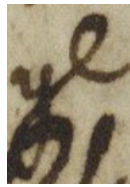
ye (usually without period, but tag as <metamark> if present);
transcribe with Dromio "ye" button whether e is elevated or on
the writing line



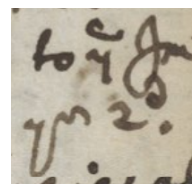
the



the

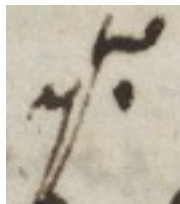


the



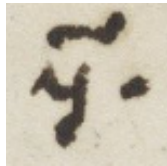
the (both)

yt. (if present, tag full stop as <metamark>)

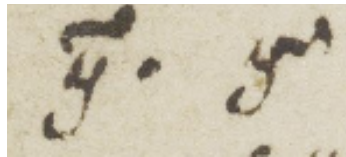


that.

ym. (if present, tag full stop as <metamark>)
(note long macron - typical form)

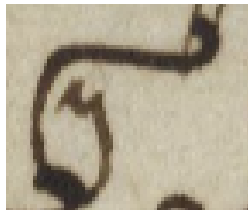


them.

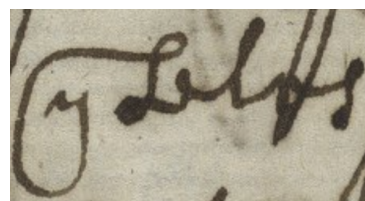
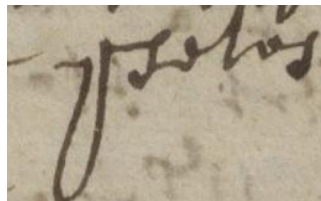


them. the

less common forms:

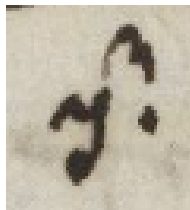


them



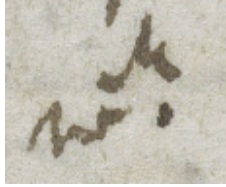
themselves

yn. (if present, tag full stop as <metamark>)



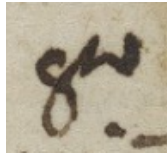
then.

wch. (if present, tag full stop as <metamark>)



which.

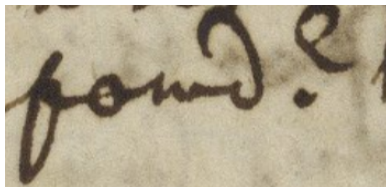
&



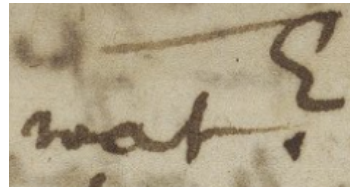
Other abbreviations

Squiggle r with expansion. Usually -er.

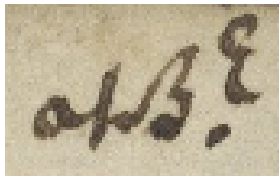
(`<ex>e</ex><sl>r</sl><metamark>.</metamark>`)



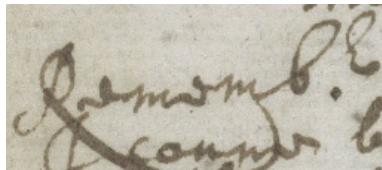
powder.



water.



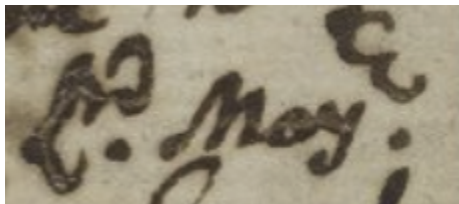
other.



Remember.

but sometimes -or.

(`<ex>o</ex><sl>r</sl><metamark>.</metamark>`)

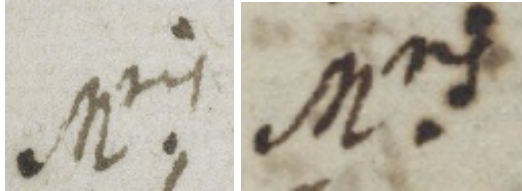


Lord. Mayor. (V.a.288, 138r)

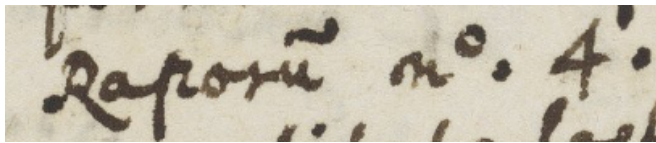
Mr. (M`<sl>r</sl>`.) - no metamark



Mris. (M<sl>ris</sl>.) or Mrs. (M<sl>rs</sl>.) - no metamark

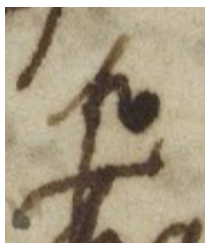


n° (superscript "o") = numero (n<ex>umer</ex><sl>o</sl>) followed by a number indicating how many of an ingredient

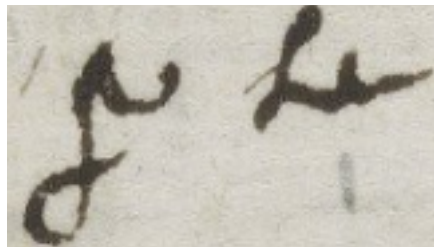


raporum n°. 4 = (of) turnips, 4

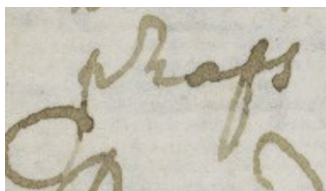
"Special p:" descender crossed from bottom = per/par/pre



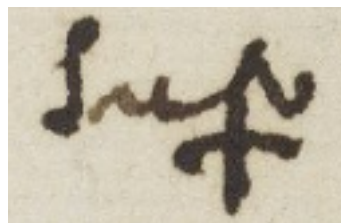
per



per se

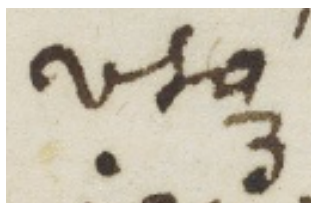


perhaps

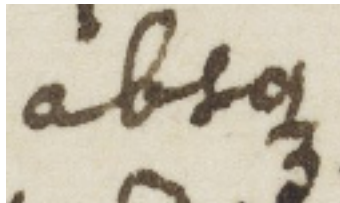


super

-que: resembles numeral 3 adjacent to descender of q



vsque

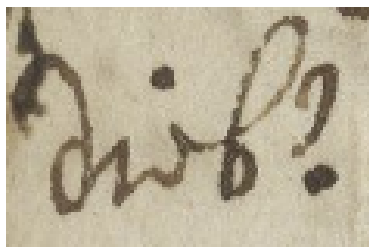


absque

-us, resembles superscript 9



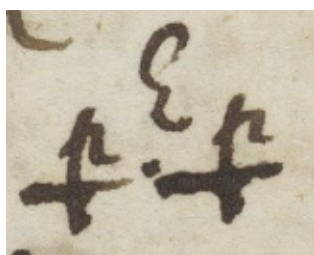
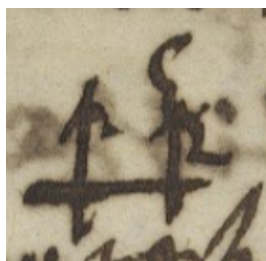
-bus



diebus.

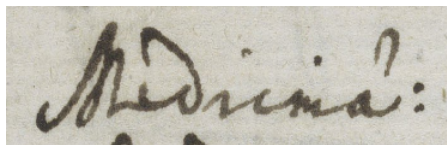
¶re¶. = preparatus -a -um, "prepared;" likely, not proved

<brev-p>p<sl>r</sl><ex>e</ex></brev-p><brev-p>p<ex>ar</brev-p><ex>atus</ex>

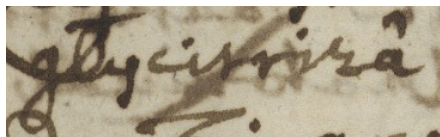


preparatus

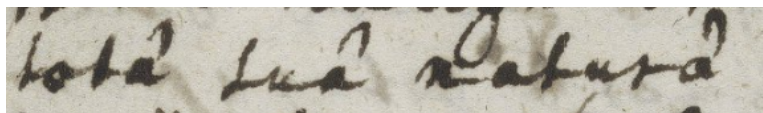
Minuscule a marked with circumflex, â, sometimes used by Ward to indicate Latin ablative case; ignore in transcription



Medicinâ: transcribe "Medicina"



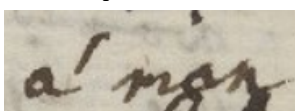
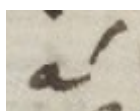
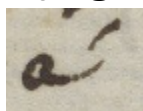
glycirrizâ: transcribe "glycirriza"



transcribe "tota sua

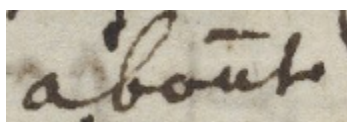
natura"

Minuscule a often seen with line resembling acute accent (á or a'); ignore in transcription

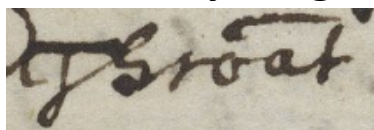


a man

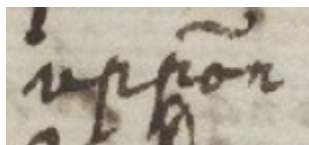
Other flourishes resembling macrons but not indicating abbreviations are common and may be ignored



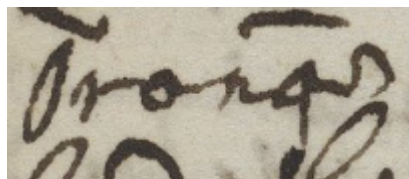
about



Throat

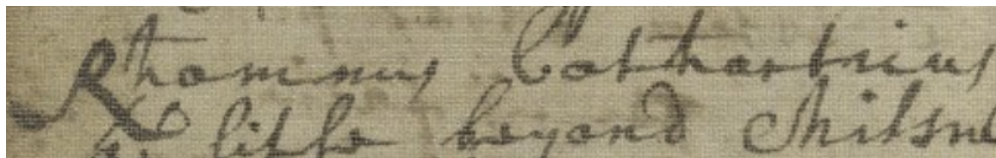


vppon

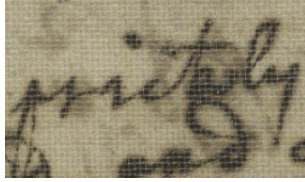


Orange

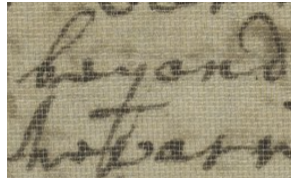
Crossed ascenders and descenders of other letters (h, k, p, y) occasionally appear and may be ignored in transcription (examples from V.a.291)



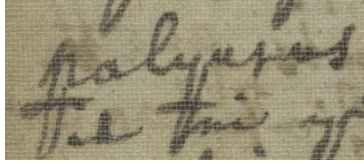
Rhamnus Catharticus



prickly

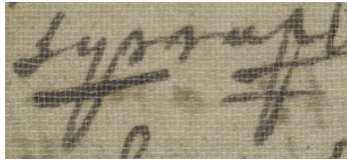


beyond



polyurus (NB distinguish from “special p”)

beyond



syrrup (p descender crossed twice)

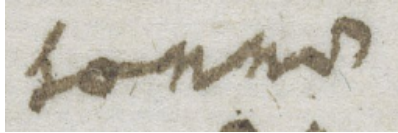
8 Greek ligature for “ou”



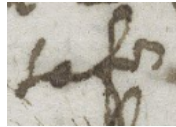
Unicode ȣ

General Notes

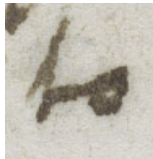
In addition to the similarity of minuscule a and o, minuscule l, r, s, and t may be difficult to distinguish from one another, whether in initial, medial, or terminal positions. Context generally helps in working out a particular word, though it may require web searches and consultations with various dictionaries, especially the *OED*. Other combinations can also be confusing.



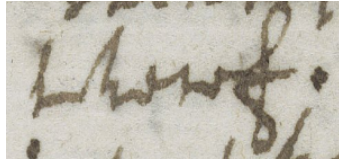
sonne



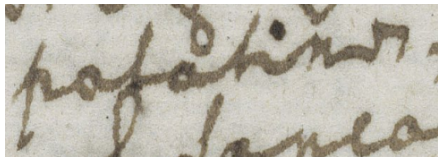
safe



to

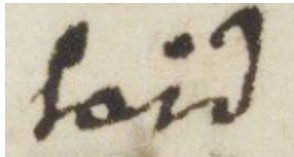


therefore.

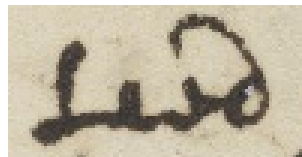


palatine

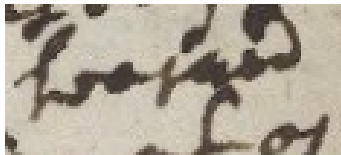
Initial l or s?



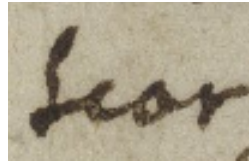
(new-) *laid* eggs



(nettle)= *seed*

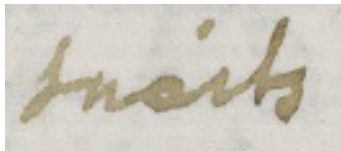


learned



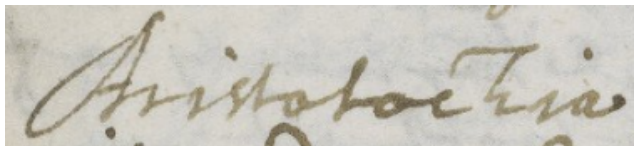
scar

snails or snails?



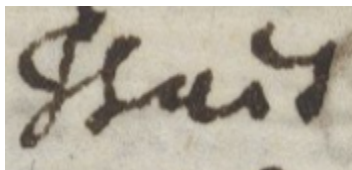
snails

Minuscule t and l identical

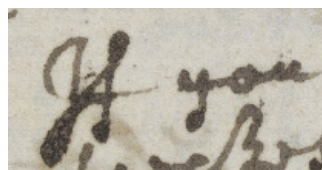


Aristolochia (an herb)

Majuscule H can resemble If or Is

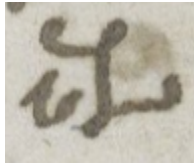


Hues

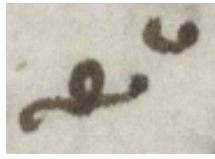


If you

Sometimes a word doesn't look like much of anything

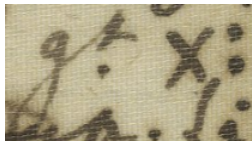


et

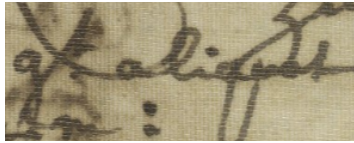


de

In medicinal recipes, “grani” (grains) and “guttae” (drops) can appear similar, height of the superscript letter gives clue



grani X (10 grains), dry measure



guttae aliquot (a few drops), liquid measure