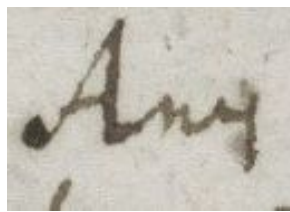
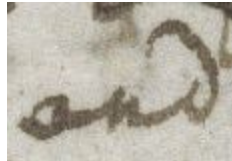


John Ward's Alphabet

Aa



Any

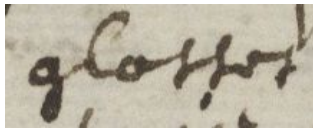


and



as

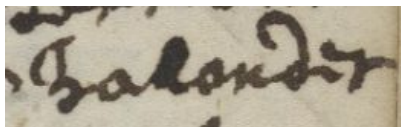
Minuscule a may be indistinguishable from minuscule o



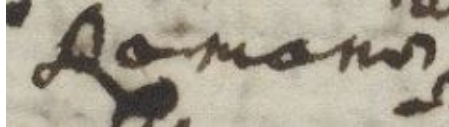
glasses



was

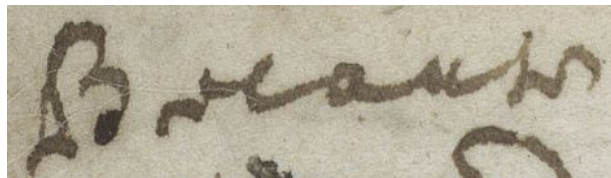


Hollander

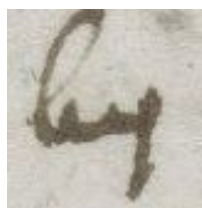


Romane

Bb



Because



by

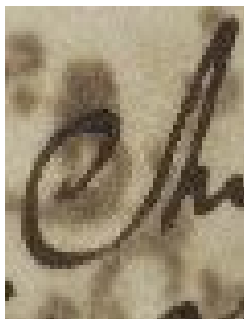
Cc



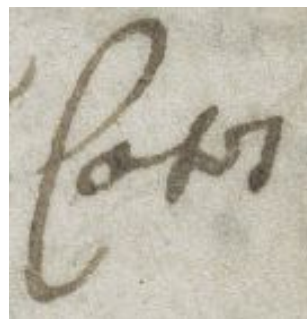
Ca



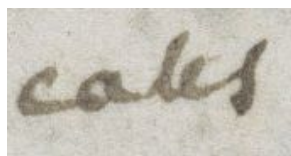
Co



Ch



Cases

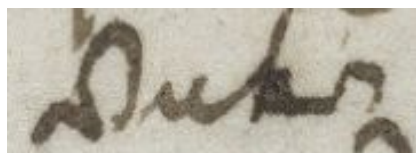


calls

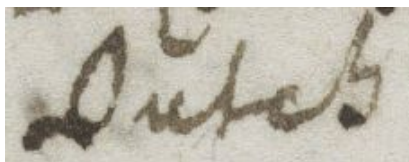


cannot

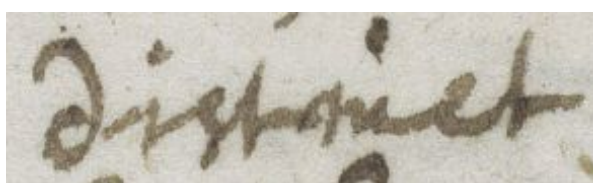
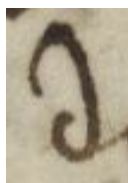
Dd



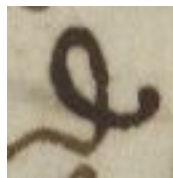
Duke



Dutch

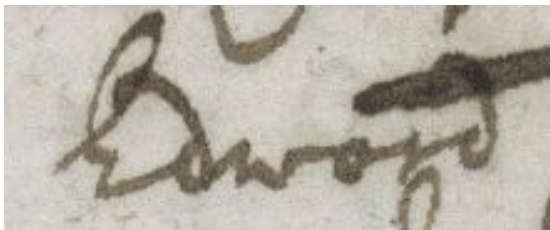


distinct



old

E



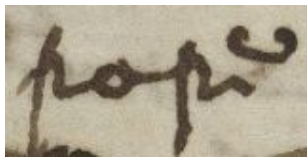
Edward

e (reverse)

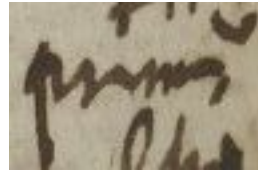


euery

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



pope



prime

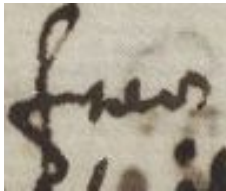
e ("hooked" terminal e; see also "Duke" under Kk)



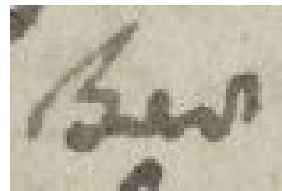
terminal -ee: reverse e + "hooked" e



bee

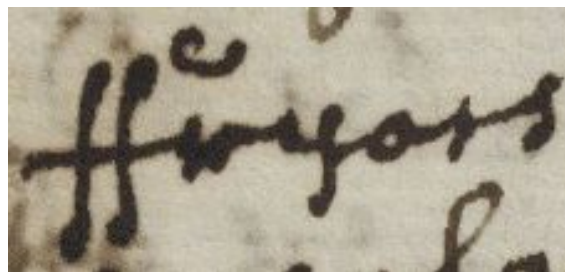


free

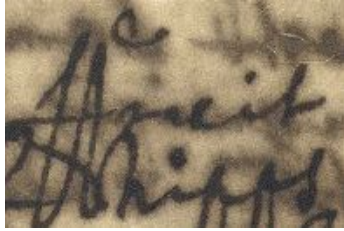


hee

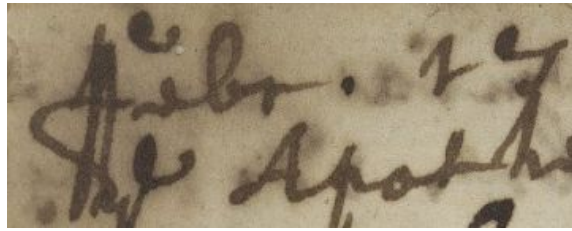
ff (= F), often with a flourish



ffryars

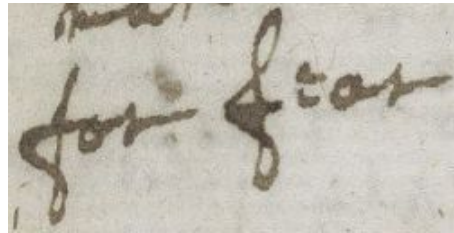
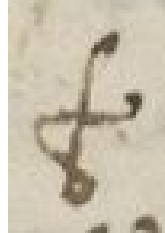


ffruit



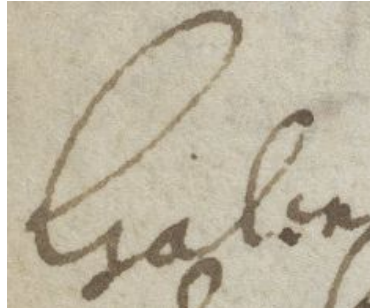
ffebr. 17

f



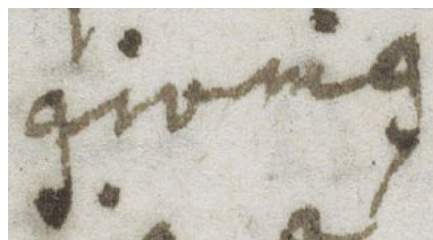
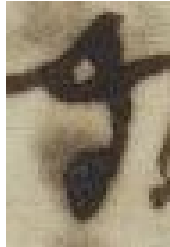
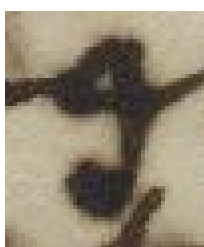
for fear

Gg



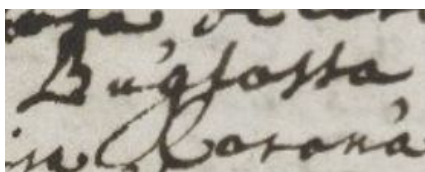
Galen

minuscule g almost always has a bulbous termination

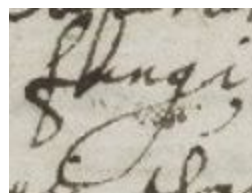


giving

but occasionally doesn't

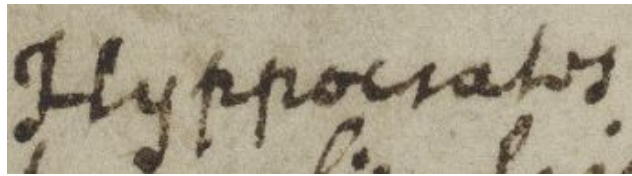


Buglossa



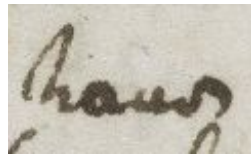
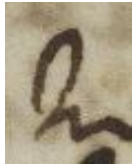
fungi

Hh

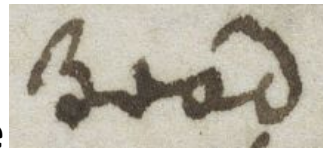


Hippocrates

minuscule h almost always has an approach stroke

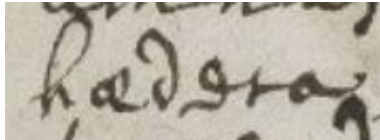


haue

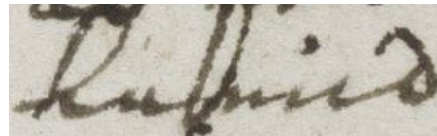


head

but occasionally doesn't

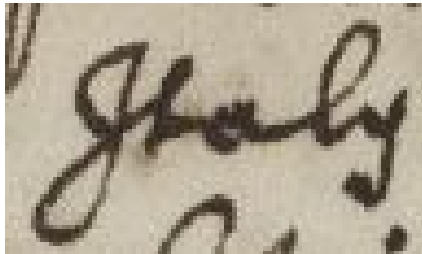


haedera

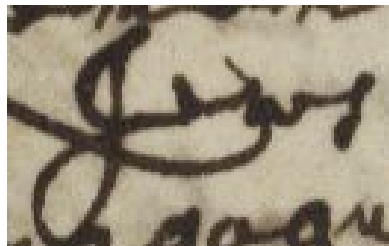


humid

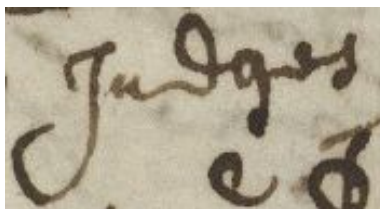
Ii/Jj



Italy



Iews (Jews)



Iudges (Judges)



I saw

Minuscule i consistently dotted though the dot may wander



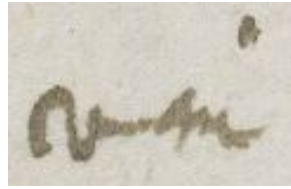
itt



is

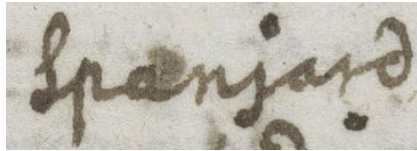


in

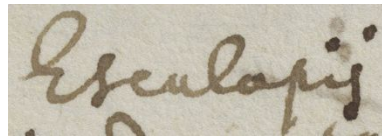


vin

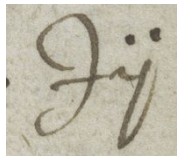
Long minuscule i (j) sometimes appears; transcribe as j when initial or medial in English words; i in receipts or Latin words



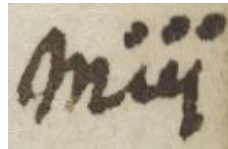
spanjard



Esculapii

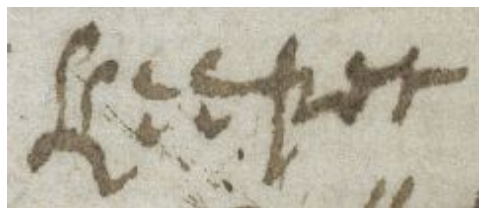


Jii (two scruples)



M iii (3 handfulls)

Kk



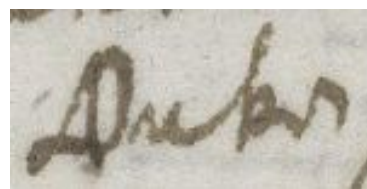
Keeper



King. Henry

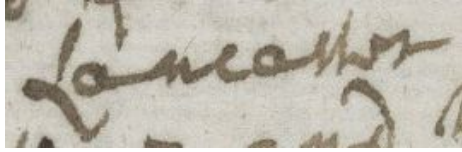


ake

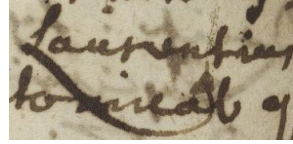


Duke

Ll - also see General Note following Arabic numerals
Majuscule L has long descender, sometimes quite long

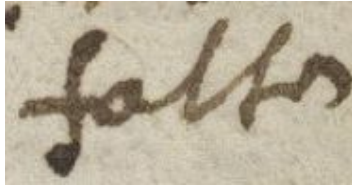


Lancaster

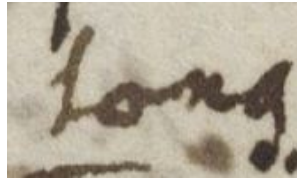


Laurentius

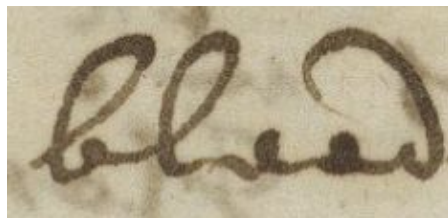
Minuscule l can be straight or looped



false



long



bleed

Double minuscule l can appear very similar to double t



quill



itt will

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



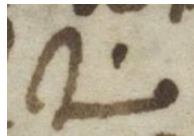
Monk



Mercurie

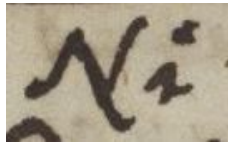


mee

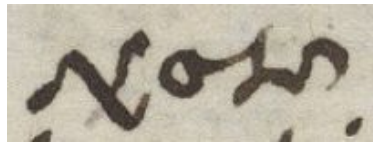


him (note flattened minims)

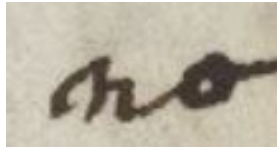
Nn - minims in minuscule can be flattened almost to a line



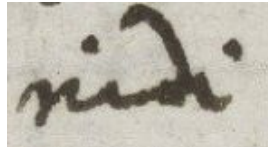
Ni



Nose



no

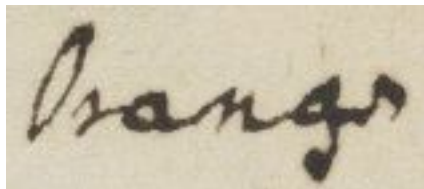


nidi

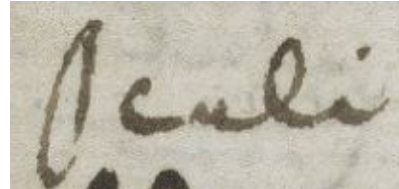


King (note flattened minims)

Oo



Orange

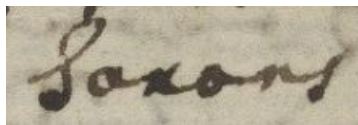


Oculi

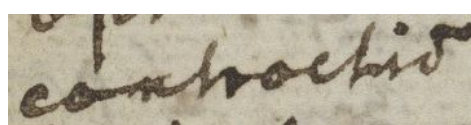


of

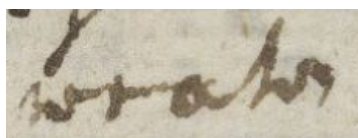
Minuscule o may be indistinguishable from minuscule a



Saxons



contraction

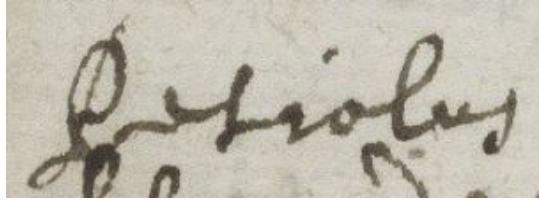


wrote

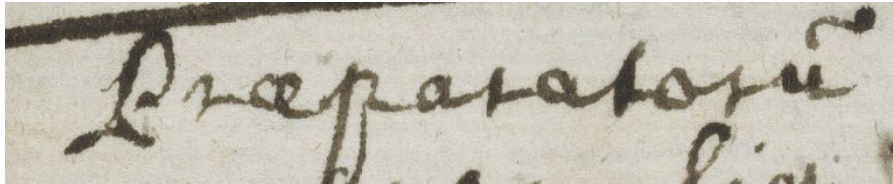


came... or come?

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



Petiolus

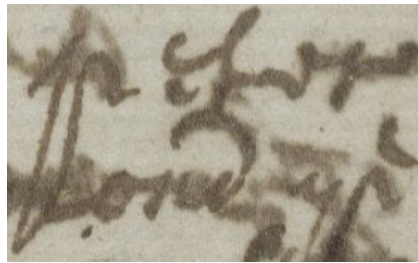


Præparatorum

Even when convention would seem to require a majuscule



pe(lagianisme)

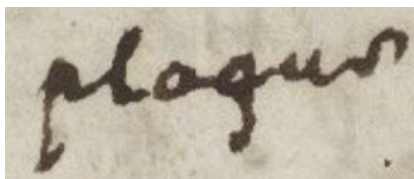


peter

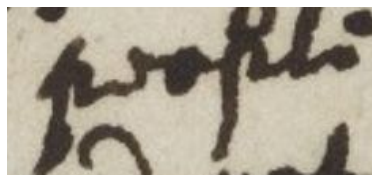


propertius

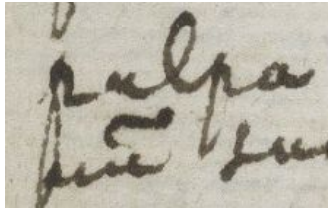
Minuscule p descender may have a hook or loop; or may be straight (see 2nd p in "people")



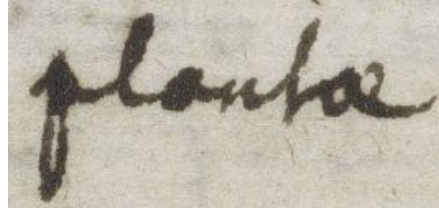
plague



people

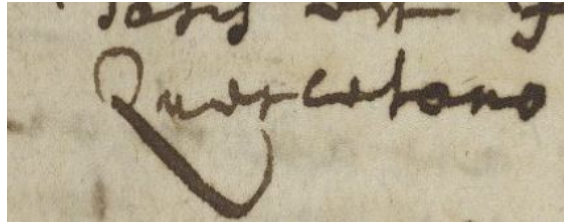


pulpa

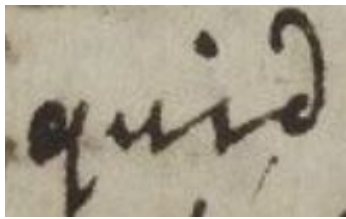


plantæ

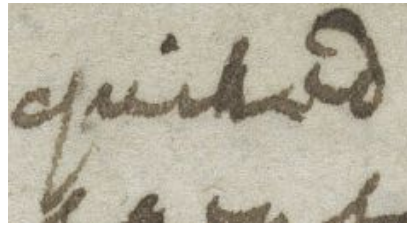
Qq



Quercetano

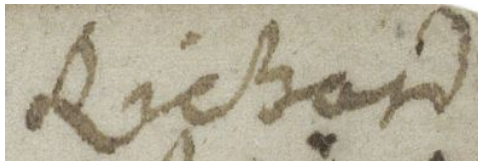


quid

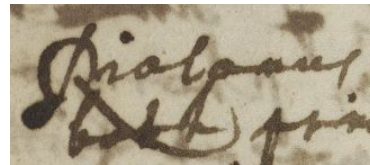


quitted

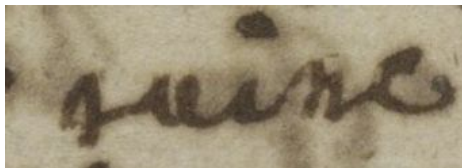
Rr - also see General Note following Arabic numerals



Richard



Riolanus

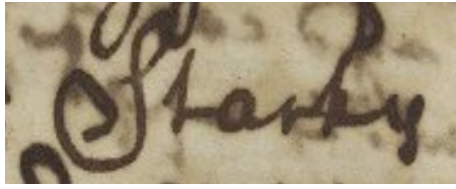


ruine

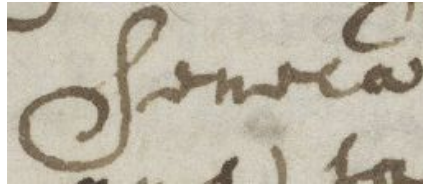


or

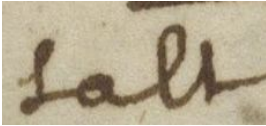
Ss - also see General Note following Arabic numerals



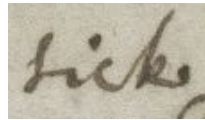
Starky



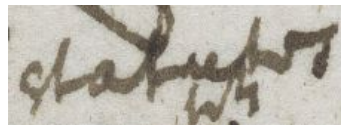
Seneca



salt

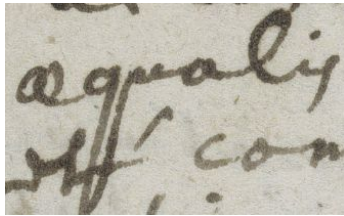


sick

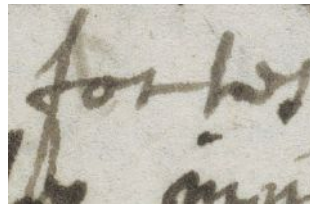


statutes

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



æqualis

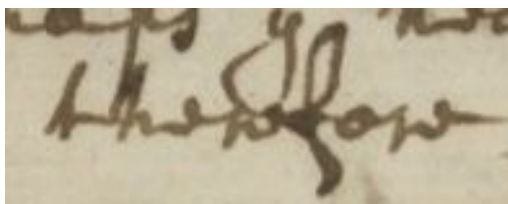


fortes

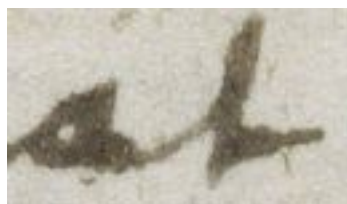
Tt - also see General Note following Arabic numerals



The

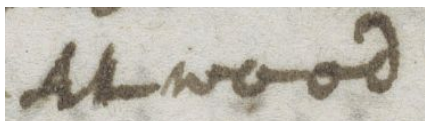


Initial t: therefore

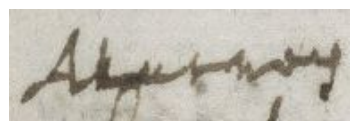


Terminal t: [signific]at

Double minuscule t can look like a single letter



Attwood



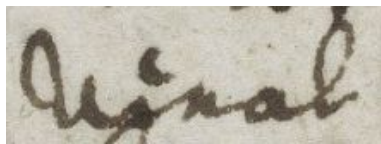
Attorney

Double minuscule t can appear very similar to double l

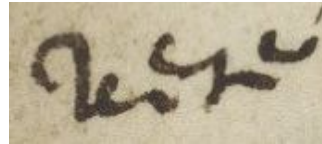


itt will

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

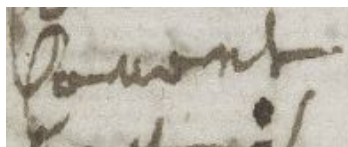


Uenal

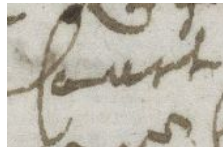


Uere

minuscule joins to next letter from bottom of the second stroke



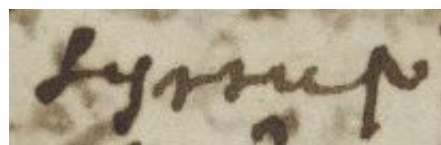
Couent



Court

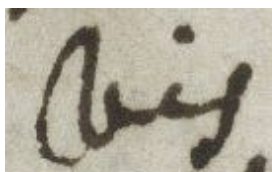


ueins

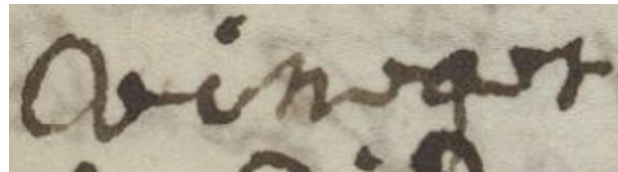


syrrup

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

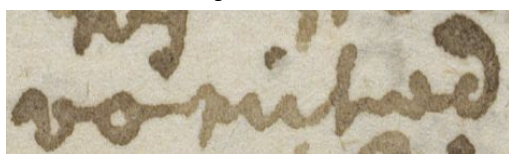


Vis

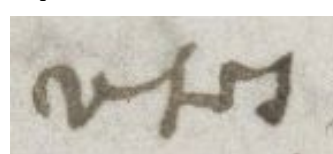


Vineger

minuscule joins to next letter from top of the second stroke

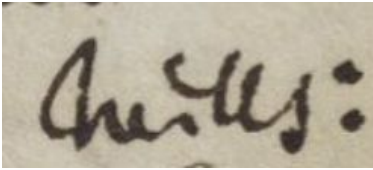


vomited

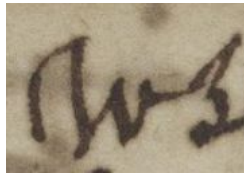


vses

Ww



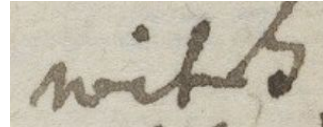
Wells:



Wh

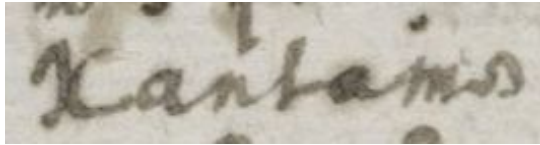


Walwine

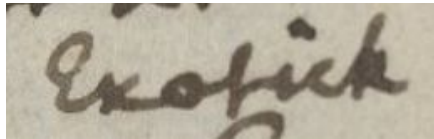


with

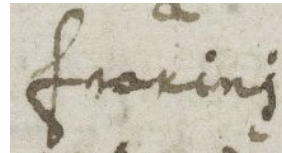
Xx



Xantaine

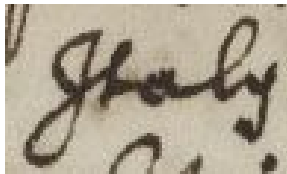


Exotick



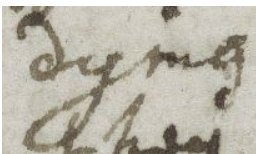
fraxini

Yy

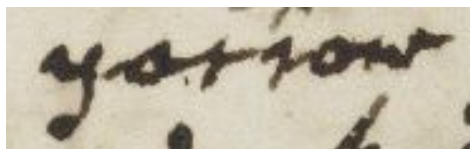


Italy

minuscule may be looped or have a bulbous termination

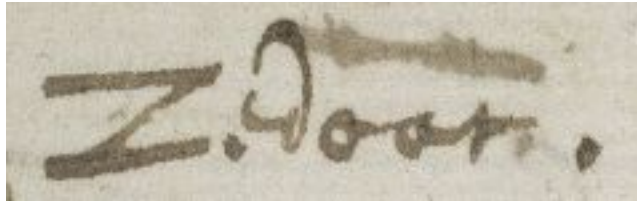
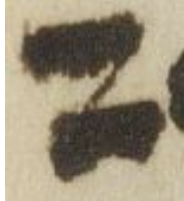
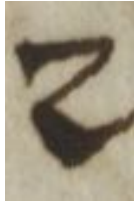


dying

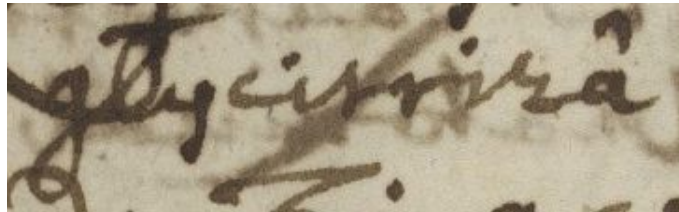


yarrow

Zz



Zedoar.



glyciriza

Arabic numerals:

1



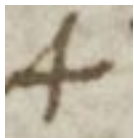
2



3



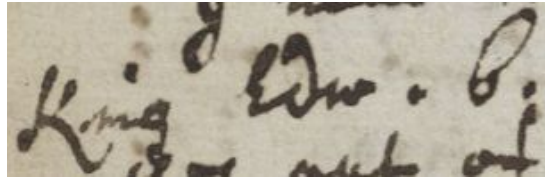
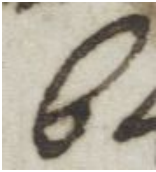
4



5



6 - can resemble minuscule b

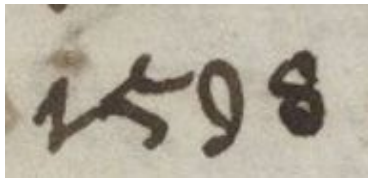


King Edward. 6.

7



8



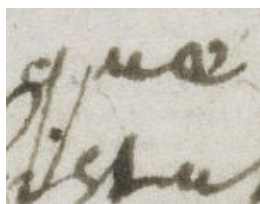
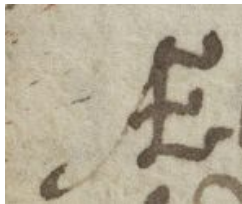
1598

9

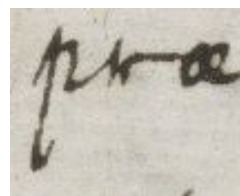


Graphemes, Ligatures, Abbreviations

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

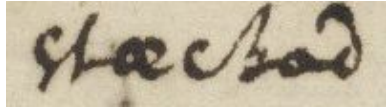


quæ



præ

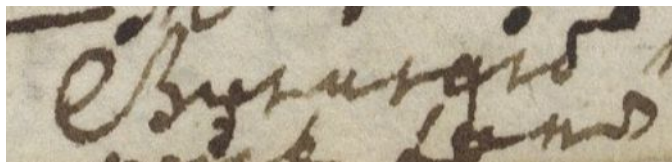
Grapheme œ (œ) looks similar though much less common, context gives the clue



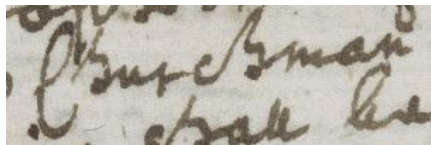
stœchas -adis (French lavender)

Ligatures

ch

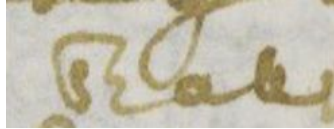


Chyrurgion

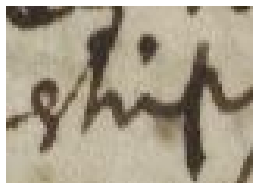


Churchman

sh

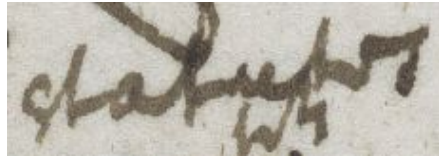


shall



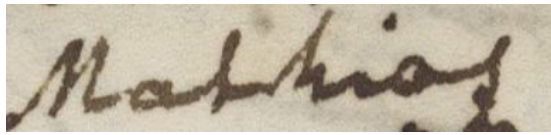
ship

st

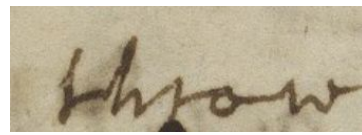


statutes

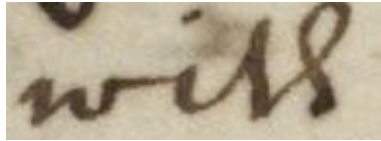
th



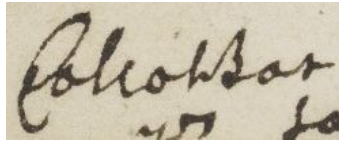
Mathias



throw



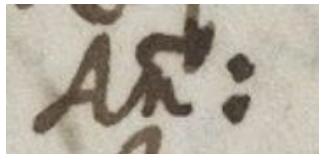
with



Colcothar

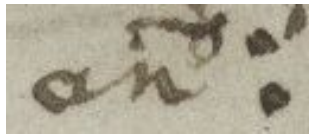
Letter combinations with tilde

An:



Anno:

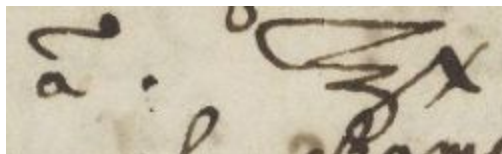
(A<macron>n<ex>no</ex></macron><metamark>:</metamark>



anno:

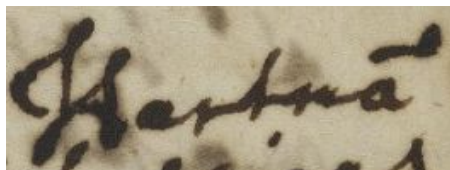
a may be minuscule, otherwise same transcription

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



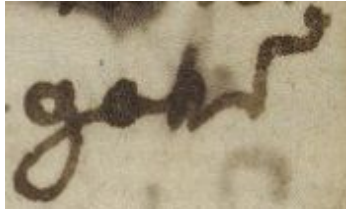
ana. 3x (of each ten ounces)

-an with tilde



Hartman

-en with tilde



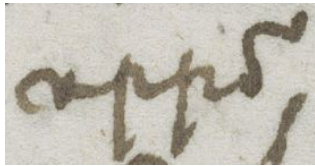
gotten

-om with tilde



from

-on with tilde



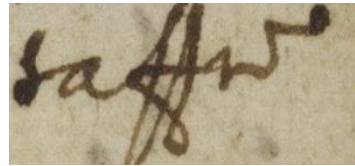
vppon



Ordination

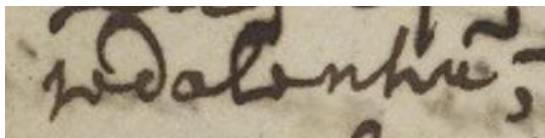


Dr. Alston

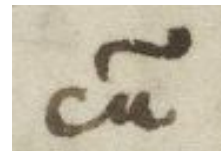


saffron

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



redolentium



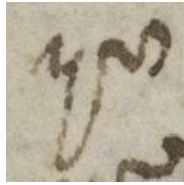
cum

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



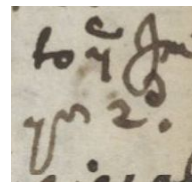
the



the

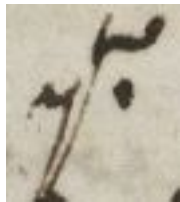


the



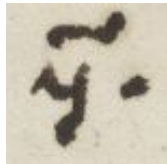
the (both)

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

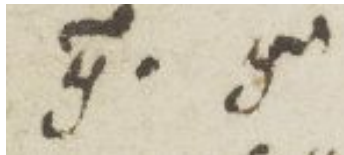


that.

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

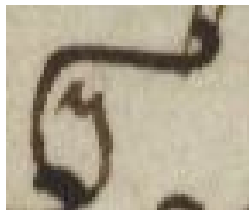


them.

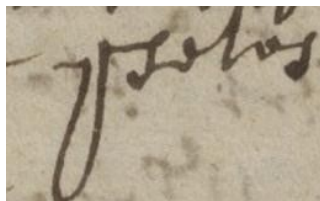


them. the

less common forms:



them



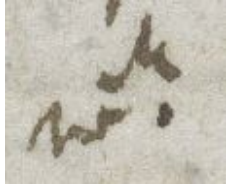
themselves

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



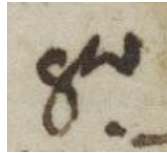
then.

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



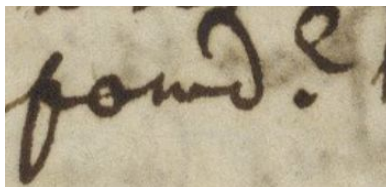
which.

&



Other abbreviations?

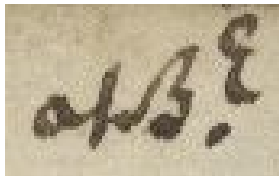
-er. (<ex>e</ex><sl>r</sl><metamark>.</metamark>)



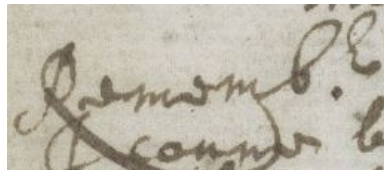
powder.



water.

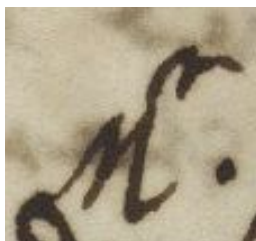


other.

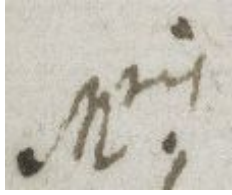


Remember.

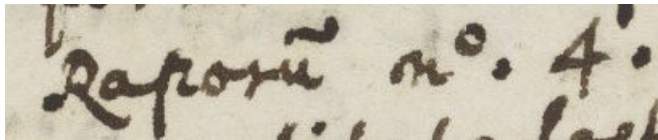
Mr. (M<sl>r</sl>.) - no metamark



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

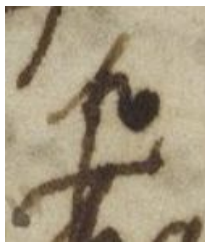


n^o (superscript “o”) = numero (n<ex>umer</ex><sl>o</sl>)
followed by a number indicating how many of an ingredient

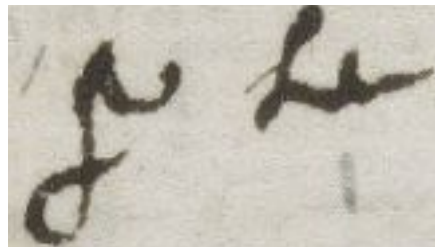


raporum n^o. 4 = four turnips

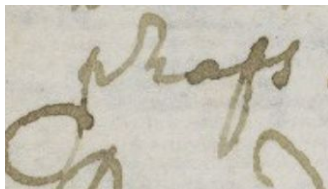
Special p: descender crossed from bottom = per/par/pre



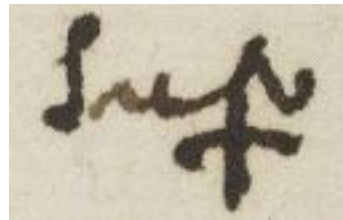
per



per se



perhaps



super

-que: resembles numeral 3 adjacent to descender of q

vsque

absque

-us, resembles superscript 9

-bus

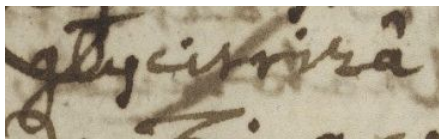
diebus.

**¶re¶. = preparatus -a -um, "prepared;" likely, not proved
(<brev-p>p<sl>r</sl><ex>e</ex></brev-p><brev-p>p<ex>ar</ex></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

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