

«CONSUETUDINES ECCLESIE ANGLICANE».
ARXIU CAPITULAR DE LA SEU D'URGELL MS. 2874:
A NOTE

In 1978 students of medieval canon law were apprised of the interest and importance of Urgell MS. 2874 and nothing remains to be added to the exhaustive account which Dr Benigno Marquès provided on that occasion of Jaume Sitjó, the author of the *Lectura super IV Libro Decretalium*, the text which occupies 198 of the Urgell codex's 206 folios¹. In connexion with the catalogue of the archive's notable collection of legal manuscripts, however, which Professor Antonio García y García and his colleagues have in preparation, the question has now been raised of the identity of one of the three diverse pieces found at the end of MS. 2874, the tract there entitled «Consuetudines ecclesie Anglicane». The present note is offered as a modest contribution to that noble enterprise.

Occupying fos. 198vb-201rb, commencing on the folio on which the *Lectura* ends, and written in what appears to be the same fourteenth-century hand², the said *Consuetudines* comprise a formulary for the conduct of episcopal elections, beginning with a model letter addressed to the king of England in which the dean and chapter of a cathedral church seek leave to proceed to an election.

Corpore autem defuncti sepulture tradito de consuetudine ecclesie Anglicane [whence presumably the title supplied by the scribe] actenus est optentum scilicet quod sollempnes nuncii aliqui scilicet de canonicis ad dominum regem [add. eant] petitori ab eo licentiam eligendi³.

1 B. Marquès, 'El Ms. 2874 de l'Arxiu Capitular de la Seu d'Urgell i el seu autor Jaume Sitjó', *Urgellia* 1 (1978) 367-400. Sitjó was bishop of Lérida 1341-1348 and of Tortosa 1348-1351.

2 As is the tract that follows (*Compendium disponentium hominem in uita spirituali*). The final item, however — Petrus de Vineis, *Rithmi contra predicatores et minores* (ed. A. Huillard-Bréholles, *Vie et correspondance de Pierre de la Vigne, ministre d'empereur Frédéric II*, Paris 1865, 402-17) — is in a fifteenth-century hand. Marquès, 368; information supplied by Antonio García.

3 Fo. 198vb.