

# The Hand of Luis Pedrol in Madrid, BNE, MS 2985

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*How to Cite this Article*

Albert Lloret. "The Hand of Luis Pedrol in Madrid, BNE, MS 2985." *Translat Library* 4, no. 4 (2022).



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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7275/3kbq-bm85>

ISSN: 2604-7438

# The Hand of Luis Pedrol in Madrid, BNE, MS 2985

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**Abstract:** This note identifies the hand of Luis Pedrol in Barcelona, Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó, Col·leccions, Autògrafs, II, A, 14 with two of the scripts of Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985.

**Keywords:** Luis Pedrol, Ausiàs March, Ferran Folch de Cardona, Carles Amorós.

Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó, Col·leccions, Autògrafs, II, A, 14 is a petition to obtain, on behalf of Luis Pedrol, a three-year printing license to publish the complete works of Ausiàs March in the territories of His Majesty. The text is written on paper. It was folded longitudinally. The Admiral of Naples endorses it on the verso (i.e., the outer side of the folded document). According to the ACA catalogue in the Portal de Archivos Españoles database (PARES), the document's dimensions are 14.7 x 21.5 cm. Remnants of red sealing wax can be observed on it. The document was restored on March 17, 1982. Yet a few words are still difficult to read because of the poor state of the paper. The

petition claims that Luis Pedrol had labored to gather all of Ausiàs March's works, that March's poems had never before been printed, and that they remained scattered in many places and full of errors due to the mistakes of the copyists. Pedrol wanted to have March's poetry printed in its due form (Appendix 1, and Figures 1 and 2).<sup>1</sup>

Joaquim Rubió i Ors was the first scholar to refer to, and publish, the document (1882: 83, 94–95), which had been located by Manuel de Bofarull, the archivist of the Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó. Since the document claims that March's works were still unpublished, Rubió i Ors thought that the license could refer to a projected but not necessarily fulfilled edition. According to Rubió i Ors, if the edition had indeed been completed and lost, it should have been finished prior to Joan Navarro's partial edition, printed in Valencia in 1539, which includes Baltasar de Romaní's Castilian translation of March's poems (March 1539, also known as edition *a*).

In his critical edition of March's poetry, Amadeu Pagès published another edition of the document, one that had been revised by Eduardo González Hurtebisbe, archivist at the ACA (1912-1914, I: 25–26, n. 2). Pagès refers to the document as Legajo 1465 of a “Colección de cartas y memoriales sin fecha,” belonging to the file of “Documentos curiosos” that Manuel de Bofarull had put together. Pagès identified Pedrol's work as Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985 (MS *D*). This would indeed be the printer's copy of the edition to which the document refers (Barcelona: Carles Amorós, 1543; edition *b*), because the petition specifies that the project was to publish “todas las obras,” which March 1539—also, or primarily, a translation—did not contain (1912-1914, I: 26–27).

Josep Maria Madurell and Jordi Rubió i Balaguer reedited and annotated Pedrol's petition (1955: 830–31). They found the document in ACA's Fons de Reserva, within Bofarull's “Colección de cartas y me-

<sup>1</sup>This article is part of Research Project PID2019-103874GB-I00, based at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. I thank its reviewers for their corrections and Gloria López, Head of the Departament de Referències at the Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó, for her assistance.

moriales sin fecha.” Madurell and Rubiò also published additional documents showing that Pedrol had been acting on behalf of the Admiral of Naples, Ferran Folch de Cardona, to have Paolo Giovio’s *Comentarios de las cosas del turco* printed. The book in fact came out of Carles Amorós’s printing shop in Barcelona in 1543 (Madurell and Rubiò 1955: 828–29, 833–35). According to Rubiò i Balaguer, Pedrol acted as a secretary of the Admiral of Naples and a cultural agent of sorts and, in spite of the document being very explicit about the kind of work Pedrol had carried out, he would not have been materially responsible for establishing the text of the edition (Madurell and Rubiò 1955: 831).

Later studies on the manuscript tend to acknowledge Pagès’s suggestion that Pedrol had been the compilator of the manuscript, but do not always consider his scribal responsibility over the text. At times these studies even side with Madurell and Rubiò regarding Pedrol’s lack of material involvement in the production of the manuscript (Massó i Torrents 1913–1914: 61, Bohigas 2000: 67, Archer 1997, II: 14–15, Beltran 2006: 157, López Casas 2010: 1198, Martos 2011: 21–23).

When I studied both MS *D* and Carles Amorós’s first edition of March’s works, I used the shelfmark references in Pagès and Madurell and Rubiò’s works to try to locate Pedrol’s petition in the ACA. I was not successful. In my published work on both the MS and the edition, I proved that *D* had indeed been used as the printer’s copy of March 1543 (Lloret 2008, 2013: 129–44); I described the manuscript (Lloret 2012, rev. in 2013: 145–56) and further documented Pedrol as a close relationship of Folch de Cardona in 1541 and 1542 (Lloret 2013: 113, n. 37). The traces of compilatory work that my study found in MS *D* demonstrate that Pedrol’s application was truthful in this respect and that his possible involvement in the material production of the MS was compatible with his managerial work on behalf of Folch de Cardona (Lloret 2013: 144).

I have recently located Pedrol’s petition among the digitized autographs of the ACA, that is, under a very different shelfmark than the one provided by Pagès or Madurell and Rubiò. A comparison with MS *D* shows that Pedrol’s script coincides with Hands B and C of my codicological analysis of MS 2985, a Humanistic cursive of the first decades of

the sixteenth century (Lloret 2012, 2013: 129–44). Both Hands B and C reviewed, and made amendments to, the scribal work of Hand A, which had copied most of the manuscript. The two hands added three poems (124, 127, 128), included missing stanzas and rubrics to poems 92 and 107, and wrote a note on the margin to justify cancelling 40bis—one of the poems that Hand A had copied twice. Hand C also compiled a table of contents (Lloret 2013: 139–42). I am calling these hands A, B, and C, as in my prior work, for the sake of coherence and ease of reference, but all studies of MS D since Archer (1997, II: 14) have identified three scribal hands to which essentially overlapping, though not identical, parts of the text have been attributed (Beltran 2006: 155–56, López Casas 2010: 1182–83, Lloret 2013: 139–43). Pagès, however, only distinguished between two, the hand that copied most of the manuscript—my Hand A—and the hand that I am today identifying as Pedrol’s own—Hands B and C (1912–1914, I: 21–22). Given the paleographical similarities between Hands B and C, I noted that both could reflect the work of a single scribe intervening in the MS at different times (2013: 140).

The portion of the text that most clearly reveals the essential equivalence of Hands B and C is the stanza added by Hand C to folio 156r (Figure 4). Lines 1–6 and 8–10 of the added text feature the sharper strokes and mostly unjoined letters that are typical of Hand C. Line 7, however, shows the more cursive, character-linking, and rounder execution of Hand B, which is also apparent in Pedrol’s petition. This stanza of folio 156r also contains clear examples of the capital *A* and *M* that we find in the petition (cf. the first words of lines 1 and 10 of the added text). Notice, too, how the single-line upstroke *l* alternates with a variant loop-shaped *l* that is also joined to the preceding and following characters. The table of contents of the MS (Figure 3), which features a slightly more upright and less cursive script, includes the characteristic ligature of *ct* (incipit “Qui no es trist de mos dictats no cur”) that we find in Pedrol’s petition (“correctas”) and the capital *Q* with a slanted descendant circling a few letters to the right of the capital. Compare, furthermore, the variety of word-ending *es* of the stanza added to f. 196r (Figure 5) with those of the petition (“las obras de” vs. “desenamore,” “sennorios de” vs. “corre,” “a fin que” vs. “delitable”), character *y* (in lines 4 and 5

of the added stanza) and the long single *s* (lines 1, 2, and 8 of the added stanza). It is, nonetheless, in the copy of poems 127 and 128 (Figures 6 and 7) where the aspect of Hand B is clearly as cursive and rounded, and the letters joined, as in the petition. The loop-shaped *l* also appears in the copy of these poems with a higher frequency, as well as the long *ss* joined to the following and preceding characters (e.g., “impressas” vs. “en passar temps”) and the wide, balloon-shaped, abbreviature of *n* (e.g., “sennorios” vs. “dannat”).

In establishing Pedrol’s identity behind the hands of both documents, it is worth noting that Pagès (1912-1914, I: 26) seems to have assumed that Pedrol would have been responsible for the compilatory work carried out by Hand A in most of the MS—not necessarily by Hands B and C (“El manuscrit *D* respon bé a lo que diu en Luis Pedrol del seu treball. Es el més complet de tots, adhuc si ‘s deixen córrer les poesies que hi han sigut afegides per una segona mà”). The fact that Pedrol could also be behind scribal Hand A is not out of the question. However, it is the paleographical identity of Pedrol’s petition with Hands B and C of MS *D* what proves his material work, as a copyist and editor, on the manuscript. In some respects, it also makes less relevant the distinction between those two hands that earlier studies of the manuscript have noted.



## Appendices

### *Appendix I Edition*

Edition of Barcelona, Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó, Col·leccions, Autògrafs, II, A, 14. Punctuation, accentuation, and word separation have been modernized. u/v and i/j/y have been regularized. Abbreviations have been expanded. Illegible parts have been marked with [...].

[recto]

Sacra, Cesárea y Católica Majestad,

Luis Pedrol de muchos días a esta parte á procurado de aver a su mano y juntar todas las obras de Ausiàs March, poeta catalán, que en muchas partes derramadas y casi perdidas se hallavan nunca hasta agora impressas, y aquellas corregir de muchos vicios que, por descuido de los escriptores, en ellas avía, a fin que assí correctas, juntas y reduzidas a su devida forma se imprimiessen y la memoria de tan digno varón jamás se perdiesse, y porque en ello á sostenido muchas vigilias, costas y trabajos. Suplica, por tanto, a Vuestra Majestad sea de su merced concederle privilegio que las pueda hacer imprimir y que nadie en los reinos y señoríos de Vuestra Majestad, sin su expresso consentimiento, las imprima ni a ellos se traigan vendibles de otras partes dentro de tres años so las penas en los tales privilegios sólitas y acostumbradas, que en ello el dicho Luis Pedrol recibirá merced muy singular de Vuestra Majestad, *Quam Deus etc.*

[verso]

[same hand as recto] Luis Pedrol  
Supplícalo el Almirante de Nápoles

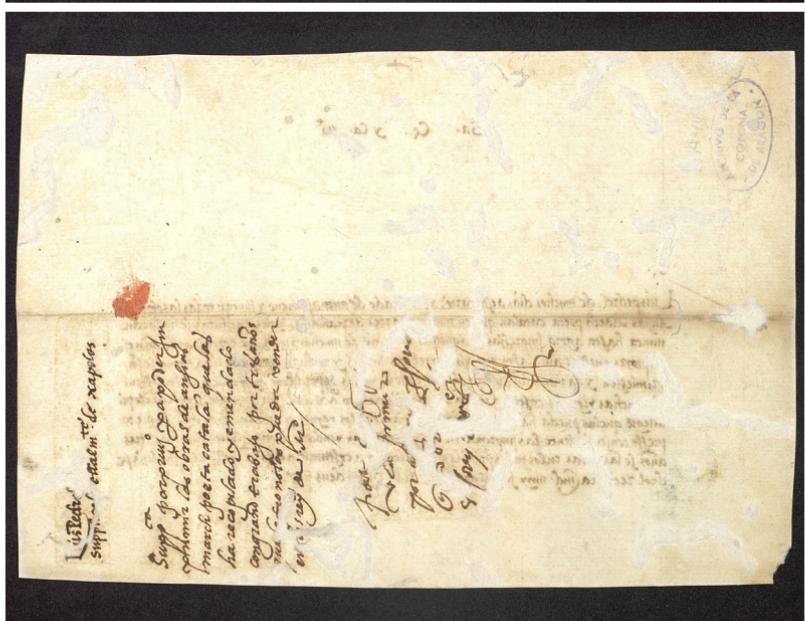
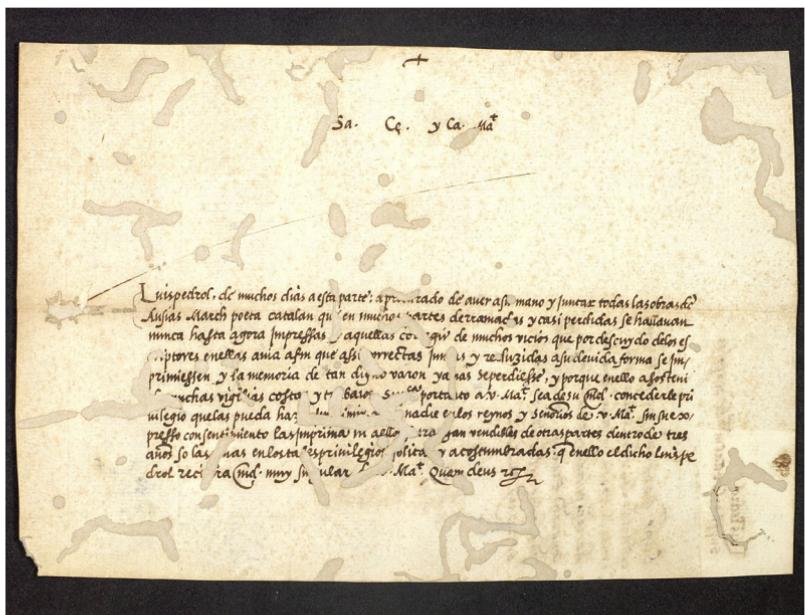
[different hand] Súpplica por privilegio para poder imprimir las  
obras de Ausiàs March, poeta catalán, que las ha recopilado y emendado  
con grand trabajo por tres años, que otro no las pueda vender en los rei-  
nos de Su Majestad.

[different hand] Fiat [...] con que se vea primero por alguna persona  
que [...] rey [...] [signature]

*Appendix 2  
Figures*



The Hand of Luis Pedrol



Figures 1 and 2: España, Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte, Arxiu de la Corona d'Aragó, Col·leccions, Autògrafs, II, A, 14r (above) and 14v (below).

Taula de totes les obres son en lo present libri.	
A	A xi com cell qui los omnis delita acartes 3 Alt e amor don gran delit singendia act 3 A xi concess qui desla vienda acartes 3 Amor sedol combezement yo ne myra crs 3 Aguns paisats donaren siantere acartes 3 Ab vos megot amor benemener acartes 3 Amaleterany es la pena estranya acartes 3 Ab tal dolor com les feix jarranca act 3 Aquelles mas que James perdonaren acr 3 Als fets comat tot quan sera demi act 3 A xi com cell qui es mi prop dela mort act 3 Algun pot siauencen si poder acartes 3 Aquelles perdidable dolor acartes 3 Aquell ateny tot quan atteny vol act 3 A xi com cell qui parteix de la terra act 3 Ab mosta rao me defenamor act 3 Actus iau ros mondavit acartes 3 Ami a corda vndicat a cartes 3
B	Ben marauell com l'ayre mosaltze acartis 3 Colguenles gentz ab alegría festes acartes 3 Callen aquells qui d'amer han parlat acr 3 Cell qui clauz res amig eplata acartes 3 Corage meu apendez eforz molt tuit act 3 Clamar nos clauz mal cerca e troba 3 Cenu ferit nocejisa la fone acartes 3 Clar es molt atos los amadors acartes 3 Cobrir iopuch la dolor qui turmenta 3 Certe es demí que nomen calser compre 3
C	Dona suis am nom grans feau amor act 3 En aquell temps senti clamor delit act 3 Entre amor son posat fortuna acartes 3 Entre los viles y les ocellas acartes 3
D	Fanassiant amor ami descobre la cartes 3 Non es soledi hon m'ensa reposa act 3 Iatots nos canes me plan metzen oblit 3 La no esper que sia amar a cartes 3 Limes lo temps que non gages complit 3
E	Leixane aparelest dels troubadors act 3 Lo Jorn ha por de perdre s'color act 3 Tania por dalguna causa mor act 3 Los ignorant amoresos exempls act 3 Lexela sorte lo sen variat torn acartes 3 Lo temps estal que tot animal bruta act 3 Lo bischahi quis troba en Alemanya act 3 Lome pel mon ne multangan dolor act 3 Lo tot es poch co peccat troubalam act 3 La so attes don so volgut fugir acartes 3 La vidas breu el au se moscalongaz 3 L'ocinguen peu del molt abracnatz 3
F	Molt he tuat en descobrir mafatiz 3 Mols venturos uoclercar ventura 3 Mols homens veig clamarse defonmas 3 Ma voluntat amant vos se comenta acr 3 Malaure vim qui deit per de viraz 3 Mes voluntat enganpar discordatz 3 Maleyst lo Jorn quem sonch denada vida 3 Molt me parbo quepens delaltra més 3 Mon bon Seuyer quis queparlarevsa 3 Mentre clamor senti sa passio acarts 3
G	Nosch lotemps non pensame simobl 3 Nos marauell algui quepon anyo 3 No pot mostar lo me menys precat 3 Noguert auant ne membre lo pafai 3 No s'ofegat en clamor merce act 3 Nompre a xi com alspacit rayle 3 Nopens algu quem allanch enparvals 3 Nom clam dalgua que m' mala faciua 3 No cas clupiar q'sens ull spot ho tenue 3
H	O mort qui est de molt mals medecins 3 O vos mesquins qui sots terra jaeu acr 3 Osore dolor yet prech a misericordie 3 Oquat es foll qui tem lo forcat cas 3
I	O que e romana la tanta poca cosa 3 S'ha de fer mor de cellos torres y postas 3
L	Trenmen a xi com alspacit qui plasta

© Biblioteca Nacional de España

Figure 3: Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985, table of contents.

clv]

**N**ostra virtut sens endeu esperança  
basta que mori ab ardiment semprengar  
ab molt delit mas nontant q[ue] estenga  
tolte dolor mas adonar temprana  
Talgne delit la dolor sobre pena  
De que satis gran delit asa dora  
don larma tem claram agreplora  
tot elenor delemo semia

Carlesseit es propme la mort pendre  
mas lo compost nos pot a tant estendre

Aco apar als homens gran miraclo  
que la virtut tant locor enforesta  
que la sabor de fel se tornie groga  
sone facent asi matice obfata  
permis apare ellrequer de mors fuya  
per altra ui corriene enuers aquella  
aquest contrari tot ordiment apello  
edurancat fins veure qual vng linya

E silom venç la mort es anvlada. // Mata la carn q[ue] les subfigada

**D**ret natural es quelom la mort tema  
aximatic ha racione romagnella  
tot quant que mori adolor saparella  
car se corromp sedonib[us] la pns esrema  
La part del hom quella mort de hyoeria  
porta dolor per laraho Insolina  
per le sperit quin morir se delita  
enfercontrast o porles cosa leia

Sens esperiar profit dalgoma cosa  
de met amort per la virtut dins clopi.

© Biblioteca Nacional de España

Figure 4: Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985, f. 156r.

cxcv]

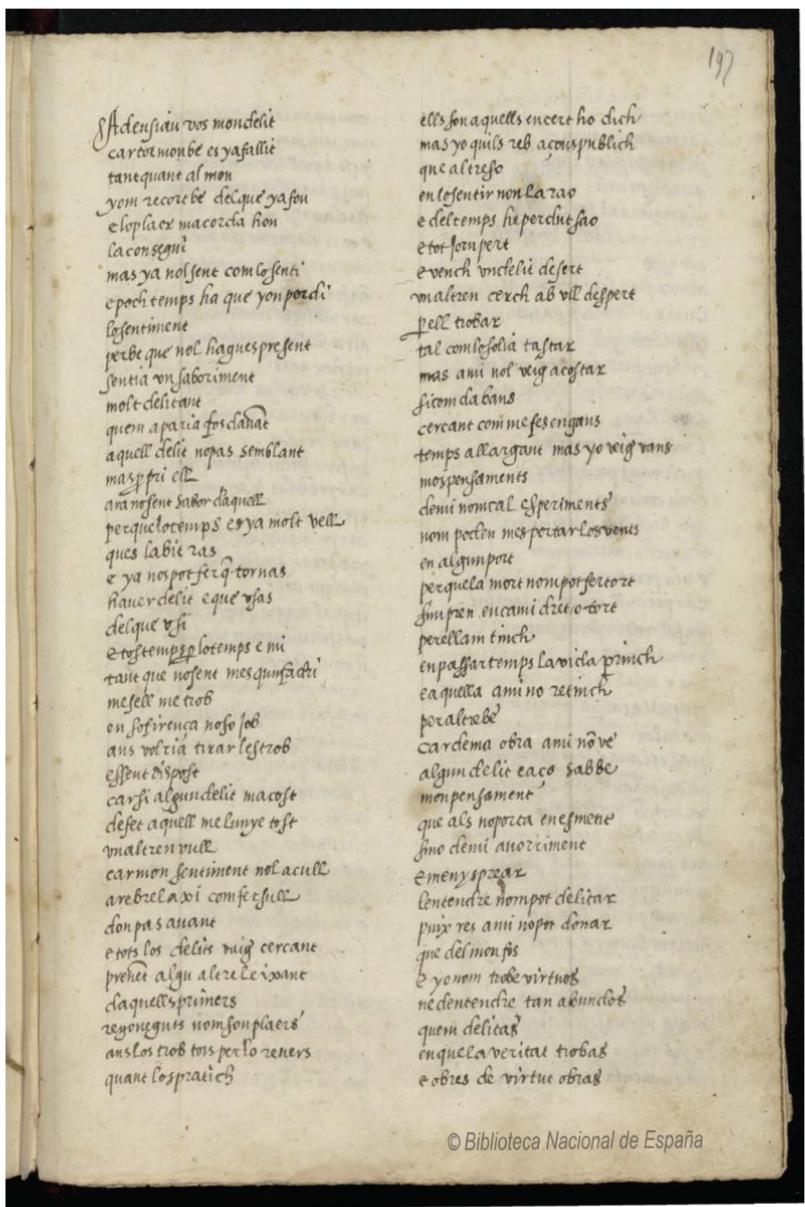
*A* deu adeus ben armanta  
 mos pensaments quim han donat delit  
 elle son aqüells mas les quarts es fallit  
*E*s que en mi dol estrobo alterat,

*H* Demanda feta per mestre Ansias march  
 a Joan Moreno

*A*b molta rao medstanmore'  
 car tot lo del mon trob desagradable'  
 Lamia eclat novrig delitable'  
 e jalomen cor aduentempnyore'  
 Mas yom marquell del sone assable'  
 moreno Joan que tingafont torre'  
 al combat d'amor quelvis lome corre'  
 de vos medigan si castlo amable'

© Biblioteca Nacional de España

Figure 5: Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985, f. 196r.



© Biblioteca Nacional de España

Figure 6: Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985, f. 197r.

Carço que altatge al vil  
 yonencerrony pux negacule  
 los ferdech  
 futes esforz vull dimitjefech  
 e no vull dir queden amech  
 en partidon  
 desfimeria magneplor  
 cofauirius cor  
 mas son reprehenc  
 carmon per famene nos french  
 egimane aquell nos french  
 en aquell  
 goes cuideu pux volam  
 leixant lo non pobr y mesqu  
 pux ell nom mi  
 non sap ce que se nosol  
 yolitudo passant mondol  
 abcor no clar  
 car neupich abmi acbar  
 ab cor sancor de peudonaz  
 e mal nosa  
 quant regonech aco comra  
 la doloria dins miebla  
 me tolpoer  
 que nos de monpach fabre  
 compassaco moy es mester  
 clar hamp la anch  
 la pagio nosa embach  
 queco ques dolc no par amarch  
 e pel reus  
 instruhi puen many homes  
 segons lo velet sera fites  
 endre oral  
 encara filo que menys val  
 que fabacosa per no tal  
 conesen rex  
 aquella que als esfaber  
 conegues ans quelgran voter  
 vos carregas  
 pecque nos prefer hom obras  
 Al passio que nos forbas  
 nostra ligh  
 ay tan es fra di mes q mesqu  
 daquell qui es semblant ami  
 calhes motes,

ALTRA OBRA  
 Amicorda vndictat  
 per non contemptus nomenat  
 auigant los homens del mon  
 que les cofes que dell'jon  
 no esferon bona  
 carjornia e cam  
 cler zolar e perdicio  
 e remembriam dela fado  
 quan legit dicta aqueste  
 quem sinch legit manifest  
 mas non tengui significat  
 apres quan siv hom per edat  
 lontengui sens fabore  
 ana mestrae comece d'ore  
 sive emalquier cientes  
 lo mal en les cofes nos  
 instrumention ab que han fa  
 pecq enelles mal no ha  
 natura y ha mis de molteza  
 a estimar es nostrengan  
 per quen prenem d'elles sive  
 el omigle no l'conexem  
 se que amagat en lo chafach  
 en el atachom eger lo ch  
 pera pedre lo diuifaz  
 Bon porde del mig dispartar  
 entendre spot mai nostenir  
 nos conegud mils sepor die  
 abagor non tant solamet  
 equal obrant sia volente  
 virtute cor mesquel caprol  
 soming de la sagal que fol  
 obrar virtut que elu moral  
 esprint tançobil que moy val  
 vista de home prouit  
 erol q hom no s'ha trist  
 volent pecllo mig' campan  
 otant consipit aostear  
 car no es enell corriugafaber

Figure 7: Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS 2985, f. 199v.

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