möglicherweise sogar noch aus dem 7. Jh. stammend identifiziert hat. Es bestätigt sich hier im Bereich der Schreibtechnik, was mittlerweile grundsätzlich für die althochdeutsche Glossierung festgehalten werden kann, nämlich dass sie in der Folge der angelsächsisch-irischen Missionstätigkeit eingesetzt und dass damit das althochdeutsche Schrifttum wohl auch hierin seine Wurzeln hat. (Glaser & Nievergelt 2004: 131)

Even if the introduction of dry-point glossing to the Continent really was accomplished by the missionaries from both England and Ireland, it is not clear to what extent the practice of dry-point glossing should be considered to be a typically Insular practice before the 10th c. Our picture of OIr dry-point glossing is very patchy and our picture of early OE dry-point glossing is practically limited to the testimony of the Continental MSS. If dry-point glossing really was practised in England and Ireland from an early date, there would have to be some tangible evidence of it. The three OIr dry-point glosses in the Codex Usserianus Primus, however, are the only early Insular dry-point glosses that are not directly linked with the missionary activities on the Continent.

### 6.7.3 Co-Occurrence with an Old French Dry-Point Gloss?

Cambridge, Trinity College Library O. 2. 31 [10/K:95] may present a case of OF and OE dry-point glossing united in the same MS, but it would appear that further research is necessary to corroborate this record. The MS definitely unites OE and OF glossing, but it is distributed unevenly across the three different texts in the MS that are glossed in a vernacular:

i. **Prosper, Epigrammata** on ff. 1–33, is glossed in both OE ink (28 glosses, distributed over more than a dozen pages), OE dry-point (12 or more56 glosses, distributed over half a dozen pages) and OF ink (3? glosses, all on f. 33, dated sec. xii in Ker 1957: 137).

ii. **Pseudo-Cato, Disticha Catonis**, ff. 34–40, is glossed in both OE ink (1 gloss, f. 40) and OE dry-point (1 gloss, f. 34).

iii. **Prudentius, Dittochaeon (Tituli historiarum)**, ff. 44–49, is glossed by one single dry-point gloss OF(?), *catel* to L. *gregis ‘of the flock’, on f. 47, l. 25.

---

55 I.e. ‘The long-standing assumption that in principle the practice of glossing by means of the stylus may have been introduced from the British Isles has received further corroboration through the Irish dry-point glosses, which P. O Néill identified as possibly going back to the 7th c. In the area of writing technique we thus find confirmation for what can by now be maintained for OHG glossing in general, namely that it [i.e. the technique of writing in dry-point] begins in the wake of the Anglo-Saxon and Irish missionary activities and that writing in OHG arguably has its origin here, too.’

56 Page (1981a: 108) observes that there must have been more dry-point glosses, but an unspecified number of them is now indecipherable.