Proofs of Antient Hand-Writing

With the Opinion of that Eminent Critick in Re Diplomaticâ, our Country-Man Mr. Hum=
=phrey Wanley of Oxford, touching the different Ages, Characters, & Countrys, of ye sd Pieces, in Re=
=turn to my Enquiries from him on that behalf.

N.o 1.

[illegible] De summa facie caeli (I) Facies caeli uel caput orientalis
regio ultima septentrionalis de qua Lucanus: sic mundi pars ima
iacet quam solae niuales pressaeque premunt hiemes.
De quattuor partibus caeli. Climata caeli id est plagae
uel partes quattuor sunt. Ex quibus prima pars orientalis est unde aliquae stellae
oriuntur. Secunda occidentalis ubi nobis aliquae stellae occidunt.
[illegible]tia septentrionalis ubi sol peruenit in diebus maioribus. Quarta australis
ubi sol peruenit in noctibus maioribus. Oriens autem ex ortu solis est nuncu
patus. Occidens quod diem faciat occidere atque interire. Abscondit enim
lumen mundo et tenebras superinducit. Septentrionalis autem a septem
stellis axis uocatur quae in ipso reuolutae rotantur. hic proprie et
[illegible] dicitur eo quod uestiatur. Meridies autem uocatur uel quod ibi sol facit
medium diem quasi medidies uel quia tunc purius micat aether;
merum autem purum dicitur. Sunt et alia vii climata caeli quasi vii
lineae ab oriente in occidentem [illegible] sub quibus et mores hominum
dispares atque animalia specialiter diuersa nascuntur quae uoca
ta a locis quibusdam famosis quorum primum est Meroe secundum Soene

Mr Wanley— This is a Fragment of the Origines or Etymologiæ of St Iſidore Bp. of Sevil, wch ſeems by the hand to be written in France, about the time of Charles the Great, but rather before than after; it appearing more ancient than a Copy of Bede on the Canonical Epiſtles in the Bodleian-Library, which was written A.D. 818, or before, & ſo muſt be near 900 Years old.

If you please to give your Self ye troulle of looking into P. Mabillon de Re Diplo=
=matica, I believe Sr You will find it agree pretty well with the laſt Specimen of the 36st page