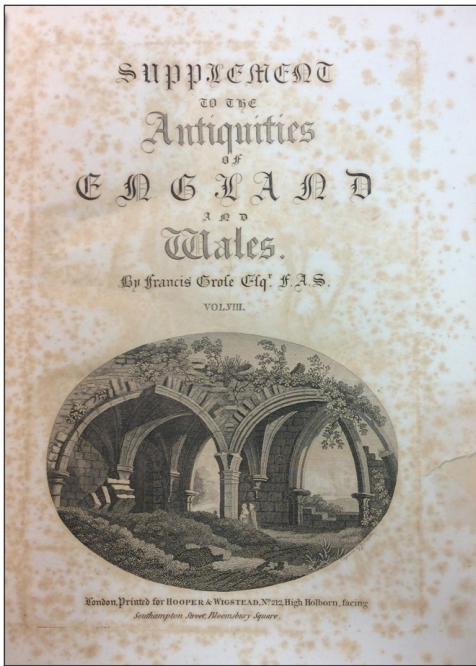
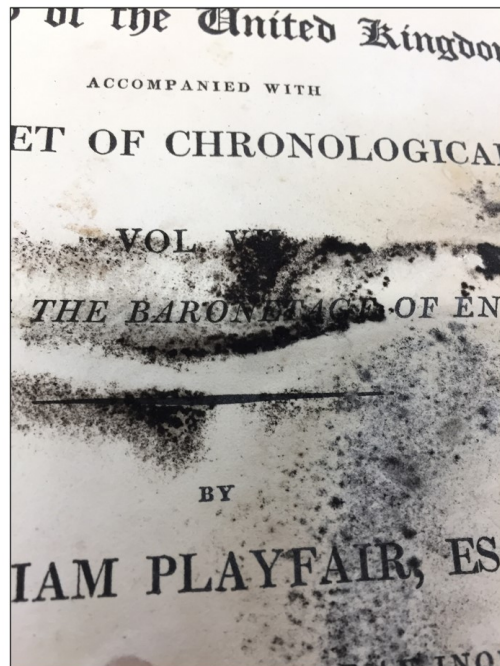


Is it Mold?

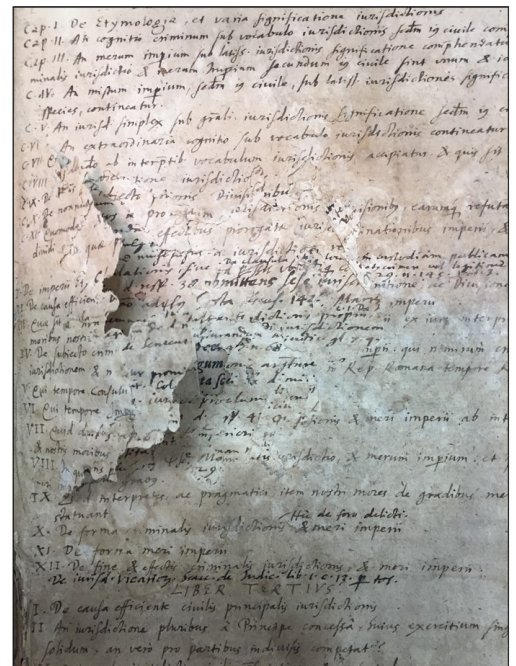
Florence G. Wallace Conservation Lab, Michigan State University Libraries



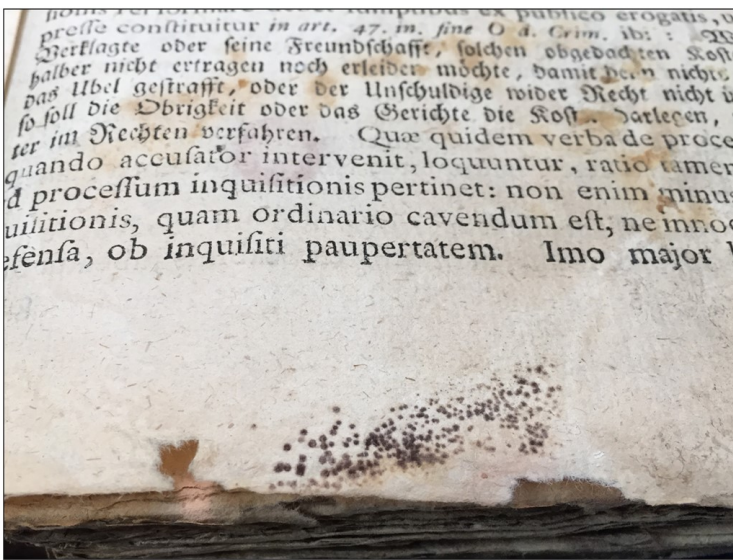
Is it Mold? No.
 These red or rust colored spots are called foxing. Although it is disfiguring, foxing does not weaken the paper and is not a cause for concern.



Is it Mold? Yes - inactive.
 Inactive mold is dry/powdery and will have a slightly raised appearance. Inactive mold can become active under the right conditions and may cause an allergic reaction in sensitive individuals. Handle with caution.



Is it Mold? No.
 This damage was caused by mold, but no mold is present. Active mold produces digestive enzymes that can weaken or leave losses in paper or cloth. Check the rest of the volume for other signs of mold.



Is it Mold? Yes and No.
 The brown stains at the top of the image are simply dirt and are not cause for alarm. The circular, purple stain in the center of the page is damage caused by mold enzymes, but mold is no longer present in this area. The brownish/black powder at the bottom of the page is inactive mold and should be handled with caution.



Is it Mold? Yes.
 Active mold will appear hairy or fuzzy and will feel wet or smear when touched. Mold can spread quickly and is a hazard to library collections as well as human health. Handle with caution. Check nearby items for signs of mold. Wash your hands and wipe down surfaces after handling moldy items.