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OLD ENGLISH POEM

OF

THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE

FRANCIS HENRY STEINMANN

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1863

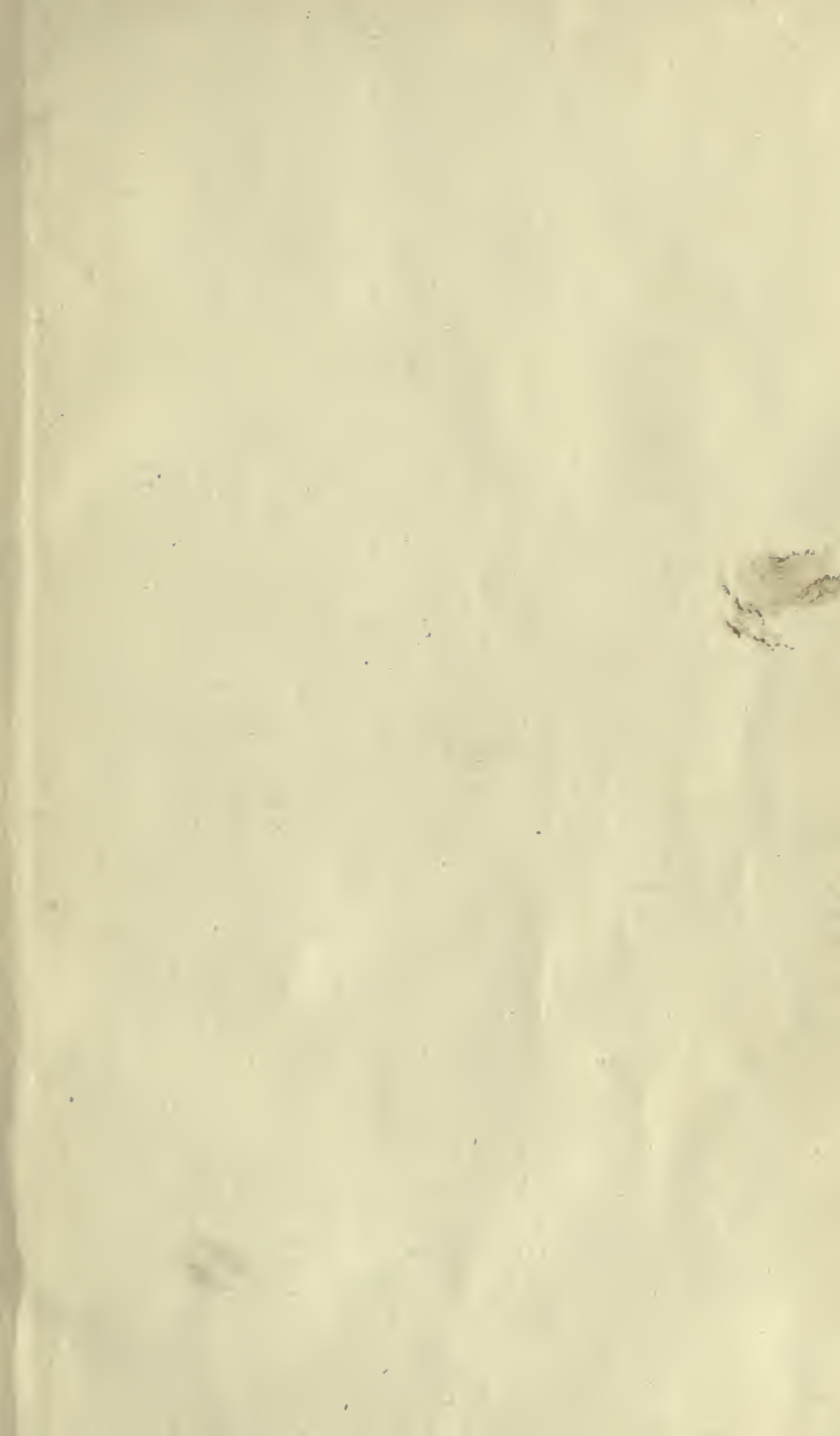
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ffor out of olde felles ab mend feith
Cometh al this neve coun fro yeer to yeer
And out of olde bores in good feith
Cometh al this neve science that men love

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AN

OLD ENGLISH POEM

OF

THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE

EDITED BY

FRANCIS HENRY STRATMANN



PRINTED FOR THE EDITOR BY KRAMER AND BAUM

KREFELD 1868

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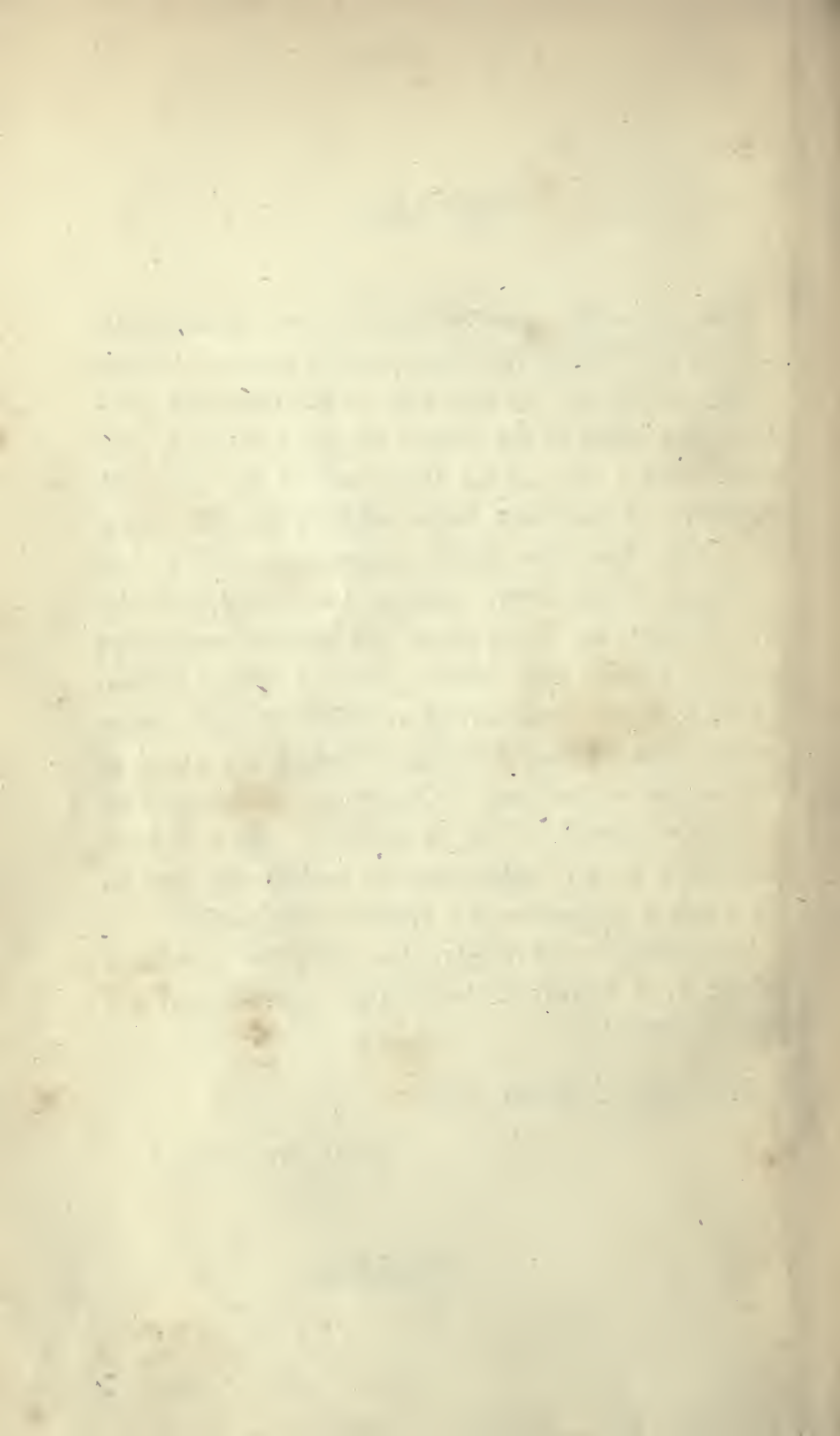
PREFACE.

The following poem is found in two manuscripts; one in the British Museum, London, manusc. Cotton. Calig. A. IX, of the first half of the thirteenth century; the other in the library of Jesus College, Oxford, Arch. I. 29, of the latter half of the thirteenth century. It has been twice printed; by Stevenson, in 1838, from the Cotton manuscript with a few readings of the Jesus College manuscript, and by Th. Wright, in 1843, from the Cotton manuscript alone. I have now tried to give a critical edition of it, founded on a careful collation of both manuscripts, the different readings of which are noted at the bottom of the page. Consistency in the spelling I have observed as far as possible. How I have succeeded in my endeavours to restore my text to its original perfection my readers may decide.

I thankfully acknowledge the continual assistance of Mr F. J. Furnivall, the zealous promoter of old English literature.

KREFELD, 2 March 1868.

F. H. STRATMANN.



Ich pas in one sumere dale [ms. Cotton, fol. 233a
In one spibe ^{summer valley} dale hale [ms. Arch. fol. 229a]

Iherde ich holde grete tale ^{friendly}
An(e) ule and one nihtegale

5 þat ^{angry} plaid pas stif and stanc and strong ^{temper}
Sum hpile softe and lud a mong ^{mud}
And eiper ^{against} aȝen oþer spal ^{pride}
And let pat uvele mod ut al
And eiper seide of oþres ^{quality} custe

10 þat ^{all} alre porste þat hi puste ^{he}
And hure and hure of oþres songe
Hi heolde plaiding spibe stronge
þe nihtegale bigon þe speche
In one ^{corner} hurne of one breche ^{follow ground}

15 And sat up one faire boȝe ^{bush}
þar pere abute blosme inoȝe ^{solitary}
In ore ^{ore} paste pikke hegge ^{mixed}
Imeind mid spire and grene ^{segge}

20 Heo pas þe gladre for þe rise ^{leafy spray}
And song a feole ^{kind} cunne ^{tree} rise ^{tree}
Bet puhte þe drem þat he pere ^{near}
Of harpe and pipe þan he nere ^{it}
Bet puhte þat he pere ischote ^{casted}
Of harpe and pipe þan of prote ^{tree tree}

25 þo stod on old stoc þar bi side ^{season}
þar þe ule ^{song} hire tide ^{time}
And pas mid iwi al bigrope
Hit pas þare ^{ule} eardingstope ^{dwelling place}

1 wes Arch. — 2 swipe Arch. supe Cot. — dyele Arch. — 4 ule Arch. hule Cot. — nyhtegale Arch. niztingale Cot. — 5 plait Cot. — 6 pile Cot. hwile Arch. — 7 an Cot. — eyper Arch. aiper Cot. — ayeyn Arch. — swal Arch. sual Cot. — 8 & Cot. — wole Cot. for uvele — 9 operes Cot. — 10 alere Cot. — wrste Arch. — ywuste Arch. — 11 opere Cot. — 12 holde Cot. and Arch. — supe Cot. — 13 niztingale Cot. — þo speke Arch. — 14 beche Arch. — 15 vaire Cot. and Arch. — bowe Arch. — 16 þat Arch. — blostme inowe Arch. — 17 vaste pikke Arch. — 19 ho Cot. he Arch. emp. l. 934—gladd' Arch. gladur Cot. — vor Cot. and Arch. — 20 veole Arch. vele Cot. — 21 het puste Cot. — 23 ischote Cot. — 25 stok Arch. — 26 þo ule Cot. — 28 hule Cot. — erdingstowe Arch.

tree
tree
gentive? 1
verb or noun

- pe nihtegale hi iseȝ
 30 And hi biheold and overseȝ
 And puhte pel ful of bare ule
 For me hi halt loplich and fule
 Unpint heo seide a peȝ pu fleo [ms. Arch. fol. 229 b]
 Me is pe purs pat ich pe seo
 35 Ipis for pine fule lete [ms. Cot. fol. 233 b]
 Pel oft ich mine song forlete
 Min heorte atflip and falt mi tunge
 Hroune pu art to me iprunge
 Me luste bet speten pane singe
 40 Of pine fule ȝozelinge *monotonous song*
 Peos ule abod fort hit pas eve
 Heo ne mihte no leng bileve
 For hire heorte pas so gret
 Pat pel neȝ hire fnast atschet
 45 And parp a pord par after longe
 Hu pincepe nu bi mine songe
 Penst pu pat ich ne cunne singe
 Peȝ ich ne cunne of priteling
 Ilome pu dest me grame — *harm*
 50 And seist me bope teone and schame
 ȝif ich pe heolde on mine fote
 So hit bitide pat ich mote
 And pu pere ut of pine rise
 Pu scholdest singe an oȝer pise
 55 pe nihtegale ȝaf anspare
 ȝif ich me loki pip pe bare
 And me schilde pip pe blete
 Ne recche ich noht of pine prete
 ȝif ich me holde in mine hegge

29 niȝtingale Cot. — iseȝ Arch. — 30 bihold Cot. biholdep Arch.
 — 31 puhte Cot. — wl (= vul) Cot. — hule Cot. — 32 lodlich Cot.
 and Arch. — 33 ho sede Cot. — flo Cot. — 34 wurs Arch. wrs
 Cot. — so Cot. iseo Arch. — 35 wle Cot. — 36 ofte Arch. — fur-
 lete Arch. — 37 horte atflip Cot. — tonge Cot. — 38 ponne Cot.
 hwenne Arch. — 40 howelynge Arch. — 41 pos hule Cot. — 42
 ho Cot. — niȝte Cot. — 43 vor Cot. — horte Cot. — 44 neȝh
 Arch. — atset Arch. — 46 hw Arch. — 47 pest Cot. wenestu
 Arch. — 48 pe Arch. — 49 grome Arch. — 50 tone Cot. — scho-
 me Arch. — 51 if Arch. — holde Cot. — vote Arch. uote Cot. —
 54 sholdest Cot. — pse Cot. wise Arch. — 55 yaf Arch. — answare
 Cot. onsware Arch. — 56 wip Arch. pit Cot. — 58 noȝt Cot. nouht
 Arch.

- 60 Ne recche ich never hpat pu segge *say*
 Ich pot pat pu art unmilde
 Pip heom pat ne muze (heom) from þe schilde
 And pu tukest proþe and uvele
 Hpar pu miht over smale fuzele
 65 For ^{hateful} pu art lop al fuþelcunne [ms. Arch. fol. 229 c]
 And alle heo þe driveþ heonne *bird tribe*
 And þe bischricheþ and bigredeþ *screech*
 And þel nareþe þe biledeþ *cry out*
 And ek for þe þe sulye mose [ms. Cot. fol. 233 c]
 70 Hire þonkes polde þe totose *titmouse*
 pu art loplich to biholde
 And pu art lop in monie folde
 þi bodi is schort þi speore is smal
 Gretteþe is þin heved þan pu al
 75 þin(e) ^{they} eþen beoþ colblake and brode
 Riht spo hi peren iþeint mid þode
 pu starest so pu pille abiten
 Al þat pu miht mid ^{neck} clivre smiten
 þi bile is stif and scharp and hoked
 80 Riht so an opel þat is croked
 þar mid pu clackest oft and longe
 And þat is on of þine songe
 Ac pu þretest to mine flesche *claws*
 Mid þine clivres poldest me mesche
 85 þe þere icundere to one frogge
 þat sit at mulne under cogge *mill*
 Snailen ^{nuts} and fule pihte *coz - tooth of a wheel*
 Beoþ þine cunde and þine rihte
 pu sittest a dai and fliht a niht
 90 pu cuþest þat pu art on unpiht *monoton*

60 nev' Cot. — phat Cot. hwat Arch. — 62 wiþ Cot. and Arch. — muwe Arch. — frō se Cot. — 64 hwar Arch. whar Cot. — miþt Cot. — voweþe Arch. — 65 vor Cot. and Arch. — fuþelcunne Cot. fowelcunne Arch. — 66 ho Cot. — honne Cot. — 67 biserycheþ Arch. — bigredet Cot. — 68 biledet Cot. — 71 lodlich Cot. and Arch. — 73 short Cot. scort Arch. — spore Cot. swere Arch. — 74 gretteþe Arch. — 75 eþen Arch. — boþ Cot. — 76 riþt Cot. — so Arch. — ho Cot. — 78 mist Cot. — 79 sarp Arch. — 80 riþt Cot. — as on Arch. — owel Cot. ewel Arch. — 81 clackes Cot. clechest Arch. — ev' a mong Arch. for oft and longe — 83 fleshe Cot. vleyssse Arch. — 84 mesche Cot. meysse Arch. — 85 icundur Cot. — 86 wanting in Cot. — 87 piþte Cot. wihte Arch. — 88 boþ Cot. — riþte Cot. — 89 fliþt Arch. fliþt Cot. — niþt Cot.

- þu art loþlich and unclene
 Bi þine neste ich hit mene
 And ek bi pine fule brode
 þu fedest on heom a þel ful fode
 95 þel þostu þat hi doþ þar inne
 Hi fuleþ hit up to þe chinne *example*
 Heo sitteþ þar so hi beo bisne
 Hþar bi men seggeþ a for**bisne** *example*
 Da**het** habbe þat ilke best [ms. Arch. fol. 229 d]
 100 þat fuleþ his oþe nest
 þat oper 3er a faucun bredde *breed*
 His nest noht þel he ne bihedde
 þar to þu stele in o day
 And leidest þar on þi fule ey *egg* [ms. Cot. fol. 233 d]
 105 þo hit bicom þat he hahte
 And of his eyre briddes prahte
 He brohte his briddes mete
 Biheold his nest ise3 hi ete
 He ise3 bi one halve
 110 His nest ifuled uthalve *on the outside*
 þe faucun pas proþ piþ his bridde *dative plural*
 And lude 3al and sterne chidde
 Seggeþ me hþo haveþ þis ido
 Ou nas never icunde þar to *related*
 115 Hit pas idon ou a loþe custe
 Seggeþ me 3if 3e hit pieste
 þo cpaþ þat on and cpaþ þat oper
 Iþis hit pas ure oþe broþer
 þat 3eond þat haveþ þat grete heved
 120 þai þat hit nis þar of bireved
 þeorp hit ut mid þe alre furste
 þat his necke him toberste

91 lodlich Cot. and Arch. — 94 hom Cot. — 95 wel Arch. vel Cot.
 — 97 ho Cot. — bo Cot. — 98 hwar Arch. þar (par?) Cot. — seg-
 get Cot. — 99 dehaet Arch. — 100 ope Cot. owe Arch. — 101
 faucun Cot. — 102 no3t Cot. nowiht Arch. — 104 fole Cot. — 105
 ha3te Cot. hayhte Arch. — 106 pra3te Cot. wrauchte Arch. — 107 ho
 bro3te Cot. heo brouhte Arch. — 108 bihold Cot. — ise3h Arch. —
 111 wiþ Arch. piþ Cot. — 112 3al Arch. — sturne Arch. — 113
 segget Cot. — þo havet Cot. — 114 eu Arch. — þer Arch. —
 115 loþ wiste Cot. — 116 segge Cot. — 117 queþ Arch. — quad
 Cot. — 118 it Cot. — oþer Cot. owe Arch. — 119 þe 3ond Cot. þat
 yeonde Arch. — haved Cot. — 120 hi Cot. he Arch. — 121 worp
 Cot. werp Arch. — vyrste Arch. prste Cot.

- þe faucun ilefde his bridde
 And nom pat fule brid a midde
 125 And þarp hit of þan pilde boʒe
 þat þie and crope hit todroʒe
 Her bi men seggeþ a bispel — *example*
 þeʒ hit ne beo fulliche spēl
 Al so hit is bi þan ungoðe
 130 þat is icumen of fule brode
 And is imeind piþ freo monne
 Ever he cup þat he com þonne — *addle-egg*
 þat he com of þan adeleye [ms. Arch. fol. 230a]
 þeʒ he a freo neste leie
 135 þeʒ appel trendli from þon treope — *rolls*
 þar he and oþer mide greope
 þeʒ he beo þar from bicume
 He cup þel hponene he is icume [ms. Cot. fol. 234a]
 þeos þord aʒaf þe nihtegale
 140 And after þare long tale
 Heo song so lude and so scharpe
 Riht so me grulde schille harpe — *twanged*
 þeos ule luste þiderpard — *listened*
 And heold hire eʒen neoperpard
 145 And sat tospolle and ibolve — *swelled out*
 Al so heo hadde one frogge ispolʒe
 For heo þel pište and þas ipar
 þat heo song ^{for her in} hire a bisemar — *downward*
 And no þe les heo ʒaf andspare
 150 Hpi neltu fleon into þe bare — *balled out*
 And schepi hþeþer unker beo
 Of brihter heope of fairer bleo — *swallowed*
color

123 levede Arch. — ibridde Arch. — 125 bope Cot. bowe Arch. *chp.*
 l. 15 — 126 todrope Cot. todrowe Arch. — 127 þer Arch. — 128
 bo Cot. — 131 meind Cot. and Arch. — pit fro Cot. — 132 þenne
 Arch. — 134 fro Cot. — 135 fron Cot. — þe Arch. — trope Cot.
 treo' Arch. — 136 mid grope Cot. grewe Arch. — 137 bo Cot. —
 138 phonene Cot. hwenene Arch. — 139 þos Cot. — niʒtingale Cot.
 — 141 he Cot. — 142 riʒt Cot. — 143 þos hule Cot. — 144 hold
 Cot. — eʒe Cot. eʒen Arch. — noþerpad Cot. neþerward Arch. —
 145 tosuolle Cot. — ibolve Cot. tobolewe Arch. — 146 ho Cot. —
 hedde Arch. — isuolʒe Cot. iswolwe Arch. — 147 ho Cot. — 148
 ho Cot. — 149 na Arch. — ho Cot. — andsuare Cot. ondsware
 Arch. — 150 phi Cot. hwy Arch. — fleon Cot. — 151 schewi Arch.
 sepi Cot. — þare (pare?) Cot. for hþeþer — bo Cot. — 152 briʒter
 Cot. briht' Arch. — hope Cot. hewe Arch. — vairur blo Cot.

of not wo

- No þu havest scharpe clape
 Ne kepe ich noht þat þu me clape.
 155 þu havest clivres spiþe stronge
 þu tþengest þar mid so doþ a tonge
 þu þohtest so doþ þine ilike
 Mid faire porde me bisþike
 Ich nolde don þat þu me raddest
 160 Ich þiste pel þat þu me misraddest
 Schamie þe for þine unrede
 Unþrozen is þi spikelhede *deception*
 Schild þi spikeldom from þe lihte
 And hud þat þoþe a mong þe rihte
 165 Hþanne þu þilt þin unriht spene *opened*
 Loke þat hit ne beo isene
 For spikeldom haveþ schome and hete [ms. Arch. fol.
 3if hit is ope and underþete *undereyed* ^{230b}
 Ne spedestu noht mid þine unþrenche *wickedness*
 170 For ich am þar and can pel þlenche *steal away*
 Ne helpþ noht þat þu beo so þriste *bold*
 Ich þolde fihte bet mid liste [ms. Cot. fol. 234b]
 þan þu mid alle þine strengþe *dativ*
 Ich habbe on brede and ek on lengþe
 175 Castel god on mine rise *twig*
 Pel fiht þat pel fiht seiþ þe þise
 Ac lete þe a þei þeos chestē.
 For spiþe pordes beoþ unþreste - *wicked*
 And fo þe on mid rihte ðome
 180 Mid faire porde and mid isome *friendly*
 þeþ þe ne beon at one acorde
 Þe muþe bet mid fayre porde
 Þiþute cheste and bute fihte
 Þlaidi mid foþe and mid rihte

153 pel *deþote* scharpe Cot. — 154 kep Cot. — noht Cot. — 155 clivres Cot. — swiþe Arch. suþe Cot. — 156 tuengst Cot. — 157 þoþtest Cot. þoutest Arch. — iliche Arch. — 158 biswiþe Cot. and Arch. — 161 schomye Arch. — þin Cot. — 162 unwryen Arch. — suikelhede Cot. swikehede Arch. — 163 þine Cot. — suikeldom Cot. swikedom Arch. — vram Cot. — liþte Cot. — 165 þane (þane?) Cot. — 167 suikedom Cot. swikedom Arch. — haved Cot. — 169 spedestu noht Cot. — þin Arch. — 171 to(?) Cot. — 172 viþte Cot. — 173 al Cot. and Arch. — 174 ech Cot. — 176 fiht Cot. — fiht Cot. — 177 þos Cot. — 178 suiche Cot. suche Arch. — boþ Cot. — 179 riþte Cot. — 180 some Arch. — 181 bo Cot. — 182 mawe Arch. — 183 þiþute Cot. — 184 soþe Arch. for foþe *dativ*

185 And mai ure eiper hpat he pile
Mid rihte segge and mid skile

Then þo cpaþ þe ule hpo schal us seme *- suit*
pat cunne and pille riht us deme *judge*

"Ich pot pel" cpaþ þe nihtegale

190ⁿ Ne þarf þar of beo no tale *- reproach*
Maister Nichole of Guldeforde *bee*

He is þis and þar of porde

He is of porde spiþe gleu *skillful*

And him is lop evrich unþeu *- vice*

195 He pot insiht in eche songe

Hpo singeþ þel hpo singeþ þronge

And he can schede from þe rihte *darkness*

þat þoze þat þuster from þe lihte

þe ule one hpile hi bipohte

200 And after þan þis þord up brohte

Ich granti þel pat he us deme [ms. Arch. fol. 230 c]

For þez he þere hpile breme *famous*

dear And leof him þere nihtegale

And oþer þihte gente and smale

205 Ich pot he is *now* ni spiþe acoled *cool*

Nis he for þe nopiht afoled [ms. Cot. fol. 234 c]

þat he for þine olde luve

Me a dun- legge and þe þuve

Ne schaltu nevre so him cpeme

210 þat he for þe fals dom deme

He is nu ripe and fastrede

Ne lust him nu to none unrede *harm*

Nu him ne lust na more þleie

He pile gon a rihte þeie

215 þe nihtegale þas al þare *- aware*

Heq, hadde ileorned þel aihpare *- everything*

Ule heo seide, seie me sop

Hþi dastu þat unþihtes dop

185 hure Cot. ur Arch. — pat hi Cot. — 187 quaþ Cot. and Arch.
— þu (pu?) Cot. — 188 kunne Cot. — 190 þer Arch. — bo Cot. —
192 an Cot. — 193 dome suþe Cot. — 195 euche Arch. — 196 þo
singet Cot. — 197 con Arch. — vrom Cot. — rihte Cot. — 198 lihte
Cot. — 199 þo hule Cot. — pile Cot. — bipohte Cot. — 200 brohte
Cot. — 202 pile Cot. — 203 lof Cot. — niþtingale Cot. nihtingale
Arch. — 205 suþe Cot. — 206 noþt Cot. — 207 love Cot. — 208
abuve Arch. — 209 queme Cot. and Arch. — 215 ware Arch. —
216 ho Cot. — had Cot. hedde Arch. — ilorned Cot. — aiware Cot.
ihware Arch. — 217 hule ho sede Cot.

- pu singest a niht and noht a dai
 220 And al pi song is pai la pai
 pu miht mid pine songe afere — *make afraid*
 Alle pat ihereþ pine ibere *noise*
 pu schrichest and 3ollest to pine fere *companion*
 pat hit is grislich to ihere
 225 Hit pincheþ bope wise and snepe *foolish*
 Noht pat pu singe ac pat pu pepe
 pu fihst a niht and noht a dai
 þar of ich þundri and pel mai
 For evrich þing pat schunep riht-
 230 Hit luvēþ puster and hateþ liht
 And evrich þing pat luvēþ misdede
 Hit luvēþ puster to his dede
 A pis pord peþ hit beo unclene — *mouth*
 Is fele manne a mupe imene
 235 For Alfred king hit seide and prot [ms. Arch. fol. 230 d]
 He schunep þat hine ful pot
 Ich pene þat pu dost al so
 For pu fihst nihtes ever mo
 And oper þing me is a pene — *doubt*
 240 pu havest a niht pel brihte sene [ms. Cot. fol. 234d]
 Bi daie pu art stareblind
 pat pu ne siht ne boþ ne strind — *generation*
 A dai pu art blind oper bisne
 þar bi men seggeþ a forbisne
 245 Riht so hit farþ bi þan un gode
 pat noht ne isihþ to none gode
 And is so ful of uvele prence *deceit*
 pat him ne mai no mān atprence *escape*
 And can pel pane þustre pai
 250 And pane brihte lat a pai
 So doþ pat beoþ of pine cunde *kind*
 Of lihte nabbeþ hi none imunde
 þeos ule luste spiþe longē

222 hereþ Arch. — 223 schirchest Cot. scrichest Arch. — 228 wndri
 Cot. and Arch. — 229 schuniet Cot. schonieþ Arch. — 230 luvieþ
 Arch. — hatiet Cot. — 231 is lof Cot. for luvēþ — 233 bo Cot. —
 234 monne Arch. — 236 schunet Cot. — w1 Cot. — 239 an Cot.
 for and — 242 sichst Cot. syst Arch. — bouh of lind Arch. — 244
 segget Cot. — 246 sup Cot. — 248 atprence Cot. aprenche Arch.
 — 249 pene Arch. — þurste Cot. — 251 boþ Cot. — 253 þos hule
 Cot. — supe Cot.

- And pas ofteoned spipe stronge
 255 Heo cwap¹ þu hattest nihtegale
 þu mihtest bet hoten galegale *noisy fellow*
 For þu havest to monie tale
 Lat pine tunge habbe spale *rim of ladder*
 þu penest þat þes dai beo þin oze
 260 Lat me nu habbe mine proze *space of time*
 Beo nu stille and lat me speke
 Ich pille beon of þe apreke
 And lust hu ich con me bitelle
 Mid rihte sope piþute spelle *speech*
 265 þu seist þat ich me huðe a dai
 þar to ne segge ich no nai
 And lust ich telle þe hpar fore
 Al hpi hit is and hpar fore
 Ich habbe bile stif and stronge [ms. Arch. fol. 231 a]

- 270 And gode clivres scharp(e) and longe *hawk's*
 So hit bicumeþ to havekes cunne
 Hit is min hihte hit is mi punne *delight*
 þat ich me draze to mine cunde *kind*
 Ne mai no man þar for (me) schende. [ms. Cot. fol. 235 a]

- 275 On me hit is (ful) pel isene
 For rihte cunde ich am so kene
 For þi ich am loþ smale fuzele *shrubs*
 þat fleoþ bi grunde and bi þuwele *dative plural*
 Hi me bichirmeþ and bigredeþ

- 280 And heore flockes to me ledeþ
 Me is lof to habbe reste
 And sitte stille in mine neste
 For nere ich never no þe betere
 þe; ich mid chayling and mid chattere *dative*

- 285 Heom schende and mid fule porde
 So herdes doþ oþer mid schitporde *foul language*
 Ne lust me piþ þe screpen chide

254 ofteoned sup Cot. — 255 ho Cot. — attest Cot. — 259 bo Cot.
 — owe Arch. — 260 prowē Arch. — 262 wile Arch. — beo Arch.
 bon Cot. — 263 hw Arch. — 264 wiþute Arch. piþute Cot. — 266
 nich ne Cot. nik no Arch. — 267 pare vore Cot. — 268 pi Cot. —
 270 clivres Cot. clevres Arch. *cmp. l. 155* — 272 hiþte Cot. — 274
 pare vore Cot. — 276 vor riþte Cot. — 277 foþle Cot. vowele Arch.
cmp. l. 64 — 278 floþ Cot. — an Cot. — 279 bichermēt Cot. — 280
 hore Cot. — 281 lof Cot. — 284 þeyh Arch. piþ (yif?) Cot. — chang-
 ling Arch. — 285 hom Cot. — 287 wiþ Arch. pit Cot.

- For þi ich pendē from heom pīde
 Hīt is a pīse monne dome
 290 And hi hit seggeþ þel ilome
 þat me ne chīde wīþ þe gīdie
 Ne wīþ þan ofne me ne ʒeone
 At sume sīpe herde ich telle
 Hu Alfred seīde on his spelle
 295 Loke þat þu ne beo þare
 þar chawling beoþ and cheste ʒare
 Lat sottes chīde and forþ þu go
 And ich am wīs and do al so
 And ʒet Alfred seīde an oþer side
 300 A þord þat is isprunge wīde
 þat wīþ þe fule haveþ imene
 Ne cumeþ he never from him clene
 Penestu þat havec beo þe þorse [ms. Arch. fol. 231 b]
 þe ʒrope bigrede him bi þe mersche
 305 And goþ to him mid heore chīrme
 Riht so hi wille wīþ him schīrme
 þe havec folʒeþ gode rede
 He flīht his wēi and lat hi grede [ms. Cot. fol. 235 b]
 ʒet þu me seīst of oþer þinge
 310 And telst þat ich ne can noht singe
 Ac al mi reorde is þone
 And to ihere grīslīch þing
 þat nis noht soþ ich singe efne
 Mid fulle dreme and lude stefne
 315 þu þenest þat ech song beo grīslīch
 þat þīne wīpīnge nis īlich
 Mi stefne is bold and noht unorne
 Heo is īlich one grete horne
 And þīn is īlich one wīpe
 320 Of one smale peode unripe
 Ich singe bet þan þu dest
 þu chaterest so doþ on Irisch prest
 Ich singe an efne a rihte time

290 segget Cot. — 291 pit Cot. — 292 ʒonie Cot. — 293 i Cot.
 and Arch. — 294 sede Cot. — 296 changling Arch. — 297 vorþ Cot.
 and Arch. — 303 havek Arch. — wʒse Arch. — 304 mershe Cot.
 — 305 hore Cot. — 307 foleweþ Arch. — 308 & flīht Cot. — 309
 oþ' Cot. — 310 tellest Arch. — 311 rorde Cot. — 312 hire Cot.
 — 315 ho Cot. — 317 blod & noht Cot. — 318 ho Cot. — 320 þo-
 de Cot. — 322 prost Cot. p'st Arch. — 323 eve Cot.

- And seoppe hpon hit is bedtime
 325 þe þridde sipe a middelnihthe
 And so ich mine song adihthe
 Hpone ich iseo arise feorre
 Oper dairim oper daisteorre *daystars*
 Ich do god mid mine þrote
 330 And þarni men to heore note
 Ac þu singest alle longe niht
 From eve fort hit is dailiht
 And evre lestep þin o song
 So longe so þe niht is long *Thy*
 335 And evre cropeþ þi þrecche crei
 þat he ne spikeþ niht ne dai
 Mid pine pipinge þu adunest [ms. Arch. fol. 231 c]
 þas monnes earen þar þu þunest
 And makest pine song so unþiht *wicked*
 340 þat me ne telp of þe nopiht
 Evrich mureþe mai so longe ileste
 þat heo schal liki pel unpreste [ms. Cot. fol. 235 c]
 For harpe and pipe and fuzeles song
 Mislikeþ 3if hit is to long
 345 Ne beo þe song never so murie *merry*
 þat he ne schal þinche unmurie
 3ef he ilestep over unpille *displeasing*
 So þu miht pine song aspille
 For hit is soþ Alfred hit seide
 350 And me hit mai in boke rede
 Evrich þing mai leosen his godhede
 Mid unnepe and mid overdede
 Mid este þu þe miht overcþatie *oversat*
 And overfulle makeþ platie *to feel disgust*
 355 And evrich mureþe mai agon
 3if me hit halt evre forþ in on
 Bute one þat is godes riche

324 soppe pon Cot. seppe hwenne Arch. — 325 ad Cot. — 327 i-
 so Cot. — veorre Arch. vorre Cot. — 328 dayrewe Arch. — dai-
 sterre Cot. — 329 ic Arch. — 333 seist Cot. for lestep — 338 wu-
 nest Cot. and Arch. — 339 unpurþ Cot. — 340 þa Cot. — telleþ
 Arch. — þar no; þrþ Cot. — 341 mureþe Arch. — leste Arch. —
 342 ho shal Cot. — 345 nev' Cot. ne Arch. — 346 shal Cot. sal
 Arch. — 350 ine Cot. — 351 losen Cot. lesen Arch. — 353 miþt
 Cot. maist Arch. — ov'quatie Cot. and Arch. — 354 wlatie Cot. and
 Arch. — 355 an Cot. — mureþe Cot. cmp. l. 341

- pat evre is spete and evre iliche ^{alike}
 þeʒ þu nime evre of þan lepe
 360 Hit is evre ful bi hepe ^{heap}
 Punder hit is of godes rīche
 þat evre spenþ and evre is iliche ^{alike}
 ʒet þu me seist on oþer schome
 þat ich am on mine eʒen lome — ^{same}
 365 And seist for þat ich fleo bi nihte
 þat ich ne mai iseo bi lihte
 þu licst on me hit is isene
 þat ich habbe gode sene
 For nis no so dim þusternesse ^{darkness}
 370 þat ich ever iseo þe lesse
 þu penest þat ich ne muʒe iseo
 For ich bi daie noht ne fleo [ms. Arch. fol. 231d]
 þe hare luteþ al (þe) dai
 Ac no þe les iseo he mai
 375 ʒif hundes urneþ to him pard
 He gengþ þel spiþe a wey pard [ms. Cot. fol. 235d]
 And hoþeþ papes spiþe nareþe — ^{bricks}
 And haveþ mid him blenches ʒareþe — ^{wary}
 He hupþ and start spiþe cove
 380 And secheþ papes to þe grove
 Ne scholde he for boþe his eʒe
 So don ʒif he þe bet ne iseʒe
 Ich mai iseon so þel so on hare
 þeʒ ich bi daie sitte an dare
 385 þar ahte men beoþ in þeorre
 And fareþ boþe ner and feorre
 And overfareþ feole þeode
 And doþ bi nihte gode neode

358 swete Arch. suete Cot. — 359 evere Cot. wanting in Arch. —
 oppan Cot. — 361 wunder Cot. and Arch. — 362 ev' Cot. — 363
 ʒut Cot. — an Arch. — oþ' shome Cot. — 364 an Cot. for am —
 eye Arch. — 365 an Cot. — flo Cot. — 366 iso be liʒte Cot. —
 367 liest? — 369 vor Cot. and Arch. — nones Cot. — þesternesse
 Arch. — 370 ev' iso Cot. — lasse Cot. — 371 mwe iseo Arch.
 miʒte iso Cot. — 372 flo Cot. — 375 corneþ Arch. — 376 suiþe a
 pai Cot. — 379 & Cot. for he — stard suþe Cot. — 381 sholde
 Cot. — bo Arch. — 382 do Arch. — ne iseʒe Arch. niseʒe Cot. —
 383 ison Cot. iseo Arch. — 384 a Arch. — 385 aʒte Cot. auhte
 Arch. — porre Cot. worre Arch. — 386 near Arch. — an forre Cot.
 — 387 overfareþ Cot. and Arch. — veole Arch. fele Cot. — þode
 Cot. — 388 node Cot.

- Ich folzi pan ahte manne
 390 And fleo bi nihte in heore banne
 þe nihtegale in hire pohte
 Atheold al pis and longe pohte
 Hpat heo þar after mihte segge *say*
 For heo ne mihte noht alegge *refute*
 395 þat þe ule hadde hire ised
 For heo spac boþe riht and red
 And hire ofpuhte þat heo hadde
 þe speche so feor forþ iladde
 And pas aferd þat hire ansþare
 400 Ne þurþe noht a riht ifare
 Ac no þe les heo spac boldeliche
 For he is pis þat hardeliche
 Þiþ his fo berþ grete ilete
 ~~þat he for arehþe hit ne forlete~~ *cowardice*
 405 For spich porþ bold 3if þu fliht
 þat þile fleo 3if þu nispicst *doſt not ceas (yield)*
 3if he isihþ þat þu nart are; [ms. Arch. fol. 232 a]
 He pile of bore þurþen bare;
 And for þi þe; þe nihtegale
 410 Þere aferd heo spac bolde tale [ms. Cot. fol. 236 a]
 Ule heo seide hpi dostu so
 þu singest a pinter po la po ~~hen~~
 þu singest so doþ hen(ne) a snope
 Al þat heo singeþ hit is for þope
 415 A pintere þu singest þrope and 3omere *-miserable*
 And evre þu art dumb a sumere
 Hit is for þine fule nipe *-envy*
 þat þu ne miht mid us beo blipe
 For þu forbernest þel ne; for onde *-envy*
 420 Hpane ure blisse cumeþ to londe
 þu farest so doþ þe illeill
 Evrich blisse him is unpille *-displeasing*
 Grucching and luring him beoþ rade

389 pane Arch. — a;te Cot. — 390 an flo Cot. — ni;st Cot. — 393 hwat
 heo Arch. þat he Cot. — 394 vor ho Cot. — 398 for Cot. —
 399 oferd Cot. — 400 prþe no;st a ri;st Cot. — 401 he Cot. —
 403 is vo Cot. — 404 vor are;þe Cot. — 405 vor suich Cot. —
 406 ple flo Cot. — isuicst Cot. swykst Arch. — 407 isip Cot. —
 areh Arch. — 408 prehen Cot. wurche bareh Arch. — 411 hule ho
 Cot. — hwi Arch. pi Cot. — 412 winter Arch. pint' Cot. — 416 an
 Cot. — 418 mi;st Cot. — 419 vor Cot. — þel omitted in Arch. — 420
 pane Cot. hwenne Arch. — 422 ever ich Arch. — 423 boþ Cot.

- 3if he iseop þat men beop glade
 425 He polde þat he ise3e
 Teres in evrich monnes e3e
 Ne rohte he þe3 flockes pere
 Imeind bi toppes and bi here
 Al so þu dost on þire side
 430 For hþanne ^{snow} snou lip picke and pide *until*
 And alle pihtes habbeþ sor3e
 þu singest from eve (fort a) mor3e
 Ac ich alle blisse mid me bringe
 Ech piht is glad for mine þinge
 435 And blesseþ hit hþanne ich cume
 And hihteþ a3en mine cume
astens þe blostme ginneþ springe and sprede
 Bope in treo and ek on mede
 þe lillie mid hire faire plite *face*
welcomes 440 Polcumeþ me þat þu hit pite
 Bid me mid hire faire bleo
 þat ich schulle to hire fleo fly [ms. Arch. fol. 232 b]
 þe rose al so mid hire rude *redness*
 þat cumeþ ut of þe þorne pude *wood* [ms. Cot. fol. 236 b]
 445 Bid me þat ich schulle singe
 For hire luve one skentinge
 And ich so do þur3 niht and dai
 þe more ich singe þe more ich mai
 And skente hi mid mine songe *amuse them with mine song*
 450 Ac no þe les noht overlonge
 Hþane ich iseo þat men beop glade
 Ich nelle þat hi beon to saðe
 Hþane is ido for hþan ich com
 Ich fare a3en and do pisdom *Thinks*
 455 Hþane mon ho3eþ of his scheve
illows And falepi cumeþ on grene leve
 Ich fare hom and nime leve
 Ne recche ich noht of þinteres reve *time*

424 isop Cot. — 426 ev' iche Arch. — 427 ro3te Cot. rouhte Arch. —
 430 vor panne Cot. — 431 sorewe Arch. — 432 to a mo rewe Arch. —
 435 & blisseþ Cot. — 437 spunge & spde Cot. — 438 in Arch. for on
 — 440 wolcumeþ Cot. welcomeþ Arch. — þeyh Arch. for þat — pte
 Cot. — 444 þornewode Cot. and Arch. — 445 bit Cot. — 448 i Cot.
 — 449 an Cot. — 453 pan (þan?) Cot. hwenne Arch. — for hwan
 Arch. vor pan (þan?) Cot. — 455 hwanne Arch. pane Cot. — ho-
 wieþ Arch. — sheve Cot. — 456 falewi Cot. and Arch.

Subject object
precedes
verb

- Hpane ich iseo pat cumeþ pat harde —
460 Ich fare hom to min(e) erde — country
And habbe boþe luvē and þoncthankst
þat ich her com and hider sponc
Hpane min erende is ido
Scholde ich bileve nai hpar to
465 For he nis noþer zēp ne pis gay nor wise
þat longe abid þar him neod nis
þeos ulē luste and leide an hord
Al pis mot þord after þord
And after þohte hu heo mihte
470 Anspere finde best mid rihte
For he mot hine ful þel bipenche
þat is aferd of plaites þrenche debates deceitful
þu aischest me þe ulē sede
Hpi ich a pinter singe and grede cry
475 Hit is gode monne ipune
And þas from þe þorlde frume
þat ech god man his freond icnope [ms. Arch. fol. 232c]
And blisse mid heom sume þroze [ms. Cot. fol. 236c]
In his huse at his borde
480 Mid faire speche and faire þorde
And hure and hure to cristes masse genitive
Hpane riche and povre more and lasse dative
Singēþ cundut niht and dai
Ich heom helpe hpat ich mai
485 And ek ich þenche of oþer þinge — /
þane to pleien oþer to singe
Ich habbe her to gode ansþare
An on iredi and al zare
For sumeres tide is al to þlone ?
490 And doþ misreken monnes þonc
For he ne recþ noht of clennessē
Al his þoht is of golnessē
For none deor no leng nabideþ

459 pan Cot. hwanne Arch. — 462 hid' sponk Cot. — 463 hwanne Arch. pan Cot. — 464 þar Cot. — 466 nod nis Cot. no neod is Arch. — 469 he miþte Cot. — 470 ansuere Cot. onswere Arch. — 471 ful wel him Arch. — 473 aishest Cot. ayssest Arch. — 475 ipone Cot. ywune Arch. — 476 an Cot. — frome Cot. — 477 mon Arch. — frond Cot. frend Arch. — 478 hom Cot. — þrope Cot. þrowe Arch. emp. l. 260 — 484 þat Cot. — 487 ansuare Cot. — 488 ware Arch. — 489 vor Cot. — 490 þonc Cot. and Arch. — 493 dor Cot. and Arch.

silver horses stable

- 495 Ac evrich upon oper rideþ
 þe sulve stottes in þe stode
 Beoþ boþe pilde and merepode
 And þu sulf art þar a mong
 For of golnesse is al þi song
 And azen þat þu pilt teme
 500 þu art þel modi and þel breme
 Sone so þu havest itrede
 Ne mihtu leng a þord icpeþeþay
 Ac pipest al so doþ a mose
 Mid cokeringe mid stefne
 505 þet þu singst þorse þan þe heisugge
 þat fliþþ bi grunde a mong þe stubbe
 Hþane þi lust is ago
 þanne is þi song ago al so
 A sumere cheorles apedeþ
 510 And forcrempeþ and forbredeþ
 Hit nis for luvē no þe Tes [ms. Arch. fol. 232d]
 Ac is þes cheorles þode res [ms. Cot. fol. 236d]
 For hþane he haveþ ido his dede
 Ifallen is al his boldhede
 515 Habbe he istunge under gore
 Ne last his luvē no lenger more
 Al so hit is on þine mode
 So sone so þu sittest a brode
 þu forleost al þine rise
 520 Al so þu farest on þine rise
 Hþane þu havest ido þi gome
 þi stefne goþ an on to schome
 Ac hþane nihtes cumeþ longe
 And bringeþ forstes starke and stronge
 525 þanne erest hit is isene
 Hþar is þe snelle hþar þe kene
 At þan harde me mai afinde
 Hþo geþ forþ hþo liþ bihinde

mare mad
 lasciviousness
 be empty
 spirited
 proud
 voice
 hedge sparrow
 is mad
 corrupt
 on brood
 twig
 score
 palate
 quick
 herd

495 ine Cot. — 496 bop Cot. bep Arch. — marewode Arch. — 498
 golnyse Arch. — 499 ayeyn Arch. — þet Cot. — wilt Arch. wlt Cot.
 — 502 iqueþe Cot. and Arch. — 504 chokeringe Cot. — stefne Cot.
 — 505 wrse Arch. — þon Cot. — 506 þat flizt Cot. — 509 chor-
 les Cot. and Arch. — 510 vorcrempeþ & vorbredeþ Cot. — 512 þe
 chorles Cot. þeos cherles Arch. — 513 vor pane Cot. — 516 leng'
 Cot. — 519 forlost Cot. — 522 stefne Cot. — shome Cot. — 526
 hwar Arch. par Cot. — 527 avinde Cot.

- Me mai iseon at pare neode
 530 Hpan me schal harde pike beode *bid*
 Panne ich am snel and pleie and singe
 And hihte me mid mi skentinge
 Of none pintre ich ne recche
 For ich nam non aspunde precche
 535 And ek ich frovri fele pihte
 Pat mid heom nabbed none mihte
 Hi beop hozfulle and pel arme *miserable*
 And sechep 3orne to pe parme
 Oft ich singe for heom pe more
 540 For lutli sum of heore sore *hucks?*
 Hu pincp pe artu 3et inume
 Artu mid rihte overcume
 " Nay nay sede pe nihtegale
 pu schalt ihere an oper tale
 545 3et nis peos speche ibroht to dome [ms. Arch. fol. 233 a]
 Ac beo pel stille and lust nu to me [ms. Cot. fol. 237 a]
 Ich schal mid one bare porde
 Do pat pi speche purp forporpe *be worth*
 Pat nere noht riht pe ule sede
 550 pu havest bicleoped al so pu bede
 And ich pe habbe 3ive anspare
 Ac ar pe to unker dome fare *of us two*
 Ich pille speke topard pe
 Al so pu speke topard me
 555 And pu me anspare 3if pu miht
 Seie me nu pu precche piht
 Is in pe eni oper note
 Bute pu havest schille prote
 pu nart noht to non oper pinge
 560 Bute pu canst of chateringe
 For pu art lutel and unstrong

529 node Cot. — 530 pan Cot. — shal Cot. — bode Cot. — 533
 wintre Arch. pint'e Cot. — 534 aswunde Arch. asunde Cot. — 535
 froveri Arch. — vele pi3te Cot. — 536 hom nabbed Cot. — 537
 bo3 hozfulle & vel Cot. houhful Arch. — 538 an Cot. — 3orne Cot.
 yorne Arch. — pen Arch. — 539 ofte Arch. — hom Cot. hem Arch.
 — 541 3ut Cot. — 544 on Arch. — 546 bo Cot. be Arch. — pel
 not in Arch. — 548 wrp Arch. prht Cot. — forwurpe Arch. — 549
 noht ri3t Cot. — 550 bicleoped Cot. bicleped Arch. — 551 an Cot.
 — 552 unk' Cot. — 553 wile Arch. — 555 ansuare Cot. onswere
 Arch. — if Arch. — 556 sey Arch. — 559 op' Cot. and Arch.

- And nis pi rezel nopiht long
 Hpat dostu godes a mong manne
 Na mo þene dep a precche pranne
 565 Of þe ne cumeþ non oper god
 Bute þu gredest spich þu beo pod
 And beo þi piping overgo
 Ne beoþ on þe craftes na mo
 Alfred sede þat þas pis
 570 He mihte pel for soþ hit is
 Nis no man for his bare songe
 Leof ne purþ noht spibe longe
 For þat is a forþorþe man
 þat bute singe noht ne can
 575 þu nart bute on forþorþe þing
 On þe nis bute chatering
 þu art dim and of fule heope
 And þinchest a lutel soti cleope
 þu nart fair ne þu nart strong [ms. Arch. fol. 233 b]
 580 Ne þu nart picke ne þu nart long [ms. Cot. fol. 237 b]
 þu havest imist al of fairhede
 And lutel is al þi godhede
 An oper þing of þe ich mene
 þu nart fair ne þu nart clene
 585 Hþane þu comest to manne haze
 þar þornes beoþ and ris idraze
 Bi hegge and bi picke peode
 þar men goþ oft to heore neode
 þar to þu drazst þar to þu punest
 590 And oper clene stede þu schunest
 Hþan ich fleo nihtes after muse
 Ich mai þe finde at þe rumhuse

562 ryel Arch. — no þing Cot. — 563 monne Cot. and Arch. —
 564 þe Cot. — doþ Arch. — percche Cot. — wrenne Arch. — 566
 swich Arch. suich Cot. — bo Cot. be Arch. — 569 seyde Arch.
 — wes Arch. — 571 mon Arch. — is Cot. — 572 wrþ Cot. wrþ
 Arch. — nojt suþe Cot. — 573 vor Cot. and Arch. — furwrþe Arch.
 — 574 nojt Cot. naht Arch. — 575 o furwrþe Arch. — 577 heowe
 Arch. hope Cot. — 578 litel Arch. — clope Cot. clewe Arch. — 579
 fayr Arch. — no Cot. — 580 pikke Arch. — 581 al not in Arch.
 — 582 an Cot. — al not in Arch. — godede Cot. — 584 vair Cot.
 feyr Arch. — 585 þane Cot. hwanne Arch. — monne hawe Arch.
 — 586 idrawe Arch. — 587 weode Arch. pode Cot. — 588 hore
 node Cot. — 589 draust Arch. — pnest Cot. wenst Arch. — 590
 stude Arch. — 591 nihtes Cot. nyhtes Arch. — 592 i Cot. — vinde
 Cot. and Arch. — ate rühuse Cot.

my
man's

- A mong þe peode a mong þe netle
 þu sittest and singst bihinde þe setle
 595 þar mē mai þe ilomest finde ~~throw~~
 þar men þeorpeþ hore bihinde
 3et þu atpītest me mine mete
 And seist þat ich fule pihtes ete
 Ac hpat etestu þat þu ne liþe
 600 Bute attercoppe and fule flize
 And þurmes 3if þu miht finde
 A mong þe folde of harde rinde
 3et ich can do þel gode pike
 For ich can loki manne pike
 605 And mine pike beoþ þel gode office
 For ich helpe to manne fode
 Ich can nimen mus at berne in barn my
 And ek at chirche in þe derne mouse
 For me is leof to cristes huse dark
 610 To clansi hit piþ fule mouse
 Ne schal þar nevre come to
 Ful piht 3if ich hit mai if-fo dative
 And 3if me lust on mi skentinge [ms. Arch. fol. 233 c]
 To pernen oþer þuninge [ms. Cot. fol. 237 c]
 615 Ich habbe at þude treon þel grete amusement
 Mid picke bo3e no þing blete
 Mid iui grene al bigrope naked habitation
 þat evre stont iliche ibloþe
 And his heou never ne forleost
 620 Hþan hit sniuþ ne hþan hit freost
 þar in ich habbe god ihold
 A pintre þarm a sumere cold
 Hþane min hus stont briht and grene

593 þode Cot. wede Arch. — 595 þe may Arch. — 596 þorpeþ Cot. worpeþ Arch. — heore Arch. — 597 yet Arch. — atwitest Arch. atutitest Cot. — 599 lye Arch. — 600 vliþe Cot. vlye Arch. — 601 wurmes Arch. þormes Cot. — mi3te finde Cot. myht fynde Arch. — 602 volde Cot. and Arch. — 604 monne Arch. — 606 uode Cot. and Arch. — 607 nimē Cot. nime Arch. — 608 churchē Arch. — ine Cot. — 611 come Cot. — 612 ivo Arch. do ivo Cot. — 613 an Cot. — one Cot. — 614 wunying Arch. þnienge Cot. — 615 wode Arch. — tron Cot. — þel not in Arch. — 616 bowe Arch. — 617 g'ne Arch. — 619 hou Cot. — nev' Cot. and Arch. — vorleost Arch. vorlost Cot. — 620 þan Cot. hwanne Arch. — snywe Arch. — frost Cot. and Arch. — 621 inne ic Arch. — 622 wint' Arch. pint' Cot. — 623 þane (þane?) Cot. þane Arch. — bri3t Cot.

- 2nd pers
- Of pine nis nopiht isene
 625 Ȝet þu me felst of oper pinge *-lying*
 Of mine briddes seist gabbinge
 þat heore nēst nis noht clene
 Hit is fele oper pihte imene
 For hors a stable and oxe a stalle
 630 Dop al þat heom ȳle þar falle *- dative*
 And lutle childre in þe cradele
 Bope cheorles and ek apele *- noble*
 Dop al þat in heore ȝeoȝe *- youth*
 þat hi forletē in heore duȝe *- power*
 635 Hpat can þat ȝongling hit bihede
 Ȝif hit misdeþ hit mot nede
 A forbisne is of olde ifurne
 þat neode makeþ old piſ urne *- ?*
 And ȝet ich habbe an oper andspare
 640 Piltu to mine neste fare *- infinitive*
 And loki hu hit is idiht
 Ȝif þu art piſ leorni þu miht
 Mi nest is holȝ and rum a midde *- spacious*
 So hit is softest mine bridde *- dative*
 645 Hit is ibroiden aþabute *- past part.*
 From þe neste feor ȳpute
 þar to hi gop to heore neode *- infinitive*
 Ac hpat þu menest ich heom forbeode [ms. Cot. fol. 237 d
 Pe nimeþ ȝeme of manne bure] ms. Arch. fol. 233 d
 650 And after þan þe makeþ ure *- ?*
 Men habbeþ a mong opre ipende
 A rumhus at heore bures ende
 For þat hi nelleþ to feor go
 And mine briddes dop al so

624 no ping Cot. — 625 op' Cot. and Arch. — 627 noȝt Cot. nouht Arch. — 628 fale Cot. and Arch. — op' piȝte Cot. — 629 vor Cot. and Arch. — 630 boþ Cot. for dop — wile Arch. — valle Arch. — 631 children Cot. — 632 chorles an Cot. — 633 ȝoeþe Cot. youhþe Arch. — 634 duhþe Arch. — 635 hwat Arch. pat Cot. — 636 mod Cot. — 637 vorbisne Cot. and Arch. — iwrne Cot. iwrne Arch. — 638 node Cot. — eorne Arch. — 640 vare Cot. and Arch. — 641 hw Arch. — 642 leorny Arch. lorni Cot. — mist Arch. miȝst Cot. — 643 holeuh Arch. — 645 ibroyde Arch. broiden Cot. — 646 vrom Cot. and Arch. — veor Arch. vor Cot. — 647 god Cot. — hore node Cot. — 648 hom Cot. — forbode Cot. and Arch. — 649 yeme nymeþ Arch. — 650 makieþ Arch. — 651 habbet Cot. — op' Cot. — 652 rūhus Cot. — 653 vor Cot. and Arch. — veor Arch. vor Cot.

Genitive

- 655 Sitte nu stille chaterestre
 Nere þu never ibunde fastre
 Her to ne findestu never andspare
 Hong up þin ax nu þu miht fare
 Þe nihtegale at þisse porde
- 660 Þas pel neȝ ut of rede iporþe
 And þohte ȝeorne on hire mode
 ȝif heo oht elles understode
 ȝif heo cuþe oht bute singe
 Þat mihte helpe to oþer þinge
- 665 Her to heo moste andspere finde
 Oþer mid alle beon bihinde
 And hit is spiþe strong to fihte
 Aȝen soþ and aȝen rihte
 He mot gon to al mid ginne
- 670 Hpan þe heorte beoþ on pinne
 And þe man mot oþer segge
 He mot bihemmen and bilegge *hem around*
 ȝif muþ piþute mai bipreo
 Þat me þe heorte noht niseo
- 675 And sone mai a þord misreke
 Þar muþ schal aȝen heorte speke
 And sone mai a þord missteorte
 Þar muþ schal speken aȝen heorte
 Ac no þe les ȝet upe þon
- 680 Her is to red hpo hine con
 For never nis pit so kene *never is ut so keen*
 So hpane red him is a penedoult *cunning* [ms. Cot. fol. 238 a]
 Þanne erest cumeþ his ȝephede [ms. Arch. fol. 234 a]
 Hpone hit is alre mest on drede
- 685 For Alfred seide of olde cpide *saying*
 And ȝut hit nis of heorte islide

656 vastre *Cot. and Arch.* — 659 niȝtingale *Cot.* — 660 neyh *Arch.*
 — 661 þoȝte ȝorne *Cot.* þouhte yorne *Arch.* — 662 oȝt *Cot.* ouht
Arch. — 663 ho kuþe oȝt *Cot.* — 665 vinde *Cot.* vynde *Arch.* —
 666 bon *Cot.* — 667 suþe *Cot.* omitted in *Arch.* — 668 ayeyn soþe
Arch. — 670 horte *Cot. and Arch.* — boþ *Cot.* — pinne *Cot. and*
Arch. — 671 on oþer *Cot.* — 673 biwreo *Arch.* bipro *Cot.* — 674
 horte *Cot. and Arch.* — noȝt niso *Cot.* — 676 horte *Cot. and Arch.*
 — 677 misstorte *Cot.* missturte *Arch.* — 678 horte *Cot. and Arch.*
 — 679 ȝut *Cot.* hyet *Arch.* — 680 kon *Cot.* — 681 vor nev' *Cot.*
and Arch. — 682 þane *Cot.* hwanne *Arch.* — wene *Arch.* — 683
 kumed *Cot.* — 685 quide *Cot. and Arch.* — 686 ȝut *Cot.* hyet *Arch.*
 — horte *Cot. and Arch.*

- Hpone þe bale is alre hecst ~~remeday~~
 þonne is þe bote alre necst ~~next~~
 For pit pest a mong his sore ~~grief~~
 690 And for his sore hit is þe more
 For þi nis nevre mon redles
 Ar his heorte beo pitles
 Ac 3if þat he forleost his pit
 þonne is his redpurs al toslit
 695 3if he ne con his pit atholde
 Ne fint he red in one folde
 For Alfred seide þat þel cuþe
 Evre he spac mid soþe muþe
 Hpone þe bale is alre hecst
 700 þanne is þe bote alre necst
 þe nihtegale al hire ho3e
 Mid rede hadde þel bito3e
 A mong þe harde a mong þe tohte
 Ful þel mid rede hire biþohte
 705 And hadde andspere gode ifunde
 A mong al hire harde stunde
 Ule þu axest me heo seide
 3if ich con eni oper dede
 Bute singen in sume tide
 710 And bringe blisse feor and pide
 Hpi axestu of craftes mine
 Betere is min on þan alle þine
 Betere is o song of mine muþe
 þan al þat evre þi cun cuþe
 715 And lust ich telle þe hþar fore
 Postu to hpan man pas ibore [ms. Cot. fol. 238 b]
 To þare blisse of heoveneriche
 þar ever is song and murþe iliche [ms. Arch. fol. 234 b]
 þider fundeþ evrich man

687 pone *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — hekst *Arch.* — 688 þenne *Arch.*
 — nest *Arch.* — 689 vor pit pest *Cot. and Arch.* — 690 & *Arch.*
 an *Cot.* — 691 nev'e *Cot.* nev' *Arch.* — 692 horte *Cot. and Arch.* —
 693 if *Arch.* — þat not in *Arch.* — forlost *Cot.* furleost *Arch.* —
 694 þenne *Arch.* — 695 kon *Cot.* — 696 vint *Cot.* vynt *Arch.* —
 volde *Cot. and Arch.* — 697 kuþe *Cot.* — 700 nest *Cot.* next *Arch.*
 — 703 to3te *Cot.* — 707 ho *Cot.* — 710 veor *Arch.* for *Cot.* — 712
 beter *Arch.* — 714 kun kuþe *Cot. and Arch.* — 715 hwar *Arch.*
 þare *Cot.* — vore *Cot. and Arch.* — 716 hwan *Arch.* þan *Cot.* — 717
 hoveneriche *Cot.* heveriche *Arch.* — 718 murehþe *Arch.* — 719 pid' *Cot.*

- 720 pat eni þing of gode can
For þi me singþ in holi chirche
And clerkes ginneþ songes þirche
pat man iþenche bi þe songe
Hþider he schal and þar beon longe
725 pat he þe murþe ne forþete
Ac þar of þenche and biþete
And nime ȝeme of chirche stevene
Hu murie is þe blisse of hevene
Clerkes munekes and canunes
730 þar beoþ þeos gode piketunes
Ariseþ up to middelnihte
And singeþ of þon hevenelihte
And preostes upe londe singeþ
Hþane þe liht of daie springeþ
735 And ich heom helpe hþat ich mai
Ich singe mid heom niht and dai
And heo beoþ alle for me þe gladdere
And to þe songe beoþ þe raddere
Ich þarni men to heore gode
740 þat hi beon bliþe on heore mode
And bidde þat hi moten iseche
þan ilche song þat ever is eche
Nu þu miht ule sitte and clinge
Her a mong nis no chateringe
745 Ich graunti þat þe go to dome
Tofore þe sulve pope of Rome
Ac abid ȝete no þe les
þu schalt ihere an oþer þes perhaps
Ne schaltu for (al) Engelonde
750 At þisse porde me atstonde [ms. Cot. fol. 238 c]
Hþi atþitestu me mine unstrengþe
And mine ungrete and mine unlangþe
And seist þat ich nam noht strong
For ich nam noþer gret ne long [ms. Arch. fol. 234 c]
755 Ac þu nost never hþat þu menst

724 pid' Cot. — bon Cot. þen Arch. — 727 stefne Arch. — 728 hovene Cot. — 730 boþ þos Cot. — picketunes Cot. — 732 þe hovenelihte Cot. — 735 ic Arch. — pat i Cot. — 736 hom Cot. hem Arch. — 737 an ho boþ Cot. — 739 here Cot. — 740 hore Cot. — 741 bidden Arch. — 742 þat Arch. — ilke Cot. — 746 sulfe Cot. — 748 bles Arch. by a later hand — 751 pi atuitestu Cot. — 753 am Arch. — 754 vor Cot.

- Bute lese pordes þu me lenst
 For ich can craft and ich can liste
 And þar fore ich am þus þriste
 Ich can pit and song manteine
 760 Ne triste ich to non(e) oper maine
 For soþ hit is þat seide Alfred
 Ne mai no strengþe aæn red
 Oft spet þel a lute liste
 þar muche strengþe solde miste
 765 Mid lutle strengþe þurȝ ginne
 Castel and burȝ me mai ipinne
 Mid liste me mai þalles felle
 And þeorpe of horse cnihtes snelle
 Uvel strengþe is lutel þurȝ
 770 Ac þisdom ne þurȝ never unþurȝ
 þu miht iseo þurh alle þing
 þat þisdom naveþ non evening
 An hors is strengur þan a mon
 Ac for hit non ipit ne con
 775 Hit berȝ on rugge grete semes
 And draȝþ bi speore grete temes
 And poleþ boþe ȝerd(e) and spure
 And stont iteid at mulne dure
 And hit deþ þat mon hit hot
 780 And for þan þat hit no pit not
 Ne mai his strengþe hit ischilde
 þat hit nabuȝþ þe lutle childe
 Mon deþ mid strengþe and mid þitte
 þat oper þing nis non his fitte
 785 þeȝ alle strengþe at one þere
 Monnes þit ȝet more þere [ms. Cot. fol. 238d]
 For þe mon mid his crafte
 Overcumeþ al eorþliche schafte [ms. Arch. fol. 234d]
 Al so ich do mid mine one songe

757 ic *Arch.* — kan *Cot.* — 758 þare vore *Cot.* — 760 ic *Arch.* —
 op' *Cot.* — 764 sholde *Cot.* — myste *Arch.* — 765 þureh *Arch.* —
 766 bureh *Arch.* — 767 walles *Arch.* þalle *Cot.* — 768 porpe *Cot.*
 werpe *Arch.* — knyhtes *Arch.* kniȝtes *Cot.* — 769 wrȝ *Arch.* —
 770 wisdom *Arch.* — wrȝ nev' unwrȝ *Arch.* — 771 myht *Arch.* l.
 770 and 771 are wanting in *Cot.* — 776 draȝþ *Arch.* — bi sweore
Arch. bi vore *Cot.* — 778 iteyed *Arch.* — 779 doþ *Arch.* — 781
 strenþe *Cot.* — 785 þere *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 787 vor *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — 788 orþliche shafte *Cot.* — 789 ic *Arch.*

- 790 Bet þan þu al þe 3er longe
 For mine craftē men me luvief
 For þine strengþe men þe schunief
 Telstu bi me þe þurs for þan
 þat ich bute anne craft ne can
- 795 3if tþeie men goþ to þrastlinge
 And eifer oper faste þringe
 And þe on can spenges spiþe fele
 And can his þrenches þel forhele
 And þe oper ne can speng bute anne
- 800 And þe is god þiþ eche manne
 And mid þon one leiþ to grunde
 Anne after oper a lutle stunde
 Hpat þarf he recche of mo spenge
 Hpone þe on him is spo genge
- 805 þu seist þat þu canst fele þike
 Ac ever ich am þin unilike
 Do þine craftes alle to gadere
 3et is min on heorte betere
 Oft hþan hundes foxes driveþ
- 810 þe cat ful þel him sulve liveþ
 þe3 he ne cunne þrench bute anne
 þe fox so godne ne can nanne
 þe3 he cunne so fele þrenche
 þat he þenþ eche hunde atþrenche
- 815 For he can þapþes rihte and þo3e
 And he can hongī bi þe bo3e
 And so forleost þe hund his fore
 And turnþ a3en eft to þan more
 þe fox can creope bi þe heie
- 820 And turne ut from his forme þeie [ms. Cot. fol. 239 a]
 And eft sone cume þar to
 þonne is þes hundes smel fordo [ms. Arch. fol. 235 a]

790 all *Arch.* for al þe — 794 ic *Arch.* — enne *Arch.* — 795 tueie
Cot. twey *Arch.* — wrastlinge *Arch.* þrastlinge *Cot.* — 796 & *Arch.*
 an *Cot.* — 797 swiþe *Arch.* suþe *Cot.* — 798 kan *Cot.* and *Arch.*
 — 799 but *Cot.* — 801 þan *Arch.* — 803 hwat *Arch.* pat *Cot.* —
 a mo *Cot.* — 804 so *Arch.* — 805 þe *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 806 un-
 yliche *Arch.* — 808 heorte *Arch.* horte *Cot.* — 809 ofte *Arch.* —
 hwan *Arch.* þan *Cot.* — 810 kat *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 811 þeh *Arch.*
 — 813 þey *Arch.* þe *Cot.* — vele *Cot.* — 814 atþrenche *Cot.* and
Arch. — 815 vor *Cot.* and *Arch.* — wowe *Arch.* — 816 kan *Cot.*
 — bowe *Arch.* — 817 forlost *Cot.* vorlest *Arch.* — 819 vox kan
Cot. — crope *Cot.* crepe *Arch.* — 822 þenne *Arch.* — þe *Cot.*

- He not purh þe imeinde smak
 Hpeper he schal forþ þe a bak
 825 3if þe fox mist of al þis dþole
 At þan ende he creopþ to hole
 Ac na þe les mid alle his þrenche
 Ne can he hine so bipenche
 Þe3 he beo 3ep and spiþe snel
 830 þat he ne leost his rede fel
 Þe cat ne can þrench bute enne
 Noþer bi dune ne bi fenne
 Bute he can climbe spiþe þel
 þar mid he þereþ his greie fel
 835 Al so ich segge bi me seolve
 Beter e is min on þan þine tþelwe
 Abid abid þe ule seide
 þu gest al to mid spikelhede
 Alle þine þordes þu bileist
 840 þat hit þincþ soþ al þat þu seist
 Alle þine þordes beoþ isliked
 And so bisemed and biliked
 þat alle þeo þat hi afoþ
 Hi þeneþ þat þu segge soþ
 845 Abid abid me schal þe 3ene
 Nu hit schal þurþe þel isene
 þat þu havest muchel ilo3e
 Hþone þi lesing beoþ unþro3e
 þu seist þat þu singest mancunne
 850 And techest heom þat hi fundieþ heonne
 Up to þe songe þat evre ilest
 Ac hit is alre þundre mest
 þat þu darst li3e so opeliche
 Þenest þu hi bringe so lihtliche [ms. Cot. fol. 239b]
 855 To godes riche al singinde
 Nai nai hi schule þel afinde [ms. Arch. fol. 235b]

823 þurs *Cot.* — 824 vorþ *Arch.* avorþ *Cot.* — bak *Cot.* for a bak
 — 825 dwele *Arch.* — 826 cropp *Cot.* — 830 lost *Cot.* — vel *Cot.*
and Arch. — 831 kat *Arch.* — kan *Cot.* — anne *Cot.* — 832 venne
Cot. and Arch. — 835 mi *Cot.* my *Arch.* — solve *Cot.* — 836 beter
Arch. — twelve *Arch.* — 837 ule *Cot. and Arch.* — 838 swikelhede
Arch. spikelede *Cot.* — 841 boþ *Cot.* — 843 þo *Cot.* heo *Arch.* —
 avoþ *Cot. and Arch.* — 846 þu *Cot.* for nu — shal þrpe *Cot.* wrþe
Arch. — 847 ilowe *Arch.* — 848 unwrowe *Arch.* — 849 singist *Cot.*
 — 850 hom *Cot.* — honne *Cot.* — 852 wundre *Arch.* þnder *Cot.*
 — 855 singinge *Cot.* — 856 shulle *Cot.* — avinde *Cot.*

- pat hi mid longe pope mote
 Of heore sunnen bidde bote
 Ar hi mote ever cume þare
 860 Ich rede þi pat men beo þare
 And more pepe þane singe
 pat fundeþ to þan heovenkinge
 For nis no man wiputen sunne
 For þi he mot ar he wende heonne
 865 Mid teres and mid pope bete
 pat him beo sur pat er pas swete
 þar to ich helpe god hit pot
 Ne singe ich heom no foliot
 For al mi song is of longinge
 870 And imeind sum del mid wponinge
 pat mon bi me hine wipenche
 pat he groni for his unprence
 Mid mine songe ich hine pulte
 pat he groni for his gulte
 875 3if þu gest her of to disputinge
 Ich pepe bet þane þu singe
 3if riht goþ forþ and a bak prong
 Betere is mi wop þane þi song
 þe3 sume men beon wprhut gode
 880 And wprhut clene on heore mode
 Heom longew heonne no þe les
 pat (hi) beow her wo is heom þes
 For þe3 hi beon heom seolve ibor3e
 Hi ne seow her nowiht bute sor3e
 885 For oþer men hi wepeþ sore
 And for heom biddeþ cristes ore
 Ich helpe monne on eiper halve
 Mi muþ haveþ tweire cunne salve [ms Cot. fol. 239 c]
 þan gode ich fulste to longinge
 890 For hpan hin longew ich him singe [ms. Arch. fol. 235 c]

860 beo ware *Arch.* bo 3are *Cot.* — 862 hovenkinge *Cot.* hevene-
 kinge *Arch.* — 863 wiputen *Arch.* pitute *Cot.* — 864 honne *Cot.*
 — 868 ih hom *Cot.* — 869 my *Arch.* me *Cot.* — 870 an imend *Cot.*
 — 872 grony *Arch.* — 876 þan *Arch.* — 877 riht *Cot.* — 879 bo
 wpr3ut *Cot.* — 881 heow *Arch.* hon *Cot.* — 882 bow *Cot.* — hom
Cot. and Arch. — 883 solve *Cot.* selve *Arch.* — iborewe *Arch.* —
 884 nowiht *Cot.* — bote *Cot. and Arch.* — sorpe *Cot.* serewe *Arch.*
 — 890 vor *Cot. and Arch.* — pan *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — hī lōgew
 ic hī *Arch.*

- And þan sunfulle ich helpe al spo
 For ich him teche hþare is po
 ʒet ich þe ʒene in oþer þise
 For hþane þu sittest on þine rise
 895 þu draʒ(e)st men to flesches luste
 þat pileþ þine songes luste
 Al þu forleost þe murʒþe of hevene
 For þar to navestu none stevene
 Al þat þu singst is of golnesse
 900 For nis on þe non holinesse
 Ne þeneþ na man for þi pipinge
 þat eni preost in chirche singe
 ʒet ich þe pile an oþer segge
 ʒif þu hit const a riht bilegge
 905 Hþi nultu singe an oþer þeode
 Hþar hit is muchele more neode
 þu never ne singest in Irlonde
 Ne þu ne cumest noht in Scotlonde
 Hþi nultu fare to Norþeie
 910 And singen men of Galeþeie
 þar beoþ men þat lutel cunne
 Of songe þat is bineoþe þe sunne
 Hþi nultu þare preoste singe
 And teche of þire þritelinge
 915 And þisi heom mid þire stevene
 Hu engles singeþ in þe hevene
 þu farest so doþ an idel þel
 þat springeþ bi burne þat is snel
 And let fordrue þe dune
 920 And floþeþ on idel þar a dune

892 þare *Cot.* hwar *Arch.* — 893 ic *Arch.* — yene on *Arch.* — 895
 fleses *Cot.* fleyses *Arch.*, *cmp.* 1. 1388 — 896 wileþ *Arch.* pileþ *Cot.*
 — 897 forlost *Cot.* vorleost *Arch.* — hovene *Cot.* — 901 wenep
Arch. pened *Cot.* — 902 preost *Cot.* and *Arch.* — chirce *Cot.* —
 903 i *Cot.* ic *Arch.* — wile *Arch.* pulle *Cot.* — oder *Cot.* — 905
 whi *Arch.* þi *Cot.* — oder þeode *Cot.* — 906 þar *Cot.* — 907 nev'
Arch. neav' *Cot.* — singst *Cot.* — 908 noht *Cot.* — 909 hþi *Cot.*
 hwi *Arch.* — Norweye *Arch.* Noreþeie *Cot.* — 910 singin *Cot.* — 911
 beoð *Cot.* — þ *Cot.* — kunne *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 912 bineode *Cot.*
 under *Arch.* — þe omitted in *Arch.* — 913 þi *Cot.* — 914 & *Arch.*
 an *Cot.* — 915 hom *Cot.* — stefne *Arch.* — 916 engeles *Cot.* —
 singeð ine heovene *Cot.* — 917 doð *Cot.* — ydel *Cot.* — 918 þ
Arch. þar *Cot.* — 919 fordrue *Arch.* fordrue *Cot.* — 920 floþ
Arch. floh *Cot.*

- Ac ich fare bope norþ and sup
 In everich londe ich am cuþ [ms. Cot. fol. 239 d]
 East and pest feor and ner
 Ich do þel faire mi mester [ms. Arch. fol. 235 d]
- 925 And þarni men mid mine bere
 þat þi dpeolesong heo ne forlere
 Ich þisse men mid mine songe
 þat hi ne sunegi nopiht longe
 Ich bidde heom þat heo isþike
- 930 þat (heo) heom seolve ne bisþike
 For betere is þat heo þepen here
 þan elles hþar beon deovlene fere
 þe nihtegale pas agromed
 And ek heo þas sum del ofschomed
- 935 For þe ule hire atþiten hadde
 In hþiche stude heo sat and gradde
 Bihinde þe bure a mong þe þeode
 Hþar men goþ to heore neode
 And sat sum del and heo biþohte
- 940 And þiste þel on hire þohte
 þat þrappe binimeþ monnes red
 For hit seide þe king Alfred
 Selde endep þel þe loþe
 And selde plaideþ þel þe þroþe
- 945 For þrappe meinþ þe heorte blod
 þat hit floþeþ so þilde flod
 And al þe heorte overgeþ
 þat heo haveþ no þing bute breþ
 And so forleost al hire liht
- 950 þat heo ne siþþ soþ ne riht
 þe nihtegale hi understod

921 souþ *Arch.* soþ *Cot.* — 922 ev' ich *Arch.* ev' euch *Cot.* —
 cuuþ *Cot.* — 923 neor *Cot. and Arch.* — 924 i *Cot. and Arch.* —
 meoster *Cot.* — 926 dwelesong *Arch.* — heo *Cot. and Arch.* — 929
 hom *Cot.* — 932 hþar *Cot.* hwar *Arch.* — to beon *Cot. and Arch.*
 — yvere *Arch.* — 933 niþtingale *Cot.* — igremet *Cot.* — 934 of-
 chamed *Cot.* — 935 hule *Cot.* — 936 hwiche *Arch.* hþucche *Cot.*
 — he *Cot.* ho *Arch.* — 937 wede *Cot. and Arch.* — 938 hwar *Arch.*
 par *Cot.* — goð *Cot.* — here *Cot.* — neode *Cot. and Arch.* — 939
 & *Arch.* an *Cot.* — & *Cot. and Arch.* — 941 þe *Cot. and Arch.* —
 943 sele ended *Cot.* — 944 plaideð *Cot.* — 945 horte *Cot.* — 947
 heorte *Cot. and Arch.* — 948 naveþ *Arch.* — 949 vorleost *Arch.* —
 liht *Cot.* lyht *Arch.* — 950 syþþ *Arch.* siþ *Cot.* — soð *Cot.*

- And overgan let hire mod
 He mihte bet speken a sele
 þan mid þrappe þordes dele
 955 Ule heo seide lust nu hider
 þu schalt falle þe þei is slider [ms. Cot. fol. 240 a]
 þu seist ich fleo bihinde bure
 Hit is riht þe bur is ure *our* [ms. Arch. fol. 236 a]
 þar laverd liggeþ and lavedi
 960 Ich schal heom singe and sitte bi
 Þenstu þat þise men forlete
 For fule fenne þe rihte strete
 Ne (þe) sunne þe later schine
 þeþ hit beo ful ine neste þine
 965 Scholde ich for one hole brede
 Forlete mine rihte stede
 þat ich ne singe bi þe bedde
 þar loverd haveþ his leove ibedde
 Hit is mi riht hit is mi laþe
 970 þat to þe hecste ich me draþe
 Ac 3ef þu 3elpst of þine songe
 þat þu canst 3olle þroþe and stronge
 And seist þu þisest mancunne
 þat hi biþepen heore sunne
 975 Scholde euch mon þoni and grede
 Riht spich hi þeren unlede
 Scholde hi 3ollen al so þu dest
 Hi mihte afere heore preost
 Man schal beo stille and noht grede
 980 He mot biþepe his misdede
 Ac hpar is cristes heringe
 þar me schal grede and lude singe
 Nis noþer to lud ne to long

952 lette *Cot. and Arch. cmp. l. 8 and 1097* — 953 i sele *Arch.*
 — 954 deale *Cot.* — 955 ule *Arch.* hule *Cot.* — 959 loverd *Arch.*
 — levedy *Arch.* — 961 wise *Arch.* vise *Cot.* — 962 vor *Arch.* —
 venne *Cot. and Arch.* — rihte *Cot.* — 963 shine *Cot.* — 964 bo
Cot. — 965 sholde *Cot.* — 966 furlete *Arch.* — rihte stude *Cot.* —
 968 love *Cot.* lavedi *Arch.* — bedde *Arch.* — 969 riht *Cot.* — 970
 hecst *Cot.* hexte *Arch.* — 971 3ef (3et?) *Cot.* if *Arch.* — 973 wisest
Arch. visest *Cot.* — mankunne *Cot.* monkunne *Arch.* — 974 hore
Cot. — 975 solde *Cot.* — wonie *Cot. and Arch.* — 976 riht suich
Cot. such *Arch.* — 977 solde *Cot.* — 978 mihte oferan here brost
Cot. — 979 bo *Cot.* — noht *Cot.* — 981 þar (þar?) *Cot.* þar *Arch.*
 — 982 shal *Cot.*

- At rihte time chirchesong
 985 þu ʒolst and ponest and ich singe
 þi stefne is pop and min skentinge
 Ever mote þu ʒolle and pepen
 þat þu þi lif mote forleten
 And ʒollen mote þu so heʒe
 990 þat ut berste bo þin(e) eʒe [ms. Cot. fol. 240b]
 Hpeþer is betere of tþere tþom
 þat mon beo bliþe oþer grom [ms. Arch. fol. 236b]
 So beo hit ever in unker siþe
 þat þu beo sori and ich bliþe
 995 ʒet þu aischest hþi ich ne fare
 Into oþer londe and singe þare
 No hþat scholde ich a mong heom do
 þar never blisse ne com to
 þat lond nis god ne hit nis este *pleasant*
 1000 Ac pildernisse hit is and peste *desolate*
rock Cnarres and eludes heovene tenge *heaven touch*
crag Snou and hazel heom is genge
 þat lond is *grish* and unfele *trail to use*
 þe men beoþ *wilde* and unisele *unhappy*
 1005 Hi nabbeþ noþer grip ne sibbe *friendly*
peace Hi ne reccheþ (nevre) hu hi liþbe
 Hi eteþ fisch and flesch unsode *uncooked*
 Spich pulves hadde hit tobrode *to send*
 Hi drinkeþ *what* mile and hþei þar to
 1010 Hi nuteþ elles hþat hi do
now Hi nabbeþ noþer þin ne beor *beer*
not Ac libbeþ al so pilde deor *animal*
conard Hi goþ bituht mid ruze felle *hairy skins*
 Riht spich hi comen ut of helle
 1015 þeʒ eni god man to heom come

984 rihte Cot. — 985 wonest Arch. pones Cot. — 986 stevene Cot. — 991 peþer Cot. — tweyre Arch. — 992 bo Cot. — 995 yet Arch. ʒut Cot. — aisheist þi Cot. — 996 oþ' Cot. — 997 pat sholde Cot. — hom Cot. — 1000 wilderness Arch. — 1001 knarres & Cot. and Arch. — hovene Arch. hoven Cot. — tinge Cot. and Arch. — 1002 hawel Arch. — 1003 unvele Cot. and Arch. — 1004 boþ Cot. — unsele Arch. — 1007 fihs an flehs Cot. fys & fleys Arch. — 1008 suich Cot. — hit hadde Cot. and Arch. — 1009 þei Cot. hwey Arch. — 1010 nute Cot. — pat Cot. — 1011 noþ Cot. noht Arch. — bor Cot. — 1012 dor Cot. — 1013 bituht Cot. — rowe Arch. — velle Cot. — 1014 riht suich Cot. sych Arch. — 1015 hom Cot.

as former

So hpile dude sum from Rome

For heom to lere gode pepes *customs*And for to leten heore unpepes *uses*

He mihte bet sitte stille

1020 For al his hpile he scholde spille *waste*He mihte bet teche ane beore *hear*

To peze bope scheld and spere

pan me pat pilde folc ibringe

pat hi me polde ihere singe [ms. Cot. fol. 240 c]

1025 Hpat schold(e) ich par mid mine songe

Ne sunge ich heom never so longe [ms. Arch. fol. 236 c]

Mi song pere ispid ech del *part*

For heom ne mai halter ne bridel

Bringe from heore *rode pise* *insane ways*1030 Ne mon mid stele ne mid ise *iron*

Ac par lond is bope este and god

And par men habbet milde mod

Ich notie mid heom mine prote

For ich mai do par gode note *service*1035 And bringe heom *dear* love tidinge s

For ich of chirchesonge singe

Hit pas iseid in olde laze *love*And zet ilast pilke sopsaze *true saying*

pat man schal eten and sope

1040 par he penþ after sum god mope *reaping*

For he is pod pat sopeþ his sed

par never gras ne springþ ne bled *blossoms*þe ule pas prop to cheste rad *chide*Mid pisse porde hire eþen *abrad* *moved rapidly*

1045 þu seist þu pitest manne bures

w par leves *beop* and faire flures *are dear to each other*

par tpo fleove in one bedde

ie Liggeþ iclupt and þel bihedde *guarded*

Enes þu sunge ich pot þel hpare

once *know well when*

1016 pile Cot. — 1017 hom Cot. — 1019 mihte Cot. — 1020 vor Cot. and Arch. — hwile Arch. pile Cot. — sholde Cot. scolde Arch. — 1021 bore Cot. — 1024 me segge polde Cot. — 1025 pat sol Cot. — 1027 uych Arch. — 1029 vrom hore Cot. — wode Arch. pude Cot. — 1030 ire Cot. and Arch. — 1031 long Cot. — 1033 notye Arch. noti Cot. — hom Cot. — 1035 love Cot. leve Arch. — tinging Cot. — 1039 shal Cot. — 1042 springþ Cot. — 1046 boþ Cot. — flores Cot. — 1047 ilove Cot. — 1048 biclop Cot. — 1049 ic Cot. and Arch. — pod Cot. — hware Arch. pare Cot.

- 1050 Bi one bure and poldest lere ^{house} ^w ^{teach}
 þe lefdi to an(e) uvel luve
 And sunge bope loze and buve ^{high}
 And lerdest hi to don schome
 And unriht of hire lichome ^{body}
- 1055 þe loverd þat some ^{discovered} ^{under} ^{at}
 Lim and grine ^{traps} and pel ihpat ^{everything}
 Sette and leide þe for to lacche ^{catch}
 þu come sone to þan hacche ^{casement} [ms. Cot. fol. 240 d]
 þu pere inume in one grine ^{gin}
- 1060 Al hit abohte pine schine [ms. Arch. fol. 236 d] ^{sh}
 þu naddest non oper dom ne laze ^{judgment} ^{no} ^{la}
 Bute mid pilde horse pere todraze ^{pulled} ^{apond}
 Fonde 3if þu miht eft misrede ^{mislead}
 Hweþer þu pilt þif þe maide
- 1065 þi song mai beo so longe genge ^{successful}
 þat þu schalt hwiþpen on a sprengre ^{trap}
 þe nihtegale at þisse þorde
 Mid speorde and mid speres orde ^{point}
 3if heo mon pere polde fihte
- 1070 Ac þo heo bet do ne mihte ^{better}
 Heo faht mid hire þise tunge
 Pel fiht þat þel specþ seiþ in þe songe
 Of hire tunge heo nom red ^{council}
 Pel fiht þat þel specþ seide Alfred
- 1075 Hþat seistu þis for mine schome?
 þe loverd hadde her of grome ^{angir}
 He þas so gelus of his þive
 þat he ne mihte for his live
 Iseo þat man þip hire speke
- 1080 þat his heorte nolde breke
 He hire bilek in one bure
 þat hire þas bope stronge and sure
 Ich hadde of hire milse and ore ^{clemency} ^{grace}

1053 shome Cot. — 1054 unriht Cot. — licome Cot. — 1056 liim Cot. lym Arch. — grine Cot. grune Arch. — & Cot. and Arch. — eipat Cot. — 1057 leyde Arch. ledde Cot. — 1060 abohte Cot. — shine Cot. — 1063 vonde Cot. vond' Arch. — miht Cot. — 1064 hweþer Arch. þaþer Cot. — pult Cot. — 1065 bo Cot. — 1066 hwiþpen Arch. piþpen Cot. — 1068 sporde Cot. swerde Arch. — 1069 ho Cot. — fihte Cot. — 1071 ho vaht Cot. — 1075 pat Cot. — shome Cot. — 1079 iso Cot. — 1080 horte Cot. — 1081 bileck Cot.

- And sori pas for hire sore
 1085 And skente hi mid mine songe *quickly*
 Al pat ich mihte rape and longe
 For pan pe cniht pas ^{with} me prop *angry*
 For rihte niþe ich pas him loþ *hateful*
 He dude me his oþene schome
 1090 Ac al him turnde hit to grome *grief*
 pat underpat pe king Henri
 Jesus his soule do merci [ms. Cot. fol. 241 a]
 He let forbonne pene cniht
 pat hadde idon so muchel unriht *wrong* [ms. Arch. fol. 237 a]
 1095 In so gode kinges londe
 For rihte niþe and fule onde *hated*
 Let pane lutle fuzel nime
 And him fordeme lif and lime *honor*
 Hit pas purpschipe al mine cunne *kindred*
 1100 For þon pe cniht forles his punne
 And 3af for me an hundred punde *cases*
 And mine briddes seten isunde *happy*
 And hadde seoppe blisse and hihte
 And pere blipe and þel mihte
 1105 For þan ich pas so þel apreke *avenged*
 Ever eft ich dar þe bet speke
 For hit bitidde ene spo *time*
 Ich am þe bliþure ever mo *happier*
 Nu ich mai singe hþar ich þulle
 1110 Ne dar me never eft mon agrulle *annoy*
 Ac þu erming þu precche gost *spirit*
 þu ne canst finde ne þu nost
 An hol3 stoc hþar þu þe miht hude
 þat me ne tþenge þine hude
 1115 For children gromes heme and hine
 Hi þencheþ alle of þire pine
 3if hi muþe iseo þe sitte

1086 ic Arch. — 1087 kniþt Cot. knyht Arch. — 1088 ic wes Arch.
 — 1089 owe Arch. — 1090 it Cot. hit turnde hT eft Arch. —
 1094 suich Arch. for so muchel — unþriþt Cot. — 1095 ine Cot.
 — 1096 & for Cot. — 1099 þrþsipe Cot. wrþsipe Arch. — kunne
 Cot. kune Arch. — 1100 furles Arch. — 1103 soþpe Cot. seþpe
 Arch. — hiþte Cot. — 1105 vor Cot. and Arch. — þon Cot. — 1106
 darr Cot. — 1108 bliþur ev' Cot. — 1109 ic Arch. — hwar Arch.
 par Cot. — 1110 dar Cot. and Arch. — 1111 eremig Cot. — 1113
 holeh Arch. — stok par Cot. — 1114 tþengeþ Cot. — 1116 þine
 Arch. — 1117 mowe Arch. — iso Cot.

- Stones hi doþ in heore slitte
 And þe totorveþ and toheneþ
 1120 And þine fule bon toscheneþ
 3if þu art iporpe oþer ischote
 þanne þu miht erest to note
 For me þe hoþ in one rodde
 And þu mid þine fule codde
 1125 And mid þine ate(1)liche speore
 Biperest manne corn from deore [ms. Cot. fol. 241 b]
 Nis noþer noht þi lif ne þi blod
 Ac þu art scheules spiþe god [ms. Arch. fol. 237 b]
 þar neope sedes beoþ isope
 1130 Pinnuc goldfinch rok ne crope
 Ne dar þar never cumen ihende
 3if þi buc hongeþ at þan ende
 þar treon schulle a 3ere blope
 And 3unge sedes springe and grope
 1135 Ne dar no fu3el þar to fonge
 3if þu art þar over ihonge
 þi lif is evre luper and cped
 þu nart noht bute ded
 Nu þu miht pite sikerliche
 1140 þat þine leches beoþ grisliche
 þe hpile þu art on lifda3e
 For hþane þu hongest isla3e
 3et hi beoþ of þe ofdradde
 þe fu3eles þat þe er bigradde
 1145 Mid rihte men beoþ pip þe proþe
 For þu singest ever of heore loþe
 Al þat þu singst rape oþer late
 Hit is ever of manne unhpate
 Hþane þu havest a niht igrad
 1150 Men beoþ of þe pel sore ofdrad

1119 totorved *Cot.* — 1120 tosheneþ *Cot.* — 1121 ishote *Cot.* iscote
Arch. — 1125 sweore *Arch.* spore *Cot.* — 1126 vrom dore *Cot.* — 1127
 nouþ' nouht *Arch.* no3t *Cot.* — 1128 shueles *Cot.* sheules *Arch.* —
 swiþe *Arch.* suþe *Cot.* — 1129 nope *Cot.* newe *Arch.* — 1130 golfinc
Cot. — 1133 tron *Cot.* — shulle *Cot.* schulleþ *Arch.* — 1135 vonge
Cot. — 1137 qued *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1138 nard *Cot.* — 1139 myht *Arch.*
 mi3t *Cot.* — 1140 boþ *Cot.* — 1141 hwile *Arch.* pile *Cot.* — 1142 vor
Cot. and *Arch.* — þane *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — 1143 yet *Arch.* 3ut *Cot.*
 — atdradde *Arch.* — 1146 singist *Cot.* — ev' *Cot.* omitted in *Arch.*
 — hore *Cot.* — 1147 singest *Arch.* — 1148 mannes *Arch.* — unpate
Cot. — 1149 þane *Cot.* hwanne *Arch.* — nyht *Arch.* ni3t *Cot.*

- þu singst þar sum man schal beo ded
 Ever þu bodest sumne cƿed
 þu sing(e)st aʒen ahte lure
 Oper of sume freondes rure
 1155 Oper þu bodest huses brune
 Oper ferde of manne oper þeoves rune
 Oper þu bodest cƿalm of orve
 Oper þat londfolc ƿurþ idorve
 Oper þat ƿif leost hire make
 1160 Oper þu bodest cheste and sake [ms. Cot. fol. 241 c]
 Ever þu singest of manne harme
 þurh þe hi beoþ sorie and arme [ms. Arch. fol. 237 c]
 þu ne singst never one siþe
 þat hit nis for sume unsiþe
 1165 Her fore hit is þat me þe schunep
 And þe totorveþ and tobunep
 Mid stave and stone and turf and clute
 þat þu ne miht nohpar atrute
 Dahet ever spich budel in tune
 1170 þat ever beodeþ unpreste rune
 And ever bringeþ uvele tidinge
 And ever specþ of uvele þinge
 God almihti þurpe him ƿroþ
 And al þat þerieþ linnene cloþ
 1175 þe ule nabod noht spiþe longe
 Ac ʒef ondsƿare starke and stronge
 Hƿat cƿaþ heo artu ihoded
 Oper þu cursest al unihoded
 For prestes ƿike ich þat þu dest
 1180 Ich not ʒef þu pere evre prest

1151 shal Cot. sal Arch. — be Cot. — 1152 qued Cot. and Arch.
 — 1153 ayhte Arch. eihte Cot. — 1154 summe Cot. sūme Arch.
 cmp. l. 293 — frondes Cot. vrendes Arch. — 1155 bodes Cot. —
 1156 þoves Cot. þeoves Arch. — 1157 cualm Cot. qualm Arch. —
 oreve Cot. — 1159 lost Cot. — 1160 an Cot. — 1161 singist Cot.
 — hareme Cot. — 1162 þurʒ Cot. — boþ sori Cot. — & Cot. and
 Arch. — areme Cot. — 1164 summe Arch. sum Cot. — 1165 vore
 Cot. and Arch. — shunep Cot. sunep Arch. — 1167 stoone Cot. —
 1168 miht nopar Cot. nowarr Arch. — 1169 suich Cot. not in Arch.
 — 1170 ev' Cot. not in Arch. — bodeþ Cot. bedep Arch. — 1171
 tiþinge Cot. — 1173 almihti þurpe Cot. almyhti wrpe Arch. — 1174
 wereþ Arch. — 1175 hule ne abot noht spiþ Cot. — 1176 ah. Cot.
 — ʒef Arch. — answeare Arch. — 1177 pat Cot. — quaþ Cot. queþ
 Arch. — ho Cot. — hartu Cot. ertu Arch. — 1178 kursest Cot. —
 1179 ic wot Arch. — 1180 ʒavre Cot. not in Arch.

- Ich not ʒef þu canst masse singe
 Inoh þu canst of (a)mansinge
 Ac hit is for þine alde niþe
 þat þu me acursedest oþer siþe
 1185 Ac þar to is lihtlich ondsþare
 Draht to þe cþap þe cartare
 Hþi atpittestu me mine insihte
 And min ipit and mine mihte
 For ich am þiti ful ipis
 1190 And pot al þat to cumen is
 Ich pot of hunger of hergonge
 Ich pot ʒef men schule libbe longe
 Ich þat ʒef þif lust hire make
 Ich þat hþar schal beo niþ and þrake [ms. Cot. fol. 241 d]
 1195 Ich pot hþo schal beon anhonge
 Oþer elles fulne deþ afonge
 ʒef men habbeþ bataile inume
 Ich þat hþaþer schal beon overcume
 Ich þat ʒif cþalm schal cumen on orve [ms. Arch.
 1200 And ʒif deor schule ligge astorve fol. 237 d]
 Ich pot ʒef treon schule bloþe
 Ich þat ʒef cornes schule groþe
 Ich pot ʒef huses schule berne
 Ich pot ʒef men schule eorne oþer erne
 1205 Ich pot ʒef sea schal schipes drenche
 Ich pot ʒef smipes schule uvele clenche
 And ʒet ich con muchel more
 Ich con inoh in þokes lore
 And ek ich can of þe godspelle
 1210 More þan ich nule þe telle
 For ich at chirche cume ilome
 And muchel leorni of þisdome

1182 inoh *Arch.* — 1183 ah *Cot.* — olde *Arch.* — 1184 akurse-
 dest oþer side *Cot.* — 1185 ah *Cot.* — answere *Arch.* — 1186 cþaþ
Cot. queþ *Arch.* — kartere *Arch.* — 1187 þi *Cot.* — īsihte *Arch.*
 — 1188 & *Arch.* an *Cot.* — myhte *Arch.* miþte *Cot.* — 1190 þod
Cot. and *Arch.* — kumen *Cot.* comen *Arch.* — 1191 hergonge *Arch.*
 — 1192 sulle *Arch.* — 1193 ic wot *Arch.* — luste *Cot.* — 1194
 þar *Cot.* — sal *Arch.* — 1195 hþo *Cot.* hwo *Arch.* — sal beo *Arch.*
 — & honge *Cot.* — 1198 hwaper *Arch.* — overkume *Cot.* — 1199
 qualm *Arch.* — scal *Cot.* sal *Arch.* — comen *Cot.* — orfe *Cot.* —
 1200 dor schul *Cot.* schulle *Arch.* — & storve *Cot.* — 1206 schal
Cot. sale *Arch.* — 1209 an eke *Cot.* — goddspelle *Cot.* — 1210
 wile *Arch.* — 1211 churche *Arch.* — come *Cot.* — 1212 muche *Cot.*

- Ich pat al of þe tacninge
 And of oper feole þinge
 1215 Ȝef eni mon schal rem abide
 Al ich hit pot ar hit itide
 Ofte for mine muchele ipitte
 Pel sorimod and þrop ich sitte
 Hþan ich iseo pat sum precchede
 1220 Is manne neh inoh ich grede
 Ich bidde pat men beon ipare
 And hæbbe gode redes ȝare
 For Alfred seide a pis þord
 Euch mon hit scholde legge on hord
 1225 Ȝef þu isihst (him) er he beo icume
 His strengþe is him pel neh binume
 And grete duntes beoþ þe lasse
 Ȝef me ikeþþ mid iparnesse [ms. Cot. fol. 242a]
 And fleo schal topard misȝenge
 1230 Ȝef þu isihst hu fleo of strenge
 For þu miht blenche pel and fleo
 Ȝif þu isihst heo to þe teo
 þat eni man beo falle in edþite
 Hþi schal he me his sor atþite
 1235 þah ich iseo his harm bifore
 Ne cumeþ hit noht of me þar fore [ms. Arch. fol. 238a]
 þah þu iseo þat sum blind mon
 þat nanne rihtne þei ne con
 To þare diche his dþeole fulieþ
 1240 And falleþ and þar one sulieþ
 Penest þu þah ich al iseo
 þat hit for me þe rapere beo
 Al spo hit fareþ bi mine þitte
 Hþanne ich on mine boȝe sitte

1214 vale *Arch.* — 1216 ear *Cot.* — 1217 witte *Arch.* — 1218 wrop
Arch. porþ *Cot.* — i *Arch.* — 1219 pan *Cot.* hwanne *Arch.* — ic
Arch. — wrecchede *Arch.* prechede *Cot.* — 1220 cuminde neyh *Arch.*
 — innoh *Cot.* — ic *Arch.* — 1221 iparre *Cot.* warre *Arch.* — 1222
 reades *Cot.* — yare *Arch.* ȝarre *Cot.* — 1224 uych *Arch.* — schul-
 de *Cot.* — 1225 if *Arch.* — isyst her heo *Arch.* er not in *Cot.* —
 1226 strncþe *Cot.* — 1228 ikeþþ *Arch.* — 1229 misȝenge *Arch.*
 — 1231 miȝt *Cot.* — wel *Cot.* not in *Arch.* — 1233 þauh *Arch.* —
 edwite *Arch.* odþite *Cot.* — 1234 hwi *Arch.* pi *Cot.* — 1235 bivore
Cot. and Arch. — 1236 comeþ *Cot.* — noȝt *Cot.* nouht *Arch.* — vore
Cot. — 1239 dwele *Arch.* — fulied *Cot.* voleweþ *Arch.* — 1240
 onne *Arch.* — sulied *Cot.* — 1242 raper *Arch.* — 1243 so *Arch.*
 — 1244 panne ic *Arch.* — bope *Cot.* bowe *Arch.* *cmp. l. 15*

- 1245 Ich pot and iseo spiþe brihte
 An sume men cumeþ harm þar rihte
 Schal he pat þer of no þing not
 Hit pite me for ich hit pot
 Schal he his mishap pite me
- 1250 For ich am pisure þan he
 Hþanne ich iseo þat sum precchede
 Is manne neh inoh ich grede
 And bidde inoh þat hi heom schilde
 For topard heom is harm unmilde
- 1255 Ac þah ich grede lude and stille
 Al hit itid þurh godes pille
 Hþi pulleþ men of me hi mene
 þah ich mid soþe heo ahpene
 þah ich hi þarni al þat 3er
- 1260 Nis heom þer fore harm no þe ner
 Ac ich heom singe for ich þolde [ms. Cot. fol. 242 b]
 þat hi pel understonde scholde
 þat sum unselpe heom is ihende
 Hþan ich min huing to heom sende
- 1265 Naveþ no man none sikerhede
 þat he ne mai pene and adrede
 þat sum unhpate neh him beo
 þah he ne cunne hit iseo
 For þi seide Alfred spiþe þel
- 1270 And his þord þas godspel
 þat ever euch man þe bet him beo
 Ever þe bet he hine biseo
 Ne truste no mon to his þeole [ms. Arch. fol. 238 b]
 To spiþe þah he habbe feole
- 1275 Nis noht so hot þat hit nacoleþ
 Ne noht so hpit þat hit ne soleþ

1246 þ' Arch. — summe Cot. sūme Arch. — kumed Cot. — 1247
 nowiht Arch. — 1249 witen Arch. — 1250 þane Cot. — 1251 preche-
 de Cot. wretched' Arch. — 1252 neyh inouh Arch. — 1254 harm
 unmylde Arch. wanting in Cot. — 1255 ah Cot. — 1256 þurþ Cot.
 — 1258 apene Cot. awene Arch. — 1260 par vore Arch. — harem
 Cot. a tem Arch. — no wanting in Arch. — 1261 ah Cot. — heom
 not in Arch. — 1262 þet (þer?) Arch. — schulde Cot. — 1263 sū
 unsel Arch. — 1264 hwen ic Arch. — hoing Cot. — 1267 unhap Arch.
 — neih Arch. ney Cot. — 1268 conne Cot. — 1270 word Arch. porde
 Cot. — goddspel Cot. — 1271 him not in Arch. — 1272 ev' Arch.
 eaver Cot. — beseo Cot. — 1273 triste Arch. — wele Arch. — 1274
 veole Cot. vele Arch. — 1275 nout Cot. — 1276 nojt Cot.

- Ne noht so leof þat hit naloþeþ.
 Ne noht so glad þat hit naproþeþ
 Ac evere euch þing þat eche nis
 1280 Agon schal and al þis porldes blis
 Nu þu miht piten redeliche
 þat ever þu spekest gidiliche
 For al þat þu me seist for schame
 Ever þe seolve hit turneþ to grame
 1285 Go so hit go at eche fenge
 þu fallest mid þine azene spenge
 Al þat þu seist for me to schende
 Hit is mi þurpschipe at þan ende
 Bute þu pille bet aginne
 1290 Ne schaltu bute schame ipinne
Thoughtful þe nihtegale sat and *sihte* *sighed*
 And hohful pas and ful þel mihte
 For þe ule spo ispeke hadde
 And hire speche spo iladde [ms. Cot. fol. 242 c]
 1295 Heo pas hohful and *erede* *at a loss*
 Hþat heo þar after hire sede
 Ac no þe les heo hire understod
 Hþat heo seide ule artu pod
 þu ȝelpest of selliche þisdome
 1300 þu nustest hpanene he þe come
 Bute hit of picchecrafte pere
 þar of þu þrecche most þe skere
 ȝif þu pult a mong manne beo
 Oper þu most of londe fleo
 1305 For alle þeo þat þer of cuþe
 Heo pere ifurn of prestes muþe
 Amansed spuch þu art ȝete
 þu picchecrafte never ne lete

1277 noȝt Cot. — ne aloþeþ Cot. — 1278 noȝt Cot. — ne aproþeþ
 Cot. — 1279 ah Cot. — eav'e euh Cot. ev' ich Arch. — 1281 miȝt þite
 readliche Cot. — 1282 eav'e Cot. — gideliche Cot. — 1284 ev' Cot.
 and Arch. — grome Cot. and Arch. — 1286 ahene Cot. owe Arch.
 — 1288 þurpschipe Cot. wrþsipe Arch. — 1291 niȝtingale Cot. —
 syhte Arch. siȝte Cot. — 1292 houhful Arch. — myhte Arch. miȝte
 Cot. — 1293 hule Cot. — so Arch. — 1295 houhful Arch. hopful
 Cot. — 1296 seyde Arch. — 1297 ah neo Cot. — 1298 þat Cot.
 — 1299 yelpest Arch. ȝeolpest Cot. — seolliche Cot. — 1300 pa-
 nene Cot. hwenne Arch. — 1301 picchecrafte Cot. — 1302 moste
 Cot. — 1303 boe Cot. — 1306 uere Cot. weren Arch. — 1307 a-
 manset Cot. — such Arch. — ȝette Cot. — 1308 neav' Cot.

- Ich þe seide nu lutel ere
 1310 And þu askedest ʒef ich pere
 A bisemere to preoste ihoded [ms. Arch. fol. 238 c]
 Ac þe (a)mansing is so ibroded
 þah no preost a londe nere
 A precche na þe les þu pere
 1315 For ever euch child þe cleopeþ fule
 And ever euch man a precche ule
 Ich habbe iherd and soþ hit is
 þe mon mot beo þel steorreþis
 And pite inoh of hpiche þinge cume
 1320 So þu seist þat is (þin) ipune
 Hpat canstu þecche þing of steorre
 Bute þat þu bipaitest hi feorre
 Al spo deþ mani deor and man
 þe of spuche napiht ne can
 1325 On ape mai a boc bihalde
 And leves penden and eft folde
 Ac he ne con þe bet þar fore
 Of clerkes lore top ne more [ms. Cot. fol. 242 d]
 þah þu iseo þe steorre al spa
 1330 Nartu þe pisure never þe mo
 Ac ʒet þu fule þing me chist
 And þel grimliche me atpist
 þat ich singe bi manne huse
 And teche pive breke spuse
 1335 þu liest ipis þu fule þing
 þurh me nas never ischend spusing
 Ac soþ hit is ich singe and grede
 þar lavedies beoþ and faire maide

1310 if Arch. — 1311 bisimere Cot. bysemare Arch. — preost Cot. —
 1312 ah Cot. — 1314 neo Cot. — 1315 ev' Arch. eav' Cot. — ich Arch.
 — chil Cot. chid Arch. — 1316 & Arch. an Cot. — ev' Cot. and Arch.
 — hule Cot. — 1318 storrepis Cot. sturrewis Arch. — 1319 innoy
 Cot. — hwiche Arch. pucche Cot. — þige Arch. — kũe Cot. — 1320
 pou Cot. — þ' Arch. — 1321 storre Cot. and Arch. — 1322 bihai-
 test Cot. and Arch. — ferre Arch. — 1323 so dop Arch. — dor
 Cot. — 1324 þeo Cot. and Arch. — suyche Arch. hspucche Cot. —
 con Cot. — 1325 on bok Arch. — 1326 wende Arch. — 1327 ah
 Cot. — vore Cot. and Arch. — 1329 so Arch. — 1330 wisere Arch.
 — nev' Arch. neav' Cot. — 1331 ah Cot. — 1334 & theche Arch.
 an teache Cot. — wyve Arch. pife Cot. — 1335 lyst Arch. — 1336
 þ me Cot. — nes Arch. — neav' Cot. nev' isēd Arch. — 1337 ah
 Cot. — 1338 feyre meide Arch.

- And soþ hit is of luve ich singe
 1340 For god þif mai in spusinge
 Bet luvien hire oꝝene þere
 þane aþer hire copenere
 And maide mai luve cheose
 þat hire þurpschipe ne forleose
 1345 And luvie mid rihte luve
 þane þe schal beon hire buve
 Spiche luve ich iteche and lere
 þer of beoþ al(le) mine ibere [ms. Arch. fol. 238d]
 þah sum þif beo of nesche mode
 1350 For þummen beoþ of softe blode
 þat heo þurh sume sottes lore
 þe ȝerne bit and sikeþ sore
 Misrempe and misdo sumne stunde
 Schal ich þar fore beon ibunde
 1355 ȝif þimmen luvieþ unrede
 þitestu me heore misdede
 ȝef þimmon þencheþ luvie derne
 Ne mai ich mine songes þerne
 þummon mai pleie under cloþe
 1360 Hþeþer heo þile þel þe þroþe
 And heo mai do bi mine songe
 Hþeþer heo þile þel þe þronge [ms. Cot. fol. 243a]
 For nis a þorlde þing so god
 þat ne mai do sum ungod
 1365 ȝif me hit pile turne a mis
 For gold and seolver god hit is
 And no þe les þar mid þu miht
 Spusbruche buggen and unriht
 þepne beoþ gode griþ to halde
 1370 And no þe les þar mid beoþ men acþalde
 Aȝeines riht an feole londe

1340 i Cot. — 1342 þan Arch. — aþer (apet?) Cot. on oþer Arch.
 — copinere Arch. — 1343 & Arch. an Cot. — 1344 treuschipe Arch.
 — 1347 suyche Arch. — itache Cot. theche Arch. — 1348 þ' Arch.
 — 1350 þummon Cot. wymmen Arch. — 1351 þ Cot. vor Arch. —
 1352 yorne Arch. — 1353 misnyne Arch. for misrempe — sume
 Arch. — 1354 vore Cot. and Arch. — 1356 witestu Arch. hþitistu
 Cot. — hore Cot. — 1358 ne ne Cot. and Arch. — 1359 wymmon
 Arch. — 1360 hþeþer Arch. þeþer Cot. — 1362 hþaper Cot. — wile
 Arch. þule Cot. — 1365 wile Arch. þule Cot. — 1367 na Arch. —
 miht Cot. — 1368 unriht Cot. — 1370 & Arch. ah Cot. — neo Cot.
 na Arch. — mide Cot. — 1371 fale Cot. of alle Arch.

- par þeoves hi bereþ an honde
 Al spa hit is bi mine songe
 þah he beo god me hine mai misfonge
 1375 And drahe hine to sothede
 And to opre uvele dede
 Ac schaltu precche luve tele
 Beo hpuch heo beo uich luve is fele
 Bitpeone þeþmon and þimmanne
 1380 Ac 3ef heo is atbroide þenne
 Heo is unfele and forbrode
 Proþ þurþe heom þe holi rode
 þe rihte icunde spo forbreideþ
 Punder hit is þat heo napedeþ
 1385 And spo heo doþ for heo beoþ þode [ms. Arch. fol. 239 a]
 þe bute neste goþ to brode
 þummon is of nesche flesche
 And flesches lust is strong to cþesche
 Nis þunder nan þah he abide
 1390 For flesches lust hi makeþ slide
 Ne beoþ heo noht alle forlore
 þat stumpeþ at þe flesches more
 For moni þummon haveþ misdo
 þat (eft) arist up of þe slo
 1395 Ne beoþ noht ones alle sunne
 For þan hi beoþ tþeire cunne [ms. Cot. fol. 243 b]
 Sum arist of þe flesches luste
 And sum of þe goster custe
 þat flesh draheþ men to drunkenesse
 1400 And to þlonchede and to golnesse
 þe gost misdeþ þurh niþ and onde
 And seoppe mid murþe of monnes honde
 And 3eorneþ after more and more

1372 bered *Cot.* — 1374 heo *Cot. and Arch.* — 1375 drawe *Arch.* —
 1377 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — wrecche *Arch.* precch *Cot.* — 1378 bo þuch
Cot. beo hwich *Arch.* — ho bo *Cot.* — 1379 bitwene þe mon *Arch.*
 — þimmane *Cot.* wymonne *Arch.* — 1380 ah *Cot. and Arch.* —
 þeonne *Arch.* — 1381 he *Cot. and Arch.* — 1382 him *Arch.* — 1383
 ikunde *Cot.* icund' *Arch.* — 1386 nest *Cot.* — 1388 lustes *Cot. and*
Arch. — cþesse *Cot.* queisse *Arch.* — 1390 lustes *Cot. and Arch.*
 — 1391 nouht *Arch.* nopt (noyt?) *Cot.* — 1394 aris op *Cot.* — 1395
 nopt *Cot.* — 1396 kunne *Cot.* ikunne *Arch.* — 1397 sun *Cot.* —
 1399 fleys drahþ *Arch.* — drunnesse *Cot.* — 1400 wlonkhede *Arch.*
 pronc-hede *Cot.* — 1401 þurch niþe *Cot.* — 1403 3eoneþ *Cot.* wun-
 neþ *Arch.*

- And lutel recp of milce and ore
 1405 And stiþ on heh þurh modinesse
 And overhoheþ þane lasse
 Sei me soþ 3ef þu hit þost
 Hþeþer deþ þurse flesch þe gost
 þu miht segge 3ef þu þult
 1410 þat lasse is þes flesches gult
 Moni man is of his flesche clene
 þat is mid mode deovel imene
 Ne schal non mon þimman bigrede
 And flesches lustes hire upbreide
 1415 Spuch he may telen of golnesse
 þat sunegeþ þurse in modinesse
 Hþat 3if ich schulde a luve bringe
 þif oþer maide hþanne ich singe
 Ich þolde þiþ þe maide holde
 1420 3if þu hit const a riht atholde
 Lust nu ich segge þe hþar fore
 Up to þe toppe from þe more [ms. Arch. fol. 239 b]
 3ef maide luveþ derneliche
 Heo stumpeþ and falþ icundeliche
 1425 For þah heo sume hpile pleie
 Heo nis noht feor ut of þe þeie
 Heo mai (3et) hire gult atþende
 A rihte þeie þurh chirche bende
 And mai eft hæbbe to make
 1430 Hire leofmon þiþute sake [ms. Cot. fol. 243 c]
 And gon to him bi daies lihte
 þat er stal to bi þeostre nihte
 An 3ungling not hþat spuch þing is
 His 3unge blod hit dra3eþ a mis
 1435 And sum sot mon hit tiþþ par to
 Mid alle þan þat he mai do

1404 rekþ *Arch.* rehþ *Cot. emp. l. 491* — 1405 heyh *Arch.* hey *Cot.*
 — þury *Cot.* þur *Arch.* — 1406 overhoheþ þanne *Cot.* — 1407 sooþ
Cot. — 1408 wurse *Cot. and Arch.* — 1409 miht *Cot.* — 1410 þe
Cot. for þes — 1413 wimman *Cot.* wymman *Arch.* — 1414 & *Arch.*
 an *Cot.* — 1415 such heo mahte beo *Arch.* — 1416 þ' *Arch.* —
 1 *Arch.* i *Cot.* — 1417 hwet *Arch.* bet *Cot.* — 1421 vore *Cot. and*
Arch. — 1423 dernliche *Cot.* — 1425 þaih *Arch.* — sum *Cot. sū*
Arch. — 1426 nout *Cot.* — 1427 guld *Cot. and Arch.* — 1428 þury
Cot. — 1431 go *Cot.* — 1432 bistal on þeoster nyhte *Arch.* — 1433
 3ūling *Cot.* yongling *Arch.* — 1434 draþþ *Arch.* — 1435 man *Arch.*

- He cumeþ and fareþ and beod abid
 And heo bistant and oversit
 And bisehþ ilome and longe
 1440 Hpat mai þat child þah hit misfonge
 Hit nuste never hpat hit þas
 For þi hit þohte fondi þas
 And pite ipis hpuch beo þe gome
 þat of þe pilde makeþ tome
 1445 Ne mai ich (noht) for reoþe lete
 Hpanne ich iseo þe tohte ilete
 þe luvē bringþ on þe ʒunglinge
 þat ich of murʒþe heom ne singe
 Ich teche heom bi mine songe
 1450 þat spuche luvē ne lest noht longe
 For mi song lute hpile ileste
 And luvē ne deþ noht bute reste
 On spuche childre and sone ageþ
 And falþ a dun þe hote breþ
 1455 Ich singe mid heom one þroʒe
 Biginne on heh and endi laʒe
 And lete mine songes falle
 An lute hpile a dun mid alle
 þat maide pōt hpanne ich spike [ms. Arch. fol. 239c]
 1460 þat luvē is mine songes iliche
 For hit nis bute a lutel breþ
 þat sone cumeþ and sone geþ
 þat child bi me hit understand
 And his unred to rede pend [ms. Cot. fol. 243d]
 1465 And isihþ pel bi mine songe
 þat dusi luvē ne last noht longe
 Ac pel ich pule þat þu hit pite
 Loþ me beoþ pives utschute

1437 comeþ *Cot.* — & bid *Cot.* — 1438 & *Arch.* fan *Cot.* — he *Arch.*
 — bistarte *Arch.* — & *Cot.* an *Arch.* — oversid *Cot.* oþer sid *Arch.*
 — 1439 bisekþ *Arch.* — 1440 þ chil *Cot.* — 1441 nev' *Arch.* neav'
Cot. — 1444 so *Cot.* for þe — 1445 reuþe *Arch.* — 1446 hwanne
Arch. panne *Cot.* — 1447 bring *Cot.* and *Arch.* — þe not in *Arch.*
 — wunglinge *Arch.* — 1448 him *Cot.* hī *Arch.* — 1449 teache *Cot.*
 theche *Arch.* — 1450 spucch *Cot.* suyeh *Arch.* — last *Arch.* — noʒt
Cot. — 1451 ilest *Cot.* — 1452 doþ *Arch.* — noʒt *Cot.* — rest
Cot. — 1453 spuch *Cot.* such *Arch.* — 1455 þrowe *Arch.* — 1456
 an heyh *Arch.* — lowe *Arch.* — 1457 mines *Cot.* — 1458 an lute
 pile *Cot.* a lude wise *Arch.* — 1462 kumeþ *Cot.* — 1464 red wend
Cot. iwend *Arch.* — 1465 iseʒþ *Cot.* syhþ *Arch.* — 1466 noʒt *Cot.*
 — 1467 ah *Cot.* — wile *Arch.*

- Ac þif mai of me nime ʒeme
 1470 Ich ne singe noht hþan ich teme
 And þif ah lete sottes lōre
 þah spusingbendes þuncheþ sore
 Þunder me þunçþ þel starc and stor
 Hu eni mon so ever for
 1475 þat he his heorte mihte drive
 To do hit to opres mannes þive
 For oper hit is of tþam þinge
 Ne mai þat þridde no man bringe
 Oper þe laverd is þel aht
 1480 Oper aspunde and nis naht
 ʒef he is þurþful and aht man
 Nele no man þat þisdom can
 Hure of his þive do him schame
 For he mai him adrede grame
 1485 And þat he forleose þat þer hongep
 þat him eft þar to noht ne longep
 And þah he þat noht ne drede
 Hit is unriht and gret sothede
 To misdōn one gode manne
 1490 And his ibedde from him spanne
 ʒef hire laverd is forþurpe
 And unorne at bedde and at borde
 Hu mihte þar beo eni luve
 Hþanne a spuch cheorles buc hire lai buve
 1495 Hu mai þar eni luve beo
 Hþar spuch man gropeþ hire þeo [ms. Arch. fol. 239d]
 Her bi þu miht þel understōde
 þat on is a reu þat oper schōde [ms. Cot. fol. 244a]
 To stele to opres mannes bedde
 1500 For ʒif aht man is hire ibedde
 þu miht þene þat þe mistide
 Hþanne þu list bi hire side

1469 ah *Cot.* — wif *Arch.* ʒif *Cot.* — 1470 napt *Cot.* — 1471 auh
Arch. — 1472 bindeþ *Arch.* — 1473 pund'e *Cot.* — þungþ *Cot.*
 pinkþ *Arch. emp. l. 1672* — 1474 eavar *Cot.* — 1475 e *Cot.* he not
 in *Arch.* — myhte *Arch.* mihte *Cot.* — 1476 an o do *Cot.* — opers
Cot. — 1479 oþar *Cot.* — auht *Arch.* — 1480 nouht *Arch.* — 1486
 nojt *Cot.* — 1487 nojt *Cot.* — 1488 unriht *Cot.* — 1489 an o *Cot.*
 — 1491 forþurde *Cot.* — 1492 an *Cot.* — & *Cot.* — 1493 hw myhte
Arch. mihte *Cot.* — 1494 þanne *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — lay *Arch.*
 ley *Cot.* — 1496 þar *Cot.* — 1497 miht *Cot.* — 1500 bedde *Cot.*
 — 1501 miht *Cot.* — 1502 þanne *Cot.*

- And ȝef þe laverd is a þrecche
 Hƿuch este mihtestu þar fecche
 1505 Ȝif þu biþenchest hƿo hire offigge
 þu miht mid plate þe este bugge
 Ich not hu mai eni freo man
 For hire sechen after þan
 Ȝef he biþencþ bi hƿan he lai
 1510 Al mai þe luve gan a ƿai
 þe ule þas glad of spuche tale
 Heo þohhte þat þe nihtegale
 þah heo þel speke at þe frume
 Hadde at þen ende misnume
 1515 And seide nu ich habbe ifunde
 þat maidenes beoþ of þine imunde
 Mid heom þu holdest and heom biþerest
 And overspiþe þu hi herest
 þe lavedies beoþ to me iþend
 1520 To me heo hire mone send
 For hit itit ofte and ilome
 þat þif and þere beoþ unisome
 And þer fore þe þere gulte
 þat leof is over þummon to pulte
 1525 And speneþ on þare al þat he haveþ
 And siþeþ þare þat nopiht naveþ
 And haveþ at hom his rihte spuse
 Popes peste and lere huse
 þel þunne ischrud and ifed þrope
 1530 And let heo bute mete and clope
 Hƿan he cumeþ ham eft to his pive
 Ne dar heo noht a þord ischire [ms. Cot. fol. 244b]
 He chid and gred spuch he beo þod [ms. Arch. fol. 240a]
 And ne bringþ hom non oþer god
 1535 Al þat heo deþ him is unpille
 Al þat heo spekeþ hit is him ille

1503 wrecche *Arch.* þrecche *Cot.* — 1504 mihtestu *Arch.* miȝtistu
Cot. — vecche *Cot. and Arch.* — 1506 miȝt *Cot.* — 1509 biþenkþ
Arch. — 1511 hule *Cot.* — 1512 þoȝte þat te *Cot.* — 1513 at te
Cot. and Arch. — 1514 þan *Arch.* — 1520 mode *Cot.* — 1521 itid
Arch. — 1524 þ' *Arch.* — 1525 hare *Arch.* — 1526 siweþ *Arch.*
 siueþ *Cot.* — hare *Arch.* — noht *Arch.* no riht *Cot.* — 1527 atom
Arch. attom *Cot.* — riȝte *Cot.* riche *Arch.* — 1528 and *Arch. & Cot.*
 — 1529 isrud *Arch.* ischrud *Cot.* — ived *Cot. and Arch.* — 1531
 þan *Cot.* hwenne *Arch.* — comeþ *Cot.* — hō *Arch.* — 1532 noȝt
Cot. — 1534 heom *Cot.*

- And oft hpan heo noht ne misdep
 Heo haveþ þe fust in hire tep
 Nis nan mon þat ne mai ibringe
 1540 His þif amis mid spuche þinge
 Me hire mai so ofte misbeode
 þat heo do þule hire aþene neode
 La god hit þot heo nah ipeld
 þah heo hine makie cukepeld
 1545 For hit itit ilome and ofte
 þat his þif is þel nesche and softe
 Of faire bleo and þel idiht
 (For) þi hit is þe more unriht
 þat he his luve spene on þare
 1550 þat nis þurþ on of hire hare
 And spuche men beoþ þel manifolde
 þat þif ne cunne noht a riht holde
 Ne mot non mon þiþ hire speke
 He þeneþ heo þule an on tobreke
 1555 Hire spusing 3ef heo lokep
 Oper þiþ manne faire spekep
 He hire bilucþ mid keie and loke
 þar þurh is spusing-ofte ibroke
 For 3ef heo is þar to ibroht
 1560 Heo dep þat heo nadde er ipoht
 Dabet þat to spiþe hit bispeke
 þah spuche þives heom apreke
 Her of þe lavedies to me menep
 And þel sore me ahþeneþ
 1565 þel neh min heorte þule tochine
 Hpon ich biholde heore pine [ms. Cot. fol. 244c]
 Mid heom ich pepe spiþe sore
 And for heom bidde cristes ore
 þat (he) þe lavedi sone aredde

1537 ofte *Arch.* — noyt *Cot.* — 1539 no *Arch.* — 1540 spucche
Cot. suche *Arch.* — 1542 ahene *Cot.* — 1543 iwelde *Arch.* — 1544
 þa *Cot.* — kukepeld *Cot.* — 1545 lome *Cot.* — 1550 one *Cot.* —
 heare *Cot.* and *Arch.* — 1551 an spucche *Cot.*; & suche *Arch.* —
 1552 kunne nopt (noyt?) *Cot.* noht *not in Arch.* — riht *Cot.* — 1554
 wenep *Arch.* vened *Cot.* — wile *Arch.* — 1557 bilukþ *Arch.* bilup
Cot. — 1558 tobroke *Cot.* — 1560 he dep *Cot.* and *Arch.* — ear
Cot. and *Arch.* — ipoht *Arch.* — 1561 spuþe *Cot.* — 1562 spucche
Cot. suche *Arch.* — hire *Cot.* — 1564 ahwenep *Arch.* — 1565 wile
Arch. — 1566 hwenne *Arch.* — bire *Cot.* — wine *Arch.* — 1567
 swiþe *Arch.* spiþe *Cot.* — 1568 cristis *Cot.* — 1569 levedi *Arch.*

- 1570 And hire sende betere ibedde [ms. Arch. fol. 240b]
 An oper þing ich mai þe telle
 þat þu ne schalt for þine felle
 Ondspere none þar to finde
 Al þi (di)sputing schal aspinde
- 1575 Moni chapmon and moni cniht
 Luveþ and halt his þif a riht
 And spa deþ moni bondeman
 þat gode þif deþ after þan
 And serveþ him to bedde and borde
- 1580 Mid faire dede and faire porde
 And ʒeorne fondeþ hu heo muʒe
 Do þing þat him beo iduʒe
 þe laverd into þare þeode
 Fareþ ut on þare beire neode
- 1585 And is pat gode þif unblipe
 For hire laverdes utsipe
 And sit and sicþ þel sore oflonged
 And hire sore an heorte ongreþ
 Al for hire loverdes sake
- 1590 Haveþ daies care and nihtes þake
 And sþiþe longe hire is þe hþile
 And eche stape hire þunþ a mile
 Hþanne oþre slepeþ hire abute
 Ich one luste þar þiþute
- 1595 And pot of hire sore mode
 And singe a niht for hire gode
 And mine song for hire þinge
 Ich turne sum del to murninge
 Of hire seorʒe ich bere sume
- 1600 For þan ich am hire þel þelcume [ms. Cot. fol. 244d]
 Ich hire helpe hþat ich mai

1572 schald *Cot.* — 1574 þis *Arch.* — 1576 hlād *Cot.* — 1577 so
 doþ *Arch.* — 1579 to borde *Cot. and Arch.* — 1581 yorne *Arch.*
 — muhe *Cot.* mowe *Arch.* — 1582 iduwe *Arch.* — 1583 lov'd *Arch.*
 — 1584 nede *Cot.* — 1586 houndsipe *Cot.* houþsipe *Arch.* — 1587 sikþ
Arch. sihd̄ *Cot.* — 1588 horte onged *Cot.* — 1590 kare *Cot. and Arch.*
 — nihtes *Cot.* — 1591 swiþe *Arch.* spuþe *Cot.* — 1592 uych *Arch.*
 ek *Cot.* — steape *Cot.* — þunþ *Cot.* þinkþ *Arch.* — 1593 hwenne
Arch. — 1594 lust *Cot. and Arch.* — þiþute *Cot.* wipþute *Arch.*
 — 1596 nyht *Arch.* niht *Cot.* — 1597 mine (myn) gode song *Cot.*
 and *Arch.* — 1598 sū *Arch.* sun *Cot.* — murnige *Cot.* — 1599 hure
Cot. and Arch. — seorhe *Cot.* seorwe *Arch.* — 1601 i *Cot.*

- For heo geþ þane rihte pai
 Ac þu me havest sore igramed
 þat mine heorte is neh alamed
 1605 þat ich mai uneape speke
 Ac ȝet ich pule forþure reke
 þu seist þat ich am manne loþ [ms. Arch. fol. 240 c]
 And ever euch man is piþ me proþ
 And me mid stone and lugge þreteþ
 1610 And me toburstep and tobetep
 And hþanne heo habbeþ me ofslaȝe
 Heo hongep me on heore haȝe
 þar ich aschepele pie and crope
 From þan þat þar is isope
 1615 þah hit beo soþ ich do heom god
 And for heom ich schedde mi blod
 Ich do heom god mid mine deape
 þar fore þe is þel uneape
 For þah þu ligge dead and clinge
 1620 þi deþ nis noht to none þinge
 Ich not never to hþan þu miht
 For þu nart bute a þrecche þiht
 Ac þah mi lif me beo atschote
 þe ȝet ich mai do gode note
 1625 Me mai up one smale sticke
 Me sette a pude ine þe þicke
 And spa mai mon tolli him to
 Lutle briddes and ifo
 And spa me mai mid me biȝete
 1630 þel gode brede to his mete
 Ac þu nevre mon to gode
 Lives ne deapes stal ne stode

1602 hoȝep *Cot.* howep *Arch.* — 1603 ah *Cot.* & *Arch.* — igremed
Arch. — 1604 min *Cot.* myn *Arch.* — þel neh *Cot.* — alamed *Arch.*
 — 1605 unneape *Cot.* unneþe *Arch.* — 1606 ah *Cot.* — ic wile
 forþurre *Arch.* — 1607 ylað *Cot.* — 1608 pið *Cot.* — proð *Cot.*
 — 1610 toburstep *Cot.* toburste *Arch.* — 1611 hi *Arch.* — ofslahe
Cot. ofslawe *Arch.* — 1612 ī *Arch.* for on — hahe *Cot.* hawe *Arch.*
emp. l. 585 — 1613 ascheule *Arch.* — 1614 frō *Arch.* fron *Cot.* —
 þe *Cot.* for þat — þer *Arch.* — 1616 chadde *Cot.* — 1617 deþe
Arch. — 1618 vore *Cot.* — unneape *Cot.* unneþe *Arch.* — 1619 ded
Arch. — 1620 nouht *Arch.* napt (najt?) *Cot.* — 1621 nev' *Arch.* nea-
 ver *Cot.* — hwā *Arch.* — miȝt *Cot.* — 1622 wiht *Arch.* piȝt *Cot.*
 — 1623 ah *Cot.* — 1625 uppe *Arch.* — 1628 ivo *Cot.* and *Arch.* —
 1629 so *Arch.* — 1631 ah *Cot.* and *Arch.*

- Ich not to hpan þu bredst þi brod
 Lives ne deapes ne dep hit god [ms. Cot. fol. 245 a].
 1635 þe nihtegale iherde þis
 And hupte uppon on blope ris
 And herre sat þan heo dude er
 Ule heo seide beo nu þer
 Nulle ich þiþ þe plaidi na more [ms. Arch. fol. 240 d]
 1640 For her þu mist þi rihte lore
 þu 3elpest þat þu art manne lop
 And ever euch þiht is þiþ þe þrop
 And mid 3ollinge and mid igrede
 þu þanst þel þat þu art unlede
 1645 þu seist þat gromes þe ifoþ
 And heie on rode þe anhoþ
 And þe totpiccheþ and toschakeþ
 And sume of þe scheples makeþ
 Me þuncþ þat þu forleost þat game
 1650 þu 3elpest of þire o3e schame
 Me þuncþ þat þu me gest an honde
 þu 3elpest of þire o3ene schonde
 þo heo hadde þeos þord icpede
 Heo sat in one faire stede
 1655 And þar after hire-stefne dihte
 And song so schille and so brihte
 þat feor and ner me hit iherde
 þar fore an an to hire cherde
 þrusche and þrostle and þudeþale
 1660 And fuzeles boþe grete and smale
 For þan heom þuhte þat heo hadde
 þe ule overcome heo gradde

1633 hwan *Arch.* hpā *Cot.* — breist *Cot. and Arch.* — 1635 ihede
Cot. — 1636 uppe *Arch.* — 1637 ear *Cot.* — 1638 hule he *Cot.* —
 per *Arch.* pear *Cot.* — 1640 þe *Cot.* for þu — 1641 3eilpest *Cot.*
 yelpest *Arch.* — 1642 þid *Cot.* — þorp *Cot.* — 1643 yollinge *Arch.*
 3ulinge *Cot.* — 1644 þinchst *Arch.* — 1645 ifoð *Cot.* ivoþ *Arch.* —
 1646 heye *Arch.* — rodde *Cot.* — anhoð *Cot.* — 1647 totpichet &
 toschaked *Cot.* — 1648 summe *Cot.* sūme *Arch.* — schaples *Cot.*
 scheules *Arch.* — maked *Cot.* — 1649 þunch *Cot.* þinkþ *Arch.*
 — 1650 yelpest *Arch.* 3ulpest *Cot.* — owe *Arch.* — 1651 þunch
Cot. — 1652 3ulpest *Cot.* — owe *Arch.* — 1654 stude *Cot. and*
Arch. — 1655 stevene *Cot.* — 1657 fur *Arch.* — 1658 vore *Cot.*
and Arch. — an on *Arch.* — 1660 fuheles *Cot.* foweles *Arch.* —
 1661 þan þ' heō *Arch.* — 1662 houle *Cot.* — vor (for) þan heo
Cot. and Arch.

- And sunge al spa feole pise
 þat blisse pas a mong þe rise
 1665 Riht spa me gred þe manne a schame
 þat taveleþ and forleost þat game
 þeos ule þo heo þis iherde
 Havestu heo seide ibanned ferde [ms. Cot. fol. 245 b]
 And pultu precche pip me fihte
 1670 Nai nai navestu none mihte
 Hpat gredeþ þeo þat hider come [ms. Arch. fol. 241 a]
 Me punçþ þu ledest ferde to me
 3e schule pite ar 3e fleo heonne
 Hþuch is þe strengþe of mine cunne
 1675 For þeo þe haveþ bile ihoked
 And clivres scharpe and pel icroked
 Alle heo beoþ of mine cunrede
 And polde cumen 3if ich bede
 þe seolve coc þat pel can fihte
 1680 He mot mid me holde mid rihte
 For boþe þe habbeþ stefne brihte
 And sitteþ under peolcne bi nihte
 Schille ich an uthest up oþ grede
 Ich schal spo stronge ferde lede
 1685 þat oþer prude schal afalle
 A tord ne 3ive ich for oþ alle
 Ne schal ar hit beo fulliche eve
 A precche feþer on oþ bileve
 Ac hit pas unker forepard
 1690 þo þe comen hiderpard
 þat þe þar to holden scholde
 þat rihtne dom us 3ive polde

1663 vale *Cot. and Arch.* — an *Cot. for þat* — 1665 riht *Cot.* —
 1666 gome *Cot. and Arch.* — 1667 hule *Cot.* — 1669 preche pið
Cot. — fihte *Cot.* — 1670 mihte *Cot.* — 1671 heo *Arch.* — 1672
 pinkþ *Arch.* — ferd *Cot.* — 1673 schulle *Arch.* — 1674 strenþe
Cot. — kunne *Cot. and Arch.* — 1675 þ' *Arch. for þe* — 1676
 charpe *Cot.* — 1677 kunrede *Cot. and Arch.* — 1678 palde come
Cot. — 1679 seolve *Cot.* — fihte *Cot. vihte Arch.* — 1680 wiþ *Arch.*
for mid -- rihte *Cot.* — 1681 stevene brihte *Cot.* — 1682 welkne
Arch. — nihte *Cot.* — 1683 schulle *Arch.* — utest uppen *Cot.* —
 eu *Arch.* — 1684 shal *Cot.* — 1685 oure *Arch.* — proude *Cot.* —
 avalle *Cot. and Arch.* — 1686 tort *Cot.* — yeve *Arch.* — 1688
 wrecche *Arch. preche Cot.* — bileave *Cot.* — 1689 ah *Cot. and Arch.*
 — vorepard *Cot. voreward Arch.* — 1690 come *Cot.* — 1691 holde
Cot. — 1692 rihtne (ne inserted) *Cot. riht Arch.*

- Pultu nu breke forepard
 Ich pene dom þe puncþ to hard
 1695 For þu ne darst domes abide
 þu pult nu precche fihte and chide
 3et ich op alle polde rede
 Ar ich uthest uppon op grede
 þat (3e) oper fihtlac leteþ beo
 1700 And ginneþ rape a þei fleo
 For bi þe clivres þat ich bere
 3ef 3e abideþ mine here [ms. Cot. fol. 245 c]
 3e schule on oper þise singe
 And cursi alle fihtinge
 1705 For nis of op non so kene
 þat durre abide mine onsene
 þeos ule spac þel baldeliche
 For þah heo nadde spo hpatliche
 Ifare after hire here
 1710 Heo polde no þe les 3eve ansþere [ms. Arch. fol. 241 b]
 þe nihtegale mid spuche porde
 For moni man mid speres orde
 Haveþ lutle strengþe and mid his schelde
 Ac no þe les in one felde
 1715 þurh belde porde and mid ilete
 Deþ his ifo for arehþe sþete
 þe þrenne for heo cuþe singe
 þar com in þare more3eninge
 To helpe þare nihtegale
 1720 For þah heo hadde stefne smale
 Heo hadde gode þrote and schille
 And feole manne song a pille
 þe þrenne pas þel pis iholde
 For þah heo nere ibred a polde

1694 pinkþ *Arch.* þing *Cot.* — 1696 wilt *Arch.* — preche fihte *Cot.*
 — 1698 ihc utheste *Cot.* — up eu *Arch.* — 1699 eur fihtlak *Arch.*
 — 1703 schulleþ an *Arch.* — 1704 cursy *Arch.* acursi *Cot.* — fi3tinge
Cot. — 1705 vor *Cot. and Arch.* — 1707 hule *Cot.* — 1710 palde
 neo *Cot. na Arch.* — 3efe *Cot.* yeve *Arch.* — 1711 ni3tegale *Cot.*
 — spucche *Cot.* — 1713 strenþe *Cot.* — chelde *Cot.* — 1714 ah *Cot.*
and Arch. — neo *Cot. na Arch.* — 1715 þ *Cot.* — 1716 ivo *Cot.*
and Arch. — 1717 þranne *Cot.* — 1718 more3enngge *Cot.* morewen-
 inge *Arch.* — 1719 ni3tegale *Cot.* — 1720 stevene *Cot.* — 1721 þorte
Cot. — 1722 fale *Cot. and Arch.* — 1723 þranne *Cot.* — 1724 vor
 þeih *Arch.* vor þe3 *Cot.* at the bottom of the page, after l. 1735.

- 1725 Heo pas itozen a mong monne
 And hire pisdome brohte punne
 Heo mihte speke hpar heo polde
 Tofore þe kinge þah heo scholde
 Lusteþ heo cpaþ lateþ me speke
- 1730 Hpat pulle 3e pis pais tobreke
 And do þan (kinge) spuche schame
 3et nis he nouþer ded ne lame
 Unk schal itide harm and schonde
 3ef 3e doþ gripbruche on his londe
- 1735 Lateþ heo and beoþ isome
 And fareþ riht to oper dome [ms. Cot. fol. 245 d]
 And lateþ dom pis plaid tobreke
 Al spo hit pas erur bispeke
 Ich an pel cpaþ þe nihtegale
- 1740 Ac þrenne noht for þire tale
 Ac do for mire lahfulesse
 Ich nolde þat unrihtfulnessse
 Me at þen ende overcome
 Ich nam ofdrad of none dome
- 1745 Bihote ich habbe soþ hit is
 þat maister Nichole þat is pis
 Bitpihen us deme schule
 And 3et ich þene þat he þule
 Ac hpar mihte þe hine finde [ms. Arch. fol. 241 c]
- 1750 þe þrenne sat in ore linde
 Hpat nute 3e cpaþ heo his hom
 He þunep at Portes hom
 At one tune in Dorsete
 Bi þare see in ore utlete

1725 ho *Cot.* — itowen *Arch.* — mannenne *Cot. cmp. l. 563* mankunne
Arch. — 1726 þenne *Cot. and Arch. cmp. l. 132* — 1727 mihte *Cot.*
 — palde *Cot.* — 1728 tofore þe king *Cot.* — 1729 queþ leteþ
Arch. — 1730 ye *Arch.* — pes *Cot.* — 1731 þanne *Cot. and Arch.*
 — spuch *Cot. such Arch.* — 1732 yet *Arch. 3e Cot.* — heo *Arch.*
 — 1733 hunke *Cot. and Arch.* — 1734 we *Arch.* — 1736 eure *Arch.*
 — 1738 erure *Arch.* — 1739 unne *Arch.* — cpaþ *Cot. queþ Arch.*
 — nihtegale *Cot.* — 1740 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — þranne *Cot.* — nouht
Arch. napt (najt?) Cot. — þine *Arch.* — 1741 ah *Cot.* — myre
 lahfulesse *Arch.* — 1743 overkome *Cot.* — 1744 ofdred *Arch.* —
 1747 bituxen *Cot.* — schulle *Arch. schulde Cot.* — 1748 yet *Arch.*
 — wulle *Arch.* — 1749 ah þar *Cot. and Arch.* — 1750 þranne *Cot.*
 — hore *Arch.* — 1751 nuhte *Cot. nuhte Arch.* — 1753 ine *Cot.*

- 1755 þar he demep manie rihte dom
 And diht and þrit mani þisdom
 And þurh his muþ and þurh his honde
 Hit is þe betere in Scotlonde
 To seche hine is lihtlich þing
- 1760 He naveþ bute one þuning
 þat is biscopen muchel schome
 And alle þan þat of his nome
 Habbeþ iherd and of his dede
 Hwi nulleþ hi nimen heom to rede
- 1765 þat he pere mid heom ilome
 For teche heom of his þisdome
 And 3ive him rente on feole stude
 þat he mihte heom ilome beo mide
 Certes cþaþ þe ule þat is soþ
- 1770 þeos riche men þel muchel misdop [ms. Cot. fol. 246 a]
 þat leteþ þane gode mon
 þat of so feole þinge con
 And 3iveþ rente þel misliche
 And of him leteþ þel lihtliche
- 1775 Þiþ heore cunne heo beoþ mildre
 And 3eveþ rente lutle childre
 Spo heore þit hi demþ adþole
 þat ever abid maister Nichole
 Ac ute þe þah to him fare
- 1780 For þar is unker dom al 3are
 Do þe þe nihtegale seide
 Ac hþa schal unker speche rede
 And telle tofore unker deme
 þar of ich schal þe þel icþeme
- 1785 Cþaþ þe ule for al ende of orde
 Telle ich con þord after þorde [ms. Arch. fol. 241 d]

1755 mony riht *Arch.* rihte *Cot.* — 1757 þ *Cot.* — muþe *Cot. and Arch.* — 1758 into *Cot.* — 1759 hyne *Arch.* — 1760 wuning *Arch.* þuning *Cot.* — 1761 his *Cot.* — biscopen *Arch.* — schame *Cot. and Arch.* — 1763 ihert *Cot.* — 1764 heō *Arch.* — 1766 vor *Arch.* — 1767 a *Cot.* — vale *Cot. and Arch.* — 1768 mihte *Cot.* — be *Cot.* — 1769 quap *Arch.* — hule *Cot.* — soð *Cot.* — 1770 muche misdod *Cot.* — 1772 fele *Arch.* — 1773 yeveþ *Arch.* — 1775 þið *Cot.* — 1776 litte *Cot.* — 1777 so *Arch.* — demep *Arch.* — 1778 þ' ev' *Arch.* — 1779 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — 1781 nihtegale *Cot.* — 1782 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — þa *Cot.* hwo *Arch.* — 1783 tofore *Cot. and Arch.* — 1784 iqueme *Arch.* — 1785 queþ *Arch.* — houle *Cot.*

And ȝef þe pincþ þat ich misrempe
 þu stond aȝein and do me crempþ
 Mid þisse porde forþ hi ferde
 1790 Al bute here and bute ferde
 To Portes ham þat heo bicome
 Ac hu heo spedde of heore dome
 Ne can ich eu na more telle
 Her nis na more of þisse spelle

1789 ferden *Cot. and Arch.* — 1790 verde *Cot. and Arch.* — 1791
 þet (þer?) hi *Arch.* — 1792 ah *Cot. and Arch.* — 1793 chan *Cot.*
 — 1794 þis *Cot.*

*Note on l. 432, read morewe for mo rewe.
 L. 1308 left out in ms. Arch.*

CRITICAL AND EXPLANATORY NOTES.

L. 8, wole, in *ms. Cotton.*, is probably a mistake for uvele; *cmp. l. 31 wl = vul.*

L. 10, hi ought to be he.

L. 15, bope, in *ms. Cotton.*, may as well be read boye.

L. 14, beche, in *ms. Arch.*, is perhaps the right reading = bæche, valley.

L. 40, ʒoʒelinge, a mistake for ʒoʒelinge, connected with *Germ. jodeln*?

L. 51, instead of fote (*ms. note*) *Stevenson and Wright* read note, which, however, would suit neither the context, nor the rhyme.

L. 69, pe = pi *l. 277, 299 &c.*

L. 99, dahet, *Old French dehait*, affliction, misfortune (*Roquef. Gloss. 1, 354*).

L. 215, ware, in *ms. Arch.*, would not suit the context and is, therefore, to be considered as a blunder of the scribe.

L. 240, in *ms. Cotton.* a later hand has inserted eyen after niʒt; a correction which is to be rejected, because it would spoil the sense and the metre.

L. 242, the letters st of strind, in *ms. Cotton.*, are expunged by a later hand; though I can not explain it satisfactorily, I have retained the original reading, because rind does not well suit the context, and the corrector is not at all to be relied on.

L. 248, atprenche (*Stratmann's Diction. p. 669*) might be easily mistaken for atprenche, because of the similarity of the letters p and p; see note on *l. 1125 and 1566*.

L. 270, e ought to be written, though it would not be pronounced before a vowel.

L. 274, me, not in the manuscripts, is required by the sense and the metre.

L. 353, overcpatien seems to mean *cram to excess*, and to be connected with the provincial *Engl. quat* (*Stratm. Beiträge 425*), *Old French quatier* (*Roquef. Gloss. 2, 414, Diez etym. Wörterb. 277*).

L. 367, licst, I must own, looks more like liest in the manuscripts, besides there would probably be lixt in *ms. Arch.* I, therefore, have printed liest *l. 1335*.

L. 377, hokep (hooks), in both manuscripts, is perhaps a mistake for takep.

L. 384, I have not altered an to and, because *ms. Arch.* has a, and there may be a possibility that a substantive dare turn up.

L. 406, the negative nispicst is required by the sense: "For such becomes bold if thou fleest that will flee if thou dost not cease (yield)."

L. 424, iseop is a mistake of the scribe for isihp; *cmp. l. 407*.

L. 478, heom = him.

L. 614, *the sign in ms. Cotton. might be y, as well as p; w in ms. Arch. decided me for pernen.*

L. 637, *ifurne seems to be a substantive formed from ifurn.*

L. 682, *pene, doubt; cmp. l. 239.*

L. 689, *pest = pext*

L. 748, *pes, perhaps (Stratm. Diction. 690). This old word the writer of ms. Arch. left out, probably because he did not understand it.*

L. 749, *al has been added by me for the sake of the metre.*

L. 764, *solde, French solde? at all events it can not be scholde (should).*

L. 845, *þene, for þeine, l. 893 printed þeue by Stevenson, þeve by Wright.*

L. 932, *beon (pres. subj.) is required by beter is; besides, to beon would spoil the metre.*

L. 1047, *ileove, Middle High Germ. geliebe, who are dear to one another.*

L. 1125, *p, in ms. Cotton., looks almost like p; Stevenson and Wright, disregarding the rhyme, printed spore.*

L. 1172, *ms. Cotton. reads an þat ever; I have left out þat as redundant and spoiling the metre; in ms. Arch. ever is left out.*

L. 1195, *the absurd reading of ms. Cotton. & honge originated in the thoughtless scribe's mistaking an for and; it serves, however, to prove that ms. Arch. is not copied from ms. Cotton.*

L. 1246, *an I have admitted, in consideration of l. 1199.*

L. 1319, *might perhaps be amended thus: þat pite inoh of spuche þinge cume; then the sense would be: "The man must be well star-wise who know enough of the coming of such things, as thou sayst that is thy custom".*

L. 1322, *the reading of the manuscripts bihaitest is not to be explained; the conjectured bipaitest, although not found anywhere else, may mean regardest, beholdest.*

L. 1331, *chist = chidst.*

L. 1334, *the e of pife, in ms. Cotton., looks so much like t that, before I saw ms. Arch., I thought pif t(o) was to be read.*

L. 1336, *instead of þ (for þ i. e. þurh) me, Stevenson and Wright read in ms. Cot. þine, which, for the letters, they might be justified in doing, but not so for the sense and the metre; see l. 1351 and 1757.*

L. 1348, *alle is required by the metre,*

per óf beoþ álle min' íbélre,

as well as by the grammar, ibere being plural = Anglo-Sax. gebæru; cmp. l. 222.

L. 1353, *misrempe, I think, is the right reading, though the manuscript looks very much like mis tempe, for which a later hand wrote steppe in the margin; see note on l. 248.*

L. 1370, *the metre might be set right by substituting zet for no þe les.*

L. 1405, *þury, in ms. Cot., might as well be read þurp and þurþ. The signs in hey and þury are quite alike; see note on l. 15 and 614.*

L. 1434, *when using it, the author seems to have had child in his mind.*

L. 1438, *oversit, supersedet?*

L. 1447, wunglinge, in ms. Arch., is an instance more of the scribe's mistaking w for ʒ; see note on l. 215

L. 1476, the senseless reading ano, in ms. Cotton., arose from the scribe's mistaking t for ʒ (the sign for and); see l. 1489.

L. 1543, ipeld, I now think to be a substantive = Anglo-Sax. gepeald, power.

L. 1566, the reading of ms. Arch. wine originated in the inadvertent scribe's mistaking p for þ.

L. 1586, utsipe (Anglo-Sax. útsid, departure) is, I own, a rather venturous conjecture, but the only one I can make.

L. 1588, ongreþ = angreþ?

L. 1602, forhoʒeþ (forhoweþ) can not well be the right reading; it is, however, strange that both manuscripts should coincide in the mistake.

L. 1733, inc would suit the context better than unc.

L. 1764, heom = him? see note on l. 478.

L. 1779, ute, see Dictionary i. v. wíten.

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SENT ON ILL	OCT 09 2002	
OCT 03 1996	U. C. BERKELEY	
U. C. BERKELEY SENT ON ILL		
SEP 16 1998		
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