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SPECIMENS  
OF  
EARLY ENGLISH  
*MORRIS.*

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SPECIMENS  
OF  
EARLY ENGLISH

SELECTED FROM THE CHIEF ENGLISH AUTHORS

A. D. 1250—A. D. 1400

WITH

Grammatical Introduction, Notes, and Glossary

BY

R. MORRIS, ESQ.

*Editor of*

*'Hampole's Pricke of Conscience,' 'The Story of Genesis and Exodus,' &c.*

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## P R E F A C E.

AN intimate and thorough acquaintance with a language is only to be acquired by an attentive study of its literature. Grammars and histories of literature are, at best, but guides, and are far from being wholly trustworthy and reliable ; the statements and principles they contain need verification as well as illustration, and this necessitates a certain amount of familiarity with the literature itself.

In studying the later periods of the English language there is no lack of material, and the student has it in his power to correct, by his own reading and observation, any errors of fact that may occur in the text-books he uses.

With the literature of the earlier stages it is far different ; the printed editions of old authors are, on account of their rarity or price, inaccessible to ordinary readers, who are thus placed completely at the mercy of their guides.

The necessarily scanty extracts which occur, even in the best manuals of English literature, are quite inadequate to convey any clear notion of the dialect, grammar, and vocabulary of the writers of the early English period, and hence it is that most students find their information upon the subject limited to a list of names of persons, places, and dates, and some few uninteresting details, which, even in these days of competitive examinations, are accepted as a knowledge of English literature.

The aim of the present work is to supplement the ordinary text-books, and furnish students with abundant material for making themselves familiar with the older forms of English, and by this means enabling them to obtain a sounder knowledge of the language as spoken and written at the present day.

The 'Specimens,' which are chronologically arranged, may be considered as *types* of the English spoken within a century and a half of a most important period in its history. The year 1250 has been chosen as the starting-point, because about this date the language having undergone many changes owing to the loss of grammatical inflexions and a simplification of syntactical structure, was entering upon a new phase in its history, in which we may trace a gradual approximation to its modern representative, the English of the present day.

The extracts (in nearly every instance collated with the original MS.) present continuous narratives of considerable length, and embrace a variety of topics, among which may be mentioned Biblical translations, religious teaching, proverbs, history, and romance.

The extracts from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* are limited to two short narratives, because a more extended selection, by the present editor, is now in the press.

No knowledge of the oldest English or Anglo-Saxon is required before commencing the following pages, as the Grammatical Introduction, Notes, and Glossary contain all that is necessary to enable the student to read the most difficult specimens with pleasure and profit.

## CONTRACTIONS.

A. S.	...	Anglo Saxon.
D.	...	Danish.
Du.	...	Dutch.
E. E.	...	Early English.
Ger.	...	German.
O. Du.	...	Old Dutch.
O. E.	...	Old English.
O. H. Ger.	...	Old High German.
O. N.	...	Old Norse.
O. S.	...	Old Saxon.
Prov. E.	...	Provincial English.
Sw.	...	Swedish.
W.	...	Welsh.

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# GRAMMATICAL INTRODUCTION.

## I. EARLY ENGLISH DIALECTS.

FROM historical testimony, and an examination of the literary records of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, we learn that the English speech was represented by three principal dialects.<sup>1</sup>

1. The Northern dialect, spoken throughout the Lowlands of Scotland, Northumberland, Durham, and nearly the whole of Yorkshire. Roughly speaking, the Humber and Ouse formed the southern boundary of this area, while the Penine Chain determined its limits to the west.

2. The Midland dialect, spoken in the counties to the west of the Penine Chain, in the East-Anglian counties, and in the whole of the Midland district. The Thames formed the southern boundary of this region.

3. The Southern dialect, spoken in all the counties south of the Thames; in Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, and portions of Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

There is no doubt that the Midland dialect exercised an influence upon the Southern dialect wherever it happened to be geographically connected with it, just as the Northumbrian acted upon the adjacent Midland dialects; and this enables us to understand that admixture of grammatical forms which is to be found in some of our early English manuscripts.

<sup>1</sup> See Higden's account of these dialects, p. 338.



These dialects<sup>1</sup> are distinguished from each other by the *uniform* employment of certain grammatical inflexions.

A convenient test is to be found in the inflexion of the *plural* number, *present* tense, *indicative* mood.

The Northern dialect employs *-es*, the Midland *-en*, and the Southern *-eth*, as the inflexion for all persons of the plural present indicative.<sup>2</sup>

	NORTHERN.	MIDLAND.	SOUTHERN.
1st pers.	hop- <i>es</i> , <sup>3</sup>	hop- <i>en</i> , <sup>4</sup>	hop- <i>eth</i> , we hope.
2nd „	hop- <i>es</i> ,	hop- <i>en</i> ,	hop- <i>eth</i> , ye hope.
3rd „	hop- <i>es</i> ,	hop- <i>en</i> ,	hop- <i>eth</i> , they hope.

The inflexions of the singular number, though no absolute test of dialect, are of value in enabling us to separate the West-Midland from the East-Midland.

The West-Midland conjugated its verb in the singular number and present tense almost like the Northern dialect.

	WEST-MIDLAND.	NORTHERN.
1st pers.	hope,	hopes. <sup>3</sup>
2nd „	hopes,	hopes.
3rd „	hopes,	hopes.

The West-Midland of Shropshire seems to have employed the Southern inflexion *-est* and *-eth*, as well as *-es*, in the 2nd and 3rd persons sing. indic.

The East-Midland dialect, like the Southern, conjugated its verb in the sing. pres. indic. as follows :—

1st pers.	hope,
2nd „	hopest,
3rd „	hopeth.

<sup>1</sup> The Northern, Midland, and Southern dialects are sometimes designated as Northumbrian, Mercian, and West-Saxon.

<sup>2</sup> The Northern dialect often drops the *s* in the 1st person.

<sup>3</sup> This *-es* occurs also in the 2nd pl. imperative instead of *-etb*.

<sup>4</sup> The *-n* is frequently dropped in all persons.

Some of the East-Midland dialects geographically connected with the Northern seem to have occasionally employed the inflexion *-es* in the 2nd and 3rd pers. as well as *-est* and *-eth*. It is mostly found in poetical writers, who used it for the sake of obtaining an extra syllable rhyming with nouns pl. and adverbs in *-es*.

The West-Midland is further distinguished from the East-Midland dialect in employing the inflexion *-es* for *-est* in the 2nd pers. sing. preterite of regular verbs.

The following differences between the *Northern* and *Southern* dialects are worth noticing.

## I. GRAMMATICAL DIFFERENCES.

NORTHERN.	SOUTHERN.
1. <i>-es</i> in all persons of the pl. pres. indic. and	<i>-eth</i> .
2. <i>-es</i> in all persons of the sing. pres. indic.	<i>-e, -est, -eth (-th)</i> .
3. No inflexion of <i>person</i> in the sing. or pl. of the preterite indic. of regular verbs <i>-ed, -ed, -ed</i> ; as 1st <i>loved</i> , 2nd <i>loved</i> , 3rd <i>loved</i> (sing. and plural).	Retention of the inflexions <i>-ede, -edest, -ede</i> , sing.; as 1st <i>lovede</i> , 2nd <i>lovedest</i> , 3rd <i>lovede</i> . <i>-en</i> (pl.), as 1st, 2nd, 3rd <i>loveden</i> .
4. Dropping of final <i>e</i> in strong or irregular verbs, as <i>spak</i> , <i>spakest</i> ; <i>segh</i> , <i>sawest</i> .	2nd person of strong verbs ends in <i>-e</i> , as <i>spek-e</i> , <i>spakest</i> ; <i>seze</i> , <i>sawest</i> .
5. Infinitives drop the final <i>-en</i> ( <i>-e</i> ), as <i>sing</i> , to sing.	Infinitives retain the final <i>-en</i> or <i>-e</i> , as <i>sing-en</i> , <i>sing-e</i> , to sing.
6. <i>At</i> for <i>to</i> , as sign of the infinitive, e. g. <i>at fight</i> , to fight.	<i>At</i> is wholly unknown in this dialect.

## NORTHERN.

## SOUTHERN.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 7. <i>Sal, suld</i> , shall, should.   | <i>Schal, scholde (schulde)</i> .  |
| 8. Present or imperfect participles end in <i>-and</i> (or <i>-ande</i> ).   | Present or imperfect participles end in <i>-inde</i> .   |
| 9. Omission of the prefix <i>y-</i> or <i>i-</i> in past participles, e.g. <i>broken</i> .                                   | Retention of <i>y-</i> or <i>i-</i> in past participles, e.g. <i>y-broke, y-broken (i-broke, i-broken)</i> .               |
| 10. The final <i>-en</i> in past participles is never dropped.   | The final <i>-en</i> is often represented by <i>-e</i> , e.g. <i>y-broke = y-broken; i-fare = i-faren (gone)</i> .         |
| 11. No infinitives in <i>-i, -ie</i> , or <i>-y</i> .  | Numerous infinitives in <i>-i, -ie</i> , or <i>-y</i> , as <i>hatie, lovie, ponki, &amp;c.</i>                             |
| 12. No plurals in <i>-en</i> , except <i>eghen, hosen, oxen, schoon</i> .  | A large number of nouns form their plurals in <i>-en</i> .   |
| 13. The plurals <i>brether, childer, kuy (ky), hend</i> .  | <i>Children, brethren (brothren), ken (kun), honden (honde)</i> .  |
| 14. The genitive of nouns feminine in <i>-es</i> .   | The genitive of nouns feminine in <i>-e</i> .  |
| 15. No genitive plurals in <i>-ene</i> .   | Genitive plural in <i>-ene</i> retained as late as A.D. 1387.  |
| 16. Adjectives drop all inflexions of number and case, except <i>aller, alther, alder</i> , of all; <i>bather</i> , of both. | Adjectives retain many inflexions of number and case.  |
| 17. Definite article uninflected: <i>pat</i> a demonstrative adjective.  | Definite article inflected: <i>pat (pet)</i> the <i>neuter</i> of the definite article, and not a demonstrative adjective. |
| 18. <i>per, pir</i> (these).   | <i>pise, pes</i> .   |
| 19. <i>Ic, ik, I</i> .   | <i>Ich (uch)</i> .   |

NORTHERN.	SOUTHERN.
20. <i>Sco, sho</i> (she).	<i>Heo</i> ( <i>hi, hue, ho</i> ).
21. <i>Thai, thair</i> ( <i>thair</i> ), <i>thaim</i> ( <i>tham</i> ) = they, their, them.	<i>Hii</i> ( <i>hi, heo, hue</i> ), <i>here</i> ( <i>hire, heore</i> ), <i>hem</i> ( <i>heom, huem</i> ).
22. <i>Urs, zoures</i> ( <i>yhours</i> ), <i>hirs, thairs</i> = ours, yours, hers, theirs.	<i>Ure, eowere</i> ( <i>zoure</i> ), <i>hire, here</i> ( <i>heore</i> ).
23. Absence of the pronouns <i>ha</i> , or <i>a</i> = he; <i>hine</i> = him (acc.); <i>wan</i> = which, whom (acc.); <i>his</i> ( <i>hise, is</i> ) = them; <i>his</i> ( <i>is</i> ) = her.	Use of the pronouns <i>ha</i> ( <i>a</i> ), <i>hine</i> , <i>wan</i> , <i>his</i> ( <i>is</i> ), <i>his</i> ( <i>is</i> ).
24. Use of <i>hethen</i> = hence; <i>thethen</i> = thence; <i>whethen</i> = whence.	Unknown in Southern dialect.
25. <i>Sum</i> = as.	Unknown in Southern dialect.
26. <i>At</i> = to; <i>fra</i> = from; <i>til</i> = to.	Unknown in Southern dialect.
27. Conj. <i>at</i> = that.	Unknown in Southern dialect.

## II. ORTHOGRAPHICAL DIFFERENCES.

NORTHERN.	SOUTHERN.
1. <i>ā</i> , <i>ban</i> (bone), <i>laf</i> (loaf),	<i>ō</i> . <i>bon</i> . <i>lof, loof</i> .
2. <i>kin</i> , <i>hil</i> (hill), <i>pit</i> ,	<i>kun</i> . <sup>1</sup> <i>hul</i> . <i>put</i> .
3. <i>k</i> , <i>aske</i> (to ask), <i>bink</i> , <i>cloke</i> (clutch), <i>kirke</i> (church),	<i>ch</i> . <i>esse</i> . <i>bench</i> . <i>clouche</i> . <i>chirche</i> .

<sup>1</sup> The Kentish dialect substitutes *e* for *u*, as *ken* (kin), *bel* (hill), *pet* (pit).

NORTHERN,	SOUTHERN.
<i>croke</i> (cross),	<i>crouche</i> .
<i>rike</i> (kingdom),	<i>riche</i> .
<i>skrike</i> (screech, shriek),	<i>schriche</i> ( <i>schirche</i> ).
<i>sek</i> (sack),	<i>zech</i> ( <i>sech</i> ).
4. Absence of compound vowels.	Use of the compound vowels <i>ea, eo</i> ( <i>ie, ue</i> ). <sup>1</sup>
5. <i>qu</i> ( <i>qw</i> ), <i>quat</i> (what),	<i>hw</i> ( <i>wh</i> ). <i>hwat</i> .
6. <i>f</i> , <i>fel</i> (fell), <i>fa</i> (foe),	<i>v</i> . <i>vel</i> . <i>vo</i> . <sup>2</sup>

## II. OUTLINES OF EARLY ENGLISH GRAMMAR.<sup>3</sup>

WITH regard to the Alphabet, it is only necessary to mention that *ð* and *þ* are used for *th*. An initial *ȝ* (A. S. *g*) answers to *y* (occasionally *g*); *ȝ* final and before *t* corresponds to *gh*.

### NOUNS.

**Gender.**—The gender of Old English nouns are three,—Masculine, Feminine, and Neuter, agreeing in general with the Anglo-Saxon or oldest English forms.

Neut. <i>wyf, child</i> .	A. S. <i>wif, cild</i> , woman, child.
Fem. <i>soul, sawel, heorte</i> ( <i>herte</i> ).	A. S. <i>sawel, heorta</i> , soul, heart.
Masc. <i>drem</i> .	A. S. <i>dream</i> , song.

<sup>1</sup> The Southern dialect of Kent seems to have pronounced *ea* as *y*, as we find *east, eald* (old), written *yeast, yeald*.

<sup>2</sup> The Kentish dialect of the fourteenth century, like the modern provincial dialects of the South of England, has *z* for *s*, as *zinge*, to sing; *zay*, say; *zede*, said.

<sup>3</sup> These Outlines are based upon the Southern dialect.

After A.D. 1350 we find a tendency to limit the use of the neuter gender, as in the modern stage of the language.

**Declension.**—Nouns may be divided into three declensions:—

## DIVISION I.

*Class i.* Nouns of the *n* declension containing masculine, feminine, and neuter substantives ending in *-e* (originally in *-a* or *-e*) and forming the plural in *-en* (originally in *-an*).

*Class ii.* Nouns (originally feminine) ending in a consonant and forming the plural in *-en* (originally in *-a*).

*Class iii.* Nouns (originally feminine) ending in *-e* (originally in *-u*) and forming the plural in *-en* (originally in *-a*).

## DIVISION II.

*Class i.* Nouns (originally neuter) ending in a consonant and having the singular and plural alike.

*Class ii.* Nouns (originally neuter) ending in a vowel (originally in *-w*, *-e*, or *-u*, together with some few ending in a consonant and forming the plural in *-en* (originally in *-u*).

## DIVISION III.

*Class i.* Nouns (originally masculine) ending in a consonant and forming the plural in *-es* (originally in *-as*).

*Class ii.* Nouns (originally masculine) ending in a vowel and forming the plural in *-en* (originally in *-u*).

DIVISION I.—*Class i.*

	E. E.			SINGULAR.			A. S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>		<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	sterre (star),	tonge (tongue),	e3e (eye).	steorra,	tunge,	eáge.	steorra,	tunge,	eáge.
Gen.	sterre,	tonge,	e3e.	steorran,	tungan,	eágan.	steorran,	tungan,	eágan.
Dat.	} sterre,	tonge,	e3e	} steorran,	tungan,	eágan.	} steorran,	tungan,	eáge.
Acc.									

	E. E.		PLURAL.	A. S.		
	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
Nom. } Acc. }	sterren,	tongen,	eʒen.	steorran,	tungan,	eágan.
Gen.	sterrene,	tongene,	eʒene.	steorraena,	tungena,	eágena.
Dat.	sterren,	sterren,	eʒen.	steorrum,	tungum,	eagum.

In like manner are declined:—*bee*, pl. *been*; *chirche*, pl. *chirchen*; *eare*, *ere* (ear), pl. *earen*, *eren*; *flo* (arrow), pl. *flon*; *fo* (enemy), pl. *fon*; *gome*, *gume* (man), pl. *gomen*; *io* (toe), pl. *ton*, *toon*; *wise* (manner), pl. *wisen*; *woke*, *wuke* (week), pl. *woken*.

*Lefdye* (lady); *wriʒte*, a wright, workman; *time*; *eorþe* (earth)—although belonging to this declension, generally form the plural in *-es*.

## Class ii.

	E. E.	SINGULAR.	A. S.
Nom.	sawel, sauel	(soul).	sáwel.
Gen.	sowle, soule.		sáwle.
Dat. } Acc. }	sowle, soule.		sáwle.

## PLURAL.

Nom.	sowlen, soulen.	sáwla.
Gen.	sowlene, soulene.	sáwla, sawlena.
Dat. } Acc. }	sowlen, soulen.	{ sáwlum, sáwla.

Thus are declined:—*ben* (prayer), pl. *benen*; *edder* (adder), pl. *eddren*; *lay* (law), pl. *layen*, *lawen*; *syn* (sin), pl. *synnen*, *sunnen*; *tide* (time), pl. *tiden*. *Niʒt* (night), *wiʒt* (wight, creature), remain unchanged in the plural. Cp. the compounds *se'ennight*, *fortnight*. *World* often forms the genitive singular in *-es*. *Hand*, *sin*, form also the plural in *-e*, as *honde*, *sinne*, hands, sins.

## Class iii.

E. E.	SINGULAR.	A. S.
Nom.	dore (door).	dur-u.
Gen.	dore.	dure.
Dat. } Acc. }	dore.	{ dure, dura.
PLURAL.		
Nom.	doren.	dura.
Gen.	dorene.	dura (durena).
Dat. } Acc. }	doren.	{ durum, dura.

Like *dore* are declined *denne*, a den; *gife*, a gift.

To this declension belonged originally *cu*, *cou* (cow), pl. *kun*, *ken* (kine). The Northern dialect prefers *ky*, *kye*.

**Genitive of Feminine Nouns.**—From the above declensions of feminine nouns it is seen that the genitive case is denoted by the vowel *-e* and not *-es*. Chaucer has '*heorte blood*,' heart's blood; '*widewe sone*,' widow's son; '*The Prioressse Tale*' the Tale of the Prioress. This rule is well illustrated in the modern terms *Lord's day* and *Lady day* (the day of our lady, the Virgin Mary).

**Dialectical varieties.**—As early as the latter part of the twelfth century we find a tendency in Northern writers to adopt the *-es* as the genitive inflexion of feminine as well as of masculine nouns.

**Plurals in *-en*.**—We often find the same words forming their plurals in *-es* and *-en*, even in Southern writers.

## DIVISION II.—Class i.

E. E.	SINGULAR.	A. S.
Nom. and Acc.	hors (horse).	hors.
Gen.	horses.	horses.
Dat.	horse.	horse.



	E.E.	PLURAL.	A.S.
Nom. and Acc.	hors.		hors.
Gen.	horse.		horsa.
Dat.	horse.		horsum.

After the same manner are declined:—*hus* (house); *der* (deer); *bern, barn* (child); *spel* (story); *schep* (sheep); *wif* (woman, wife); *3er* (year). *Wilde der, wilde hors*, signify wild animals, wild horses; *horse knaves* = horse-servants, grooms. In modern English, *deer, horse, sheep, swine, year*, have a *collective* sense and remain unchanged in the plural.

Shakespeare (*Ant. and Cleop.* iii. 6) uses *hors* as a collective name:

“The wife of Anthony  
Should have an army for an usher, and  
The neighs of *horse* to tell of her approach.”

		Class ii.			
E.E.		SINGULAR.	A.S.		
Nom. and Acc.	schip (ship),	{ traw, } (tree). traw,	scip,	treów.	
Gen.	schipes,	{ trowes, } trauwes.	scipes,	treówes.	
Dat. }	schipe,	{ trauwe. trowe.	scipe,	treówe.	
Acc. }			scip,	treów.	
		PLURAL.			
Nom. and Acc.	schipen,	{ trauwen, } trowen, tren.	scipu,	treówu.	
Gen.	{ schipene, } schipe,	{ trauwene, } trowene, trene.	scipa,	treówa.	
Dat. }	schipen,	{ trauwen, } trowen, tren.	scipum,	treówum.	
Acc. }			scipu,	treówu.	

In the same way are declined:—*deovel* (devil); *fat* (vat); *heved, heaved* (head); *lim* (limb); *riche* (kingdom); *token* (sign); *sorwe* (sorrow); *wonder* (marvel); *werre* (war). *Calf, child, ey*

(egg), *lamb*, form their plural in *-ren* (originally *-ru*), as—*Calvren* (A.S. *cealfru*); *children, childern* (A.S. *cildru*); *eyren* (A.S. *ægry*); *lambren* (A.S. *lambry*).

**Dialectical varieties.**—The Northern dialect avoids the use of these plurals in *-ren*. All except *child* (pl. *childer*) form their plurals in *-es*.

DIVISION III.—*Class i.*

E.E.	SINGULAR.	A.S.
Nom. and Acc.	del (part).	dæł.
Gen.	deles.	dæles.
Dat. }	dele.	{ dæle.
Acc. }		
PLURAL.		
Nom. and Acc.	deles.	dælas.
Gen.	delene.	dæla.
Dat. }	deles.	dælum.
Acc. }		

Thus also are declined:—*day*; *engel* (angel); *feld* (field); *muth* (mouth); *king*; *ston* (stone); *wey* (way). *Fend* (enemy), *frend, freond* (friend), are used as plurals, the older forms being *fýnd* or *feònd*, *frynd* or *freònd*. *Winter* has the pl. *winter* and *winters*; *got, gayt* (goat) makes the pl. *geet* (Northern *gayt*). *Fader* drops the *-es* in the genitive case.

*Class ii.*

E.E.	SINGULAR.	A.S.
Nom. and Acc.	sone, sune (son).	sunu.
Gen.	sone, sune.	sunu.
Dat. }	sone, sune.	sunu.
Acc. }		
PLURAL.		
Nom.	sonen, sunen (sune, sunes).	sunu.
Gen.	sonene, sunene.	sunu.
Dat.	sonen, sunen.	sunum.
Acc.	sone, sune.	sunu.

In the same manner are declined:—*dozter* (daughter), pl. *doztren*; *moder* (mother), pl. *modren*; *rother* (ox), pl. *rotheren*; *suster* (sister), pl. *sustren*. *Brother*, *moder*, *dozter* are indeclinable in the singular. *Brother* makes the plural *brothren* and *bretheren*.

**Dialectical varieties.**—The Northumbrian dialect employs *brether*, *brethere* (brethren), and the West-Midland has the curious pl. *dezter* (daughters).

### I. General Remarks on the Declensions.

**Case endings.**—*a.* The dative singular of all the declensions is denoted by a final *-e*.

*b.* In the Northern dialect the genitive *-es* is often omitted, as *man sone* (son of man); *hefd haire* (hair of the head).

*c.* No trace of the genitive plural *-ene* or *-en* is to be found in the Northern dialects. The genitive in *-ene* (*-en*, *-yn*), in the other dialects, is often superseded by the dative with a preposition.

*d.* The A.S. dative pl. *-um*, in some few cases, is denoted by *-e*; in the majority of instances it is the same as the nominative.

### II. Number.

**Plurals in -en.**—*a.* The Northern dialect seems to avoid the use of this inflexion, and the only instances that occur are *eghen* (eyes), *oxen*, *hosen*, and *shoon*.

*b.* *Brether* (brothers), *childer* (children), *hend* (hands), *hern* (brains), *ky* (cows) are properly Northern plurals, but are occasionally found in Midland dialects having Northern tendencies.

### ADJECTIVES.

Adjectives have a Definite and an Indefinite form; the former is used when the adjective is preceded by the de-

finite article, a demonstrative or a possessive pronoun; the latter in all other cases.

## I. DEFINITE DECLENSION.

Examples—*god* (good); *þe god-e* (the good).

	E.E.			SINGULAR.	A.S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>		<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	god-e,	gode,	gode.		góda,	góde,	góde.
Gen.	{ goden, gode, }			of all genders.	gódan, of all genders.		
Dat.	{ goden, gode. }			” ”	gódan. ” ”		
Acc.	{ goden, gode. }			gode, gode.	gódan, gódan, góde.		

Nom.	{ goden, gode. }	gód-an.
Gen.	{ godene, <sup>1</sup> gode. }	gódena.
Dat.	{ godu- <sup>ei</sup> , gode. }	gódum.
Acc.	{ goden, gode. }	gódan.

## II. INDEFINITE DECLENSION.

Example—*god* (good).

	E. E.			SINGULAR.	A. S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>		<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	god,	god,	god.		gód,	gód,	gód.
Gen.	godes,	godre,	godes.		gódes,	gódre,	gódes.
Dat.	gode,	godre,	gode.		gódum,	godre,	godum.
Acc.	godne,	gode,	god.		gódne,	góde,	gód.

<sup>1</sup> This form seldom occurs after A. D. 1200.

	E.E. <i>M. F. and N.</i>	PLURAL. <i>Masc. and Fem.</i>	A.S. <i>Neut.</i>
Nom. and Acc.	gode,	góde.	gód(-u).
Gen.	godre,	gód-ra.	gódra.
Dat.	gode,	gódum.	gódum.

*Remarks on the Declension of the Adjective.*

a. The vocative of adjectives takes the definite inflexion of the strong declension, and terminates in *-e*; as, 'O *stronge* god,' 'O *3onge* (young) Hughe.'

b. The genitive singular of the indefinite declension is more often expressed by the *dative* with a preposition than by the inflexion *-es*.

Such forms as *alleskynnes* (all kinds of), *noskynnes* (no kind of), are instances of the genitives *alles* (of all) and *nones* (of none).

The Northern dialect frequently employs the contracted forms *alkin* (all kind of); *nankin*, *nakin* (no kind of); *ilkin* (each kind of); *sumkin* (some kind of); *whatkin* (what kind of).

c. The genitive plural *-re* is retained in but few cases; *beye* (both) makes gen. pl. *beire* (Northern *bather*); its latest example is *alre*, *alder*, *alther* (of all).

d. Adjectives qualifying nouns of Romance origin form their plural in *-es*, as *wateres principales* (chief rivers); *thinges espritueles* (spiritual things).

COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES.

The comparative and superlative of adjectives are regularly formed by adding *-ere*, *-er*, and *-este*, *-est* to the indefinite form. The Southern dialect often employs *-ore*, *-or*, and *-oste*, *-ost*; and the Northern *-are*, *-ar*, and *-aste*, *-ast*, instead of *-ere* and *-este*.

Adjectives and adverbs ending in *-lich*, *-liche*, have *-laker*

or *-loker* in the comparative, and *-lakest* or *-lokest* in the superlative. Adjectives and adverbs in the Northern dialect end in *-lic*, *-like*, or *-ly*, instead of *-lich*, *-liche*.

## IRREGULAR COMPARISONS.

The following adjectives are irregularly compared :—

POSITIVE.		COMPARATIVE.	A. S.	SUPERLATIVE.	A. S.
er, ere, ar, or	}	(before, early),	} erur,	} ærre,	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{erst,} \\ \text{arst,} \\ \text{orest,} \end{array} \right\}$ ærest.
ald, old	}	(old),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{aldre,} \\ \text{eldre,} \end{array} \right\}$	} yldre,	} eldest, yldest.
bad,			} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{badder,} \\ \text{wers,} \\ \text{wors,} \end{array} \right\}$	} wyrs,	} worst, wyrst.
fer	}	(far),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{firre,} \\ \text{fer,} \\ \text{ferre,} \end{array} \right\}$	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{fyrre,} \\ \text{fyr,} \end{array} \right\}$	} ferrest, fyrrest.
god	}	(good),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{bet,} \\ \text{betre,} \end{array} \right\}$	} bet,	} best, $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{betest.} \\ \text{betst.} \end{array} \right\}$
heh, he3	}	(high),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{hirre,} \\ \text{herre,} \end{array} \right\}$	} hýrre,	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{he3est,} \\ \text{hest,} \\ \text{hext,} \end{array} \right\}$ héhst. hýhst.
ille	}	(bad),	} war, <sup>1</sup>	}	} worst.
yvel, uvel	}	(evil),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{warre,}^1 \\ \text{werre,} \\ \text{worre,} \end{array} \right\}$	}	} werst.
lang, long	}	(long),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{leng,} \\ \text{lenger,} \end{array} \right\}$	} lenger,	} lengest, lengest.
lyte	}	(little),	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{lasse,} \\ \text{lesse,} \\ \text{les,} \end{array} \right\}$	} $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{læsse,} \\ \text{læs,} \end{array} \right\}$	} lest, læst.

<sup>1</sup> *War, warre*, are not found in the Southern dialect.

POSITIVE.	COMPARATIVE.	A.S.	SUPERLATIVE.	A.S.
mikel, michel, muchel, miche, moche	(much),	{ mo, mor,	má, máre, most, mest,	} mæst.
neg, nez, neh	(nigh),	{ nerre, ner,	{ nearre, near, nyr, neʒest, nest, next,	} nyhst, nehst.
sare, sore	(sore),	{ sarre, sorre,	sarrest. sorest.	

## NUMERALS.

NUMERALS.	ORDINALS.
þe (þat) forme, fyrste } (ton, tone = that one) }	first.
þe (þat) oþer, toþer (= } that other), }	second.
þe (þat) þridde,	third.
ferþe,	fourth.
fifte,	fifth.
sixte, }	sixth.
sexte, }	
seofeþe, }	seventh.
seveþe, }	
eizteþe. }	eighth.
eizteþe, }	
nipe,	ninth.
tiþe, }	tenth.
teþe. }	

**Dialectical varieties.**—*Twain* (two), *thrin* (three), *fon*, *fone*, *fune* (few), are Northern forms.

The Southern numerals answering to *seventh*, *eighth*, &c., end in *-þe*, *-the*; the corresponding Northern numerals end

in *-end* (occasionally in *-and*), as *sevend*, *aghtend*, *achtand*, *neghend*, *tend*, and are due to Norse influence. The Kentish dialect prefers *-ende* to *-þe*, agreeing with the Old Frisian forms in *-nd*. Many Midland works have examples of forms in *-nþe*.

## DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES.

	E. E.		SINGULAR.		A. S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>		<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	þe,	{ þa, þeo, þo,	{ þat, þet. }		se,	seo,	þæt.
Gen.	þes, <sup>1</sup>	{ þare, þere,	þes.		þæs,	þære,	þæs.
Dat.	þan,	{ þare, <sup>2</sup> þere,	þan.		þám,	þære,	þám.
Acc.	{ þen, þene, þan, þane,	{ þo, þe,	{ þat. þet. }		þone,	þá,	þæt.
Abl.	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .		þý,	þý,	þý. <sup>3</sup>
PLURAL.							
Nom. and Acc.			þo, þa.		þa.		
Gen.			{ þare, þere. }		þára.		
Acc. and Dat.			þan.		þám.		

	E. E.		SINGULAR.		A. S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>		<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	þis, þes, <sup>4</sup>	{ þeos, þues, <sup>4</sup>	þis.		þes,	þeos,	þis.

<sup>1</sup> Not often employed.<sup>2</sup> Sometimes written *þar*.<sup>3</sup> Properly instrumental, as *þy má* = *eo magis*.<sup>4</sup> Retained as late as A. D. 1387.



	E. E.		SINGULAR.	A. S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Gen.	þises,	þisse,	þises.	þises,	þisse,	þises.
Dat.	{ þise, þisen, }	þisse,	þise.	þisum,	þisse,	þisum.
Acc.	{ þisne, þerne, <sup>1</sup>	{ þos, þise, }	þis.	þisne,	þás,	þis.

## PLURAL.

Nom.	þeos, þues, þes, þos, þis, þise.	þás.
Gen.	þise, þisse.	þissa.
Dat.	{ þise, þisen. }	þisum.
Acc.	þes, þise, &c.	þás.

**Dialectical varieties.**—*a.* In the Northern dialect the definite article is indeclinable in the singular number. The plural is þa or þaa.

*b.* In the Southern dialect þat or þet is the neuter article; in the Northern it is used as a demonstrative adjective, having for its plural þas = those.

*c.* Þisser, þissere<sup>2</sup> (gen. and dat. sing. fem.) is occasionally, in the Kentish dialect, used instead of þisse (with preposition); and þissere<sup>3</sup> (gen. and dat. pl. fem.) for þisse (A. S. þissa).

*d.* Demonstrative adjectives peculiar to the Northern dialect are:—

1. Þir, þer, þere (Icelandic, þau, þeir, þær) (these).
2. Swithk, slike, silk, sic (such).
3. Ilka, each (one).

*e.* Þellych, þellyche (þilk, þulk, þilke, þulke) (this, suchlike, these), is peculiar to the Southern dialect.

<sup>1</sup> þerne = þesne, is peculiar to the Kentish dialect.

<sup>2</sup> A. S. þissere.

<sup>3</sup> A. S. þissera.

## PRONOUNS.

## I. PERSONAL PRONOUNS.

The personal pronouns are—*Ich* (I), *þu*, *þou* (thou), *he* (he), *heo* (she), *hit* (it).

		E. E.	SINGULAR.	A. S.		
Nom.	}	Ich, uch, <sup>1</sup> ic, ik, I, <sup>2</sup>	þu, þou.	Ic,	þu.	
Gen.						
Dat.	}	me,	þe.	me,	þe.	
Acc.						
		DUAL.	PLURAL.	DUAL.	PLURAL.	
Nom.		wit, <sup>3</sup>	we.	wit,	we.	
Gen.		unker,	ure, ur.	uncer,	úre.	
Dat.	}	unc, unk,	ous, us.	unc,	ús.	
Acc.						
Nom.		get, git,	ʒe, ʒhe, ye.	git,	ge.	
Gen.		gunker,	eower, gure, ʒure.	incer	eówer.	
Dat.	}	gunk,				
Acc.						
		E. E.	SINGULAR.	A. S.		
		Masc.	Neut.	Masc.	Fem.	Neut.
Nom.	}	a, heo, hi, ha, hy, ho, he, hue,	hit, it.	he,	heó,	hit.

<sup>1</sup> This pronoun is still preserved in the South-Western dialects under the forms *Ucb* and *Utby*.

<sup>2</sup> *Ic*, *Ik*, and *I* are Northern forms.

<sup>3</sup> The dual of the personal pronouns are seldom employed, and seem to have been disused before A. D. 1300.

	E.E.		SINGULAR.	A.S.		
	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Gen.	his,	hire,	his.	his,	hire,	hfs.
Dat.	him,	hire,	him.	him,	hire,	him.
Acc.	{ hine, <sup>1</sup> him,	{ hire, hi, his,	{ hit, it. }	hine,	hi,	hit.
FLURAL.						
Nom.	hi, hii, heo.			hí.		
Gen.	{ hire, here, heore, huere, hor. }			hira (heora).		
Dat.	heom, huem, hem, hom.			him (heom).		
Acc.	hi, his, hise, is.			hi.		

The personal pronouns are frequently used reflectively; as, *Iche me reste*, I rest myself.

Self is declined like an adjective (in the oblique cases, *selve* sing., *selven* pl.); so that we easily understand such forms as *Ich silf* = I myself, *þu silf* = thou thyself; (*Ich*) *me sylf* = I myself, where *self* is placed after the *dative* of the personal pronoun. Cp. Fr. *moi-même*, *lui-même*, &c.

**Dialectical varieties.**—*a.* *He* = East-Midland for *hi*, they; *ho* = West-Midland for *heo*, she; *sco*, *scho* = Northern for *heo*, she.<sup>2</sup>

*b.* *A* (*Ha* = he, she, it, they) is peculiar to the Southern dialect.

*c.* *His* (*hise*, *is*) = them; *his* (*is*), her, occur in *Southern* writers, but are wholly unknown in the Northern dialect. *is* = them, is found in *Genesis and Exodus* (East-Midland), where it coalesces with (*1*) verbs, as *caldes* = *calde es*,<sup>3</sup> called

<sup>1</sup> *Hine* (*ine*, *in*) = him, is still retained in the modern Southern dialect; as, 'I seed *en*' = I saw him

<sup>2</sup> *Sbee* and *they* (*tbay*) do not occur in any pure Southern writer before A.D. 1387

<sup>3</sup> The oldest form of this pronoun is *bes*.

them; *dedis* = *dede is*, placed (did) them: (2) with pronouns, as *hes* = *he + is*, he, them; *wes* = *we + is*, we, them.

*d.* The pronoun *hit* (it) in the West-Midland dialect is used as a possessive pronoun; as *hit dedez*, its deeds; *hit coostez*, its properties.

*e.* *Hit* or *it* in the East-Midland dialect coalesces with (1) verbs, as *sagt* = *sag it*, saw it; *havedit* = *havede + it*, had it; *wast* = *was + it*, it was: (2) with pronouns, as *ghet*, *get* = she, it.

*f.* *Hine*, him, is not found in the Northern dialects.

*g.* *Ʒaa*, *Ʒai* (they); *Ʒair*, *Ʒar* (their); *Ʒam*, *Ʒaim* (them)—are Northern forms, and are not used by Southern writers.

*h.* *Ʒei* is a Midland form of *Ʒai* (they).

*i.* In the Southern dialect the personal pronoun *Ich* coalesces (1) with the 3rd pers. pl. as *Ichom* = I them; (2) with verbs as *Ichot* = *Ich wot*, I know; *Icham* = *Ich am*, I am; *Icholle* = *Ich wolle*, I will. *Nuly* = *ne + wule + y*, I will not. *Mosti* = *moste + i*, I must.

## II. POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS.

The possessive pronouns are identical in form with the genitive case, e.g. *ure* = our, ours, of us; *eoure*, *ore*, *Ʒoure* = your, yours, of you; *hera* = their, theirs, of them.

**Dialectical varieties.**—The Northern forms corresponding to *ure*, *eower*, *here*, are *urs*, *Ʒoures*, *thairs*. In some of the Midland dialects we find *ouren* (ours), *youren* (yours), *heren* (theirs), all of which are used by Wicliffe. In some Midland dialects *heres* and *hores* = theirs, occur for *here*.

## III. INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS.

E. E.

	<i>Masc. and Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	<i>hua</i> , <i>huo</i> ,	<i>huet</i> , <i>huat</i> , <i>wat</i> .
Gen.	<i>huas</i> , <i>huos</i> , <i>wos</i> ,	
Dat.	<i>huam</i> , <i>hwom</i> , <i>wom</i> ,	<i>huam</i> , <i>wam</i> , <i>wom</i> :
Acc.	<i>huam</i> , <i>huan</i> , <i>wan</i> ,	<i>huet</i> , <i>huat</i> , <i>wat</i> .

## A. S.

	<i>Masc. and Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>
Nom.	hwá,	hwæt.
Gen.	hwæs,	hwæs.
Dat.	hwám (hwæm),	hwám (hwæm).
Acc.	hwone (hwæne),	hwæt.
Abl.	hwý,	hwý.

**Dialectical varieties.**—*a. Wha, qua* (who), *quas* (whose), *quam* (whom), *quat* (what), are Northern forms (and occasionally adopted by some of the Midland dialects) for *hua, huas, huam, huet* (*wat*).

*b. Me* is used in the Southern dialect as an indefinite pronoun answering to Fr. *on*, one, they; e.g. *me telþ*, one esteems; *me seide*, one said. The Northern dialect uses *man* (Ger. *man*) in the same way.

*Wha (qua)* is used indefinitely, e.g. *als wha say* = as one may say.

## VERBS.

**Moods.**—There are four moods—Indicative, Subjective, Imperative, and Infinitive. Besides the ordinary infinitive there is a gerund (used after *to*);—infin. *comen*, to come; ger. *to comene*. This distinction between the two forms is not always preserved.

**Tenses.**—Only two tenses are formed by inflection—the Present and the Past.

**Participles.**—The present participle ends in *-inde*; the past participle has the prefix *i-* or *y-*, unless the verb commences with one of the following prefixes: *a-*, *at-*, *bi-*, *be-*, *for-*, *vor-*, *of-*, *to-*, *un-*, *wiþ-*.

There are two conjugations of verbs, the Strong (or irregular), and the Weak (or regular):—

## I. WEAK VERBS.

## Class i.

INFINITIVE MOOD—*Lovien, loven*, to love.

## INDICATIVE MOOD.

	E.E.	PRESENT.	A.S.
	Sing.	Plural.	Sing. Plural.
1.	lovie, love,	·lovieth, loveth.	lufige, { a. lufiað. b. lufige. <sup>1</sup>
2.	lovest,	lovieth, loveth.	lufast, lufiað.
3.	loveth,	lovieth, loveth.	lufað, lufiað.
PRET.			
1.	lovede,	loveden.	lufode, lufoden.
2.	lovedest,	loveden.	lufodest, lufodon.
3.	lovede,	loveden.	lufode, lufodon.

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

## PRESENT.

Sing.	lovie, love.	lufige.
Plur.	lovien, loven.	lufion.

## PRET.

Sing.	lovede.	lufode.
Plur.	loveden.	lufodon.

## IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Sing.	love.	lufa.
Plur.	a. lovieþ, loveþ. b. lovie, love (followed } by the pronoun). }	a. lufiað. b. lufige.

## GERUND.

to lovienne, lovene.	to lufigenne.
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<sup>1</sup> The form *b* is used in all persons when the pronoun follows, as *lufige we*.

E.E.	PRES. PART.	A.S.
lovinde.		lufigende.
	PAST PART.	
i-loved, } y-loved. }		gelufod.

Like *lovie*, to love, are conjugated *clepie*, to call; *herie*, to praise; *hopie*, to hope; *makie*, to make; *schunie*, to shun; *tholie*, to suffer. Many verbs of this class drop the *i*, and are written *love*, *clepe*, &c.

## Class ii.

INFINITIVE MOOD—*Heren* (A.S. *hýran*), to hear.

E.E.	PRESENT.	A.S.
Sing.	Plural.	Sing. Plural.
1. here,	hereth.	hýre, { a. hýrað. b. hýre.
2. herest, herst,	hereth.	hýrst, hýrað.
3. hereth, herth,	hereth.	hýrð, hýrað.
	PRET.	
1. herde,	herden.	hýrde, hýrdon.
2. herdest,	herden.	hýrdest, hýrdon.
3. herde,	herden.	hýrde, hýrdon.

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

	PRESENT.	
Sing. here.		hýre.
Plur. heren.		hýron.
	PRET.	
Sing. herde.		hýrde.
Plur. herden.		hýrdon.

## IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Sing. her.	hýr.
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	E. E.	A. S.
Plur. {	hereth.	a. hýrað.
	here.	b. hýre.

## GERUND.

to herenne, heren.                      to hýrenne.

## PRES. PART.

herinde.                                      hýrende.

## PAST PART.

i-herd.	}	ge-hýred.
y-herd.		

In the 3rd pers. sing. indic. of verbs having *t* or *d* for the last syllable of the root, *t* is often used for *-teð* or *dæð*, as—

*gret* = *gredæð*, cries.  
*let* = *letteð*, hinders.  
*let* = *ledæð*, leads.  
*sent* = *sendæð*, sends.  
*went* = *wendæð*, turns, wends.

If the root of the verb ends in *d* or *t* doubled, or preceded by another consonant, the *de* or *te* of the past tense and *-d* or *-t* of the past participle are omitted, e.g.—

*wenden*, to turn, pret. *wende*, past part. *wend*.  
*letten*, to hinder, „ *lette*, „ „ *let*.

The following verbs, among many others, belong to this class :—

PRESENT.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Callen, to call,	calde,	icald.
Demen, to judge,	demde,	idemed, idemt.
Dippen, to dip,	dipte,	idipt.
Greden, to cry,	gredde,	igred.
Hidden, } to hide,	{ hidde, }	ihid.
Huden, } }	{ hudde, }	ihud.



PRESENT.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Kythe, to shew,	{ kydde,	ikid.
	{ kudde,	ikud.
Kepen, to keep,	kepte,	ikept.
Lenden, to lend,	lende,	{ ilent.
		{ ilend.
Leren, to teach,	lerde,	ilerd.
Lette, to hinder,	lette,	ilet.
Meten, to meet,	mette,	imet.
Schriden, } to clothe,	{ schridde,	ischrid.
Schruden, }	{ schrudde,	ischrud.
Senden, to send,	sende,	isent.
Wenen, to ween,	wende,	iwend.

Some few verbs have double forms in the preterite and past participle.

PRESENT.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Clothen, } to clothe,	{ cledde,	icled.
Clethen, }	{ cladde,	iclad.
Delen, to deal.	{ delte,	idelt.
	{ dalte,	idalt.
Leden, to lead,	{ ledde,	iled.
	{ ladde,	ilad.
Leven, to leave,	{ lefte,	ileft.
	{ lafte,	ilaft.
Reden, to advise,	{ redde,	ired.
	{ radde,	irad.
Spredden, to spread,	{ spredd,	ispred.
	{ spradde,	isprad.
Swelten, to die,	{ swelte,	iswelt.
	{ swalte,	iswalt.
Swetten, to sweat,	{ swette, }	iswet.
	{ swatte. }	iswat.

PRESENT.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Thretten, to threaten,	{ thrette, thratte,	ithret. ithrat.

*Cacche* (catch), *lacchen* (seize), *techen* (teach), make the preterites *cazte*, *cauzte*; *lazte*, *lauzte*; *tazte*, *tauzte*.

*Habben* (*hebban*), to have, is thus conjugated:—

Indic. Pres. 1. habbe (hebbe, have).

2. hafst (haviest, hast, hest).

3. hafth (haveth, hath, heth).

Plural, 1, 2, 3. habbeth, haveth.

Pret. hafde, havede, hade, hadde, hedde.

### Class iii.

INDICATIVE MOOD—*Tellen* (A.S. *tellan*), to tell.

	E. E.	PRESENT.		A. S.
	Sing.	Plural.		Sing.      Plural.
1.	telle,	telleth.	telle,	{ a. tellaþ. b. telle.
2.	tellest, telst, }	telleth.	telst,	tellad.
3.	telleth, telth, }	telleth,	telþ,	tellaþ.

	PRET.			
1.	tealde, tolde, }	tealden, tolden. }	tealde,	tealdon.
2.	tealdest, toldest, }	tealden, tolden. }	tealdest,	tealdon.
3.	tealde, tolde, }	tealden, tolden. }	tealde,	tealdon.

### SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

	PRESENT.	
Sing.	telle.	telle.
Plur.	tellen.	tellon.

	E. E.	PRET.	A. S.
Sing.	tealde, tolde.	}	tealde.
Plur.	tealden, tolden.		tealdon.

## IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Sing.	telle.	tele.
Plur.	telleth.	{ a. tellaž, b. telle.

## GERUND.

to tellenne.	to tellanne.
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## PRES. PART.

tellinde.	tellende.
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## PAST PART.

i-teald, i-told.	}	geteald.
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If the root of the verb ends in a double consonant, the 2nd pers. sing. imp. ends in *-e*, as *sullen*, to sell, imp. *sulle*. In other cases the final *-e* is dropped. To this class belong the following verbs:—

PRESENT.		PRET.	PAST PART.
Beggen, beyen, Bigen, biggen,	} to buy,	bozte.	ibozt.
Bringen, to bring, Reche, to reck, Seche, to seek,		brozte, rozte, sozte.	ibrozt. irozt. isozt.
Sellen, Sullen,	} to sell,	{ sealde, solde,	iseald. isold.
Worchen, Werchen,			wrozte,
Denchen, to seem,		{ bozte, buzte,	iposzt.

*Seggen, seyen*, to say, makes the 2nd and 3rd pers. indic. *seist (saysst)*; *seith (sayþ)*; 3rd pers. pret. *sede (seide)*.

*Legge*, to lay, makes 3rd pers. pret. *lede (leide)*.

*Willen*, to will, makes 1st pres. indic. *wille, wolle*; 2nd, *wilt, wolt*; 3rd, *wile, wule*, pl. *willeth*; pret. 1. *wolde, wulde*; 2. *woldst*; 3. *wolde*.

II. STRONG (OR IRREGULAR) VERBS.

DIVISION I.

(No change of vowel in the preterite plural.)

INFINITIVE MOOD—*Holden*<sup>1</sup> (A.S. *healdan*), to hold.

INDICATIVE MOOD.

E. E.		PRESENT.		A. S.	
Sing.	Plural.	Sing.		Plural.	
1. holde,	holdeth.	healde,	}	a. healdað.	}
2. holdest,	holdeth.	hylst.		b. healde.	
3. halt,	holdeth.	hylt, healt,		healdað.	

PRET.

1. heold,	heoldert,	}	heóld,	heóldon.
held,	helden.			
2. heolde,	heolden,	}	heóldde,	heóldon.
helde,	helden.			
3. heold,	heolden,	}	heóld,	heóldon.
held,	helden.			

SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

PRESENT.

Sing. holde.	healden.
Plur. holden.	healdon.

<sup>1</sup> In the Kentish dialect it is written *bealden (bealde)*.

	E. E.	PRET.	A. S.
Sing.	heolde, helde.	}	heólde.
Plur.	heolden, helden.		heóldon.

## IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Sing.	hold.	heald.
Plur.	<i>a.</i> holdeth.	<i>a.</i> healdaþ.
	<i>b.</i> holde.	<i>b.</i> healde.

## GERUND.

to holdenn.	to healdanne.
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## PRES. PART.

holdinde.	healdende.
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## PAST PART.

iholden.	gehealden.
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The verbs belonging to this division may be divided into three classes :—

1st class, *e* or *a* (originally *æ* or *ea*) in the preterite.

2nd class, *eo* or *e* in the preterite.

3rd class, *o* or *u* in the preterite.

## Class i.

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
<i>a.</i> Beren, to bear,	{ ber, bar, bor, }	iboren.
Bidden, to ask, bid,	{ bed, bad, }	iboden.
Bihoten, to promise,	bihet,	bihoten.
Breken, to break,	{ brec, brak, brok, }	ibroken.

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Eten, to eat,	{ et, at, }	eten.
Forzeten, to forget,	{ forzet, forzat, forzot, }	forzoten, forzeten.
Fon, fongen, to take,	{ feng, veng, }	ifongen.
3iven, 3even, to give,	{ 3ef, 3af, yaf, }	i3even, i3oven.
Hoten, to command,	het,	ihoten.
Hebben, to heave,	{ haf, hof, hef, }	ihoven.
Liggen, to lie,	lei,	ileien.
Sitten, to sit,	{ set, sat, }	iseten.
Speken, to speak,	{ spec, spak, spok, }	ispeken, ispoken.
Steken, to close,	{ stek, stac, }	istoken. isteken.
Stelen, to steal,	{ stel, stal }	istele. i-stolen.
Wreken, to wreak,	{ wreck, wrak, }	iwreken. iwroken.
b. Cumen, } to come, Comen, }	{ com, cam, }	i-comen. icumen.
Nimen, to take,	{ nem, nom, nam, }	inomen, inumen.

## Class ii.

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Beten, to beat,	{ beot, bet, }	i-beten.
Cnowen, to know,	{ kneow, knew, }	i-knowen.
Fallen, } to fall, Vallen, }	{ feol, fel, fil, vil, vul, }	ifallen.
Gnawen,	gnew,	ignawen.
Hewen, to hew,	{ heow, hew, }	ihewen.
Hongen, } to hang, Hingen, }	{ heng, hing, }	ihangen.
Hote, to command, name,	{ hight, het, }	ihoten. ihaten.
Lepen, } to leap, Lhepen, }	{ leop, lep, hlip, }	ilopen.
Leten, } to let, Laten, }	let,	iletten.
Slepen, to sleep,	{ sleep, slep, }	islepen.
Swepen, to sweep,	swep,	iswopen.
Wepen, to weep,	{ weop, wep, }	iwepen. iwopen.
Waschen, to wash,	{ wesch, weisch, weis, }	iwaschen.
Waxen, to grow,	{ wax, wax, }	iwoxen. iwaxen.
Welde, to wield,	weld,	iwolden.

## Class iii.

PRES.		PRET.	PAST PART.
Dražen, } Drawen, }	to draw,	{ drož, drouž, druž, }	{ idražen, idrawen. }
Faren, to go,		for,	ifaren.
Hležen, } Lažen, } Laghen, }	to laugh,	{ lož, logh, lough, }	{ iložen. }
Forsaken, to forsake.		forsoc,	forsaken.
Graven, to bury,		grof,	igraven.
Sle, to slay,		{ slož, slow, slouž, slug, }	{ islažen. islawen. isleien. }
Schapen, to create,		{ schop, schup, }	{ ischopen. ischapen. }
Standen, to stand,		stod,	istanden.
Taken, to take,		{ toc, tok, touk, }	{ itaken. }
Waken, to watch, *		{ woc, wok, wouk, }	{ iwaken. }

## DIVISION II.

(Change of vowel in the preterite plural.)

INFINITIVE MOOD—*Binden*, to bind; *drifan*, to drive; *clúfen* to cleave. (A.S. *Bindan*, *drifan*, *clúfan*.)

## INDICATIVE MOOD.

	E.E.		PRESENT.		A.S.
	Sing.	Plural.		Sing.	Plural.
i.	binde,	bindeþ.		binde,	{ a. bindað, b. binde. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> b. Followed by the personal pronoun.



	E. E.	PRESENT.	A. S.
	Sing.	Plural.	Sing. Plural.
	drive,	driveth.	drífe, { a. drífað, b. drífe.
	cleve,	cleveth.	clúfe, { a. clúfað, b. clúfe.
2.	bindest (binst),	bindeþ.	binst, { a. bindað, b. binde.
	drivest,	driveth.	drífst, { a. drífað, b. drífe.
	cleves,	cleveth.	clúfst, { a. clúfað, b. clúfe.
3.	bint,	bindeþ.	bint, { a. bindað, b. binde.
	drifth,	driveth.	drífð, { a. drífað, b. drífe.
	clefth,	cleveth.	clúfð, { a. clúfað, b. clúfe.

## PRET.

1.	bond (band), drof (draf), clof (claf, clef),	bunden. driven. cloven.	band, dráf, cleáf,	bundon. drifon. clufon.
2.	bunde, bonde, drive, clove,	bunden. driven. cloven.	bunde, drife, clufe,	bundon. drifon. clufon.
3.	bond (band), drof (draf), clef (claf, clof),	bunden. driven. cloven.	band, dráf, cleáf,	bundon. drifon. clufon.

## SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD.

	E. E.	PRESENT.	A. S.
Sing.	binde.		binde.
	drive.		drífe.
	cleve.		clúfe.

	E. E.	PRESENT.	A. S.
Plur.	binden.		bindon.
	driven.		drifon.
	cleven.		clúfon.
		PRET.	
Sing.	bunde.		bunde.
	drive.		drife.
	cleve.		clufe.
Plur.	bunden.		bundon.
	driven.		drifon.
	cloven.		clufon.

## IMPERATIVE MOOD.

Sing.	bind.	bind.
	drif.	dríf.
	clef.	clúf.
Plur.	a. bindeth.	bindaž.
	b. binde.	binde.
	a. driveth.	drífaž.
	b. drive.	drífe.
	a. cleveth.	clúfaž.
	b. cleve.	clúfe.

## GERUND.

bindenne.	to bindanne.
drivenne.	„ drífanne.
clevenne.	„ clúfanne.

## PRES. PART.

bindinde.	bindende.
drivinde.	drífende.
clevinde.	clúfende.

E.E.	PAST PART.	A.S.
ibunden.		gebunden.
idriuen.		gedriuen.
icloven.		geclofen.

The following verbs belong to this division of the strong conjugation :—

*Class i.*

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
<i>a.</i> Binden, to bind,	{ band, bond, bound, }	ibunden, ibonden.
Bersten, } to burst, Bresten, }	{ barst, brast, borst, brost, }	ibrusten, ibrosten.
Biginnen, to begin,	{ bigan, bigon, }	bigunnen. bigonnen.
Climben, to climb,	{ clamb, clomb, clemb, }	iclumben, iclomben.
Delven, to dig,	{ dalf, delf, }	idolven.
Drinken, to drink,	{ drank, dronk, }	idrunken. idronken.
Eornen, } to run, Yernen, }	{ arn, orn, yarn, }	irunnen, iurnen.
Fizte, to fight,	{ faght, fozt, }	ifo3ten.
Finden, to find,	{ fand, fond, found, }	ifunden, ifonden.

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Grinden, to grind,	{ grond, ground, }	igrunden. igrounden.
ʒelden, to requite,	{ ʒald, ʒeld, ʒold, }	iʒolden.
Helpen, to help,	{ halp, holp, }	iholpen.
Melten, to melt,	{ malt, molt, }	imolten.
Singen, to sing,	{ sang, song, }	isungen. isongen.
Sinken, to sink,	{ sank, sonk, }	isunken. isonken.
Swelʒen, to swell,	{ swal, swol, }	iswolʒen.
Swinken, to labour,	{ swank, swonc, }	iswunken. iswonken.
b. Bergen, } Bermen, } to protect,	{ barg, berg, }	iborʒen. iborwen.
Kerven, to cut,	{ karf, kerf, }	icorven.
Sterven, to die,	{ starf, sterf, }	istorven.
Werpen, to throw,	{ warp, werp, }	iworpen.

*Class ii.*

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Abiden, to abide,	{ abad, abod, }	abiden.

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Biten, to bite,	{ bat, bot, }	ibiten.
Gliden, to glide,	{ glad, glod, }	igliden.
Riden, to ride,	{ rad, rod, }	iriden.
Risen, to rise,	{ ras, ros, }	irisen.
Schinen, to shine,	{ schan, schon, }	ischinen.
Schripen, to shrive,	{ schraf, schrof, }	ischripen.
Smiten, to smite,	{ smat, smot, }	ismiten.
Striven, to strive,	{ straf, strof, }	istriven.
Writen, to write,	{ wrat, wrot, }	iwriten.

*Class iii.*

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
a. Beden, } Beoden, } to offer,	{ bead, bed, }	iboden.
Chesen, } Cheosen, } to choose,	{ cheas, ches, }	ichosen.
Crepen, } Creopen, } to creep,	{ creap, crep, }	icropen.
Fleon, to flee,	{ fleꝓ, flaw, fleiꝓ, vleaꝓ,	ifloꝓen. iflowen.
Lesen, to lose,	{ leas, les,	iloren. ilosen.

PRES.	PRET.	PAST PART.
Lezen, to lie,	{ le3, lei3,	ilozen. ilowen.
Schete, to shout,	schet,	ischoten.
Seon, to see,	{ se3, seg, sei3, saw, si3, sagh,	isozen, isen.
Sethen, to seethe, boil.	{ seth, seath,	isoden.
Teon, } to go, conduct, Ten, }	{ teg, te3,	itozen.
b. Bugen, } to bow, Buwen, }	{ beah, bei3,	ibozen. ibowen.
Drezen, } to suffer, Drien, }	{ dreg, dre3, drei3,	idrozen.
Lute, } to bow, Lote, }	{ leat, let,	iloten.
Loken, to lock,	{ leac, leak,	iloken.
Stigen, } to ascend, Stizen, }	{ steg, staw, ste3, stegh, stei3, stih, stij,	istizen.
Wrien, } to cover, Wrizen, }	{ wrei3, wre3,	iwrozen.

*General Remarks on the Strong (or Irregular) Conjugation.*

1. If the base of a verb ends in *-e* or *-eo*, the *-e* or *-eo* is the *-e* of the inflexions in the present indicative and imperative, as *flep* = flees; *sep* = sees.

2. Verbs having *-d* or *-t* as the final letter of the root-

syllable, take *-t* instead of *-deð* or *-teð*, as the personal inflexion, as *bindt* = bindeth, binds; *grint* = grindeth, grinds; *halt* = holdeth, holds; *rit* = rideth, rides; *stont*, *stent* = standeth, stands.

3. The 2nd and 3rd pers. are frequently contracted thus: *est* = eatest; *binst* = bindest; *drinkþ* = drinks; *drifþ* = drives.

4. Verbs whose base originally terminated in *g* often retain it under the form *ǝ* in the 2nd and 3rd pers. sing. indic.: as *drawen*, to draw; *draǝst*, drawest; *draǝth*, draws; *fleon*, to fly; *fliǝst*, fliest; *fliǝþ*, flies; *wrien*, to cover; *wriǝþ*, covers.

4. In some verbs the vowel is changed in the 3rd sing. pres. indic., as *holden*, to hold; *halt*, holds; *hoten*, to command, *hat*, commands; *stonden*, to stand, *stent*, stands.

### III. ANOMALOUS VERBS.

Some verbs originally strong follow the weak conjugation :

<i>leten</i> , to let,	pret. <i>lette</i> (orig. <i>let</i> ).
<i>griþe</i> , to seize,	„ <i>grapte</i> (orig. <i>grap</i> or <i>grop</i> ).
<i>slep</i> , to sleep,	„ <i>slepte</i> (orig. <i>slep</i> ).
<i>treden</i> , to tread,	„ <i>trodde</i> (orig. <i>træd</i> ).

1. *Agen*, *awen*, *ogen*, *owen*, to own; 1st and 3rd sing. pres. indic. *ah*, *agh* (*auh*, *awh*, *aǝ*, *ouh*, *og*, *ow*); 2nd, *awe* (*owe*); pl. *aǝen*, *oǝen*, *ogen*, *owen* (*owe*); pret. *aghte*, *auhhte*, *aǝte*, *oghte*, *oughhte*.

2. *Am* is the 1st pers. sing. of the old infinitive *wesan*, to be. The other persons are as follows:—2nd pers. pres. indic. *ert*, *art*; 3rd, *is*; pret. 1st, *was*, *wes*; 2nd, *were*; pl. *weren*, *were*.<sup>1</sup>

3. *An*, 1st pers. sing., from *unnen*, to grant.

<sup>1</sup> *Sind* (ar-) occasionally occurs, but is not used after 1250.

4. *Beon*, *ben*, to be; ger. *beonne*, *byenne*. 1st pers. pres. indic. *be*, *bi*, *beo*; 2nd, *bist*, *best*; 3rd, *bith*, *beth*, *beeth*, *buth*: 1st, 2nd and 3rd pers. pl. *beth*, *buth*; imper. pl. *beth*, *buth*.

5. *Cunnen*, to be able, to know; 1st sing. pres. indic. *can*, *con*; 2nd, *cunne*, *const*, *canst*, *cost*; 3rd, *con*; pl. *connen*, *cunnen*; pret. *cuihe*, *couthe*, *coude* (Eng. could); pp. *cuth*, *couth*, known.

6. *Daren*, to dare. 1st sing. pres. indic. *dar*, *der*; 2nd, *darst*, *derst*; 3rd, *dar*; pl. *durren*, *dorren*, *dorre*; pret. *dorste*, *durste*.

7. *Don*, to do; ger. *doenne*, *done*. 1st sing. pres. indic. *do*; 2nd, *dest*, *dost*; 3rd, *deth*; pl. *doth*; pret. *dude*, *dide*, *dede*; imp. *doth*.

8. *Downen*, *dowen*, to be good, worth; 1st and 3rd pres. *dow*; pl. *dowen*, *dowe*. *Deih* (properly a present) is sometimes used for *doughte* (pret.).

9. *Gon*, to go; ger. *gonne*, *gone*. 1st sing. pres. indic. *go*; 2nd, *gest*, *gost*; 3rd, *geth* (pl. *goth*); pret. *eode*, *æode*, *æede*, *yode*; imp. *goth*; pp. *igon*.

10. *Mogen*, *mozen*, *mowen*, to be able, may; 1st sing. pres. indic. *may* (*mai*, *mei*); 2nd, *mizt*, *migt*; 3rd, *may* (*mai*); pl. *mowen*, *mouen*, *muwen*; pret. *mizte*, *migte* (*moghte*, *moughte*).

11. 1st sing. pres. indic. *mot*,<sup>1</sup> *may*, *must*; 2nd, *most*; 3rd, *mot*, *mut*; pl. *moten*; pret. *moste*, *muste*.

12. 1st sing. pres. indic. *schal* (*ssel*), *shall*; 2nd, *schalt* (*sselt*); 3rd, *schal* (*ssel*); pl. *schulen* (*ssollen*, *ssolle*, *ssule*, *sule*); pret. *schulde*, *scholde* (*ssolde*).

13. 1st and 3rd sing. pres. indic. *þarf* (*therf*, *þar*, *ther*), *need*; 2nd, *thurfe*; pl. *thurfen*; pret. *þurfte*, *therfte* (*thurte*).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Cp. Ger. *muss*, *musste*.

<sup>2</sup> *Thurste* is sometimes written for *durste*, taking the signification belonging to *burfte* and *durste*.



14. *Unnen*, to grant; 1st sing. *an*.

15. *Witen*, to know. 1st sing. pres. indic. *wot* (*woot*, *waf*); 2nd, *wost*; 3rd, *wot* (*woot*, *waf*); pl. *witeth*; pret. *wiste*, *wuste*; imp. sing. *wite*, pl. *witeth*.

16. 1st sing. pres. indic. *wille* (*wolle*, *wulle*); 2nd, *wilt*, *wolt*; 3rd, *wile*, *wole*, *wule*; pl. *willeth*, *wolleth*.

*Negative Forms.*—*Am*, *have*, *wille*, *witen* (know), take negative forms, as *nam*, am not; *nis*, is not; *nas*, was not; *nade*, had not; *nile*, will not; *not*, knows not; *nuste*, knew not.

### Dialectical Varieties.—(a) *Weak Verbs.*

#### I. INDICATIVE MOOD.

*a. Present Tense.* (1) For the inflexions of the Northern and Midland dialects in the indic. pres. tense see p. xii.

(2) The East-Midland dialect has a tendency to omit *-t* in the 2nd pers. sing., as *findes* = finest.

*b. Preterite Tense.* (1) The Northern dialect drops *all* the inflexions of persons in the sing. and pl. of weak (and strong) verbs, as 1st, 2nd, 3rd sing. *loved*, *spak*; 1st, 2nd, 3rd pl. *loved*, *spak*. (2) The West-Midland dialect has *-es* (*-e3*) as the inflexion of the 2nd pers. pret. of weak verbs, as *lovedes* = lovedest.

The Southern and Midland dialects frequently drop the *-n* in all persons of the plural, as *lovede* = *loveden*, loved.

The Northern dialect prefers the forms *ledde*, *lefte*, *redde*, to *ladde*, *lafte*, *radde* (see p. xxxvi.).

#### II. IMPERATIVE MOOD.

The Northern and West-Midland dialects (and occasionally the East-Midland) employ *-es* instead of *-eth* in the 2nd pers. imperative of weak and strong verbs, e.g. *loves*, love (ye or you).

(b) *Strong Verbs.*

1. The Northern dialect employs the preterites *bar, brak, gaf, spak*, instead of *ber, brek, gef (3ef), spek*.

2. The Northern dialect retains the *a* in pret. belonging to Classes i. and ii. Division II., as—

NORTHERN.	SOUTHERN.	NORTHERN.	SOUTHERN.
band,	bond.	ras,	ros (roos).
bat,	bot.	smat,	smot (smoot).
fand,	fond.	stang,	stong.
glad,	glod.		

## III. INFINITIVE MOOD.

1. The Northern dialect drops the infinitive ending *-en* or *-e*, as well as the gerundial *-enne*.<sup>1</sup>

2. The Southern dialect abounds in infinitives in *-ie*<sup>2</sup> (*ye, y*), remnants of older forms in *-ian*, as *hatie*, to hate (A.S. *hat-i-an*); *herye*, to praise (A.S. *her-i-an*); *makie*, to make (A.S. *mac-i-an*). These forms are *never* employed by any Northern writers.

## IV. PARTICIPLES.

a. The pres. participle in the Southern dialect ends in *-inde*, in the Northern *-ande* (*-and*), and in the Midland in *-ende* (*-end*).<sup>3</sup>

b. The passive participle of strong verbs ends in *-en*, but the *n* is often dropped in the Southern and Midland dialects

<sup>1</sup> The gerundial inflection is often corrupted by Southern and Midland writers into *-inge*, as *to sellinge = to sellenne*, to sell. As early as the twelfth century we find such forms as *to doende = to doenne*, to do; *to delende = to delenne*, to divide.

<sup>2</sup> The Mid. Prov. dialects of the Southern counties still retain some of these infinitives, as *sowy*, to sow; *milky*, to milk.

<sup>3</sup> Present participles in *-inge* (*-ing*) are not uncommon in the Southern dialect, and the corruption commenced before A.D. 1300.

(never in the Northern), as *ibroke* = *ibroken* ; *icorve* = *icorven* (cut).

The Northern dialect always omits the prefix *i-* (*y-*), as *bunden* for *ibunden*, *corven* for *icorven*.

(c) *Anomalous Verbs.*

I. The Northern dialect has the following peculiar forms :—

1. *Sal* (= Southern, *schal*, *ssal*), shall, takes *no* inflexion of person in the indic. mood, e.g. present tense, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, sing. *sal*, pl. *sal* ; past tense, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, sing. *suld*, *sulde* (= Southern, *schulde*, *scholde*, *ssolde*), should.
2. *Wil* (pret. *wald*, *walde*) = will, follows the same rule.
3. The verb *to be* is thus conjugated :—1st sing. pres. indic. *-es* ; 2nd, *-es* (occasionally *-ert*) ; 3rd, *-es* ; pl. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, *-er* (occasionally *-es*) ; pret. sing. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, *was* (occasionally *war*) ; pl. *ware* (*war*).
4. The following contracted forms are of frequent occurrence :—*bus* = behoves ; *bud* = behoved ; *ha* = to have ; *ma* = to make ; *mas*, *mase* = makes ; *ta* = to take ; *tas*, *tase* = takes ; *tan* = taken ; *slan* = slain.
5. *Mun*, *mon*, shall, never occurs in any Southern dialect.

II. The West-Midland dialect contracts *schullen* or *schuln* (the pl. of *schal*) into *schin* (*schyn*) or *schun*, e.g. *þay schin knawe* = they shall know.

## ADVERBS.

### I. COMPARISON.

Adverbs are compared by the affixes *-er* (positive) and *-est* (superlative).

### II. PREFIXES.

*a-* (before a consonant), *an-* (before a vowel) ; as *aʒen*, again ; *amih̄te*, by night ; *aʒer*, yearly ; *an-ende*, lastly ; *anun-der*, under.

Occasionally we find *of* instead of *a*, as *of buwe*, above; *of newe*, newly; *adown* = *of dune*, downwards.

## III. TERMINATIONS.

1. Adverbs that now end in *-ly* formerly ended in *-liche*. (The adjectival affix sing. is *-lich*.)

2. Adverbs are formed from adjectives by adding a final *-e*, as *soth*, *sooth*, true; *sothe*, *soothe*, truly.<sup>1</sup>

3. *-es* (genitive); *alles*, altogether, of necessity, needs; *aʒenes*, against; *amiddes*, amidst; *amonges*, amongst; *bisides*, besides; *deathes*, at death, dead; *dazes*, by day; *lives*, alive; *nedes*, of necessity; *newes*, anew; *niztes*, by night; *togedderes*, together. *Enes*, *ones*, once; *neodes*, needs; *twies*, twice; *hennes*, hence; *thries*, thrice,—are later forms for *en-e*, *henn-e* (*hennen*, *heon-an*); *neod-e*, *twie* (*twien*, A.S. *twiŵá*); *thrie* (*thrien*, A.S. *þrýwa*).

4. *-linge*, as *allinge*, altogether; *hedlinge*, headlong; *grovlinge*, on the face, prone; *triflinge*, playfully.

5. *-en* (*-e*), *abouten*, about; *befor-en*, *befor-n*, before; *buven*, *buwe*, above; *binnen*, *binne*, within; *with-out-en*, without.

*-der*, motion to, *hi-der*, *thider*, *whider*, hither, thither, whither.

*-en* (*-e*), motion from; *hennen*, *henne*, hence; *thennen*, *thenne*, thence; *whennen*, *whenne*, whence, which give rise to the later forms with genitive affix *-es*, as *hennes*, *thennes*, *whennes*.

**Dialectical varieties.**—1. The Scandinavian forms *hethen*, hence; *quethen* (*whethen*), whence; *thethen*, thence; *sum*, as,—are not used in the Southern dialect.

2. The Northern dialect prefers the prefix *on-* (*o-*) to *a-*, as *on-slepe*, asleep; *o-bak*, aback; *on-rounde*, around.

<sup>1</sup> The loss of the final *-e* explains the modern use of *adjectives* for adverbs, as *right* = rightly; *long* = long (time).

3. In the West-Midland dialect we find *in-* as an adverbial prefix, as *in-blande*, *in-lyche*, alike, *in-mydde*, amidst; *in-monge*, amongst.<sup>1</sup> Chaucer uses *in-fere*, together.

4. The Southern affix *-linge* becomes *-linges* (Sc. *-lins*) in the Northern dialect, as *grovelinges*, on the face, prone; *handlinges*, hand to hand; *hedlinges*, headlong.

5. The Northern dialect employs *-gate* (way) as a suffix, as *al-gate*, always; *how-gate*, how-so; *thus-gate*, thus wise; *swa-gate*, so-wise, in such a manner.

6. *In-with*, within; *ut-with*, without; *forwit*, before—are peculiar to the Northern dialect.

### PREPOSITIONS.

The Northern dialect employs *fra* for the Southern *fram* (*vram*), Midland *fro*, from; *at*, *til*, for the Southern *to*; *amel*, *emel*, Southern *amiddes*, amid. *Mide*, *mid*, with; *toppe*, above, are unknown to the Northern dialect.

### CONJUNCTIONS.

1. *If* takes a negative form in the West-Midland dialect, as *nif* = if not.

2. *No-but* occurs in the Midland dialect for *only*.

3. *Warn*, *warne* = unless; *thofquether* = nevertheless, are unknown in the Southern dialect.

4. *Ac*, but, is not found in the Northern dialect.

### INTERJECTIONS.

*Quine*, *quin* (= *whi-ne*, why not) occurs in the Northern dialect for *O that!*

<sup>1</sup> *Alike*, *along* (on account of), *among*, are corruptions of A.S. *gelice*, *gemang*. Cp. *enough* = A.S. *genob*.

The following sentences are intended to supply some deficiencies in the "Specimens," and to serve as Exercises on the Grammatical Outlines.

1. Suede Jhesu my *soule* fode,  
Thin werkes bueth bo (both) swete ant gode !
2. Suede Jhesu min *huerte* gleem,  
Ybore thow were in Bedlehem.
3. Nime 3eme of *chirche* stevene.
4. Thre maner peyne man fangeth for his *senne* nede.
5. The wonde swelth and aketh,  
So doth the *naddre* stenge.
6. At the *woke* end spak the ermyte.
7. I have the leten *eddre* blod.
8. The wod bigan to springe  
Of *Rymenhilde* weddinge.
9. The *quene* fader Corineus was ded.
10. Ac *helle* king is oreles (pitiless).
11. This wes on oure *levedy* even.
12. From dethe to lyve he aros thurf oure *levedi* lore,
13. Thu schalt beo *themperesse* peer.
14. That was thin *uncle* lond.
15. Crist was ycleped *hevene* king.
16. Heo wep for hire *sone* blod.
17. Here gode hi solde stille (secretly), and to *thapostlene* fet  
hit caste.
18. He knoweth one (alone) ilc *sterre* name.

19. A dosyn of *doggen*.
20. Gerner of *gromene* maw.
21. Tuo maner *soulen*.
22. Here wei to schipe hi nome,  
And to the *fowelen* parays (parish) thulke dai hi come.
23. Pilatus thurf the *gywene* wille him demde to dethe.
24. Alle *soulen* day an urthe (on earth) ryzt is to holde heze.
25. At fourti *dazen* ende.
26. We nimeth zeme of *manne* bure (dwelling).
27. Hit is softest mine *bridde*.
28. I am loth smale *fozle*.
29. Therthe schoke, the sonne dym bycome in *thare* tyde.
30. Ich am that lyzt  
Of alle *ther* wordle rounde.
31. Atten spousynge ther mot be ryzt asent of bothe, of  
man and of *ther* wymman eke.
32. The niztingale *hi* iseze.
33. To *there* blisse God us bring!
34. Tofore oure levedi *thane* schrewe he gan lede.
35. Zueche tyeares driveth *thane* devil vram *the* herte, as *thet*  
weter cacheth *thane* hond out of the kechene.
36. He lyst (loses) al his time and (both) *the* nyzt and *thane*  
day.
37. He restede *thane* zevende day.
38. Mid grate wille Ich habbe *therne* Paske wywlned (de-  
sired), thet is to zigge *therne* dyath, *thise* ssame, *thise*  
wendinge (departure).

39. He ʒaf him *thisne* ring.
40. Of *thisen* we habbeth vayre vorbysne (example).
41. Alle we habbeth *enne* vader.
42. To *thysse* joyen (joys) scholle be y-leyd (placed) alle the joyen that moʒe (may) be yseyd (named).
43. To *thysse* joye longye (belong) scholle alle the joyen that thyre (to her) folle (may befall) of hyre chylde God.
44. Thet (that) thet is to moche to *onen* is to lite to *anotheren*.
45. For ʒyf (if) thy wil rejoeth (rejoices) more in *enyes kennes* thynges, thou ne onourest (honourest) naʒt God aryʒt.
46. He ne fond *nones kunnes* blisse.
47. In euche (each) *otheres kunnes* quede (fault) Ich the forʒeve at thisse nede.
48. *Ures forme* faderes gult we abigget (suffer for) alle
49. He is *elches* (each) godes (good) ful.
50. He nemnede *evereches* (every) owe (own) name.
51. Nou of alle *thotherene* (the other) kynedoms aʒen his non was.
52. He scel ne *nenne othrenne* wray (betray),
53. He ssel verst yzy (see) the ʒeve dyadliche synnes, of *huychen* we habbeth yspeke and of *echen* ssel him ssrive (confess)
54. Hi wile deme *evrinne* be his dedes.
55. Tho (those) scullen habben *hardne* dom.
56. He schal *fulne* (foul) deth afonge (take).



57. He yze3 (saw) *ane grate* dyevel.
58. Hii nome *an grete* loverding.
59. The vissere (fisherman) heth more blisse vor to nime  
ane *grate* visse (fish) then ane *lillene*.
60. Children bevly (avoid) the vela3rede of the *greaten*.
61. Dyath is to the *guoden* beginnyng of live.
62. Me (one) ssel (shall) zeche red (advice) ate *yealden* and  
na3t mid the *yonge*.
63. Roboam vorlet thane red of the *yealden* guode men.
64. Of here *beire* (*bey* = both) name me makede *anne* (one).
65. Mi muth (mouth) haveth *tweire kunne* salve.
66. He tekþ ous to knawe the greate thinges vram (from)  
the little, the *preciouses* vram the *viles*.
67. *A* vul (fell) and ne mi3te no leng (longer) sitte.
68. *Ha* beat (beats) and smit and (both) wyf and children  
ase *ha* were out of his wytte.
69. The dyevel *hine* deþ (causes) to worke.
70. The kyngdom of hevene is *hyre*.
71. Out berste *aithere* hire e3e (eye).
72. *Heore* is this worldes wynne (bliss).
73. *Here aither* was of other glad.
74. Al this lond beo (shall be) *3oure*.
75. Hit is *ure*. *Oure* is the maistry.
76. The kyndom of hevene is *heren*.
77. Some of *ouren* wenten to the grave.

78. His kinges croune he nom and sette *is* up (upon) the rode heved (head of the cross).
79. Huanne he (cat) heth mid *hire* (the mouse) long yplayed thanne he *his* eth (eats).
80. The guode man yeaf his cou to the preste ; he *his* nom and zente *hise* to the othren that he hedde.
81. Heo wess (washed) the meseles vet (feet) and wipede *is* nessce (softly) and custe *is* wel suete.
82. Bi *than* 3e wite (learn) *than* ende.
83. Evrilc man mid *than* the (that) he haveð, mai biggen (buy) hevене-riche (heaven).
84. Thou hest yby (been) onbo3sam (disobedient) to thine vader and to thine moder and to *than* to huam thou ssoldest bou3e (obey).
85. Prede is ybounde ine *than* that 3elph (boasts) of his wytte.
86. And 3et for al *than* hii bro3te oure loved to dethe.
87. The stone up *whan* ich sitte ich fond ligge in a wei ther no need to ston nas.
88. Tho adde he al is wille vor *wanne* (for which) it was al ido.
89. This were ure faderes of *wan* we beth ycome (descended).
90. *Icham* mid min fon biset ; 3if *ichom* may overcome, Ich 3ou wolle in gret richesse do (place).
91. Ne sixtu (seest thou) wel *icham* alive, *icholle* segge hou it is.
92. *Ichabbe* ysed hit.
93. Thritte wynter *havy* woned in londe her.

94. Mine *wolly* have away.
95. To love *nuly* I noht wonde (cease).
96. *Mosti* ryden to Rybbesdale.
97. For (*wolny, nulni*) hi sul fle into the pine of helle.
98. Of *hit* woe wille I wete (learn),  
Gif (if) I may *hit* bales bete.
99. Al *get* bit (bites) o twinne (in two),
100. Alle *hes* hadde wið migte (force) bigeten (obtained),
101. Alle *wes* o3en to haven in mode (mind),
102. Frend (friends) sul *wit* ben,  
And trewðe pligt (pledge) nu *unc* bitwen.
103. Ledeð (pass) samen (together) *gunker* lif.
104. Ic sal reden (advise) *gunc* boðen.
105. Ihesu for love thou *stehe* on rode,  
For love thou *seze* thine heorte blode.
106. Thou *zeve* us weole (weal) and wunne (bliss).
107. Enes thu *sunge*.
108. Thu *slowe* the holi prophete.
109. And 3et (yet) of graunt (consent) thou *myztez* fayle.
110. Thou *woldez* knawe þer of the stage.
111. The kid is to *seethinge*.
112. And the dragoun stood bfore the womman, that was  
to *beringe* child, that whan she hadde born child, he  
shulde devoure hir sone. And she childdede a sone  
male, that was to *reulinge* alle folkes in an yren 3erd.
113. The kirke he thrette (threatened) for to *brennyng*.
114. Thu therof *lixt*.

115. Thu *spext* folliche.
116. Hi (they) *werthe* a slepe.
117. He *worth* sik.
118. Lucie *werth* aslepe.
119. Him ne *tyt* non other mede (reward).
120. That vuel (disease) that thu hast so longe ihad ne  
schal no leng ileste, ac thu *worst* hol and sound,  
wordle withouten ende.
121. Him thoȝte he *clemde* upon this treo.
122. No man ne *therste* hire brothere nempne (name).
123. Hit *schynde* brizte.
124. He (rope) nas *isponne* ne *iveve*, ac *ibroide* of strenges  
longe and siththe (afterwards) as me *knyt* a net, *iknyt*  
hard and strong, of hard hors her y-maked.
125. His flesch was *ignawe*.
126. And whon he wolde *alles* bicomē mon.  
He moste be boren of a wommon.
127. No man wolde of hiȝm thenche *ene*,  
He was *allinge* forȝute clene.
128. Archebischof was he ymaked, *unthonkes* theȝ (though)  
hit were,
129. And myn *unthonkes* Ich am iwedded.



## I.

## ENGLISH VERSION OF GENESIS AND EXODUS,

ABOUT A.D. 1250.

The following passages in the life of Joseph are taken from *The Story of Genesis and Exodus*, an Early English song, edited for the Early English Text Society by R. Morris, 1865.

Nothing is known of the author of this interesting version; the MS. from which it is edited was written shortly before A.D. 1300, and the dialect is most probably the *East-Midland* of South Suffolk.

The italics in the following extracts are the expansions of the MS. contractions.

[ Lines 1907—1994. ]

**F**Or sextene ger ioseph was old,  
 Quane he was in-to egipte sold;  
 He was iacobes gunkeste sune,  
 Brictest of waspene,<sup>1</sup> and of witter wune,  
 If he sag hise breðere mis-faren, 5  
 His fader he it gan vn-hillen & baren;  
 He wulde ðat he sulde hem ten  
 ðat he wel ðewed sulde ben;  
 for-ði [he] wexen<sup>2</sup> wið gret nið  
 And hate, for it in ille [herte] lið. 10  
 ðo wex her hertes niðful & bold  
 Quanne he hem adde is dremes told,  
 ðat his handful stod rigt up soren,  
 And here it leigen alle hem bi-foren;

/ <sup>1</sup> For wasteme.<sup>2</sup> MS. wexem.

And sunne, & mone, & sterres .xi<sup>e</sup>.<sup>1</sup> 15  
 wurcheden him wið frigti luue ;  
 So seide his fader, " hu mai ðis sen  
 ðat þu salt þus wurched ben,  
 ðat ðine breðere, and ic, and she  
 ðat ðe bar, sulen luten ðe ?" 20  
 þus he chidden hem bi-twen,  
 þoge þ hogte iacob siðe it sulde ben.  
 Hise breðere kepten at sichem  
 Hirdnesse, & iacob to sen hem  
 sente ioseph to dalen ebron ; 25  
 And he was redi his wil to don.  
 In sichem feld ne fonde hem nogt,  
 In dotayin he fond hem sogt ;  
 He knewen him fro feren kumen,  
 Hate hem on ros, in herte numen ; 30  
 Swilc nið & hate ros hem on,  
 He redder alle him for to slon.  
 " Nai," quod ruben, " slo we him nogt,  
 Oðer sinne may ben wrogt,  
 Quat-so him dremppte þor quiles he slep, 35  
 In ðis ðisternesse,<sup>2</sup> old and dep,  
 Get wurð [h]e worpen naked and cold,  
 Quat-so his dremes owen a-wold."  
 ðis dede was don wið<sup>3</sup> herte sor,  
 Ne wulde ruben nogt drechen þor ; 40  
 He gede and sogte an oðer stede,  
 His erue in bettre lewse he dede ;  
 Vdas dor<sup>4</sup> quiles gaf hem red,  
 ðat was fulfilt of derne sped ;  
 fro galaad men wið chafare 45  
 Sag he þor kumen wið spices ware ;

<sup>1</sup> For endluue.<sup>2</sup> For cisternesse.<sup>3</sup> For wið.<sup>4</sup> For þor.

To-warde egipte he gunne ten.  
 Iudas tagte hu it sulde ben,  
 Ioseph solde ðe breðere ten,  
 for .xxx. plates to ðe chapmen ; 50  
 Get wast better he ðus was sold,  
 dan<sup>1</sup> he ðor storue *in* here wold.

**D**an *ruben* cam ðider a-gen,  
 to ðat cisternesse he ran to sen ;  
 He missed Ioseph and ðhogte swem, 55  
 wende him slagen, set up an rem ;  
 Nile he blinnen, swilc sorwe he cliued,  
 Til him he sweren ðat he liued.  
 ðo nomen he ðe childes srud,  
 ðe iacob hadde mad im *in* prud ; 60  
 He kides blod he wenten it,  
 ðo was ðor-on an rewli lit.

Sondere men he it leiden on,  
 And senten it iacob *in*-to ebron,  
 And shewed it *him*, and boden *him* sen 65  
 If his childes wede it migte ben ;  
 Senten him bode he funden it.  
 ðo iacob sag dat<sup>2</sup> sori writ,

He gret. and saide ðat “ wilde der  
 Hauen min sune swolgen her.” 70

His cloðes rent, in haigre srid,  
 Long grot and sorge is *him* bi-tid.  
 His sunes comen him to sen,  
 And hertedin him if it migte ben ;  
 “ Nai ! nai ! ” quat he, “ helped<sup>3</sup> it nogt, 75  
 Mai non herting on me ben wrogt ;  
 ic sal ligten til helle dale,  
 And groten ðor min sunes bale.”

<sup>1</sup> For ðan.<sup>2</sup> For ðat.<sup>3</sup> For helpeð.



(ðor was in helle a sundri stede,  
 wor ðe seli folc reste dede ; 80  
 ðor he stunden til helpe cam,  
 Til ihesu crist fro ðeden<sup>1</sup> he[m] nam.)  
 ðe chapmen skiuden here fare,  
 In-to egipte ledden ðat ware ;  
 wið putifar ðe kinges stiward, 85  
 He maden swiðe bigetel forward.  
 So michel fe ðor is hem told,  
 He hauen him bogt, he hauen sold.

[Lines 2037—2446.]

Pvtifar trewið hise wiwes tale,  
 And haued<sup>2</sup> dempt iosep to bale ; 90  
 He bad [him] ben sperd fast[e] dun,  
 And holden harðe in prisun.  
 An litel stund, quile he was ðer,  
 So gan him luuen ðe prisuner,  
 And him de<sup>3</sup> chartre haueð bi-tagt, 95  
 wið ðo prisunes to liuen in hagt.  
 Or for misdede, or for on-sagen,  
 ðor woren to ðat prisun dragen,  
 On ðat ðe kinges kuppe bed,  
 And on ðe made ðe kinges bred ; 100  
 Hem drempte dremes boðen onigt,  
 And he wurðen swiðe sore o-frigt ;  
 Ioseph hem seruede ðor on sel,  
 At here drink and at here mel,  
 He herde hem murnen(.) he hem freinde for-quat ;  
 Harde dremes ogen awold ðat. 106  
 ðo seide he to ðe butuler,  
 “ Tel me ðin drem, mi broðer her.

<sup>1</sup> For haueð.

<sup>2</sup> For ðe.

Queðer-so it wurðe softe or strong[e],  
 ðe reching wurð on god bi-long[e].” 110

“**M**e drempte, ic stod at a win-tre,  
 ðat adde waxen buges ðre,  
 Orest it blomed, and siðen bar  
 ðe beries ripe, wurð ic war ;  
 ðe kinges [kuppe] ic hadde on hond, 115  
 ðe beries ðor-inne me ðhugte ic wrong,  
 And bar it drinken to pharaon,  
 Me drempte, als ic was wune to don.”

“**G**ood is,” quað Ioseph, “to dremen of win,  
 heilnesse an blisse is ðer-in ; 120  
 ðre daies ben get for to cumen,  
 ðu salt ben ut of prisun numen,  
 And on ðin offiz set agen ;  
 Of me ðu ðhenke ðan it sal ben,  
 Bed min herdne to pharaon, 125  
 ða[t] ic ut of prisun wurðe don,  
 for ic am stolen of kinde lond,  
 and her wrighteleslike holden in bond.”

“**Q**uað ðis bred-wrigte, “liðeð nu me,  
 me drempte ic bar bread-lepes ðre, 130  
 And ðor-in bread and oðer meten,  
 Quilke ben wune ðe kinges to eten ;  
 And fugeles hauen ðor-on lagt,  
 ðor-fore ic am in sorge and hagt,  
 for ic ne migte me nogt weren, 135  
 Ne ðat mete fro hem beren.”

“**M**e wore leuere,” quað Ioseph,  
 “Of eddi dremes rechen swep ;  
 ðu salt, after ðe ðridde dei,  
 ben do on rode, weila-wei ! 140  
 And fugeles sulen ði fleis to-teren,  
 ðat sal non agte mugen ðe weren.”

Soð wurð so ioseph seide  
 ðis buteler Ioseph sone for-gat.  
 Two ger siðen was Ioseph sperd 145  
 ðor in prisun wið uten erd ;  
**D**o dremppte pharaon king a drem,  
 ðat he stod bi ðe flodes strem,  
 And ðeden<sup>1</sup> ut-comen .vii. neet,  
 Euerilc wel swiðe fet and gret, 150  
 And .vii. lene after ðo,  
 ðe deden ðe .vii. fette wo,  
 ðe lene hauen ðe fette freten ;  
 ðis drem ne mai ðe king for-geten.  
 And oðer drem cam *him* bi-foren, 155  
 .vii. eares wexen fette of coren,  
 On an busk ranc and wel tidi,  
 And .vii. lene rigt ðor-bi,  
 welkede, and smale, and drugte numen,  
 ðe ranc he hauen ðo ouer-cumen, 160  
 To-samen it smiten and, on a stund,  
 ðe fette ðrist hem to ðo grund.  
 ðe king abraid and woc in ðhogt,  
 ðes dremes swep ne wot he nogt,  
 Ne was non so wis man *in* al his lond, 165  
 ðe kude vn-don ðis dremes bond ;  
 ðo him bi-ðhogte ðat buteler  
 Of ðat him dremppte in prisun ðer,  
 And of ioseph in ðe prisun,  
 And he it tolde ðe king pharaun. 170  
 Ioseph was sone *in* prisun ðo hogt,  
 And shauen, & clad, & to *him* brogt ;  
 ðe king *him* bad ben hardi & bold,  
 If he can rechen ðis dremes wold ;

<sup>1</sup> For ðeden.

He told him *quat* him dremp<sup>t</sup>e o nigt, 175  
 And iosep rechede his drem wel rigt.  
 “*Ʒis* two dremes bo<sup>ð</sup>en ben on,  
 God wile *Ʒe* tawnen, king pharaon ;  
*Ʒo* .vij. ger ben get to cumen,  
 In al fulsum-hed sulen it ben numen, 180  
 And .vij. o<sup>ð</sup>ere sulen after ben,  
 Sori and nedful men sulen is sen ;  
 Al *Ʒat* *Ʒise* first .vii. maken,  
 Sulen *Ʒis* o<sup>ð</sup>ere vii. rospen & raken ;  
 Ic rede *Ʒe* king, nu her bi-foren, 185  
 To maken la<sup>ð</sup>es and gadere<sup>n</sup> coren,  
*Ʒat* *Ʒin* folc ne wur<sup>ð</sup> vnder-numen,  
*Quan* *Ʒo* hungri gere ben for<sup>ð</sup>-cumen.”  
 King pharaon listnede hise red,  
*Ʒat* wur<sup>ð</sup> him si<sup>ð</sup>en seli sped. 190  
 He bi-tagte iosep his ring,  
 And his bege of gold for wur<sup>ð</sup>ing,  
 And bad him al his lond bi-sen,  
 And under him hegest for to ben,  
 And bad him welden in his hond 195  
 His folc, and agte, & al his lond ;  
*Ʒo* was vnder him *Ʒanne* putifar,  
 And his wif *Ʒat* him so to-bar.  
 Iosep to wiue his dowter nam,  
 O<sup>ð</sup>er is nu *quan* ear bi-cam ; 200  
 And ghe *Ʒer* him two childer bar,  
 Or men wur<sup>ð</sup> of *Ʒat* hunger war,  
 first manassen and effraym ;  
 He luueden god, he geld it hem.  
*Ʒe* .vii. fulsum geres faren, 205  
 Iosep cu<sup>ð</sup>e him bi-foren waren ;  
*Ʒan* coren wantede in o<sup>ð</sup>er lond,  
*Ʒo* ynug [was] vnder his hond.

**H**vnger wex in lond chanaan,  
 And his .x. sunes iacob for-ðan 210  
 Sente in to egipt to bringen coren ;  
 He bilef at hom ðe was gungest boren.  
 ðe .x. comen, for nede sogt,  
 To Iosep, and he ne knewen him nogt,  
 And ðog he lutten him frigitlike, 215  
 Anð seiden to him mildelike,  
 “ We ben sondes for nede driuen  
 To bigen coren ðor-bi to liuen.”  
 (Iosep hen knew al in his ðhogt  
 Als he let he knew hem nogt.) 220  
 “ It semet wel ðat ge spies ben,  
 And in to ðis lond cumen to sen,  
 And came ge for non oðer ðing,  
 but for to spien ur lord ðe king.”  
 “ Nai,” he seiden euerilc on, 225  
 “ Spies were we neuer non,  
 Oc alle we ben on faderes sunen,  
 For hunger doð es<sup>1</sup> hider cumen.”  
 “ Oc nu ic wot ge spies ben,  
 for bi gure bering men mai it sen ; 230  
 Hu sulde on man, poure for-geten,  
 swilke and so manige sunes bigeten ?  
 for seldum bi-tid self ani king  
 swilc men to sen of hise ofspring.”  
 “ **A** louerd, merci ! get is ðor on, 235  
 migt he nogt fro his fader gon ;  
 He is gungest, hoten beniamin,  
 for we ben alle of ebrisse kin.”  
 “ Nu, bi ðe feið ic og to king pharaon,  
 sule ge nogt alle eðen gon, 240

<sup>1</sup> For us.

Til ge me bringen beniamin,  
 Ða gungeste broðer of gure<sup>1</sup> kin."  
 For ðo was Iosep sore for-dred  
 Ðat he wore oc ðhurg hem for-red ;  
 He dede hem binden, and leden dun, 245  
 And speren faste in his prisun ;  
 Ðe ðridde dai he let hem gon,  
 Al but ðe ton broðer symeon ;  
 Ðis symeon bi-lef ðor in bond,  
 To wedde under Iosepes hond. 250  
 Ðes oðere breðere, sone on-on,  
 Token leue and wenten hom ;  
 And sone he weren ðeden<sup>2</sup> went,  
 Wel sore he hauen hem bi-ment,  
 And seiden hem Ðan ðor bi-twen, 255  
 " Wrigtful we in sorwe ben,  
 for we sinigeden *quilum* or  
 On hure broðer michil mor,  
 for we werneden him merci,  
 Nu drege we sorge al for-ði." 260  
 Wende here non it on his mod,  
 Oc Iosep al it under-stod.  
**I**osepes men ðor *quiles* deden  
 Al-so Iosep hem adde beden ;  
 Ðo breðere seckes hauen he filt, 265  
 And in *euerilc* ðe *siluer* pilt  
 Ðat ðor was paid for ðe coren,  
 And bunden ðe muðes ðor bi-foren ;  
 Oc ðe breðere ne wisten it nogt  
 Hu ðis dede wurðe wrogt ; 270  
 Oc alle he weren *ouer-ðogt*,  
 And hauen it so to iacob brogt,

MS. has pore.

<sup>2</sup> For ðeðen.

And tolden him so of here sped,  
 And al he it listnede *in* frigtihed ;  
 And *quan* men *þo* seckes *þor* un-bond, 275  
 And in *þe* coren *þo* agtes fond,  
 Alle he woren *þanne*<sup>1</sup> sori ofrigt.  
 Iacob *þus* him bi-meneð o-rigt,  
 “ Wel michel sorge is me bi-cumen,  
*þat* min two childre aren me for-numen ; 280  
 Of Iosep wot ic ending non,  
 And bondes ben leid on symeon ;  
 If ge beniamin fro me don,  
 Dead and sorge me segeð on ;  
 Ai sal beniamin wið me bi-lewen 285  
*þor* *quiles* ic sal on werlde liuen.”  
*þo* *quað* iudas, “ us sal ben hard,  
 If we no<sup>2</sup> holden him non forward.”  
**W**ex derðe,<sup>3</sup> *þis* coren is gon,  
 Iacob est bit hem faren agon, 290  
 Oc he ne duren *þe* weie cumen in,  
 “ but ge wið us senden beniamin ;”  
*þo* *quað* he, “ *quan* it is ned,  
 And ne can no better red,  
 Bereð dat<sup>4</sup> siluer hol agon, 295  
*þat* hem *þor*-of ne wante non,  
 And oðer siluer *þor* bi-foren,  
 for to bigen wið oðer coren ;  
 fruit and spices of dere pris,  
 Bereð *þat* man *þat* is so wis ; 300  
 God hunne him eði-modes ben,  
 And sende me min childre agen.”  
*þo* nomen he forð weie rigt,  
 Til he ben cumen *in*-to egypte ligt ;

<sup>1</sup> MS. *þanno*.<sup>2</sup> For *ne*.<sup>3</sup> MS. has *derke*.<sup>4</sup> For *þat*.

And *quanne* Iosep hem alle sag, 305  
 Kinde *þogt in* his herte was [*þag*].  
 He bad his stiward gerken is meten,  
 He seide he sulden wið him alle eten;  
 He ledde hem alle to Iosepes biri,  
 Her non hadden *þo* loten miri. 310  
 "Louerd," he seiden *þo euerilc* on,  
 "Gur siluer is gu brogt a-gon,  
 It was in ure seckes don,  
 Ne wiste ur non gilt *þor-on*."  
 "Beð nu stille," *quad* stiward, 315  
 "for ic nu haue min forward."  
*þor* cam *þat* broðer symeon  
 And kiste is breðere on and on;  
 Wel fagen he was of here come,  
 for he was numen *þor* to nome. 320  
 It was vndren time or more,  
 Om cam *þat* riche louerd *þore*;  
 And al *þo* briðere, of frigti mod,  
 fellen bi-forn *þat* louerd-is fot,  
 And bedden him riche *present* 325  
*þat* here fader hi[m] adde sent;  
 And he leuelike it under-stod,  
 for alle he weren of kinde blod.  
 "L iueð," *quad* he, "*þat* fader get,  
*þat* *þus* manige sunes bi-gat?" 330  
 "louerd," he seiden, "get he liueð,  
 Wot ic *þor* non *þat* he ne biueð?  
 And *þis* is gunge beniamin,  
 Hider brogt after bode-word *þin*."  
*þo* Iosep sag him *þor* bi-foren, 335  
 Bi fader & moder broðer boren,  
 Him ouer-wente his herte on-on,  
 Kinde luue gan him ouer-gon;



Sone he gede ut and stille he gret,  
 þat al his wlite wurð teres wet. 340  
 After þat grot, he weis is wliten,  
 And cam þan in and bad hem eten ;  
 He dede hem wassen and him bi-foren,  
 And sette hem as he weren boren ;  
 Get he ðhogte of his faderes wunes 345  
 Hu he sette at ðe mete hise sunes ;  
 Of euerilc sonde, of euerilc win,  
 most and best he gaf beniamin.  
 In fulsum-hed he wurðen glaðe,<sup>1</sup>  
 Iosep ne ðoht ðor-of no scaðe, 350  
 Oc it him likede swiðe wel,  
 And hem lerede and tagte wel,  
 And hu he sulden hem best leden,  
*Que*ne he comen in vnkinde ðeden ;<sup>2</sup>  
 “ And al ðe þette sule ge speden, 355  
 If ge wilen gu wið treweiðe leden.”  
 Eft on morwen *quan* it was dai,  
 Or or ðe breðere ferden a-wei,  
 Here seckes woren alle filt wið coren,  
 And ðe siluer ðor-in bi-foren ; 360  
 And ðe seck þat agte beniamin  
 Iosepes cuppe hid was ðor-in ;  
 And *quan* he weren ut tune went,  
 Iosep haueð hem after sent.  
 ðis sonde hem ouertakeð raðe, 365  
 And bi-calleð of harme and scaðe ;  
 “ Vn-seli men, *quat* haue ge don ?  
 Gret vn-selðehe is gu cumen on,  
 for is it nogt min lord for-holen,  
 ða[t] gure on haueð is cuppe stolen.” 370

<sup>1</sup> For glade.<sup>2</sup> For deden.

ȝ[o] seiden ȝe breðere sikerlike,  
 “ Vp *quat* ȝu it findes witterlike,  
 He slagen and we agen driuen  
 In-to ȝraldom, *euermor* to liuen.”  
 He gan hem ransaken on and on, 375  
 And fond it ȝor sone a-non,  
 And nam ȝo breðere *euerilk* on,  
 And ledde hem sorful a-gon,  
 And brogte hem bi-for iosep  
 Wid reweli lote, and sorwe, and wep. 380  
 ȝo *quat* iosep, “ ne wiste ge nogt  
 ȝat ic am o wol witter ȝogt?  
 Mai nogt longe me ben for-holen  
*Quat-so-euere* on londe wurð stolen.”  
 “ *Louerd!*” *quad* Iudas, “ do wið me 385  
*Quat-so* ȝi wille on werlde be,  
 Wið-ȝan-ȝat ȝu friðe beniamin;  
 ic ledde [him] ut on trewthē min,  
 ȝat he sulde ef[t] *cumen* a-gen  
 to hise fader, and wið him ben.” 390  
 ȝo cam iosep swilc rewðe up-on,  
 he dede halle ut ȝe toðere gon,  
 And spac un-eðes, so e gret,  
 ȝat alle hise wlite wurð teres wet.  
 “ Ic am iosep, dredeð gu nogt, 395  
 for gure helðe or hider brogt;  
 To ger ben nu ȝat derðe<sup>1</sup> is *cumen*,  
 Get sulen .v. fulle ben numen,  
 ȝat men ne sulen sowen ne sheren,  
 So sal drugte ȝe feldes deren. 400  
 Rapeð gu to min fader a-gen,  
 And seið him *quilke* min blisses ben,

<sup>1</sup> MS. has *derke*.

And doþ him to me cumen hider,  
 And ge and gure orf al to-gider ;  
 Of lewse god in lond gersen 405  
 sulen ge sundri riche ben.”  
 Euerilc he kiste, on ilc he gret,  
 Ilc here was of is teres wet.  
**S**one it was king pharaon kid  
 Hu ðis newe tiding wurð bi-tid ; 410  
 And he was bliðe, in herte fagen,  
 ðat Iosep wulde him ðider dragen,  
 for luue of Iosep migte he timen.  
 He bad cartes and waines nimen,  
 And fechen wiues, and childre, and men, 415  
 And gaf hem ðor al lond gersen,  
 And het hem ðat he sulden hauen  
 More and bet ðan he kude crauen.  
 Iosep gaf ilc here twinne srud,  
 Benjamin most he<sup>1</sup> made prud ; 420  
 fif weden best bar beniamin,  
 ðre hundred plates of siluer fin,  
 Al-so fele oðre ðor-til,  
 He bad ben in is faderes wil,  
 And .x. asses wið semes fest ; 425  
 Of alle egiptes welðhe best  
 Gaf he is breðere, wið herte bliðe,  
 And bad hem rapen hem homward swiðe ;  
 And he so deden wið herte fagen.  
 Toward here fader he gunen dragen, 430  
 And *quane* he comen him bi-foren,  
 Ne wiste he nogt *quat* he woren.  
 “Louerd,” he seiden, “israel,  
 Iosep ðin sune greteð ðe wel,

<sup>1</sup> MS. be.

And sendeð ðe bode ðat he liueð,  
 Al egipte in his wil cliueð." 435  
 Iacob a-braid, and trewed it nogt,  
 Til he sag al ðat welðe brogt.  
 "Wel me," quað he, "wel is me wel,  
 ðat ic aue abiden ðus swil[c] sel! 440  
 And ic sal to min sune fare  
 And sen, or ic of werlde chare."  
 Acob wente ut of lond chanaan,  
 And of is kinde wel manie a man;  
 Iosep wel faire him vnder-stod, 445  
 And pharaon ðogte it ful good;  
 for ðat he weren hirde-men,  
 He bad hem ben in lond gersen.  
 Iacob was brogt bi-foren ðe king  
 for to geuen him his bliscing. 450  
 "fader dere," quað pharaon,  
 "hu fele ger be ðe on?"  
 "An hundred ger and .xxx. mo  
 Haue ic her drogen *in* werlde wo,  
 ðog ðinkeð me ðor-offen fo, 455  
 ðog ic is haue drogen *in* wo,  
 siðen ic gan on werlde ben,  
 Her vten erd, man-kin bi-twen;  
 So ðinked<sup>1</sup> euerilc wis[e] man,  
 ðe wot *quor*-of man-kin bi-gan, 460  
 And ðe of adames gilte muneð,  
 ðat he her uten herdes wuneð."  
**P**haraon bad him wurðen wel  
 in softe reste and seli mel;  
 He and hise sunes in reste dede 465  
 In lond gersen, on sundri stede;

<sup>1</sup> For ðinkeð.

Siðen ðor was mad on scité,  
 ðe was y-oten Ramesé.  
 Iacob on liue wunede ðor  
 In reste fulle .xiiij. ger ; 470  
 And god him let bi-foren sen  
 Quilc time hise ending sulde ben ;  
 He bad iosep his leue sune,  
 On ðhing ðat<sup>1</sup> offe wel mune,  
 ðat *qu*an it wurð mid him don, 475  
 He sulde him birien in ebron ;  
 And witterlike he it aueð *him* seid,  
 ðe stede ðor abraham was leid ;  
 So was him lif<sup>2</sup> to wurðen leid,  
*Qu*or ali gast stille hadde seid 480  
 Him and hise eldere(.) fer ear bi-foren,  
*Qu*or iesu crist wulde ben boren,  
 And *qu*or ben dead, and *qu*or ben grauen ;  
 He ðogt wið hem reste to hauen.  
 Iosep swor him al-so he bad, 485  
 And he ðor-of wurð bliðe & glad.  
 Or ðan he wiste off werlde faren,  
 He bade hise kinde to him charen,  
 And seide *quat* of hem sulde ben,  
 Hali gast dede it him seen ; 490  
 In clene ending and ali lif,  
 So he for-let ðis werldes strif.  
 Osep dede hise lich faire geren,  
 Wassen, and riche-like smeren,  
 And spice-like swete smaken ; 495  
 And egipte folc him bi-waken  
 xl. nigtes and .xl. daiges,  
 swilc woren egipte lages.

<sup>1</sup> For ðar.<sup>2</sup> For lef.

[Lines 2475—2536.]

And pharaon king cam bode bi-foren,  
 Ʒat Iosep haueð his fader sworn ; 500  
 And he it *him* gatte Ʒor he wel dede,  
 And bad *him* nimen *him* feres mide,  
 Wel wopnede men and wis of here[n],  
 dat<sup>1</sup> noman hem bi weie deren ;  
 Ʒat bere is led, Ʒis folc is rad, 505  
 he foren a-buten bi adad ;  
 ful seuene nigt he Ʒer abiden,  
 And bi-mening for iacob deden ;  
 So longe he hauen Ʒeðen numen,  
 To flum iurdon Ʒat he ben cumen, 510  
 And ouer pharan til ebron ;  
 Ʒor is Ʒat liche in biriele don,  
 And Iosep in to egipte went,  
 Wid<sup>2</sup> al is folc ut wið him [s]ent.  
**H**ise breðere comen *him* Ʒanne to, 515  
 And gunnen him bi-seken alle so ;  
 “ Vre fader,” he seiden, “ or he was dead,  
 Vs he Ʒis bodewurd seigen bead,  
 Hure sinne Ʒu *him* for-giue,  
 Wið-Ʒanne-Ʒat we vnder ðe liuen.” 520  
 Alle he fellen him Ʒor to fot,  
 To beðen meðe and bedden oc ;  
 And he it for-gaf hem mildelike,  
 And luuede hem alle kinde-like.  
 Osep an hundred ger was hold, 525  
 And his kin wexen manige-fold ;  
 He bad sibbe cumen him bi-foren,  
 Or he was ut of werlde boren ;  
 “ It sal,” *quað* he, “ ben soð, bi-foren  
 Ʒat god hað ure eldere sworn ; 530

<sup>1</sup> For Ʒat.<sup>2</sup> For wið.

He sal gu leden *in* his hond  
 Heþen to þat hotene lond ;  
 for godes luue get bid ic gu,  
 Lested it þanne, hoteþ it nu,  
 þat mine bene ne be for-loren, 535  
 wiþ gu ben mine bones boren.”  
 He it him gatten and wurþ he dead,  
 God do þe soule seli red !  
 Hise liche was spice-like maked,  
 And longe egipte-like waked, 540  
 And þo biried hem bi-foren,  
 And siþen late of londe boren.  
 Hise oðre breþere, on and on,  
 Woren ybiried at ebron.  
 An her endede, to ful in wis, 545  
 þe boc þe is hoten genesis,  
 þe moyses, þurg godes red,  
 Wrot for lefful soules ned.  
 God schilde hise sowle fro helle bale,  
 þe made it þus on engel tale ! 550  
 And he þat þise lettres wrot,  
 God him helpe weli mot,  
 And berge is sowle fro sorge & grot  
 Of helle pine, cold & hot !  
 And alle men, þe it heren wilen,<sup>1</sup> 555  
 God lene hem *in* his blisse spilen  
 Among engeles & seli men,  
 Wiþuten ende in reste ben,  
 And luue & pais us bi-twen,  
 And god so graunte, amen, amen ! 560

<sup>1</sup> MS. welin.

## II.

NICHOLAS DE GUILDFORD,

A. D. 1250—1260.

### *The Owl and the Nightingale.*

[Collated with Cotton MS. Calig. A. ix., by the editor of the present work.]

The poem entitled *The Owl and the Nightingale* (edited for the Percy Society by Thomas Wright, M. A., F. S. A., 1843) is attributed to Nicholas De Guildford, who is mentioned in the poem itself as living at Portesham in Dorsetshire.

The precise date of the piece is a matter of dispute, some critics ascribing it to the reign of Henry III, and others to that of Edward I, but it is probably not later than the time of Henry III.

The poem is written in the dialect of the South of England, but is free from any of those broad provincialisms which characterize a particular county.

[Lines 1—94.]

ICH was in one sumere dale,  
In one suþe diþele hale,  
I-herde ich holde grete tale  
An hule and one niþtingale.  
Þat plait was stif and starc and strong,                   5  
Sum wile softe, and lud among;  
An aiþer aþen oþer sūal,  
And let þat wole mod ut al.  
And eiþer seide of oþeres custe  
Þat alre-worste þat hi wuste;                               10  
And hure and hure of oþere songe  
Hi holde plaiding suþe stronge.



Þe niȝtingale bi-gon þe speche,  
 In one hurne of one breche;  
 And sat up one vaire boȝe, 15  
 Þar were abute blosme i-noȝe,  
 In ore waste þicke hegge,  
 I-meind mid spire and grene segge.  
 Ho was þe gládur vor þe rise,  
 And song a vele cunne wise: 20  
 Het þuȝte þe dreim þat he were  
 Of harpe and pipe, þau he nere,  
 Bet þuȝte þat he were i-shote  
 Of harpe and pipe þan of þrote.  
 Þo stod on old stoc þar bi-side, 25  
 Þar þo ule song hire tide,  
 And was mid ivi al bi-growe,  
 Hit was þare hule earding-stowe.  
 Þe niȝtingale hi i-seȝ,  
 And hi bi-hold and over-seȝ, 30  
 And þuȝte wel w[o]l of þare hule,  
 For me hi halt lodlich and fule:  
 "Unwiȝt," ho sede, "awei þu flo!  
 Me is the w[o]rs þat ich þe so;  
 I-wis for þine w[o]le lete 35  
 Wel oft ich mine song for-leteȝ;  
 Min horte at-fliþ, and falt mi tonge,  
 Þonne þu art to me i-þrunge.  
 Me luste bet speten, þane singe  
 Of þine fule ȝoȝelinge." 40  
 Þos hule abod fort hit was eve,  
 Ho ne miȝte no leng bileve,  
 Vor hire horte was so gret,  
 Þat wel neȝ hire fnast at-schet;  
 And warp a word þar after longe: 45  
 "Hu þincþe<sup>1</sup> nu bi mine songe?

<sup>1</sup> For þincþ þe.

West þu þat ich ne cunne singe,  
 Þeʒ ich ne cunne of writelinge?  
 I-lome þu dest me grame,  
 And seist me boþe tone and schame; 50  
 ʒif ich þe holde on mine note,  
 So hit bi-tide þat ich mote!  
 And þu were ut of þine rise,  
 Þu sholdest singe an oþer wise.”  
 Þe niʒtingale ʒaf answare: 55  
 “ʒif ich me loki wit þe bare,  
 And me schilde wit þe blete,  
 Ne reche ich noʒt of þine þrete;  
 ʒif ich me holde in mine hegge,  
 Ne recche ich never what þu segge. 60  
 Ich wot þat þu art un-milde  
 Wiþ hom þat ne muʒe from se<sup>1</sup> schilde;  
 And þu tukest wroþe and uuele  
 Whar þu miʒt over smale fuʒele;  
 Vor-þi þu art loþ al fuel-kunne, 65  
 And alle ho þe driveþ honne,  
 And þe bi-schricheþ and bi-gredet,  
 And wel narewe þe bi-ledet;  
 And ek forþe þe sulve mose  
 Hire þonkes wolde þe to-tose. 70  
 Þu art lodlich to bi-holde,  
 And þu art loþ in monie volde;  
 Þi bodi is short, þi swore is smal,  
 Grettere is þin heved þan þu al;  
 Þin eʒene boþ col-blake and brode, 75  
 Riʒt swo ho weren i-peint mid wode;  
 Þu starest so þu wille abiten  
 Al þat þu mist mid clivre smiten;

<sup>1</sup> For þe.

Þi bile is stif and scharp and hoked,  
 Riȝt so an owel þat is croked, 80  
 Þar-mid þu clackes[t] oft and longe,  
 And þat is on of þine songe,  
 Ac þu þretest to mine fleshe,  
 Mid þine clivres woldest me meshe;  
 Þe were i-cundur to one frogge, 85  
 [Þat sit at mulne under cogge],  
 Snailles, mus, and fule wiȝte,  
 Boþ þine cunde and þine riȝte. .  
 Þu sittest adai, and fliȝst aniȝt,  
 Þu cuþest þat þu art on un-wiȝt; 90  
 Þu art lodlich and un-clene,  
 Bi þine neste ich hit mene,  
 And ek bi þine fule brode,  
 Þu fedest on hom a wel ful fode.”

[Lines 139—232.]

Þos word aȝaf þe niȝtingale, 95  
 And after þare longe tale  
 He song so lude and so scharpe,  
 Riȝt so me gulde schille harpe.  
 Þos hule luste þider-ward,  
 And hold hire eȝe noþer-wa[r]d, 100  
 And sat to-suolle and i-bolȝe,  
 Also ho hadde on frogge i-suolȝe.  
 For ho wel wiste and was i-war  
 Þat ho song hire a bisemar;  
 And noþeles ho ȝaf andsvare, 105  
 “Whi neltu flon into þe bare,  
 And se wiþere unker bo  
 Of briȝter howe, of vairur blo?  
 No þu havest wel scharpe clawe;  
 Ne kepich noȝt þat þu me clawe; 110

Þu havest clivers suþe stronge,  
 Þu tuengst þar-mid so doþ a tonge."  
 "Þu þoʒtest so doþ þine i-like,  
 Mid faire worde me bi-swike;  
 Ich nolde don þat þu me raddest 115  
 Ich wiste wel þat þu me misraddest;  
 Schamie þe for þin un-rede!  
 Un-wroʒten is þi suikel-hede;  
 Schild þine suikeldom vram þe liʒte,  
 And hud þat woʒe amon[g] þe riʒte. 120  
 Þane þu wilt þin un-riʒt spene,  
 Loke þat hit ne bo i-sene;  
 Vor suikedom haved schome and hete,  
 ʒif hit is ope and under-ʒete.  
 Ne speddestu noʒt mid þine un-wrenche, 125  
 For ich am war, and can wel blenche;  
 Ne helpþ noʒt þat þu bo to þriste;  
 Ich wolde viʒte bet mid liste,  
 Þan þu mid al þine strengþe;  
 Ich habbe on brede, and ech on lengþe 130  
 Castel god on mine rise;  
 "Wel fiʒt þat wel fliʒt,' seiþ þe wise.  
 Ac lete we awei þos cheste,  
 Vor suiche wordes both un-werste;  
 And fo we on mid riʒte dome, 135  
 Mid faire worde and mid w[i]sdome.  
 Þeʒ we ne bo at one acorde,  
 We muʒe bet mid fayre worde,  
 Wit-ute cheste, and bute fiʒte,  
 Plaidi mid foʒe and mid riʒte; 140  
 And mai hure eiþer wat hi wile  
 Mid riʒte segge and mid sckile."  
 Þo quaþ þe hule, "Þu schal us seme,  
 Þat kunne and wille riʒt us deme."

"Ich wot wel," quap þe niȝtingale, 145  
 "Ne þaref þarof bo no tale.  
 Maister Nichole of Guldeforde,  
 He is wis and war of worde;  
 He is of dome suþe gleu,  
 And him is loþ evrich unþeu; 150  
 He wot insiȝt in eche songe,  
 Wo singet wel, wo singet wronge;  
 And he can schede vrom þe riȝte  
 Þat woȝe, þat þuster from þe liȝte."  
 Þo hule one wile hi bi-þoȝte, 155  
 And after þan þis word up-broȝte:  
 "Ich granti wel þat he us deme,  
 Vor þeȝ hc were wile breme,  
 And lof him were niȝtingale,  
 And oþer wiȝte gente and smale, 160  
 Ich wot he is nu suþe acoled,  
 Nis he vor þe noȝt afoled,  
 Þat he for þine olde lue  
 Me adun legge and þe buve;  
 Ne schaltu nevre so him queme, 165  
 Þat he for þe fals dom deme.  
 He is him ripe and fastrede,  
 Ne lust him nu to none un-rede;  
 Nu him ne lust na more pleie,  
 He wile gon a riȝte weie." 170  
 Þe niȝtingale was al ȝare  
 Ho hadde i-lorned wel aiware:  
 "Hule," ho sede, "seie me soth,  
 Wi dostu þat un-wiȝtis doþ?  
 Þu singist aniȝt, and noȝt adai, 175  
 And al þi song is wailawai;  
 Þu miȝt mid þine songe afere  
 Alle þat i-hereþ þine i-bere;

Þu schirchest and 3ollest to þine fere,  
 Þat hit is grislich to i-here, 180  
 Hit þinchest boþe wise and snepe  
 No3t þat þu singe, ac þat þu wepe.  
 Þu flizst anizt, and no3t adai;  
 Þarof ich w[o]ndri, and wel mai:  
 Vor evrich þing þat schuniet rizt, 185  
 Hit luveþ þuster and hatiet lizt;  
 And evrich þing þat is lof misdede,  
 Hit luveþ þuster to his dede."

[Lines 254—282.]

Þos hule luste suþe longe,  
 And was of-toned suþe stronge; 190  
 Ho quap, "Þu hattest niztingale,  
 Þu mi3test bet hoten galegale,  
 Vor þu havest to monie tale.  
 Lat þine tunge hadde spale!  
 Þu wenest þat þes dai boþ i-no3e; 195  
 Lat me nu hadde mine þro3e:  
 Bo nu stille, and lat me speke,  
 Ich wille bon of `þe a-wreke,  
 And lust hu ich con me bi-telle  
 Mid rizte soþe wit-ute spelle. 200  
 Þu seist þat ich me hude adai,  
 Þar-to ne segge ich nich ne nai;  
 And lust ich telle þe ware-vore  
 Al wi hit is and ware-vore;  
 Ich hadde bile stif and stronge, 205  
 And gode clivers scharp and longe,  
 So hit bi-cumeþ to havekes cunne;  
 Hit is min hizte, hit is mi wune,  
 Þat ich me dra3e to mine cunde,  
 Ne mai noman þare-vore schende; 210

On me hit is wel i-sene,  
 Vor rihte cunde ich am so kene,  
 Vor-thi ich am loþ smale foþle,  
 Þat floþ bi grunde an bi þuuele,  
 Hi me bi-chermet and bi-gredeþ, 215  
 And hore flockes to me ledeþ;  
 Me is lof to habbe reste,  
 And sitte stille in mine neste.

[Lines 303—352.]

Wenestu þat haveck bo þe worse,  
 Þoþ crowe bi-grede him bi þe mershe, 220  
 And goþ to him mid hore chirme,  
 Riht so hi wille wit him schirme?  
 Þe havec folþeþ gode rede,  
 And flizt his wei, and lat hem grede.  
 3et þu me seist of oþer þinge, 225  
 And telst þat ich ne can nozt singe,  
 Ac al mi rorde is þoning,  
 And to i-hire grislich þing.  
 Þat nis nozt soþ, ich singe efne  
 Mid fulle dreame and lude stefne. 230  
 Þu wenist þat ech song bo grislich  
 Þat þine pipinge nis i-lich:  
 Mi stefne is bold and nozt un-orne,  
 Ho is i-lich one grete horne,  
 And þin is i-lich one pipe 235  
 Of one smale woede un-ripe.  
 Ich singe bet þan þu dest:  
 Þu chaterest so doþ on Irish preost;  
 Ich singe an eve ariht time,  
 And soþþe won hit is bed-time, 240  
 Þe þridde siþe ad middelnizte,  
 And so ich mine song adihte

Wone ich i-so arise vorre  
 Oþer dai-rim oþer dai-sterre,  
 Ich do god mid mine þrote, 245  
 And warni men to hore note.  
 Ac þu singest alle-longe niȝt,  
 From eve fort hit is dai-liȝt,  
 And evre seist þin o song  
 So longe so þe niȝt is long, 250  
 And evre croweþ þi wrecche crei,  
 Ðat he ne swikeþ niȝt ne dai;  
 Mid þine pipinge þu adunest  
 Ðas monnes earen þar þu wunest,  
 And makest þine song so un-w[o]rþ 255  
 Ðat me ne telþ of þar noȝt w[o]rþ.  
 Evrich murȝþe mai so longe i-leste,  
 Ðat ho shal liki wel un-wreste;  
 Vor harpe and pipe and fuzeles songe  
 Mislikeþ, ȝif hit is to longe, 260  
 Ne bo þe song never so murie,  
 Ðat he ne shal þinche wel un-murie,  
 ȝef he i-lesteþ over un-wille;  
 So þu miȝt þine song aspille.  
 Vor hit is soþ, Alvred hit seide, 265  
 And me hit mai ine boke rede,  
 ‘Evrich þing mai losen his godhede  
 Mid unmeþe and mid over-dede.’

[Lines 391—410.]

Þe niȝtingale in hire þoȝte  
 At-hold al þis, and longe þoȝte 270  
 Wat ho þar-after miȝte segge;  
 Vor ho ne miȝte noȝt alegge  
 Ðat þe hule hadde hire i-sed;  
 Vor he spac boþe riȝt an red.



An hire of-þuʒte þat ho hadde 275  
 Þe speche so for-vorþ i-ladde,  
 An was oferd þat hire answare  
 Ne wr[o]þe noʒt ariʒt i-fare.  
 Ac noþeles he spac boldeliche,  
 Vor he is wis þat hardeliche 280  
 Wiþ his vo berþ grete i-lete,  
 Þat he vor areʒþe hit ne for-lete;  
 Vor suich worþ bold ʒif þu flizst,  
 Þat w[o]le flo ʒif þu vicst;  
 ʒif he isiþ þat þu nart areʒ 285  
 He wile of-bore w[o]rchen bareʒ.  
 And forþi þeʒ þe niʒtingale  
 Were aferd ho spac bolde tale.

[Lines 411—446.]

“Hule,” ho seide, “wi dostu so?  
 Þu singest awinter wolawo; 290  
 Þu singest so doþ hen a snowe,  
 Al þat ho singeþ hit is for wowe;  
 Awintere þu singest wroþe and ʒomere,  
 An evre þu art dumb asumere;  
 Hit is for þine fule niþe, 295  
 Þat þu ne miʒt mid us bo bliþe,  
 Vor þu forbernest wel neʒ for onde  
 Þane ure blisse cumeþ to londe.  
 Þu farest so doþ þe ille,  
 Evrich blisse him is un-wille; 300  
 Grucching and luring him boþ rade,  
 ʒif he i-soþ þat men boþ glade;  
 He wolde þat he i-seʒe  
 Teres in evrich monnes eʒe:  
 Ne roʒte he þeʒ flockes were 305  
 I-meind bi toppes and bi here.

Al-so þu dost on þire side;  
 Vor wanne snou lip þicke and wide,  
 And alle wiȝtes habbeþ sorȝe,  
 Þu singest from eve fort amorȝe. 310  
 Ac ich alle blisse mid me bringe;  
 Ech wiȝt is glad for mine þinge,  
 And blisseþ hit wanne ich cume,  
 And hiȝteþ aȝen mine kume.  
 Þe blostme ginneth springe and sprede 315  
 Boþe ine tro and ek on mede;  
 Þe lilie mid hire faire wlite  
 Wol-cumeþ me, þat þu hit w[i]te,  
 Bid me mid hire faire blo  
 Þat ich schulle to hire flo; 320  
 Þe rose also mid hire rude,  
 Þat cumeþ ut of þe þorne wode,  
 Bit me þat ich shulle singe  
 Vor hire lueve one skentinge."

[Lines 449—555.]

.....þe hule sede, 325  
 "Þu havest bi-cloþed, also þu bede,  
 An ich þe habbe i-ȝive ansuare;  
 Ac ar we to unker dome fare  
 Ich wille speke toward þe,  
 Al-so þu speke toward me, 330  
 An þu me ansuere ȝif þu miȝt."

[Lines 597—624.]

".....þu atuitest me mine mete,  
 An seist þat ich fule wiȝtes ete:  
 Ac wat etestu, þat þu ne liȝe,  
 Bute attercoppe and fule vliȝe? 335

An wormes, ȝif þu miȝte finde  
 Among þe volde of harde rinde?  
 ȝet ich can do wel gode wike,  
 Vor ich can loki manne wike ;  
 An mine wike boþ wel gode, 340  
 Vor ich helpe to manne node ;  
 Ich can nimen mus at berne,  
 An ek at chirche ine þe derne ;  
 Vor me is lof to Cristes huse,  
 To clansi hit wiþ fule muse ; 345  
 Ne schal þar nevre come to  
 Ful wiȝt, ȝif ich hit mai i-vo.  
 An ȝif me lust one mi skentinge,  
 To yernen oþer w[o]nienge,  
 Ich habbe at wude tron wel grete, 350  
 Mit þicke boȝe noþing blete,  
 Mid ivi grene al bi-growe,  
 Þat evre stont i-liche i-blowe,  
 And his hou never ne vor-lost,  
 Wan hit snuiþ ne wan hit frost ; 355  
 Þar-in ich habbe god i-hold,  
 Awinter warm, asumere cold.  
 Wane min hus stont briȝt and grene,  
 Of þine nis noþing i-sene."

[Lines 659—668.]

Þe niȝtingale at þisse worde 360  
 Was wel nez ut of rede i-worþe,  
 An þoȝte ȝorne on hire mode,  
 ȝif ho oȝt elles understode,  
 ȝif ho kuþe oȝt bute singe,  
 Þat miȝte helpe to oþer þinge, 365  
 Her-to ho moste andswere vinde,  
 Oþer mid alle bon bi-hinde.

An hit is suþe strong to fiȝte  
 Aȝen soþ and aȝen riȝte.

[Lines 707—750.]

“Hule, þu axest me,” ho seide, 370  
 “ȝif ich kon eni oþer dede,  
 Bute singen in sum[er]e tide,  
 An bringe blisse for and wide.  
 Wi axestu of craftes mine?  
 Betere is min on þan alle þine; 375  
 Betere is o song of mine muþe,  
 Ðan al þat evre þi kun kuþe.  
 An lust, ich telle þe ware-vore:  
 Wostu to þan man was i-bore?  
 To þare blisse of hoveneriche, 380  
 Ðar ever is song and murȝþe i-liche.  
 Ðider fundeþ evrich man  
 Ðat eniþing of gode kan.  
 Vor-þi me singþ in holi chirche,  
 An clerkes ginneþ songes wirche, 385  
 Ðat man i-þenche bi þe songe  
 Wider he shal; and þar bon longe,  
 Ðat he þe murȝþe ne vor-ȝete,  
 Ac þar-of þenche and bi-ȝete,  
 An nime ȝeme of chirche stevene, 390  
 Hu murie is þe blisse of hovene.  
 Clerkes, munekes, and kanunes,  
 Ðar boþ þos gode wicke tunes,  
 Ariseþ up to midelniȝte,  
 An singeþ of þe hovene liȝte; 395  
 An prostes upe londe singeþ,  
 Wane þe liȝt of daie springeþ;  
 An ich hom helpe wat I mai,  
 Ich singe mid hom niȝt and dai;

An ho boþ alle for me þe gladdere, 400  
 An to þe songe boþ þe raddere.  
 Ich warni men to here gode,  
 Þat hi bon bliþe on hore mode,  
 An bidde þat hi moten i-seche  
 Þan ilke song þat ever is eche. 405  
 Nu þu miȝt, hule, sitte and clinge;  
 Her among nis no chateringe.  
 Ich graunti þat we go to dome  
 To-fore þe sulfe þe pope of Rome.  
 Ac abid ȝete noþeles, 410  
 Þu shalt i-here an oþer wes;  
 Ne shaltu for Engelonde  
 At þisse worde me at-stonde."

[Lines 835—853.]

"Abid! abid!" þe ule seide,  
 "Þu gest al to mid swikelede; 415  
 Alle þine wordes þu bi-leist,  
 Þat hit þincþ soþ al þat þu seist;  
 Alle þine wordes boþ i-sliked,  
 An so bi-semed an bi-liked,  
 Þat alle þo þat hi avoþ, 420  
 Hi weneþ þat þu segge soth.  
 Abid! abid! me shal þe ȝene,  
 Þu hit shal w[o]rþe wel i-sene,  
 Þat þu havest muchel i-loȝe  
 Wone þi lesing boþ unwroȝe. 425  
 Þu seist þat þu singist mankunne,  
 And techest hom þat hi fundieþ honne  
 Up to þe songe þat evre i-lest:  
 Ac hit is alre w[o]nder mest,  
 Þat þu darst liȝe so opeliche. 430  
 Wenest þu hi bringe so liȝtliche  
 To Godes riche al singinge?

[Lines 903—918.]

Wi nultu singe an oder þeode,  
 War hit is muchele more neode?  
 Ðu neaver ne singst in Irlonde, 435  
 Ne þu ne cumest noȝt in Scotlonde:  
 Hwi nultu fare to Noreweie?  
 And singin men of Galeweie?  
 Ðar beoð men þat lutel kunne  
 Of songe þat is bineoðe þe sunne; 440  
 Wi nultu þare preoste singe,  
 An teche of þire writelinge?  
 An wisi hom mid þire stevene,  
 Hu engeles singeþ ine heovene?  
 Ðu farest so doð an ydel wel, 445  
 Ðat springeþ bi burne þar is snel,  
 And let for-drue þe dune,  
 And floh on idel þar a-dune.

[Lines 1633—1680.]

Ðe nihtegale i-h[e]rde this,  
 An hupte uppon on blowe ris, 450  
 An herre sat þan heo dude ear;  
 “Hule,” heo seide, “beo nu wear,  
 Nulle ich wiþ þe plaidi namore,  
 For her þe nust þi rihte lore;  
 Ðu ȝeilpest þat þu art manne loþ, 455  
 An evereuch wiht is wið þe worþ;  
 An mid ȝulinge and mid i-grede,  
 Ðu wanst wel þat þu art un-lede.  
 Ðu seist þat gromes þe i-foð,  
 An heie on rodde þe an-hoð, 460  
 An þe to-twichet and to-schakeð,  
 An summe of þe schawles makeð;  
 Me þunch þat þu for-leost þat game,  
 Ðu ȝulpest of þire oȝe schame;

Me þunch þat þu me gest an honde, 465  
 Ðu 3ulpest of þire ozene schonde<sup>1</sup>.  
 Ðo heo hadde þeos word i-cwede,  
 Heo sat in one faire stude,  
 An þar after hire stevene dihte,  
 An song so schille and so brihte, 470  
 Ðat feor and ner me hit i-herde.  
 Ðar-vore anan to hire cherde  
 Ðrusche, and þrostle, and wudewale,  
 An fuheles boþe grete and smale ;  
 For-þan heom þuhte þat heo hadde 475  
 Ðe houle over-come, vor-þan heo gradde.  
 An sungen alswa vale wise,  
 An blisse was among þe rise ;  
 Ri3t swa me gred þe manne aschame,  
 Ðat taveleþ and for-leost þat gome. 480

Ðeos hule þo heo þis i-herde,  
 "Havestu," heo seide, "i-banned ferde ?  
 An wultu, wrecche, wið me fi3te ?  
 Nai, nai, navestu none mi3te.  
 Hwat gredeþ þeo þat hider come ? 485  
 Me þunch þu ledest ferde tome.  
 3e schule wite ar 3e fleo heonne,  
 Hwuch is þe strenþe of mine kunne ;  
 For þeo þe haveþ bile i-hoked,  
 An clivres charpe and wel i-croked, 490  
 Alle heo beoþ of mine kunrede,  
 An walde come, 3if ich bede ;  
 Ðe seolfe coc, þat wel can fi3te,  
 He mot mid me holde mid ri3te,  
 For boþe we habbeþ stevene bri3te, 495  
 An sitteþ under weolcne bi ni3te."

<sup>1</sup> MS. schomme.

[Lines 1687—1792.]

“ Ah hit was unker voreward,  
 Ðo we come hider-ward,  
 Ðat we þar-to holde scholde,  
 Ðar riht dom us 3ive wolde. 500  
 Wultu nu breke foreward?  
 Ich wene dom þe þing[þ] to hard;  
 For þu ne darst domes abide,  
 Ðu wult nu, wreche, fi3te and chide.  
 3ot ich ow alle wolde rede, 505  
 Ar ihc utheste uppon ow grede,  
 Ðat oþer fiht-lac leteþ beo,  
 An ginneþ raþe awei fleo.  
 For, bi þe clivres þat ich bere!  
 3ef 3e abideþ mine here, 510  
 3e schule on oþer wise singe,  
 An acursi alle fi3tinge;  
 Vor nis of ow non so kene,  
 Ðat durre abide mine onsene.”  
 Ðeos hule spac wel baldeliche, 515  
 For þah heo nadde` swo hwatliche  
 I-fare after hire here,  
 Heo walde neoþeles 3efe answe-re.  
 Ðe ni3tegale mid swucche worde,  
 For moni man mid speres orde, 520  
 Haveþ lute strençþe, and mid his chelde,  
 Ah neoþeles in one felde  
 Ðurh belde worde an mid i-lete,  
 Deþ his i-vo for arehþe swete;  
 Ðe wranne, for heo cuþe singe, 525  
 War com in þare more3eing,  
 To helpe þare ni3tegale:  
 For þah heo hadde stevene smale,



Heo hadde gode þorte and schille,  
 An fale manne song awille; 530  
 Þe wranne was wel wis i-holde,  
 Vor þe; heo nere i-bred a wolde,  
 Ho was i-tozen among man[k]enne,  
 An hire wisdom brohte þenne;  
 Heo mihte speke hwar heo walde, 535  
 To-vore þe king þah heo scholde.  
 "Lusteþ," heo cwaþ, "lateþ me speke :  
 Hwat ! wulle 3e þis pes to-breke,  
 An do þanne swuch schame?  
 3e, nis he nouþer ded ne lame, 540  
 Hunke schal i-tide harm and schonde,  
 3ef 3e doþ griþ-bruche on his londe.  
 Lateþ beo, and beoþ i-some,  
 An fareþ riht to ower dome,  
 An lateþ dom þis plaid to-breke, 545  
 Al-swo hit was erur bi-speke."  
 "Ich an wel," cwaþ þe nihtegale ;  
 "Ah, wranne, nawt for þire tale,  
 Ah do for mire lahfulnesse :  
 Ich nolde þat un-rihtfulnesse 550  
 Me at þen ende over-kome ;  
 Ich nam of-drad of none dome.  
 Bi-hote ich habbe, soþ hit is,  
 Þat maister Nichole, þat is wis,  
 Bi-tuxen us deme schulde ; 555  
 An 3ef ich wene þat he wule,  
 Ah war mihte we hine finde?"  
 Þe wranne sat in ore linde,  
 "Hwat, nuhte 3e," cwaþ heo, "his hom ?  
 He wuneþ at Porteshom, 560  
 At one tune ine Dorsete,  
 Bi þare see in ore ut-lete ;

Þar he demep manie riȝte dom,  
 An diht and writ mani wisdom,  
 An þurh his muȝe and þurh his honde 565  
 Hit is þe betere into Scotlonde.  
 To seche hine is lihtlich þing,  
 He naveþ bute one woning :  
 Þat his bischopen muchel schame ;  
 An alle þan þat of his nome 570  
 Habbeþ i-hert and of his dede,  
 Hwi nulleþ hi nimen heom to rede,  
 Þat he were mid heom i-lome  
 For teche heom of his wisdom,  
 An ȝive him rente a vale stude, 575  
 Þat he miȝte heom i-lome be mide?"  
 "Certes," cwap þe hule, "þat is soð:  
 Þeos riche men wel mucche mis-doð,  
 Þat leteþ þan gode mon,  
 Þat of so feole þinge con, 580  
 An ȝiveþ rente wel mis-liche,  
 An of him leteþ wel lihtliche ;  
 Wið heore cunne heo beoþ mildre,  
 An ȝeveþ rente litle childre,  
 Swo heore wit hi demþ adwole, 585  
 Þat ever abid maister Nichole.  
 Ah ute we þah to him fare,  
 For þar is unker dom al ȝare."  
 "Do we," the niȝtegeale seide :  
 "Ah wa schal unker speche rede, 590  
 An telle to-vore unker deme?"  
 "Þar-of ich schal þe wel i-cweme,"  
 Cwap þe houle, "for al ende of orde,  
 Telle ich con word after worde ;  
 An ȝef þe þincþ þat ich mis-rempe, 595  
 Du stond aȝein and dome cremen."

Mid þisse worde forþ hi ferden,  
Al bute here and bute verde,  
To Portesham þat heo bi-come;  
Ah hu heo spedde of heore dome  
Ne chan ich eu namore telle;  
Her nis namore of þis spelle.

### III.

#### EARLY ENGLISH ROMANCE.

BEFORE A. D. 1300.

##### *The Story of Havelok the Dane.*

The Lay of Havelok the Dane, an Anglo-Danish Story, which contains the legend of the origin of the English town of Grimsby, is in its present form a translation from a French romance entitled *Le Lai de Aveloc*, written in the first half of the twelfth century, and probably founded upon an Anglo-Saxon original. Of the English translator, who wrote in an East-Midland dialect, we know nothing.

The following extract, shewing how Grim saved the life of Havelok, and became the founder of Grimsby, is taken from *The Ancient English Romance of Havelok the Dane*, edited by Sir F. Madden for the Roxburgh Club. (London, 1828.)

[Lines 339—748.]

IN that time (Athelwold's), so it bifelle,  
Was in the lon of Denemark  
A riche king, and swythe stark.  
The name of him was Birkabeyn,  
He hauede mani knict and sueyn, 5  
He was a fayr man, and wicth,  
Of bodi he was the best[e] knicth,  
That evere michte leden uth here,  
Or stede onne ride, or handlen spere.  
Thre children he hauede bi his wif, 10  
He hem louede so his lif.

He hauede a sone, douhtres two,  
 Swithe fayre, as fel it so,  
 He that wile non forbere  
 Riche ne poure, king ne kaysere, 15  
 Deth him tok than he bes[t] wolde  
 Liuen, but hyse dayes were fulde;  
 That he ne moucte no more liue,  
 For gol ne siluer, ne for no gyue.

**H**wan he that wiste, rathe he sende 20  
 After prestes fer and hende,  
 Chanounes gode, and monkes bothe,  
 Him for to wisse and to rede;  
 Him for to hoslon and for to shriue,  
 Hwil his bodi were on liue. 25

**H**wan he was hosled and shriuen,  
 His quiste maked and for him gyuen,  
 His knictes dede he alle site,  
 For thorw hem he wolde wite  
 Hwo michte yeme hise children yunge, 30  
 Til that he kouthen speken wit tunge;  
 Speken and gangen, on horse riden,  
 Knictes and sweynes bi here siden.  
 He spoken theroffe and chosen sone  
 A riche man was, under mone 35  
 Was the trewest[e] that he wende,  
 Godard, the kinges oune frende;  
 And seyden, he moucthe hem best loke  
 Yif that he hem undertoke,  
 Til hise sone mouthe bere 40  
 Helm on heued, and leden ut here;  
 In his hand a spere stark,  
 And king ben maked of Denemark.  
 He wel trowede that he seyde

And on Godard handes leyde ; 45  
 And seyde, " Here I biteche the  
 Mine children alle thre,  
 Al denemark, and al mi fe,  
 Til that mi sone of helde be ;  
 But that ich wille, that tho[u] suere 50  
 On auter, and on messe-gere,  
 On the belles that men ringes,  
 On messe bok the prest on singes,  
 That thou mine children shalt wel yeme,  
 That hire kin be ful wel queme, 55  
 Til mi sone mowe ben knicth,  
 Thanne biteche him tho his richth,  
 Denemark, and that thertil longes,  
 Castles and tunes, wodes and wonges."

**G**odard stirt up, and sweor al that 60  
 The king him bad, and sithen sat  
 Bi the knictes, that ther ware,  
 That wepen alle swithe sare  
 For the king that deide sone ;  
 Jhesu Crist, that makede mone, 65  
 On the mirke rich to shine,  
 Wite his soule fro helle pine ;  
 And lene that it mote wone  
 In heven-riche with godes sone !

**H**wan Birkabeyn was leyd in graue, 70  
 The erl dede sone take the knaue,  
 Hauelok, that was the eir,  
 Swanborow his sister, Helfled, the tother,  
 And in the castel dede he hem do,  
 Ther non ne micte hem comen to 75  
 Of here kyn, ther thei sperd were ;  
 Ther he greten ofte sore,  
 Bothe for hunger and for kold,

Or he weren ~~thre~~ winter hold.  
 Feblelike he ~~gaf~~ hem clothes, 80  
 He ne yaf a ~~note~~ of his othes;  
 He hem ne ~~clothe~~de rith, ne fedde,  
 Ne hem ne ~~dede~~ richelike be-bedde.  
 Than Godard ~~was~~ sikerlike  
 Under God the ~~moste~~ swike, 85  
 That eure in ~~erthe~~ shaped was,  
 Withuten on, the ~~wike~~ Judas.  
 Have he the malisun to day  
 Of alle that eure ~~speken~~ may!  
 Of patriarck, and of ~~pope~~! 90  
 And of prest with ~~loken~~ kope!  
 Of monekes and ~~hermites~~ bothe!  
 And of the leue ~~holi~~ rode,  
 That God him selue ran on blode!  
 Crist warie him with his mouth! 95  
 Waried w[o]rthe he of north and suth!  
 Ofte alle men that ~~speken~~ kunne!  
 Of Crist, that made mone and sunne!  
 Thanne he hauede of al the lond  
 Al the folk tilled ~~intil~~ his hond, 100  
 And alle haueden ~~sworen~~ him oth,  
 Riche and poure, ~~lef~~ and loth,  
 That he sholden ~~hise~~ wille freme,  
 And that he shulde him nouth greme,  
 He thouthe a ful strong trechery, 105  
 A trayson, and a felony,  
 Of the children ~~for~~ to make:  
 The deuel of ~~helle~~ him sone take!  
**H**wan that ~~was~~ thouth, onan he ferde  
 To the ~~tour~~ ther he worn sperde, 110  
 Ther he greten for hunger and cold;  
 The knaue ~~that~~ was sumdel bold,

Kam him ageyn, on knes him sette,  
 And Godard ful feyre he ther grette,  
 And Godard seyde, "What is thow?  
 Hwi grete ye and goulen nou?" 115  
 "For us hungreth swithe sore:"—  
 Seyden he wolden more,  
 "We ne haue to hete, ne we ne haue  
 Her-inne neyther knith ne knaue 120  
 That yeueth us drinken, ne no mete,  
 Haluendel that we moun ete.  
 Wo is us that we weren born!  
 Weilawei nis it no korn  
 That men micte maken of bred? 125  
 Us hungreth, we aren ney ded."  
 Godard herde here wa,  
 Ther-offe yaf he nouth a stra,  
 Bot tok the maydnes bothe samen,  
 Also it were up on hiis gamen, 130  
 Also he wold[e] with hem leyke,  
 That weren for hunger grene and bleike.  
 Of bothen he karf on-two here throtés,  
 And sithen hem  l to grotés.  
 Ther was sorwe, wo-so it sawe! 135  
 Hwan the children bith wawe  
 Leyen and sprauleden in the blod;  
 Hauelok it saw, and then bistod.  
 Ful sori was that seli knaue,  
 Mikel dred he mouthe haue, 140  
 For at hise herte he saw a knif,  
 For to reuen him hise lyf.  
 But the knaue that litel was  
 He knelede bifor that Judas,  
 And seyde, "louerd merci nou! 145  
 Manrede, louerd bidd I you!



Al Denemark I wile you yeue,  
 To that forward thu late me liue.  
 Here hi wile on boke swere,  
 That neure more ne shal I bere 150  
 Ayen the, louerd, shel ne spere,  
 Ne other wepne bere, that may you dere.  
 Louerd haue merci of me!  
 To day I wile fro Denemark fle,  
 Ne neuere more comen ageyn; 155  
 Sweren Y wole that Bircabein  
 Neuere yete me ne gat:”—  
 Hwan the deuel herde that,  
 Sumdel bigan him for to rewe;  
 Withdrou the knif, that was lewe, 160  
 Of the seli children blod;  
 Ther was miracle fair and god!  
 That he the knaue nouth ne slou  
 But to rewnesse him thit drow.  
 Of Auelok rewede him ful sore 165  
 And thouche he wolde that he ded wore,  
 Buton that he nouth wit his hend  
 Ne drepe him nouth, that fule fend,  
 Thoucte he, als he him bistod,  
 Starinde als he were wod; 170  
 “Yif Y late him liues go,  
 He micte me wirchen michel wo,  
 Grith ne get Y neuere mo,  
 He may [me] waiten for to slo;  
 And yf he were brouct of liue, 175  
 And mine children wolden thriue  
 Louerdinges after me,  
 Of al Denemark micten he be.  
 God it wite, he shal ben ded,  
 Wile I taken non other red; 180

I shal do casten him in the se  
 Ther I wile that he drench[ed] be,  
 Abouten his hals an anker god,  
 That he ne flete in the flod."  
 Ther anon he dede sende 185  
 After a fishere that he wende,  
 That wolde al his wille do,  
 And sone anon he seyde him to:  
 "Grim, thou wost thu art mi thral,  
 Wilte don mi wille al, 190  
 That I wile bidden the,  
 To morwen shal maken the fre,  
 And aucte the yeuen, and riche make,  
 With-than thu wilt this child take,  
 And leden him with the to night, 195  
 Than thou sest the mone lith,  
 Into the se, and don him therinne  
 Al wile I taken on me the sinne."  
 Grim tok the child and bond him faste,  
 Hwil the bondes micte laste, 200  
 That weren of ful strong line:  
 Tho was Hauelok in ful strong pine,  
 Wiste he neuere her wat was wo:  
 Jhesu Crist, that makede to go  
 The halte, and the dumble speken, 205  
 Hauelok the of Godard wreken!  
**H**wan Grim him hauede faste bounden,  
 And sithen in an eld cloth wounden,  
 A keuel of clutes ful unwraste,  
 That he [ne] mouthe speke ne fnaste, 210  
 Hwere he wolde him bere or lede;  
 Hwan he hauede don that dede,  
 Hwan the swike him hauede hethede,  
 That he shulde him forth [lede],

And him drinchen in the se, 215  
 That forward makeden he.  
 In a poke, ful and blac,  
 Sone he caste him on his bac,  
 Ant bar him hom to hise cleue,  
 And bitaucte him Dame Leue, 220  
 And seyde, "Wite thou this knaue,  
 Also thou with my lif haue;  
 I shal dreinchen him in the se,  
 For him shole we ben maked fre,  
 Gold hauen ynou and other fe, 225  
 That hauet mi louerd bihote me."  
 Hwan Dame [Leue] herde that,  
 Up she stirte, and nouth ne sat,  
 And caste the knaue adoun so harde,  
 That hise croune he ther crakede 230  
 Ageyn a gret ston, ther it lay.  
 Tho Hauelok michte sei, "Weilawei!  
 That euere was I kinges bern!"  
 That him ne hauede grip or ern,  
 Leoun or w[o]lf, w[o]luine or bere, 235  
 Or other best, that wolde him dere.  
 So lay that child to mïddel nichth  
 That Grim bad Leue bringen lict,  
 For to don on his clothes:  
 "Ne thenkeste nowt of mine othes 240  
 That ich haue mi louerd sworn?  
 Ne wile I nouth be forloren.  
 I shal beren him to the se,  
 (Thou wost that houes me;)  
 And I shal drenchen him therinne; 245  
 Ris up swithe, an go thu binne,  
 And blou the fir, and lith a kandel."  
 Als she shulde his clothes handel

On for to don, and blawe the fir,  
 She saw therinne a lith ful shir, 250  
 Also brith so it were day,  
 Aboute the knaue ther he lay.  
 Of hise mouth it stod a stem,  
 Als it were a sunne bem;  
 Also lith was it ther-inne, 255  
 So ther brenden cerges inne:  
 "Jhesu Crist!" wat dame Leue,  
 "Hwat is that lith in ure cleue!  
 S[t]ir up Grim, and loke wat it menes,  
 Hwat is the lith as thou wenes." 260  
 He stu[r]ten bothe up to the knaue,  
 For man shal god wille haue,  
 Vnkeueleden him, and swithe unbounden;  
 And sone anon him funden,  
 Als he tirnedden of his serk, 265  
 On his rith shuldre a kyne merk,  
 A swithe brith, a swithe fair:  
 "Goddot!" quoth Grim, "this ure eir  
 That shal [ben] louerd of Denemark,  
 He shal ben king strong and stark; 270  
 He shal hauen in his hand  
 A Denemark and Engeland;  
 He shal do Godard ful wo,  
 He shal him hangen or quik flo;  
 Or he shal him al quic graue, 275  
 Of him shal he no merci haue."  
 Thus seide Grim, and sore gret,  
 And sone fel him to the fet,  
 And seide, "Louerd, have merci  
 Of me, and Leue that is me bi! 280  
 Louerd we aren bothe thine,  
 Thine cherles, thine hine.

Lowerd we sholen the wel fede,  
 Til that thu cone riden on stede,  
 Til that thu cone ful wel bere 285  
 Helm on heued, sheld and spere.  
 He ne shal neuere wite, sikerlike,  
 Godard, that fule swike.  
 Thoru other man, louerd, than thoru the,  
 Sal I neuere freman be. 290  
 Thou shalt me, louerd, fre maken,  
 For I shal yemen the and waken;  
 Thoru the wile I fredom haue:"  
 Tho was Haueloc a blithe knaue.  
 He sat him up, and crauede bred, 295  
 And seide, "Ich am ney dede,  
 Hwat for hunger, wat for bondes,  
 That thu leidest on min hondes;  
 And for keuel at the laste  
 That in mi mouth was thrist faste. 300  
 Y was with the so harde prangled,  
 That I was the with ney strangled."  
 "Wel is me that thu mayth hete."  
 "Goddoth!" quath Leue, "Y shal the fete  
 Bred an chese, butere and milk, 305  
 Pastees and flaunes, al with suilk;  
 Shole we sone the wel fede,  
 Louerd, in this mikel nede.  
 Soth it is, that men seyt and suereth:  
 'Ther God wile helpen, nouth ne dereth:'" 310  
**T**hanne sho hauede brouth the mete,  
 Haueloc anon bigan to ete  
 Grundlike, and was ful blithe;  
 Couth he nouth his hunger mithe.  
 A lof he het, Y woth, and more, 315  
 For him hungrede swithe sore.

Thre dayes ther biforn, I wene,  
 Et he no mete, that was wel sene.  
 Hwan he hauede eten and was fed,  
 Grim dede maken a ful fayr bed; 320  
 Vnclothede him, and dede him ther-inne,  
 And seyde, "Slep sone, with muchel winne;  
 Slep wel faste, and dred the nouth,  
 Fro sorwe to ioie art thu brouth."  
 Sone so it was lith of day, 325  
 Grim it undertok the wey  
 To the wicke traitour Godard,  
 That was Denema[r]k[es] a stiward,  
 And seyde, "Louerd, don ich haue  
 That thou me bede of the knaue; 330  
 He is drenched in the flod,  
 Abouten his hals an anker god;  
 He is witerlike ded,  
 Eteth he neure more bred;  
 He lith drenched in the se!— 335  
 Yif me gold, other fe,  
 That Y mowe riche be,  
 And with thi chartre make fre,  
 For thu ful wel bihetet me,  
 Thanne I last spak with the." 340  
 Godard stod, and lokede on him  
 Thoruthlike, with eyen grim,  
 And seyde, "Wiltu ben erl?  
 Go hom swithe, fule, drit, cherl;  
 Go hethen, and be euere more 345  
 Thral and cherl, als thou er wore.  
 Shal [thou] haue non other mede,  
 For litel, ig do the lede  
 To the galues, so God me rede!  
 For thou haues don a wicke dede: 350

Thou mai[s]t stonden her to longe,  
Bute thou swithe ethen gonge."

**G**rim thoucte to late that he ran  
Fro that traytour that wicke man;  
And thoucte, "Wat shal me to rede? 355  
Wite he him on liue, he wile bethe  
Heye hangen on galwe tre:  
Betere us is of londe to fle,  
And berwen bothen ure liues,  
And mine children, and mine wiues." 360  
Grim solde sone al his corn,  
Shep with wolle, neth wit horn,  
Hors, and swin wit berd,  
The gees, the hennes of the yerd;  
Al he sold, that outh douthe, 365  
That he eure selle moucte,  
And al he to the peni drou:  
Hise ship he greythede wel inow,  
He dede it tere, an ful wel pike,  
That it ne doutede sond ne krike; 370  
Therinne dide a ful god mast,  
Stronge kables, and ful fast.  
Ores god, an ful god seyl,  
Therinne wantede nouth a nayl,  
That euere he sholde therinne do: 375  
Hwan he hauedet greythed so,  
Hauelok the yunge he dide ther-inne,  
Him and his wif, hise sones thrinne,  
And hise two doutres, that faire wore,  
And sone dede he leyn in an ore, 380  
And drou him to the heye se,  
Ther he mith alther-best fle:  
Fro lond woren he bote a mile,  
Ne were neuere but ane hwile,

That it ne bigan a wind to rise 385  
 Out of the north, men calleth bise,  
 And drof hem intil Engelond,  
 That al was sithen in his hond,  
 His, that Hauelok was the name;  
 But or he hauede michel shame, 390  
 Michel sorwe and michel tene,  
 And thrie he gat it al bidene,  
 Als ye shulen nou forthwar lere  
 Yf that ye wilen ther-to here.

**I**n Humber Grim bigan to lende, 395  
 In Lindeseye, rith at the north ende,  
 Ther sat is ship up on the sond,  
 But Grim it drou up to the lond.  
 And there he made a litel cote,  
 To him and to hise flote. 400  
 Bigan he there for to erthe  
 A litel hus to maken of erthe,  
 So that he wel thore were  
 Of here herboru herborwed there,  
 And for that Grim that place aute, 405  
 The stede of Grfm the name laute,  
 So that Grimesbi calleth alle  
 That ther-offe speken alle,  
 And so shulen men callen it ay,  
 Bituene this and domesday. 410



## IV.

### THE ROMANCE OF KING ALEXANDER.

BEFORE A.D. 1300.

A French Romance of Alexander, in nine books, consisting of about 20,000 lines, was composed in the year A.D. 1200, and a free English translation of this work was made some time before A.D. 1300, by an unknown author, who has been called Adam Davie, on account of some religious Poems composed by a person of that name being found in the MS. containing the Alexandrine Romance.

The following extracts (the dialect of which is *Southern*, with some *Midland* peculiarities) are taken from the *Metrical Romances of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Centuries*, edited by Henry Weber; 3 vols. Edinburgh, 1810.

[Lines 4824—4849.]

LORDYNGES, also I fynde,  
At Mede so bigynneth Ynde;  
Forsothe ich woot, it stretcheth ferrest  
Of alle the londes in the est,  
And oth the south half sikerlyk, 5  
To the cee taketh of Affryk;  
And the north half to a mountayne,  
That is ycleped Caucasayne.  
Forsooth yee shulen vnderstonde,  
Twyes is somer in the londe 10  
And neuer more wynter ne chele<sup>1</sup>,  
That londe is ful of al wele;  
Twyes hy gaderen fruyt there,  
And wyne, and corn in one yere.

<sup>1</sup> Weber prints *cbalen*.

In the londe, als I fynde, of Ynde 15  
 Ben cites fyue thousynde;  
 Withouten ydles, and castels,  
 And borughs tounes, swithe feles.  
 In the londe of Ynde thou mighth lere  
 Nyne thousynde folk of selcouth manere, 20  
 That ther non is other yliche;  
 Ne helde thou it noughth ferlich,  
 Ac by that thou understonde the gestes  
 Bethe of man and ek of beestes,  
 That us telleth the maistres saunz fayle; 25  
 Than mighth thou haue meruaile.

[Lines 4852—4855; 4862—4889.]

Listneth of wondres, and sitteth in pes,  
 In Ynde is a water y-hote Ganges;  
 There ben inne fysshes of strengthe,  
 Thre hundreth feet hy ben of lengthe. 30  
 There is another ydle halt Gangerides  
 There ben inne castels and of poeple pres;  
 Hy beeth also mychel and bolde,  
 As childe of sevèn yeres olde,  
 Hy ne ben no more verreyment: 35  
 Ac hy ben of body faire and gent;  
 Hy ben natheles faire and wighth[e],  
 And gode and engyneful to fighth[e],  
 And have horses auenaunt,  
 To hem stalworth and asperaunt. 40  
 Clerkes hy ben with the best[e]  
 Of alle men hy ben queyntest[e];  
 And evermore hy beth werrende,  
 And upon other conquerrende.  
 By the mone and by the sterren, 45  
 Hy connen jugge alle werren.

Hy ben the altherbest[e]  
 That ben from est into west[e];  
 For hy connen shete the gripes fleigheyng  
 And the dragons that ben brennyng. 50  
 Hy ben in wode gode hunteres,  
 To cacche bores and wilde beres,  
 And ek lyouns and olyfaunz.  
 The kyng of these sergeaunz  
 May leden to bataille 55  
 Two thousande knighttes saunz faille,  
 And seven hundreth olifaunz  
 And fourty thousande redy sergeaunz.

[Lines 4902—4915.]

Michel is the wonder that is under Crist Jesus.  
 There biyonden is an hyll, is cleped Malleus. 60  
 Listneth now to me I praie for my loue!  
 This hyll is so heie that nothing cometh aboue;  
 The folk on the north-half in thester stede hy beth,  
 For in al the yer no sunne hy ne seeth.  
 Hy on the south-half ne seen sonne non 65  
 Bot in on moneth, atte fest of seint John;  
 Thoo that woneth in the est[e] partie,  
 The sonne and the hote skye  
 Al the day hem shyneth on,  
 That hy ben black so pycche son<sup>1</sup>. 70  
 Thise naciouns ben outelyng,  
 And in her owen yemyng.

[Lines 4928—4953.]

A folk woneth biside thoos,  
 That beeth y-cleped Farangos;  
 That haunteth wildernesse and forestes, 75  
 And nymeth therinne wilde bestes,

<sup>1</sup> Weber prints *pyches som*.

And flesshe hy eten raw and hoot,  
 Withouten kycchen[de], God it woot.  
 Another folk hem woneth by,  
 That beth y-hoten Maritiny. 80  
 By the water is her wonynge,  
 And hy libben al by fysshynge.  
 Hy nymmeth the fyssh, and eteth it thanne,  
 Withouten fyre, withouten panne.  
 Ne hebben hy non other fyre 85  
 Bote shynyng of the sonne clere.  
 Another folk there is next, as hogges crepeth,  
 After crabben and airen hy skippen and lepeth;  
 Of thornes and bussches ben her garnement,  
 And of holmen leues, I sigge verrayment. 90  
 Another folk woneth there biside;  
 Orphani hy hatteth wide.  
 When her eldrynges beth elde,  
 And ne mowen hem-seluen welde,  
 Hy hem sleeth, and bidelue, 95  
 And the guttes hy eteth hem-selue;  
 The guttes hy eten, for loue fyne,  
 And for penaunce and for discipline.

[Lines 4962—4983.]

Another folk there is biside;  
 Houndynges men clepeth hem wide. 100  
 From the brest[e] to the grounde  
 Men hy ben, abouen houndes,  
 Berkyng of houndes hy habbe.  
 Her honden, withouten gabbe,  
 Ben y-shuldred as an fysshe, 105  
 And clawed after hound, i-wisse.  
 In wood hy woneth, god it woot.  
 And libben by the wylde goot.

Another folk there is ferliche,  
 Also blak so any pycche; 110  
 An eithe hy habbeth and no mo,  
 And a foot on to goo.  
 With his foot whan hyt ryneth  
 He wrieth his body, and wanne it shineth;  
 For his foot so mychel is, 115  
 It may his body wryen, i-wis.  
 Another folk there is forthers,  
 That libbeth also palmers,  
 Ac mete thai nē habben  
 Bot hawen, hepen, slon, and rabben. 120

[Lines 5182—5203.]

The gode clerk, men cleped Solim,  
 Hath y-writen in his latin,  
 That ypotame a wonder beest is  
 More than an olifaunt, i-wis;  
 Toppe and rugge, and croupe and cors, 125  
 Is semblabel to an hors.  
 A short beek, and a croked tayl  
 He hath, and bores tussh, saunz fayle;  
 Blak is his heued as pycche.  
 It is a beeste ferliche; 130  
 It wil al fruyt ete,  
 Applen, noten, reisyns, and whete.  
 Ac mannes flesshe, and mannes bon,  
 It loueth best of everychon.  
 In roche is his wonyying, 135  
 In water and londe his purchaceyng.  
 Bothe hy eteth flesshe and fysshe.  
 Of no beest[e] drad he nys.  
 Hynd and forth he tourneth his pas,  
 Whan he gooth on any cas, 140

That no man ne shulde y-wite,  
Whiderwarde hy were biwite.

[Lines 6508—6641.]

Now ye schule y-here gestes,  
Bothe of wormes and of bestis,  
That kyng Alisaunder fond, 145  
Tho he wente in Egipte lond.  
Sitteth stille, and geveth listenyng,  
And ye schule here of wondur thyng.  
Certes, lordynges, Alisaunder the kyng  
Wolde y-seo al thyng; 150  
Weore hit open, weore hit loke,  
That he myght here of spoke.

He fond, as the bok tellith us,  
A best in the lond y-cleped Cessus.  
Horned hit is as an oxce: 155  
Berd hit hadde long y-waxe.  
Hit hath monnes feet byhynde;  
And his feet to-fore, so Y fynde,  
Buth yliche monnes hond[e].  
Hit nedeth nothyng to wond[e]. 160  
Hit is a best founde in boke  
Wel griseliche on to loke.

Another best also ther ys  
That hatte rinocertis, y-wis.  
Hit is more than an olifaunt; 165  
In wilde wode is his haunt<sup>1</sup>.  
The olifans, in medlé,  
And theo lyouns he wol sle.  
For, on his snowte, an horn he beres,  
That he smyt with lyouns and beres. 170

<sup>1</sup> Weber prints *bont*.

Theo horn is scharp as a sweord,  
Bothe by the greyn and at ord.

A best ther is, of more los,  
That is y-cleped Monoceros.  
In marreys and reods is heore wonyng, 175  
No best no haveth his fyghtyng.

To-fore, y-mad is his cors  
After the forme of an hors.  
Fete after olifant, certis :  
Hed he hath as an heort[is]. 180  
Tayl he hath as an hog :  
Croked tuxes as a dog.

Ther nys to hym tygre, no lyoun,  
No no best, so feloun.  
He hath, in his front strong, 185  
An horn foure feet long,  
So as Y in bokes fynde ;  
No raysour is so kervynge.

He sleth ypotanos, and kokadrill[e],  
And alle bestes to his wille 190  
Hound no best dar him asayle,  
No non armed mon, saun faile.  
No no mon may him lache,  
Bote by that he no snache.

Another best there is, of eovel kynde, 195  
Griseliche hit is, after theo feonde.  
He schal sterve anon ryght,  
That hit may on have a syght.  
Cathalebra is hire name :  
God ows schilde al fro schame ! 200

Yet ther beon emoten, so Y fynde,  
That beon more than grehoundis,

No mon no may heom anoye,  
 Bote he wol anon ryght dye.  
 Ethiope and Clante buth two londis; 205  
 Ant bytweone heom renneth selcouth strondis.  
 From Nyl, a water of Paradys  
 Thennes cometh, and hoteth Tiger y-wis.  
 In tyme of wynter hit is dryhe;  
 And in somur hit over-renneth the contray. 210  
 Heo noriceth delfyns, and cokadrill,  
 Of whom after telle Y wol.

Ther woneth a folk, of body lyght;  
 Broun they beon, and nothyng wight.  
 For they beon withoute clothes, naked; 215  
 Hardy, they beon and ful of wrake.  
 Delfyns they nymeth, and cokedrill[e],  
 And afyghteth, to heore wille,  
 For to beore heom to the flod;  
 And by lond, gef heom thynkith god. 220  
 Theose beon stronge y-wis:  
 In winter no eteth they flesch no fisch;  
 No corn, no fruyt; no other thyng:  
 Ac they liveth, so theo heryng,  
 By the water, and gendryth therynne. 225  
 Feet and hond buth heore vynes.  
 They cometh a lond in somer tide,  
 And makith teyntis wide and side:  
 And libbeth by flesch and fisch,  
 So doth other men y-wis. 230

Now listeneth and sitteth stille,  
 What best is the cokadrille.  
 He is strong, and of gret valour,  
 Brode feet he hath four.



Ac by kynde he is byreved, 235  
 That they no haueth no tonge in the heved,  
 Ayren they liggeth, as a griffon;  
 Ac they beon more feor aroun.  
 Twelf fote he is long,  
 And so olifant he is strong. 240  
 In hire mouth both teth treble set,  
 None bettre bores y-whet.  
 He beoreth at ones, there he is good,  
 Ten men over theo flod.

Theo delfyns woneth hire byside; 245  
 A strong best of gret pryde.  
 They haveth schuldren on the rygge,  
 Eche as scharpe as sweordis egge.  
 Whan the delfyn the cokadrill seoth,  
 Anon togedre wroth the[i] both, 250  
 And smyteth togedre anon ryght,  
 And makith thenne a steorne fyght,  
 Ac the delfyn is more queynte<sup>1</sup>,

. . . . .  
 And halt him in the water doune<sup>1</sup>;  
 . . . . .

And whan theo kocadrill him over swymmeth, 255  
 He rerith up his Brustelis grymme,  
 And his wombe al to-rent;  
 Thus is the cokadrill y-schent,  
 And y-slawe of theo delfyn  
 God geve ous god fyn. 260

Monye both theo merveilles of Ethiope,  
 That Alisaundre hath y-grope.  
 There he fond a mounte bering,  
 And tidynge herde of his endyng.

<sup>1</sup> Weber prints *queynter* and *douner*.

Hit helpeth noght, ay<sup>1</sup> Y saide : 265  
Ac therof he was eovil paied.  
Yet in Ethiope is a dych,  
Merveillous, and eke gryslich.  
Nyght and day there is gredyng;  
Ac mon may seo no quyk thyng. 270  
Ac sot and snow cometh out of holes,  
And brennyng fuyr, and glowyng coles;  
That theo snow for the fuyr no malt,  
No the fuyr for theo snow aswelt.  
This is now a wondur thyng, 275  
That last to theo worldis endyng.

<sup>1</sup> as?

## V.

### ROBERT OF GLOUCESTER.

A. D. 1298.

#### *Reign of William the Conqueror.*

[Copied and edited from Cotton MS. Caligula A. xi.]

Robert of Gloucester, a monk of the abbey of Gloucester, who lived in the reign of Edward I, wrote a rhymed Chronicle of England from the Siege of Troy to the death of Henry III (1272).

A contemporary MS. in the British Museum has furnished the editor with the present specimen of the Chronicler's language, which represents the Southern dialect of Gloucester. Robert of Gloucester is supposed to have been the author of a metrical version of the Lives of Saints. A few of these Lives (including the Life of St. Dunstan) have been printed in *Early English Poems*, edited for the Philological Society by F. J. Furnivall, M.A. 1862.

MUCHE aþ þe sorwe ibe ofte in Engelonde,  
 As 3e mowe her ȝ er ihure ȝ understonde,  
 Of moni bataile þat aþ ibe, ȝ þat men þat lond nome,  
 Verst, as 3e abbeþ ihurd, þe emparours of Rome,  
 Supþe Saxons and Englisse mid batayles stronge, 5  
 ȝ supþe hii of Denemarch, þat hulde it al so longe,  
 Atte laste hii of Normandie, þat maisters beþ ȝut here,  
 Wonne hit ȝ holdeþ ȝut, icholle telle in wuch manere.  
 Þo Willam bastard hurde telle of Haraldes suikelhede,  
 Hou he adde ymad him king, and mid such falshede, 10  
 Vor þat lond him was bitake, as he wel wuste,  
 To wite hit to him wel, ȝ he wel to him truste.

As þe hende he dude verst, and messagers him sende,  
 Þat he understode him bet is dede vor to amende,  
 7 þoʒte on þe grete oþ, þat he him adde er ydo, 15  
 To wite him wel Engelond, 7 to spousi is doʒter also;  
 7 hulde him þer-of vorewarde, as he bihet ek þe kinge,  
 7 bote he dude bi-time, he wolde sende him oþer tidinge,  
 7 seche him out ar tuelf monþe, 7 is riʒtes winne,  
 Þat he ne ssolde abbe in al Engelond, an hurne to wite  
 him inne. 20

Harald him sende worde, "þat folie it was to truste  
 To such oþ, as was ido mid strengþe, as he wel wuste;  
 Vor ʒif a maide treuþe ipliʒt, to do an fole dede  
 Al one priueliche, wiþoute hire frendes rede,  
 Þulke vorewarde were uor noʒt, 7 watloker it aʒte her,  
 Þat ich suor an oþ, þat was al in þi poer, 26  
 Wiþ-owte conseil of al þe lond, of þing þat min noʒt nas.  
 Þer-uore nede oþ isuore, nede ibroke was.  
 7 ʒif þou me wolt seche in Engelond, ne be þou noʒt so  
 sturne,

Siker þou be þou ne ssalt me finde in none hurne." 30  
 Þo Willam hurde þat he wolde susteini is trecherie,  
 He let of-sende is kniʒtes of al Normandie,  
 To conseili him in þis cas, 7 to helpe him in such nede;  
 And he gan of hor porchas largeliche hom bede,  
 As hii founde supþe in Engelond, þo it iwonne was, 35  
 Þe betere was toward him hor herte uor þis cas.  
 Þe duc Willam is wille among hom alle sede,  
 Þat four þinges him made mest biginne þulke dede.  
 Þat Godwine, Haraldes fader to deþe let do  
 So villiche Alfred, is cosin, 7 is felawes also, 40  
 7 uor Harald adde is oþ ibroke, þat he suor mid is riʒt  
 hond,

Þat he wolde to is bioþþe, witie Engelond,  
 7 uor Seint Edward him ʒef Engelond also,

And uor he was next of is blod, 7 best wurþe þer to,  
 7 uor Harald nadde no riȝt bote in falshede. 45  
 Þes þinges him made mest biginne þulke dede.  
 7 uor he wolde þat alle men iseye is trewehede,  
 To þe pope Alisandre he sende in such cas him to rede.  
 Haraldes falshede þo þe pope ysey þere,  
 7 parauntre me him tolde more þan soþ were, 50  
 Þe pope asoilede 7 blessedde Willam, 7 alle his  
 Þat into þis bataile mid him ssolde iwis,  
 7 halwede is baner þat me at-uore him bere.  
 Þo was he 7 alle his gladdore þan hii er were.  
 So þat þis duc adde aȝen heruest al ȝare 55  
 His barons 7 kniȝtes, mid him uor to fare.  
 To þe hauene of Sein Walri þe duc wende þo  
 Mid þe men þat he adde, 7 abide mo.  
 After heruest þo hor sspes 7 hii al preste were,  
 7 [wynd] hom com after wille, hor seiles hii gonne arere,  
 7 hiderward in þe se wel glad þen wei nome. 61  
 So þat bi-side Hastinge to Engelond hii come,  
 Hom þoȝte þo hii come alond, þat al was in hor hond.  
 As sone as þe duc Willam is fot sette alond,  
 On of his kniȝtes gradde, "hold vaste Willam nou 65  
 Engelond, uor þer nis no king bote þou,  
 Vor siker þou be, Engelond is nou þin iwis."  
 Þe duc Willam anon uorbed alle his,  
 Þat non nere so wod, to robby, ne no maner harm do  
 þere,  
 Vpe þe lond, þat is was, bote hom þat aȝen him were. 70  
 Al an fourtene niȝt hii bileuede þer aboute,  
 7 conseilede of batayle, 7 ordeinede hor route.  
 King Harald sat glad ynou at Euerwik atte mete,  
 So þat þer com a messenger, ar he adde iȝete,  
 7 sede, þat duc Willam to Hastinges was icome, 75  
 7 is baner adde arerd, 7 þe contreie al inome.

Harald, anon mid grete herte corageus ynou,  
 As he of no mon ne tolde, þuderward uaste he drou,  
 He ne let noȝt clupie al is folc, so willesfol he was,  
 ȝ al for in þe oþer bataile him vel so vair cas. 80  
 Þo duc Willam wuste þat he was icome so nei,  
 A monek he sende him in message, ȝ dude as þe sley,  
 Þat lond, þat him was iziue, þat he ssolde him vpzelde,  
 Oþer come, ȝ dereyni þe riȝte mid suerd in þe velde.  
 ȝif he sede, þat he nadde none riȝte þer-to, 85  
 Þat vpe þe popes lokinge of Rome he ssolde it do,  
 ȝ he wolde þer-to stonde, al wiþoute fiȝte,  
 Wer Seint Edward hit him ȝaf, ȝ wer he adde þer-to riȝte.  
 Harald sende him word aȝen, þat he nolde him take no lond,  
 Ne no lokinge of Rome, bote suerd ȝ riȝt hond. 90  
 Þo hit oþer ne miȝte be, eiþer in is side  
 Conseilede ȝ ȝarkedede hom, bataile uor to abide.  
 Þe englisse al þe niȝt biuore uaste bigonne to singe,  
 ȝ spende al þe niȝt in glotonie ȝ in drinkinge.  
 Þe Normans ne dude noȝt so, ac criede on God uaste, 95  
 And ssiuue hom ech after oþer þe wule þe niȝt ylaste,  
 ȝ amorwe hom let hoseli mid milde herte ynou.  
 ȝ suppe þe duc wiþ is ðst toward þe bataile drou,  
 An stounde he gan abide, ȝ is kniȝtes rede:—  
 “ȝe kniȝtes,” he sede, “þat beþ of so noble dede, 100  
 Þat nere neuere ouercome, ne ȝoure elderne naþemo,  
 Understondeþ of the kunde of France þat ȝoure elderne  
 dude so wo,  
 Hou mi fader in Paris amidde is kinedom,  
 Mid prowesse of ȝoure faderes mid strengþe him ouercom.  
 Understondeþ hou ȝoure elderne þe king nome also, 105  
 ȝ held him uorte he adde amended þat he adde misdo,  
 ȝ Richard, þat was þo a child, izolde Normandie,  
 Þat was duc herbiuore, ȝ þat to such maistrie,  
 Þat at eche parlement þat he in France were,

Þat he were igurd wiþ suerd, þe wule he were þere, 110  
 Ne þat þe king of France ne his so[n] hardi nere,  
 Ne non atte parlement þat knif ne suerd bere.

Understondeþ ek þe dedes, þat þulke Richard dude also,  
 Þat he ne ouercom nozt kinges alone, ac wel more þer-to,  
 Ac he ouercom þe deuel, 7 adoun him caste, 115  
 To-gadere as hii wrastlede, 7 bond is honden vaste  
 Bihinde at is rugge; of such prowesse 3e þenche,  
 Ne ssame 3e nozt þat Harald, þat euere was of luper  
 wrenche,

7 biuore 3ou was uorsuore, þat he wolde mid is taile  
 Turne is wombe toward vs, 7 is face in bataile. 120

Understondeþ þe suikedom, þat is fader 7 he wrozte,  
 7 hii þat mid him here beþ, þo hii to deþe brozte  
 So villiche Alfred mi cosin, 7 my kunesmen also.

Hou mizte in eny wise more ssame be ido?

Monie, þat dude þulke dede, 3e mowe her [to day] ise. 125

Hou longe ssolle hor luper heued aboute hor ssoldren be?

Adraweþ 3oure suerdes, 7 loke wo may do best,

Þat me ise 3oure prowesse fram est to þe west,

Vor to awreke þat gentil blod, þat so villiche was inome

Of vr kunesmen, vor we mowe wel, vr time is nou icome."

Þe duc nadde nozt al ised, þat mid ernest gret 131

His folc quicliche to þe bataile sscet.

A suein, þat het Taylefer, smot uorþ biuore þer,

7 slou anon an Engliss mon, þat a baner ber,

7 ef-sone anoþer baneur, 7 þe þridde almost also, 135

Ac him-sulf he was aslawe, ar þe dede were ydo.

Þe uerst ende of is ost biuore Harald mid such ginne

So þikke sette, þat no mon ne mizte come wiþinne,

Wiþ stronge targes hom biuore, þat archers ne dude hom  
 nozt,

So þat Normans were nei to grounde ibrozt. 140

Willam biþozte an queintise, 7 bigan to fle uaste,

7 is folc uorþ mid him, as hii were agaste,  
 7 flowe ouer an longe dale, 7 so vp an-hey.  
 Þe Englisse ost was prout ynou, þo he þis isey,  
 7 bigonne høm to sprede, 7 after þen wey nome. 145  
 Þe Normans were aboue þe hul, þe othere upward come,  
 7 biturnde hom aboue al eseliche, as it wolde be donward,  
 7 þe othere bineþe ne miȝte noȝt so quicliche upward,  
 7 hii were biuore al to-sprad, þat me miȝte bitwene hom  
 wende.

Þe Normans were þo wel porueid aboute in eche ende, 150  
 7 stonnes adonward slonge vpe hom ynowe,  
 7 mid speres 7 mid flon vaste of hom slowe,  
 7 mid suerd 7 mid ax, uor hii þat upward nome,  
 Ne miȝte no wille abbe of dunt, as hii þat donward come,  
 7 hor vant-warde was to-broke, þat me miȝte wiþinne hom  
 wende, 155

So þat þe Normans uaste slowe in ech ende.  
 Of þe Englisse al uor noȝt þat þe valeie was nei,  
 As heie ifuld mid dede men, as þe doune anhei.  
 Þe ssetare donward al uor noȝt vaste slowe to grounde,  
 So þat Harald þoru þen eie issote was deþes wounde. 160  
 7 a kniȝt þat isei, þat he was to deþe ibroȝt,  
 7 smot him, as he lay bineþe, 7 slou him as uor noȝt.  
 Fram þat it was amorwe þe bataile ilaste strong,  
 Vorte it was hei mid ouernon and þat was somdel long.  
 Moni was þe gode dunt þat .duc Willam ȝef a day. 165  
 Vor þre stedes he slou vnder him, as me say,  
 Vor-priked, and uor-arnd aboute, 7 uor-wounded also,  
 7 debrused aȝen dedemen, ar þe bataile were ido.  
 7 ȝut was Willames grace þulke day so god,  
 Þat he nadde no wounde warþoru he ssedde an drøpe  
 blod. 170

Þus lo! þe Englisse folc vor noȝt to grounde com  
 Vor a fals king, þat nadde no riȝt to þe kingdome,



ȝ come to a nywe louerd, þat more in riȝte was.  
 Ac hor noþer, as me may ise, in pur riȝte nas.  
 ȝ þus was in Normannes hond þat lond ibroȝt iwis, 175  
 Þat an-aunter ȝif euermo keueringe þer-of is.  
 Of þe Normans beþ heye men, þat beþ of Engelonde  
 ȝ þe lowe men of Saxons, as ich understonde,  
 So þat ȝe seþ in eiþer side wat riȝte ȝe abbeþ þerto;  
 Ac ich understonde, þat it was þoru Godes wille ydo. 180  
 Vor þe wule þe men of þis lond pur heþene were,  
 No lond, ne no folc aȝen hom in armes nere;  
 Ac nou supþe þat þet folc auenge cristendom,  
 ȝ wel lute wule hulde þe biheste þat he nom,  
 ȝ turnde to sleuþe, ȝ to prute, ȝ to lecherie, 185  
 To glotonie, ȝ heye men mucho to robberie,  
 As þe goster in a uision to Seint Edward sede,  
 Wu þer ssolde in Engelond come such wrecchede;  
 Vor robberie of heie men, vor clerken hordom,  
 Hou God wolde sorwe sende in þis kinedom. 190  
 Bituene Misselmasse and Sein Luc, a Sein Calixtes day,  
 As vel in þulke ȝere in a Saterdag,  
 In þe ȝer of grace, as it vel also,  
 A þousend and sixe ȝ sixti, þis bataile was ido.  
 Duc Willam was þo old nyne ȝ þritti ȝer, 195  
 ȝ on ȝ thritti ȝer he was of Normandie duc er.  
 Þo þis bataile was ydo, duc Willam let bringe  
 Vaire is folc, þat was aslawe, an erþe þoru alle þinge.  
 Alle þat wolde leue he ȝef, þat is fon anerþe broȝte.  
 Haraldes moder uor hire sone wel ȝerne him bisoȝte 200  
 Bi messagers, ȝ largeliche him bed of ire þinge,  
 To granti hire hire sones bodi anerþe vor to bringe.  
 Willam hit sende hire vaire inou, wiþoute eny thing ware  
 uore:  
 So þat it was þoru hire wiþ gret honour ybore  
 To þe hous of Waltham, ȝ ibroȝt anerþe þere, 205

In þe holi rode chirche, þat he let him-sulf rere,  
 An hous of religion, of canons ywis.  
 Hit was þer vaire an erþe ibroȝt, as it ȝut is.  
 Willam þis noble duc, þo he adde ido al þis,  
 Þen wey he nom to Londone he ȝ alle his, 210  
 As king and prince of londe, with nobleye ynou.  
 Aȝen him wiȝ uair procession þat folc of toune drou  
 ȝ vnderueng him vaire inou, as king of þis lond.  
 Þus com lo Engeland. in to Normandies hond.  
 ȝ þe Normans ne couȝe speke þo. bote hor owe speche,  
 ȝ speke french as hii dude at om ȝ hor children dude also  
 teche. 216  
 So þat heiemen of þis lond. that of hor blod come,  
 Holdeþ alle þulke speche þat hii of hom nome.  
 Vor bote a man conne frenss, me telþ of him lute.  
 Ac lowe men holdeþ to engliss ȝ to hor owe speche ȝute.  
 Ich wene þer ne beþ in al þe world contreyes none, 221  
 Þat ne holdeþ to hor owe speche bote Engeland one.  
 Ac wel me wot uor to conne boȝe wel it is,  
 Vor þe more þat a mon can, the more wurþe he is.  
 Þis noble duc Willam him let crouny king 225  
 At Londone a mid winter day nobliche þoru alle þing,  
 Of þe erchebissop of Euerwik, Aldred was is name.  
 Þer nas prince in al þe world of so noble fame.  
 Of þe heyemen of þe lond, þat hii ne ssolde aȝen bi-turne,  
 He esste ostage strong inou ȝ hii ne solde noȝt wurne, 230  
 Ac toke him ostage god at is owe wille,  
 So that ȝif eny aȝen him was, huld him þo stille :  
 ȝif toward Edgar Atheling eni is herte drou,  
 Þat was kunde eir of þis lond, him huld þo stille ynou.  
 So þat þo þis Edgar wuste al hou it was, 235  
 Þat him nas no þing so god as to seky cas,  
 His moder ȝ is sostren tuo mid him sone he nom,  
 To wende aȝen to þe lond fram wan he er com.

A wind þer com þo in þe se 7 drof hom to Scotlonde,  
 So þat after betere wind hii moste þere at-stonde. 240  
 Macolom king of þe lond to him sone hom drou,  
 7 vor þe kunne fram wan hii come, honoured hom ynou.  
 So þat þe gode Margarete as is wille to [him] com,  
 Þe eldore soster of þe tuo in spoushod he nom.  
 Bi hire he adde an doʒter suppe þe gode quene Mold, 245  
 Þat quene was of Engelond, as me aþ er ytold,  
 Þat goderhele al Engelond was heo euere ybore.  
 Vor þoru hire com suppe Engelond into kunde more.  
 In þe 3er of grace a þousend 7 sixti þerto  
 King Macolom spousede Margarete so. 250  
 Ac king Willam þer biuore aboute an tuo 3er  
 Wende aʒen to Normandie fram wan he com er,  
 As in þe verste 3ere þat he ueng is kinedom.  
 Ac sone aʒen to Engelond a sein Nicolas day he com,  
 7 kniʒtes of biʒonde se, and oþer men also, 255  
 He 3ef londes in Engelond, þat liʒtliche come þerto,  
 Þat ʒute hor eirs holdeþ alonde moti on;  
 7 deseritede moni kunde men, þat he huld is fon.  
 So þat þe mestedel of heye men, þat in Engelond beþ,  
 Beþ icome of þe Normans, as 3e nou iseþ. 260  
 7 men of religion of Normandie also  
 He feffede here mid londes, & mid rentes also.  
 So þat vewe contreies beþ in Engelonde,  
 Þat monekes nabbeþ of Normandie somwat in hor honde.  
 King Willam biʒoʒte him ek of þe folc, þat was uorlore, 265  
 7 aslawe ek þoru him in þe bataile biuore.  
 7 þere, as þe bataile was, an abbeye he let rere  
 Of Sein Martin, uor hor soulen, þat þere aslawe were,  
 7 þe monekes wel inou feffede wiþoute fayle,  
 Þat is icluped in Engelond, abbey of þe batayle. 270  
 Þe abbeye also of Cam he rerde in Normandie  
 Of Seinte Steuene, þat is nou, ich wene, a nonnerye.

He broȝte vp moni oȝer hous of religion also,  
 To bete ȝulke robberie, ȝat him ȝoȝte he adde ydo.  
 ȝ erles eke ȝ barons, ȝat he made here also, 275  
 ȝoȝte ȝat hii ne come noȝt mid gode riȝte ȝerto,  
 Hii rerde abbeis ȝ priories vor hor sunnes ȝo,  
 At Teoskesburi ȝ Oseneye, and aboute oȝer mo.  
 King Willam was to milde men debonere ynou,  
 Ac to men, ȝat him wiȝsede, to alle sturnhede he drou. 280  
 In chirche he was deuout inou, vor him ne ssolde no  
 day abide,  
 ȝat he ne hurde masse ȝ matines, ȝ euesong an ech tide.  
 So varȝ monye of ȝis heye men, in chirche me may yse  
 Knely to God, as hii wolde al quic to him fle, 284  
 Ac be hii arise, ȝ abbeȝ iturnd fram ȝe weued hor wombe,  
 Wolues dede hii nimeȝ vorȝ, ȝat er dude as lombe.  
 Hii to-draweȝ ȝe sely bonde-men as hii wolde hom hulde ywis.  
 ȝey me wepe ȝ crie on hom, no mercy ȝer nis.  
 Vnneȝe was ȝer eni hous in al Normandie  
 Of religion, as abbey oȝer priorie, 290  
 ȝat king Willam ne feffede here in Engelonde,  
 Mid londes, oȝer mid rentes, ȝat hii abbeȝ here an honde,  
 As me may wide aboute in moni contreye ise,  
 Ware-ȝoru ȝis lond nede mot ȝe pouerore be.  
 King Willam adde ispoused, as God ȝef ȝat cas, 295  
 ȝe erles doȝter of Flaundres, Mold hire name was.  
 Sones hii adde to-gadere ȝ doȝtren boȝe tuo,  
 As Roberd ȝe Courtehesse, ȝ Willam ȝe rede king also,  
 Henry ȝe gode king was ȝongost of echon.  
 Doȝtren he adde also Cecile het ȝat on 300  
 ȝe eldoste, ȝat was at Cam nonne ȝ abbesse.  
 Constance ȝe oȝer was, of Brutayne contesse,  
 ȝe erles wif Alein, Adele ȝongoste was;  
 To Steuene Bleis ispoused, as God ȝef ȝat cas,  
 ȝ bi him adde ek an sone, Steuene was is name, 305

Þat suppe was king of Engelond, 7 endede mid ssame.  
 Macolom king of Scotlond, and Edgar Aþeling,  
 Þat best kunde in Engelond adde to be king,  
 Hulde hom euere in Scotlond, 7 poer to hom nome,  
 To worri vpe king Willam, wanne god time come. 310  
 7 gret compainie of heye men here in Engelonde  
 Þat ne louede nozt king Willam, were þo in Scotlonde,  
 Vor king Macolóm [alle] vnderueng, þat azen king Willam  
 were,

7 drou hom to him in Scotlond, 7 susteinede hom þere.  
 Vor Edgar-is wiues broþer, was kunde eir of þis londe, 315  
 So þat hii adde of boþe þe londes gret poeir sone an honde:  
 Ar king Willam adde ibe king volliche þre 3er,  
 Þat folc of Denemarch, þat þis lond worrede er,  
 Greiþede hom mid gret poer, as hii dude er ilome,  
 7 mid þre hundred ssipuol men to Engelond hii come. 320  
 Hii ariuede in þe north contreye, 7 Edgar Aþeling  
 7 king Macolom were þo glade þoru alle þing.  
 To hom hii come at Homber mid poer of Scotlond,  
 7 were alle at o conseil to worri Engelond.

Hii worrede al Norþhomberlond, 7 uorþ euere as hii come,  
 So þat þe toun of Euerwik, 7 þe castel ek hii nome, 326  
 7 monye heye men also of þe contreie aboute,  
 So þat þet folc binorþe ne dorste no u[e]r at-route.  
 7 þo hii adde al iwonne þe contreie þer biside,  
 Hii ne come no uer Souþward, ac þer hii gonne abide 330  
 Bituene þe water of Trente 7 of Ouse also.

Þere hii leuede<sup>1</sup> in hor poer vorte winter were ido.  
 Þe king Willam abod is time vorte winter was al oute,  
 7 þo com he mid gret poer 7 mid so gret route,  
 Þat hii nadde no poer azen him uorto stonde, 335  
 Ac lete þe king þe maistrie, 7 flowe to Scotlonde,  
 7 hom to hor owe lond þe Deneis flowe aze.

<sup>1</sup> bi-leuede ?

Þe king destruede þe contreie al aboute þe se,  
 Of frut of corne þat þer ne bileuede noȝt  
 Sixti milē fram þe se, þat nas to grounde ibroȝt. 340  
 ȝ al þat þe Deneis no mete ne founde þere  
 Wanne hii come to worri, ȝ so þe feblore were.  
 So þat ȝute to þis day mucche lond þer is  
 As al wast ȝ vntuled, so it was þo destrued ywis.  
 King Willam adauntede that folc of Walis, 345  
 ȝ made hom bere him truage, ȝ bihote him ȝ his.  
 Þe seueþe ȝer of is kinedom, an alle soule day,  
 Þe quene Mold is wif deide, þat er longe sik lay,  
 In þe ȝer of grace a þousend ȝ seuenti ȝ þre.  
 Anon in þulke sulue ȝere, as it wolde be, 350  
 Þe king Willam, uorto wite þe wurþ of is londe,  
 Let enqueri streitliche þoru al Engelonde,  
 Hou moni plou lond, ȝ hou moni hiden also,  
 Were in euerich ssire, ȝ wat hii were wurþ þerto;  
 ȝ þe rentes of ech toun; ȝ of þe wateres echone 355  
 Þet worþ, ȝ of wodes ek, þat þer ne bileuede none,  
 Þat he nuȝte wat hii were worþ of al Engelonde,  
 ȝ wite al clene þat worþ þerof, ich vnderstonde,  
 ȝ let it write clene ynou, ȝ þat scrit dude iwis  
 In þe tresorie at Westminstre, þere it ȝut is, 360  
 So þat vre kinges supþe, wanne hii raunson toke,  
 I-redy wat folc miȝte ȝiue, hii founde þere in hor bokē.  
 Þer was bi king Willames daye worre ȝ sorwe inou,  
 Vor no mon ne dorste him wiþ-segge, he wroȝte mucche  
 wiþ wou.  
 To hom, þat wolde is wille do, debonere he was ȝ milde, 365  
 ȝ to hom þat [him] wiþ-sede, strong tirant ȝ wilde.  
 Wo-so come to esse him riȝt of eni trespas,  
 Bote he payde him þe bet, þe wors is ende was,  
 ȝ þe more vnriȝt me ssolde him do : ac among opere naþeles  
 Þoru-out al Engelond he huld wel god pes, 370

Vor me miȝte bere bi is daye, ȝ lede hardeliche  
 Tresour aboute ȝ oþer god oueral aperteliche,  
 In wodes ȝ in oþere studes, so þat no time nas  
 Þat pes bet isustained, þat [þ]ar bi his time was.  
 Game of houndes he louede inou, ȝ of wilde best, 375  
 ȝ is forest ȝ is wodes, ȝ mest þe niwe forest,  
 Þat is in Souþ-hamtessire, vor þulke he louede inou,  
 ȝ astorede wel mid bestes ȝ lese mid gret wou.  
 Vor he caste out of house ȝ hom of men a gret route.  
 ȝ bi-nom hor lond, ȝe þritti mile ȝ more þer aboute, 380  
 ȝ made it al forest ȝ lese, þe bestes uorto fede.  
 Of pouere men deserited he nom lutel hede.  
 Þeruore þerinne vel<sup>1</sup> mony mis-cheuing,  
 ȝ is sone was þerinne issote Willam þe rede king,  
 ȝ is o sone, þat het Richard, caȝte þer is deþ also. 385  
 ȝ Richard, is o neuue, brec þere is nekke þer to  
 As he rod an honting<sup>2</sup>, ȝ parauntre is hors spurnde.  
 Þe vnriȝt ido to pouere men to such mesauntre turnde.  
 Wo-so bi king Willames daye slou hert oþer hind,  
 Me ssolde pulte out boþe is eye, ȝ make him pur blind. 390  
 Heye men ne dorste bi is day wilde best nime noȝt,  
 Hare ne wilde swin, þat hii nere to ssame ybroȝt.  
 Þer nas so hey mon non, þat him enes wiþ-sede.  
 Þat me ne ssolde him take anon, ȝ to prison lede.  
 Monye heye men of þe lond in prison he huld strong,  
 So þat muchedel Engelond þoȝte is lif to long. 396  
 Bissopes ȝ abbodes were to is wille echon,  
 ȝ ȝif þat eni him wrappede, adoun he was anon.  
 Þre siþe he ber crowne aȝer, to Midewinter at Gloucestre,  
 To Witesonetid at Westminstre, to Ester at Wincestre.  
 Þulke festes he wolde holde so nobliche, 401  
 Wiþ so gret prute ȝ wast, ȝ so richeliche,  
 Þat wonder it was wenene it com, ac to susteini such nobleȝe,

<sup>1</sup> wel in MS.<sup>2</sup> honteth in MS.

He destruede þat pouere volc 7 nom of hom is preye,  
 So þat he was riche him-sulf, 7 þat lond pouere al out.  
 Sturne he was þoru-out al, 7 heiuol 7 prout. 406  
 Suiþe þikke mon he was, 7 of grete strengþe,  
 Gret wombede 7 ballede, 7 bote of euene lengþe.  
 So stif mon he was in armes, in ssoldren, 7 in lende,  
 Þat vnneþe eni mon miþte is bowe bende, 410  
 Þat he wolde him-sulf vp is fot, ridinge wel vaste  
 Liþtliche, 7 ssete al-so mid bowe 7 arblaste.  
 So hol he was of body ek, þat he ne lay neuere uaste  
 Sik in is bed vor non vuel, bote in is deþ vuel atte laste.  
 As he wolde sometime to Normandie wende, 415  
 Al þat aþt was in Engelond he let somony in ech ende  
 To Salesburi touore him, þat hii suore him alle þere  
 To be him triwe 7 holde, þe wule he of londe were.  
 Þer-to he nom gret peine of hom, 7 fram Salesburi to Wiþt  
 He wende, 7 fram þanene to Normandie riþt. 420  
 7 þe wule he was out of Engelond, Edgar Aþeling  
 (Þat riþt eir was of Engelond 7 kunde to be king)  
 Made is 3onge soster, as God 3ef þat cas,  
 Nonne in þe hous of Romeseye, Cristine hire name was.  
 Þat folc com þo of Denemarch to Engelond sone, 425  
 7 robbede 7 destruede, as hii were iwoned to done.  
 Þat word into Normandie to king Willam com.  
 So gret poer of thulke lond 7 of France he nom  
 Mid him into Engelond, of kniþtes 7 squiers,  
 Speremen auote & bowemen, 7 also arblasters, 430  
 Þat hom þoþte in Engelond so mucche folc neuere nas,  
 Þat it was wonder ware-thoru isousteined it was.  
 Hii of Denemarch flowe sone, vor hii nadde no poer,  
 Ac þet folc of biþonde se bileuede alle her,  
 Þat vnneþe al þat londe sustenance hom vond. 435  
 7 þe king hom sende her 7 þer aboute in Engelond  
 To diuerse men, to finde hom mete, more þan hor poer was,



So þat in ech manere þat lond destrued was :  
 Frut ȝ corn þer failede, tempestes þer come,  
 Þondringe ȝ liȝtinge ek, þat slou men ilome. 440  
 Manne orf deide al agrounde, so gret qualm þer com þo.  
 Orf failede ȝ eke corn, hou miȝte be more wo?  
 Seknesse com ek among men, þat aboute wide,  
 Wat vor hunger, wat uor wo, men deide in ech side,  
 So þat sorwes in Engelond were wel mony volde. 445  
 Þe king ȝ oþer richemen wel lute þer-of tolde,  
 Vor hii wolde euere abbe y-nou, wanne þe pouere adde wo.  
 Sein Poules chirche of Londone was ek vorbarnd þo.  
 King Willam to Normandie þoȝte supþe atte laste.  
 He sette is tounes ȝ is londes to ferme wel vaste, 450  
 Wo-so mest bode þer-uore; ȝ þei a lond igranted were  
 To a man to bere þeruore a certain rente bi ȝere,  
 ȝ anoþer come and bode more, he were inne anon,  
 So þat hii that bode mest broȝte out moni on.  
 Nere þe vorewarde no so strong, me boȝte is out wiȝ wou,  
 So þat þe king in such manere suluer wan ynou. 456  
 Þo he adde iset is londes so mid such tricherye  
 So heye, ȝ al is oþer thyng, he wende to Normandie,  
 ȝ þere he dude wowe y-nou mid slaȝt ȝ robberye,  
 ȝ nameliche vpe þe king of France, ȝ vpe is compainie, 460  
 So þat in þe toun of Reins king Willam atte laste,  
 Vor eld ȝ uor trauail, bigan to febli vaste.  
 Þe king Phelip of France þe lasse þo of him tolde,  
 ȝ drof him to busemare, as me ofte deȝ þan olde.  
 "Þe king," he sede, "of Engelond halt him to is bedde, 465  
 ȝ liȝ mid is grete wombe at Reins, a child-bedde."  
 Þo king Willam hurde þis, he made him somdel wroȝ,  
 Vor edwit of is grete wombe, ȝ suor anon þis oȝ:  
 "Bi þe vprisinge of Jhesu Crist; ȝif God me wole grace sende,  
 Vorto make mi chirchegong, ȝ bringe me of þis bende, 470  
 Suche wiues icholle mid me lede, ȝ such liȝt atten ende,

Þat an hondred þousend candlen ȝ mo icholle him tende  
 Amidde is lond of France, ȝ is prute ssende,  
 Þat a sori chirchegong ichcholle him make ar ich þanne  
 wende."

Vorewarde he huld him wel inou, vorto heruest anon, 475

Þo he sey þat feldes were vol of corne echon,  
 Al þe contreie vol of frut, wanne he miȝte mest harm do,

He let gadery is kniȝtes ȝ is squiers also,  
 And þat were is wiues, þat he wiþ him ladde.

He wende him into France, ȝ þe contreie ouer-spradde, 480  
 ȝ robbede ȝ destruede; him ne miȝte no-þing lette.

Þe grete cite of Medes supþe afure he sette,  
 Vor me ne miȝte no chirchegong wiþ-oute liȝte do.

Þe cite he barnde al clene, ȝ an chirche also  
 Of vr leuedi, þat þerinne was, ȝ an auncre godes spouse, 485

Þat nolde vor no thing fle out of hire house.  
 ȝ moni mon and womman ek þer vel in meschaunce,

So þat a sori chirchegong hit was to þe king of France.

King Willam wende aȝen, þo al þis was ido,  
 ȝ bigan sone to grony and to febly also, 490

Vor traual of þe voul asaut, ȝ vor he was feble er,  
 ȝ parauntre vor wrechê also, vor he dude so vuele þer.

Þo he com to Reins aȝen, sik he lay sone,  
 His leches lokede is stat, as hor riȝt was to done,

ȝ iseye ȝ sede also, þat he ne miȝte ofscapie noȝt. 495  
 Þere was sone sorwe ynou among is men ybroȝt,

ȝ he him-sulf deol ynou ȝ sorwe made also,  
 ȝ nameliche uor þe muche wo þat he adde anerþe ydo.

He wep on God vaste ynou, ȝ criede him milce ȝ ore,  
 ȝ bihet, ȝif he moste libbe, þat he nolde misdo nan more.

Er he ssolde þat abbe ydo, vor it was þo late ynou. 501  
 Atte laste, þo he isei þat toward is ende he drou,

His biquide in þis manere he made biuore is dep.  
 Willam, þe rede, al Engelond is sone he biqueþ,

Þe 3ongore al is porchas; ac, as lawe was 7 wone, 505  
 Normandie is eritage he 3ef is eldoste sone  
 Roberd þe Courtehes; 7 Henry þe 3ongoste þo  
 He biqueþ is tresour, vor he nadde sones nanmo.  
 He het dele ek pouere men muche of is tresorie,  
 Vor he adde so muche of hom inome in robberye. 510  
 Chirchen he let rere also, 7 tresour he 3ef ynou,  
 To rere vp þe chirche of France, þat he barnde wiþ wou.  
 Þe prisons he let of Engelond deliuary echone,  
 7 of Normandie also, þat þer ne leuede none.  
 Þo deide he in þe 3er of grace a þousend, as it was 515  
 And four score and seuene, as God 3ef þat cas.  
 He was king of Engelond four 7 tuenti 3er also,  
 7 duc ek<sup>1</sup> of Normandie vifty, 3er & two.  
 Of elde he was nyne 7 fifty 3er, þo God him 3ef such cas.  
 Þe morwe after Seinte Mari day þe later ded he was. 520  
 In þe abbey of Cam iburred was þis king;  
 7 Henry is 3onge sone, was at is buriing,  
 Ac noþer of is oþer sones; vor in France þo  
 Roberd Courtehes was in worre and in wo;  
 7 Willam anon so is fader Engelond him biqueþ, 525  
 He nolde nozt abide vorte is fader deþ,  
 Ac wende him out of Normandie anon to Engelonde,  
 Vorto nime hastiliche seisine of is londe,  
 Þat was him þo leuere, þan is fader were,  
 So þat þer nas of is sones bote þe 3onge Henry þere. 530

<sup>1</sup> er in MS.

## VI.

*The Life of St. Dunstan.*

The following legend of St. Dunstan's adventure with the Devil (from *Lives of Saints*) is in the same dialect as the *Reign of William the Conqueror*; see page 62.

SEINT Dunstan was of Engelond: icome of gode more  
 Miracle oure louerd dude for him: er he were ibore.  
 For þo he was in his moder wombe: a candelmasse day  
 Þer folc was at churchen ynouȝ: as to the tyme lay  
 As hi stode mid here list: as me doþ ȝut now 535  
 Here list aqueynte overal: here non nuste hou  
 Her list hit brende suyþe wel: and her list hit was oute  
 Þat folc stod in gret wonder: and also in grete doute  
 And hi speke ech to oþer: in whiche manner hit were  
 Hou hit queynte so sodeynliche: the list that hi here 540  
 As hi stode and speke þerof: in gret wonder echon  
 Seint Dunstanes moder taper: afure worþ anon  
 Þat heo huld on hire hond: heo nuste whannes hit com  
 Þat folc stod and bihuld: and gret wonder þerof nom  
 Ne non nuste wannes hit com: bote þurf our louerdes grace  
 Þerof hi tende here list: alle in þe place 546  
 What was þat oure louerd Crist: þe list fram heuene sende  
 And þat folc þat stod aboute: here taperes þerof tende  
 Bote of þat holi child: þat was in hire wombe þere  
 Al Engelonde scholde þe bet beo ilist: þat hit ibore were 550  
 Þis child was ibore neoȝe hondred ȝer: and fyve and tuenti  
 ariȝt  
 After that oure suete louerd: in his moder was alist  
 Þe furste ȝer of þe crowning: of þe king Adelston  
 His moder het Kenedride: his fader Herston 554  
 Þo þis child was an urþe ibore: his freond nome þerto hede  
 Hi lete hit do to Glastnebury: to norischi and to fede  
 To teche him eke his bileue: pater noster and crede

Þe child wax and wel iþe3: for hit moste nede  
 Lute 3eme hé nom to þe wordle: to alle godnisse he drou3  
 Ech man þat hurde of him speke: hadde of him ioye ynou3  
 Þo he was of manes wit: to his uncle he gan go 561  
 Þe archebischoþ of Canterbury: seint Adelm þat was þo  
 Þat made de wiþ him ioye ynou3: and euere þe lengere þe  
 more

Þo he se3 of his godnisse: and of his wyse lore  
 For deynte þat he hadde of him: he let him sone bringe  
 Bifore þe prince of Engelond: Adelman þe kyng 566  
 Þe kyng him made de ioye ynou3: and grantede al his bone  
 Of what þinge so he wolde bidde: if it were to done  
 Þo bad he him an abbei: þat he was forþ on ibro3t  
 Bi þe toun of Glastneþure: þat he ne wornede him no3t.  
 Þe king grantede his bone: and after him also 571  
 Edmund his broþer þat was king: in his poer ido  
 To Glastneþure wende sone: þis gode man seint Dunstan  
 Þo beye þe kynges him 3eve leue: Edmund and Adelman  
 Of þe hous of Glastneþure: a gret ordeynour he was 575  
 And made de moche of gode reule: that neuer er among hem  
 nas

Ac þat hous þat furst bigonne: four hondred 3er bifore  
 And eke þreo and vyfti: er seint Dunstan were ibore  
 For þer was ordre of monekes: er seint Patrik com 579  
 And er seint Austyn to Engelande: brou3te Cristendom  
 And seint patrick deide tuo hondred: and tuo and vyfti 3er  
 After þat oure suete leuedi oure louerd here ber  
 Ac none monekes þer nere furst: bote as in hudinge echon  
 And as men þat drowe to wyldernisse: for drede of godes fon  
 Seint Dunstan and seint Adelmold: as oure louerd hit bisay  
 I-ordeyned to preostes were: al in one day 586  
 Þer after sone to Glastneþure: seint Dunstan anon wende  
 He was abbod þer ymade: his lyf to amende  
 And for he nolde bi his wille: no tyme idel beo  
 him biseo 590

For whan he moste of oreisouns : reste for werinisse  
 To worke he wolde his honden do : to fleo idelnisse  
 Seruie he wolde poure men : the wyle he miȝte deore  
 Al þe dai for þe love of God : he ne kipte of hem non hure  
 And whan he sat at his worc þer : his honden at his dede 595  
 And his hurte mid ihesu crist : his mouþ his bedes bede  
 So þat al at one tyme : he was at þreo stedes  
 His honden þer, his hert at god : his mouþ to bidde his bedes  
 Þerfore þe deuel hadde of him : gret enuye and onde  
 O tyme he cam to his smyþþe : alone him to fonde 600  
 Riȝt as þe sonne wende adoun : riȝt as he womman were  
 And spac wiþ him of his worc : wiþ laȝinge chere  
 And seide þat heo hadde wiþ him : gret worc to done  
 Treoflinge heo smot her and þer : in anoþer tale sone  
 Þat holi man hadde gret wonder : þat heo was and þere  
 He sat longe and biþoȝte him : longe hou hit were 606  
 He biþoȝte him ho hit was : he droȝ forþ his tonge  
 And leide in þe hote fur : and spac faire longe  
 Forte þe tonge was al afure : and sipþe stille ynouȝ  
 Þe deuel he hente bi þe nose : and wel faste drouȝ 610  
 He tuengde and schok hire bi þe nose : þat þe fur out blaste  
 Þe deuel wrickeð her and þer : and he huld euer faste  
 He ȝal and hupte and drouȝ aȝe : and makede grislich bere  
 He nolde for al his biȝete : þat he hadde icome þere  
 Mid his tonge he snytte hire nose : and tuengde hire sore 615  
 For hit was wiþinne þe nyȝte : he ne miȝte iseo nomore  
 Þe schrewe was glad and bliþe ynouȝ : þo he was out of  
 his honde  
 He fleȝ and gradde bi þe lifte : þat me hurde in-to al þe londe  
 ' Out what haþ þe calewe ido : what haþ þe calewe ido.'  
 In þe contrai me hurde wide : how the schrewe gradde so  
 As god þe schrewe hadde ibeo : atom ysnyt his nose 621  
 He ne hiȝede no more þiderward : to hele him of þe pose.

## VII.

### METRICAL ENGLISH PSALTER.

BEFORE A. D. 1300.

The following extracts are selected from *The Anglo-Saxon and Early English Psalter*, (Surtees Society, 2 vols. 1845, 1847.)

*The Early English Psalter* is copied from a MS. written about the middle of the reign of Edward II, but the language is much earlier, and represents the speech of Yorkshire and the Northumbrian dialect as spoken during the latter half of the thirteenth century.

Nothing whatever is known concerning the authorship of this version of the Psalms.

For the sake of comparison, Psalms xiv., xxiii., and cii. in a Midland dialect are repeated from Hereford's version of the Psalter contained in the Wicliffite version of the Scriptures, edited by Madden and Forshall, Oxford, 1850.

#### *From the Northumbrian Psalter.*

[Collated with Cotton MS. Vespasian D. vii.]

#### PSALM VIII.

- 2 LAVERD, oure Laverd, hou selkouth is  
Name þine in alle land þis.  
For upe-hoven es þi mykel-hede  
Over hevens þat ere brade ;
- 3 Of mouth of childer and soukand 5  
Made þou lof in ilka land,  
For þi faes ; þat þou for-do  
Ðe fai, þe wreker him unto.
- 4 For I sal se þine hevenes hegh,  
And werkes of þine fingres slegh ; 10

- Þe mone and sternes mani ma,  
 Þat þou grounded to be swa.  
 5 What is man, þat þou mines of him?  
 Or sone of man, for þou sekas him?  
 6 Þou liteled him a litel wight 15  
 Lesse fra þine aungeles bright;  
 With blisse and mensk þou crowned him yet,  
 7 And over werkes of þi hend him set.  
 8 Þou under-laide alle þinges  
 Under his fete þat ought forth-bringes, 20  
 Neete and schepe bathe for to welde,  
 In-over and beestes of þe felde  
 9 Fogheles of heven and fissesches of se,  
 Þat forth-gone stihes of þe se.  
 10 Laverd, our Laverd, hou selkouth is 25  
 Name þine in alle land þis.

## PSALM XIV.

- 1 LAVERD, in þi teld wha sal wone?  
 In þi hali hille or wha reste mone?  
 2 Whilke þat in-comes wemles,  
 And ai werkes rightwisenes; 30  
 3 Þat spekes soþnes in herte his,  
 And noght dide swikeldome in tunge his,  
 Ne dide to his neghburgh ivel ne gram;  
 Ne ogaines his neghburgh up-braiding nam.  
 4 To noght es lede lither in his sight; 35  
 And dredand Laverd he glades right.  
 He þat to his neghburgh sweres,  
 And noght bi-swikes him ne deres.  
 5 Ne his silver til okir noght is givand;  
 Ne giftes toke over un-derand. 40  
 Þat does þese night and dai,  
 Noght sal he be stired in ai.



## PSALM XVII.

- 2 I SAL love þe, Laverd, in stalworthhede ;  
 3 Laverd mi festnes ai in nede,  
 And mi to-flight þat es swa, 45  
 And mi leser oute of wa,  
 Laverd mi helper þat es alle,  
 And in him ai hope I salle.  
 Mi schelder, and of mi hele horne,  
 And mi fonger ai þer forne. 50
- 4 Lovand Laverd calle sal I,  
 And fra mi faas be sauf for-þi:  
 5 Um-gaf me sorwes of dede ;  
 Um-griped me weeles of quede.  
 6 Soreghes um-gaf me of helle ; 55  
 Bi-sied me snares of dede ful felle.
- 7 In mi droving Laverd called I,  
 And to mi God cried I witerli ;  
 And he herd fra his hali kirke mi steven,  
 And mi crie in his sight in eres yhode even. 60
- 8 Stired and quoke þe erthe yare,  
 Groundes of hilles to-dreved are ;  
 And þai ere stired [þ]of þaim be lath,  
 For þat he es with þaim wrath.
- 9 Up-stegh reke in his ire, 65  
 And of face of him brent þe fire ;  
 Koles þat ware doun-falland  
 Kindled ere of him glouand.
- 10 He helded hevêns, and doune come he ;  
 And dimnes under his fete to be. 70
- 11 And he stegh over Cherubin, and flegh þare ;  
 He flegh over fetheres of windes ware.
- 12 And he set mirkenes his lurking lang,  
 His telde to be in his um-gang ;

- Mirke watres þat ware of hewe, 75  
 In þe kloudes of þe skewe.
- 13 For levening in his sight cloudes schire  
 Forth yheden, haile, and koles of fire.
- 14 And Laverd thonered fra heven, and heghest sire  
 Gaf his steven; haile, coles of fire. 80
- 15 And he sent his arwes, and skatered þa;  
 Fele-falded levening, and dreved þam swa.
- 16 And schewed welles of watres ware,  
 And groundes of ertheli werld un-hiled are,  
 For<sup>1</sup> þi snibbing, Laverd myne; 85  
 For<sup>1</sup> one-sprute of gast of wreth þine.
- 17 He sent fra hegh, and up-toke me  
 Fra many watres me nam he.
- 18 He out-toke me þare a-mang  
 Fra mi faas þat war sa strang, 90  
 And fra þa me þat hated ai;  
 For samen strengþed over me war þai.
- 19 Þai for-come me in daie of twinging;  
 And made es Laverd mi for-hiling.
- 20 And he led me in brede to be; 95  
 Saufe made he me, for he wald me.
- 21 And for-yhelde to me Laverd sal,  
 After mi rightwisenes al;  
 And after clensing of mi hende  
 Sal he yhelde to me at ende. 100
- 22 For waies of Laverd yemed I  
 Ne fra mi God dide I wickedly.
- 23 For al his demes in mi sight ere þa,  
 And his rightwisenes noght put I me fra.
- 24 And I sal be with him wemmeles, 105  
 And loke me fra mi wickednes.
- 25 And Laverd to me for-yhelde he sal

<sup>1</sup> Printed text reads *Fra*.

- After mi rightwisnes al,  
 And after clennes of my hend swa  
 In sight of eghen his twa. 110
- 26 With hali halgh bes of þe;  
 With man un-derand, un-derand be.
- 27 With chosen, and be chosen þou sal;  
 With il-torned and il tornest[ou] al
- 28 For þou meke folk sauf make sal nou; 115  
 And eghen of proude meke saltou.
- 29 For þou lightes mi lantern bright,  
 Mi God, mi mirkenes light.
- 30 For in þe be I out-tane fra fanding al,  
 And in mi God sal I over-fare þe wal. 120
- 31 Mi God unfild es his wai;  
 Speche of Laverd with fire es ai  
 Fraisted; for-hiler es he  
 Of al þat in him hopand be.
- 32 For wha God bot Laverd we calle; 125  
 Or wha God bot our God of alle?
- 33 Laverd þat girde me with might,  
 And set un-wemmed mi wai right.
- 34 Þat set mi fete als of hertes ma,  
 And ouer heghnes settand me swa. 130
- 35 That leres mi hend at fight nou,  
 And mine armes als brasen bow set þou.
- 36 And þou gaf me for-hiling of hele of þe,  
 And þi right hand on-fanged me;  
 And þi lare in ende me rightid al, 135  
 And þi lare it me lere sal.
- 37 Þou to-breddest mi gainges under me,  
 And mi steppes noght unfest þai be.
- 38 I sal filghe mi faas, and umlap þa;  
 And noght ogain torne to þai wane swa. 140
- 39 I sal þam breke, ne stand þai mighte;

- Þai sal falle under mi fete doun righte,  
 40 And þou girde me with might at fight in land;  
 And under-laide under me [alle] in me riseand  
 41 And mi faas o-bak þou gaf me nou; 145  
 And hatand me for-lesed þou.  
 42 Þai cried, ne was þat sauf made ought,  
 To Laverd, and he herde þam nocht.  
 43 And I sal gnide [þam] als duste bi-for winde likam;  
 Als fen of gates o-wai do þam. 150  
 44 Out-take fra ogain-saghes of folk þou sal;  
 In heved of genge me set with al.  
 45 Folk whilk I ne knewe served to me;  
 In hering of ere me boghed he.  
 46 Outen sones to me lighed þai, 155  
 Outen sones elded er þai;  
 And þai halted þare þai yhode  
 Fra þine sties þat ere gode.  
 47 Laverd lives, and mi God blissed be;  
 And God of mi hele up-hoven be he. 160  
 48 God þat gives wrekes me to,  
 And unders folk under me so,  
 Mi leser artou, night and dai,  
 Fra mi faes ben wrathful ai  
 49 And fra in me risand up-heve saltou me; 165  
 Fra wicke man out-take me to fle.  
 50 For-þi in birþes sal I to þe schryve,  
 Laverd, and to þi name salm sal I mi<sup>1</sup> live.  
 51 Heles of his king mikeland,  
 And als swa mercy doand 170  
 To his Crist, þat es David,  
 And to his sede til in werld þar wid.

## PSALM XXIII.

- 1 OF Laverd es land and fulhed his;  
 Erpeli werld, and alle þar-in is.
- 2 For over sees it grounded he, 175  
 And over stremes graiþed it to be.
- 3 Wha sal stegh in hille of Laverd winli  
 Or wha sal stand in his stede hali?
- 4 Underand of hend bi-dene,  
 And þat of his hert es clene; 180  
 In un-nait þat his saule noght nam  
 Ne sware to his neghburgh in swikedam.
- 5 He sal fang of Laverd blissing,  
 And mercy of God his heling.
- 6 Þis es þe strend of him sekand, 185  
 Þe face of God Jacob laitand.
- 7 Oppenes your yates wide,  
 Ye þat princes ere in pride;  
 And yates of ai up-hoven be yhe,  
 And king of blisse in-come sal he. 190
- 8 Wha es he king of blisse? Laverd strang  
 And mightand in fight, Laverd mightand lang.
- 9 Oppenes your yates wide,  
 Yhe þat princes ere in pride;  
 And yates of ai up-hoven be yhe 195  
 And king of blisse in-come sal he.
- 10 Wha es he þe king of blisse þat isse?  
 Laverd of mightes es king of blisse.

## PSALM CII.

- 1 BLISSE, mi saule, to Laverd ai isse, 199  
 And alle þat with-in me ere to hali name hisse.
- 2 Blisse, mi saul, to Laverd of alle thinges,  
 And nil for-gete alle his for-yheldinges.

- 3 Þat winsom es to alle þine wickenesses,  
 Þat heles alle þine sekenesses.
- 4 Þat bies fra sterving þi lif derli, 205  
 Þat crounes þe with rewþes and with merci.
- 5 Þat filles in godes þi yherninges al,  
 Als erne þi yhouthe be newed sal.
- 6 Doand mercies laverd in land,  
 And dome til alle un-right tholand. 210
- 7 Kõthe made he to Moises his waies wele,  
 His willes til sones of Israel.
- 8 Rew-ful and milde-herted Laverd gode,  
 And milde-herted and lang-mode.
- 9 Noght wreth he sal in evermore, 215  
 Ne in ai sal he threte þar-fore.
- 10 Noght after our sinnes dide he til us,  
 Ne after our wickenes for-yheld us þus.
- 11 For after heghnes of heven fra land,  
 Strengþed he is merci over him dredand. 220
- 12 How mikle est del stand[s] west del fra,  
 Fer made he fra us oure wickenes swa.
- 13 Als rewed es fadre of sones,  
 Rewed es Lavèrd, þare he wones,  
 Of þa þat him dredand be; 225
- 14 Fore our schaft wele knawes he,  
 Mined es he wele in thoght  
 Þat dust ere we and worth noght.
- 15 Man his daies ere als hai,  
 Als blome of felde sal he welyen awai. 230
- 16 For gaste thurgh-fare in him it sal,  
 And noght undre-stand he sal with-al;  
 And knawe na-mare sal he  
 His stede, whare þat it sal be.
- 17 And Laverdes merci evre dwelland, 235  
 And til ai ou[e]r him dredeand.

- And in sones of sones his rightwisenes,  
 18 To þas þat yhemes wite-word his;  
 And mined sal þai be, night and dai,  
 Of his bodes to do þam ai. 240
- 19 Laverd in heven graiþed sete his,  
 And his rike til alle sal Laverd in blis.  
 20 Blisses to Laverd with alle your mighte,  
 Alle his aungels, þat ere brighte;  
 Mightand of thew, doand his worde swa, 245  
 To here steven of his saghs ma.
- 21 Blisses to Laverd, alle mightes his,  
 His hine þat does þat his wille is.  
 22 Blisses Laverd, with wille and thoghte,  
 Alle þe werkes þat he wroghte. 250  
 In alle stedes of his laverdschipe ma,  
 Blisse, mi saule, ai Laverd swa.

## PSALM CIII.

- 1 Blisse, mi saule, Laverd nou;  
 Laverd, mi God, swith mikel ertou.  
 Schrift and fairehed schred þou right; 255
- 2 Umlappes als kleþing with light.  
 Strekand heven als fel with blis;
- 3 Þat hiles with watres overestes his;  
 Þat settes þin up-steghing kloude,  
 Þat gaas over fetheres of wyndes loude. 260
- 4 Þat makes þine aungels gastes flighand,  
 And þin hine fire brinnand.
- 5 Þat groundes land over stapelnes his,  
 Noght helde sal in werlde of werld þis.
- 6 Depnes als schroude his hiling alle, 265  
 Over hilles his watres stand salle.
- 7 Fra þi snibbing sal þai fle,  
 For steven of þi thoner fered be.

- 8 Up-steghes hilles and feldes doun-gas,  
 In stede whilk þou grounded to þas. 270
- 9 Mere set þou whilk over-ga þai ne sal,  
 Ne turne to hile þe land with-al.
- 10 Þat out-sendes welles in dales ma,  
 Bitwix mid hilles sal watres ga.
- 11 Drink sal alle bestes of felde wide,  
 Wilde asses in þar thrist sal abide. 275
- 12 Over þa wone sal foghles of heven,  
 Fra mid of stanes gif sal þai steven.
- 13 Fra his overmastes hilles watrand  
 Of fruite of his werkes filled bes þe land. 280
- 14 Forth-ledand hai to meres ma,  
 And gresse to hinehede of men swa,  
 Þat þou oute-lede fra erthe brede.
- 15 And hert of man faines wyne rede,  
 Þat he glade likam in oyele bestz,  
 And brede þe hert of man sal feste. 285
- 16 Be fulle-filled sal trees of felde ilkan,  
 And the cedres of Yban,  
 Whilk he planted with his hand.
- 17 Þar sal sparwes be nestland,  
 Wilde haukes hous-leder of þa. 290
- 18 Hilles hegh til hertes ma;  
 And þe stane, bi dai and nightz,  
 Until irchones es to flightz.
- 19 He made þe mone in times lange;  
 Þe sunne, it knew his setel-gange. 295
- 20 Þou set mirkenesses, and made es night gode;  
 In it sal forth-fare alle bestes of wode.
- 21 Lyoun whelpes romand þat þai reve swa,  
 And seke fra God mete unto þa. 300
- 22 Sprungen es sunne and samened er þai,  
 And in þar dennes bi-louked sal be al dai.



- 23 Oute sal man ga unto his werke,  
And til his wirkeing til even merke.
- 24 Hou miked ere, Laverd, þine werkes ma; 305  
Alle in wisdome made þou þa:  
Ilka land ful-filled es it  
With þine aghte thurgh þi wit.
- 25 Þis see mikel and roume til hende,  
Þar wormes, of whilke es nan ende; 310  
Bestes smaller with the mare.
- 26 Þider schippes sal over-fare;  
Þis dragoun þat þou made biforn,  
For to plaie with him in skorn.
- 27 Alle fra þe þai abide, 315  
Þat þou gif þam mete in tide.
- 28 Giveand þe to þam, gedre þai sal;  
Þe oppenand þi hand with al,  
Alle sal þai, mare and lesse,  
Be fulfilled with þi godenesse. 320
- 29 Þe soth-lik turnand þi likam  
Þai sal be dreved; þe gast of þam  
Þou salt out-bere, and wane sal þai,  
And in þair duste sal turne for ai.
- 30 Out-send þi gaste and made þai sal bene, 325  
And new saltou þe face of erthe bi-dene.
- 31 Be blis of Laverd in werld þis,  
And faine sal Laverd in werkes his.
- 32 Þat bi-haldes land, and to qwake makes it;  
Þat neghes hilles, and þai smoke yhit. 330
- 33 I sal sing to Laverd in mi lif for-þi,  
I sal salme to mi God hou lang am I.
- 34 Winsome to him be mi speche al,  
I soth-lik in Laverd like sal.
- 35 Wane sinful fra erthe, and wik þat isse, 335  
Swa þat þai noght be: mi saule, Laverd blisse.

## VIII.

*From Hereford's Version of the Psalms.*

## PSALM XIV.

1 Lord, who shal duelle in thi tabernacle, or who shal eft resten in thin holy hil?

2 That goth in withoute wem; and werkith ryttwisenesse.

340

3 That speketh treuthe in his herte; that dide not trecherie in his tunge. Ne dide to his nezhebore euel; and reprof toc not to a3en hise nezhboris.

4 To no3t is bro3t down in his si3t the malice doere, forsothe the dredende the Lord he glorifieth. That swereth to his nezhebore, and desceyueth not;

345

5 That his monee 3af not to usure; and 3iftis upon the innocent toc not. He, that doth these thingus, shal not be movud in to withoute ende.

## PSALM XXIII.

1 Off the Lord is' the erthe, and the plente of it; the roundnesse of londis, and alle that dwellen in it.

350

2 For he upon the ses foundede it; and vpon the flodis befor greithide it.

3 Who shal ste3en vp in to the hyl of the Lord; or who shal stonde in his holy place?

355

4 The innocent in hondis, and in clene herte, that toc not in veyn his soule; ne swor in treccherie to hys nezhebore.

5 This shal take blessing of the Lord; and mercy of God his helthe 3iuere.

360

6 This is the ieneracioun of men sechende God; of men sechende the face of God of Jacob.

7 Doth awei 3oure 3atus, 3ee princis; and beth  
 merid out, 3ee euer lastende 3atis, and ~~ther~~ shal gon  
 in the king of glorie. 365

8 Who is this king of glorie? a Lord strong and  
 my3ti, a Lord my3ti in bataile.

9 Doth awei 3oure 3atis, 3ee princis; and beth  
 rered vp, 3ee euer lastende 3atis, and ther shal gon  
 in the king of glorie. 370

10 Who is this king of glorie? the Lord of vertues,  
 he is king of glorie.

## PSALM CII.

1 BLESSE thou, my soule, to the Lord; and alle  
 thingus that withinne me ben, to his holi name!

2 Blesse thou, my soule, to the Lord! and nile 375  
 thou not for3ete alle the 3eldingus of hym.

3 That hath mercy to alle thi wickidness; that  
 helith alle thin infirmytees.

4 That a3een-bieth fro deth thi lif; that crouneth  
 thee in mercy and mercy doingis. 380

5 That fulfilleth in goode thingus thi diseyr; shal  
 be renewid as of an egle thi 3outhe.

6 Doende mercies the Lord, and dom to alle men  
 suffrende wrong.

7 Knowen he made his weies to Moises; and to 385  
 the sones of Israel his willis.

8 Reewere and merciful the Lord, long abidende  
 and myche merciful.

9 Into euermore he shal not wrathen, ne into  
 withoute ende he shal threte. 390

10 Aftir oure synnes he didé not to vs, ne aftir  
 oure wickidnessis he 3elde to us.

11 For after the heizte of heuene fro erthe, he  
 strengthide his mercy vpon men dredende hym.

12 Hou myche the rising stant fro the going doun, 395  
aferr he made fro vs oure wickidnessis,

13 What maner wise the fader hath mercy of the  
sonus, the Lord dide mercy to men dredende hym;

14 for he knew oure britil making. He recordide  
for pouder wee be, 400

15 A man as hey his dazes, as the flour of the  
feld so he shal floure out,

16 For the spirit shal thurȝ paassen in hym, and he  
shal not stonde stille; and he shal no more knowen  
his place. 405

17 The mercy forsothe of the Lord fro withoute  
ende, and vnto withoute ende, vpon men dredende  
hym. And the riȝtwisnesse of hym in to the sones  
of sones,

18 to hem that kepen his testament. And myndeful 410  
thei ben of his maundemens, to do hem.

19 The Lord in heuene made redi his sete, and  
his reume to alle shal lordshipen.

20 Blisse ȝee to the Lord, alle his aungelis, miȝti  
bi vertue, doende the woord of hym, to ben herd the 415  
vois of his sermouñes.

21 Blessith to the Lord alle ȝee his vertues, ȝee his  
seruauns that don his wil.

22 Blessith to the Lord, alle ȝee his werkis, in alle  
place, ȝee his domynaciouns; blesse thou, my soule, to 420  
the Lord!

## IX.

### THE PROVERBS OF HENDYNG.

A.D. 1272-1307.

The following illustrations of English proverbial philosophy in the thirteenth century are taken from MS. Harleian 2253. The dialect is *Southern* intermixed with some few Midland peculiarities.

MON that wol of wysdam heren,  
At wyse Hendyng he may lernen,  
That wes Marcolves sone ;  
Gode thonkes ȝ monie thewes  
For te teche fele shrewes, 5  
For that wes ever is wone.  
Jhesu Crist, al folkes red,  
That for us alle ,tholede ded  
Upon the rode-tre,  
Lene us alle to ben wys, 10  
Ant to ende in his servys !  
Amen, par charité !  
'God biginning maketh God endyng ;'  
Quoth Hendyng.  
Wyt ȝ wysdom lurneth ȝerne, 15  
Ant loke that none other werne  
To be wys ȝ hende ;  
For betere were<sup>1</sup> to bue wis,  
Then for te were feh ant grys,  
Wher-so mon shal ende. 20  
'Wyt ant wysdom is god warysoun ;'  
Quoth Hendyng.

<sup>1</sup> Where in MS.

Ne may no mon that is in londe,  
 For nothyng that he con fonde,  
 Wonen at hom ȝ spede, 25  
 So fele thewes for te leorne,  
 Ase he that hath y-soht<sup>1</sup> ȝeorne  
 In wel fele theode.  
 ‘Ase fele thede, ase fele thewes;’

Quoth Hendyng. 30

Ne bue thi child never so duere,  
 Ant hit wolle unthewes lerne,  
 Bet hit other-whyle;  
 Mote hit al habben is wille,  
 Woltou, nultou, hit wol spille, 35  
 Ant bicomme a fule.  
 ‘Luef child lore byhoveth;’

Quoth Hendyng.

Such lores ase thou lernest,  
 After that thou sist ȝ herest, 40  
 Mon, in thyne ȝouthe,  
 Shule the on elde folewe,  
 Bothe an eve ȝ amorewe,  
 ȝ bue the ȝol couthe.  
 ‘Whose ȝong lerneth, olt he ne leseth;’ 45

Quoth Hendyng.

\* \* \* \* \*

Me may lere a sely fode,  
 That is ever toward gode,  
 With a lutel lore;  
 ȝef me nul him forther teche, 50  
 Thenne is herte wol areche  
 For te lerne more.  
 ‘Sely chyld is sone y-lered;’

Quoth Hendyng.

<sup>1</sup> MS. has y-soht.

3ef thou wolt fleysh lust overcome, 55  
 Thou most fiht<sup>1</sup> ȝ fle y-lome,  
 With eye ȝ with huerte;  
 Of fleyshlust cometh shame,  
 Thah hit thunche the body game,  
 Hit doth the soule smerte. 60  
 'Wel fyht<sup>2</sup>, that wel flyth;'

Quoth Hendyng.

Wis mon halt is wordes ynne;  
 For he nul no gle bygynne,  
 Er he have tempred is pype. 65  
 Sot is sot, ȝ that is sene;  
 For he wol speke wordes grene,  
 Er then hue buen rype.  
 'Sottes bolt is sone shote;'

Quoth Hendyng. 70

Tel thou never thy fo-mon  
 Shome ne teone that the is on,  
 Thi care ne thy wo;  
 For he wol fonde, 3ef he may,  
 Bothe by nyhtes ȝ by day, 75  
 Of on to make two.  
 'Tel thou never thy fo that thy fot aketh;'

Quoth Hendyng.

3ef thou havest bred ȝ ale,  
 Ne put thou nout al in thy male, 80  
 Thou del hit sum aboute.  
 Be thou fre of thy meeles,  
 Wher-so me eny mete deles,  
 Gest thou nout withoute.  
 'Betere is appel y-3eve then y-ete;' 85

Quoth Hendyng.

<sup>1</sup> MS. has fist.

<sup>2</sup> MS. has fyht.

Alle whyle ich wes on erthe,  
 Never lykede me my werthe,  
 For none wynes fyller;  
 Bote myn ȝ myn owen won, 90  
 Wyn ȝ water, stokes ȝ ston,  
 Al goth to my wille.  
 ‘Este bueth oune brondes;’

Quoth Hendyng.

ȝef the lacketh mete other cloht, 95  
 Ne make the nout forthy to wroht,  
 Thah<sup>1</sup> thou byde borewe;  
 For he that haveth his god ploh,  
 Ant of worldes wele y-noh,  
 Ne wot he of no sorewe. 100  
 ‘Gredy is the godles;’

Quoth Hendyng.

ȝef thou art riche ȝ wel y-told  
 No be thou noht<sup>2</sup> tharefore to bold,  
 Ne wax thou nout to wilde; 105  
 Ah ber the feyre in al thyng,  
 ȝ thou miht hadde blessing,  
 ȝ be meke ȝ mylde.  
 ‘When the coppe is follest, thenne ber hire feyrest;’

Quoth Hendyng. 110

Thah thou mucche thenche ne spek thou nout al;  
 Bynde thine tonge with bonene wal,  
 Let hit don synke, ther hit up swal;  
 Thenne myht<sup>3</sup> thou fynde frend over-al.  
 ‘Tonge breketh bon, ȝ nad hire-selve non;’ 115  
 Quoth Hendyng.

<sup>1</sup> MS. has þap.

<sup>2</sup> MS. has noht.

<sup>3</sup> MS. has myht.



Hit is mony gedelyng,  
 When me hym 3eveth a lutel thyng,  
 Waxen wol un-saht<sup>1</sup>.  
 Hy telle he deth wel by me, 120  
 That me 3eveth a lutel fe,  
 Ant oweth me riht naht.  
 ‘That me lutel 3eveth, he my lyf ys on;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

Mon that is luef don ylle, 125  
 When the world goth after is wylle,  
 Sore may him drede;  
 For 3ef hit tyde so that he falle,  
 Men shal of is owen galle  
 Schenchen him at nede. 130  
 ‘The bet the be, the bet the byse;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

Thah the wolde wel bycome  
 For te make houses roume,  
 Thou most nede abyde, 135  
 Ant in a lutel hous wone,  
 Forte thou fele that thou mowe  
 Withouten evel pryde.  
 ‘Under boske shal men weder abide;’  
Quoth Hendyng. 140

Holde ich no mon for un-sele,  
 Otherwhyle thah he fele  
 Sumthyng that him smerte:  
 For when mon is an treye ȝ tene,  
 Thenne hereth God ys bene 145  
 That he byd myd herte.  
 ‘When the bale is hest,  
 Thenne is the bote nest;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

<sup>1</sup> MS. has saht.

Such mon haue ich lend my cloth,  
That hath maked me fol wroth,  
Er hit come azeyn.

Ah he that me ene serveth so,  
Ant he eft bidde mo,  
He shal me fynde unfeyn.

‘ Selde cometh lone lahynde hom ;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

ʒef thou trost to borewyng,  
The shal fayle mony thyng,  
Loth when the ware ;

ʒef thou haue thin ounne won,  
Thenne is thy treye overgon,  
Al wythoute care.

‘ Owen ys owen, ʒ other mennes edneth ;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

Moni mon seith, were he ryche,  
Ne shulde non be me y-lyche  
To be god ʒ fre ;  
For when he hath oht bygeten,  
Al the fredome is forʒeten

Ant leyd under kne.  
‘ He is fre of hors that ner nade non ;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

Mon, that munteth over flod,  
Whiles that the wynd ys wod  
Abyde fayre ʒ stille ;

Abyd stille ʒef that thou may,  
ʒ thou shalt haue another day  
Weder after wille.

‘ Wel abit that wel may tholye ;’  
Quoth Hendyng.

That y telle an evel lype,  
 Mon that doth him into shype  
 Whil the weder is wod;  
 For be he come to the depe, 185  
 He may wrynge hond j wepe,  
 Ant be of drery mod.  
 ‘Ofte rap reweth;’ Quoth Hendyng.

\* \* \* \* \*

Riche j pore, 3onge j olde, 190  
 Whil 3e habbeth wyt at wolde,  
 Secheth ore soule bote;  
 For when 3e weneth alrebest  
 For te haue ro ant rest,  
 The ax ys at the rote. 195  
 ‘Hope of long lyf  
 Gyleth mony god wyf;’ Quoth Hendyng.

## X.

### *Specimens of Lyric Poetry.*

[Collated with Harl. MS. 2253.]

The following short poems, from the same MS. and in the same dialect as the *Proverbs of Hendyng*, are taken from *Specimens of Lyric Poetry*, edited by T. Wright, M.A., for the Percy Society. London 1842.

## I.

[Pages 27—30.]

Bytuene Mershe ant Averil  
 When spray biginneth to springe, 200  
 The lutel foul hath hire wyl  
 On hyre lud to synge;  
 Ich libbe in love-longinge  
 For semlokest of alle thynges,  
 He may me blisse bringe, 205

Icham in hire baundoun.  
 An hendy hap ichabbe y-hent,  
 Ichot from heuene it is me sent,  
 From alle wymmen mi loue is lent  
 Ant lyht on Alysoun.

210

On heu hire her is fayr y-noh,  
 Hire browe broune, hire e3e blake,  
 With lossun chere he on me loh;  
 With middel smal ant wel y-make;  
 Bote he me wolle to hire take,  
 Forte buen hire owen make,  
 Longe to lyuen ichulle forsake,  
 Ant feye fallen a-doun.

215

An hendy hap, etc.

Nihtes when y wende ant wake,  
 For-thi myn wonges waxeth won;  
 Levedi al for thine sake  
 Longinge is y-lent me on.  
 In world nis non so wyter mon  
 That al hire bounté telle con;  
 Hire swyre, is whittore then the swon,  
 Ant feyrest may in toune.

220

225

An hendy, etc.

Icham for wowyng al for-wake,  
 Wery so water in wore;  
 Lest eny reve me my make,  
 Ychabbe y-3yrned 3ore.  
 Betere is tholien whyle sore,  
 Then mournen euermore.  
 Geynest under gore,  
 Herkne to my roune.

230

235

An hendy, etc.

## II.

[Pages 29—30.]

With longyng y am lad,  
 On molde y waxe mad,  
 A maide marreth me; 240  
 Y grede, y grone, un-glad,  
 For selden y am sad  
 That semly forte se;  
 Levedi, thou rewe me!  
 To routhe thou havest me rad; 245  
 Be bote of that y bad,  
 My lyf is long on the.  
 Levedy, of alle londe  
 Les me out of bonde,  
 Broht icham in wo, 250  
 Have resting on honde,  
 Ant sent thou me thi sonde,  
     Sone, er thou me slo;  
     My reste is with the ro:  
 Thah men to me han onde, 255  
 To love nuly noht wonde,  
     Ne lete for non of þo.  
 Levedi with al my miht  
 My love is on the liht,  
     To menske when y may; 260  
 Thou rew ant red me ryht,  
 To dethe thou hauest me diht,  
     Y deþe longe er my day;  
     Thou leve upon mi lay.  
 Treuthe ichaue the plyht, 265  
 To don that ich haue hyht,  
 Whil mi lif leste may.

Lylie-whyt [hire] hue is,  
 Hire rode so rose on rys,  
     That reveth me mi rest. 270  
 Wymmon war ant wys,  
 Of prude hue bereth the pris,  
     Burde on of the best;  
     This wommon woneth by west,  
 Brihdest under bys : 275  
 Hevene y tolde al his  
 That o nyht were hire gest.

III.

[Pages 41—43.]

Of a mon Matheu thohte,  
 Tho he the wyn3ord whrohte,  
 Ant wrot hit on ys boc; 280  
 In marewe men he sohte,  
 At under mo he brohte,  
 Ant nom and non forsoc,  
 At mydday ant at non  
 He sende hem thider fol son, 285  
     To helpen hem with hoc;  
 Huere fðreward wes to fon,  
 So the furmest hevede y-don,  
     Ase the erst undertoc.

At evesong even neh, 290  
 Ydel men 3et he seh  
     Lomen habbe an honde;  
 To hem he sayde an-heh,  
 That suythe he wes undreh,  
     So ydel forte stonde. 295  
 So hit was bistad,  
 That nomon hem ne bad,  
     Huere lomes to fonde;

Anon he was by-rad,  
 To werk that he hem lad, 300  
     For nyht nolde he nout wonde.  
 Huere hure a nyht hue nome,  
 He that furst ant last come,  
     A peny brod ant bryht;  
 This other swore alle ant some, 305  
 That er were come with lome,  
 That so nes hit nout ryht;  
 Ant swore somme unsaht,  
 That hem wes werk by-taht,  
 Longe er hit were lyht; 310  
 For ryht were that me raht  
 The mon that al day wraht,  
     The more mede a nyht.  
 Thenne seith he y-wis,  
 "Why, nath nout uch mon his? 315  
     Holdeth nou or pees;  
 A-way! thou art unwis,  
 Tak al that thin ys,  
     Ant fare ase foreward wees.  
 3ef y may betere beode, 320  
 To mi latere leode,  
     To leve nam y nout lees;  
 To alle that ever hider eode,  
 To do to day my neode,  
     Ichulle be wraththe-lees." 325  
 This world me wurcheth wo,  
 Roo-les ase the roo,  
 Y sike for un-sete;  
 Ant mourne ase men doth mo,  
 For doute of foule fo, 330  
 Hou y my sunne may bete.

This mon that Matheu 3ef  
 A peny that was so bref,  
     This frely folk unfete;  
 3et he 3yrnden more, 335  
 Ant saide he comewel 3ore,  
 Ant gonne is loue for-lete.

## IV.

[Pages 43—44.]

Lenten ys come with love to toun,  
 With blosmen ant with briddes roun,  
     That al this blisse bryngeth; 340  
 Dayes-e3es in this dales,  
 Notes suete of nyghtegales,  
     Uch foul song singeth.  
 The threstelcoc him threteth oo,  
 A-way is huere wynter wo, 345  
     When woderove springeth;  
 This foules singeth ferly fele,  
 Ant wlyteth on huere wynter wele,  
 That al the wode ryngeth.  
 The rosè rayleth hire rode, 350  
 The leves on the lyhte wode  
     Waxen al with wille;  
 The mone mandeth hire bleo,  
 The lilie is lossom to seo,  
 The fenyl ant the fille; 355  
 Wowes this wilde drakes  
 Miles murgeth huere makes,  
     Ase strem that striketh stille;  
 Mody meneth, so doth mo,  
 Ichot ycham on of tho, 360  
     For love that likes ille.



The mone mandeth hire lyht,  
So doth the semly sonne bryht,  
    When briddes singeth breme ;  
Deowes donketh the dounes, 365  
Deores with huere derne rounes,  
    Domes forte deme ;  
Wormes woweth under cloude,  
Wymmen waxeth wounder proude,  
    So wel hit wol hem seme, 370  
ȝef me shal wonte wille of on :  
This wunne weole y wole for-gon,  
    Ant wyht in wode be fleme.

## XI.

### ROBERT MANNYNG OF BRUNNE.

(A.D. 1260-1340.)

Robert Mannyng, commonly called Robert of Brunne, (from his birthplace, Brunne or Bourn in Lincolnshire, seven or eight miles from Market Deeping,) translated, in the year A.D. 1303, William of Waddington's *Le Manuel des Pechiez* into English, under the title of *Handlyng Synne*.

Between the years 1327 and 1338 Mannyng translated the French rhyming chronicle of Piers (or Peter) de Langtoft into English verse at the request of Dan Robert of Malton, prior of the Gilbertine order of which Mannyng was a canon.

The following tale is extracted from '*Robert of Brunne's Handlyng Synne*, edited for the Roxburghe Club by F. J. Furnivall, M.A. London 1862.

#### *The Tale of Pers the Usurer.*

[Collated with Harl. MS. 1701.]

SEYNT Joun þe aumenere  
Seyþ Pers was an okerere,  
And was swyþe coveytous,  
And a nygun and avarous,  
And gadrede pens unto store, 5  
As okerers doun aywhore.  
Befyl hyt so upon a day  
Þat pore men sate yn þe way,  
And sprede here hatren on here barme  
Aþens þe sonne þat was warme, 10  
And rekenede þe custome houses echoun,

At whych þey hade gode, and at whyche noun ;  
 Þere þey hadde gode, þey preysede weyl,  
 And þere þey hadde nocht, never a deyl.  
 As þey spak of many what, 15  
 Come Pers forþ yn þat gat,  
 Ðan seyde echoun þat sate and stode,  
 "Here comþ Pers þat never dyde gode."  
 Echoun seyde to oþer janglande,  
 Þey toke never gode at Pers hande ; 20  
 Ne noun pore man never shal have,  
 Coude ne never so weyl crave.  
 One of hem began to sey  
 "A waiour dar y wyþ 3ow ley  
 Ðat y shal have sum god at hym, 25  
 Be he never so gryl ne grym."  
 To þat waiour þey grauntede alle,  
 To 3yve hym a 3yft, 3yf so myzte befall.  
 Dys man upsterte and toke þe gate  
 Tyl he com at Pers 3ate ; 30  
 As he stode styлле and bode þe quede,  
 One com wyþ an asse charged wyþ brede  
 Ðat yche brede Pers hade boght,  
 And to hys hous shulde hyt be broght.  
 He sagh Pers come þer wyþ alle, 35  
 Þe pore þoghte 'now aske y shal.'  
 Y aske þe sum gode, par<sup>1</sup> charyte,  
 Pers 3yf þy wyl be.  
 Pers stode, and lokede on hym  
 Felunlyche wyþ y3en grym. 40  
 He stoupede down to seke a stone,  
 But, as hap was, þan fonde he none.  
 For þe stone he toke a lofe,  
 And at þe pore man hyt drofe.

<sup>1</sup> MS. has pur.

Þe pore man hente hyt up belyve, 45  
 And was þerof ful ferly blyþe.  
 To hys felaws faste he ran  
 Wyþ þe lofe, þys pore man.  
 "Lo" he seyde "what y have  
 Of Pers 3yft, so God me save!" 50  
 Nay, þey swore by here þryft,  
 Pers 3ave never swych a 3yft.  
 He seyde, 3e shul weyl undyrstonde  
 Þat y hyt hade at Pers honde;  
 Þat dar y swere on þe halydom 55  
 Here before 3ow echoun.  
 Grete merveyle hade þey alle  
 Þat swych a chaunce myzt hym befallē.  
 Þe þrydde day, þus wryte hyt ys,  
 Pers fyl yn a grete syknes; 60  
 And as he lay yn hys bedde,  
 Hym þoghte weyl þat he was ledde  
 Wyþ one that aftyr hym was sent  
 To come unto hys jugement.  
 Before the iuge was he broght 65  
 To 3elde acounte how he hadde wrought;  
 Pers stode ful sore a drad,  
 And was abashed as mad,  
 He sagh a fende on the to party  
 Bewreyng hym ful felunly; 70  
 Alle hyt was shewed hym before,  
 How he hade lyved syn he was bore;  
 And namely every wykked dede  
 Syn fyrst he coude hymself lede;  
 Why he hem dyde, and for what chesun, 75  
 Of alle behoveþ hym to 3elde aresoun.  
 On the touþer party stode men ful bryzt,  
 Þat wulde have saved hym at here myzt,

But þey myghte no gode fynde  
 Þat myȝt hym save or unbynde. 80  
 Þe feyre men seyde, what ys to rede?  
 Of hym fynde we no gode dede  
 Þat god ys payd of,—but of a lofe  
 Þe whych Pers a[t] the pore man drofe;  
 ȝyt ȝave he hyt wyþ no gode wylle, 85  
 But kast hyt aftyr hym wyþ ylle,  
 For Goddys love ȝave he hyt noȝt,  
 Ne for almes dede he hyt hade thoght.  
 Noþeles, þe pore man  
 Hade þe lofe of Pers þan. 90  
 Þe fende hade leyd yn balaunce  
 Hys wykkede dedes and hys myschaunce;  
 Þey leyde þe lofe aȝens hys dedys  
 Þat hade noȝt elles, þey mote nedys.  
 Þe holy man telleþ us and seys 95  
 Þat þe lofe made even peys.  
 Þan seyð þese feyre men to Pers,  
 “ȝyf þou be wys, nou þou leres  
 How þys lofe þe helpeþ at nede  
 To tulle þy soule wyþ almes dede.” 100  
 Pers of hys slepe gan blynke,  
 And gretly on hys dreame gan þynke,  
 Syghyng wyþ mornyng chere,  
 As man þat was in grete were  
 How þat he acouped was, 105  
 Wyþ fendes fele for hys trespas,  
 And how þey wulde have dampned hym þere,  
 ȝyf mercy of Jesu Cryst ne were.  
 Alle þys yn hys herte he kaste,—  
 And to hym self he spak at þe laste,— 11  
 Þat for a lofe yn eveyl wylle,  
 Halp me yn so grete perel,

Mochē wolde hyt helpe at nede  
 Wyþ gode wyl [to] do almes dede.  
 Fro þat tyme þan wax Pers 115  
 A man of so feyre maners,  
 Ðat no man myȝt yn hym fynde,  
 But to þe pore boþe meke and kynde ;  
 A mylder man ne myȝte nat be  
 Ne to the pore, more of almes fre ; 120  
 And reuful of herte also he was,  
 Ðat mayst þou here lere yn þys pas.  
 Pers mette upon a day  
 A pore man by the way,  
 As naked as he was bore, 125  
 Ðat yn þe see had alle lore.  
 He come to Pers þere he stode,  
 And askede hym sum of hys gode,  
 Sumwhat of hys cloþyng,  
 For the love of heuene kyng. 130  
 Pers was of reuful herte,  
 He toke hys kyrtyl of, as smerte,  
 And dede hyt on the man aboue,  
 And bad hym were hyt for hys loue ;  
 The man hyt toke and was ful blyþe ; 135  
 He ȝede and solde hyt asswyþe.  
 Pers stode and dyde beholde  
 How þe man þe kyrtyl solde,  
 And was þarwyþ ferly wroþe  
 Ðat he solde so sone hys cloþe ; 140  
 He myȝte no lenger for sorow stande  
 But ȝede home ful sore gretande ;  
 And seyde, hyt was an euyl sygne,  
 And þat hym self was nat dygne  
 For to be yn hys preyere, 145  
 Ðerfor nolde he þe kyrtyl were.

Whan he hadde ful longe grete,  
 And a party þerof began lete ;—  
 For comunlych aftyr wepe  
 Fal men sone on slepe,—  
 As Pers lay yn hys slepyng,  
 Hym þoghte a feyre sweuenyng.  
 Hym þoghte he was yn heuene lyzt,  
 And of God he hade a syght  
 Syttyng yn hys kyrtyl clade,  
 Þat þe pore man of hym hade,  
 And spak to hym ful myldely :—  
 “ Why wepest þou, and art sory ?  
 Lo, Pers,” he sayde “ þys ys þy cloth.  
 For he solde hyt, [3yt] were þou wroth ;  
 Know hyt weyl, 3yf þat þou kan,  
 For me þou 3aue hyt þe pore man,  
 Þat þou 3aue hym yn charyté,  
 Euery deyl þou 3aue hyt me.”  
 Pers of slepe oute breyde,  
 And þoghte grete wunder, and seþen seyde,  
 “ Blessyd be alle pore men,  
 For God almyȝty loueþ hem ;  
 And weyl ys hem þat pore are here,  
 Þey are wyþ God boþe lefe and dere,  
 And y shal fonde, by nyȝt and day,  
 To be pore, 3yf þat y may.”  
 Hastly he toke hys kateyl,  
 And 3aue hyt to pore men echedeyl.  
 Pers kallede to hym hys clerke  
 Þat was hys notarye, and bad hym herke :—  
 “ Y shal þe shewe a pryuyté,  
 A þyng þat þou shalt do to me ;  
 Y wyl þat þou no man hyt telle ;  
 My body y take þe here to selle

To sum man as yn bondage,  
 To lyue yn pouert and yn seruage;  
 But þou do þus, y wyl be wroþ,  
 And þou and þyne shal be me loþ.  
 3yf þou do hyt, y shal þe 3yue 185  
 Ten pownde of golde wel wyþ to lyue;  
 Do ten pownde y take þe here,  
 And me to selle on bonde manere;  
 Y ne recche [neuer] vn to whom,  
 But onlych he haue þe crystendom; 190  
 Þe raunsun þat þou shalt for me take,  
 Þarfore þou shalt sykernes make  
 For to 3yue hyt bleþely and weyl  
 To pore men every deyl,  
 And wyþholde þer-of no þyng, 195  
 Þe mountouns of a ferþyng."  
 Hys clerk was wo to do þat dede,  
 But only for manas and for drede.  
 For drede Pers made hym hyt do,  
 And dede hym plyghte his troupe þer-to. 200  
 Whan hys clerk hade mad hys othe  
 Pers dede on hym a foule clothe;  
 Vnto a cherche boþe þey 3ede  
 For to fulfyllen hys wyl yn dede.  
 Whan þat þey to þe cherche com 205  
 "Lorde," þoghte þe clerke, "now whom  
 Myzt y fynde, þys yche sele  
 To whom y myzte selle Pers wele."  
 Þe clerk lokede euery where,  
 And at þe laste he knew where 210  
 A ryche man (was) þat er hade be  
 Specyal knowlych euer betewe,  
 But þurghe myschaunce at a kas  
 Alle hys gode ylore was;



'ȝole' þus þat man hyghte, 215  
 And knew þe clerke wel be syghte.  
 Þey spak of olde a-queyntaunce,  
 And ȝole tolde hym of hys chaunce.  
 "ȝe" seyde þe clerk, "y rede þou bye  
 A man to do þy marchaundrye, 220  
 Þat þou mayst holde yn seruage  
 To restore weyl þyn dammage."  
 Þan seyde ȝole, "on swych chaffare  
 . Wulde y feyn my syluer ware."  
 Þe clerke seyde "lo one here, 225  
 A trewe man an a dubonure,  
 Þat wyl serue þe to pay,  
 Peyneble, al þat he may.  
 'Pers' shalt þou calle hys name,  
 For hym shalt þou haue moche frame. 230  
 He ys a man ful gracyous  
 Gode to wynne vn-to þyn hous,  
 And God shal ȝyue þe hys blessyng,  
 And foysyn, yn alle þyng."  
 Þe clerke ȝaue alle hys raunsun 235  
 To þe pore men of þe toun,—  
 Plenerly, alle þat he toke,  
 Wyþhelde he nat a ferþyng noke.  
 Þe Emparoure sente hys messageres  
 Alle aboute for to seke Pers, 240  
 But þey ne myȝte neuer here  
 Of ryche Pers, þe tollere  
 Yn what stede he was nome,  
 No whydyrwarde he was become;  
 No þe clerke wulde telle to none 245  
 Whydyrwarde þat Pers was gone.  
 Now ys Pers bycome bryche,  
 Þat er was boþe stoute and ryche.

Alle þat euer any man hym do bad,  
 Pers dyde hyt wyþ herte glad. 250  
 He wax so mylde and so meke,  
 A mylder man þurt no man seke;  
 For he mekede hym-self ouer-skyle  
 Pottes and dysshes for to swele.  
 To grete penaunce he gan hym take, 255  
 And moche for to faste and wake,  
 And moche he louede þolmodnesse  
 To ryche, to pore, to more, to lesse.  
 Of alle men he wulde haue doute,  
 And to here byddyng mekly loute; 260  
 Wulde þey bydde hym sytte or stande  
 Euer he wulde be bowande;  
 And for he bare hym so meke and softe,  
 Shrewes mysdede hym ful ofte,  
 And helde hym foltede or wode 265  
 For he was so mylde of mode.  
 And þey þat were hys felaus  
 Mysseyde hym most yn here sawes;  
 And alle he suffrede here upbreyde,  
 And neuer nagh azens hem seyde. 270  
 3ole hys lorde wel undyrstode  
 Þat al hys grace and hys gode  
 Com for þe loue of Pers  
 Þat was of so holy maners;  
 And whan he wyst of hys bounté, 275  
 He kallede Pers yn pryuyté:  
 "Pers," he seyde, "Þou were wurþy  
 For to be wurscheped more than y,  
 For þou art weyl wyþ Jesu,  
 He sheweþ for þe grete vertu; 280  
 Þarfor y shal make þe fre,  
 Y wyl þat my felaw þou be."

Þar-to Pers grantede noghte  
 To be freman as he besoghte;  
 He wulde be, as he was ore, 285  
 Yn þat seruage for euermore.  
 He þankede þe lorde myldely  
 For his grete curteysy.  
 Syþþen Jesu, þurgh hys myzt,  
 Shewede hym to Pers syzt, 290  
 For to be stalworþe yn hys fondyng  
 And to hym haue loue longyng.  
 "Be nat sorowful to do penaunce;  
 Y am wyþ þe yn euery chaunce;  
 Pers, Y haue mynde of þe, 295  
 Lo, here þe kyrtyl þat þou zaue for me;  
 Þerfor grace y shal þe sende  
 Yn alle godenesse weyl to ende."  
 Byfyl þat seriauntes and squyers  
 Þat were wunt to serue Pers, 300  
 Went yn pylgrymage, as yn kas,  
 To þat cuntre þere Pers was.  
 3ole ful feyre gan hem kalle,  
 And preyde hem home to hys halle.  
 Pers was þere, þat yche sele, 305  
 And euerychone he knew hem wele.  
 Alle he seruede hem as a knaue  
 Þat was wunt here seruyse to haue.  
 But Pers nat 3yt þey knewe,  
 For penaunce chaunged was hys hewe;  
 Nat forþy þey behelde hym faste, 310  
 And oftyen to hym here y3en þey kaste  
 And seyde "he þat stonte here  
 Ys lyche to Pers tollere."  
 He hydde hys vysege al þat he myzte  
 Out of knowlych of here syzte; 315

Nopeles þey behelde hym more  
 And knew hym weyl, al þat were þore,  
 And seyde, "ʒole, ys ʒone þy page?  
 A ryche man ys yn þy seruage. . . . . 320  
 Þe emparoure boþe fer and nere  
 Haþ do hym seche þat we fynde here."  
 Pers lestnede, and herde hem spekyng,  
 And þat þey hade of hym knowyng;  
 And pryuyly away he nam . . . . . 325  
 Tyl he to þe porter cam.  
 Þe porter hade hys speche lore,  
 And heryng also, syn he was bore;  
 But þurgh þe grace of swete Jesu  
 Was shewed for Pers feyre vertu. . . . . 330  
 Pers seyde, "late me furþ go."  
 Þe porter spak, and seyde, "ʒo."  
 He þat was def, and doumbe also,  
 Spak whan Pers spak hym to.  
 Pers oute at þe ʒate wente, . . . . . 335  
 And þedyr ʒede, þere God hym sente.  
 The porter ʒede up to þe halle,  
 And þys merueyle tolde hem alle;  
 "And þe squyler of þe kechyn,  
 Pers, þat haþ woned here yn, . . . . . 400  
 He askede leue, ryʒt now late,  
 And wente furþ out at þe gate.  
 Y rede ʒou alle, ʒeueþ gode tent,  
 Whederwarde þat Pers ys went.  
 Wyþ Jesu Cryst he ys pryué, . . . . . 345  
 And þat ys shewed weyl on me.  
 For what tyme he to me spak,  
 Out of hys mouþ me þoghte brak  
 A flamme of fyre bryght and clere,  
 Þe flaumme made me boþe speke and here; . . . . . 350

Speke and here, now, boþe y may,  
 Blessed be God and Pers to day!"  
 Þe lorde and þe gestes alle,  
 One and oþer þat were yn halle,  
 Hade merueyle þat hyt was so, 355  
 Þat he myzte swych myracle do.  
 Þan asswyþe Pers þey soghte  
 But al here sekynge was for nozte;  
 Neuer Pers þey ne founde,  
 Nyzt ne day, yn no stounde; 360  
 For he þat toke Ennok and Ely,  
 He toke Pers, þurgh hys mercy,  
 To reste wyþoutyn ende to lede,  
 For hys meknes and hys gode dede.  
 Take ensample here of Pers, 365  
 And partep wyþ þe pore, 3e okerers,  
 For 3ow shal neuer come joye wyþ-ynne,  
 But 3e leue fyrst þat synne;  
 And 3yue to almes þat yche þyng  
 Þat 3e haue wune wyþ okeryng. 370  
 Now wyþ Gode leue we Pers;  
 God 3yue us grace to hys maners!

## XII.

### WILLIAM DE SHOREHAM.

(A. D. 1307—1327.)

#### *De Baptismo.*

William de Shoreham, so called from Shoreham, near Otford, (about four miles and a half from Sevenoaks,) was originally a monk of the Priory of Leeds, but was appointed vicar of Chart-Sutton by Walter Archbishop of Canterbury (1313-1327). The short poem *De Baptismo* (a copy of which is contained in *The Religious Poems of William de Shoreham*, edited for the Percy Society by T. Wright, M. A., London 1849) is copied from the Additional MS. 17,376 in the British Museum, by the present editor. The dialect of course is Southern.

CRISTENDOM his that sacrement  
That men her ferst fongeth;  
Hit openeth ous to the hevene blisse  
That many, man after longeth  
Wel sore;  
For who that entreth ther,  
He his sauffe evere-more.

5

Nou ferst ich wille telle 3ou  
Wet may be the materie,  
Wer-inne cristninge may be mad,  
That bringeth ous so merie  
To honoure.  
Hi3t mo3t be do ine kende water,  
And non other licour.

Therefore ine wine me ne may, 15  
 Inne sithere ne inne pereye,  
 Ne ine thinge that nevere water nes,  
 Thorȝ cristninge man may reneye,  
   Ne inne ale.  
 For-thie hiȝt were water ferst, 20  
 Of water neth hit tale.

Ne mede ne forthe no other licour  
 That chaungeth wateres kende,  
 Ne longeth nauȝt to cristendom,  
 Thajȝ som foles hit wende 25  
   For wete;  
 For suich is kendeliche hot,  
 Thajȝ ther no feer hit ne hente.

Ac water is kendeliche cheld,  
 Thajȝ hit be warmd of fere; 30  
 Ther-fore me meȝ cristni ther-inne,  
 In whaut time falthe a ȝere  
   Of yse;  
 So meȝ me nauȝt in ewe ardaunt,  
 That neth no wateris wyse. 35

Also me may inne sealte se  
 Cristny wel mitte beste;  
 And eke inne othere sealte watere,  
 Bote me ine to moche keschte  
   Of sealte; 40  
 For ȝef that water his kende lest,  
 That cristninge stant te-tealte.

Ac 3yf ther were y-mengd licour  
 Other wid kende watere,  
 Ich wo3t wel thrinne to cristnye 45  
 Hit nere nefur the betere,

Ac wonde ;

For bote that water his kende have,  
 That cristnynge may nau3t stonde.

In water ich wel the cristny her 50  
 As gode himself hyt di3te ;  
 For mide to wessche nis nothyng,  
 That man cometh to so li3te,

In londe ;

Nis non that hebben hit ne may 55  
 That habbe hit wile founde.

This bethe the wordes of cristninge  
 Bi thyse Englissche costes.  
 " Ich cristni the in the vader name,  
 And sone and holy gostes 60

And more."

Amen! wane hit his ised ther-toe  
 Confermeth that ther to fore.

The wordes scholle be i-sed  
 Witheoute wane and eche; 65  
 And onderstand hi more bi sed  
 In alle manere speche

Ine lede ;

That everich man hi sigge more  
 And cristny for nede. 70



Ac ȝif man scholde i-cristnid be  
That neth none deathes signe,  
The pope for te cristny hyne  
So nere nauȝt te digne  
  The leste ;   75  
Ther-fore hi beth in cherche brouȝt,  
To cristny of the preste.

Ac he that ȝif so large water  
The fend fram ous to reave,  
In nede for to crystny men,   80  
ȝef alle men i-leave  
  At felle ;  
Olepi me mot hym depe ine the water,  
And eke the wordes telle.

And wanne hi cristneth ine the founȝt,   85  
The prestes so thries duppeth,  
In the honour of the Trinité,  
Ac gode ȝeme kepeth  
  The ned ;  
On time a clothe that water i-kest   90  
Ac ope the heuede to bede.

Ac water i-kest another love<sup>1</sup>  
Cristneth the man alyve,  
Ac hit his sickerest in the heeved  
Ther beth the wittes fyve,   95  
  Wel, brother,  
Ne non ne may i-cristened be,  
Ar ȝe his boren of moder.

<sup>1</sup> halve ?

3et gret peryl hy undergothe  
 That cristneth twyes enne, 100  
 Other to 3eve asent ther-to,  
 Other for love of kenne  
                                   For-hedeth,  
 Wanne child arizt cristnynghe heth,  
 And that other nau3t for-bedeth. 105

Bote hi this conne, hit his peril  
 To thise medewyves ;  
 For ofte children scheawith quike,  
 I-bore to schorte lyves,  
                                   And deyeth ; 110  
 Bote hi arizt i-cristned be,  
 Fram hevene evere hi weyeth.

Ac 3if that child i-cristned his  
 Ac ine fot [th]at me hit weveth,  
 Thise habbeth forme ther-of 115  
 A Latin that ham gevieth  
                                   To depe ;  
 And ich schel seggen hit an Englisch,  
 Nou ther-of neme 3e kepe.

The prest taketh that ilke child 120  
 In his honden by-thuixte,  
 And seith " ich ne cristni thei nau3t,  
 3ef thou ert i-cristned,  
                                   Eftsone ;  
 Ac 3yf thou nart ich cristni the ;" 125  
 And deth that his to donne.

Ac 3et ther beth cristnynges mo,  
 Ac no man ne may diztti ;  
 For hi beth Godes grace self,  
 Men of gode ine wil to rizti, 130  
And wyne,  
 Wanne hi wolde i-cristned be,  
 And more mid none ginne.

That on his cleped cristninge of blode,  
 Wanne suche bledeth for Criste ; 135  
 That other of the Holi-Gost,  
 That mo3e mid none liste  
Be i-cristned.  
 And deyeth so wanne hi beth deede,  
 In heuene hi beth i-gistned. 140

The children atte cherche dore  
 So beth y-primisined ;  
 And that hi beethe eke atte fount  
 Mid oyle and creyme alyned,  
Al faylleth ; 145  
 Hizt wortheth<sup>1</sup> cristnyngē,  
 And that child ther-to hit availleth.

<sup>1</sup> *worcbeth* is written in the margin of the MS.

### XIII.

#### CURSOR MUNDI. - (CURSUR O WERL D.)

ABOUT A. D. 1320.

The *Cursor Mundi* is a metrical version of Old and New Testament history interspersed with numerous mediaeval legends.

It seems to have been a very popular book with our forefathers, and one MS. has the following Rubric,

“ This is the best book of all  
The Course of the World men do it call.”

There are several MSS. of this work, but the Cottonian MS. Vespasian A. iii., in the Northumbrian dialect, has furnished the following extracts.

*The Visit of the Wise Men, and the Flight into Egypt.*

FRA he [Christ] was born þe day thritteind,  
þai offerd him þaa kinges heind,  
Wit riche giftes þat þai broght;  
þat he was born bot þat yeire noght,  
And sum sais bot þe neist yeire  
Foluand, and sum wit resun sere  
Sais, yere after þai com.  
John gilden-moth sais wit þis dome,  
þat he fand in an ald bok,  
þis kinges þre þar wai þai tok,  
A tuelmo[n]th, ar þe nativité,  
For elles moght not kinges thre,  
Haf raght to ride sa ferr owai  
And com to Crist þat ilk day.

He sais þat in þe bok he fand 15  
 Of a prophet of Estrinland,  
 Hight Balaam, crafti and bald,  
 And mikel of a stern he tald,  
 A sterne to cum þat suld be sene,  
 Was neuer nan suilk befor sua scene. 20  
 Us telles alsua John gildenmoth  
 Of a folk ferr and first uncuth,  
 Wonnand be þe est occean,  
 Þat biyond þam ar wonnand nan.  
 Amang squilk was broght a writte, 25  
 O Seth þe name was laid on it;  
 O suilk a stern þe writt it spak  
 And of þir offerands to mak.  
 Þis writte was gett fra kin to kin,  
 Þat best it cuth to haf in min, 30  
 Þat at þe last þai ordeind tuelve,  
 Þe thoughtfulest amang þam selve,  
 And did þam in a montain dern,  
 Desselic to wait þe stern.  
 Quen ani deid o þat dozein, 35  
 His sun for him was sett again,  
 Or his neist þat was fere.  
 Sua þat ever þan ilk yere  
 Quen þair corns war in-don,  
 Þai went in to þat montaine son, 40  
 Þar þai offerd, praid and suank,  
 Thre dais [and] noþer ete ne dranc;  
 Þus thoru ilk oxspring þai did,  
 Til at þe last þis stern it kyd.  
 Þis ilk stern þam come to warn, 45  
 Apon þat mont in forme o barn,  
 And bar on it liknes of croice,  
 And said to þaim wit man[ne]s woice,

Þat þai suld wend to Juen land.  
 Þai went and tua yeir war wa[l]kand. 50  
 Þe stern went forth-wit, þat þam ledd,  
 And ferlilic þan war þai fedd;  
 Þair scrippes, quer þai rade or yode,  
 Þam failed neuer o drinc ne fode.  
 Þir kinges rides forth þair rade, 55  
 Þe stern alwais þam for-wit glade.  
 Þai said, "far we nu to yond king,  
 Þat sal in erth haf nan ending;  
 Þis king we sal be offrand nu,  
 And honour him wit truthes tru; 60  
 Al þe kinges o þis werld,  
 For him sal be quakand and ferd."  
 Þai folud o þis stern þe leme,  
 Til þai come into Jerusalem,  
 Bot fra þai come þar als-suith, 65  
 Þe stern it hid and can unkyth,  
 Þoru þe might of sant drightin,  
 For Horods sak his wiþerwin;  
 Þat wist þof-queþer þe kinges noght,  
 Bot wend haf funden þat þai soght. 70  
 Þai toke þair gesting in þe tun,  
 And spird him efter up and dun;  
 Bot þe burgeses o þe cité  
 Thoght ferli quat þis thing suld be;  
 Þai asked quat þai soght, and þai 75  
 Said, "a blisful child, par fai,  
 He sal be king of kinges alle,  
 To hend and fete we sal him falle,  
 Sagh we an stern þat ledd us hidir."  
 Þan þai gedir þam to gedir, 80  
 And spak hir-of wit gret wondring.  
 And word cum til Herod þe kyng,

Þat þar was suilk kynges cummun,  
 And in þat tun gestening had nummun.  
 Quen he þis tiþand undirstod, 85  
 Him thocht it noþer fair na god,  
 For wel he wend, þat ful o suik,  
 To be put ute of his kingrike,  
 And did he suith to samen calle  
 Þe maisters of his kingrik alle, 90  
 And fraind at þaim if þai wist,  
 Quar suld he be born, þat Crist  
 Þat suld þe king of Jues be.  
 Þai said, "in Bethleem Jude."  
 For þe prophet had written sua, 95  
 And said "Þou Bethleem Juda,  
 Þof þou be noght þe mast cité,  
 Þou es noght lest of dignité;  
 O þe sal he be born and bred,  
 Mi folk of Israel sal [he] lede." 100  
 Herod þaa kings cald in dern,  
 And spird þam quen þai sagh þe stern;  
 "Gais," he said, "and spirs welle gern,  
 And quen yee funden haf þe barn,  
 Cums again and tels me, 105  
 For wit wirscip I wille him se."  
 "Sir," þai said, "þat sal be yare."  
 Quen þai went in þair wai to far,  
 And left Herod, þat fals felun,  
 Þe stern þai sagh befor þam bon; 110  
 And herbi semis, sua þinc me,  
 Sagh nan it bot þa kinges thre;  
 Bituix þe lift an[d] þe erth it glade,  
 Sua fair a stern was never made;  
 Right fra the tun of Jerusalem, 115  
 It ledd þam into Bethleem;

*AND THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT.*

Ute over þat hus þan stode the stern,  
þar þhesus and his moder wern.  
þai kneld dun and broght in hand,  
Ilkan him gaf worþi offrand; 120  
þe first o þam þat Jasper hight,  
He gaf him gold wit resun right,  
And þat was for to sceu takning  
O kynges alle þat he was kyng;  
Melchior him com þair neist, 125  
Hei[n]d he was, bath godd and prist,  
Wit recles for-wit him he felle,  
þat agh be brint in kirc to smelle;  
It es a gum þat cums o firr;  
Bot Attropa gaf gift o mir, 130  
A smerl o selcuth bitturnes,  
þat ded man cors wit smerld es;  
For roting es na better rede,  
In taken he man was [and] suld be dede.  
O þir thre giftes, sais sum bok, 135  
At ans alle thre he tok,  
Ful suetlik, wit smiland chere,  
Biheild þaa giftes riche and dere.  
Joseph and Maria his spuse,  
Ful fair þai cald þam til huse, 140  
Fair þai did þair conrai dight;  
Wit þe child war þai þat night,  
Wit-uten pride, þe soth to telle,  
Had þai na bedd was spred wit pelle;  
Bot þat þai faand, wit-uten wand, 145  
þai tok and þanked Godd his sand;  
Ful fain war þai, þai sua had spedd.  
þaa kinges thre ar broght to bedd,  
Thre weri kinges o þair wai,  
þe feirth a child, wel mare þan þai; 150



Þat wist þai wel and kyð wit dede,  
 Ful wel he wil þam quit þair mede.  
 Þai had in wil þat ilk night,  
 To torn be Herods als þai hight,  
 Bot quilts þai slepand lai in bedd, 155  
 An angel com þat þam for-bedd  
 To wend þam bi him ani wai,  
 (For he was traitur; fals in fai),  
 Anoper wai þat þai suld fare.  
 Þe morun quen þai risen ware, 160  
 And þai had honurd þar þe child,  
 Þai tok þair leve at Mari mild,  
 And thanked Joseph curtaisli  
 O þair calling and herbergeri;  
 Þaa kinges ferd anoper wai. 165  
 Quen that Herods herd þer-of sai,  
 Ful wrath he wex, þat wrangwis king,  
 And herd him driven al til heþing.  
 He sett his waites bi þe stret,  
 If þai mocht wit þaa kinges mett, 170  
 He commandid son þai suld be slan,  
 If þai mocht oper be over-tan.  
 Bot God wald ~~not~~ þai mett þam wit;  
 Þai ferd al sauf into þair kyth.  
 Quen Herods sagh he mocht not sped, 175  
 Sua wa was him þat he wald wede;  
 For þat his wil sua mocht not rise,  
 He thocht him wenge on oper wise.  
 He made a purveance in hi,  
 Þat mani saccles suld it bii; 180  
 For he mocht find nan wit sak,  
 On þe sakles he suld ta wrake.  
 Qua herd ever ani slik  
 Purveance sa ful o suike,

Dat for þe chesun of a barn 185  
 Sua mani wald þat war for-farn?  
 He commandid til his knyghtes' bene;  
 To sla the childer al be-dene,  
 Wit-in þe tun of Bethleem;  
 And ute-wit mani barntem 190  
 Did he sacclesli o liif,  
 Ful waful made he mani wiif.  
 Wit-in þe land left he noght an  
 O tua yeir eild, þat he ne was slan;  
 Tua yeir o less, I tel it yow, 195  
 For sua he wend to sla Jhesu;  
 Alle for noght can he to strive,  
 Moght he noght Jhesu bring o live;  
 Ar he self wald, þat mighti king;  
 To ded it moght na man him bring, 200  
 And not yeitt þan þat he ne suld rise,  
 Al at his aun devise;  
 It was a mikel sume o quain  
 O þaa childer þat war slain;  
 An hundret fourti four thusand, 205  
 Thoru Jhesu com to liif lastand.  
 Bot seven dais for-wit, we rede,  
 Ar Herod had gest do þis dede,  
 Þar Joseph on his sleping lai,  
 An angel þus til him can sai: 210  
 "Rise up Josep and busk and ga,  
 Maria and þi child al-sua,  
 For yow behoves nu alle thre,  
 In land of Egypt for to fle;  
 Rise up ar it be dai, 215  
 And folus forth þe wildrin wai;  
 Herod þat es þe child fa,  
 Fra nu wil sek him for to sla;

Page said yee bide stil wit þe barn,  
 Til þat I eft cum' yow to warn." 220  
 Son was Joseph redi bun,  
 Wit naughtertale he went o tun,  
 Wit Maria mild, and þair meiné,  
 A maiden and þair suanis thre,  
 Þat servid þam in þair servis; 225  
 Wit þaim was nan bot war and wis,  
 For sco rad þat moder mild;  
 And in hir barm sco ledd hir child,  
 Til þai come at a cove was depe<sup>1</sup>.  
 Þar þai þam thought to rest and slepe; 230  
 Þar did þai Mari for to light,  
 Bot son þai sagh an ugli sight.  
 Als þai loked þam biside,  
 Ute o þis cove þan sagh þai glide  
 Mani dragons, wel sodanli; 235  
 Þe suanis þan bigan to cri.  
 Quen Jhesus sagh þam glopnid be,  
 He lighted of his moder kne,  
 And stod apon þaa bestes grim,  
 And þai þam luted under him. 240  
 Þan com þe propheci al cler  
 To dede, þat said es in sauter:  
 "Þe dragons wonand in þair cove,  
 Þe laverd agh yee worthli to lufe."  
 Jhesus he went befor þam þan, 245  
 Forbed þam harm do ani man.  
 Maria and Joseph ne for-þi  
 For þe child war ful dreri;  
 Bot Jhesus ansuard þaim onan:  
 "For me drednes haf nu yee nan, 250  
 Ne haf yee for me na barn site,

<sup>1</sup> Dipe MS.

For I am self man al parfite,  
 And al þe bestes þat ar wild,  
 For me most be tame and mild.  
 Leon yode þam als imid, 255  
 And pardes als þe dragons did,  
 Bifor Maria and Joseph yede,  
 In right wai þam for to lede.  
 Quen Maria sagh þaa bestes dute,  
 First sco was gretli in dute, 260  
 Til Jhesus loked on hir blith,  
 And dridnes bad hir nan to kith.  
 "Moder," he said, "haf þou na ward,  
 Noþer o leon ne o lepard,  
 For þai com noght us harm to do, 265  
 Bot þair servis at serve us to."  
 Bath ass and ox at wit þam war,  
 And bestes þat þair harnais bar,  
 Ute o Jerusalem þair kyth,  
 Þe leons mekli yod þam wit, 270  
 Wit-uten harm, or ox or ass,  
 Or ani best þat wit þam was.  
 Þan was fulfild þe propheci,  
 Þat said was þoru Jeremi,  
 "Wolf and weþer, leon and ox, 275  
 Sal comen samen, and lamb and fox."  
 A wain þai had þair gere wit-in,  
 Þat draun was wit oxen tuin.  
 Forth þair wai þai went fra þan,  
 Wit-uten kithing of ani man. 280  
 Maria forth þam foluand rade,  
 Gret hett in wildernes it made;  
 O gret travail sco was weri,  
 A palme tre sco sagh hir bi;  
 Joseph sco said, "fain wald I rest, 285

Under þis tre, me thinc wer best."  
 "Gladli," said he, "þat wil resun."  
 Son he stert and tok hir dun,  
 Quen sco had sitten þar a wei,  
 Sco bihild a tre was hei, 290  
 And sagh a frut þar-on hingand,  
 Man clepes palmes in þat land.  
 "Joseph," sco said, "fain wald I ete  
 O þis frut, if I moght gete;"  
 "Maria me thinc ferli o þe 295  
 Þat se þe gret heght o þis tre,  
 Þe frut hu suld man reche unto,  
 Þat man his hand mai to nan do?  
 Bot I site for an oþer thing,  
 Þat we o water haf nu wanting; 300  
 Ur water purveance es gan,  
 And in þis wildernes es nan,  
 Naþer for us, ne for ur fee,  
 Ne for nan of ur meiné."  
 Jhesus satt on his moder kne, 305  
 Wit a ful blith cher said he,  
 "Bogh þou til us suith þou tre,  
 And of þi frut þou give us plenté."  
 Unnethe had he said þe sune,  
 Quen þe tre it boghed dune, 310  
 Right to Maria, his moder, fote,  
 Þe crop was evening tō þe rote.  
 Quen alle had eten frut inogh,  
 Yeit it boghud dun ilk bogh,  
 Til he wald comand it to rise, 315  
 Þat gert it lute in his servis.  
 To þat tre þan spak Jhesu:  
 "Rise up," he said, "and right ye nu,  
 I wil þou, fra mi forward,

Be planted in min orcherd, 320  
 Amang mi tres o paradise,  
 Dat þou and þai be of a prise ;  
 Vnder þi rote þar es a spring,  
 I wil þat ute þe water wring ;  
 Mak us a welle, for mine sake, 325  
 Dat alle mai plenté o water take."  
 Wit þis stert up þe tre stedfast ;  
 Under þe rote a welle ute-brast,  
 Wit strand suete, and clere, and cald ;  
 Alle dranc inogh ilkan þat wald, 330  
 Wit alle þe bestes in þat place,  
 Ðai loued ai drightin of his grace.  
 Apon þe morn, quen it was dai,  
 And þai ware busked to þair wai,  
 Jhesus him turnd to þe tre, 335  
 And said, " þou palme i comand þe,  
 Ðat o þi branches an be scorn,  
 And wit mine angel heþen born,  
 To planted be in paradise,  
 Ðar mi fader mirthes es." 340  
 Unnethes he had þis word spoken,  
 An angel com, a bogh was broken,  
 And born awai it was alson ;  
 His comanment was nocht vndon,  
 Þe bugh til heuen wit him he bar ; 345  
 Ðai felle in suim, al þat þar war,  
 For angel sight þai felle dun mad.  
 Jhesus þan said, " qui er yee rade ?  
 Quer it es sua yee wat it nocht,  
 Ðat handes mine þis tre has wrought, 350  
 And I wil nu þis ilk tre  
 Stand in paradis to be,  
 To mi santes insted of fode

Al in þis way to yow it stode."  
 Sipeþ forth þai ferd þair wai, 355  
 And Joseph can to Jhesu sai,  
 "Laverd þis is a mikel hete,  
 It greves us, it es sua grete;  
 If þou redes þat it sua be,  
 We wil þe wai ga be þe se, 360  
 For þar es tuns in for to rest,  
 Þat we to ga me thinc it best."  
 "Joseph nu dred þe nocht i sai,  
 For i sal mak þe scort þi wai,  
 Þat þou on thritted dais lang 365  
 Jornes sal haf bot a dai-gang."  
 Als þai togedir talked sua,  
 Þai loked þam on-ferrum fra,  
 And sun bigan þai for to se,  
 O land of Egypt sum cité. 370  
 Ðan þai wex ful glad and blith,  
 And come þam tille a cité suith;  
 Þar þai fand nan o þair knaing,  
 At þat þai cuth ask at þair gesting.  
 In þat siquar þai come to tun, 375  
 Was preistes at þair temple bun  
 To do þe folk, als þai war sete,  
 Ma sacrifices to þair maumet.  
 Bot Maria ner was gesten þar,  
 To se þat kirck hir sun sco bar; 380  
 Quen sco was cummen þat kirck witin,  
 Man moght a selcuth se to min,  
 Þat al þair idels, in a stund,  
 Grovelings fel unto þe grund,  
 Dun at þe erth alle war þai laid. 385  
 Ðan come þe propheci was said,—  
 "Quen he," it sais, "þe laverd sal

Cum til Egypti, þair idels alle  
 Sal falle dun, als þai war noght,  
 Þe quilk þai wit þair handes wroght." 390  
 O þat tun was a laverding,  
 Quen him was tald o þis tijing,  
 He gadir[d] folk and duelled "noght,  
 And to þe temple he þam broght;  
 For to wreke þam he was bun, 395  
 Þat þus did cast þair goddes dun.  
 Quen he þam sagh in temple lii,  
 Hiis godds and his maumentri,  
 He com to Maria wituten harme,  
 Þar sco hir child bar in hir arme; 400  
 Honurand forwit him he felle,  
 And til his folk þus he can telle:  
 "Þis child if he ne war Godd Almighty,  
 Ur godds had standen al upright,  
 Bot for he is Godd mighti sene 405  
 Ures ar fallen dun be-dene;  
 Quat dos or goddes or mai do ger,  
 Bot we ne wrick þe wisliker;  
 Þe wark of him sua mai we dred,  
 Als wittnes on ur eldres dede, 410  
 Hu it be-tide to Pharaon;  
 Wit al his folk he was fordon,  
 Fõr þai wald noght apon him tru,  
 Sua ful o might and o vertu,  
 Al þai drund in þe se; 415  
 I tru on him, alsua do yee."  
 Was noght a temple or-quar in tun,  
 Þat þar ne fel sum idel dun.



*The Oil of Mercy.*

Adam had pastd nine hundret yere,  
 Naa selcut, þof he wex vnfere, 420  
 For-wroght wit his hak and spad,  
 Of himself he wex al sad;  
 He lened him þan apon his hak,  
 Wit Seth his sun þus-gat he spak:  
 "Sun he said þou most now ga 425  
 To paradis, þat i com fra,  
 Til cherubin þat [is] þe yate-ward."  
 "Yai Sir, wist i wyderward  
 Þat tat vncuth contre ware,  
 Þou wat þat i was never þare." 430  
 Þus he said, "i sal þe sai  
 How-gate þou sal tak þe wai;  
 Toward þe est end of þis dale  
 Find a grene gate þou sale;  
 In þat way sal þou find forsoth, 435  
 Þi moders and mine our bather slog[t]h,  
 Foluand thoru þat gresse gren,  
 Þat euer has sipen ben gren,  
 Þat we com wendand als unwis,  
 Quen we war put o paradis, 440  
 Vnto þis wreched warld slade,  
 Þar i first me self was made;  
 Thoru þe gretnes of our sin,  
 Moght na gres groue sipen þar-in.  
 Þe falau slog[t]h sal be þi gate, 445  
 O paradis right to the yate."  
 "Fader," he said, "sai me þi wille,  
 Quat sal i sai, þat angel tille."  
 "Þou sal him telle I am vnfere,  
 For I haue liued so mani a yeir, 450

Ai in striif and sorruing stad,  
 Pat o mi liif I am al sad;  
 Pou prai him þat he word me send,  
 Quen I sal o þis werld wend.  
 Anoper erand sal þar be, 455  
 Pat he wald send me word wit þe,  
 Quedir þat I sal haue it in hii,  
 Þe oile me was hight o merci.  
 Þe tim þat I lest paradis.  
 Welle i knau now mi foliis, 460  
 Again godds wil have i wrought,  
 And þat sumdel have I now boght,  
 Mi soru has ai siþen ben neu,  
 Nou war it time o me to reu."  
 Seth went him forth, wit-ouen nai, 465  
 To paradis þat ilk way.  
 Þe slogth he fand þat him gan wiss  
 Tilward þe 3ate of paradis;  
 Quen þar-of son [he] had a sight,  
 Al was he gloppend for þat light; 470  
 Þe mikel light þat he sagh þar,  
 A brennand fire he wend it ware.  
 He seuid him als his fader badd,  
 And 3ode forth and was noght raadd.  
 Þis angel at þe 3atte he fand, 475  
 And asked him of his errand.  
 Seth þen sette him spelle on end,  
 And tald him warfor þat he was send,  
 Tald him of his fader care,  
 Als he him taght sum yee herd are, 480  
 To send him word wen he suld dei,  
 To live moght he na langar drei;  
 And wen þat drightin had him tight,  
 To send him þe oile þat he him hight.

Quen cherubin þis errand herd, 485  
 Mikelik he him answard,  
 "Ga to þe затte he said and loutte  
 Ði hed inwar[d], þiself wit-oute,  
 And tent to thinges at þi might,  
 Ðat sal be sceud un-to þi sight." 490  
 Quen Seth a quil had loked in,  
 He sagh sua mikel welth and win,  
 It es in erth na tung may telle,  
 Ðat flour þat frutte, þat suette smelle,  
 O blis and ioy sua mani thing. 495  
 In middes þe land he sagh a spring,  
 Of a welle þat es utenemes,  
 Ðat oute of ran four gret stremmes,  
 Tyson, Fison, Tigre, Eufrate;  
 Ðis four mas al þis erth wate. 500  
 Out over þat welle þan lokes he,  
 And sagh þar stand a mikel tre,  
 Wit braunches fel, o bark al bare,  
 Was þar no leve on, less na mare.  
 Seth bigan to thinc for-qui 505  
 Ðat þis tre bicom sua dri;  
 O þe steppes umthoght he than,  
 Ðat welud war for sin of man;  
 Ðat ilk scha did him to min,  
 Ðat þis tre was dri for Adam sin. 510  
 He com þan to þat angel scene,  
 And sceud him al þat he had sene;  
 Quen he his sight al had him tald,  
 He badd him eft ga to be-hald;  
 He loked in eft, and stod þer-oute, 515  
 And sagh þe thing þat gart him doute.  
 Ðis tre, þat i of forwit said,  
 A neddur hit hade al umbilaid.

Cherubin, þat angel blyth,  
 Bad him ga lok þe thrid syth 520  
 Þis tre was of a mikel heght,  
 Him thoght þan at þe thrid sight  
 Þat to þe sky it raght þe toppe ;  
 A new-born barn lay in þe crophe,  
 Bondon wit a sueþel band, 525  
 Þar him thoght it lay stuelland.  
 He was al ferd wen he þat sei,  
 And to þe rotte he kest his he,  
 Him thoght it raght fra erth til helle,  
 Quare under he sagh his broþer Abelle ;. 530  
 In his saul he sagh him þare,  
 Þat Caim slogh. forwit, ful o care.  
 He went agayn þan for to scau,  
 To cherubin al þat he sau ;  
 Cherubin wit chere sa milde, 535  
 Bigan to tel him o þat child ;  
 "Þis barn," he said, "þat þou has sene,  
 Is Goddes sun, wit-uten wene ;  
 Þi fader sin now wepes he,  
 Þat he sal clens, sum time sal be, 540  
 Quen þe plentez sal cum o time,  
 Þis is þe oile þat was hight him ;  
 Til him and til his progeni,  
 Wit pité sal [he] sceu his merci."  
 Quen Seth had under-standen wele, 545  
 Þat angel said him ilk dele,  
 His leve wald [he] tak at Cherubin ;  
 Pepins, þen, he gave him thrin,  
 Þe quilk o þe appel tre he nam,  
 Þat his fader ete of ; "Adam, 550  
 Þi fader," he said, "þan sal þou say,  
 Þat he sal dei þe thrid day

Efter þat þou be commun ham,  
 And, als he was, turn into lam;  
 Bot þou sal tak þis pepins þre, 555  
 Þat I toke o þat appel tre,  
 And do þam under his tong rote;  
 Þai sal til mani man be bote,  
 Þai sal be cedre, ciprese, and pine;  
 O þam sal man have medicen. 560  
 Þe fader in cedre þou sal take,  
 A tre of heght þat has na make;  
 And cipres, be þe suete savur,  
 Bitakens our suete sauveur,  
 Þe mikel suetnes, þat es þe sun; 565  
 Þe pine to bere a frut es won,  
 Mani kirkels of a tre mast  
 Gain gifes o þe Holi Gast."  
 Seth was of his errand fain,  
 And sune com til his fader again. 570  
 "Sun," he said, "has þou sped oght,  
 Or has þou ani merci broght?"  
 "Sir, Cherubin, þe hali angel  
 Þat es yateward þe gretes wel,  
 Sais it sal negh þe warlds end, 575  
 Ar þat oile þe may be send,  
 Thoro birth of a blisful child,  
 Þat sal fra harm þe werld schild;  
 O þi ded he bad me sai,  
 Sal be to dai þe thrid dai." 580  
 Adam was for þis tipand blith;  
 Sua glad was he never his sith,  
 Quen he herd he suld live na mare;  
 Þan he logh, bot never are,  
 And þus on Godd began to cri, 585  
 "Laverd inogh now lived have i;

Pou tak mi saul out of þe flexs,  
 And do it ware þi wille es."  
 Quat of þis werld he was ful sad,  
 Þare never a dai þar-in was glad, 590  
 Þat lived nine hundret yeir and mare,  
 And alle his liue in site and care,  
 And leuer was sipen to lenger in helle,  
 Þan langer in þis live to dwelle.  
 Adam al[s] him was tald beforne, 595  
 Was ded apon þe thrid morn.  
 Dolven he was þoru Seth his sun,  
 In þe dale þat hat Ebron.  
 Þe pipins war don under his tung,  
 Þar ras o þam thre wandes yong, 600  
 Son of an ellen heght þai ware,  
 Þai stod þan stille and wex na mare;  
 Ful many yeir ilike grene,  
 Halmes was o þam sene.  
 Stille ai stod þaa wandes thre 605  
 Fra Adam tim until Noe;  
 Fra Noe quen þe flod ras,  
 Til Abraham þat haly was;  
 Fra Abraham ai stil stod þai,  
 Til Moyses þat gaf þe lai, 610  
 Ever stod þai stille in an,  
 Witouten wax, witouten wain.

## XIV.

### SUNDAY SERMONS IN VERSE.

ABOUT A.D. 1330.

The following curious Sermons and Tales, in the Northumbrian dialect, illustrating mediaeval preaching, are taken from *English Metrical Homilies*, edited by John Small, M.A., Edinburgh 1862.

*From the Sermon for the Second Sunday in Advent.*

*The Signs of the Doom.*

[Pages 25-33.]

SAIN Jerom telles that fifteen  
Ferli takeninges sal be sen  
Bifor the day of dom, and sal  
Ilkan of thaim on serdai fal.  
The first dai sal al the se 5  
Boln and ris and heyer be  
Than ani fel of al the land,  
And als a felle up sal it stand,  
Þe heyt thar-of sal passe the felles  
Bi sexti fot, als Jerom telles, 10  
And als mikel the tother day  
Sal it sattel and wit away,  
And be lauer than it nou esse,  
For water sal it haf wel lesse.  
The thride dai mersuine and qualle 15  
And other gret fises alle  
Sal yel, and mak sa reuful ber  
That soru sal it be to her.  
The ferthe day freis water and se  
Sal bren als fir and glouand be. 20

The fift day sal greses and tres  
 Suet blodi deu that grisli bes.  
 The sexte day sal doun-falle  
 Wer/des werks, bathe tours and halle.  
 The sevend day sal stanes gret 25  
 To gider smit and bremly bete.  
 And al the erthe the achtande day  
 Sal stir and quac and al folc flay.  
 The neynd day the fels alle  
 Be mad al euin wit erthe salle. 30  
 The tend day sal folc up crep,  
 Als wod men of pittes dep.  
 The elleft day sal banes rise  
 And stand on graues thar men nou lies.  
 The tuelft day sal sternes falle. 35  
 The thretend day sal quek men dey alle,  
 Wit other ded men to rise,  
 And com wit thaim to gret asise.  
 The faurtend day at a schift  
 Sal bathe brin erthe and lift. 40  
 The fifetende day thai bathe  
 Sal be mad newe and fair ful rathe;  
 And al ded men sal rise,  
 And cum bifer Crist our iustise.  
 Than sal Crist dem als king ful wis, 45  
 And ger the sinful sare grise,  
 Sa grisli sal he to thaim be,  
 That thaim war leuer that thai moht fle  
 Fra that dom that he sal dem  
 Than al this wer/d, sa bes he brem 50  
 Tille thaim that sinful cumes thar,  
 And forthi sal thai gret sar,  
 And say allas that we war born!  
 Shamlic haf we us self forlorn.



Than salle thair wike dedes alle 55  
 Stand and igaines thaim kalle,  
 And with thair taking ber witness  
 Of thair sin and thair wiknes.  
 Of mikel soru sal þai telle,  
 For Satenas wit feres felle, 60  
 To bind thaim he sal be ful snelle,  
 And bremlī draw thaim till helle,  
 Thar thai sal euermare duelle,  
 And wafullīc in pines welle,  
 And endeles of soru telle. 65  
 This bes thair dom that her in sin  
 Ligges, and wil thair sin noht blin,  
 Bot wald thai think on domes dai  
 Thaim bird lef thair plihtful play.  
 Allas! Allas! quat sal thai say 70  
 Bifor him that mihtful may,  
 Quen al the men that was and esse  
 Sal se thair sines mare and lesse,  
 And al the angeles of the heuin,  
 And ma fendes than man mai nefen. 75  
 Igain-sawe may thar nan be,  
 Of thing that alle men may se.  
 Of this openlic schauing  
 Hais Godd schawed many takning,  
 Of a takning that I haf herd telle, 80  
 That falles wel til our godspelle.

*Tale of a Monk.*

A blak munk of an abbaye  
 Was enfermer of all[e] I herd say,  
 He was halden an hali man  
 Imange his felaus euerilkan; 85  
 An cloyster monk loued him ful wele,  
 And was til him ful speciel,

For riuelic togider drawes  
 Faithe lufreden god felawes.  
 Fel aountour that this enfermer 90  
 Was sek, and he that was til him der.  
 Com to mak him glad and blithe,  
 And his lufredene til him to kithe;  
 He asked him hou he him felid,  
 And he his stat alle til him telid; 95  
 And said ful hard fel I me,  
 To dede I draw, als ye mai se.  
 His felau was for him sary,  
 And praied him ful gern forthie,  
 That yef Godd did of him his wille, 100  
 That he suld scheu his stat him tille.  
 This seke monk hiht to com him to,  
 Yef he moht get lef thar-to:  
 I sal, he said, yef I may,  
 Com to the my stat to say. 105  
 Quen this was sayd, he deyed son,  
 And his felau asked his bon,  
 And prayed Godd for his mercye,  
 That he suld schew him openly,  
 Other wakañd or slepand, 110  
 Of his felaw state sum tithand,  
 And als he lay apon a niht,  
 His felaw com wit lemes liht,  
 And tald him bathe of heuin and helle,  
 And he prayed he suld him telle 115  
 His state, and he said wel far I  
 Thoru the help of our Lefdi,  
 War scho ne hafd ben, I hauid gan  
 To won in helle wit Satan.  
 His felau thoht herof ferly, 120  
 And asked him quarfor and qui,

And sayd, we wend alle wel that thou  
 Haued ben an hali man til nou :  
 Hou sal it far of us kaytefes,  
 That in sin and foli lyes, 125  
 Quen thou that led sa hali life,  
 Was demed tille hell[e] for to drife.  
 Quen this was said, the ded ansuerd  
 And tald his felaw hou he ferd,  
 And said son quen I gaf the gaste, 130  
 Till[e] my dom was I led in haste,  
 And als I stod my dom to her  
 Bifor Jesus, wit dreri cher,  
 Of fendes herd Ic mani upbrayd,  
 And a boc was bifor me layd, 135  
 That was the reuel of sain Benet,  
 That Ic hiht to hald and get.  
 This reul thai gert me rapli rede,  
 And als I red, sar gan I drede,  
 For overlop moht I mac nan, 140  
 Bot of the clauses euerilkan,  
 Yald Ic account hou I thaim held,  
 And my consciens gan me meld ;  
 It schawed thar ful openlye  
 That I led mi lif wrangwislie, 145  
 For in the reul es mani pas,  
 That than igain me casten was,  
 Quar-thoru almost haued I thare  
 Ben demid til helle for to fare.  
 Bot for I lufed wel our Lefdye 150  
 Quil I lifd, Ic hafd forthie  
 Ful god help thar thoru hir mercy,  
 For scho bisoht Crist inwardlie  
 That I moght in purgatorie  
 Clens mi sin and mi folye. 155

Forthi hop I to far ful welle,  
 For mi soru sal son kele ;  
 Forthi my frend I prai the,  
 That thou ger felaus prai for me.  
 Quen this was said, awai he went, 160  
 And his felawe ful mikel him ment,  
 And efter this siht mani a day  
 Gert he for his sawell prai.

*Sermon for the Third Sunday after the Octave of Epiphany.*

*The Miraculous Stilling of the Tempest on the Sea of Galilee.*

[Pages 134-144.]

Sain Matheu þe wangeliste  
 Telles us to dai, hou Crist 165  
 Schipped into the se a time,  
 And his decipelis al wit him.  
 And quen þair schip com on dep,  
 Jesu seluen fel on slep,  
 And gret tempest bigan to rise, 170  
 That gert þe schipmen sar grise.  
 Thai wakned Crist, and said yare,  
 Help us lauerd, for we fo[r]fare.  
 And Crist, als mihti Godd, ansuerd  
 And said, foles qui er ye fered ; 175  
 Als qua sai, Godd es in þis schip  
 That mai wel saue this felauschip.  
 And crist comanded wind and se  
 To lethe, and fair weder be.  
 And sa fair weder was in hie, 180  
 That al his felaues thoht ferlie,  
 And said, quatkin man mai this be,  
 Til hum bues bathe winde and se.  
 This es the strenthe of our godspelle  
 Als man on Ingelis tong mai telle. 185

Al hali kirc, als thinc me  
 Mai bi this schippe takened be,  
 That Crist rad in and his felawes,  
 Imang dintes of gret quawes.  
 For schip fletes on the flode, 190  
 And hali kirc wit costes gode,  
 Fletes abouen this werldes se,  
 Flouand wit sin and caitifté;  
 God cresten men er hali kirc,  
 Pat Goddes wil wille gladli werc. 195  
 Dis schip ful gret wawes kepes,  
 And crist tharin gasteli slepes  
 Quen he tholes god men and lele,  
 Wit wic men and fals dele,  
 That betes thaim wit dede and word 200  
 Als se bare betes on schip bord.  
 For wit ensampel, mai we se  
 That al this werld es bot a se,  
 That bremli bares on banc wit bale,  
 And gret fisches etes the smale. 205  
 For riche men of this wer/d etes,  
 That pouer wit thair trauail getes.  
 For wit pouer men fares the king,  
 Riht als the quale fars wit the elringe,  
 And riht als sturioun etes merling, 210  
 And lobbekeling etes sperling,  
 Sua stroies mare men the lesse,  
 Wit wa and werldes wrangwisnes,  
 And schathe that lesse tholes of mare  
 Smites als storm of se ful sare. 215  
 And forthi that crist tholes this,  
 Ite sembeles that he slepand is;  
 Bot thai that thol thir strange stowres,  
 Thai waken Crist and askes socoures

Wit orisoun, that es prayer,  
 That wakenes Crist, and gers him her 220  
 Al thair wandreth and thair wrake,  
 And wit his miht he geres it slake.  
 For rightwis cristen man praier  
 Es til Jesus sa lef and dere, 225  
 That quat-sa-ever we ask tharin,  
 And we be out of dedeli sin,  
 Our lauerd grauntes it us son,  
 Yef sawel hel be in our bon.  
 For yef we prai God that he 230  
 Grant that igain our sawel be,  
 Us au to thinc na ferlye  
 Thoh Godd it warnes ouertlye.  
 For bi ensampel mai we se  
 That praier mai unschilful be; 235  
 Als ef thou prai Godd that he  
 Apon thi fais venge the,  
 Thi praier es igain his wille,  
 Forthi wil he it noht fulfille;  
 Or yef thou prai efter catele, 240  
 That es igain thi sawel hele;  
 Or efter werldes mensc and miht,  
 That geres foles fal in pliht;  
 Or ef thou praye him that he leche  
 Thi fandinges and thi wandrethe, 245  
 That dos in to the sawel gode,  
 Yef thou it thol wit milde mode;  
 Wit resoun mai thou Godd noht wite,  
 Yef he the silc askinges nite,  
 For yef he graunt the thi schathe, 250  
 Thou war noht lef til him, bot lathe.  
 Forthi es godd that we him praye  
 Thing that our sawel hele mai;

THE STILLING OF THE TEMPEST.

For ar we bigin our prayer,  
Wat he quarof we haf mister. 255  
Bot for our godspel spekes of se,  
Quarbi this werld mai bisend be,  
Forthi wil I schaw other thinges,  
That er apert biseninges ;  
Bitiuxe this wlanc werld and se, 260  
This werldes welth to do fle.  
Bi salte water of the se,  
Ful gratheli mai bisend be  
This werldes welth, auht, and catel,  
That werldes men lufes ful wel, 265  
For salte water geres men threst,  
And werldes catel geres men brest.  
The mar thou drinkes of the se,  
The mare and mar threstes ye ;  
And ai the richer that man esse, 270  
The mar him langes efter riches.  
And in se dronkenes folc ful fele,  
And sua dos [many] in werldes catele ;  
For water drunkenes the bodie,  
And catel the sawel gastelie ; 275  
For catel drawes man til helle,  
Thar wattri wormes er ful felle,  
And of thir wormes wil I telle  
A tal, yef ye wil her mi spelle.

*Tale of a Usurer.*

An hali man biyond the se, 280  
Was bischop of a gret cité ;  
God man he was, and Pers he hiht,  
And thar bisyd woned a kniht,  
That thoru kind was bond and thralle,  
Bot knihted gat he wit catelle. 285

This catel gat he wit okering,  
 And led al his lif in corsing,  
 For he haunted bathe dai and niht  
 His okering, sine he was kniht,  
 Als fast as he did bifore, 290  
 And tharwit gat he gret tresore.  
 Bot Crist that boht us der wit pine,  
 Wald noht this mannes sawel tine,  
 Bot gaf him graz himself to know,  
 And his sin to the bischop schaw. 295  
 Quen he him schraf at this bischop,  
 This bischop bad him haf god hop,  
 And asked him, yef he walde tac  
 Riht penanz, for his sinful sac.  
 Ful gladli wil I tac, he said, 300  
 The penanz that bes on me laid;  
 And the bischop said, thou sal mete  
 A beggar gangand by the strete,  
 And quat-als-euer he askes the,  
 Gif him, this sal thi penanz be. 305  
 And ful wel paid was this kniht,  
 For him thōht his penanz ful liht.  
 And als he for hamward, he mette  
 A beggar that him cumly grette,  
 And said, lef sir, par charité, 310  
 Wit sum almous thou help me.  
 This kniht asked quat he wald haf;  
 Lauerd he said, sum quet I craue.  
 Hou mikel, he said, askes thou me;  
 A quarter lauerd, par charité. 315  
 This kniht granted him his bone,  
 And gert met him his corn sone.  
 This pouer man was will of wan,  
 For pok no sek no hauid he nan,



Quarin he moht this quete do ; 320  
 And forthi this kniht said him to,  
 This quete, I rede thou selle me,  
 For ful pouer me thinc the.  
 The pouer said, layth thinc me  
 To selle Goddes charité, 325  
 Bot len me sum fetel tharto,  
 Quarin I mai thin almous do.  
 And he ansuered and said, nai,  
 For al that this beggar moht sai,  
 He said, this thou selle me, 330  
 For fetil wil I nan len the.  
 The beggar moht na better do,  
 Bot sald this corn igain him to,  
 And toc thar for fif schilling,  
 And went him forthe on his begging. 335  
 Quen this corn to the kniht was sald,  
 He did it in an arc to hald,  
 And opened this arc the thrid daye  
 And fand tharin, selcouthe to say,  
 Snakes and nederes thar he fand, 340  
 And gret blac tades gangand,  
 And arskes and other wormes felle,  
 That I kan noht on Inglis telle.  
 Thai lep upward til his visage,  
 And gert him almost fal in rage. 345  
 Sa was he for thir wormes ferde,  
 Bot noht forthi that arc he speride,  
 And to the bischope in a ras  
 He ran, and tald him [a] his cas.  
 The bischop sau that Godd wald tak 350  
 Of this man sin wrethful wrac.  
 And said, yef thou wil folfille  
 Wit worthi penanz, Goddes wille,

And clens wit penanz riht worthi,  
 Al thi sinnes and thi foli, 355  
 I red that thou self the falle  
 Nakid imang tha wormes alle,  
 No gif thou of the self na tale,  
 Bot bring thi sawel out of bale.  
 Thoh tha wormes thi caroin gnawe, 360  
 Thi pynes lastes bot a thrawe;  
 And than sal thi sawel wende  
 To lif of blis, witouten ende.  
 This okerer was selli radde,  
 To do that this bischop him badde, 365  
 Bot of mercy haft he god hop,  
 And gern he prayd the bischop,  
 And said, lef fader, I pray the,  
 That thou prai inwardli for me,  
 That God gif me his graz to fang 370  
 One mi bodi, this penanz strang.  
 The bischop hiht this man lelye,  
 To pray for him riht inwardlye.  
 This man went ham thoh he war rad,  
 And did als his bischop him badde; 375  
 For imang al thir wormes snelle,  
 Als nakid als he was born, he felle.  
 Thir wormes ete that wreche manne,  
 And left nathing of him bot ban.  
 The bischop went into that toun, 380  
 Wit clerkes in processioun,  
 And come into this knihtes wanes,  
 And soht ful gern his hali banes;  
 And til this forsaid arc he yod,  
 And opened it wit joiful mod, 385  
 And riped imang tha wormes lathe,  
 Bot nan of thaim moht do him schathe,

And forthe he gan tha banes draw,  
 And thai war als quite als snaw.  
 Quen al tha banes out-tan ware 390  
 Tha wormes gert he brin ful yare,  
 And bar thir bannes menskelye,  
 And fertered thaim at a nunrye ;  
 Thar Godd schewes mirakelle and miht,  
 And gifes blind men thar siht, 395  
 And croked men thar geres he ga,  
 And leches seke men of wa,  
 And schewes wel wit fair ferlikes,  
 That thas banes er god relikes.  
 This tale haf I nou tald here, 400  
 To ger you se on quat maner,  
 That the mar catel that man haues,  
 The mar and mare his hert craues ;  
 And namlic thir okerers,  
 That er cursed for thair aferes ; 405  
 Bot yef thai her thair lif amend,  
 Thai wend til wormes witouten end,  
 That sal thaim reuli rif and rend.  
 In helle pine witouten end.  
 That wist this bischop witerlye, 410  
 And forthi did he quaintelye,  
 Quen he gert wormes ete this man,  
 To yem his sawel fra Satan.  
 For wormes suld his sawel haf rended,  
 Quar-sa-euer it suld haf lended, 415  
 Yef he no hauid wel ben scriuen,  
 And his caroin til wormes giuen.  
 Bot for his fleis was pined here,  
 His sawel es now til Godd ful dere,  
 Thar it wones in plai and gamen, 420  
 Godd bring us thider alle samen. Amen !

## XV.

### DAN MICHAEL OF NORTHGATE.

A. D. 1340.

In the year 1340 Dan Michael of Northgate (Kent), "a brother of the cloister of St. Austin of Canterbury," translated into English the French treatise *Le Somme des Vices et des Vertus*, by Frère Lorens (A. D. 1279), under the title of *The Aynbite of Inawyt* (Remorse of Conscience). This work is preserved in Arundel MS. 57, which also contains two short Sermons, probably translated from a Latin original, by the same author.

These Kentish productions are the most valuable specimens which have been preserved of the Southern dialect in the fourteenth century.

#### *Sermon on Matthew xxiv. 43.*

Uor to sseawy þe lokynge of man wyþ-izne. þelliche ane uorbysne / oure lhord ihesu crist zayþ. 'Þis uorzope ywyteþ. þet yef þe uader of þe house wyste huyche time þe þyef were comynde: uorzope he wolde waky / and nolde nazt þolye þet me dolue his hous.' Be þise uader of house me may onderstonde / þe wyl of skele. to huam be-longeþ moche mayné. Þoztes. and his besteriinge. wyt. and dedes / ase wel wiþ-oute: ase wyþ-inne. þet is to zigge / huych mayné / to moche slac / and wylles-uol ssel by: bote yef þe ilke uaderes stefhede hise strayny / and ordayny. Vör zoþe yef he hym a lyte of his bysyhede wyþ-drazþ: hu may zigge / hou þoztes. e3en. earen. tonge. and alle oþre wyttes: becomeþ 'wyld. Hous. is inwyt / in huychen þe

uader of house woneþ. þe hord of uirtues gadereþ. Vor huych hord: þet ilke zelue hous ne by y-dolue / heþlyche he wakeþ. þer ne is naȝt on þyef: ac uele. ac to eche uirtue: ech vice wayteþ. Þaȝles heþlyche by þe þyeue: is onderstonde þe dyeuel. a-ye huam and his kachereles / þe ilke zelue uader / þaȝles yef he ne were naȝt onlosti: his hous mid greate strengþe wolde loky. Þe uader of þe house / ate uerste guoinge in: he zette sleȝþe / to by doreward. þet y-knaup huet is to uorlete: and huet ys to wylny. huet uor to bessette out of þe house. huet uor to onderuonge into þe house. Nixt þan: ha zette strengþe. þet þe vyendes / þet sleȝþe zent to zygge / to keste out: strengþe wyþdroȝe. þet his uoule lostes wyþdroȝe: and wyþ-zede. Riȝtnesse uorzoȝe ssel zitte amydde / þet echen his oȝen yefþ. Hueruore: huyche time þe þyef is comynde / me not. ac eche tyme me ssel drede. Þise zuo y-diȝt: naȝt longe to þe wakynde þe slep of zenne benymþ. Vor al þet lyf is to waky. Zome messagyers sleȝþe ssel lete in. þet zome þinges moȝe telle / þet me may a-waki myde. Þus þe messagyer of dyafþe acseþ inguoyng: he is onderuonge. Me him acseþ 'huo he ys. huannes he comþ. huet he heþ ysoȝe.' He ansuereþ. he ne may naȝt zigge: bote yef þer by heȝliche clom. Huich y-graunted: þus he begynþ. 'Ich am drede / and beþenchinge of dyafþe. and dyafþ [is] comynde: ich do you to wytene.' Sleȝþe specþ uor alle. and acseþ. 'And huer is nou þe ilke dyafþ. and huanne ssel he come?' Drede zayþ. 'Ich wot wel þet he ne abyȝt naȝt to comene / and nyeȝ he is. ac þane day / oȝer þane tyme of his comyng: ich not.' Sleȝþe zayþ. 'And huo ssel come myd hyre?' Drede zayþ. 'A þouzend dyeulen ssolle come mide hire. and brenge mid ham / greate bokes / and bernynde hokes / and chaynen auere.' Sleȝþe zayþ. 'And huet wylleþ hy do mid alle þan?' Drede zayþ. 'Ine þe bokes byeþ y-write alle þe zennen of men. and hise brengeþ / þet be ham hi

moze ouercome men. of huychen þe zennes þerinne byeþ ywryte. þet byeþ to hare rihte. Hokes hi brengēþ / þet þo þet byeþ to hare rihte ouercomeþ: hire zaulen be strengþe: of þe bodye drazeþ out. and hise byndeþ mid þe chaines / and in to helle hise drazeþ.’ Sleze zayþ. ‘Huannes comste?’ Drede zayþ. ‘Vram helle.’ Sleze zayþ. ‘And huet is helle. and huet yzeze þe ine helle?’ Drede zayþ. ‘Helle is wyd / wyþ-oute metinge. dyep / wyþ-oute botme. Vol of brene on þolyinde. Vol of stenche / wy[þ]-oute comparisoun. Þer is zorze. þer is þyesternesse. þer ne is non ordre. þer is gronyngē wyþ-oute ende. þer ne is non hope of guode. non wantrokiyngē of kueade. Ech þet þerinne is: hateþ him zelue: and alle oþren. Þer ich yzeze alle manyere tormens. þe leste of alle / is more þanne alle þe pynen þet moze by y-do ine þise wordle. Þer is wop. and grindinge of teþ. þer me geþ uram chele in to greate hete of uere. and buoþe onþolyinde. Þere alle be uere / ssolle by uorbernd. and myd wermes ssolle by y-wasted / and nazt ne ssolle wasti. Hire wermes / ne ssolle nazt sterue. and hare ver ne ssel neure by ykuent. No rearde ne ssel þer by y-hyerd / bote. wo: wo. wo hy habbeþ: and wo hy gredeþ. Þe dyeules tormentors pyneþ. and togydere hy byeþ y-pyned. ne neure ne ssel by ende of pyne: oþer reste. Þellich is helle / an a þousend zyþe worse. And þis ich yzeze ine helle / and a þousendziþe more worse. Þis ich com uor to zygge you.’ Sleze zayþ. ‘God wet ssolle we do. Nou broþren and zostren y-hyreþ my red. and yueþ youre. Byeþ sleze. an wakeþ ine youre bedes / porueynde guodes. nazt onlyche beuore gode: ac be-uore alle men.’ Þolemodness zayþ. ‘Do we to worke godes nebsseft / ine sscrifte / and ine zalmes: glede we hym. byeþ sobre / and wakyep / uor youre uo þe dyuel / ase þe lyoun brayinde geþ aboute þan: þet he wyle uor-zuelze.’ Strengþe zayþ. ‘Wyþstondeþ hym: stronge ine bylaue. Byeþ glede ine

god. Cloþeþ you mid godes armes. þe hauberk of ryzt. þane sseld of beleaue. nymeþ þane helm of helþe. and þe holy gostes' zuord: þet is godes word.' Ry3[ ]tnesse zayþ. 'Lybbe we sobrelliche. ry[3t]uolliche an bonayrelyche. Sobrelyche: ine ous zelue. ry3tuolliche: to oure emcristen. bonayrelyche: to god. þet we nolleþ þet me do to ous zelue: ne do we hyt na3t to oþren. and þet we wylleþ þet me do to ous zellue: do we hit to oþre men. and uor zoþe þet is ri3t.' Sle3þe zayþ. 'Ðer is anoþer wyþ-oute þe gates uayr. and gled. hit þingþ þe[t] he bre[n]gþ glednesse.' Ry3[t]-nesse zayþ. 'onderuongeþ hym. be cas he ous ssel gledye. uor þes ilke uerste: gratlyche he ous heþ y-mad of-dret.' Sle3þe zayþ to þe messagere. 'Guo in. and huo þou art. and huannes þou comst. and huet þou hest yzo3e: zay ous.' Þe messagyryz ayþ. 'Ich am loue of lyue eureles-tynde. an wylninge of þe contraye of heuene. Yef ye me wylleþ y-here: habbeþ amang you. clom / and reste. Na3t uor zoþe amang gredynges and noyses: ych ne may by yherd.' Ri3[t]uolnesse zayþ. 'Yef we longe godes drede / and be-þenchinge of dyape were stille: ry3t hit is / þet þe spekinde / wel more we by stille.' Wylningge of þe lyue wyþ-oute ende / zayþ. 'Ðeruore byeþ stille / and yhereþ myd wylle. Ich come uram heuene. and þelliche þinges ich y-ze3 þer. þet no man ne may dyngneliche zigge. Ðazles zomþyng ich wylle zigge: ase ich may. Ich yze3 god. ac be ane sseawere ine ssede.'

'Ich yze3 þe ilke onspekynde / an on-todelinde magesté of þe holy trinityé. be-gynnyng / ne ende ne heþ. Ac and ly3t þer-inne woneþ / þet me ne may na3t come to. Vram þo ly3te byeþ y-þorsse mine ezen / and þe zy3þe þyester. Hyt ouergeþ uorzoþe alle wyttis / and alle zy3þes. þe ilke bry3[t]nesse. and þe ilke uolnesse. Ðazles a lytel ich yze3 oure lhord iesu crist / ine ri3t half zittinde. þet is to zygge: ine þe lyue wyþ-oute ende regnynde. Ðaz he ouer alle

ssepþes by zuo uayr: þet ine him wylneþ þe angles to zyenne. Yet nou þe wunden and þe toknen of þe passion he heþ ine his bodye. huermyde he ous bozte. be-uore þe uader uor ous stant uor to bydde. Ich y-ze3 nyxt iesu crist þe ilke blisfolle mayde / and moder þe ilke zodes<sup>1</sup> / and oure lhordes iesu cristes / myd alle worþssipe and reuerence / y-nemned marie / ine þe wonderuolle trone zittynde / aboue alle þe holy ordres of angles / and of men: an-he3ed. hire zone iesus uor ous byddinde. and to huam hi is uol of merci. Ac þe ilke wonderuolle magesté / and þe briztnesse of þe moder / and of þe zone: ich ne myzte na3t longe þolye / ich wente myne zizþe uor to yzi / þe ilke holy ordres of þe gostes: þet stondeþ beuore god. of huichen þe eurelestinde holynesse of þe zizþe of god / an of þe loue. ne hit ne ssel lessi: ne hit ne ssel endi / ac eure wexe and blefþ. Ac na3t þe ilke degrez / and dingnetes / heryinges alsuo / huyche hyre makyere hy bereþ no man uollyche þenche / ne na3t ne may by yno3 to telle. Þerefter þe profetes ich y-ze3. and þe patriarkes wonderlyche glediynde ine blisse. uor þet hy yzezen ine goste: uoluelde hy yzeþ. þet ine longe anoy onderuyng / þet ouet of blysse wyþ-oute ende chongeden. Ich y-ze3 þe apostles ine tronen zittynde. þe trib3 / and þe tongen / alle preste. and of poure / and of zyke: zuo blisuolle and holy / of oure lhord iesu crist / and zuo he3e / yno3 alneway ich am wondrinde. Ich y-ze3 / ac uollyche ich ne my[3]te al yzy / þe innumerable uelazrede of þe holy martires / mid blisse and worþssipe / y-corouned. þet be þe pinen of þise time / huyche hi beren to þo blisse / þet wes ysseawed ine ham: hy come þerto. Hyre holynesse / and hyre blysse: long time ich me lykede. Ich yze3 to þe blyssede heape of *confessours*. amang huam / men apostles / and techeres / þet holy cherche mid hare techinge wereden.

<sup>1</sup> *godes or zones?*



and alsuo uram alle heresyē / wy[þ]-oute wem habbeþ  
yclenzed: sseawep. and hy uele habbeþ y-taȝt. ssyneþ ase  
sterren / ine eurelestynde wy[þ]-oute ende. Þer byeþ  
Monekes þet uor claustres / and uor strayte cellen. wel  
moche / an clyerer þanne þe zonne: habbeþ wonyinges.  
Vor blake and uor harde kertles / huyter þane þe snaw.  
and of alle zofthede / and nesshede / clopinge habbeþ an.  
Vram hare eȝen / god wyeþ alle tyeres. and þane kyng  
hy ssolle ysy ine hys uayrhede. Alast / to þe uelazrede of  
maydynes ich lokede. of huychen / blysse / sseþþe / agray-  
þinge / and melodya. huycne none mannes speche: dingne-  
lyche may telle. And hy zonge þane zang: þet non oþer  
ne may zyngē. Ac and þe zuete smel ine hare regyon /  
zuo zuete ys: þet alle manyre zuete smelles ouercomp.  
And to hare benes: oure lhord arist. to alle oþren:  
zittinde he lhest.' Sleȝþe zayþ. 'Hyt lykeþ þet þou zayst.  
Ac uor of echen of þe holy ordres / wondres þou hest  
y-zed: we byddeþ þet þou zigge ous / huet is hare dede  
ine menesse / and huet is þe *conuers*[ac]ion of uelazrede:  
zay ous.' Þe wylny[n]gge of þe lyue wyþ-oute ende zayþ.  
'Vor zoþe ich wylle zygge. Þe dede of alle ine menesse /  
ys zeueald. Hy lybbeþ. hy smackeþ. hy louyeþ. hy byeþ  
glede. hy heryeþ. hy byeþ zuyfte. hy byeþ zikere.' Sleȝþe  
zayþ. 'Þaȝ ich zomdel þis onderstonde: uor ham þet  
lhesteþ / of echen zay.' wylnyngē of þe lyue wy[þ]-oute ende  
zayþ. 'Zuo hv hyt. Hy lybbeþ be lyue wyþ-oute ende.  
wyþ-oute enye tyene. wy[þ]-oute enye lessinge. wyþ-oute enye  
wylstondyngē. Hyre lyf is þe zyȝþe and þe knaulechyngē  
of þe holy trinitye ase zayþ oure lhord iesus. þis is þet lyf  
wyþ-oute ende / þet hy knawe þe zoþe god / and huam þe  
zentest iesu crist. and þeruore glyche hy byeþ / uor hy  
y zyeþ: ase he is. Hy smackeþ þe redes and þe domes of  
god. Hy smackeþ þe kendes / and þe causes / and þe  
begynny[n]ges of alle þinges. Hy louyeþ god wyþ-oute enye

comparisoun. uor þet by wyteþ huerto god his heþ y-brozt  
 uorþ. hy louyeþ ech oþren: ase ham zelue. Hy byeþ glede  
 of god onzyginde. hy byeþ glede of zuo moche of hare  
 ozene holynesse: and uor þet ech loueþ oþren ase him  
 zelue. ase moche blisse heþ ech of oþres guode: ase of  
 his ozene. Þeruore by ziker / uor eurych heþ aseuele  
 blyssen: ase he heþ uelazes. and aseuele blissen to echen:  
 ase his ozene of alle. and þeruore eureich more loueþ  
 wyþoute comparisoun god: þet hym and oþre made /  
 þanne him zelue / and alle oþre. More hy byeþ glede  
 wyþ-oute gessynge of godes holynesse: þanne of his ozene /  
 and of alle oþre myd hym. Yef þanne on onneape nymþ  
 al his blisse. hou ssel he nyme zuo uele and zuo manye  
 blyssen? And þeruore hit is yzed. guo into þe blysse of  
 þyne lhorde. nazt þe blisse of þine lhorde / guo in to þe.  
 uor hy ne may. Þerefter / hy herieþ god wyþ-oute ende /  
 wyþ-oute werynesse. ase hyt is y-wryte. Lhord / y-blyssed  
 by þo þet wonyeþ ine þyne house / in wordles of wordles:  
 ssolle [hy] herye þe. Zuyfte hy byeþ. uor huer þet þe gost  
 wyle by: uorzope þer is þet body. Alle hy byeþ my[3]t-  
 uolle. Zykere hy byeþ of zuyche lyue. of zuo moche  
 wysdome. of zuo moche loue. of zuo moche blysse. of  
 zuyche herynge. of zuyche holynesse. þet non ende. non  
 lessynge. non uallynge doun ssolle hadde. Lo alyte ich.  
 hadde yzed to you. of þan þet ich yze3 ine heuene. Naszt  
 uor zope ne may zigge / ase ich yze3 / ne nast ase hy  
 byeþ: ne myzte ysy.' Sle3þe zayþ. 'Vorzope ine heuene  
 we onderstondeþ þet þou were. and zop þing þer þou yse3e.  
 and zop þou hest y-zed.' Strengþe zayþ. 'Huo ssel ous  
 todele uram cristes loue? tribulacion. oþer zor3e. and oþre.  
 zykere byeþ. uor noþer dyap / ne lyf. and oþre.' Ryzt zayþ.  
 'Doþ out þane uerste messagyer. hyt ne is nast rizt þet he  
 bleue ine þe house / myd þe ryztuolle. Vor ry3[t]uolle  
 loue: deþ out drede.' Strengþe zayþ. 'guo out drede. þou

ne sselt naȝt by ine oure stedes.' Drede zayþ. 'Huet hadde ich mis-do. do. do. ich uor guode zede.' Temperancia zayþ. 'Broþren and zostren / ich zigge to you. nanmore smacky / þanne be-houeþ. ac smacke to sobraté. Þou drede / guo out myd guode wylle. þole þane dom / þet riȝt heþ y-demd. be aventure þe myȝt eft by onderuonge. yef wylnyng of lyf wyþ-oute ende / oþerhuyl let of.' Þe makyere zayþ. Þus / þus nou ssel eurich hys heuynesse / ssake a-way / uram drede / to þe loue of þe heuenelyche contraye him-zelue wende. Zuo by hit.

## XVI.

### RICHARD ROLLE DE HAMPOLE.

ABOUT A. D. 1340.

Richard Rolle de Hampole, commonly called Hampole, was an Augustine monk of the Priory of Hampole (about four miles from Doncaster), who died in the year A. D. 1349.

He was the author of a metrical version of the Psalms (with Commentary), portions of the book of Job, and some very excellent prose treatises, as yet inedited. About 1340 he wrote, both in English and Latin, a poem called *The Pricke of Conscience*; from which the following selections are taken.

This poem, in the Northumbrian dialect, has been edited from MSS. in the British Museum, by Richard Morris, for the Philological Society, London 1863.

#### *The Pricke of Conscience.*

#### *The Wretchedness of Man's Birth.*

[Lines 432—439.]

Alle mans lyfe casten may be,  
Principaly, in þis partes thre,  
Þat er þir to our undirstandyng,  
Bygynnyng, midward. and endyng.  
Ðer þre partes er þre spaces talde 5  
Of þe lyf of ilk man, yhung and alde.  
Bygynnyng of mans lif, þat first es,  
Contenes mykel wrechednes;

[Lines 464—509.]

And [when man] was born til þis werldys light,  
He ne had nouthre stenthe ne myght, 10  
Nouthre to ga ne yhit to stand,  
Ne to crepe with fote ne with hand.

Þan has a man les myght þan a beste  
 When he es born, and es sene leste;  
 For a best, when it es born, may ga  
 Als-tite aftir, and ryn to and fra; 15  
 Bot a man has na myght þar-to,  
 When he es born, swa to do;  
 For þan may he noght stande ne crepe,  
 Bot ligge and sprawel, and cry and wepe.  
 For unnethes es a child born fully 20  
 Þat it ne bygynnes to goule and cry;  
 And by þat cry men knaw þan  
 Whether it be man or weman,  
 For when it es born it cryes swa;  
 If it be man it says "a. a," 25  
 Þat þe first letter es of þe nam  
 Of our forme-fader Adam.  
 And if þe child a woman be,  
 When it es born it says "e. e."  
 E es þe first letter and þe hede 30  
 Of þe name of Eve þat bygan our dede.  
 Þarfor a clerk made on þis manere  
 Þis vers of metre þat es wreten here:  
*Dicentes E. vel A. quot-quot nascuntur ab Eva.*  
 "Alle þas," he says, "þat comes of Eve,  
 Þat es alle men þat here byhovs leve, 35  
 When þai er born, what-swa þai be,  
 Þai say outhur a. a, or e. e."  
 Þus es here þe bygynnyng  
 Of our lyfe sorow and gretyng, 40  
 Til whilk our wrechednes stirres us,  
 And þarfor Innocent says þus:  
*Omnes nascimur eiulantes,*  
*ut naturæ nostræ miseriam*  
*exprimamus.* 45

He says, "al er we born gretand,  
 And makand a sorowful sembland,  
 For to shew þe grete wrechednes  
 Of our kynd þat in us es."

Þus when þe tyme come of oure birthe, 50  
 Al made sorow and na mirthe;  
 Naked we come hider, and bare,  
 And pure, swa sal we hethen fare.

[Lines 528—555.]

Þus es a man, als we may se,  
 In wrechednes borne and caytifié, 55  
 And for to life here a fon dayse,  
 Þar-for Job þus openly sayse:

*Homo natus de muliere, brevi vivens  
 tempore, repletur multis miseriis.*

He says, "Man that born es of woman, 60  
 Lyfand short time to, ful-fild es þan  
 Of many maners of wrechednes."  
 Þus says Job, and swa it es.

Alswa man es borne til nocht elles  
 But to travayle, als Job yhit telles: 65

*Homo nascitur ad laborem,  
 sicut avis ad volatum.*

He says, "Man es born to travaille right  
 Als a foul es to þe flight." 70  
 For littel rest in þis lyf es,

Bot gret travayle and bysynes;  
 Yhit a man es, whan he es born,  
 Þe fendes son, and fra God es lorn  
 Ay, til he thurgh grace may com  
 Til baptem and til cristendom; 75

Þus may a man his bygynnyng se,  
 Ful of wrechednes and of caytifé.

*The Middle of Man's Life.*

Þe tother part of þe lyf, men calles  
 Þe mydward, aftir þat it falles,  
 Þe whilk reches fra þe bygynnyng 80  
 Of mans lyfe un-til þe endyng.

[Lines 662—707.]

A man es a tre, þat standes nocht harde,  
 Of whilk þe crop es turned donward,  
 And þe rote to-ward þe firmament,  
 Als says þe grete clerk Innocent. 85

. . . . .  
 He says, "what es man in shap bot a tre,  
 Turned up þat es doun, als men may se,  
 Of whilk þe rotes þat of it springes,  
 Er þe hares þat on þe heved hynges;  
 Þe stok, nest þe rot growand, 90  
 Es þe heved with nek folowand;  
 Þe body of þat tre þar-by  
 Es þe brest with þe bely;  
 Þe bughes ar þe armes with þe handes,  
 And þe legges, with þe fete þat standes;  
 Þe braunches men may by skille calle  
 Þe tas and þe fyngers alle;  
 Þis es þe leef þat hanges nocht faste,  
 Þat es blawen away thurgh a wynd blaste,  
 And þe body alswa of þe tre, 100  
 Þat thurgh þe son may dried be."

A man þat es yhung and light,  
 Be he never swa stalworth and wyght,  
 And comly of shap, luffly and fayre,  
 Angers and yvels may him appayre, 105  
 And his beuté and his strength abate,  
 And mak hym in ful wayk state,

And chaunge alle fayre colour,  
 Þat son fayles and fades, als dos þe flour.  
 For a flour þat semes fayre and bright, 110  
 Thurgh stormes fades, and tynes þe myght.  
 Many yvels, angers, and mescheefes.  
 Oft comes til man þat here lyves,  
 Als fevyr, dropsy and jaunys,  
 Tysyk, goute and other malady, 115  
 Þat hym mas strength and fayrnes tyne  
 Als grete stormes dose a flour to dwyne;  
 Þarfor a man may likend be  
 Til a flour, þat es fayre to se,  
 Þan son aftir þat it es forth broght, 120  
 Welkes and dwynes til it be noght.

[Lines 728—829.]

In the first bygynnyng of þe kynd of man  
 Neghen hundreth wynter man lyfed þan,  
 Als clerkes in bukes bers witnes;  
 Bot sythen bycom mans lyf les, 125  
 And swa wald God at it suld be;  
 Forwhi he sayd þus til Noe:  
*Non permanebit spiritus meus  
 in homine in æternum, quia caro  
 est, erunt dies illius centum  
 viginti annorum.* 130

“My gast,” he says, “sal noght ay dwelle  
 In man, for he is flesshe and felle;  
 Hys days sal be for to life here,  
 An hundreth and twenti yhere.” 135  
 Bot swa grete elde may nane now bere,  
 For sythen mans lyfe bycom shortere,  
 For-whi þe complection of ilk man  
 Was sythen febler þan it was þan;



Now es it alther-feblest to se, 140  
 Þarfor mans life short byhoves be;  
 For ay þe langer þat man may lyfe,  
 Þe mare his lyfe sal hym now grieve,  
 And þe les him sal thynk his lyf swete,  
 Als in a psalme, says þe prophete : 145  
*Si autem in potentatibus octoginta an-*  
*ni, et amplius eorum labor et dolor."*  
 " If in myghtfulnes four scor yher falle,  
 Mare es þair swynk and sorow with-alle."  
 For seldom a man þat has þat held, 150  
 Hele has, and himself may weld;  
 Bot now falles yhit shorter mans dayes,  
 Als Job, þe haly man, þus says :  
*Nunc paucitas dierum meorum*  
*finietur brevi.* 155  
 " Now," he says, " my fon days sere  
 Sal enden with a short tym here."

*Old Age.*

Fone men may now fourty yhere pas,  
 And foner fifty, als in somtym was;  
 Bot als tyte als a man waxes alde, 160  
 Ðan waxes his kynde wayke and calde,  
 Ðan chaunges his complexcion  
 And his maners and his condicion;  
 Ðan waxes his hert hard and hevvy,  
 And his heved feble and dysy; 165  
 Ðan waxes his gast seke and sare,  
 And his face rouncles, ay mare and mare;  
 His mynde es short when he oght thynkes,  
 His nese ofte droppes, his hand stynkes,  
 His sig'it wax[es] dym þat he has, 170  
 His bax waxes croked; stoupand he gas

Fyngers and taes, fote and hande,  
 Alle his touches er tremblande,  
 His werkes for-worthes þat he bygynnes;  
 His hare moutes, his eghen rynnaes; 175  
 His eres waxes deaf, and hard to here,  
 His tung fayles, his speche is nocht clere;  
 His mouthe slavers, his tethe rotes,  
 His wyttes fayles, and he ofte dotes;  
 He is lyghtly wrath, and waxes fraward, 180  
 Bot to turne hym fra wrethe it es hard;  
 He souches and trowes sone a thyng,  
 Bot ful late he turnes fra þat trowyng;  
 He is covatous and hard haldand  
 His chere es dreery and his sembland; 185  
 He es swyft to spek on his manere.  
 And latsom and slaw for to here;  
 He prayses ald men and haldes þam wyse,  
 And yhung men list him oft despyse;  
 He loves men þat in ald tyme has bene, 190  
 He lakes þa men þat now are sene;  
 He is ofte seke and ay granand,  
 And ofte angerd, and ay pleynand;  
 Alle þir, thurgh kynd, to an ald man falles,  
 Þat clerkes propertes of eld calles. 195  
 Yhit er þar ma þan I haf talde,  
 Þat falles to a man þat es alde.  
 Þus may men se, wha-so can,  
 What þe condicions er of an ald man.

*The End of Man's Life.*

Þe last ende of mans lyfe es hard, 200  
 Þat es, when he drawes to ded-ward.  
 For when he es seke, and bedreden lys,  
 And swa feble þat he may nocht rys,

Þan er men in dout and noght certayn,  
 Wethir he sal ever cover agayn. 205  
 Bot yhit can som men, þat er sleghe,  
 Witte if he sal of þat yvel deghe  
 By certayne takens, als yhe sal here,  
 Þat byfalles when þe ded es nere;  
 Þan bygynnes his frount dounward falle, 210  
 And his browes heldes doun wyth-alle;  
 Þe lefte eghe of hym þan semes les,  
 And narower þan þe right eghe es;  
 Hys nese, at þe poynt, es sharp and smalle,  
 Þan bygynnes his chyn to falle; 215  
 His pouce es stille, with-uten styringes,  
 His fete waxes calde, his bely clynges.  
 And if nere þe dede be a yhung man,  
 He ay wakes, and may noght slepe þan;  
 And an alde man to dede drawand 220  
 May noght wake, bot es ay slepand;  
 Men says, al þir takens sere  
 Er of a man þat þe dede es nere.

*The World.*

[Lines 1211—1292.]

Þe world here, who-so wille,  
 Unto four thinges may liken[d be] by skille. 225  
 First þe world may lykend be,  
 Mast properly, unto þe se;  
 For þe se, aftir þe tydes certayn,  
 Ebbes and flowes, and falles agayn,  
 And waxes ful ken, thurgh stormes þat blowes, 230  
 And castes up and doun many gret wawes;  
 Swa castes þe world, thurgh favour,  
 A man to riches and honour;

And fra þat agayn he castes hym doun  
 Til povert and to tribulacioun. 235  
 And þa er þe grete stormes kene,  
 And þe wawes, þat in þe world er sene.  
 Yhit may þe world here þat wyde es,  
 Be likend to a wildernes,  
 Þat ful of wild bestes es sene, 240  
 Als lyons, libardes, and wolwes kene,  
 Þat wald worow men bylyve,  
 And rogg þam in sonder and ryve;  
 Swa þe world es ful of mysdoers.  
 And of tyrauntes þat men ofte ders, 245  
 Þe whilk er bisy, nyght and day,  
 To nuye men in alle þat þai may.  
 Þe world als wa may lykend be  
 Til a forest, in a wilde cuntré,  
 Þat es ful of thefs and outlawes, 250  
 Þat, commonly, til forestes drawes,  
 Þat hald pases, and robbes and revés  
 Men of þat þai have, and nocht þam leves;  
 Swa es þe world here þar we duelle,  
 Ful of thefs, þat er devels of helle, 255  
 Þat ay us waytes, and er bysy  
 To robbe us of our gudes gastly.  
 Þe world may yhit, als yhe sal here,  
 Be lykend, on þe fierth manere,  
 To a feld ful of batailles 260  
 Of enemys, þat ilk day men assayles.  
 For-why here we er, on many wyse,  
 Alle umset with sere enemys,  
 And, speciali, with enemys thre,  
 Agaynes wham us byhoves armed be: 265  
 Þa er þe world, þe fende, our flesshe,  
 Þat, to assayle us here, er ay freshe;

And þarfor byhoves us, day and nyght,  
 Whilles we lif here, agayn þam fight.  
 Þe world, als clerkes understandes, 270  
 Agayn us fightes with twa handes,  
 With þe right hand and þe left; þere twa  
 May be-taken bathe wele and wa;  
 Þe right hand es welthe, als I halde,  
 And þe left hand es angre calde; 275  
 For þe world assayles sum men awhile,  
 With þe right hand þam to bygile,  
 Þat es welth, als I sayde before,  
 Of worldly riches and tresore;  
 And assayles men, nyght and day, 280  
 With þe left hand þam to flay,  
 Þat es, with angre and tribulacion,  
 And povert and persecucion,  
 Þe whilk þer clerkes þe left hand calles  
 Of þe world, þat ofte sythes falles. 285  
 Bot with þe world comes dam fortune,  
 Þat ayther hand may chaung sone;  
 For sho turnes about ay hir whele,  
 Up and doune, als many may fele;  
 When sho hir whele lates about-ga, 290  
 Sho turnes sum doune fra wele to wa,  
 And, eft agaynward, fra wa to wele;  
 Þus turnes sho about oft hir whele,  
 Þe whilk þir clerkes nocht elles calles,  
 Bot happe or chaunce, þat sodanli falles, 295  
 And þat men haldes here nocht elles,  
 Bot welthe and angre in whilk men dwelles.  
 Þarfor worldly happe es ay in dout,  
 Whilles dam fortune turnes hir whele about.  
 Angre men dredes and walde it fle, 300  
 And in welthe men wald ay be;

Bot parfit men, þat þair lif right ledes;  
 Welthe of þe world ay flese and dredes;  
 For welthe drawes a man fra þe right way  
 Þat ledes til þe blisse þat lastes ay. 305

[Lines 1412—1473.]

þe life of þis world es ful unstable,  
 And ful variand and chaungeable,  
 Als es sene in contrarius manere,  
 By þe tymes and vedirs and sesons here.  
 For þe world and worldis life togider 310  
 Chaunges and turnes oft hider and þider,  
 And in a state duelles ful short while,  
 Unnethes þe space of a myle.  
 And for-þi þat þe worlde es swa unstable  
 Alle þat men sese þar-in es chaungeable; 315  
 For God ordayns here, als es his wille,  
 Sere variaunce for certayn skille,  
 Of þe tymes, and wedirs, and sesons,  
 In taken of þe worldes condicions,  
 Þat swa unstable er and variande, 320  
 Þat ful short while may in a state stande.  
 For God wille men se, thurgh swilk takens sere,  
 How unstable þis world es here,  
 Swa þat men suld mare drede and be abayste,  
 Over-mykel in þe world here to trayste. 325  
 Ofte chaunges þe tymes here, als men wel wate,  
 Als þus; now es arly, now es late,  
 Now es day, now es nyght,  
 Now es myrk, now es light;  
 And þe wedirs chaunges and þe sesons, 330  
 Þus aftir the worldes condicions;  
 For now es cald, now es hete,  
 Now es dry, and now es wete;

For now es snaw, hail, or rayn,  
 And now es fair wedir agayn; 335  
 Now es þe wedir bright and shynand,  
 And now waxes it alle domland;  
 Now se we þe lyfte clere and faire,  
 Now gadirs mystes and cloudes in þe ayre.  
 Alle þer variance to understande, 340  
 May be takens of þis world swa variande;  
 And yhit er þar other ma takens sere  
 Of þe unstablenes of þis lif here.  
 For now es mirthe, nou es murnyng,  
 Now es laghter, and now es gretyng; 345  
 Now er men wele, now er men wa,  
 Now es a man frende, now es hē faa;  
 Now es a man light, now es he hevy,  
 Now es he blithe, now es he drery;  
 Now haf we ioy, now haf we pyn, 350  
 Now we wyn, and now we tyn;  
 Now er we ryche, now er we pur,  
 Now haf we or-litel, now pas we mesur;  
 Now er we bigg, now er we bare,  
 Now er we hale, now seke and sare; 355  
 Now haf we reste and now travaile,  
 Now we fande our force, now we fail;  
 Now er we smert, now er we slawe,  
 Now er we heghe, now er we lawe;  
 Now haf we ynogh, now haf we noght, 360  
 Now er we aboven, and now doun broght;  
 Now haf we pees, now haf we were,  
 Now eese us a thyng, now fele we it dere;  
 Now lofe we, now hate; now saghtel, now strife.  
 Þer er þe maners here of þis lyfe, 365  
 Þe whilk er takens of þe unstablenes  
 Of þis worldis lyfe, þat chaungeable es.

*Death.*

[Lines 1818—1829.]

Four skilles I fynd writen in som stede,  
 Why men suld specialy drede þe dede;  
 An es for þe dede stoure swa felle 370  
 Þat es mare payne þan man can telle,  
 Þe whilk ilk man sal fele within,  
 When þe body and þe saule salle twyn.  
 Another es for þe sight þat he sal se  
 Of devels, þat about hym þan salle be. 375  
 Þe thred es for þe acount þat he sal yheld  
 Of alle his lyf, of yhouthe and elde.  
 Þe ferth es, for he is uncertayne  
 Whether he sal wend til ioy or payne.

[Lines 1836—1851.]

First aght men drede þe ded in hert, 380  
 For þe payn of þe dede þat es swa smert.  
 Þat es þe hard stour at þe last ende,  
 When þe saule šal fra þe body wende;  
 A doleful partyng es þat to telle,  
 For þai luf ay togyder to duelle; 385  
 Nouter of þam wald other forga,  
 Swa mykel lof es bytween þam twa;  
 And þe mare þat twa togyder lufes,  
 Als a man and his wyfe oft pruves,  
 Þe mare sorow and murnyng 390  
 By-hoves be at þair departyng.  
 Bot þe body and þe saul with þe lyfe  
 Lufes mare samen þan man and his wyfe,  
 Whether þai be in gude way or ille,  
 And þat es for many sere skylle. 395



[Lines 1884—1929]

Dede wil na frendshepe do, ne favour,  
 Ne reverence til kyng, ne til emperour,  
 Ne til pape, ne til bisshope, ne na prelate,  
 Ne til nan other man of heghe estate,  
 Ne til na religieuse, ne til na seculere, 400  
 For dede over al men has powere.  
 And thurgh þe dede hand al sal pas,  
 Als Salamon says, þat wyse was :

*Communione**mortis scito.*

405  
 "Knew þou," he says, "þat þe dede es  
 Comon to al men, bathe mare and les."  
 Þus sal dede visite ilk man,  
 And yhit na man discryve it can,  
 For here lyves nan under hevenryke, 410  
 Þat can telle til what þe ded es lyke.  
 Bot þe payn of dede þat al sal fele  
 A philosopher þus discribed wele ;  
 For he lykend mans lyf til a tre  
 Þat war growand, if it swa mught be, 415  
 Thurgh a mans hert and swa shuld sprynge,  
 Þat about war lapped with the hert strynge,  
 And þe croppe out at his mouth mught shote,  
 And to ilka ioynt war fested a rote ;  
 And ilka vayne of þe mans body 420  
 Had a rote festend fast þarby,  
 And in ilka taa and fynger of hand  
 War a rote fra þat tre growand,  
 And ilka lym, on ilka syde,  
 With rotes of þat tre war occupyde ; 425  
 Yf þat tre war tite pulled oute  
 At a titte, with al þe rotes aboute ,

De rotes suld þan rayse þar-with  
 Ilka vayn and ilka synoghe and lith;  
 A mare payne couthe na man in hert cast 430  
 Þan þis war, als lang als it suld last.  
 And yhit halde I þe payne of dede mare,  
 And mare strange and hard þan þis ware;  
 Þos a philosopher when he lyfed,  
 Þe payn of þe dede here discribed. 435  
 Þarfor ilk man, als I byfor sayde,  
 Aght to drede þe bitter dedes brayde,  
 For bathe gode and ille sal it taste;  
 Bot ille men aght drede it maste,  
 For dred of ded mast pyns wythin 440  
 A man þat here es ful of syn.

[Lines 2216—2233.]

Þe secund skil, als byfor es redde,  
 Why þe dede es swa gretely [to] drede,  
 Es for þe grisly sight of fendes  
 Þat a man sal se, when his lyf endes. 445  
 For when þe lyf sal pas fra a man  
 Devels sal gadir 'about hym þan,  
 To ravissche þe saul with þam away  
 Tyl pyne of helle, if þai may.  
 Als wode lyons þai sal þan fare 450  
 And raumpe on hym, and skoul, and stare,  
 And grymly gryn on hym and blere,  
 And hydus braydes mak hym to fere;  
 Þai sal fande at his last endyng  
 Hym in-to wanhope for to bring, 455  
 Thurgh thretynges þat þai sal mak,  
 And thurgh þe ferdnes þat he sal tak.  
 Ful hydus sightes þai sal shew hym  
 Þat his chere sal make grisly and grym.

[Lines 2300—2311.]

For þai er swa grisely, als says þe buke, 460  
 And swa blak and foule on to loke,  
 Þat al þe men here of mydlerd  
 Of þat sight mught be aferd;  
 For al þe men here of this lyfe  
 Swa grysely a sight couth noght descryfe, 465  
 Ne, thurgh wyt, ymagyn ne deme,  
 Als þai sal in tyme of dede seme;  
 Ne swa sleygh payntur never nan was,  
 Þogh his sleght mught alle other pas,  
 Þat couthe ymagyn of þair gryslynes, 470  
 Or paynt a poynt aftir þair liknes.

[Lines 2334—2356.]

Bot I wille shew yhow aparty  
 Why þai er swa foul and grisly;  
 For sum tyme when þai war bright angels,  
 Als þa er þat now in heven duels; 475  
 Fra þat blisful place, thurgh syn, þai felle,  
 And bycome þan foule devels of helle,  
 And horribely defygurd thurgh syn,  
 Þat þai war wyth fild, and hardend þarin;  
 For war-ne syn war þai had ay bene 480  
 Bright aungels, als þai war first sene;  
 And now er þai made foule and ugly,  
 Þurgh fying of þair syn anly;  
 Þan es syn mar foule and wlatome,  
 Þan any devel þat out of helle may come; 485  
 For a thyng es fouler þat may file,  
 Þan þe thyng þat it fyles, and mare vile;  
 Þarfor says clerkes of grete cunnyng,  
 Þat syn es swa foule and swa grisly thyng,

Þat if a man mught properly se his syn 490  
 In þe kynd lyknes þat it falles be in,  
 He shuld for ferdnes titter it fle  
 Þan any devel þat he mught se.

[Lines 2364—2373.]

Sen þe devel þus has tane his uglines  
 Of þe filth of syn, þat swa filand es, 495  
 Þan aght þe saul of synful with-in  
 Be ful foule, þat es alle slotered in syn;  
 Þarfor a man aght, war-so he wendes,  
 Mare drede syn þan þe syght of fendes,  
 Þat sal aper til hym at his dede day; 500  
 Bot his syn he sal se fouler þan þay,  
 Of whilk he wald noght hym right shrife,  
 Ne repent hym here in his lyfe.

## XVII.

### LAWRENCE MINOT.

A. D. 1352.

Lawrence Minot lived and wrote about the middle of the fourteenth century. He composed ten poems in celebration of the following battles and exploits of King Edward III:— The Battles of Halidon Hill (1333) and Bannockburn (1314); Edward's expedition to Brabant (1339); the Sea-fight of Swine at the mouth of the West Scheldt (1340); the Siege of Tournay (1340); the Landing of Edward at La Hogue (1346); the Siege of Calais (1346); the Battle of Neville's Cross (1346); the Sea-fight with the Spaniards off Winchelsea (1350); and the Capture of Guisnes (1352).

The present extracts, the dialect of which is Northumbrian, are from the *Poems of Lawrence Minot* in *Political Poems and Songs relating to English History*, Vol. I., edited by T. Wright, M.A. (Rolls' Series), London 1859.

#### *Political Songs.*

[Collated with Cotton MS. Galba E. ix.]

[Pages 63—69.]

#### I.

*How Edward the King come in Braband  
And toke Homage of alle the Land.*

God, that schope both se and sand,  
Save Edward king of England,  
Both body, saul and life,  
And grante him joy withowten strif!  
For mani men to him er wroth,

In Fraunce and in Flandres both;  
 For he defendes fast his right,  
 And tharto Jhesu grante him might,  
 And so to do both night and day,  
 That yt may be to Goddes pay. 10  
 Oure king was cumen, tre[w]ly to telle,  
 Into Brabant for to dwelle;  
 The kayser Lowis of Bavere,  
 That in that land than had no pere,  
 He, and als his sons two, 15  
 And other princes many mo,  
 Bisschoppes and prelates war thare fele,  
 That had ful mekille werldly wele,  
 Princes and pople, ald and 3ong,  
 Al that spac with Duche tung, 20  
 Alle thai come with grete honowre,  
 Sir Edward to save and socoure,  
 And proferd him, with alle thayre rede,  
 For to hald the kinges stede.

The duke of Braband, first of alle, 25  
 Swore, for thing that might bifalle,  
 That he suld both day and night  
 Help Sir Edward in his right,  
 In toun, in feld, in frith and fen.  
 This swore the Duke and alle his men, 30  
 And al the lordes that with him lend,  
 And tharto held thai up thaire hend,  
 Than king Edward toke his rest,  
 At Andwerp, whare him liked best;  
 And thare he made his moné playne, 35  
 That no man suld say thare ogayne.  
 His moné, that was gude and lele  
 Left in Braband ful mekille dele;

And alle that land, untill this day,  
Fars the better for that jorney. 40

When Philip the Valas herd of this,  
Tharat he was ful wroth iwis ;  
He gert assemble his barounes,  
Princes and lordes of many tounes,  
At Pariss toke thai thaire counsaile, 45  
Whilk pointes might tham moste availe ;  
And in alle wise thai tham bithought  
To stroy England, and bring to nought.

Schipmen sone war efter sent,  
To here the kinges cumandment ; 50  
And the galaies men also,  
That wist both of wele and wo.  
He cumand than that men suld fare  
Tille England and for nothing spare,  
Bot brin and sla both man and wife, 55  
And childe, that none suld pas with life.  
The galay men held up thaire handes,  
And thanked God of thir tithandes.

At Hamton, als I understand,  
Come the gaylayes unto land, 60  
And ful fast thai slogh and brend,  
Bot noght so mekille als sum men wend.  
For or thai wened war thai mett  
With men that sone thaire laykes lett.  
Sum was knocked on the hevyd, 65  
That the body thare bilevid ;  
Sum lay stareand on the sternes ;  
And sum lay knocked out thaire hernes,  
Than with tham was non other gle,

Bot ful fain war thai that might fle. 70  
 The galay men the suth to say,  
 Most nedes turn another way ;  
 Thai soght the stremis fer and wide,  
 In Flandres and in Seland syde.

Than saw thai whare Cristofer stode, 75  
 At Armouth, opon the flude,  
 Then wen[te] thai theder alle bidene  
 The galayes men, with hertes kene,  
 Viiij. and xl. galays, and mo,  
 And with tham als war tarettes two, 80  
 And other many of galiotes,  
 With grete noumber of smale botes ;  
 Alle thai hoved on the flode  
 To stele sir Edward mens gode.

Edward oure king than was nocht there, 85  
 Bot sone when it come to his ere,  
 He sembled alle his men fulle stille,  
 And said to tham what was his wille.  
 Ilk man made him redy then,  
 So went the king and alle his men 90  
 Unto thaire schippes ful hastily,  
 Als men that war in dede doghty.

Thai fand the galay men grete wane,  
 A hundereth ever ogaynes ane ;  
 The Inglis men put tham to were 95  
 Ful baldly, with bow and spere ;  
 Thai slogh thare of the galaies men  
 Ever sixty ogaynes ten ;  
 That sum ligges 3it in that mire  
 Alle hevidles, withowten hire. 100



The Inglis men war armed wele,  
 Both in yren and in stele;  
 Thai faght ful fast, both day and night,  
 Als lang as tham lasted might.  
 Bot galay men war so many, 105  
 That Inglis men wex alle wery;  
 Help thai soght, bot thare come nane,  
 Than unto God thai made thaire mane.

Bot sen the time that God was born,  
 Ne a hundreth ȝere biforn, 110  
 War never men better in fight  
 Than Ingliss men, whils thai had myght.  
 Bot sone alle maistri gan thai mis;  
 God bring thaire saules untill his blis!  
 And God assoyl tham of thaire sin, 115  
 For the gude wille that thai war in! Amen.

Listens now, and leves me,  
 Who-so lifes thai salle se  
 That it mun be ful dere boght  
 That thir galay men have wroght. 120  
 Thai hoved stille opon the flode,  
 And reved pover men thaire gude;  
 Thai robbed, and did mekille schame,  
 And ay bare Ingliss men the blame.  
 Now Jhesu save alle Ingland, 125  
 And blis it with his haly hand! Amen.

## II.

Edward, oure cumly king,  
 In Braband has his woning,  
 With mani cumly knight;  
 And in that land, trewly to telle, 130

Ordains he stille for to dwelle  
To time he think to fight.

Now God, that es of mightes maste,  
Grant him grace of the Haly Gaste,  
His heritage to win! 135  
And Mari moder, of mercy fre,  
Save oure king and his menz e  
Fro sorow and schame and syn.

Thus in Braband has he bene,  
Whare he bifore was seldom sene, 140  
For to prove thaire japes;  
Now no langer wil he spare,  
Bot unto Fraunce fast wille he fare,  
To confort him with grapes.

Furth he ferd into Fraunce, 145  
God save him fro mischance  
And alle his cumpany!  
The noble duc of Braband  
With him went into that land,  
Redy to lif or dy. 150

Than the riche floure-de-lice  
Wan thare ful litille prise,  
Fast he fled for ferde;  
The right aire of that cuntre  
Es cumen, with all his knightes fre, 155  
To shac him by the berd.

Sir Philip the Valayse,  
With his men in tho dayes,  
To batale had he thoght;  
He bad his men tham purvay 160

Withowten lenger delay,  
But he ne held it noght.

He broght folk ful grete wone,  
Ay sewyn oganis one,  
That ful wele wapnid were; 165  
Bot some whe[n] he herd ascry  
That king Edward was nere tharby,  
Than durst he noght cum nere.

In that morning fell a myst,  
And when oure Ingliss men it wist, 170  
It changed alle thaire chere;  
Oure king unto God made his bone,  
And God sent him gude confort sone,  
The weder wex ful clere.

Oure king and his men held the felde 175  
Stalwortly, with spere and schelde,  
And thocht to win his right,  
With lordes, and with knightes kene  
And other doghty men bydene,  
That war ful frek to fight. 180

When Sir Philip of France herd telle  
That king Edward in feld walld dwelle,  
Than gayned him no gle;  
He traisted of no better bote,  
Bot both on hors and on fote 185  
He hasted him to fle.

It semid he was ferd for strokes,  
When he did felle his grete okes  
About his pavilyoune;  
Abated was than alle his pride, 190

For langer thare durst he nocht bide,  
His bost was broght alle doune.

The king of Beme had cares colde,  
That was ful<sup>1</sup> hardy and bolde  
A stede to umstride, 195  
The king als of Naverne  
War faire feld<sup>2</sup> in the ferene  
Thaire heviddes for to hide.

And leves wele, it es no lye,  
The felde hat Flemangrye 200  
That king Edward was in,  
With princes that war stif and bolde,  
And dukes that war doghty tolde  
In batayle to bigin.

The princes, that war riche on raw, 205  
Gert nakers strike and trumpes blaw,  
And made mirth at thaire might;  
Both alblast and many a bow  
War redy railed opon a row,  
And ful frek for to fight. 210

Gladly thai gaf mete and drink,  
So that thai suld the better swink,  
The wight men that thar ware.  
Sir Philip of Fraunce fled for dout,  
And hied him hame with alle his rout; 215  
Coward, God giff him care!

For thare than had the lely flowre  
Lorne alle halely his honowre,

That sogat fled for ferd ;  
Bot oure king Edward come ful stille, 220  
When that he trowed no harm him tille,  
And keped him in the berde.

### III.

[Pages 75—80.]

*How Edward at Hogges unto land wan,  
And rade thurgh France or ever he bian.*

Men may rede in Romance right 225  
Of a grete clerk that Merlin hight ;  
Ful many bokes er of him wreten,  
Als thir clerkes wele may witen ;  
And 3it in many privé nokes  
May men find of Merlin bokes. 230  
Merlin said thus with his mowth,  
Out of the north into the sowth  
Suld cum a bare over the se,  
That suld mak many man to fle ;  
And in the se, he said ful right, 235  
Suld he schew ful mekille might ;  
And in France he suld bigin,  
To mak tham wrath that er tharein,  
Untille the se his taile reche sale  
Alle folk of France to mekille bale. 240  
Thus have I mater for to make,  
For a nobille prince sake ;  
Help me God, my wit es thin ;  
Now Laurence Minot wille bigin.

**A** bore es broght on bankes bare, 245  
With ful batail bifor his brest ;

For John of France wille he nocht spare  
In Normondy to tak his rest,  
With princes that er proper and prest.  
Alweldand God, of mightes maste, 250  
He be his beld, for he may best,  
Fader, and Sun, and Haly Gaste.

Haly Gaste, thou gif him grace  
That he in gude time may bigin,  
And send to him both might and space 255  
His heritage wele for to win;  
And sone assoyl him of his sin,  
Hende God, that heried helle.  
For France now es he entrid in,  
And thare he dightes him for to dwelle. 260

He dwelled thare, the suth to telle,  
Opon the coste of Normondy.  
At Hogges fand he famen felle,  
That war alle ful of felony;  
To him thai makked grete maistri, 265  
And proved to ger the bare abyde.  
Thurgh might of God and mild Mari,  
The bare abated alle thaire pride.

Mekille pride was thare in prese,  
Both on pencelle and on plate, 270  
When the bare rade withouten rese  
Unto Cane the graythest gate.  
Thare fand he folk bifor the 3ate  
Thretty thowsand stif on stede.  
Sir John of France come al to late; 275  
The bare has gert thaire sides blede.

He gert blede, if thai war bolde,  
For thare was slayne and wounded sore

Thretty thowsand trewly tolde,  
 Of pitaile was thare mekille more, 280  
 Knightes war thare wele two score  
 That war new dubbed to that dance.  
 Helm and hevyd thai have forlore,  
 Than misliked John of France.

More misliking was thare then, 285  
 For fals treson alway thai wrought;  
 Bot fro thai met with Inglis men,  
 Alle thaire bargan dere thai boght.  
 Inglis men with site tham soght,  
 And hastily quit tham thaire hire, 290  
 And at the last forgat thai noght,  
 The toun of Cane thai sett on fire.

That fire ful many folk gan fere,  
 When thai se brandes o-ferrum flye;  
 This have thai wonen of the were, 295  
 The fals[e] folk of Normundy.  
 I sai 3ow lely how thai lye  
 Dongen doun alle in a daunce;  
 Thaire frendes many ful faire forthi  
 Pleyn tham untill John of France. 300

Franche men put tham to pine  
 At Cressy, whan thai brak the brig,  
 That saw Edward with both his ine.  
 Than likid him no langer to lig;  
 Ilk Inglis man on others rig 305  
 Over that water er thai went,  
 To bataile er thai baldly big,  
 With brade ax and with bowes bent.

With bent bowes thai war ful bolde,  
 For to felle of the Frankisch men; 310

Thai gert tham lig with cares colde,  
 Ful sari was sir Philip then.  
 He saw the toun o-ferrum bren,  
 And folk for ferd war fast fleand ;  
 The teres he lete ful rathly ren 315  
 Out of his eghen, I understand.

Then come Philip, ful redy dight,  
 Toward the town with alle his rowt,  
 With him come mani a kumly knight,  
 And alle umset the bare about. 320  
 The bare made tham ful law to lout,  
 And delt tham knokkes to thaire mede :  
 He gert tham stumbille that war stout ;  
 Thare helpid nowther staf ne stede.

Stedes strong bilevid stille 325  
 Biside Cressy opon the grene.  
 Sir Philip wanted alle his wille,  
 That was wele on his sembland sene.  
 With spere and schelde and helmis schene,  
 The bare durst thai nocht habide. 330  
 The king of Berne was cant and kene,  
 Bot thare he lest both play and pride.



## XVIII.

### SIR JOHN MANDEVILLE.

A. D. 1300—1371.

Sir John Mandeville was born about A.D. 1300, commenced his travels in the year 1322, and wrote an account of them in English in the year 1356. The following extracts, in the Midland dialect, are copied from *The Voiage and Travaile of Sir John Maundeville*, ed. from the edition of 1725, by J. O. Halliwell, London 1839.

#### *The Prologue.*

[Collated with Cotton MS. Titus C. xvi.]

[Pages 1-5.]

FOR als moche as the lond bezonde the see, that is to seye, the holy lond, that men callen the lond of promysiou, or of behest, passynge alle othere londes, is the most worthi lond, most excellent, and lady and sovereyn of alle othere londes, and is blessed and halewed of the precyous body and blood of oure Lord Jhesu Crist; in the whiche lond it lykede him to take flesche and blood of the virgyne Marie, to envyrene that holy lond with his blessed feet; and there he wolde of his blessednesse enoumbre him in the seyde blessed and gloriouse virgine Marie, and become man, and worche many myracles, and preche and teche the feyth and the lawe of crystene men unto his children; and there it lykede him to suffre many reprevynges and scornes for us; and he that was kyng of heuene, of eyr, of erthe, of see and of alle thinges that ben conteyned in hem, wolde alle only

ben cleped kyng of that lond, whan he seyde, *Rex sum Judeorum*, that is to seyne, *I am kyng of Jewes*; and that lond he chees before alle other londes, as the beste and most worthi lond, and the most vertuose lond of alle the world: for it is the herte and the myddes of alle the world: wytnessynge the philosophere, that seyth thus: *Virtus rerum in medio consistit*: that is to seye, *the vertue of thinges is in the myddes*; and in that lond he wolde lede his lyf, and suffre passioun and deth, of Jewes, for us; for to bye and to delyvere us from peynes of helle, and from deth withouten ende; the whiche was ordeynd for us, for the synne of oure formere fader Adam, and for oure owne synnes also: for as for himself, he hadde non evylle deserved: for he thoughte nevere evylle ne dyd evylle: and he that was kyng of glorie and of joye, myghten best in that place suffre deth; because he ches in that lond, rather than in ony othere, there to suffre his passioun and his deth; for he that wil pupplische ony thing to make it openly knowen, he wil make it to ben cryed and pronounced in the myddel place of a town; so that the thing that is proclaimed and pronounced, may evenly strecche to alle parties: righte so, he that was formyour of alle the world, wolde suffre [deth] for us at Jerusalem; that is the myddes of the world; to that ende and entent, that his passioun and his deth, that was pupplischt there, myghte ben knowen evenly to alle the parties of the world. See now how dere he boughte man, that he made after his owne ymage, and how dere he azen-boghte us, for the grete love that he hadde to us, and wee nevere deserved it to him. For more precyous catelle ne gretter raunsoun, ne myghte he put[te] for us, than his blessedede body, his precyous blood, and his holy lyf, that he thrall[e]d for us; and alle he offred[e] for us, that nevere did[e] synne. A dere God, what love hadde he to us his subjettes, whan he that nevere trespac[e]d, wolde for trespassours suffre dethe! Righte

wel oughte us for to love and worschipe, to drede and serven suche a Lord; and to worschipe and preyse suche an holy lond, that brought[e] forth such fruyt, thorgh the whiche every man is saved, but it be his owne defaute. Wel may that lond be called delytable and a fructuose lond, that was bebledd and moysted with the precyouse blode of oure Lord Jhesu Crist; the whiche is the same lond, that oure Lord behighte us in heritage. And in that lond he wolde dye, as seised, for to leve it to vus his children. Wherefore every gode cristene man, that is of powere, and hath whereof, scholde peynen him with alle his strengthe for to conquere oure right heritage, and chacen out alle the mysbeleevynge men. For wee ben clept cristene men, afre Crist our fadre. And 3if wee ben righte children of Crist, we oughte for to chalenge the heritage, that oure fadre laste us, and do it out of hethene mennes hondes. But now pryde, covetyse and envye han so enflawmed the hertes of lordes of the world, that thei are more besy for to disherite here neyghbores, more than for to chalenge or to conquere here righte heritage before seyde. And the comoun peple, that wolde putte here bodyes and here catelle, for to conquere oure heritage, thei may not don it withouten the lordes. For a semblee of peple withouten a cheventeyn, or a chief lord, is as a flok of scheep withouten a schepperde; the which departeth and desparpleth, and wyten never whidre to go. But wolde God, that the temporel lordes and alle worldly lordes weren at gode acord, and with the comon peple wolden taken this holy viage over the see. Thanne I trowe wel, that within a lityl tyme, oure right[e] heritage before seyde scholde be reconsyled and put in the hondes of the right heires of Jhesu Crist.

And for als moche as it is longe tyme passed, that ther was no generalle passage ne vyage over the see; and many men desiren for to here speke of the holy lond, and han

therof gret solace and comfort ; I John Maundevylle, Knyght, alle be it I be not worthi, that was born in Englonde, in the town of Seynt Albones, passede the see, in the 3eer of our Lord Jhesu Crist mcccxxii, in the day of Seynt Michelle ; and hidre to have ben longe tyme over the see, and have seyn and gon thorghe manye dyverse londes, and many provynces and kingdomes and iles ; and have passed thorgh-out Turkye, Tartarye, Percye, Surrye, Arabye, Egypt the highe and the lowe<sup>1</sup>, Ermony the litylle and the grete ; thorgh Lybye, Caldee, and a gret partie of Ethiope ; thorgh Amazoynne, Inde the lasse and the more, a gret partie ; and thorgh out many othere iles, that ben abouten Inde ; where dwellen many dyverse folkes, and of dyverse maneres and lawes, and of dyverse schappes of men. Of whiche londes and iles, I schalle speke more pleynly hereafre. And I schal devise 3ou sum partie of thinges that there ben, whan time schalle ben, afre it may best come to my mynde ; and specyally for hem, that wylle and are in purpos for to visite the holy citee of Jerusalem, and the holy places that are thereabout. And I schalle telle the weye, that thei schulle holden thidre. For I have often tymes passed and ryden the way, with gode cōpanye of many lordes : God be thonked.

And 3ee schulle undirstonde, that I have put this boke out of Latyn into Frensch, and translated it a3en out of Frensche into Englyssch, that every man of my nac[i]oun may undirstonde it.

But lordes and knyghtes and othere noble and worthi men, that conne Latyn but litylle, and han ben bezonde the see, knowen and undirstonden, 3if I seye trouthe or no<sup>1</sup>, and 3if I erre in devisynge, for for3etyng, or elles ; that thei mowe redresse it and amende it. For thinges passed out of longe tyme from a mannes mynde or from his syght,

<sup>1</sup> Omitted in the printed editions.

turnen sone into forȝetynge : because that mynde of man ne may not ben comprehended ne withholden, for the freeltie of mankynde.

## CHAPTER XII.

### *Of the bygynnyng of Machomete.*

[Pages 139-142.]

And ȝee schulle understonde, that Machamote was born in Arabye, that was first a pore knave, that kepte cameles, that wenten with marchantes for marchandise; and so befelle, that he wente with the marchandes in to Egipt: and thei weren thanne cristene, in tho partyes. And at the desertes of Arabye, he wente into a chapelle, where a Eremyte duelte. And whan he entred into the chapelle, that was but a lyttille and a low thing and had but a lytyl dore and a low, than the entree began to wexe so gret and so large and so high, as though it had[de] ben of a gret mynstre, or the ȝate of a paleys. And this was the firste myracle, the Sarazins seyn, that Machomete dide in in his ȝouth. Aftre began he for to wexe wyse and ryche; and he was a gret astronomer: and aftre he was governour and prince of the lond of Corrodane; and he governed it fulle wisely, in such manere, that whan the prince was ded, he toke the lady to wyfe, that highte Gadrig. And Machomete felle often in the grete sikenesse, that men callen the fallynge evylle: wherfore the lady was fulle sory, that evere sche toke him to husbonde. But Machomete made hire to beleve, that alle tymes, whan he felle so, Gabriel the Angel cam for to speke with him; and for the gret[e] light and brightnesse of the angelle, he myghte not susteyne him fro fallynge. And therefore the Sarazines seyn, that Gabriel cam often to speke with him. This Machomete regned in Arabye the ȝeer of oure Lord Jhesu Crist 610; and was of

the generacioun of Ysmael, that was Abrahames sone, that he gat upon Agar, his chamberere. And therfore ther ben Sarazines, that ben clept Ismaelytenes; and summe Agaryenes, of Agar: and the othere properly ben clept Sarrazines, of Sarra: and summe ben clept Moabytes, and summe Amonytes; fro<sup>1</sup> the two sones of Loth, Moab and Amon, that he begatt on his doughtres, that weren aftirward grete erthely princes. And also Machomete loved[e] wel a gode heremyte, that duelled in the desertes, a myle fro Mount Synay, in the weye that men gon fro Arabye toward Caldee, and toward Ynde, o day journey fro the see, where the marchauntes of Venyse comen often for marchandise. And so often wente Machomete to this heremyte, that alle his men weren wrothe: for he wolde gladly here this heremyte preche, and make his men wake alle nyghte: and therfore his men thoughten to putte the heremyte to deth: and so it befelle upon a nyght, that Machomete was dronken of gode wyn, and he felle on slepe; and his men toke Machometes swerd out of his schethe while he slepte, and therewith thei slowgh[e] this heremyte, and putten his swerd alle bloody in his schethe agen. And at morwe, whan he fond the heremyte ded, he, was fulle sory and wroth, and wolde have don his men to deth: but thei alle with on accord [seyde], that he himself had[de] slayn him, whan he was dronken, and schewed him his swerd alle bloody: and he trowed[e], that thei hadden seyde soth. And than he cursed[e] the wyn, and alle tho that drynken it. And therfore Sarrazines, that be devout, drynken nevere no wyn: but summe drynken it privyly. For ȝif thei dronken it openly, thei scholde be repreved. But thei drynken gode beverage and swete and norysshynge, that is made of Galamelle: and that is that men maken sugre of, that is of right gode savour: and it is gode for the breest. Also it befallerth sumtyme, that

<sup>1</sup> MS. *for*.

Cristene men becomen Sarazines, outhor for poverttee or for symplenesse, or elles for here owne wykkednesse. And therfore the archiflamyn or the flamyn, as oure erchebisshopp or bisshopp, whan he resceyveth him, seyth thus, *La ellec, Sylā. Machomete rores alla*; that is to seye, *There is no God but on, and Machomete his messenger.*

## CHAPTER XXVI.

*Of the Contrees and Yles that ben bezonde the lond of Cathay; and of the Frutes there; and of xxii Kynges enclosed within the Mountaynes.*

[Pages 263-269.]

Now schalle I seye 3ou sewyngly of contrees and yles, that ben bezonde the contrees that I have spoken of. Wherefore I seye 3ou, in passynge be the lond of Cathaye, toward the high Ynde, and toward Bacharye, men passen be a kyngdom, that men clepen Caldilhe; that is a fulle fair contre.

And there groweth a maner of fruyt, as though it weren Gowrdes: and whan thei ben ripe, men kутten hem a-to, and men fynden with-inne a lytyle best, in flesch, in bon and blode, as thogh it were a lytille lomb, with-ouen wolle.

And men eten bothe the frut and the best: and that is a gret merveylle. Of that frute I have eten; alle though it were wondirfulle: but that I knowe wel, that God is merveyllous in his werkes. And natheles I tolde hem, of als gret a merveylle to hem, that is amonges us: and that was of the Bernakes. For I tolde hem, that in oure contree weren trees, that baren a fruyt, that becomen briddes fleeynge: and tho that fellen in the water, lyven; and thei that fallen on the erthe, dyen anon: and thei ben right gode to mannes mete. And here-of had[de] thei als gret merveylle, that summe of hem trowed, it were an impossible thing to be.

In that contree ben longe apples, of gode savour; where-of

ben mo than an 100 in a clustre, and als manye in another : and thei han grete longe leues and large, of 2 fote long or more. And in that contree, and in other contrees there abouten, growen many trees, that beren clowe gylofres and notemuges, and grete notes of Ynde and of Canelle and of many other spices. And there ben vynes, that beren so grete grapes, that a strong man scholde have ynow to done, for to bere o clustre with alle the grapes. In that same regioun ben the mountaynes of Caspye, that men clepen Uber in the contree. Betwene the mountaynes, the Jewes of ten lynages ben enclosed, that men clepen Goth and Magoth : and thei mowe not gon out on no syde. There weren enclosed 22 kynges with hire peple, that duelleden betwene the mountaynes of Sythye. There Kyng Alisandre chacede hem betwene tho mountaynes ; and there he thoughte for to enclose hem thorgh werk of his men. But whan he saugh, that he myghte not don it, ne brynge it to an ende, he preyed[e] to God of Nature, that he wolde parfome that that he hadd[e] begonne. And alle were it so, that he was a payneme and not worthi to ben herd, 3it God of his grace closed[e] the mountaynes to gydre : so that thei dwellen there, alle faste y-lokked and enclosed with high[e] mountaynes alle aboute, saf only on o syde ; and on that syde, is the sea of Caspye. Now may sum men asken, sith that the see is on that o syde, wherfore go thei not out on the see syde, for to go where that hem lyketh ? But to this questioun, I schal answere, that see of Caspye goth out be londe, undre the mountaynes, and renneth be the desert at o syde of the contree ; and afre it streccheth unto the endes of Persie. And alle though it be clept a see, it is no see, ne it toucheth to non other see : but it is a lake, the grettest of the world. And though thei wolden putten hem in to that see, thei ne wysten never, where that thei scholde aryven. And also thei conen no



langage, but only hire owne, and no man knoweth but  
 thei: and therefore mowe thei not gon out. And also see  
 schulle undirstonde, that the Jewes han no propre lond of  
 hire owne for to dwellen inne, in alle the world, but only  
 that lond betwene the mountaynes. And 3it thei 3elden  
 tribute for that lond to the Queen of Amazoine, the whiche  
 that maketh hem to ben kept in cloos fulle diligently, that  
 thei schalle not gon out on no syde, but be the cost of hire  
 lond. For hire lond marcheth to the mountaynes. And  
 often it hath befallen, that summe of the Jewes han gon  
 up the mountaynes, and aualed down to the valeyes: but  
 gret nombre of folk ne may not do so. For the mountaynes  
 ben so hie and so streght up, that thei moste abyde there,  
 maugree hire myght. For thei mowe not gon out, but  
 be a littille issue, that was made be strengthe of men; and  
 it lasteth wel a 4 grete myle. And afre, is there 3it a  
 lond alle desert, where men may fynde no watre, ne for  
 dyggynge, ne for non other thing. Wherefore men may  
 not dwellen in that place: so is it fulle of dragounes, of  
 serpentis and of other venymous bestes, that no man dar  
 not passe, but 3if it be be strong wyntre. And that streyt[e]  
 passage, men clepen in that contree, Clyron. And that  
 is the passage, that the queen of Amazoine maketh to ben  
 kept. And thogh it happene, sum of hem, be fortune,  
 to gone out; thei conen no maner of langage but Ebrew;  
 so that thei can not speke to the peple. And 3it natheles,  
 men seyn thei schulle gon out in the tyme of Antecrist,  
 and that thei schulle maken gret slaughtre of Cristene men.

And therefore alle the Jewes, that dwellen in alle londes,  
 lernen alle weys to speken Ebrew, in hope that whanne  
 the other Jewes schulle gon out, that thei may understonden  
 hire speche, and to leden hem in to Cristendom, for to  
 destroye the cristene peple. For the Jewes seyn, that they  
 knowen wel, be hire prophecyes, that thei of Caspye schulle

gon out and spreden thorgh out alle the world; and that the Cristene men schulle ben undre hire subieccioun, als longe as thei han ben in subieccioun of hem. And 3if that 3ee wil wyte, how that thei schulle fynden hire weye, afre that I have herd seye, I schalle telle 3ou. In the time of Antecrist, a fox schalle make there his trayne, and mynen an hole, where kyng Alisandre leet make the 3ates: and so longe he schalle mynen and perce the erthe, til that he schalle passe thorgh, towards that folk. And whan thei seen the fox, thei schulle have gret merveylle of him, be cause þat thei saugh[e] never suche a best. For of alle othere bestes, thei han enclosed amonges hem, saf only the fox. And thanne thei schulen chacen him and pursuen him so streyte, tille that he come to the same place, that he cam fro. And thanne thei schullen dyggen and mynen so strongly, tille that thei fynden the 3ates, that Kyng Alisandre leet make of grete stones and passyngge huge, wel symented and made stronge for the maystrie. And tho 3ates they schulle breken, and so gon out, be fyndyng of that issue. Fro that londe, men gon toward the lond of Bacharie, where ben fulle yvele folk and fulle cruelle. In that lond ben trees, that beren wolle, as thogh it were of scheep; where of men maken clothes, and alle thing that may ben made of wolle. In that contree ben many Ipotaynes, that dwellen somtyme in the watre, and somtyme on the lond: and thei ben half man and half hors, as I have seyde before: and thei eten men, whan thei may take hem. And there ben ryveres of watres, that ben fulle byttere, three sithes more than is the watre of the see.

In that contree ben many griffounes, more plentee than in any other contree. Sum men seyn, that thei han the body upward as an egle, and benethe as a lyoun: and treuly thei seyn soth, that thei ben of that schapp. But o griffoun hath the body more gret and is more strong

thanne 8 lyouns, of suche lyouns as ben o this half; and more gret and strongere, than an 100 egles, suche as we han amonges us. For o griffoun there wil bere, fleynge to his nest, a gret hors, 3if he may fynde him at the poynt<sup>1</sup>, or 2 oxen 3oked to gidere, as thei gon at the plowgh. For he hathe his talouns so longe and so large and grete upon his fete, as though thei weren hornes of grete oxen or of bugles or of ky3n; so that men maken cuppes of hem, to drynken of: and of hire ribbes and of the pennes of hire wenges, men maken bowes fulle stronge, to schote with arwes and quarelle.

<sup>1</sup> Omitted in the printed editions.

## XIX.

### ALLITERATIVE POEMS.

ABOUT A.D. 1360.

Author unknown—Dialect *West-Midland* (Lancashire).

The following extracts are from *Early English Alliterative Poems*, edited for the Early English Text Society by R. Morris, London 1864.

#### *The Deluge.*

Bot þat oþer wrake þat wex on wyȝeȝ, hit lyȝt  
Þurȝ þe faut of a freke þat fayled in trawþe.  
Adam in obedyent<sup>1</sup> ordaynt to blysse,  
Þer pryuely *in* paradys his place watȝ devised,  
To lyue þer *in* lykyng þe lenþe of a terme, 5  
& theȝne enherite þat home þat aungeleȝ for-gart,  
Bot þurȝ þe eggyng of Eue he ete of an apple.  
Þat en-poysened alle pepleȝ þat parted fro hem boþe,  
For a defence þat watȝ dyȝt of dryȝtyn seluen,  
& a payne þer-on put & pertly halden ; 10  
Þe defence watȝ þe fryt þat þe freke towched,  
& þe dom is þe deþe þat drepeȝ *vus* alle.  
Al in mesure & meþe was made þe vengiaunce,  
& efte amended *with* a mayden þat make had neuer.  
Bot in þe þryd watȝ for-þrast al þat þryue schuld, 15

<sup>1</sup> *obedyence* ?

Per watz malys mercyles & mawgre much scheued,  
 Dat watz for fylþe vpon folde þat þe folk vsed,  
 Dat þen wonyed<sup>1</sup> in þe worlde *wit*-outen any maysterz ;  
 Hit wern þe fayrest of forme & of face als,  
 Þe most & þe myriest þat maked wern euer, 20  
 Þe stytest<sup>2</sup>, þe stalworþest þat stod euer on fete ;  
 & lengest lyf *in* hem lent of ledeþ alle *oper*,  
 For hit was þe forme-foster þat þe folde bred,  
 Þe apel auncetereþ *suneþ* þat Adam watz callèd,  
 To wham god hade geuen alle þat gayn were, 25  
 Alle þe blysse bout blame þat bodi myzt haue,  
 & þose lykkest to þe lede þat lyued next after,  
 Forþy so semly to see syþen wern none.  
 Per watz no law to hem layd bot loke to kynde,  
 & kepe to hit, & alle hit cors clanly ful-fylle ; 30  
 & þenne founden þay fylþe *in* fleshlych dedeþ  
 & controeued agayn kynde contraré werkeþ,  
 & vsed hem vn-þryftyly vchon on *oper*,  
 & als with *oper*, wylsfully, vpon a wrange wyse.  
 So ferly fowled her flesh þat þe fende loked, 35  
 How þe deþter of þe douþe wern derelych fayre,  
 & fallen *in* felazschyp *wit* hem on folken wyse  
 & en-gendered on hem Ieaunteþ *wit* her Iapeþ ille.  
 Þose wern men meþeleþ & mazty on vrþe,  
 Dat for her lodlych laykeþ alosed þay were. 40  
 He watz famed for fre þat fezt loued best,  
 & ay þe bigest *in* bale þe best watz halden ;  
 & þenne eueleþ on erþe earnestly grewen  
 & multiplyed mony-fold *in* mongeþ mankynde,  
 For þat þe mazty on molde so marre þise *oper*, 45  
 Dat þe wyþe þat al wrozt ful wroþly bygynneþ.  
 When he knew vche cõtre corrupte *in* hit seluen,  
 & vch freke forloyned fro þe ryzt wayeþ,

<sup>1</sup> It looks like *worþed* in the MS.

<sup>2</sup> *styfest* or *stybest* ?

Felle temptande tene towched his hert ;  
 As wyze, wo hym withinne, werp to hym seluen : 50  
 " Me forþynkeꝝ ful much þat euer I mon made,  
 Bot I schal delyuer & do away þat doten on þis molde,  
 & fleme out of þe folde al þat flesh wereꝝ,  
 Fro þe burne to þe best, fro bryddeꝝ to fyscheꝝ ;  
 Al schal doun & be ded & dryuen out of erþe, 55  
 Þat euer I sette saule inne ; & sore hit me rweꝝ  
 Þat euer I made hem myself ; bot if I may her-after,  
 I schal wayte to be-war her wrencheꝝ to kepe."  
 Þenne in worlde watꝝ a wyze wonyande on lyue,  
 Ful redy & ful ryztwys, & rewled hym fayre ; 60  
 In þe drede of dryztyn his dayeꝝ he vseꝝ,  
 & ay glydande wyth his god his grace watꝝ þe more.  
 Hym watꝝ þe nome Noe, as is in-noghe knawen,  
 He had þre þryuen suneꝝ & þay þre wyueꝝ ;  
 Sem soþly þat on, þat oþer hyzt Cam 65  
 & the Iolef Iapheth watꝝ gendered þe þryd.  
 Now god in nwy to Noe con speke,  
 Wylde wrakful wordeꝝ in his wylle greued :  
 " Þe ende of alle-kyneꝝ flesh þat on vrthe meueꝝ,  
 Is fallen forþ wyth my face & forþer hit I þenk ; 70  
 With her vn-worþelych werk me wlateꝝ with-inne,  
 Þe gore þer-of me hatꝝ greued & þe glette nwyed ;  
 I schal strenkle my distresse & strye al togeder,  
 Boþe ledeꝝ & londe & alle þat lyf habbeꝝ.  
 Bot make to þe a mancioun & þat is my wylle, 75  
 A cofer closed of tres, clanlych planed ;  
 Wyrk woneꝝ þerinne for wylde & for tame,  
 & þenne cleme hit with clay comly with-inne,  
 & alle þe endentur dryuen daube with-ouen.  
 And þus of lenþe & of large þat lome þou make, 80  
 Þre hundred of cupydeꝝ þou holde to þe lenþe,  
 Of fyfty fayre ouer-þwert forme þe brede ;

& loke euen þat þyn ark haue of heȝþe þretté,  
 & a wyndow wyd vpon, wroȝt vpon lofte,  
 In þe compas of a cubit kyndely sware, 85  
 A wel dutande dor, don on þe side ;  
 Haf hallez þerinne & halkez ful mony,  
 Boþe boskez & bourez & wel bounden penez ;  
 For I schal waken vp a water to wasch alle þe worlde,  
 & quelle alle þat þat<sup>1</sup> is quik with quauende flodeȝ. 90  
 Alle þat glydeȝ & gotȝ, & gost of lyf habbez,  
 I schal wast with my wrath þat wons vpon vrþe ;  
 Bot my forwarde with þe I festen on þis wyse,  
 For þou in reysoun hatȝ rengned & ryȝtwys ben euer ;  
 Þou schal enter þis ark with þyn ap̄el barnez 95  
 & þy wedded wyf ; with þe þou take  
 Þe makeȝ of þy myry suneȝ ; þis meyny of aȝte  
 I schal saue of moȝnez sauleȝ, & swelt þose oþer.  
 Of vche best þat bereȝ lyf busk þe a cupple,  
 Of vche clene comly kynde enclose seuen makeȝ, 100  
 Of vche horwed, in ark halde bot a payre,  
 For to saue me þe sede of alle ser kyndeȝ ;  
 & ay þou meng with þe maleȝ þe mete ho-besteȝ,  
 Vche payre by payre to plese ayþer oþer ;  
 With alle þe fode þat may be founde frette þy cofer, 105  
 For sustnaunce to yow-self & also þose oþer.”  
 Ful grayþely gotȝ þis god man & dos godeȝ hestes,  
 In dryȝ dred & daunger, þat durst do non oþer.  
 When hit watȝ fettled & forged & to þe fulle grayþed,  
 Þenne con dryȝttyn hym dele dryȝly þyse wordeȝ : 110  
 “ Now Noe,” quoth oure lorde, “ art þou al redy ?  
 Hatȝ þou closed þy kyst with clay alle aboute ?”  
 “ ȝe lorde with þy leue,” sayde þe lede þenne,  
 “ Al is wroȝt at þi worde, as þou me wyt lanceȝ.”  
 “ Enter in þenne,” quoth he, “ & haf þi wyf with þe, 115

<sup>1</sup> So in MS.

Þy þre sunez *wit*-outen þrep & her þre wyuez ;  
 Beste3, as I bedene haue, bosk þer-*inne* als,  
 & when 3e arn staued, styfly stekez yow þer-*inne* ;  
 Fro seuen dayez ben <sup>1</sup> seyed I sende out bylyue,  
 Such a rowtande ryge þat rayne schal swyþe, 120  
 Þat schal wasche alle þe worlde of werkez of fylþe ;  
 Schal no flesch vpon folde by fonden on lyue ;  
 Out-taken yow a3t in þis ark staued,  
 & sed þat I wyl saue of þyse ser beste3."

Now Noe neuer styste3<sup>2</sup> (þat niy3[t] he bygymnez), 125  
 Er al wer stawed & stoken, as þe steuen wolde.  
 The3me sone com þe seuenþe day, when samned wern alle,  
 & alle woned *in* þe whichche þe wylde & þe tame.  
 Þen bolned þe abyme & bonkez con ryse,  
 Waltes out vch walle-heued, *in* ful wode streme3, 130  
 Wat3 no brymme þat abod vnbrosten bylyue,  
 Þe mukel lauande loghe to þe lyfte rered.  
 Mony clustered clowde clef alle *in* clowtez,  
 To-rent vch a rayn-ryfte & rusched to þe vrþe ;  
 Fon neuer *in* forty dayez, & þen þe flod ryses, 135  
 Ouer-waltes vche a wod and þe wyde feldez ;  
 For when þe water of þe-welkyn *wit* þe worlde mette,  
 Alle þat deth mo3t dryze drowned þer-*inne* ;  
 Þer wat3 moon for to make when meschef was cnowen,  
 Þat no3t dowed bot the deth *in* þe depe streme3. 140  
 Water wylger ay wax, wone3 þat stryede,  
 Hurlled *in*-to vch hous, hent þat þer dowelled.  
 Fyrst feng to þe fly3t alle þat fle my3t,  
 Vuचे burde *wit* her barne þe byggyng þay leuez,  
 & bowed to þe hy3 bonk þer brentest hit wern, 145  
 & heterly to þe hyze hyllez þay [h]aled on faste ;  
 Bot al wat3 nedlez her note, for neuer cowþe stynt  
 Þe ro3e raynande ryg [&] þe raykande wawe3,

<sup>1</sup> MS. reads *len*.<sup>2</sup> *styntez* ?



Er vch boþom wat3 brurd-ful to þe bonke3 egge3,  
 & vche a dale so depe þat demmed at þe brynke3. 150  
 Þe moste mounstayne3 on mor þenne wat3 no more dry3e.  
 And þer-on flokked þe folke, for ferde of þe wrake.  
 Syþen þe wylde of þe wode on þe water flette ;  
 Summe swymmed þer-on þat saue hemself trawed,  
 Summe sty3e to a stud & stared to þe heuen, 155  
 Rwly wyth a loud rurd rored for drede.  
 Hare3, hertte3 also, to þe hy3e runnen,  
 Bukke3, bausene3 & bule3 to þe bonkke3 hy3ed,  
 & alled cryed for care to þe kyng of heuen,  
 Re-couerer of þe creator þay cryed vchone, 160  
 Þat amounted þe masse, þe mase his mercy wat3 passed,  
 & alle his pyté departed fro peple þat he hated.  
 Bi þat þe flod to her fete flo3ed & waxed,  
 Þen vche a segge se3 wel þat synk hym byhoued ;  
 Frende3 fellen *in* fere faþmed to-geder 165  
 To dry3 her delful deystyné & dy3en alle samen ;  
 Luf loke3 to luf & his leue take3,  
 For to ende alle at one3 & for euer twynne.  
 By forty daye3 wern faren, on folde no flesch styryed,  
 Þat þe flod nade al freten *with* fe3tande waze3<sup>1</sup>, 170  
 For hit clam vche a clyffe cubites fyftene,  
 Ouer þe hy3est hylle þat hurkled on erþe.  
 Þenne mourkne *in* þe mudde most ful nede  
 Alle þat spyrakle *in-spranc*<sup>2</sup>, no sprawlyng awayled,  
 Saue þe hapel vnder hach & his here straunge, 175  
 Noe þat ofte neuened þe name of oure lorde,  
 Hym a3t-sum *in* þat ark as apel god lyked,  
 Þer alle lede3 *in* lome lenged druye.  
 Þe arc houen wat3 on hy3e *with* hurlande gote3,  
 Kest to kyþe3 vncoupe þe clowde3 ful nere. 180  
 Hit waltered on þe wylde flod, went as hit lyste,

<sup>1</sup> *wawe3* ?<sup>2</sup> *in-sprang* ?

Drof vpon þe depe dam, in daunger hit semed,  
 With-outen mast, oþer myke, oþer myry bawe-lyne,  
 Kable, oþer capstan to clyppe to her ankrez,  
 Hurrok, oþer hande-helme hasped on roþer, 185  
 Oþer any sweande sayl to seche after hauen,  
 Bot flote forthe with þe flyt of þe felle wynde; ;  
 Wheder-warde so þe water wafte, hit rebounde.  
 Ofte hit roled on-rounde & rered on ende,  
 Nyf oure lorde hade ben her lode;3-mon hem had lumpen  
 harde. 190

Of þe lenþe of Noe lyf to lay a lel date,  
 Þe sex hundreth of his age & none odde 3ere;3,  
 Of secounde monyth, þe seuenþe day ryzte;3,  
 To-walten alle thyse welle-hede;3 & þe water flowed,  
 & þrye;3 fyfty þe flod of folwande daye;3, 195  
 Vche hille wat;3 þer hidde with yþe;3<sup>1</sup> ful graye ;  
 Al wat;3 wasted þat þer wonyed þe worlde withinne,  
 Þer euer flote, oþer flwe, oþer on fote zede,  
 Þat rozly<sup>2</sup> wat;3 þe remnauzt þat þe rac dryue;3,  
 Þat alle gendre;3 so ioyst wern ioyned wyth-inne. 200  
 Bot quen þe lorde of þe lyfte lyked hymseluen  
 For to mynne on his mon his meth þat abyde;3,  
 Þen he wakened a wynde on wattere;3 to blowe ;  
 Þenne lasned þe llak<sup>3</sup> þat large wat;3 are,  
 Þen he stac vp þe stange;3, stoped þe welle;3, 205  
 Bed blynnne of þe rayn, hit batede as fast,  
 Þenne lasned þe lo;3 lowkande togeder.  
 After harde daye;3 wern out an hundreth & fyfté,  
 As þat lyftande lome lused aboute,  
 Where þe wynde & þe weder warpen hit wolde ; 210  
 Hit sazyled on a softe day synkande to grounde,  
 On a rasse of a rok, hit rest at þe laste,  
 On þe mounte of Mararach of Armene hilles,

<sup>1</sup> MS. *yre;3*.<sup>2</sup> *ruly* ?<sup>3</sup> So in MS. .

Dat *oper*-wayez on ebrv hit hat þe thanes.  
 Bot þaz þe kyste in the cragez wern closed to byde, 215  
 3et fyned not þe flod ne fel to the boþemez,  
 Bot þe hyzest of þe eggez vnhuled wern a lyttel,  
 Ðat þe burne bynne lorde byhelde þe bare erþe ;  
 Þenne wafte he vpon his wyndowe, & wysed þeroute  
 A message fro þat meyny hem moldez to seche, 220  
 Ðat watz þe rauen so ronk þat rebel watz euer ;  
 He watz colored as þe cole, corbyal vntrwe.  
 Þen<sup>1</sup> he fongez to þe flyzt, & farnes on þe wyndeþ,  
 Houez hyze vpon hyzt to herken tyþynges.  
 He croukeþ for comfort when carayne he fyndeþ ; 225  
 Kest vpon a clyffe þer costese lay drye,  
 He hade þe smelle of þe smach & smoltes þeder sone,  
 Fallez on þe foule flesch & fyllez his wombe,  
 & sone 3ederly for-3ete 3isterday steuen,  
 How þe cheuetayn hym charged þat þe kyst 3emed. 230  
 Þe rauen raykeþ hym forþ þat reches ful lyttel  
 How alle fodeþ þer fare, elleþ he fynde mete ;  
 Bot þe burne bynne lorde þat bod to his come,  
 Banned hym ful bytterly *witþ* bestes alle samen,  
 He secheþ an *oper* sondez-mon & setteþ on þe doune<sup>2</sup> ; 235  
 “ Bryngeþ þat bryzt vpon borde blessed & sayde<sup>3</sup>.”  
 “ Wende worþelych wyzt *vus* woneþ to seche,  
 Dryf ouer þis *dymme* water; if þou druye fyndeþ,  
 Bryng bodworde to bot, blysse to *vus* alle ;  
 Ðaz þat fowle be false, fre be þou euer.” 240  
 Ho wyrle out on þe weder on wynges ful scharpe,  
 Dreþly alle alonge day þat dorst neuer lyzt ;  
 & when ho fyndeþ no folde her fote on to pyche,  
 Ho vmbe-kesteþ þe coste & þe kyst secheþ,  
 Ho hitteþ on þe euentyde & on þe ark sitteþ ; 245  
 Noe nymmez hir anon & naytly hir stauetz.

<sup>1</sup> MS. illegible.<sup>2</sup> for *douene*.<sup>3</sup> *sadde* ?

Noe on anoþer day nymmeȝ efte þe dovene,  
 & byddeȝ hir bowe ouer þe borne efte bonkeȝ to seche;  
 & ho skyrmeȝ vnder skwe & skowteȝ aboute,  
 Tyl hit watȝ nyȝe at þe naȝt & Noe þen secheȝ. 250  
 On ark on an euentyde houeȝ þe dowue,  
 On stamyn ho stod & stille hym abydeȝ;  
 What! ho broȝt in hir beke a bronch of olyue,  
 Gracyously vmbe-grouen al with grene leueȝ;  
 Þat watȝ þe syngne of sauýté þat sende hem oure lorde, 255  
 & þe saȝtlyng of hymself with þo sely besteȝ.  
 Þen watȝ þer ioy in þat gyn where Iumped er dryȝed,  
 & much comfort in þat cofer þat watȝ clay daubed.  
 Myryly on a fayr morn, monyth þe fyrst,  
 Þat falleȝ formast in þe ȝer, & þe fyrst day, 260  
 Ledetȝ loȝen in þat lome & loked þer-oute,  
 How þat wattereȝ wern woned & þe worlde dried.  
 Vchon loued oure lorde, bot lenged ay stille,  
 Tyl þay had tyþyng fro þe tolke þat tyned hem þer-inne;  
 Þen godeȝ glam to hem glod þat gladed hem alle, 265  
 Bede hem drawe to þe dor, delyuer hem he wolde;  
 Þen went þay to þe wykket, hit walt vpon sone,  
 Boþe þe burne & his barneȝ bowed þer-oute;  
 Her wyueȝ walkeȝ hem wyth & þe wylde after,  
 Þroly þrublande in þronge, þrowen ful þykke. 270  
 Bot Noe of vche honest kynde nem out an odde  
 & heuened vp an auter & halȝed hit fayre,  
 & sette a sakerfyse þer-on of vch a ser kynde,  
 Þat watȝ comly & clene, god kepeȝ non oþer.  
 When bremly brended þose besteȝ, & þe breþe rysed, 275  
 Þe savour of his sacrafyse soȝt to hym euen  
 Þat al spedetȝ & spylleȝ; he spekes with þat ilke  
 In comly comfort ful clos & cortays wordeȝ:  
 " Now Noe no more nel I neuer wary,  
 Alle þe mukel mayny [on] molde, for no manneȝ synneȝ, 280

For I se wel þat hit is sothe, þat alle manneȝ wytteȝ  
 To vnþryfte arn alle þrawen with þoȝt of her hertteȝ,  
 & ay hatȝ ben & wyl be ȝet fro her barnage ;  
 Al is þe mynde of þe man to malyce enclyned,  
 For-þy schal I neuere schende so schortly at ones, 285  
 As dysstrye al for maneȝ synne [in] dayeȝ of þis erþe.  
 Bot waxeȝ now & wendeȝ forth & worþeȝ to monye,  
 Multyplyeȝ on þis molde & menske yow bytyde.  
 Se-souneȝ schal yow neuere sese of sede ne of heruest,  
 Ne hete, ne no harde forst, vmbre ne droȝþe, 290  
 Ne þe swetnesse of somer, ne þe sadde wynter,  
 Ne þe nyȝt, ne þe day, ne þe newe ȝereȝ,  
 Bot euere renne restleȝ rengneȝȝe þer-inne."  
 Þerwyth he blesseȝ vch a best, & bytaȝt hem þis erþe.  
 Þen watȝ a skylly skyualde, quen scaped alle þe wylde ; 295  
 Vche fowle to þe flyȝt þat fyþereȝ myȝt serue,  
 Vche fysch to þe flod þat fynne coupe nayte,  
 Vche beste to þe bent þat þat<sup>1</sup> bytes on erbeȝ ;  
 Wylde wormeȝ to her won wryþeȝ in þe erþe  
 Þe fox & þe folmarde to þe fryth wyndeȝ, 300  
 Herttes to hyȝe heþe, hareȝ to gorsteȝ,  
 & lyouneȝ & lebardeȝ to þe lake-ryfteȝ,  
 Herneȝ & hauekeȝ to þe hyȝe rocheȝ ;  
 Þe hole foted fowle to þe flod hyȝeȝ,  
 & vche best at a brayde þer hym best lykeȝ ; 305  
 Þe fowre frekeȝ of þe folde fongeȝ þe empyre.  
 Lo ! suche a wrakful wo for wlatsum dedeȝ  
 Parformed þe hyȝe fader on folke þat he made ;  
 Þat he chysly hade cherished he chastysed ful harde<sup>2</sup>,  
 In de-voydyngȝe þe vylanye þat venkquyst his þeweȝ. 310

<sup>1</sup> So in MS.<sup>2</sup> MS. *bardee*.

*Destruction of Sodom.*

[Lines 946—972.]

Þe grete god *in* his greme bygmyne; on-lofte;  
 To wakan wedere; so wylde þe wynde; he calle;  
 & þay wroþely vp-wafte & wrastled togeder,  
 Fro fawre half of þe folde, flytande loude. 315  
 Clowdde; clustered bytwene kesten vp torres,  
 Þat þe þik þunder-prast þirled hem ofte.  
 Þe rayn rueled adoun, ridlande þikke,  
 Of felle flaukes of fyr & flakes of soufre,  
 Al in smolderande smoke smachande ful ille, 320  
 Swe<sup>1</sup> aboute Sodamas & hit syde; alle,  
 Gorde to Gomorra þat þe grounde laused;  
 Abdama and Syboym, þise ceteis alle faure,  
 Al bi-rolled wyth þe rayn, rostted & brenned,  
 & ferly flayed þat folk þat *in* þose fees lenged; 325  
 For when þat þe helle herde þe hounde; of heuen  
 He wat; ferlyly fayn, vnfolded bylyue.  
 Þe grete barre; of þe abyme he barst vp at one;,  
 Þat alle þe regioun to-rof *in* riftes ful grete,  
 & clouen alle *in* lyttel cloutes þe clyffe; aywhere, 330  
 As lance leue; of þe boke þat lepes *in* twymne.  
 Þe brethe of þe brynston bi þat hit blende were,  
 Al þo citees & her sydes sunkken to helle.  
 Rydelles wern þo grete rowtes of renkkes *withinne*,  
 When þay wern war of þe wrake þat no wy;e achaped, 335  
 Such a zomerly zarm of zelyng þer rysed;  
 Þer-of clatered þe cloudes þat kryst my;t haf rawþe.

[Lines 1009—1051.]

Suche a roþun of a reche ros fro þe blake [pit],  
 Aske; vpe *in* þe ayre & vselle; þer flouen,

<sup>1</sup> *sweyed* ?

As a fornes ful of flot þat vpon fyr boyles, 340  
 When bryzt bre<sup>n</sup>nande brondez ar bet þer an-vnder.  
 Dis watz a vengau<sup>n</sup>ce violent þat voyded þise places,  
 Þat foundered hatz so fayr a folk & þe folde sonkken.  
 Per faure citees wern set, nov is a see called,  
 Þat ay is drouy & dym, & ded in hit kynde, 345  
 Blo, blubrande, & blak, vnblyþe to neze,  
 As a stynkande stanc þat stryed synne,  
 Þat euer of synne & of smach, smart is to fele;  
 Forþy þe derk dede see hit is demed euer more,  
 For hit dedez of deþe duren þere zet. 350  
 For hit is brod & boþemlez, & bitter as þe galle,  
 & nozt may lenge in þat lake þat any lyf berez,  
 & alle þe costez of kynde hit combrez vchone;  
 For lay þer-on a lump of led & hit on loft fletez,  
 & folde þer-on a lyzt fyþer & hit to founs synkkez. 355  
 & þer [þat] water may walter to wete any erþe,  
 Schal neuer greue<sup>1</sup> þer-on growe, gresse ne wod nawþer.  
 If any schalke to be schent wer schowued þer-inne,  
 Þaz he bode in þat boþem broþely a monyth,  
 He most ay lyue in þat loze in losyng euer-more, 360  
 & neuer dryze no dethe, to dayes of ende,  
 And, as hit is corsed of kynde & hit coostez als,  
 Þe clay þat clenges þer-by arn corsyes strong,  
 As alum & alkaran<sup>2</sup>, that angr<sup>3</sup> arn boþe,  
 Soufre sour, & saundyuer, & oþer such mony; 365  
 & þer waltez of þat water in waxlokes grete,  
 Þe spuniande<sup>4</sup> aspaltoun þat spyserez sellen;  
 & suche is alle þe soyle by þat se halues,  
 Þat fel fretes þe flesch & festred<sup>5</sup> bones.  
 & þer ar tres by þat terne of traytours; 370  
 & þay borgounez & beres blomez ful fayre,

<sup>1</sup> grene ?<sup>2</sup> alkatran ?<sup>4</sup> spinnande ?<sup>3</sup> augre = aigre ?<sup>5</sup> festres ?

& þe fayrest fryt þat may on folde growe,  
 As orange & oþer fryt & apple garnade;  
 Also red & so ripe & rychely hwed,  
 As any dom myȝt device of dayntyeyȝ oute; 375  
 Bot quen hit is brused, oþer broken, oþer byten in twynne,  
 No worldeȝ goud hit wyth-inne, bot wydowande<sup>1</sup> askes;  
 Alle þyse ar teches & tokenes to trow vpon ȝet,  
 & wittnesse of þat wykked werk & þe wrake after,  
 Þat oure fader forferde for fylþe of þose ledes. 380

<sup>1</sup> The MS. seems to read wyndowande.



## XX.

### SIR GAWAYNE AND THE GREEN KNIGHT.

From the same MS., and in the same dialect, as the *Alliterative Poems*.

#### [FYTTE THE FIRST.]

##### I.

SIÞEN þe sege & þe assaut wat; sesed at Troye,  
 Þe bor; brittened & brent to brondez & askez,  
 Þe tulk þat þe trammes of tresoun þer wrozt,  
 Wat; tried for his tricherie, þe trewest on erthe,  
 Hit wat; Ennias þe athel, & his highe kynde, 5  
 Þat siþen depreced prouinces, & patrounes bicom  
 Welneze of al þe wele in þe west iles,  
 Fro riche Romulus to Rome ricchis hym swyþe,  
 With gret bobbaunce þat burze he biges vpon fyrst,  
 & neuenes hit his aune nome, as hit now hat; 10  
 Ticius to Tuskan [turnes], & teldes bigymes;  
 Langaberde in Lumbardie lyftes vp homes;  
 & fer ouer þe French flod Felix Brutus  
 On mony bonkkes ful brode Bretayn he sette;,  
 wyth wyne; 15  
 Where werre, & wrake, & wonder,  
 Bi syþez hat; wont þer-inne,  
 & oft boþe blysse & blunder  
 Ful skete hat; skyfted syme.

##### II.

Ande quen þis Bretayn wat; bigged bi þis burn rych, 20  
 Bolde bredden þer-inne, baret þat lofden,

In mony turned tyme tene þat wroȝten;  
 Mo ferlyes on þis folde han fallen here oft  
 Þen in any oþer þat I wot, syn þat ilk tyme.  
 Bot of alle þat here bult of Bretaygne kynges 25  
 Ay watȝ Arthur þe hendest, as I haf herde telle;  
 For-þi an aunter in erde I attle schawe,  
 Þat a selly in siȝt summe men hit holden,  
 & an outrage awenture of Arthureȝ wondereȝ;  
 If ȝe wyl lysten þis laye bot on littel quile, 30  
 I schal telle hit, as-tit, as I in toun herde,  
                                   with tonge;  
     As hit is stad & stoken,  
     In stori stif & stronge,  
     With lel letteres loken, 35  
     In londe so hatȝ ben longe.

## III.

Þis kyng lay at Camylot vpon kryst-masse,  
 With mony luflych lorde[s], ledeȝ of þe best,  
 Rekenly of þe rounde table alle þo rich breþer,  
 With ryche reuel oryȝt, & rechles merþes; 40  
 Þer tournayed tulkes`bi-tymeȝ ful mony,  
 Iusted ful Iolilé þise gentyle kniȝtes,  
 Syþen kayred to þe court caroles to make.  
 For þer þe fest watȝ ilyche ful fiften dayes,  
 With alle þe mete & þe mirþe þat men coupe a-vyse; 45  
 Such glaumande gle glorious to here,  
 Dere dyn vp-on day, daunsyng on nyȝtes,  
 Al watȝ hap vpon heȝe in halleȝ & chambreeȝ,  
 With lordeȝ & ladies, as leuest hem þoȝt;  
 With all þe wele of þe worlde þay woned þer samen, 50  
 Þe most kyd knyȝteȝ vnder krystes seluen,  
 & þe louelokkest ladies þat euer lif haden,  
 & he þe comlokest kyng þat þe court haldes;



## V.

Bot Arthure wolde not ete til al were serued, 85  
 He wat3 so Ioly of his Ioyfnes, & sum-quat child gered,  
 His lif liked hym lyzt, he louied þe lasse  
 Auper to lenge lye, or to longe sitte,  
 So bisied him his zonge blod & his brayn wylde;  
 & also anoþer maner meued him eke, 90  
 Þat he þur3 nobelay had nomen, he wolde neuer ete  
 Vpon such a dere day, er hym deuised were  
 Of sum auenturus þyng an vncoupe tale,  
 Of sum mayn meruayle, þat he myzt trawe,  
 Of<sup>1</sup> alderes, of armes, of oþer auenturus, 95  
 Oþer sum segg hym bi-sozt of sum siker knyzt,  
 To Ioyne wyth hym in iustyng in Iopardé to lay,  
 Lede lif for lyf, leue vchon oþer,  
 As fortune wolde fulsun hom þe fayre to haue.  
 Þis wat3 [þe] kynges countenaunce where he in court  
 were, 100  
 At vch farand fest among his fre meny,  
 in halle;  
 Þer-fore of face so fere,  
 He stiztle3 stif in stalle,  
 Ful 3ep in þat nw-3ere, 105  
 Muche mirthe he mas with alle.

## VI.

Thus þer stondes in stale þe stif kyng his-seluen,  
 Talkkande bifore þe hy3e table of trifles ful hende;  
 There gode Gawan wat3 grayped, Gwenore bisyde,  
 & Agraauayn a la dure mayn on þat oþer syde sittes, 110  
 Boþe þe kynges sister sunes, & ful siker kniztes;  
 Bischoþ Bawdewyn abof bi-ginez þe table,

<sup>1</sup> Of of in MS.

& Ywan, Vryn son, ette wit hymselfen ;  
 Dise were diȝt on þe des, & derworply serued,  
 & siben mony siker segge at þe sidbordeȝ. 1  
 Þen þe first cors come with crakkyng of trumpes,  
 Wyth mony baner ful bryȝt, þat þer-bi hinged,  
 Nwe nakryn noyse *witȝ* þe noble pipes,  
 Wylde werbles & wyȝt wakned lote,  
 Þat mony hert ful hiȝe hef at her towches; 11  
 Dayntes dryuen þer-wyth of ful dere metes,  
 Foyssoun of þe fresche, & on so fele disches,  
 Þat pine [were] to fynde þe place þe peple bi-forne  
 For to sette þe syluener<sup>1</sup>, þat sere sewes halden,  
 on clothe; 12  
 Iche lede as he loued hym-selfen  
 Þer laght *witȝ*-outen loȝe;  
 Ay two had disches twelue,  
 Good her. & brvȝt wvn hobe.

## VII.

Now wyl I of hor seruise say yow no more, 130  
 For vch wyȝe may wel wite no wont þat þer were;  
 An *oper* noyse ful newe neȝed biliue,  
 Þat þe lude myȝt haf leue liflode to cach.  
 For vneȝe watȝ þe noyce not a whyle sesed,  
 & þe fyrst *cource* in þe court kyndely serued, 135  
 Þer hales in at þe halle dor an aghlich mayster,  
 On þe most on þe molde on mesure hyȝe;  
 Fro þe swyre to þe swange so sware & so pik,  
 & his lyndes & his lymes so longe & so grete,  
 Half etayn in erde I hope þat he were. 140  
 Bot mon most I algate mynn hym to bene,  
 & þat þe myriest in his muckel þat myȝt ride;  
 For of bak & of brest al were his bodi sturne,

<sup>1</sup> syluener (?)—dishes.



A grene hors gret & pikke, 175  
 A stede ful stif to strayne,  
 In brawdren brydel quik,  
 To þe gome he wat3 ful gayn.

## IX.

Wel gay wat3 þis gome gered in grene,  
 & þe here of þe<sup>1</sup> hed of his hors swete; 180  
 Fayre fannand fax vmbe-foldes his schulderes;  
 A much berd as<sup>2</sup> a busk ouer his brest henges,  
 Þat wyth his hizlich here, þat of his hed reches,  
 Wat3 enesed al vmbe-torne, a-bof his elbows,  
 Þat half his armes þer vnder were halched in þe wyse 185  
 Of a kynges capados, þat closes his swyre.  
 Þe mane of þat mayn hors much to hit lyke,  
 Wel cresped & cemmed wyth knottes ful mony,  
 Folden in wyth fildore aboute þe fayre grene,  
 Ay a herle of þe here, an oper of golde 190  
 Þe tayl & his toppyng twynnen of a sute,  
 & bouzden boþe wyth a bande of a bryzt grene,  
 Dubbed wyth ful dere stone3, as þe dok lasted,  
 Syþen þrawen wyth a þwong a þwarle knot alofte,  
 Þer mony belle3 ful bryzt of brende golde rungen. 195  
 Such a fole vpon folde, ne freke þat hym rydes,  
 Wat3 neuer sene in þat sale wyþ syzt, er þat tyme,  
 with y3e;  
 He loked as layt so lyzt,  
 So sayd al þat hym sy3e, 200  
 Hit semed as no mon myzt,  
 Vnder his dyntte3 dry3e.

## X.

Wheþer hade he no helme ne hawb[e]rgh nauþer,  
 Ne no pysan, ne no plate þat pented to armes,

<sup>1</sup> MS. reads *bis*.<sup>2</sup> as as in MS.

Ne no schafte, ne no schelde, to schwne ne to smyte, 205  
 Bot *in* his on honde he had a holyn bobbe,  
 Þat is grattest *in* grene, when greuez ar bare,  
 & an ax *in* his oper, a hoge & vn-mete,  
 A spetos sparpe to expoun *in* spelle quo-so myzt;  
 Þe hede of an elnzerde þe large lenkþe hade, 210  
 Þe grayn al of grene stele and of golde hewen,  
 Þe bit burnyst bryzt, *with* a brod egge,  
 As wel schapen to schere as scharp rasores;  
 Þe stele of a stif staf þe sturne hit bi-grypte,  
 Þat watz waunden wyth yrn to þe wandez ende, 215  
 & al bigrauen *with* grene, *in* *gracons*<sup>1</sup> werkes;  
 A lace lapped aboute, þat louked at þe hede,  
 & so after þe halme halched ful ofte,  
 Wyth tryed tasselez þerto tacched *in*-noghe,  
 On botounz of þe bryzt grene brayden ful ryche. 220  
 Þis haþel heldez *hym in*, & þe halle entres,  
 Driuande to þe heze dece, dut he no woþe,  
 Haylsed he neuer one, bot heze he ouer loked.  
 Þe fyrst word þat he warp, "wher is," he sayd,  
 "Þe *gouernour* of þis *gyng*? gladly I wolde 225  
 Se þat segg *in* syzt, & *with* *hym*-self speke  
 raysoun."

To knyztez he kest his yze,  
 & reled *hym* vp & doun,  
 He stemmed & con studie, 230  
 Quo walt þer most renoun.

## XI.

Ther watz loking on lenþe, þe lude to be-holde,  
 For vch mon had meruayle quat hit mene myzt,  
 Þat a haþel & a horse myzt such a hwe lach,  
 As growe grene as þe gres & grener hit semed, 235

<sup>1</sup> *gracious* ?



Þen grene aumayl on golde lowande bryzter ;  
 Al studied þat þer stod, & stalked hym nerre,  
 Wyth al þe wonder of þe worlde, what he worth schulde.  
 For fele selleye had þay sen, bot such neuer are,  
 For-þi for fantoum & fayryze þe folk þere hit demed ;     240  
 Þerfore to answere wat3 ar3e mony aþel freke,  
 & al stouned at his steuen, & ston-stil seten,  
 In a swoghe sylence þur3 þe sale riche  
 As al were slypped vpon slepe so slaked hor lote3  
   in hyze ;                             245  
     I deme hit not al for doute,  
     Bot sum for cortaysye,  
     Bot let hym þat al schulde loute,  
     Cast vnto þat wyze.

## XII.

Þenn Arþour bifore þe hi3 dece þat auenture byholde3, 250  
 & rekenly hym reuerenced, for rad was he neuer,  
 & sayde, "wyze, welcum iwys to þis place,  
 Þe hede of þis ostel Arthour I hat ;  
 Ligt lufflych adoun, & lenge, I þe praye,  
 & quat-so þy wylle is, we schal wyt after."                     255  
 "Nay, as help me," quoth þe haþel, "he þat on hyze  
     syttis,  
 To wone any quyle in þis won, hit wat3 not myn ernde ;  
 Bot for þe los of þe lede is lyft vp so hyze,  
 & þy bur3 & þy burnes best ar holden  
 Stifest vnder stel-gere on stedes to ryde,                             260  
 Þe wyzttest and 3e worþyest of þe worldes kynde,  
 Preue for to play wyth in oþer pure layke3 ;  
 & here is kydde cortaysye, as I haf herd carp,  
 & þat hat3 wayned me hider, i-wyis, at þis tyme.  
 3e may be seker bi þis braunch þat I bere here,                 265

Þat I passe as *in* pes, & no plyzt seche;  
 For had I founded *in* fere, *in* feztynge wyse,  
 I haue a hauberghe at home & a helme boþe,  
 A schelde, & a scharp spere, schinande bryzt,  
 Ande oþer weppenes to welde, I wene wel als, 270  
 Bot for I wolde no were, my wedeþ ar softer.  
 Bot if þou be so bold as alle burneþ tellen,  
 Þou wyl grant me godly þe gomen þat I ask,  
 bi ryzt."

Arthour con onsware, 275  
 & sayd, "syr cortays knyzt,  
 If þou craue batayl bare,  
 Here fayleþ þou not to fyzt."

## XIII.

"Nay, frayst I no fyzt, *in* fayth I þe telle,  
 Hit arn aboute on þis bench bot berdlez chylder; 280  
 If I were hasped *in* armes on a heþe stede,  
 Here is no mon me to mach, for myzteþ so wayke.  
 For-þy I craue *in* þis court a crystemas gomen,  
 For hit is 3ol & nwe 3er, & here ar 3ep mony;  
 If any so hardy *in* þis hous holdeþ hym-seluen, 285  
 Be so bolde *in* his blod, [&] brayn *in* hys hede,  
 Þat dar stiffly strike a strok for an oþer,  
 I schal gif hym of my gyft þys giserne ryche,  
 Þis ax, þat is heué *in*-nogh, to hondele as hym lykes,  
 & I schal bide þe fyrst bur, as bare as I sitte. 290  
 If any freke be so felle to fonde þat I telle,  
 Lepe lyztly me to, & lach þis weppen,  
 I quit clayme hit for euer, kepe hit as his auen,  
 & I schal stonde hym a strok, stif on þis flet.  
 Elleþ þou wyl dizt me þe dom to dele hym an oþer, 295  
 barlay;

& ȝet gif hym respite,  
 A twelmonyth & a day;  
 Now hyȝe, & let se tite  
 Dar any her-inne oȝt say." 300

## XIV.

If he hem stowned vpon fyrst, stiller were þanne  
 Alle þe hered-men in halle, þe hyȝ & þe loȝe;  
 Þe renk on his rounce hym ruced in his sadel,  
 & runisch-ly his rede yȝen he reled aboute,  
 Bende his bresed broȝeȝ, blycande grene, 305  
 Wayued his berde for to wayte quo-so wolde ryse.  
 When non wolde kepe hym with carp he coȝed ful hyȝe,  
 Ande rimed hym ful richley, & ryȝt hym to speke:  
 "What! is þis Arþures hous," quoth þe haȝel þenne,  
 "Þat al þe rous rennes of, þurȝ ryalmes so. mony? 310  
 Where is now your sourquydrye & your conquestes,  
 Your gryndel-layk, & your greme, & your grete wordes?  
 Now is þe reuel & þe renoun of þe rounde table  
 Ouer-walt wyth a worde of on wyȝes speche;  
 For al dares for drede, withoute dynt schewed!" 315  
 Wyth þis he laȝes so loude, þat þe lorde greued;  
 Þe blod schot for scham in-to his schyre face  
 and lere;  
 He wex as wroth as wynde,  
 So did alle þat þer were, 320  
 Þe kyng as kene bi kynde,  
 Þen stod þat stif mon nere.

## XV.

Ande sayde, "haȝel, by heuen þyn askyng is nys,  
 & as þou foly hatȝ frayst, fynde þe be-houes;  
 I know no gome þat is gast of þy grete wordes. 325  
 Gif me now þy geserne, vpon godeȝ halue,

& I schal baypen þy bone, þat þou boden habbes."  
 Lyztly lepez he hym to, & lazt at his honde;  
 Þen feersly þat oþer freke vpon fote lyztis.  
 Now hatz Arthure his axe, & þe halme grypez, 330  
 & sturnely sturez hit aboute, þat stryke with hit þozt.  
 Þe stif mon hym bifore stod vpon hyzt,  
 Herre þen ani in þe hous by þe hede & more;  
 Wyth sturne schere<sup>1</sup> þer he stod, he stroked his berde,  
 & wyth a countenaunce dryze he droz down his cote, 335  
 No more mate ne dismayd for hys mayn dinteþ,  
 Þen any burne vpon bench hade brozt hym to drynk  
 of wyne,  
 Gawan, þat sate bi þe quene,  
 To þe kyng he can enclyne, 340  
 "I be-seche now *witþ* sazeþ sene,  
 Þis melly mot be myne."

## XVI.

"Wolde 3e, worþilych lorde," *quoth* Gawan to þe kyng,  
 "Bid me boze fro þis benche, & stonde by yow þere,  
 Ðat I wyth-oute vylanye myzt voyde þis table, 345  
 & þat my legge lady lykæd not ille,  
 I wolde com to *your* counseyl, bifore *your* cort ryche.  
 For meþink hit not semly, as hit is soþ knawen,  
 Þer such an askyng is heuened so hyze *in your* sale,  
 Ðaz 3e 3our-self be talenttyf to take hit to *your*-seluen,  
 Whil mony so bolde yow aboute vpon bench sytten, 351  
 Ðat vnder heuen, I hope, non hazer er of wylle,  
 Ne better bodyes on bent, þer baret is rered;  
 I am þe wakkest, I wot, and of wyt feblest,  
 & lest lur of my lyf, quo laytes þe soþe, 355  
 Bot for as much as 3e ar myn em, I am only to prayse,  
 No bounté bot *your* blod I in my bodé knowe;

<sup>1</sup> chere?

& syþen þis note is so nys, þat noȝt hit yow falles,  
 & I haue frayned hit at yow fyrst, foldez hit to me,  
 & if I carp not comlyly, let alle þis cort rych 360  
 bout blame."

Ryche to-geder con roun,  
 & syþen þay redder alle same,  
 To ryd þe kyng wyth croun,  
 & gif Gawan þe game. 365

## XVII.

þen comaunded þe kyng þe knyȝt for to ryse;  
 & he ful radly vp ros, & ruchched hym fayre,  
 Kneled doun bifore þe kyng, & cacheȝ þat weppen;  
 & he luflyly hit hym laft, & lyfte vp his honde,  
 & gef hym goddeȝ blessyng, & gladly hym biddes 370  
 þat his hert & his honde schulde hardi be boþe.  
 "Kepe þe cosyng," quoth þe kyng, "þat þou on kyrf sette,  
 & if þou redeȝ hym ryȝt, redly I trowe  
 þat þou schal byden þe bur þat hē schal bede after."  
 Gawan gotȝ to þe gome, with giserne in honde, 375  
 & he baldly hym bydeȝ, he bayst neuer þe helder.  
 þen carpeȝ to syr Gawan þe knyȝt in þe grene,  
 "Refourme we oure forwardes, er we fyrre passe.  
 Fyrst I [h]eþe þe, haþel, how þat þou hattes,  
 þat þou me telle truly, as I tryst may?" 380  
 "In god fayth," quoth þe goode knyȝt, "Gawan I hatte,  
 þat bede þe þis buffet, quat-so bi-falleȝ after,  
 & at þis tyme twelmonyth take at þe anoþer,  
 Wyth what weppen so þou wylt, & wyth no wyȝ elleȝ  
 on lyue." 385

þat oþer onswareȝ agayn,  
 "Sir Gawan, so mot I þryue,  
 As I am ferly fayn,  
 þis dint þat þou schal dryue."

## XVIII.

“ Bi gog,” *quoth* þe grene knyzt, “ syr Gawan, me lykēs, 390  
 þat I schal fange at þy fust þat I haf frayst here ;  
 & þou hatz redily rehersed, bi resoun ful trwe,  
 Clanly al þe couenauzt þat I þe kyngē asked,  
 Saf þat þou schal siker me, segge, by þi trawþe,  
 þat þou schal seche me þi-self, where-so þou hopes 395  
 I may be funde vpon folde, & foch þe such wages  
 As þou deles me to day, bifore þis douþe ryche.”

“ Where schulde I wale þe,” *quoth* Gauan, “ where is þy  
 place ?

I wot neuēr where þou wonyes, bi hym þat me wrozt,  
 Ne I know not þe, knyzt, þy cort, ne þi name. 400

Bot teche me truly þer-to, & telle me howe þou hattes,  
 & I schal ware alle my wyt to wynnē me þeder,  
 & þat I swere þe for soþe, & by my seker trawep.”

“ þat is in-nogh in nwe-zer, hit nedes no more,”  
*Quoth* þe gome in þe grene to Gawan þe hende, 405

“ Gif I þe telle trwly, quen I þe tape haue,  
 & þou me smopely hatz smyten, smartly I þe teche  
 Of my hous, & my home, & myn owen nome,  
 Þen may þou frayst my fare, and forwardez holde,  
 & if I spende no speche, þenne spedez þou þe better, 410  
 For þou may leng in þy londe, & layt no fyrre,

bot slokes ;

Ta now þy grymme tole to þe,  
 & let se how þou cnokez.”

“ Gladly syr, for soþe,” 415

*Quoth* Gawan ; his ax he strokes.

## XIX.

The grene knyzt vpon grounde grayþely hym dresses,  
 A littel lut with þe hede, þe lere he diskouerez,

His longe louelych lokkez he layd ouer his crown,  
 Let þe naked nec to þe note schewe. 420  
 Gauan gripped to his ax, & gederes hit on hyzt,  
 Þe kay fote on þe folde he be-fore sette,  
 Let hit doum lyztly lyzt on þe naked,  
 Þat þe scharp of þe schalk schyndered þe bones,  
 & schrank þurȝ þe schyire grece, and scade hit in twynne,  
 Þat þe bit of þe broum stel bot on þe grounde. 426  
 Þe fayre hede fro þe halce hit [fel] to þe erþe,  
 Þat fele hit foyned wyth her fete, þere hit forth roled;  
 Þe blod brayd fro þe body, þat blykked on þe grene;  
 & nawþer faltered ne fel þe freke neuer-þe-helder, 430  
 Bot styþly he start forth vpon styf schonkes,  
 & ru[n]yschly he razt out, þere as renkkez stoden,  
 Lazt to his lufly hed, & lyft hit vp sone;  
 & syþen boȝez to his blonk, þe brydel he cachchez,  
 Steppez in to stel-bawe & strydeȝ alofte, 435  
 & his hede by þe here in his honde haldeȝ;  
 & as sadly þe segge hym in his sadel sette,  
 As non vnhap had hym ayled, þaȝ hedleȝ nowe<sup>1</sup>,  
 in stedde;  
 He brayde his bluk<sup>2</sup> aboute, 440  
 Þat vgly bodi þat bledde,  
 Moni on of hym had doute,  
 Bi þat his resounȝ were redde.

## XX.

For þe hede in his honde he haldeȝ vp euen,  
 To-ward þe derrest on þe dece he dresseȝ þe face, 445  
 & hit lyfte vp þe yȝe-lyddeȝ, and loked ful brode,  
 & meled þus much with his muthe, as ȝe may now here.  
 "Loke, Gawan, þou be grayþe to go as þou hetteȝ,  
 & layte as lelly til þou me, lude, fynde,

<sup>1</sup> MS. ho we = he were ?<sup>2</sup> blunk ?

As þou hatz hette in þis halle, herande þise knyztēs; 450  
 To þe grene chapel þou chose, I charge þe to fotte,  
 Such a dunt as þou hatz dalt disserued þou habbeþ,  
 To be zederly zolden on nw-zeres morn;  
 Þe knyzt of þe grene chapel men knowen me mony;  
 For-þi me for to fynde if þou fraysteþ, fayleþ þou neuer, 455  
 Þer-fore com, oþer recreaunt be calde þe be-houes."  
 With a runisch rout þe rayneþ he torneþ,  
 Halled out at þe hal-dor, his hed in his hande,  
 Þat þe fyr of þe flynt flaze fro fole houes.  
 To quat kyth he be-com, kn[e]we non þere, 460  
 Neuer more þen þay wyste fram queþen he watz woznen;  
 what þenne?

Þe kyng & Gawen þare,  
 At þat grene þay laze & grenne,  
 zet breued watz hit ful bare, 465  
 A meruayl among þo mezne.

## XXI.

Þaz Arþer þe hende kyng at hert hade wonder,  
 He let no semblaunt be sene, bot sayde ful hyze  
 To þe comlych quene, wýth cortays speche,  
 "Dere dame, to day demay yow neuer; 470  
 Wel by-commes such craft vpon cristmasse,  
 Laykyng of enterludeþ, to laze & to syng.  
 Among þise, kynde caroles of knyzteþ & ladyeþ;  
 Neuer-þe-lece to my mete I may me wel dres,  
 For I haf sen a selly, I may not for-sake." 475  
 He glent vpon syr Gawen, & gaynly he sayde,  
 "Now syr, heng vp þyn ax, þat hatz in-nogh hewen."  
 & hit watz don abof þe dece, on doser to henge,  
 Þer alle men for meruayl myzt on hit loke,  
 & bi trwe tytel þer-of to telle þe wonder. 480  
 Þenne þay bozed to a borde þise burnes to-geder,





## XXI.

### THE ROMANCE OF WILLIAM AND THE WERWOLF.

ABOUT A. D. 1360.

Nothing is known concerning the author of the English *Romance of William and the Werewolf* except that he translated his work from the French at the command of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and nephew to King Edward II, who died A. D. 1361.

The poem in its English form is supposed to have been written about the year 1360. The dialect is *Midland* (Shropshire).

The following extract is taken from *The Ancient Romance of William and the Werewolf*, edited by Sir F. Madden for the Roxburghe Club, London 1832.

[Pages 1—15.]

HIT bifel in þat forest þere fast by-side,  
 Þere woned a wel old cherl þat was a couherde,  
 Þat fele winteres in þat forest fayre had keþud  
 Mennes ken of þe cuntré às a comen herde,  
 ʒ þus it bi-tide þat time, as tellen oure bokes. 5  
 Þis cowerd comes on a time to keþen is bestes,  
 Fast by-side þe borw; þere þe barn was inne.  
 Þe herd had wiþ him an hound his hert to liʒt,  
 For to bayte on his bestes wanne þai to brode went ;  
 Þe herde sat þan with hound aʒene þe hote sunne, 10  
 Nouʒt fully a furlong fro þat fayre child,  
 Clouʒtand kyndely his schon, as to here craft falles,  
 Þat while was þe werwolf went aboute his praye,  
 What behoued to þe barn to bring as he miʒt.  
 Þe child þan darked in his den dernly him own, 15  
 ʒ was a big bold barn, ʒ breme of his age,

For spakly speke it couþe tho ȝ spedeliche to wawe ;  
 Lovely lay it a-long in his lonely denne,  
 ȝ buskede him out of þe buschys, þat were blowed grene  
 ȝ leved ful lovely, þat lent grete schade, 20  
 ȝ briddes ful bremely on þe bowes singe,  
 What for melodye þat þei made in þe mey sesoun.  
 Þat litel child listely lorked out of his cave,  
 Faire floures for to seche þat he bifore him seye,  
 ȝ to gadere of þe grasces þat grene were ȝ fayre ; 25  
 ȝ whan it was outwent so wel hit him liked  
 Þe savour of þe swete sesoun ȝ song of þe briddes,  
 Þat [hit] ferde fast aboute floures to gadere,  
 ȝ layked him long while to lesten þat merþe.  
 The couherdes hound þat time, as hadde bytidde, 30  
 Feld foute of þe child and fast þider fulwes,  
 ȝ sone as he it seiȝ, soþe for to telle,  
 He gan to berke on þat barn and to baie it hold,  
 Þat it wax neiȝ of his witt, wod for fere,  
 And comsed þan to crye so kenly and schille, 35  
 ȝ wepte so wonderfast, wite þou for sothe,  
 Þat þe son of þe cry com to þe couherde evene,  
 Þat he wist witerly it was þe voys of a childe.  
 Than ros he up radely ȝ ran þider swiþe,  
 ȝ drow him toward þe den bi his dogges noyce ; 40  
 Bi þat time was the barn for bere of that hounde,  
 Drawe him in to his den ȝ darked þer stille,  
 ȝ wepte evere as it wolde awede for fere ;  
 ȝ evere þe dogge at þe hole held it at abaye  
 ȝ whan þe kouherd com þidere he koured lowe, 45  
 To bihold in at þe hole whi his hound berkyd.  
 Þanne of-saw he ful sone þat semliche child,  
 Þat so loveliche lay ȝ wep in þat loþli cave  
 Cloþed ful komly for ani kud kinges sone,  
 In gode cloþes of gold agreþed ful riche, 50

Wiþ perrey and pellure pertelyche to þe riȝttes.  
 Þe cherl wondred of þat chaunce ȝ chastised his dogge,  
 Bad him blinne of his berking, ȝ to þe barn talked,  
 Acoyed it to come to him, ȝ clepud hit oft,  
 ȝ foded it wiþ floures ȝ wiþ faire by-hest, 55  
 ȝ hiȝt it hastely to have what it wold ȝerne,  
 Appeles ȝ alle þinges þat childern after wilnen ;  
 So for to seiȝ al þe soþe so faire þe cherl glosed,  
 Þat þe child com of þe cave and his crynge stint.  
 Þe cherl ful cherli þat child tok in his armes, 60  
 ȝ kest hit ȝ clipped ȝ oft crist þonkes,  
 Þat hade him sent þo sonde, swiche prey to finde.  
 Wiȝtliche wiþ þe child he went to his house,  
 And bitok it to his wif tiȝtly to kepe ;  
 A gladere wommon under god no miȝt go on erþe, 65  
 Þan was the wif wiþ þe child, witow for soþe.  
 Sche kolled it ful kindly ȝ askes is name,  
 ȝ it answered ful sone ȝ seiȝe William y hiȝt,  
 Þan was þe god-wif glad ȝ gan it faire kepe,  
 Þat it wanted nouȝt þat it wold have 70  
 Þat þei ne fond him as faire as for here state longed,  
 ȝ þe beter be ȝe sure, for barn ne had þei none  
 Brouȝt forþ of here bodies, here bale was þe more.  
 But soþly þai seiȝe þe child schuld weld al here godis,  
 Londes and ludes, as eyer, after here lif dawes ; 75  
 But fram þe cherl and þe child nou chaunge we oure tale,  
 For i wol of þe werwolf a wile nou speke.  
 Whanne þis werwolf was come to his wlonk denne,  
 ȝ hade brouȝt bilfoder for the barnes mete,  
 Þat he had wonne wiþ wo, wide-wher aboute, 80  
 Þan fond he nest ȝ non eiȝ for nouȝt nas þer leved.  
 ȝ whan þe best þe barn missed so balfully he ginneþ,  
 Þat alle men upon molde no miȝt telle his sorwe,  
 For reuliche gan he rore, ȝ rente al his hide,

7 fret oft of þe erþe 7 fel down on swowe, 85  
 7 made þe most dool þat man miȝt devise.  
 7 as þe beste in his bale þer aboute wente  
 He fond þe feute al fresh, where forþ þe herde  
 Hadde bore þan barn beter it to ȝeme;  
 Wiȝtly þe werwolf þan went bi nose, 90  
 Evene to þe herdes house, 7 hastely was þare.  
 Þere walked he aboute þe walles to winne insiȝt,  
 7 at þe last lelly a litel hole he findes,  
 Þere pried he in prively, 7 partiliche biholdes  
 Hou hertily þe herdes wif hules þat child, 95  
 7 hou fayre it fedde 7 fetisliche it baþede,  
 7 wrouȝt wiþ it as wel, as ȝif it were hire owne.  
 Þanne was þe best bliþe inou for þe barnes sake,  
 For he wist it schold be warded wel þan at þe best,  
 7 hertily for þat hap to heveneward he loked, 100  
 7 þroliche þonked god mani þousand siþes  
 7 seþþen went on is way whider as him liked,  
 But whiderward wot i never, witow forsoþe.  
 Ak nowþe ȝe þat arn hende haldes ow stille,  
 7 how þat best þerwe bale was brouȝt out of kinde, 105  
 I wol you telle, as swithe, trewly the sothe.  
 Werwolf was he non wox of kinde.  
 Ac komen was he of kun þat kud was ful nobul,  
 For þe kud king of Spayne was kindely his fader,  
 He gat him, as god gaf grace, on his ferst wyve, 110  
 7 at þe burþ of þat barn þe bold lady deyde.  
 Siþþen þat kud king so bi his conseyl wrouȝt  
 Anoþer wif þat he wedded, a worchipful ladi,  
 Þe princes douȝter of Portingale, to prove þe soþe,  
 But lelliche þat ladi in ȝouþe hadde lerned miche shame, 115  
 For al þe werk of wiche-craft wel ynouȝ che couȝþe,  
 Nede nadde ȝhe namore of nigramauncy to lere,  
 Of coninge of wicchecraft wel ynouȝ ȝhe couȝde.

7 Braunde was þat bold quene of burnes yclepud.  
 Þe kinges furst child was fostered fayre as it ouzt, 120  
 7 had lordes 7 ladies it lovely to kepe,  
 7 fast gan þat frely barn fayre for to wexe.  
 Þe quene his moder on a time, as a mix, þouzt  
 How faire 7 how fetis it was, 7 freliche schapen,  
 7 þis þanne þouzt sche þroly þat it no schuld never, 125  
 Kuvere to be king þer, as þe kinde eyre,  
 Whille þe kinges ferst sone were þer alive ;  
 Þan studied sche stifly, as stepmoderes wol alle,  
 To do dernly a despit to here stepchilderen ;  
 Feþli among foure-schore unneþe findestow on gode. 130  
 But truly tizt hadde þat quene take hire to rede,  
 To bring þat barn in bale botles for ever,  
 Þat he ne schuld wiztli in þis world never weld reaume ;  
 An oynement anon sche made of so grete strengþe,  
 Bi enchaunmens of charmes, þat evel chaunche hire tide. 135  
 That whanne þat womman þer wizt hadde þat worli child  
 Ones wel anoynted þe childe wel al abowte,  
 He wex to a werwolf wiztly þer-after ;  
 Al þe making of man so mysse hadde 3he schaped,  
 Ac his witt welt he after as wel as to-fore ; 140  
 But lelly oþer likenes þat longeþ to man-kynne,  
 But a wilde werwolf, ne walt he never after.  
 7 whanne þis witty werwolf wiste him so schaped,  
 He knew it was bi þe craft of his kursed stepmoder,  
 7 þouzt or he went away he wold, 3if he mizt, 145  
 Wayte hire sum wicked torn, what bitidde after ;  
 7 as blive, boutte bod, he braydes to þe quene,  
 7 hent hire so hetterly to have hire astrangeled,  
 Þat hire deth was nei3 dizt, to deme þe soþe,  
 But carfuli gan sche crie so kenely 7 lowde, 150  
 Þat maydenes 7 mizthi men manliche to hire come,  
 7 wolden brusten þe best, nad he be þe lizttere,

ȝ fled away þe faster in to ferre londes,  
 So þat partely in to Poyle he passed þat time,  
 As þis fortune bifel þat i told of bifore ; 155  
 Þus was þis witty best werwolf ferst maked,  
 But now wol i stint a stounde of þis sterne best  
 ȝ tale of þe tidy child þat y of told ere.

\* \* \* \* \*

Leue lordes now listenes of þis litel barn,  
 Þat þe kinde kowherde wif keped so fayre ; 160  
 ȝhe wist it as wel or bet as ȝif it were hire owne,  
 Til it big was ȝ bold to buschen on felde,  
 ȝ coupe ful craftily kepe alle here bestes,  
 ȝ bring hem in þe best lese, whan hem bi-stode nede,  
 ȝ wited hem so wisly þat wanted him never one. 165  
 A bowe also þat bold barn bigat him þat time,  
 ȝ so to schote under þe schawes scharplyche he lerned,  
 Þat briddes ȝ smale bestes wiþ his bow he quelles,  
 So plenteousliche in his play þat pertly to telle,  
 Whanne he went hom eche niȝt wiþ is drove of bestis, 170  
 He com himself ycharged wiþ conyng ȝ hares,  
 Wiþ fesauns, ȝ feldfares, and oþer foules grete,  
 Þat þe herd, ȝ his hende wif, ȝ al his hole meyné,  
 Þat bold barn wiþ his bowe by þat time fedde ;  
 ȝ ȝit hadde fele felawes in þe forest eche day, 175  
 ȝong bold barnes þat bestes also keped,  
 ȝ bliþe was eche a barn ho best miȝt him plese,  
 ȝ folwe him for his fredom ȝ for his faire þewes,  
 For what þing Willam wan a day wiþ his bowe,  
 Were it feþered foul, or foure foted best, 180  
 Ne wold þis William never on wiþ-hold to him-selve,  
 Til alle his felawes were ferst feffed to here paie ;  
 So kynde ȝ so corteys comsed he þere,  
 Þat alle ledes him lovede þat loked on him ones,  
 ȝ blesseden þat him bare ȝ brouȝt in-to þis worlde, 185

So moche manhed ȝ murþe schewed þat child evere.

Hit tidde after on a time, as tellus oure bokes,  
As þis bold barn his bestes blyþeliche keped,  
þe riche emperour of Rome rod out for to hunte,  
In þat faire forest feiþely for to telle ; 190

Wiþ alle his menskful meyné, þat moche was ȝ nobul ;  
þan fel it hap, þat þei founde ful sone a grete bor,  
ȝ huntyng wiþ hound ȝ horn harde alle sewede ;  
þe emperowr entred in a wey evene to attele  
To have bruttenet þat bore, ȝ þe abaie seþþen, 195

But missely marked he is way ȝ so manly he rides,  
þat alle his wies were went, ne wist he never whider ;  
So ferforþ fram his men, feþly for to telle,  
þat of horn ne of hound ne miȝt he here sowne,  
ȝ boute eny living lud leste was he one. 200

þemperour on his stif stede a sty forþ þanne takes,  
To herken after his houndes, oþer horn schille ;  
So komes þer a werwolf riȝt bi þat way þenne,  
Grimly after a gret hert, as þat god wold,  
ȝ chased him þurth chaunce þere þe child pleide, 205

þat kept þe kowherdes bestes i carped of bifore.  
þemperour þanne hastely þat huge best folwed,  
As stiffuly as is stede miȝt strecche on to renne ;  
But by þan he com by þat barn ȝ aboute loked,  
þe werwolf ȝ þe wilde hert were awaye boþe, 210

þat he ne wist in þis world were þei were bicome,  
Ne whiderward he schuld seche to se of hem more ;  
But þanne biheld he aboute, ȝ þat barn of-seye,  
Hou fair, how fetys it was, ȝ freliche schapen ;  
So fair a siȝt of seg ne sawe he never are, 215

Of lere, ne of lykame, lik him nas none,  
Ne of so sad a semblant þat ever he say wiþ eiȝyen,  
þemperour wend witerly for wonder of þat child,  
þat feiþely it were of feyrye, for fairenes þat it welt,



ȝ for þe curteys cuntenaunce þat it kudde þere. 220

Riȝtly þenne þemperour wendes him evene tille.  
 Þe child comes him agayn, ȝ curtesliche him gretes,  
 In hast þemperour hendely his gretyng him ȝeldes,  
 And, anon-riȝttes after, askes his name,  
 ȝ of what kin he were kome komanded him telle. 225

Þe child þanne soberliche seide, " Sir at ȝoure wille,  
 I wol ȝow telle, as-tyt, trewely alle þe soþe,  
 William sire, wel y wot, wiȝes me calles ;  
 I was bore here fast bi, by þis wodes side ;  
 A kowherde, sire, of þis kontrey is my kynde fader, 230  
 And my menskful moder is his meke wive ;

Þei han me fostered ȝ fed faire to þis time,  
 ȝ here i kepe is kyn as y kan on dayes ;  
 But sire, by crist, of my kin know i no more."  
 Whan þemperour hade herd holly his wordes, 235  
 He wondered of his wis speche, as he wel miȝt,

ȝ seide, " þow bold barn bilive i þe praye,  
 Go calle to me þe cowherde þow clepus þi fadere,  
 For y wold talk [wiþ] him tiþinges to frayne."  
 " Nay sire by god," quap þe barn, " be ȝe riȝt sure." 240  
 " Bi crist" [quop þemperour], " þat is crowned heye king of  
 heven,

For me no harm schal he have, never in his live,  
 Ac peraventure þurth goddis [grace] to gode may it turne,  
 For-þi bring him hider, faire barn, y preye."

" I schal sire," seide þe child, " for[þ]y sauffliche y hope 245  
 I may worche on ȝour word to wite him fro harm."  
 " ȝa saffliche," seide þemperour, " so god ȝif me ioie."

Þe child wi[ȝ]tly þanne wende, wiþ-oute ani more,  
 Comes to þe couherdes hows, ȝ clepud him sone,  
 For he feiȝ[þ]liche wen[de] þat he his fader where, 250  
 ȝ seide þan " swete sir, s[o] ȝou criste help,  
 God yond to a gret lord þat gayly is tyred,

ȝ on þe feirest frek, for soþe, þat i have seie,  
 And he wilnes wiztli wiþ ȝou to speke ;  
 For godis love goþ til him swiþe, lest he agreved wex." 255  
 " What sone," seide þe couherde, " seidestow i was here ?"  
 " ȝa sire sertes," seide þe child, " but he swor formest,  
 Þat ȝe schuld have no harm ; but hendely for gode  
 He praide ȝou com speke wiþ him ȝ passe aȝein sone."  
 Þe cherl, grocching, forþ goþ wiþ þe gode child, 260  
 ȝ evene to þemperour þei etteleden sone ;  
 Þemperour anon-riȝt, as he him of-seie,  
 Clepud to him þe couherde ȝ curteysly seide,  
 " Now telle me felawe be þi feiȝþ, for no þing ne wonde,  
 Sei þou ever þemperour, so þe crist help ?" 265  
 " Nay sire bi crist," quap þe couherde, " þat king is of heven,  
 I nas never ȝet so hardi to neȝh him so hende,  
 Þere i schuld have him seie so me wel tyme !"  
 " Sertes" þan seide þemperour, " þe soþe for to knowe  
 Þat y am þat ilk weiȝh, i wol wel þou wite ; 270  
 Al þe regal of Rome to riȝtleche y weld,  
 Þerfore couherde i þe coniuere ȝ comande att alle,  
 Bi vertu of þing þat þou most in þis world lovest,  
 Þatow telle me tiȝtly truly þe soþe,  
 Wheþer þis bold barn be lelly þin owne, 275  
 Oþer comen of oþer kin, so þe Crist help."  
 Þe couherd comsed to quake, for kare and for drede,  
 Whanne he wist witerly þat he was his lorde,  
 ȝ bilive in his hert be-þou[ȝ]t ȝif he him gun lye,  
 He wold prestely perceyue, pertilich him þou[ȝ]t ; 28  
 Þerfore trewly, as-tyt, he told him þe soþe,  
 How he him fond in þat forest þere fast biside,  
 Cloþed in comly cloþing for any kinges sone,  
 Under an holw ok, þurth help of his dogge ;  
 ȝ how faire he hade him fed ȝ fostered vii winter. 285  
 " Bi crist," seide þemperour, " y con þe gret thonke,

Þat þou hast [seid] me þe soþe of þis semly childe,  
 ʒ tine schalt þou nouȝt þi trawayle, y trow at þe last,  
 Ac wend schal it wiþ me witow for soþe ;  
 Min hert so harde wilnes to have þis barne, 290  
 Þat i wol in no wise þou wite it no lenger."  
 Whan þemperour so sayde, soþe for to telle,  
 Þe couherde was in care, i can him noþing white ;  
 Ac witerly dorst he nouȝt werne þe wille of his lord,  
 But graunted him goddeli, on godis holy name, 295  
 For to worchen his wille, as lord wiþ his owne.  
 Whan William, þis worþi child, wist þe soþe,  
 And knew þat þe cowherde was nouȝt his kinde fader,  
 He was wiȝtliche awondered ʒ gan to wepe sore,  
 ʒ seide saddely to him-self sone þer-after : 300  
 " A ! gracious gode god, þouȝ grettest of alle !  
 Moch is þi mercy, ʒ þi miȝt, ʒ þi menske, ʒ þi grace !  
 Now wot i never in þis world of wham y am come,  
 Ne what destené me is diȝt, but god do his wille !  
 Ac wel y wot witerly, wiþoute ani faile, 305  
 To þis man ʒ his meke wif most y am holde,  
 For þei ful faire han me fostered ʒ fed a long time,  
 Þat god for his grete miȝt al here god hem ȝeld !  
 Bot not y never what to done to wende þus hem fro,  
 Þat han al kindenes me kyd, ʒ y ne kan hem ȝelde." 310  
 " Bi stille barn," quaþ þemperour,— " blinne of þi sorwe,  
 For y hope þat hal þi kin hastely here after [may be kud] ;  
 ȝif þou wolt ȝeue þe to gode, swiche grace may þe falle,  
 Þat alle þi frendes fordedes faire schalstow quite." 314  
 " ȝa sire," quaþ þe couherde, " ȝif crist wol þat cas may tyde,  
 ʒ god lene him grace to god man to worþe."  
 ʒ þan, as-tit, to þe child he tauȝt þis lore,  
 ʒ seide, " þou swete sone, seþþe þou schalt hennes wende,  
 Whanne þou komest to kourt among þe kete lordes,  
 ʒ knowest alle þe kuppes þat to kourt langes, 320

Bere þe boxumly ȝ bonure, þat ich burn þe luvē ;  
 Be meke ȝ mesurabul, nouȝt of many wordes ;  
 Be no tellere of talis, but trewe to þi lorde,  
 ȝ prestely for pore men profer þe ever  
 For hem to rekene wiþ þe riche in riȝt ȝ in skille ; 325  
 Be feiȝtful ȝ fre, ȝ ever of faire speche,  
 ȝ servisabul to þe simple, so as to þe riche  
 ȝ felawe in faire manere, as falles for þi state,  
 So schaltow gete goddes love ȝ alle gode mennes.  
 Leve sone þis lessoun me lorde my fader, 330  
 Þat knew of kourt þe þewes, for kourteour was he long,  
 ȝ hald it in þi hert, now i þe have it kenned,  
 Þe bet may þe bi-falle, þe worse bestow nevere.”  
 Þe child weped al-way wonderliche fast,  
 But þemperour had god game of þat gomes lore, 335  
 ȝ comand[ed]e þe couherde curtesli ȝ fayre  
 To heve up þat hende child bihinde him on his stede.  
 ȝ he so dede deliverly, þouȝh him del þouȝt,  
 ȝ bikenned him to crist, þat on croice was peyned.  
 Þanne þat barn, as bilive, bygan for to glade, 340  
 Þat he so realy schuld ride, ȝ redeli as-swithe  
 Ful curteislé of þe couherde he cacc[h]es his leve,  
 ȝ seþþen seyde, “ swete sire i beseche ȝou nowþe,  
 For godes loue gretes ofte my godelych moder,  
 Þat so faire haþ me fed ȝ fostered til nowþe, 345  
 ȝ lellyche, ȝif our lord wol þat i liif have,  
 Sche ne schal noȝt tyne hire travayle, treuly for soþe ;  
 ȝ gode sire, for godes love, also greteþ wel oft  
 Alle mi freyliche felawes, þat to þis forest longes,  
 Han pretilyche in many places pleide wiþ ofte ; 350  
 Hugonet and huet, þat hende litel dwery,  
 ȝ abelot, ȝ martynet, hugones gaie sone,  
 ȝ þe cristen akarin, þat was mi kyn fere,  
 ȝ þe trewe kinnesman, þe payenes sone,

ȝ alle oþer frely felawes þat þou faire knowes, 355  
 þat god mak hem gode men for his mochel grace.  
 Of þe names þat he nemned þemperour nam hede,  
 ȝ had gaynliche god game, for he so grette alle  
 Of his compers þat he knew so curteysliche ȝ faire ;  
 ȝ þan bekenned he kouherde [to] Crist ȝ to al halwes<sup>1</sup>, 360  
 ȝ busked forþ wiþ þat barn, blive on his gate.  
 Þe kouherde kayred to his house, karful in hert,  
 And neiȝ to barst he for bale, for þe barnes sake.  
 ȝ whan his wiif wist, wittow for soþe,  
 How þat child from here-warde was wente for ever more, 365  
 Þer nis man, on þis mold, þat miȝt half telle  
 Þe wo ȝ þe weping þat womman made ;  
 Sche wolde have sleie hire-self þere soþly as blive,  
 Ne hade þe kind kouherde conforted here þe betere,  
 ȝ pult hire in hope to have gret help þer-of after. 370

<sup>1</sup> MS. reads *bal alwes*.

## XXII.

WILLIAM LANGLANDE.

A. D. 1362.

According to tradition, Langlande, or Longlande, was a native of Cleobury Mortimer, in Shropshire. He is supposed to have been a monk near the Malvern Hills (Worcestershire), where he composed his great poem entitled *The Vision of Piers Ploughman* (or, as it is expressed in Latin, *Visio Willbelmi de Petro Ploughman*), which was most probably written shortly after the plague which ravaged England A. D. 1361-2. It is an allegorical poem, or series of poems, in which the author satirizes the vices and abuses of the age, the degeneracy of the prelates and priests, political corruptions, the avarice and rapacity of the nobility, and the oppression of the poor by the rich.

The dialect is *Southern*, with *Midland* peculiarities. The extracts from *Piers Ploughman* have been copied expressly for the present work from the Vernon MS. in the Bodleian Library.

*From the Vision, of Piers Ploughman.*

IN a somer sesun  
Whon softe was þe sonne,  
I shop me into a schroud  
A scheep as I were  
In habite of an hermite 5  
Unholy of werkes,  
Wende I wydene in þis world  
Wondres to here ;  
Bote in a Mayes morwnyng  
On Malverne hulle 10  
Me bifel a ferly,  
A feyrie me þouhte.

I was weori of wandringe,  
 And wente me to reste  
 Undur a brod banke 15  
 Bi a Bourne syde ;  
 And as I lay and leonede,  
 And lokede on þe watres,  
 I slumberde in a slepyng,  
 Hit sownede so murie. 20  
 Þenne gon I meeten  
 A marvelous swevene,  
 Þat I was in a wilderness,  
 Wuste I never where,  
 And as I beo-heold in to the Est 25  
 An-heiȝ to þe sonne,  
 I sauh a tour on a toft  
 Wonderliche i-maked<sup>1</sup>,  
 A deop dale bineoþe,  
 A dungun þerinne, 30  
 With deop dich and derk  
 And dredful of siht.  
 A ffeir feld ful of folk  
 Fond I þer bitwene,  
 Of alle maner of men. 35  
 Þe mene and þe riche,  
 Worchinge and wondringe,  
 As þe world askeþ.  
 Some putten hem to the plouȝ,  
 And pleiden hem ful seldene, 40  
 In eringe and in sowynge  
 Swonken ful harde,  
 Þat monie of þeos wasturs  
 In glotonye distruen.  
 And summe putten hem to pruide, 45

<sup>1</sup> MS. reads *i-makeþ*.

Apparaylden hem þerafter  
 In cuntenaunce of cloþinge,  
 Queinteliche degyset.

To preyere and to penaunce  
 Putten heom monye, 50

For þe love of ur Lord  
 Liveden ful harde,

In hope for to have  
 Hevene-riche blisse ;

As ances and hermytes 55

That holden hem in heore celles,  
 Coveyte not in cuntré

To carien aboute,

For non likerous lyfode

Heore licam to plese. 60

And summe chosen chaffare ;

To cheeven þe bettere,

As hit semeþ to ure siht

þat suche men scholden.

And summe murþes to maken, 65

As munstrals cunne.

Bote japers and jangelers,

Judas children,

Founden hem ffantasyes,

And fooles hem maaden, 70

And habbeþ wit at heor wille

To worchen, 3if hem luste.

þat Poul precheþ of hem

I dar not preoven it heere ;

*Qui loquitur turpiloquium* 75

Hee is Luciferes hyne.

Bidders and beggers

Faste aboute eoden,

Til heor bagges and heor balies



Weren faste i-crommet; 80  
 Ffeyneden hem for heore foode,  
 Fouȝten atte alle.  
 In glotonye, God wot,  
 Go heo to bedde,  
 And riseȝ up wiȝ ribaudye, 85  
 Þis Roberdes knaves;  
 Sleep and sleuȝþe  
 Suweȝ hem evere.  
 Pilgrimes and palmers  
 Plihten hem togedres, 90  
 Ffor to seche seint Jeme,  
 And seintes at Roome.  
 Wenten forȝ in heore wey,  
 Wiȝ mony wyse tales,  
 And hedden leve to lyȝen 95  
 Al heore lif tyme.  
 Grete lobres and longe  
 Þat loȝ weore to swynke,  
 Clopeden hem in copes,  
 To beo knowen for breȝren; 100  
 And summe schopen to hermytes,  
 Heore ese to have.  
 I ffont<sup>1</sup> þere ffreres,  
 Alle þe ffoure ordres,  
 Prechinge þe peple 105  
 For profyt of heore wombes;  
 Glosynge þe gospel,  
 As hem good likeȝ;  
 For covetyse of copes,  
 Constreueȝ hit ille. 110  
 For monye of þis maistres  
 Mowen clopen hem at lyking,

<sup>1</sup> For *font*.

For monye and hire marchaundie  
Meeten oft togedre.

Seþþe charité haþ be chapmon, 115

Cheef to shriven lordes,

Mony ferlyes han bifalle

In a fewe 3eres ;

But holychirche biginne

Holde bet togedere, 120

þe moste mischeef on molde

Mounteþ up faste.

þer prechede a pardonere,

As he a prest were ;

And brouht up a Bulle 125

With Bisschopes seies,

And seide that himself mihte

A soylen hem alle,

Of ffalsnesse, and ffastinge,

And of vouwes i-broken. 130

þe lewede men likede him wel,

And leeveþ his speche ;

And comen up knelynge

And cussedēn hise Bulle.

He bouchede hem with his Brevet, 135

And blered heore eizhen,

And rauhte wiþ his Ragemon

Ringes and broches.

Weore þe Bisschop i-blesset,

And worþ boþe his eres, 140

Heo scholde not be so hardi

To deceyve so þe peple.

Save hit nis not bi þe Bisschop

þat the boye precheþ ;

Bote þe parisch prest and he 145

Departed[e] þe selver,

Þat have schulde þe pore parisschens  
 3if þat heo ne weore.

Parsones and parisch prestes,  
 Playneþ to heore Bisschops, 150

Þat heore parisch haþ ben pore  
 Seþþe þe pestilence,  
 And askeþ leve and lycence  
 At Londun to dwelle,  
 And singe þer for simonye, 155  
 For selver is swete.

Ðer hoveþ an hundret  
 In houves of selk,  
 Seriauns hit semeþ  
 To serven atte Barre, 160  
 Pleden for pons

And poundes þe lawe ;  
 Not for love of ur Lord  
 Unloseth heore lippes ones.  
 Þow mihtest beter meten þe myst 165  
 On Malverne hulle,

Ðen geten a mom of heore mouþ,  
 Til moneye weore schewed.  
 I sauh þe Bisschops bolde,  
 And Bachilers of divyn 170

Bicoome Clerkes of a Counte  
 Þe kyng for to serven.  
 Erchedekenes and Dekne,  
 Þat Dignité haven  
 To preche þe peple 175

And pore men to feede,  
 Beon lopen to Londun  
 Bi leve of heore Bisschopes  
 To ben Clerkes of þe Kynges Benche,  
 Þe cuntré to schende. 180

Barouns and Burgeis,  
 And Bondemen also,  
 I sauh in þat semple,  
 As ȝe shul heren heraftur :  
 Bakers, bochers, 185  
 And breusters monye ;  
 Masons, minours,  
 And mony oþer craftes.  
 Dykers and delvers,  
 Þat don heore dedes ille, 190  
 And driveþ forþ þe longe day  
 With *Deu vous save, dam Emme.*  
 Cookes and heore knaves  
 Cryen, " Hote pies, hote !  
 Goode gees and gryns ! 195  
 Go we, dyne, gou we !"  
 Taverners to hem  
 Tolde þe same tale,  
 Wiþ good wyn of Gaskoyne,  
 And wyn of Oseye, 200  
 Of Ruyn and of Rochel,  
 Þe Rost to `defye.

*Passus Primus de Visione.*

What þis mountein bemeneþ  
 And þis derke dale,  
 And þis feire feld ful of folk, 205  
 I schal ow schewe.  
 A lovely ladi on leor,  
 In linnene i-cloþed,  
 Com adoun from þe loft,  
 And clepte me feire, 210  
 And seide, " Sone, slepest þou ?  
 Sixt þou þis peple,  
 Al hou bisy þei ben

Aboute þe mase?  
 Þe moste parti of þe peple  
 Ðat passeþ nou on eorþe, 215  
 Haven heo worschupe in þis world,  
 Kepe þei no betere;  
 Of oper hevene þen heer  
 3eveth þei no tale."  
 Ich was a-ferd of hire fface, 220  
 Ðauh heo feir weore,  
 And seide, "Merci, madame,  
 What is þis to mene?"  
 "Ðis Tour and þis Toft," quopþ heo,  
 "Treuþe is þere inne; 225  
 And wolde þat 3e wrou3ten,  
 As his word techþ!  
 Ffor he is ffader of ffei,  
 Ðat formed ow alle  
 Boþe wiþ ffel and wiþ fface, 230  
 And 3af ow fyve wittes,  
 Forte<sup>1</sup> worschupen him,  
 While 3e beop heere.  
 And for he hihte þe eorþe  
 To serven ow uchone, 235  
 Of wollene, of linnene,  
 To lyflode at neode,  
 In mesurable maner  
 To maken ow at ese;  
 And comaundet of his cortesy 240  
 In comune þreo þinges;  
 Heore nomes beþ neodful,  
 And nempnen hem I þenke,  
 Bi Rule and bi Resun;  
 Rehersen hem her-aftur. 245

<sup>1</sup> For *for to*.

- “ Þat on cloþing is,  
 From chele ow to save ;  
 And þat oþur mete at meel  
 For meseise of þiselven ;  
 And drink whon þow druiþest ; 250  
 But do hit not out of resun,  
 Þat þou weore þe worse  
 Whon þou worche scholdest.  
 “ Dreede dilitable drinke,  
 And þou schalt do þe bettere. 255  
 Measure is medicine,  
 Þauh þow mucche ȝeor[n]e.  
 Al nis not good to þe gost  
 Þat þe bodi lykeþ,  
 Ne lyflode to þi licam 260  
 Þat leof is to þe soule ;  
 Leef not þi licam  
 For lyȝere him techen,  
 Þat is þe wikkede wor[l]d  
 Þe to bitraye. 265  
 For þe ffend and þi fflesch  
 Folewen to ȝedere  
 And schenden þi soule,  
 Seo hit in þin herte ;  
 And for þou scholdest beo war, 270  
 I wisse þe þe bettere.”  
 “ Madame, merci !” quap I,  
 “ Me likeþ wel þi wordes ;  
 Bote þe moneye on þis molde  
 Þat men so faste holden, 275  
 Tel me to whom  
 Þat Tresour appenden.”  
 “ Go to þe gospel,” quap heo,  
 “ Þat God seiþ himselfen ;

Whon þe peple him aposede 280  
 Wiþ a peny in þe Temple,  
 3if heo schulden worschupe  
 Ðerwiþ Cesar heore kyng.

“ And he asked of hem,  
 Of whom spac þe lettre, 285  
 And whom þe ymage was lyk  
 Ðat þer inne stod.

“ ‘ Ceesar,’ þei seiden,  
 ‘ We seop wel uchone.’  
 “ Þene ‘ *Reddite,*’ quap God, 290  
 ‘ Ðat to Cesar falleþ,  
*Et quæ sunt Dei Deo,*

Or elles do 3e ille;  
 For Rihtfoliche Resoun  
 Schulde rulen ou alle, 295  
 And kuynde Wit be Wardeyn  
 Oure Weolþe to kepe,  
 And tour of ur tresour,  
 To take hit at nede,  
 For husbondrie and he 300  
 Holden to gedere.”

Þenne I fraynede hire feire,  
 For him þat hire made,  
 “ Ðat doun in þat deope dale,  
 Ðat dredful is of siht, 305  
 What may hit mene, madame,  
 Ich þe biseche?”

“ Ðat is þe Castel of care,” quod heo;  
 “ Hose<sup>1</sup> comeþ þer-inne  
 Mai Banne þat he born was, 310  
 To Bodi or to soule.  
 Ðer-inne Woneþ a Wiht

<sup>1</sup> For *two-so*.

Þat Wrong is i-hote,  
 Ffader of ffalsnes,  
 He foundede him selven. 315  
 Adam and Eve  
 He eggede to don ille;  
 Counseilede Caym  
 To cullen his Broþer;  
 Judas he Japede 320  
 Wiþ þe Jewes selver,  
 And on an ellene treo  
 Hongede him after.  
 He is a lettere of love,  
 And lyzeþ hem alle 325  
 Þat trusteþ in heor tresour;  
 Þer no truþe is inne."

Þenne hedde I Wonder in my Wit  
 What Wommon hit weore,  
 Þat suche wyse wordes 330  
 Of holy writ me schewede;  
 And halsede hire on þe heize nome,  
 Er heo þeonne zeode,  
 What heo weore witerly  
 Þat techeþ me so feire. 335  
 "Holi churche Icham," quap heo,  
 "Þou ouhtest me to knowe;  
 Ich þe undurfong furst,  
 And þi feiþ þe tauzte;  
 Þow brouztest me borwes 340  
 My bidding to worche,  
 And to love me leelly  
 While þi lyf durede."

Þenne knelede I on my kneos,  
 And crezed<sup>1</sup> hire of grace; 345

<sup>1</sup> For *creyed* or *creied*.



And preiede hire pitously  
 To preye for ur sunnes,  
 And eke to teche kuyndely  
 On Crist to bi-leeve,  
 þat Ich his wille mihte worche 350  
 þat wrouhte me to mon.  
 "Tech me to no Tresour,  
 Bote tel me þis ilke,  
 Hou I may save my soule,  
 þat seint art i-holde." 355  
 "Whon alle tresour is i-trized," quod she,  
 "Treupe is þe Beste;  
 I do hit on *Deus caritas*,  
 To deeme þe soþe,  
 Hit is as derworþe a drurie 360  
 As deore God him selven.  
 For hose trewe of his tonge,  
 Telleþ not elles,  
 Doþ his werkes þerwiþ,  
 And doþ no mon ille, 365  
 He is acounted to þe gospel  
 On-grounde and on-lofte,  
 And eke i-liknet to ur Lord,  
 Bi seint Lucus wordes.  
 Clerkes þat knowen hit, 370  
 Scholde techen hit aboute,  
 For cristene and uncristene  
 Him cleymeþ uchone.  
 "Kynges and knihtes  
 Scholde kepen hem bi Reson, 375  
 And Rihtfuliche Raymen  
 þe Realmes abouten,  
 And take trespassours,  
 And bynden hem faste,

Til treuþe hedde i-termynet 380  
 Þe trespas to þe ende.  
 Ffor David in his dayes  
 He dubbede knihtes,  
 Dude hem swere on heor swerd  
 To serve treuþe ever; 385  
 Þat is þe perte profession  
 Þat apendeþ to knihtes;  
 And not to faste a ffriday  
 In ffyve score 3eres,  
 But holden wiþ hem and wiþ heore 390  
 Þat asken þe treuþe,  
 And leven for no love  
 Ne lacching of 3iftus.  
 And he þat passeþ þat poynt  
 Is *apostata* in þe ordre. 395  
 “ But Crist kyngene kyng  
 Knyghted ten<sup>1</sup>,  
 Cherubin and Seraphin,  
 And al þe foure ordres,  
 And 3af hem maystrie and miht, 400  
 In his maiesté,  
 And tau3te þorw þe Trinité  
 Treuþe for to knowen;  
 And beo boxum at his biddynge,  
 He bad hem not elles. 405  
 “ Lucifer wiþ legiouns  
 Lerede hit in hevene;  
 He was lovelokest of siht  
 Aftur ur Lord,  
 Til he brak boxumnes 410  
 Þorw bost of him selven;  
 “ Þenne fel he wiþ his felawes

<sup>1</sup> These two lines not in V. MS.

And fendes bicomē  
 Out of hevene in to helle  
 Hobleden faste, 415  
 Summe in þe eir, and summe in þe eorþe,  
 And summe in helle deope;  
 Bote Lucifer louwest  
 Liþ of hem alle,  
 For pruide þat he put out, 420  
 His peyne haþ non ende.  
 And alle þat wrong worchen,  
 Wende þei schulen,  
 After heore deþ day  
 And dwellen wiþ þat schrewe. 425  
 “Ac heo þat worchen þat word,  
 Þat holi writ techeþ,  
 And endeþ as Ich er seide  
 In profitable werkes,  
 Mouwen be siker þat heore soules 430  
 Schullen to hevene,  
 Þer Treuþe is in Trinité,  
 And corouneþ hem alle.  
 For I sigge sikerli,  
 Bi siht of þe textes, 435  
 Whon alle tresor is i-trizet,  
 Treuþe is þe beste;  
 Lereþ hit þis lewed men,  
 For lettrede hit knoweþ,  
 Þat treuþe is tresour 440  
 Triedest on eorþe.”  
 “Yit have I no kuynde knowing,” quod I,  
 “Þou most teche me betre,  
 Bi what Craft in my Corps  
 Hit cumseþ, and where.” 445  
 “Þou dotest daffe,” quaþ heo,

"Dulle are þi wittes;  
 Hit is a kuynde knowynge,  
 Þat kenneþ þe in herte,  
 For to love þi Lou[e]rd 450  
 Levere þen þi selven,  
 No dedly sunne to do,  
 Dyȝe þauȝ þou scholdest;  
 Þis I trouwe beo treuþe,  
 Hose con teche þe betre. 455

"Loke þou suffre him to seye,  
 And seþþe teche hit forþer;  
 For þus techeth us his word;  
 Worch þou þer-aftur;  
 Þat Love is þe levest þing 460  
 Þat ur Lord askeþ.  
 And eke þe playnt of pees  
 Prechet þe þin harpe:  
 Þer þou art murie at þi mete  
 Whon me biddeþ þe ȝedde. 465  
 For bi kuynde knowynge in herte  
 Cumse þer a-ffitte.

"Þat ffallêþ to þe ffader  
 Þat formede us alle;  
 He loked on us wiþ love, 470  
 And lette his sone dye  
 Mekeliche for ure misdede,  
 Forte amende us alle.  
 And ȝit wolde he hem no wo  
 Þat wolde him þat pyne, 475  
 But mekeliche wiþ mouþe  
 Merci he bysouȝte,  
 To have pité on þat peple  
 Þat pynede him to deþe.

"Þer þou miht seon ensauple 480

In þiself one,  
 Hou he was mihtful and meke,  
 Þat merci gon graunte  
 To hem þat heengen him heizē  
 And his herte þurledē. 485

“For-þi I rede þe, mihtful of mayn  
 Be meke of þi wordes,  
 For þe same mesure þat ȝe meten,  
 Amis oper elles,  
 ȝe schul be weyen þer-wiþ 490  
 Whon ȝe wenden hennes.

“For þauȝ ȝe ben trewe of tonge  
 And troweliche winne,  
 And eke as chast as a child  
 Þat in chirche wepeþ, 495  
 Bote ȝe liven trowely  
 And eke love þe pore,  
 And such good as God sent  
 Troweliche parten,  
 ȝe nave no more merit 500  
 In masse ne in houres,  
 Þen Malkyn of hire maydenhod  
 Þat no mon desyreþ.

“For James þe gentel  
 Bond hit in his Book, 505  
 Þat Treuþe wiþouten ffey  
 Is febelore þen nouȝt,  
 And ded as a dore-nayl,  
 But þe deede folewe.  
 Chastité wiþouten charité 510  
 Wite þou forsoþe;  
 Is as lewed as a Laumpe  
 Þat no liht is inne.

“Moni chapeleyns ben chast,

But Charité is aweye; 515  
 Beo no men hardore þen þei  
 Whon heo beoþ avaunset,  
 Unkuynde to heore kun,  
 And to alle cristene  
 Chewen heore charité, 520  
 And chiden after more;  
 Such charité wiþouten chastité  
 Worþ claymed in helle.  
 For þeos beþ wordes i-writen  
 In þe Ewangelye, 525  
*Date, et dabitur vobis*<sup>1</sup>,  
 For-þi I seye, as I seide  
 Bi siht þe textes,  
 Whon alle tresor is i-trizet  
 Treuþe is þe beste." 530

*From the Passus Secundus de Visione.*

Now ffals and ffauvel  
 Fareþ forþ to gedere,  
 And Meede in þe middel,  
 And al þe mēyné aftur.  
 I have no while to telle 535  
 Þe tayl þat hem folweþ;  
 Of so mony maner men  
 Þat on molde liven  
 Bote gyle was for-goere,  
 And gilede hem alle. 540  
 Soþnesse sauh hem wel,  
 And seide bote luyte,  
 Bote prikede on his palfrey,  
 And passede hem alle,  
 And com to þe kynges Court, 545

<sup>1</sup> The V. MS. here abruptly terminates with the words "for I dele ow alle."

And Conciencie tolde ;  
 And Conciencie to þe kyng  
 Carpede hit aftur.  
 "Now, be Crist," quod þe kyng,  
 "ʒif I mihte chacche 550  
 Ffals oper ffauwel,  
 Or eny of his ffeeres,  
 I wolde be wreken on þis wrecches  
 Þat worchen so ille,  
 And don hem hongen bi þe hals, 555  
 And al þat hem mayntenen ;  
 Schal never non uppon molde  
 Meyntene þe leste,  
 But riht as þe lawe lokeþ,  
 Let fallen of hem alle." 560  
 And comaunde þe cunstable  
 Þat com at þe furste,  
 To a-tache þe Traytours,  
 For eny Tresour,  
 Ich hote ʒe ffetre ffals faste 565  
 For eny kunnes ʒiftus,  
 And gurdeþ of gyles hed,  
 Let him go no forþer ;  
 And bringeþ Meede to me  
 Maugre hem alle." 570  
 Symonye and Sivile  
 I seende hem to warne,  
 Þat holichirche for hem  
 Worþ harmet for evere ;  
 And ʒif ʒe chacche lyzere 575  
 Let him not askape  
 To ben set on þe pillori  
 For eny preyere.  
 Dreede at þe door stood,

And þe dune herde, 580  
 And wihliche wente,  
 To warne þe ffalse,  
 And bad him faste to fle,  
 And his feeres eke.

þen ffals for fere 585  
 Fleih to þe ffreeres,  
 And gyle doþ him to go,  
 A-gast for to dyȝe;  
 Bote marchaundes metten wiþ hym  
 And maaden him to abyden, 590  
 Bi-souȝten him in heore schoppes  
 To sullen heore ware,  
 Apparayleden him as a prentis  
 þe peple for to serve.

Lizliche Lyzere 595  
 Leop away þennes,  
 Lurkede thorw lones,  
 To-logged of monye.  
 He nas nouȝwher welcome,  
 For his mony tales, 600  
 Bote over al i-hunted,  
 And hote to trusse,  
 Pardoners hedden pité,  
 And putten him to house.  
 Wosschen him and wrongen him, 605  
 And wunden him in cloutes,  
 And senden him on Sonendayes  
 Wiþ seales to churches,  
 And ȝaf pardun for pons  
 Pound-mele aboute. 610

þis leornden þis leches,  
 And lettres him senden,  
 For to ben wiþ hem  
 Watres to loke.



Spicers speeken wiþ him, 615  
 To asprien heore ware;  
 For he kennede him in heore craft,  
 And kneuþ monye gummes.  
 Munstrals and messagers  
 Metten wiþ him ones, 620  
 And wiþ heoden him half a 3er  
 And ellevene wykes.  
 Ffreres wiþ feir speches  
 Fetten him þennes,  
 For knowyng of comers 625  
 Kepten him as a ffrere;  
 Bote he haþ leve to lepen out,  
 As ofte as him lykeþ,  
 And is welcome whon he wole,  
 And woneþ wiþ hem ofte. 630  
 And alle fledden for fere,  
 And flowen into huirnes;  
 Save Meede þe mayden,  
 No mon dorste abyde.  
 But trewely to telle, 635  
 Heo tremblede for fere,  
 And eke wepte and wrong hire hondes  
 Whon heo was atachet.

*From the Passus Tertius de Visione.*

Now is Meede þe mayd i-nomen  
 And no mo of hem alle, 640  
 Wiþ Beodeles and Baylyfs  
 I-brouht to þe kyng.  
 Þe kyng clepet a Cler[ke],  
 I knowe not his nome,  
 To take Meede þe mayden 645  
 And maken hire at ese.

"Ichulle assayen hire myself,  
 And sopliche aposen,  
 What mon in þis world  
 þat hire weore leovest. 650  
 And 3if heo worche be my wit,  
 And my wil folewe,  
 I schal for3ive hire þe gult,  
 So me God helpe!"  
 Corteisliche þe clerk þo, 655  
 As þe kyng hihte,  
 Tok þe mayden bi þe middel  
 And brouhte hire to chaumbre;  
 Þer was murþe and munstralsye,  
 Meede wiþ to plese. 660  
 Heo þat woneþ at Westmunstre  
 Worschipeþ hire alle,  
 Gentiliche wiþ joye;  
 Þe Justise soone  
 Busked him in to þe bour 665  
 Þer þe Buyrde was inne,  
 Cumfortede hire kuyndely,  
 And made hire good chere;  
 And seide, "Mourne þou not, Meede,  
 Ne make þou no serwe; 670  
 For we wolen wysen þe kyng,  
 And þi wey schapen,  
 For alle Conciencie craft  
 And Casten, as I trouwe."  
 Mildeliche þenne Meede 675  
 Merciede hem alle  
 Of heore grete goodnesse,  
 And 3af þem uchone  
 Coupes of clene Gold,  
 And peces of selver, 680

Rynges wiþ Rubyes,  
 And Richesses inouwe;  
     Þenne tok þei leve  
 Þise lordynges at Meede.  
 Wiþ þat þer come Clerkes 685  
 To Cumforte þe same.  
 We biddeþ þe be bliþe;  
 For we beoþ þin owne,  
 Fforte worche þi wil,  
 While ur lyf dureþ. 690  
 \*           \*           \*           \*           \*  
     Þenne com þer a confessour,  
 I-copet as a ffrere;  
 To Meede þe mayden  
 Ful mekeliche he loutede,  
 And seide ful softely, 695  
 In schrift as hit weore,  
 "Þauȝ ffals hedde folewed þe  
 Þis ffiftene winter,  
 I schal asoyle þe myself  
 For a summe of whete, 700  
 And eke be þi Baude,  
 And Bere wel þin ernde  
 Among Clerkes and knihtes,  
 Concience to falle."  
     Þenne Meede ffor hire misdede 705  
 To þat mon knelede,  
 And schrof hire of hir sunnes,  
 Schomliche, I trouwe;  
 Heo tolde him a tale,  
 And tok him a noble, 710  
 For to ben hire beodemon  
 And hire Baude after.  
     Þenne he asoylede hire soone,

And to hire seide,  
 "We han a wyndow in worching 715  
 Wol stonden us ful heiȝe,  
 Woldustow Glaze þe Gable  
 And grave þerinne þi nome,  
 Siker schulde þi soule ben  
 For to dwellen in hevene." 720

"Wuste I þat," quoth þe wommon,  
 Þer nis nouþer windou ne Auter  
 Þat I ne schulde maken oþer mende  
 And my nome write  
 Þat uche mon schulde seye 725  
 Ich were suster of house."

Bote God to alle good folk  
 Such gravyng defendet,  
 An seiþ *Nesciat sinistra,*  
*Quid faciat dextra.* 730  
 Lete not þi luft hond  
 Late ne raþe  
 Beo war what þi riht hond  
 Worcheþ or deleþ.

Meires and maistres, 735  
 And ȝe þat beoþ mene  
 Bitwene þe kyng and þe comuns  
 To kepe þe lawes,  
 As to punisschen on pillories  
 Or on pynnyng stoles, 740  
 Brewesters, Bakers,  
 Bochers and Cookes,  
 For þese be men uppon molde  
 Þat most harm worchen  
 To þe pore people 745  
 Þat al schal a-buggen;  
 Þei punisschen þe peple

Priveliche and ofte,  
 And rechep þorw Regatorie,  
 And Rentes hem buggeþ, 750  
 Wiþ þat þe pore peple  
 Schulde puten in heore wombe.  
 For toke þei on trewely,  
 Þei timbrede not so hye,  
 Ne bouzte none Borgages, 755  
 Beo 3e certeyne.  
     Bote Meede þe mayden  
 Þe meir heo bi-souzte  
 Of alle suche sullers  
 Selver to taken 760  
 Or presentes wiþouten pons,  
 As peces of selver,  
 Rynges wiþ Rubyes,  
 Þe Regratour to favere ;  
 “ For my love,” quod þe ladi, 765  
 “ Love hem wel uchone,  
 And soffre hem to sulle  
 Sum del aȝeyn Resoun.”  
     Bote Salamon þe sage  
 A sarmoun he made, 770  
 To amende meires  
 And men þat kepeþ þe lawe ;  
 And tolde hem þis teeme,  
 Þat I wol telle nouþe,  
*Ignis devorabit tabernacula eorum* 775  
     *qui libenter accipiunt munera.*  
 Among þis lewede men  
 Þis Latin amounteþ,  
 Þat ffuir schal falle  
 And brenne atte laste 780  
 Þe houses and þe homes

- Of hem þa : desyreþ  
 For to haue giftes  
 In souþe or in elde.
- Þe kyng com from counseyl, 785  
 And cleped aftur Meede,  
 And of sente hire aswiþe  
 Seriauns hire to fette,  
 And brouzte hire to boure  
 Wiþ blisse and wiþ joye. 790
- Corteisliche þe kyng  
 Cumseþ to telle,  
 To Meede þe mayden  
 Melodyes wordes :
- “ Qweynteliche,” quop þe kyng, 795  
 “ Wroust hastou ofte,  
 Bote worse wroutest þou never  
 Þen whon þou fals[e] toke.  
 Ac I forþiue þe þis gult,  
 And graunte þe my grace ; 800  
 Hennes to þi deþ day  
 Do so no more.”
- “ Ichave a kniht hette Concience,  
 Com late from biþonde ;  
 ʒif he wilne þe to wyf, 805  
 Wolt þou him have ?”
- “ ʒe, lord,” quop þat ladi,  
 “ Lord forbeode hit elles !  
 Bote Ich holde me to oure heste,  
 Honge me sone.” 810
- Þenne was Concience i-clepet  
 To comen and apeeren  
 To-fore þe kyng and his Counsel,  
 Clerkes and oþere.
- Kneolyng Concience 815

To þe kyng loutede.  
 "Woltou wedde þis wommon," quod þe kyng,  
 "ʒif I wol assente?  
 Heo is fayn of þi felawschupe,  
 For to beo þi make." 820  
 "Nay!" quapþ Conciencie to þe kyng,  
 "Crist hit me forbeode!  
 Er Ich wedde such a wyf,  
 Wo me bityde!  
 Heo is frele of hire fflesch, 825  
 Ffikel of hire tonge,  
 Heo makeþ men misdo  
 Moni score tymes;  
 In trust of hire tresour  
 Teoneþ ful monye." 830  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 "Sisours and Sumpnours,  
 Suche men hire preisen;  
 Schirreves of schires  
 Weore schent ʒif heo nere;  
 Heo doþ men leosen heore lond 835  
 And heore lyves after;  
 And leteþ passe persons,  
 And payeþ for hem ofte,  
 And ʒeveþ þe Jayler Gold  
 And grotes to gedere, 840  
 To unffetere þe ffalse  
 And fleo where hem lykeþ;  
 Heo takeþ þe trewe bi þe top  
 And tizeþ him faste,  
 And hongep him for hate 845  
 Þat harmede nevere.  
 Heo þat ben curset in cons[is]torie  
 Countep hit not at a Russche;

For heo Copeþ þe Comissarie,  
 And Coteþ þe Clerkes. 850  
 Heo is asoyled as sone  
 As hire self lykeþ;  
 " Heo may as muche do  
 In a mooneþ ones,  
 As ure secre seal 855  
 In seven score dayes.  
 Heo is privé wiþ þe pope,  
 Provisours hit knowen;  
 Sir Simonie and hire sel  
 Asselen the Bulles. 860  
 Heo blessedede the Bisschopes,  
 Þouȝ þat þei ben lewed;  
 Provendreres, persuns,  
 Preostes heo maynteneþ.  
 Þer heo is wel wiþ þe kyng, 865  
 Wo is þe Reaume;  
 Ffor heo is ffaverable to ffals,  
 And fouleþ Treuþe ofte.  
 " Barouns and burgeis  
 Heo bringeþ to serwe, 870  
 Heo Buggeþ wiþ heore Juweles  
 Ur Justises heo schendeþ,  
 Heo lihþ aȝeyn þe lawe  
 And letteþ so faste,  
 Þat feiþ may not han his forþ 875  
 Hir fflorins gon so þikke;  
 Heo ledeþ þe lawe as hire luste  
 And love dayes makeþ;  
 Þe Mase for a Mene mon  
 Þauȝ he mote evere, 880  
 Lawe is so lordlich  
 And loþ to maken eende;



Wiþouten presentes or pons  
 Heo pleseþ ful fewe. 885  
 Clergye and Covetise  
 Heo Coupleþ to gedere.  
 Þis is þe lyf of þe ladi;  
 Ur Lord ȝive hire serwe!  
 And alle þat meynteneþ hire,  
 Ur Lord ȝive hem care! 890  
 Ffor pore may have no pouwer  
 To pleyne, þauȝ hem smerte.  
 Such a Mayster is Meede  
 Among Men of goode."

*Passus Quintus de Visione, ut supra.*

Þe kyng and his knihtes 895  
 To þe Churche wenten  
 To heere Matyns and Masse  
 And to þe Mete aftur.  
 Þene wakede I of my wink,  
 Me was wo wiþ alle, 900  
 Þat I nedde sadloker i-slept,  
 And i-seȝe more.  
 Er I a ffurlong hedde i-fare  
 A ffeyntise me hente,  
 Þat fforþer miht i not a fote 905  
 For defaute of sleep,  
 I sat softeliche a-doun,  
 And seide my beoleeve,  
 And so I blaberde on my Beodes,  
 Þat brouhte me aslepe. 910  
 Þen sauh I mucche more  
 Þen I beofore tolde,  
 Ffor I sauh þe ffeld ful of ffolk,  
 Þat ich of bifore of schewede,

- And Conciencie wip a Crois 915  
 Com for to preche ;  
 He preide þe peple  
 Have pité of hem selve  
 And prevede þat þis pestilences  
 Weore for puire synne, 920  
 And þis souþwesterne wynt,  
 On a saterday at even,  
 Was a perteliche for pruide,  
 And for no poynt elles ;  
 Piries and Plomtres 925  
 Weore passchet to þe grounde,  
 In ensaumple to Men  
 Þat we sholde do þe bettere ;  
 Beches and brode okes  
 Weore blowen to þe eorþe, 930  
 And turned upward þe tayle,  
 In toknyng of drede  
 Þat dedly synne or domesday  
 Schulde fordon hem alle.  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 Þenne ron Repentaunce, 935  
 And Rehersed his teeme ;  
 And made William to weope  
 Water wip boþe his ejen.  
 Pernel Proud-herte  
 Platte hire to grounde, 940  
 And lay longe ar heo lokede  
 And to ur ladi criede,  
 And beohizte to him  
 Þat us alle maade,  
 Heo wolde unsouwen hire smok, 945  
 And setten þer an here,  
 Forte fayten hire fflesch

þat ffirele was to synne.  
 "Schal never liht herte me hente,  
 Bote holde me lowe 950  
 And suffre to be mis-seid,  
 And so dude I nevere ;  
 And nou I con wel meke me,  
 And merci beseche,  
 Of al þat Ichave i-had 955  
 Envye in myn herte."  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 Envye wip hevi herte  
 Asket aftur schrift,  
 And gretliche his gustus  
 Biginneþ to schewe. 960  
 As pale as a pelet,  
 In a palesye he seemede ;  
 I-cloped in a Caurimauri,  
 I couþe him not discreve,  
 As a leek þat hedde i-lezen 965  
 Longe in þe sonne,  
 So loked he wip lene chekes  
 Lourede he foule.  
 His Bodi was Bolled,  
 For wrapþe he bot his lippes, 970  
 Wroþliche he wrong his fust,  
 He þouþte him a-wreke  
 Wip werkes or wip wordes,  
 Whon he seiþ his tyme.  
 Venim or vernisch 975  
 Or vinegre, I trouwe,  
 Walleþ in my wombe  
 Or waxeþ, ich wene.  
 I ne mihte mony day don  
 As a mon ouhte, 980

Such wynt in my wombe  
Waxep er I dye.

“Ichave a neihgebor me neih,  
I have annyged him ofte,  
Ablamed him behynde his bak 985  
To bringe him in disclaundre  
And peired him bi my pouwer  
I-punished him ful ofte;  
Bilowen him to lordes  
To make him leose selver, 990  
I-don his ffrendes ben his fon  
Wip my false tonge;  
His grase and his good hap  
Grevep me ful sore.  
Bitwene him and his meyné 995  
Ichave i-mad wrappe  
Bope his lyf and his leome  
Was lost þorw my tonge.  
Whon I mette him in þe market  
þat I most hate, 1000  
Ich heilede him as hendely,  
His frend as I weore;  
He is douzhtiore þen I,  
I dar non harm don him;  
Bote hedde I maystrie and miht, 1005  
I morþerde him for evere.  
“Whon I come to þe churchē,  
And knele before þe Roode,  
And scholde preiþe for þe peple  
As þe pres[t] us techeþ, 1010  
þenne I crie uppon my knes  
þat Crist ȝive hem serwe,  
þat haþ i-bore awei my Bolle  
And my brode schete.

"From þe Auter I turne 1015  
 Myn eize, and biholde  
 Hou Heyne haþ a new Cote,  
 And his wyf anoþer.  
 Þene I wussche hit weore myn,  
 And al þe web after. 1020  
 Of his leosinge I lauhwe,  
 Hit likeþ me in myn herte;  
 Ac for his wynnyng I wepe,  
 And weile þe tyme;  
 I deme men þat don ille, 1025  
 And ȝit I do wel worse.  
 For I wolde þat uch a wiht  
 In þis world were mi knave.  
 Þus I live loveles,  
 Lyk a luþer dogge; 1030  
 Þat al my brest Bolleþ,  
 For bitter of my galle.  
 May no suger so swete  
 Dryve hit from myn herte?  
 Ne no *diopendion* 1035  
 A-swagen hit unneþe  
 ȝif schri[f]t schulde hit þenne swopen out  
 A gret wonder hit were.  
 "Ȝus rediliche," quod Repentaunce,  
 And Radde him to goode: 1040  
 "Serw for heore sunnes  
 Saveþ men ful monye."  
 "Icham sori," quod Envye,  
 "I ne am but seldene oþer,  
 And þat makeþ me so mad, 1045  
 For I ne may me venge."  
 Þenne com Covetyse,  
 I couþe him not discreve,

So hungri and so holewe  
 Sire Hervi him loked. 1050  
 He was bitel brouwed,  
 Wip twei blered eizen  
 And lyk a leperne pors  
 Lullede his chekes,  
 In a toren Tabart 1055  
 Of twelve wynter Age;  
 But 3if a lous coupe lepe,  
 I con hit not i-leve  
 Heo scholde wandre on þat walk,  
 Hit was so þredbare. 1060  
 "Ichave ben covetous," quod þis Caityf,  
 "I be-knowe hit heere,  
 For sum tyme I servede  
 Simme atte Noke,  
 And was his pliht prentys 1065  
 His profyt to loke.  
 "Ffurst I leornede to ly3e,  
 A lessun or tweyne;  
 And wikkedliche for to weie  
 Was myn oþer lessun; 1070  
 To Winchestre and to Wych  
 Ich wente to þe ffeire,  
 Wip mony maner marchaundise,  
 As my mayster hihte.  
 Bote nedde þe grace of gyle 1075  
 I-gon among my ware,  
 Hit hedde ben unsold þis seven 3er,  
 So me God helpe!  
 "Þenne I drou3 me among þis drapers,  
 My Donet to learne, 1080  
 To drawe þe lyste wel along,  
 Þe lengore hit semede;

Among þis Riche Rayes  
 Lernde I a Lessun,  
 Brochede hem wiþ a pak-needde, 1085  
 And pletede hem to-gedere,  
 Putte hem in a pressour,  
 And pinnede hem þer Inne,  
 Til ten þerdes oþer twelve  
 Tolden out þrettene. 1090  
 “And my wyf at Westmunstre  
 Ðat wollene cloþ made;  
 Spak to þe spinsters  
 For to spinne hit softe;  
 Ðe pound þat heo peysede 1095  
 A quatrun more peisede  
 Ðen myn Auncel dude,  
 Whon I weyede treuþe.  
 “I bouhte hire barly  
 Heo breuh hit to sulle, 1100  
 Peni ale and piriwhit  
 Heo pourede to-gedere,  
 For laborers and louh folk  
 Ðat liven be hem-selven.  
 “Ðe Beste in þe Bed-chaumbre, 1105  
 Lay bi þe wowe;  
 Hose Bummede þerof  
 Bouzþe hit þer after,  
 A Galoun for a Grote,  
 God wot no lasse! 1110  
 Whon hit com in Cuppe-mel,  
 Such craftes me usede.  
 Rose þe Regratour  
 Is hire rihte name;  
 Heo haþ holden hoxterye 1115  
 Ðis Ellevene wynter,

Bote I swere nou,  
 Dat sunne wol I lete,  
 And never wikkedliche weye,  
 Ne fals chaffare usen ;

1120

Bote weende to Walsyngham,  
 And my wyf also,  
 And bidde þe Rode of Bromholm  
 Bringe me out of dette."

\* \* \* \* \*

A þousent of Men þo  
 Þrongen to-geders,  
 Weopyng and weylyng  
 For heore wikkede dedes,

1125

Criþinge upward to Crist,  
 And to his clene moder,  
 To have grace to seche seint treuþ  
 God leve þei so mote.

1130

Bote þer were fewe men so wys  
 Dat coupe þe wei þider.

Bote bustelyng forþ as bestes  
 Over valeyas and hulleas ;

1135

Til was late and longe  
 Dat þei a leod metten,  
 Apparayled as a Palmere  
 In Pilgrimes wedes.

1140

He bar a bordun i-bounde  
 Wijþ a brod lyste,  
 In a weyebondes wyse  
 I-wriþen aboute ;

A Bagge and a Bolle

1145

He bar bi his syde ;  
 An hundred of ampoules  
 On his hat seeten,



Signes of Synay,  
 And Schelles of Galys, 1150  
 Moni Cros on his cloke,  
 And keijes of Rome,  
 And þe vernicle bi-fore,  
 For men schulde knowe,  
 And seo be his signes 1155  
 Whom he souht hedde.  
 Þis ffolk fraynede him feire,  
 From whenne þat he coome.  
 "Ffrom Synay," he seide,  
 "And from þe sepulcre; 1160  
 In Bepheem and Babiloyne,  
 I have ben in boþe;  
 In Ynde and Assye,  
 And in monye oþer places.  
 3e mouwe seo be my signes, 1165  
 Þat sitteþ on myn hat,  
 Þat I have walked ful wyde  
 In weet and in druye,  
 And souht goode seyntes  
 For my soule hele." 1170  
 "Knowest þou ouht a Corseynt,  
 Men calleþ seynt Treuþe?  
 Coust þou wissen us þe wey,  
 Wher þat he dwelleþ?"  
 "Nay, so God glade me!" 1175  
 Seide þe gome þenne,  
 "Sauh I nevere Palmere,  
 Wiþ pyk ne wiþ schrippe,  
 Such a seint seche  
 Bote now in þis place." 1180  
 "Peter!" quod a plouȝ Mon,  
 And putte forþ his hed,

"I knowe him as kuyndeliche  
 As Clerk dop his bokes;  
 Clene Conciene and Wit 1185  
 Taughte me to his place,  
 And dude enseure me seþþe  
 To serve him for ever,  
 Boþe to sowen and to setten,  
 While I swynke mihte. 1190  
 I have ben his felawe  
 Þis fiftene wynter,  
 Boþe i-sowen his sed,  
 And suwed his beestes,  
 And eke i-kept his Corn, 1195  
 I-caried hit to house,  
 I-dyket and i-dolven,  
 I-don what he hihte,  
 Wiþinnen and wiþouten  
 I wayted his profyt. 1200  
 Þer nis no laborer in þis leod  
 Þat he loveþ more.  
 For þauh I sigge hit my self,  
 I serve him to paye;  
 I have myn hure of him wel, 1205  
 And oþerwhile more.  
 He is þe presteste payere  
 Þat pore men habbeþ;  
 He wiþhalt non hyne his huire,  
 Þat he hit naþ at even. 1210  
 He is as louh as a lomb,  
 Lovelich of speche;  
 And 3if 3e wollen i-wite  
 Wher þat he dwelleþ,  
 I wol wissen on þe wey 1215  
 Hom to his place."

*Passus Sextus de Visione, ut supra.*

[For] kuynde wit wolde  
 Dat uche mon wrouhte,  
 Wiþ techinge or wiþ tilynge,  
 Or travaylynge of hondes; 1220  
 Actyf lyf or contemplatyf  
 Crist wolde hit alse.  
 For so seiþ þe Sauter  
 In Psalm of *Beati omnes*,  
 He þat get his fode her 1225  
 Wiþ travaylinge in Treuþe,  
 God giveþ him his blessing  
 Ðat his lyflode so swynkeþ.  
 "Yit I preye þe," quod Pers,  
 "Par charité, 3if þou conne 1230  
 Eny lyf of leche Craft,  
 Lere hit me, my deore;  
 For summe of my servauns,  
 Beoþ seke oþer while,  
 Of alle þe wike heo worcheþ not, 1235  
 So heor wombe akeþ."  
 "I wot wel," quod Hunger,  
 "What seknesse hem eileþ;  
 Ðei han maunget over muche,  
 Ðat makeþ hem grone ofte. 1240  
 Ac Ich hote þe," quod Hunger,  
 "An þou þin hele wylne,  
 Ðat þou drynke no dai  
 Til þou have dynet sumwhat.  
 Ete not, Ich hote þe, 1245  
 Til hunger þe take,  
 And sende þe sum of his sauce  
 To saver þe þe betere;

- Keep sum till soper tyme,  
 And ffaste þou not to longe, 1250  
 And Rys up ar appetyt  
 Habbe i-ȝeten his fulle.  
 Let not sir surfet  
 Sitten at þi Bord.  
 And ȝif þou diȝete þe þus, 1255  
 I dar legge boþe myn eres,  
 Ðat ffisyk schal his forred hod  
 For his lyflode sulle,  
 And eke his cloke of Calabre,  
 Wiþ knappes of gold, 1260  
 And beo ffayn, be my ffeif!  
 His ffhisyk to lete,  
 And leorne to labre wiþ lond,  
 Leste lyflode ffaile.  
 Ðer beoþ mo lyȝers þen leches, 1265  
 Ur Lord hem amende!  
 Ðey don men dyȝen þorwȝ heor drinke,  
 Er destenye wolde."  
 "Bi seint Poul!" quod Pers,  
 "Ðeos beoþ þrophitable wordes! 1270  
 Þis is a loveli lesson,  
 Ur Lord hit þe for-ȝelde!"  
 Wend þou whon þi wille is,  
 Wel þe beo for ever.  
 "I beo-hote þe!" quod Hungur, 1275  
 "Heonnes nul I wende,  
 Er I hav i-dynet bi þis day,  
 And i-dronke boþe."  
 "I have no peny," quod Pers,  
 "Poletes to bugge, 1280  
 Nouþer gees ne grys,  
 Bote twey grene cheeses,

And a fewe Cruddes and Craym,  
 And a perf Cake,  
 And a lof of Benes and Bren 1285  
 I-Bake for my children;  
 And I sigge, bi my soule!  
 I have no salt Bacon,  
 Ne no Cokeneyes, bi Crist!  
 Colopus to maken. 1290  
 "Bot I have porettes and percyl  
 And mony Col plontes,  
 And eke a Cou and a Calf,  
 And a Cart Mare  
 To drawe a-feld my donge, 1295  
 Whil þe drouhþe lasteþ;  
 Bi þis lyflode I mot lyven  
 Til Lammasse tyme.  
 Bi þat, Ich hope forte have  
 Hervest in my Croft, 1300  
 Þenne may I dihte þi dyner,  
 As þe deore lykeþ."  
 Al þe pore peple  
 Pesecoddes fetten,  
 Bake Benes in Bred 1305  
 Þei brouhten in heor lappes,  
 Chibolles Cheef mete  
 And ripe chiries mony,  
 And proferde Pers þis present  
 To plese with Hungur. 1310  
 Honger eet þis in haste,  
 And asked aftur more.  
 Þenne þis folk, for fere,  
 Fetten him monye,  
 Porettes and peosen, 1315  
 For þei him plese wolden.

From þat tyme þat þulke weore eten  
 Take he schulde his leve  
 Til hit to hervest hizede.

þat newe corn com to chepyng. 1320

þenne was þat folk fayn,  
 And fedde Hunger ȝeorne,  
 Wip goode Ale, and glotonye,  
 And gart him to slepe.

And þo nolde þe wastor worche, 1325

But wandren aboute,  
 Ne no beggere eten Bred  
 That Benes inne coome,  
 But Coket and Cler-matin,  
 An[d] of clene whete;

1330

Ne non halfpeny Ale  
 In none wyse drynke,  
 Bote of þe Beste and þe Brouneste  
 þat Brewesters sullen.

Laborers þat have no lond 1335

To lyven on bote heore honden,  
 Deyne not to dyne a day  
 Niht olde wortes;

Mai no peny ale hem paye,  
 Ne no pece of Bacun, 1340

Bote hit weore ffresh fflessch  
 Or elles ffisch i-ffriȝet,  
 Boþe Chaud and plus chaud,  
 For Chele of heor mawe.

Bote he beo heihliche i-huret, 1345

Elles wol he chide,

þat he was werkmon i-wrouȝt  
 Warie þe tyme;

And Corse ȝerne þe kyng,  
 And al his Counseil aftur,

1350

Suche lawes to loke  
 Laborers to chaste.  
 Ac while Hunger was mayster heer,  
 Wolde þer non chyde,  
 Ne strive aȝeyn þe statues, 1355  
 So steorneliche he lokede.  
 I warne ȝou, alle werkmen,  
 Wynneþ while ȝe mowe,  
 Hunger hiderward aȝeyn  
 Hiȝeþ him ȝeorne. 1360  
 He wole a-wake þorw watur  
 Þe wastours alle;  
 Er ffyve ȝer ben folfult,  
 Such ffamyn schal aryse,  
 Þorw flodes and foul weder, 1365  
 Ffruites schul fayle,  
 And so seiþ Saturnes,  
 And sente us to warne.

## XXIII.

### JOHN DE WYCLIFFE.

A. D. 1324-1384.

John Wycliffe was born at the village of Hipswell, near Richmond, Yorkshire, about the year 1324, and died at the vicarage of Lutterworth (Leicestershire), A. D. 1384. He was the first Englishman who undertook a complete version of the Scriptures in his native tongue. This great work is supposed to have been completed about the year 1380. Wycliffe was the author of many religious treatises written in English, among which may be mentioned a *Harmony of the Gospels* and the *Apology* for the Lollards.

The Gospel of St. Mark is taken from *The Holy Bible in the Earliest English Versions made from the Latin Vulgate, by John Wycliffe and his Followers*, edited by the Rev. J. Forshall and Sir F. Madden. Oxford, University Press, 1850, 4 vols. 4to.

*Here Bygynneth the Gospel of Mark.*

#### CAP. I.

ÞE bigynnyng of þe gospel of Jhesu Crist, þe sone of 1  
God. ∴ As it is writun in Ysaie, þe prophete, Lo! I sende 2  
myn angel bifore þi face, þat schal make þi weye redy bifore  
þee. ∴ Þe voyce of *oon* cryinge in desert, Make 3e redy 3  
þe weye of þe Lord, make 3e his papis riȝtful. ∴ Jhon 4  
was in desert baptisyng, and prechinge þe baptyng of  
penaunce, in to remiscioun of synnes. ∴ And alle men of 5  
Jerusalem wenten out to him, and al þe cuntre of Judee;  
and weren baptisid of him in þe flood of Jordan, know-  
lechinge her synnes. ∴ And John was clopid wiþ heeris 6  
of camelis, and a girdil of skyn, abowte his leendis; and he



eet locustus, and hony of þe wode, and prechide, seyinge, :-  
 7 A strengere þan I schal come aftir me, of whom I knelinge  
 am not worþi for to vndo, *or vnbynde*, þe þwong of his  
 8 schoon. :- I haue baptisid 3ou in water; forsoþe he shal  
 9 baptise 3ou in þe Holy Goost. :- And it is don in þoo  
 dayes, Jhesus came fro Nazareþ of Galilee, and was baptisid  
 10 of Joon in Jordan. :- And anoon he stynging vp of þe  
 water, say; heuenes openyd, and þe Holy Goost cummyng  
 11 doun as a culuere, and dwellyng in hym. :- And a voys  
 is maad fro heuenes, þou art my sone loued, in þee I haue  
 12 plesid. :- And anon þe Spirit puttide hym in to desert. :-  
 13 And he was in desert fourty dayes and fourty niȝtis, and  
 was temptid of Sapanas, and was wiþ beestis, and angelis  
 14 mynystriden to hym. :- Forsoþe aftir þat Joon was taken,  
 Jhesus came in to Galilee, preching the gospel of þe kyng-  
 15 dam of God, :- and seiynge, For tyme is fulfillid, and þe  
 kyngdam of God shal come niȝ; forþinke 3ee, *or do 3ee*  
 16 *penaunce*, and bileue 3ee to þe gospel. :- And he passynge  
 bisidis þe see of Galilee, say Symont, and Andrew, his  
 brother, sendynge nettis into þe see; soþely þei weren  
 17 fishers. :- And Jhesus seide to hem, Come 3ee after me;  
 18 I shal make 3ou to be maad fishers of men. :- And anoon  
 19 þe nettis forsaken, þei sueden hym. :- And he gon forþ  
 þennes a litil, say James of Zebede, and Joon, his broþer,  
 20 and hem in þe boot makynge nettis. :- And anoon he  
 clepide hem; and Zebede, her fadir, left in þe boot wiþ  
 21 hirid seruauntis, þei sueden hym. :- And þei wenten  
 forþ in to Cafarnaum, and anoon in þe sabotis he gon  
 22 yn into þe synagoge, tauȝte hem. :- And þei wondreden  
 on his techynge; soþely he was techynge hem, as hauynge  
 23 power, and not as scribis. :- And in þe synagoge of hem  
 24 was a man in an vnclene spirit, and he criede, :- seyinge,  
 What to vs and to þee, þou Jhesu of Nazareþ? haste þou  
 cummen bifore þe tyme for to destroie vs? Y woot þat

þou art þe holy of God. :- And Jhesus þretenyde to hym, 25  
 seyinge, Wexe dowmb, and go out of þe man. :- And þe 26  
 vnclene goost debrekyng hym, and crynging wiþ grete vois,  
 wente away fro hym. :- And alle men wondriden, so þat 27  
 þei souzten togidre amonge hem, seyinge, What is þis  
 þinge? what is þis newe techyng? for in power he com-  
 aundith to vnclene spiritis, and þei obeyen to hym. :- And 28  
 þe tale, *or tyng*, of hym wente forþ anoon in to al þe  
 cuntree of Galilee. :- And anoon þei goyng out of þe 29  
 synagoge camen in to þe hous of Symont and Andrew, wiþ  
 James and Joon. :- Soþely and þe modir of Symontis wif 30  
 sik in feueris restide, *or lay*; and anoon þei seien to hym  
 of hir. :- And he cummyng to, reride hir up, þe hond of 31  
 hir taken, and anoon þe feuere left hire, and she mynystride  
 to hem. :- Forsoþe þe euenyng maad, whenne þe sone 32  
 wente doun, þei brouzten to hym alle hauyng yuel, and  
 hauyng deuelis. :- And al þe cite was gaderid at þe zate. :- 33  
 And he helide many þat weren traueilide with dyuers  
 soris, and he castide out many deuelis, and he suffride hem  
 nat for to speke, for þei knewen hym. :- And in þe 35  
 morewyng ful erly he rysyng, gon out, wente in to a desert  
 place, and preiede þere. :- And Symont suede hym, and þei 36  
 þat weren wiþ hym. :- And whanne þei hadden founden  
 hym, þei seiden to hym, For alle men seeken þee. :- And 38  
 he seiþ to hem, Go we in to þe nexte townes and citees,  
 þat and þere I preche, for to þis þing I came. :- And he 39  
 was prechyng in þe synagogis of hem, and in alle Galilee,  
 and castyng out fendis. :- And a leprous man cam to hym, 40  
 bisechyng hym, and, þe knee folden, seide, 3if þou wolt,  
 þou maist clense me. :- Forsoþe Jhesus, hauyng mercy on 41  
 hym, streizt out his hond, and, touchyng hym, seiþ to  
 hym, I wole, be þou maad clene. :- And whanne he hadde 42  
 seide, anoon þe lepre partide away fro hym, and he is  
 clensid. :- And he þretenyde to hym, and anoon he putte 43

44 hym out, ∴ and seiþ to hym, Se þou, sei to no man; but  
 go, shewe þee to þe princis of prestis, and offre for þi  
 clensynge þo þingis þat Moyses badde, in to witnessynge  
 45 to hem. ∴ And he, gon out, biganne to preche, and diffame,  
*or publische*, þe word, so þat nowe he miȝte nat opynly go  
 in to þe citee, but be wiþ out forþ in deserte placis; and  
 þei camen to gidre to hym on alle sydis. ∴

## CAP. II.

1 And eft he entride in to Capharnaum, after eizte dayes. ∴  
 2 And it is herd, þat he was in an hous, and many camen  
 togidre, so þat it tok nat, neþer at the ȝate. And he spac  
 3 to hem a word. ∴ And þere camen to hym men bryngynge  
 4 a man sike in palesie, þe whiche was borun of foure. ∴ And  
 whanne þei miȝte nat offre hym to hym for þe cumpanye  
 of peple, þei maden þe roof nakid, wher he was; and  
 makyng opyn, þei senten down þe bedd, in whiche þe  
 5 sike man in palasie lay. ∴ Soþely whanne Jhesus say þe  
 feiþ of hem, he seiþ unto þe sike man in palasie, Sone,  
 6 þi synnes ben forȝouen to þee. ∴ Forsoþe þere weren  
 summe of þe scribis sittynge and þenkyng in her hertis, ∴  
 7 What spekiþ he þus? He blasfemeþ; who may forȝeue  
 8 synnes, no-but God alone? ∴ Þe whiche þing anoon  
 knowen by þe Holy Goost, for þei þouȝten so wiþ-inne  
 hem-self, Jhesus seiþ to hem, What þenken ȝee þese þingis  
 9 in ȝoure hertis? ∴ What is liȝtere for to sei to the sike  
 man in palasie, Synnes ben forȝouen to þee, or for to sei,  
 10 Ryse, take þi bed, and walke? ∴ Soþely þat ȝee wite  
 þat mannes sone haþ powere in erþe to forȝeue synnes,  
 11 he seiþ to þe sike man in palasie, ∴ I sei to þee, ryse  
 12 up, take þy bed, and go in to þin house. ∴ And anoon  
 he roos vp, and, þe bed taken vp, he wente bifore alle  
 men, so þat alle men wondriden, and honouriden God,  
 13 seyinge, For we sayen neuer so. ∴ And he wente out

eftsone to þe see, and al þe cumpanye of peple cam to  
 hym; and he tauȝte hem. :- And whenne he passide, he 14  
 say Leui Alfey sittynge at þe tolboþe, and he seiþ to hym,  
 Sue þou me. And he rysynge suede hym. :- And it is 15  
 don, whenne he sat at þe mete in his hous, many publicanys  
 and synful men saten togidre at þe mete wiþ Jhesu and  
 his disciplis; soþely þere weren manye þat foleweden hym. :-  
 And scribis and Pharisees seeyinge, for he eet wiþ pupli- 16  
 canys and synful men, seiden to his disciplis, Whi ȝoure  
 maister etiþ and drinkiþ wiþ puplicanys and synners? :-  
 Þis þing herd, Jhesus seiþ to hem, Hoole men han no 17  
 nede to a leche, but þei þat han yuele; forsoþe I cam  
 not for to clepe iuste men, but synners. :- And disciplis 18  
 of Joon and þe Pharisees weren fastynge; and þei camen,  
 and seien to hym, Whi disciplis of Joon and of Pharisees  
 fasten, but þi disciplis fasten nat? :- And Jhesus seiþ to 19  
 hem, Wheþer þe sonnys of weddyngis mown faste, as long  
 as þe spouse is wiþ hem? Hou longe tyme þei han þe  
 spouse wiþ hem, þei mowe nat faste. :- Forsoþe dayes 20  
 shulen come, whenne þe spouse shal be taken away fro  
 hem, and þanne þei shulen faste in þoo days. :- No man 21  
 seweþ a pacche of rude; *or newe*, cloþe to an old cloþe,  
 ellis he takिþ away þe newe supplement, *or pacche*, and a  
 more brekyng is maad. :- And no man sendiþ newe wyn 22  
 in to oolde botelis, *or wyne vesselis*, ellis the wyn shal berste  
 þe wyn vesselis, and þe wyn shal be held out, and þe wyne  
 vesselis shulen perishe. But newe wyn shal be sent in to  
 newe wyn vesselis. :- And it is don eftsoone, whanne þe 23  
 Lord walkide in the sabotis by þe cornes, and his disciplis  
 bigunnyn to passe forþ, and plucke eris. :- Soþly þe 24  
 Pharysees seiden, Loo! what don þi disciplis in sabotis, þat  
 is nat leueful. :- And he seiþ to hem, Radde ȝee neuere 25  
 what Dauyth dide, whanne he hadde neede, and he hungride,  
 and þei þat weren wiþ hym? :- Hou he wente in to þe 26

hous of God, vndir Abiaþar, prince of prestis, and eete  
 loouys of proposicioun, þe whiche it was nat leeful to ete,  
 no-but to prestis alone, and he 3aue to hem þat weren wiþ  
 27 hym. :- And he seide to hem, Þe sabote is maad for man,  
 and nat a man for þe sabote; and so mannys sone is lord  
 also of the saboth. :-

## CAP. III.

1 And he entride eftsoone in to the synagoge, and þer was  
 2 a man hauynge a drye hond. :- And þei aspieden hym, 3if  
 3 he helide in sabopis, for to accuse hym. :- And he seiþ to  
 4 þe man hauynge a drye honde, Ryse in to the mydil. :- And  
 he seiþ to hem, Is it leeuful to do wel in þe sabopis, or  
 yuele? for to make a soule saaf, wheþer to lese? And þei  
 5 weren stille. :- And he biholdynge hem aboute wiþ wraþe,  
 hauynge sorwe vpon the blyndnesse of her herte, seiþ to  
 þe man, Holde forþ þin honde. And he helde forþ,  
 6 and þe honde is restorid to hym. :- Soþely Pharisees  
 goynge out anoon, maden a counseil wiþ Herodyans azeins  
 7 hym, hou þei shulden lese hym. :- Forsoþe Jhesus wiþ  
 his disciplis wente to þe see; and myche cumpanye from  
 8 Galilee and Judee suede hym, :- and fro Jerusalem, and  
 fro Ydume, and bizendis Jordan, and þei þat aboute Tyre  
 and Sydon, a grete multitude, heerynge þe þingis þat he  
 9 dide, camen to hym. :- And Jhesus seiþ to his disciplis,  
 þat þe litil boot shulde serue hym, for þe cumpanye of  
 10 peple, lest þei oppressiden hym; :- soþely he helide many,  
 so þat þei felden fast to hym, þat þei shulden touche hym  
 11 Forsoþe hou many euere, hadden soris, *or woundis*, :- and  
 vnclene spiritis, whenne þei seien hym, felden down to hym,  
 12 and crieden seyinge, Þou art þe sone of God. :- And  
 gretely he manasside hem, þat þei shulden nat make hym  
 13 opyn, *or knowen*. :- And he stynginge into an hil, clepide to  
 14 hym whom he wolde; and þei camen to hym. :- And

he made, þat þere weren twelue wiþ hym, and þat he  
 shulde sende hem for to preche. ⁊ And he ȝaue to hem 15  
 power of heelynge sicknessis, and of castyng out fendis. ⁊  
 And to Symount he putte name Petre, ⁊ and James of 16  
 Zebede and Joon, the broþer of James, and he putte to 17  
 hem names Boonerges, þat is, þe sones of þondrynge; ⁊  
 and Andrew and Philip, and Barþolomewe and Maþew, 18  
 and Þomas and James Alfey, and Þadee and Symount  
 Cananee, ⁊ and Judas Scarioþ, þat bitraide hym. ⁊ And þei 19  
 comen to an hous, and þe cumpanye of peple came togidre 20  
 eftsoone, so þat þei miȝte not neþer ete breed. ⁊ And 21  
 whanne his *kynnesmen* hadden herdde, þei wenten out for  
 to holde hym; sothely þei seiden, for he is turnyd in to  
 wodenesse. ⁊ And þe scribis þat camen doun fro Jerusalem, 22  
 seiden, For he haþ Belsebub, and for in þe prince of  
 deuels he castiþ out fendis. ⁊ And, hem gadrid togidre, 23  
 he seide to hem in parablis, Hou may Saþanas caste out  
 Saþanas? ⁊ And if a rewme be departide in itself, þe ilke 24  
 rewme may not stonde. ⁊ And if an hous be disparpoilid on 25  
 it-self, þilke hous may not stonde. ⁊ And if Saþanas haþ 26  
 risen aȝeins hym-self, he is disparpoilid, and he shal not  
 mowe stonde, but haþ an ende. ⁊ No man, gon in to a 27  
 stronge mannes hous, may take away his vessels, no-but he  
 bynde firste the stronge man, and thanne he shal diuersly  
 rauyshe his hous. ⁊ Trewly I seie to ȝou, for alle synnes and 28  
 blasphemyes, by whiche þei han blasfemed, shulen be for-  
 ȝouen to þe sones of men. ⁊ Soþely he þat shal blasfeme 29  
 aȝeins þe Holy Gost, shal not haue remissioun in to with  
 outhen eend, but he shal be gilty of euerlastyng trespass. ⁊ For 30  
 þei seiden, He haþ an unclene spirit. ⁊ And his modir 31  
 and breþeren comen, and þei stondyng wiþ-oute forþ,  
 senten to hym, clepyng hym. ⁊ And a cumpany sat 32  
 aboute hym; and þei seien to hym, Lo! þi modir, and  
 þi breþeren wiþ-outhen forþ seken þee. ⁊ And he answer- 33

yngre to hem seiþ, Who is my modir and my breþeren? :-  
 34 And biholdyngre hem aboute, þat saten in þe cumpas of  
 35 hym, he seiþ, Lo! my modir and my bretheren. :- Forsoþ  
 who þat doþ þe will of God, he is my brother, and my  
 sister, and modir. :-

## CAP. IV.

1 And eft Jhesus bigan for to teche at the see; and myche  
 cumpany of peple is gedrid to hym, so þat he styngre in to  
 a boot, sat in þe see, and al þe cumpany of peple was  
 2 aboute þe see, on þe lond. :- And he tauzte hem in parablis  
 many þingis. And he seide to hem in his techyngre,  
 3 Heere 3ee. :- Loo! a man sowyngre goþ out for to sowe. :-  
 4 And þe while he sowiþ, an oþer seed felde aboute þe  
 wey, and briddis of heuene, *or of the aire*, camen, and eeten  
 5 it. :- Forsoþe an oþer felde down on stony placis, wher it  
 had[de] nat myche erþe; and anoon it sprong vp, for it  
 6 hadde nat depnesse of erþe. :- And whenne þe sunne rose  
 vp, it welwide for heete, and it dried vp, for it hadde not  
 7 roote. :- And an oþer felde down into þornes, and þornes  
 8 stieden vp, and strangliden it, and it 3aue not fruyt. :- And  
 an oþer felde down in to good lond, and 3aue fruyt, styngre  
 vp, and wexinge; and oon brouzte þritty fold, and oon  
 9 sixtyfold, and oon an hundridfold. :- And he seide, He  
 10 þat haþ eris of heeryng, heere. :- And whenne he was  
 singuler, *or by hym self*, þe twelue þat weren wiþ hym  
 11 axiden hym for to expowne þe parable. :- And he seide  
 to hem, To 3ou it is 3ouen for to knowe þe mysterie, *or*  
*pryuile*, of þe kyngdam of God. Soþely to hem þat ben  
 12 wiþ-oute forþ, alle þingis ben maad in parablis, :- þat  
 þei seyngre se, and se nat, and þei heeryngre heere, and  
 vnderstonde not; þat sum tyme þei be conuertid, and  
 13 synnes be for3ouen to hem. :- And he seiþ to hem,  
 Witen not 3ee þis parable? and howe 3ee shulden knowe

alle parablis? :- He þat sowiþ, sowiþ a word. :- These 14  
 soþly ben þat aboute þe weye, where þe word is sowun; 15  
 and whenne þei han herd, anoon comeþ Saþanas, and  
 takij away þe word þat is sowun in her hertis. :- And 16  
 also þese ben þat ben sown on a stoon, þe whiche whanne  
 þei han herd þe word, a-noon taken it wiþ ioie; :- and þei 17  
 han nat roote in hem-silf, but þei ben temporal, *that is, lasten*  
*a lityl tyme*; afterward tribulacioun sprongen vp, and per-  
 secucioun for þe word, anoon þei ben sclaudrid. :- And 18  
 þere ben oþer þat ben sowun in þornis; þese it ben,  
 þat heeren þe word, and myseise of þe world, :- and 19  
 disseit of richessis, and oþer charge of coueitise entrynge  
 ynne, strangulen þe word, and it is maad wiþ-ouren fruyt. :-  
 And þese it ben þat ben sowun on good lond, þe whiche 20  
 heren þe word, and taken, and maken fruyt, oon þritti-  
 fold, oon sixti-fold, and oon an hundrid. :- And he seide 21  
 to hem, Wher a lanterne come, þat it be put vndir a bushel?  
 wher not, þat it be put vpon a candil stike? :- Forsoþe 22  
 þer is no þing hid, þat shal not be maad opyn; neþer ony  
 þing is preuy, þe whiche shal not come in to apert. :- If 23  
 ony man haue eeris of heryng, heere he. :- And he seide to 24  
 hem, Se þee what þee heeren. In what mesure þee meten,  
 it shal be meten to þou, and be kast to þou. :- Soþely it 25  
 shal be þouen to hym þat haþ, and it shal be taken away  
 from hym þat haþ not, also þat þat he haþ. :- And he 26  
 seide, So þe kingdom of God is, as if a man caste seed in  
 þe erþe, :- and he slepe, and it ryse vp in niȝt and day, and 27  
 bryngge forþ seed, and wexe faste, þe while he wote not. :-  
 Forsothe þe erþe by his owne worchyngge makij fruyt, 28  
 first an erbe, *or grene corn*, afterward an eere, afterward ful  
 fruyt in the ere. :- And whanne of it-silf it haþ brouȝt 29  
 forþ fruyt, anoon he sendij a sikil, *or hook*, for rype corn  
 comeþ. :- And he seide, To what þing shulden we likene 30  
 þe kyngdom of God? or to what parable shulen we com-



31 parisoune it? :- As a corn of seneueye, þe which whann  
 it is sowun in þe erþe, is lesse þan alle seedis þat ben in  
 32 erþe; :- and whanne it is bredd, *or quykened*, it styꝛeþ vp  
 in to a tree, and is maad more than alle wortis, *or erbis*; and  
 it shal make grete braunchis, so that briddis of heuene mowe  
 33 dwelle vndir the shadewe þer-of. :- And in many siche  
 34 parablis he spac to hem a word, as þei miȝten heere; :- soþely  
 he spac not to hem wiþ-uten parable. Forsope he ex-  
 pounyde to hys disciplis alle þingis on-sidis hond, *or by hem*  
 35 *self*. :- And he seiþ to hem, in þat day, whenne euenyng  
 36 was maad, Passe we aȝeinward. :- And þei leeuynge þe  
 cumpanye of peple, taken hym, so þat he was in þe boot;  
 37 and oþer bootis weren wiþ hym. :- And a greet storme  
 of wynd is maad, and sente wawis in to þe boot, so þat  
 38 þe boot was ful. :- And he was in þe hyndir part of  
 þe boot, slepyng on a pilewe. And þei reysen hym,  
 and seien to hym, Maistre, perteneþ it nat to þee, þat  
 39 we perishen? :- And he rysyng vp, manasside to þe  
 wynd, and seide to þe see, Be stille, wexe doumb. And  
 40 þe wynd ceeside, and greet pesiblenesse is maad. :- And  
 he seiþ to hem, What dreden ȝee? Nat ȝit han ȝee feiþ?  
 And þei dredden wiþ greete dreed, and seiden to eche oþer,  
 Who, gessist þou, is þis? for þe wynd and þe see obeysen  
 to hym.

## CAP. V.

1 And þei camen ouer þe wawe of þe see into þe cuntree  
 2 of Genazareth. :- And anoon a man in vnclene spirit ran  
 3 out of a biryel, to hym goynge out of þe boot. :- Þe  
 whiche man hadde an hous in graues, *or biriels*, and nether  
 4 wiþ chaynis ne miȝte eny man bynde hym. :- For oft  
 tymes he bounden in stockis and chaynes, hadde broken þe  
 chaynes, and hadde brokun þe stockis to smale gobetis, and  
 5 no man miȝte daunte, *or make tame*, hym. :- And euer more,  
 niȝt and day, in biriels and hillis, he was cryyng, and betyng

hym-silf wiþ stoones. ∴ Soplely he seyngē Jhesus afer, ran, 6  
 and worshipide hym. ∴ And he cryngē wiþ greet voice, 7  
 seide, What to me and to þee, þou Jhesu, þe sone of  
 God hieste? I conioure þee bi God, þat þou tourmente  
 not me. ∴ Forsoþe Jhesus seide to hym, Þou vnclene 8  
 spirit, go out fro þe man. ∴ And Jhesus axide hym, What 9  
 name is to þee? And he seiþ to hym, A legioun is name  
 to me; for we ben manye. ∴ And he preide hym myche, 10  
 þat he schulde nat put hym out of þe cuntreie. ∴ Forsoþe 11  
 þere was þere aboute þe hill a flock of hoggis lesewngē  
 in feeldis. ∴ And þe spiritis prieden Jhesu, seyngē, 12  
 Sende vs into hoggis, þat we entre into hem. ∴ And 13  
 anoon Jhesus grauntide to hem. And þe vnclene spiritis  
 entriden in to the hoggis, and wiþ greet bire, *or haste*, þe  
 floc was cast doun in to þe see, to tweyne þousynde, and  
 thei ben strangelid in þe see. ∴ Soplely þei þat fedden 14  
 hem, fledden, and tolden in to þe citee, and in to þe feeldis;  
 and þei wenten out, for to see what was don. ∴ And þei 15  
 camen to Jhesu, and þei seen hym þat was traueilid of  
 þe fend, sittynge clopid, and of hoole mynde; and þei  
 dreden. ∴ And þei tolden to hem, þat sayen, hou it was 16  
 don to hym þat hadde a fend, and of þe hoggis. ∴ And 17  
 þei bygunnen for to preie hym, þat he schulde go away fro  
 her coostis. ∴ And when he stiede in to a boot, he þat was 18  
 traueilid of þe deuēl, bygan to preye hym, þat he schulde be  
 wiþ hym. ∴ Soplely Jhesus resceyued hym nat, but seiþ 19  
 to hym, Go þou in to þin hous to þine, and telle to hem,  
 hou many þingis þe Lord' haþ don to þee, and hadde  
 mercy of þee. ∴ And he wente forþ, and bigan for to 20  
 preche in Decapoly, *that is, a cuntree of ten citees*, how manye  
 þingis Jhesus hadde don to hym; and alle men wondriden. ∴  
 And whanne Jhesus hadde stiede in to þe boot eftsoone 21  
 ouer þe see, myche cumpanye of peple cam togidre to hym,  
 and was aboute þe see. ∴ And oon of þe princis of 22

synagogis, by name Jayrus, cam, and seyinge hym, fel down  
 23 at his feet, :- and preiede hym myche, seyinge, For whi my  
 douȝter is in þe laste þingis; come þou, pütte þin hond  
 24 on hire, þat she be saaf, and lyue. :- And he wente forþ wiþ  
 hym, and myche cumpanye of peple suede hym, and op-  
 25 presside hym. :- And a womman þat was in þe flux of  
 26 blood twelue ȝere, :- and hadde suffride many þingis of ful  
 many lechis, and spendid alle hir þingis, and no-þing pro-  
 27 phitide, but more hadde worse, :- whanne she hadde herd of  
 Jhesu, she cam in þe cumpanye byhynde, and touchide  
 28 his cloþ. :- Soþly she seide, For if I shal *hym* touche or his  
 29 cloþ, I shal be saaf. :- And anoon þe welle of blood is  
 dried vp, and she felide in body þat she was helid of þe  
 30 wound, *or sikennes*. :- And anoon Jhesus knowynge in  
 hym-silf þe vertu þat was gon out of hym, he, turned to  
 31 the cumpenye, seiþ, Who touchede my cloþis? :- And his  
 disciplis seiden to hym, Þou seest þe cumpenye pressinge  
 32 þee, and seist þou, Who touchide me? :- And Jhesus  
 lokide aboute, for to see hir þat hadde don þis þing. :-  
 33 Forsoþe þe womman dredinge and quakyng, wityng þat  
 it was don in hir, cam, and fel down bifore him, and seide  
 34 to hym al treupe. :- Forsoþe Jhesus seide to her, Douȝtir,  
 þi feiþ hath maad þee saf; go in pees, and be saf fro þi  
 35 sykenes. :- ȝit him spekyng, messageris camen to þe  
 prince of *the* synagoge, seyinge, For þi douȝtir is deed;  
 36 what traueilist þou þe maistir ferþere? :- Forsoþe þe  
 word herd þat was seide, Jhesus seiþ to þe prince of þe  
 37 synagoge, Nyle þou drede, oonly byleue þou. :- And he  
 resceyuede not ony man to sue him no-but Petre, and  
 38 James, and John, þe broþer of James. :- And þei camen  
 in to þe hous of þe prince of þe synagoge. And he siȝ  
 39 noyse, and men wepinge and weilinge moche. :- And he  
 gon yn, seiþ to hem, What ben ȝee troublid, and wepyn?  
 40 Þe wenche is not deed, but slepiþ. :- And þei scorneden

him. Forsoþe alle kast out, he takiþ þe fadir and modir of þe wenche, and hem þat weren wiþ him, and þei entren yn, where þe wenche lay. :- And he holdinge þe 41 hond of þe wenche, seiþ to hir, Tabita, cumy, þat is interpretid, or *expounid*, Wenche, to þee I seie, rise þou. :- And anon þe wenche roos, and walkide; soþly she was 42 of twelue ȝeer. And þei weren abaischt wiþ greet stoneyinge. :- And he comaundide to hem greetly, þat no man 43 schulde wite it. And he comaundide to ȝiue to hir for to ete. :- And Jhesus gon out þennis, wente in to his owne cuntree; and his disciplis folwiden him. :-

## CAP. VI.

And þe saboþ maad, Jhesus bigan for to teche in a 2 synagoge. And manye heeringe wondriden in his techinge, seyinge, Of whennis to þis alle þese þingis? and what is þe wysdom þat is ȝouun to him, and suche vertues þe whiche ben maad by his hond? :- Wher þis is not a *smȳþ*, 3 or *carpenter*, þe sone of Marie, þe broþer of James and Joseph and Judas and Symound? wher and his sistris ben nat here with vs? And þei weren sclaudrid in him. :- And Jhesus seide to hem, For a prophete is not wiþ-uten 4 honour, no-but in his owne cuntree, and in his hows, and in his kyn. :- And he myȝte not make þere ony vertu, no- 5 but heelide a fewe sike men, þe hondis put to. :- And he 6 wondride for þe vnbeleue of hem. And he wente aboute castelis in enuyrown, techinge. :- And he clepide twelue, and 7 bigan for to send hem bi tweyne; and ȝaf to hem power of vnclene spiritis, :- and comaundide hem, þat þei schulde 8 not take ony þing in þe weye, no-but a ȝerd oonly, not a scrippe, not bred, neiþer money in þe girdil, :- but schoon 9 wiþ sandalies, þat ben *opyn aboue*, and þat þei weren not clopid wiþ tweie cootis. :- And he seide to hem, Whidir 10 euere ȝee schulen entre in to an hous, dwelle ȝe þere, till ȝe

11 gon out þennis. ∴ And who euere schulen not resseyue,  
 ne heere þou, þe goynge out fro þennes shake away þe  
 12 powdre fro þoure feet, in to witnessinge to hem. ∴ And  
 þei goynge out, prechiden, þat men schulden do pe-  
 13 naunce. ∴ And þei castiden out many fendis, and anoyntiden  
 with oyle manye syke men, and þei weren heeled. ∴  
 14 And kyng Eroude herde, forsoþe his name was maad opyn,  
 and he seide, For Johne Baptist haþ risun aȝen fro deed  
 15 men, and therefore vertues worchen in hym. ∴ Soþely  
 oþere seiden, For it is Ely; but oþere seiden, For it is a  
 16 prophete, as oon of prophetis. ∴ Þe whiche þing herd,  
 Eroude seiþ, Whom I haue bihedid, John, þis haþ risun fro  
 17 deed men. ∴ Forsoþe þe ilke Eroude sente, and held  
 Joon, and bond him in to prisoun, for Erodias, þe wyf of  
 18 Philip, his broþer; for he hadde weddid hir. ∴ Soþly  
 Johne seide to Eroude, It is not leefful to þee, for to haue  
 19 þe wyf of þi broþer. ∴ Erodias forsoþe leide aspies to  
 20 him, and wolde sle him, and miȝte not. ∴ Soþly Eroude  
 dredde John, witinge him a iust man and hooly, and kepte  
 him. And him herd, he dide many þingis, and gladly  
 21 herde hym. ∴ And whanne a couenable day hadde fallun,  
 Eroude in his birþe day made a soupere to þe princis, and  
 22 tribunys, and to þe firste, *or gretteste*, of Galilee. ∴ And  
 whanne þe douȝter of þilke Erodias hadde entrid yn, and  
 lepte, and pleside to Eroude, and also to men restynge, þe  
 kyng seide to þe wenche, Axe þou of me what þou wolt,  
 23 and I schal ȝyue to þee. ∴ And he swoor to hir, For what  
 euere þou schalt axe, I schal ȝyue to þee, þouȝ þe half of  
 24 my kyngdom. ∴ Þe whiche, whanne sche hadde gon out  
 seide to hir modir, What schal I axe? And she seide, Þe  
 25 heed of John Baptist. ∴ And whanne she hadde entrid  
 anon wiþ haste to þe kyng, she axide, seyinge, I wole þat  
 anon thou ȝyue to me in a dische the heed of John  
 26 Baptist. ∴ And þe kyng was sory for þe oof, and for

men sittinge to-gidere at mete he wolde not hir be maad  
 sory; ∴ but a manuellere sent, he comaundide þe heed of 27  
 John Baptist for to be brougt. And he bihedide him in þe  
 prison, ∴ and brougte his heed in a dische, and gaf it to 28  
 þe wenche, and þe wench gaf to hir modir. ∴ Þe which 29  
 þing herd, his disciplis camen, and token his body, and  
 puttiden it in a buriel. ∴ And apostlis comynge to-gidere 30  
 to Jhesu, tolden to hym alle þingis, þat þei hadden don,  
 and tauzt. ∴ And he seiþ to hem, Come 3e by 3ou-selue 31  
 in to a desert place; reste 3e a litel. Forsop þere weren  
 manye þat camen, and wenten aȝen, and þei hadden not  
 space for to ete. ∴ And þei stiȝynge in to boot, wenten in 32  
 to a desert place by hem-selue. ∴ And þei syȝen hem 33  
 goynge away, and manye knewen, and goynge on feet fro  
 alle citees, þei runnen to-gidere þidir, and came bifore  
 hem. ∴ And Jhesus goynge out syȝ moche cumpanye, and 34  
 hadde mercy on hem, for þei weren as scheepe not hauynge  
 a shepherde. And he bigan for to teche hem manye  
 þingis. ∴ And whanne moche our was maad now, his 35  
 disciplis camen nyȝ, seynge, Þis place is desert, and now  
 þe our haȝ passid; ∴ leue hem, þat þei goynge in to 36  
 þe nexte townes or vilagis, bye to hem metis whiche þei  
 schulen ete. ∴ And he answeyng seip to hem, 3yue 3e to 37  
 hem for to ete. And þei seiden to hym, Goyng bye we  
 loues wiȝ two hundrid pens, and we schulen 3yue to hem  
 for to ete. ∴ And he seiþ to hem, Hou many loues han 38  
 3e? Go 3e, and se. And whanne þei hadden knowun, þei  
 seien, Fyue, and two fyschis. ∴ And he comaundide to 39  
 hem, that þei schulden make alle men sitte to mete aftir  
 cumpenyes, vpon greene hey. ∴ And þei saten down by 40  
 parties, by hundridis, and fyfties. ∴ And þe fyue looues 41  
 taken, and two fyschis, he biholdynge in to heuene, blessing,  
 and brak loouis, and gaf to his disciplis, þat þei schulden  
 putte bifore hem. And he departide two fyschis to alle; ∴ and 42

43 alle eeten, and weren fillid. ∴ And þei token þe relyues of  
 broken mete, twelue coffyns full, and of þe fyschis. ∴  
 44 Soþli þei that eeten, were fyue þousynd of men. ∴ And  
 45 anon he constreynede his disciplis for to stiþe vp in to a  
 boot, þat þei schulden passe bifore him ouer þe see to  
 46 Bethsayda, þe while he lefte þe peple. ∴ And whanne he  
 47 hadde left hem, he wente in to an hil, for to preie ∴ And  
 whanne euenyng was, þe boot was in þe myddil see, and he  
 48 aloone in the lond; ∴ and he syz hem trauelinge in row-  
 ynge; soþli þe wynd was contrarie to hem. And aboute  
 þe fourþe waking of þe nyzt, he wandrynge on þe see  
 49 cam to hem, and wolde passe hem. ∴ And þei, as þei  
 syzen him wandrynge on þe see, gessiden [him] for to be  
 50 a fantum, and creiden; ∴ forsoþ alle syzen hym, and þei  
 weren disturblid. And anon he spak wiþ hem, and seide  
 51 to hem, Triste 3e, I am; nyle 3e drede. ∴ And he cam vp  
 to hem in to þe boot, and the wynd ceesside. And þei  
 52 more wondriden wiþ-ynne hem; ∴ for þei vndirstoden not  
 53 of þe looues; soþli her herte was blyndid. ∴ And whanne  
 þei hadden passid ouer þe see, þei camen in to þe lond  
 54 of Genazareþ, and setten to londe. ∴ And whanne þei  
 55 hadden gon out of þe boot, anon þei knewen him. ∴ And  
 þei rennynge þurȝ al þat cuntree, bigunnen to bere aboute  
 in beddis hem þat hadden hem yuele, where þei herden him  
 56 be. ∴ And whidur euere he entride yn to vilagis and townes,  
 or in to citees, þei puttiden syke men in stretis, and preieden  
 him, þat þei schulden touche eiþer þe hem of his cloþ; and  
 how manye euere touchiden him, weren maad saf. ∴

## CAP. VII.

1 And Pharisees and summe of scribis comynge fro Jeru-  
 2 salem, camen to-gidere to him. ∴ And whanne þei hadden  
 seyn summe of his disciplis ete breed wiþ comune hondis,  
 3 *that is, not waischun*, þei blamyden. ∴ Forsoþ Pharisees and

alle Jewis eten not, no-but þei waisschen ofte her hondis,  
 holdinge þe tradiciouns, *or statutis*, of eldere men. ∴ And 4  
 þei turnynge aȝen fro chepyngē, eten not, no-but þei ben  
 waischun; and manye othere þingis ben, þat ben takun  
 to hem for to kepe, waischingis of cuppis, and cruetis, and  
 of vessels of bras, and of beddis. ∴ And Pharisees and 5  
 scribis axiden him, seyinge, Whi gon not þi disciplis aftir þe  
 tradicioun of eldere men, but wiþ comyne hondis þei eten  
 bred? ∴ And he answeringe seide to hem, Ysaie propheciede 6  
 wel of ȝou, ypocritis, as it is writun, Þis peple worschipeþ  
 me with lippis, forsoþe her herte is fer fro me; ∴ in veyn 7  
 trewli þei worschpen me, techinge doctrynys and preceptis  
 of men. ∴ Forsoþ ȝe forsakinge þe maundement of God, 8  
 holden þe tradiciouns of men, waischingis of cruetis, and  
 cuppis; and manye oþere þingis lyke to þes ȝe don. ∴ And 9  
 he seide to hem, Wel ȝe han maad þe maundement of God  
 voyde, þat ȝe kepe ȝoure tradicioun. ∴ Forsoþ Moyses seide, 10  
 Worschipe þi fadir and þi modir; and he þat schal curse  
 fadir or modir, by deef deie he. ∴ Soþli ȝe seyen, If a man 11  
 schal seye to fadir or to modir, Corban, þat is, What euere ȝifte  
 [is] of me, [it] schal profite to þee; ∴ and ouer ȝe suffren not 12  
 him do ony þing to fadir or modir, ∴ brekyngē þe word of God 13  
 by ȝoure tradicioun, þat ȝe han ȝouun; ∴ and ȝe don manye 14  
 oþere suche þingis. And he eftsoone clepinge to þe cumpanye  
 of peple, seide to hem, ȝe alle heere me, and vndirstonden. ∴  
 No þing wiþ-uten man is entringe in to him, þat may defoule 15  
 him; but þo þingis þat comen forþ of man, þo it ben þat  
 defoulen a man. ∴ Forsoþ if ony man haue eeris of heeringe, 16  
 heere he. ∴ And whanne he hadde entrid in to an hous, fro 17  
 þe cumpany of peple, his disciplis axiden him þe parable. ∴  
 And he seiþ to hem, So and ȝe ben vnprudēt, *or unuwyse*. 18  
 Vndirstonden ȝe not, for al þing wiþoute-forþ entringe in to  
 a man, may not defoule him? ∴ for it haþ not entrid into his 19  
 herte, but in to þe wombe, and byneþe it goþ out, purgyngē



20 alle metis. :- Soþli he seide, For þe þingis þat gon out of a  
 21 man, þo defoulen a man. :- Forsoþ fro wiþynne, of þe herte  
 of men comen forþ yuele þouztis, auoutries, fornicaciouns,  
 22 mansleyngis, :- þeftis, couetises, *or ouer hard kepynge of goodis,*  
 wickednesses, gyle, vnchastite, yuel yze, blasphemyes, pride,  
 23 folye. :- Alle þes yuelis fro wiþynne comen forþ, and defoulen  
 24 a man. :- And Jhesus risynge þennis, wente in to þe endes of  
 Tyre and Sidon. And he gon in to an hows, wolde no man  
 25 wite; and he miȝte not dare, *or be priuy.* :- Soþli a womman,  
 anon as sche herde of him, which wommanis douȝtir hadde  
 26 an vnclene spirit, entride, and fel down at his feet. :- Soþli þe  
 womman was heþene, of þe generacioun of Sirefen. And she  
 preide him, þat he wolde caste out a deuel fro hir douȝtir. :-  
 27 Þe which seide to hir, Suffre þou þe sones be fulfild first; it  
 is not good to take þe bred of sones, and sende to houndis. :-  
 28 And she answeride, and seide to him, Forsoþe, Lord; for-  
 whi and litle welpis eten vndir þe bord, of þe crummes of  
 29 children. :- And Jhesus seiþ to hir, For þis word go, þe fend  
 30 is went out of þi douȝtir. :- And whanne she hadde gon hom,  
 she fond þe wenche sittinge on þe bedd, and þe deuel gon  
 31 out fro hir. :- And eftsoone Jhesus goynge out fro þe endis,  
*or coostis,* of Tire, cam þurȝ Sidon to þe see of Galilee, þat is  
 32 bitwixe þe myddil endis of Decapoleos. :- And þei leeden to  
 him a deaf man and doumb, and preieden him, þat he putte  
 33 to him þe hond. :- And he takynge him asydis fro þe cum-  
 panye, sente his fyngris in to his litle eeris; and spetinge  
 34 towchide his tunge. :- And he biholdynge in to heuene, sor-  
 35 wide wiþynne, arid seiþ, Effeta, þat is, Be þou openyd, :- And  
 anon his eeris werén openyd, and þe bond of his tunge is un-  
 36 bounden, and he spak riȝtly. :- And he comaundide to hem,  
 þat þei schulden seye to no man; forsoþ how moche he co-  
 37 maundide to hem, so moche more þei prechiden more, :- and  
 by þat þe more þei wondriden, seyinge, He dide wel alle þingis,  
 and deaf men he made to heere, and doumbe for to speke.

## CAP. VIII.

In þo dayes, whanne moche cumpenye of peple was wip 1  
 Jhesu, and hadde not what þei schulden ete, his disciplis ga-  
 derid to gidere, he seiþ to hem, :- I haue rewþe on þe cum- 2  
 panye of peple, for loo! now þe þridde day þei susteynen,  
*or abyden* me, and han not what þei schulen ete; :- and if I 3  
 leeu hem fastinge in to her hous, þei schulen faile in þe  
 weye; forsoþe summe of hem camen fro fer. :- And disciplis 4  
 answeriden to him, Wherof a man schal mowe fille hem wip  
 looues here in wildirnesse? :- And he axide hem, How manye 5  
 looues han 3e? Þe whiche seiden, Seuene. :- And he co- 6  
 maundide þe cumpanye to sitt[e] down on þe erþe. And he  
 takynge seuene looues, and doynge þankynge, brak, and  
 3af to his disciplis, þat þei schulden putte forþ. And þei  
 setten forþ to þe cumpany. :- And þei hadden a fewe smale 7  
 fischis; and he blesside hem, and comaundide for to be put  
 forþ. :- And þei eeten, and ben fulfilled; and þei token vp þat 8  
 lefte of relyf, *or smale gobatis*, seuene leepis. :- Forsoþ þei þat 9  
 eeten, weren as foure þousand of men; and he lefte hem. :-  
 And anon he wente vp in to a boot, wip his disciplis, and 10  
 cam in to þe partis of Dalymamya. :- And Pharisees wenten 11  
 out, and bigunnen to seke, *or axe*, wip him, axynge a tokene  
 of hym fro heuene, temptinge hym. :- And he sorwyng wip- 12  
 ynne in spirit, seiþ, What sekij þis generacioun a tokene?  
 Treuly I seie to 3ou, if a tokene schal [not] be 3ouun to þis  
 generacioun. :- And he leeuynge hem, wente vp eftsoone in 13  
 to a boot, and wente ouer þe see. :- And þei for3aten to take 14  
 breed, and þei hadden not wip hem no-but o loof in þe boot. :-  
 And he comaundide to hem, seynge, Se 3e, and be 3e war of 15  
 þe sourdow3 of Pharisees, and sourdow3 of Eroude. :- And þei 16  
 þou3ten oon to another, seynge, For we han not breed. :- Þe 17  
 which þing knowun, Jhesus seiþ to hem, What þenke 3e, for  
 3e han not breed? 3it 3e knowen not, ne vndirstonden; 3it

18 3e han 3oure herte blyndid. :- 3e hauynge y3en, seen not, and  
 19 3e hauynge eeris, heeren not; neþer 3e han mynde, :- whanne I  
 brak fyue looues in to fyue þousande, and hou manye coffyns  
 ful of brokene mete 3e token vp? Ðei seyn to him, Twelue. :-  
 20 Whanne and seuene looues in to four þousande of men, how  
 many leepis of brokene mete 3e token vp? And þei seyen,  
 21 Seuene. :- And he seide to hem, How vndirstonden 3e not  
 22 3it? :- And þei comen to Bethsayda, and þei bryngen to him  
 a blynd man, and preieden hym, þat he schulde touche him. :-  
 23 And þe hond of þe blynd man takun, he ledde him out of þe  
 streete, and spetynge in to his y3en, his hondis put to, he  
 24 axide him, if he sy3 ony þing. :- And he biholdinge, seiþ, I  
 25 se men as trees walkynge. :- Aftirward eftsoones he puttide  
 hondis on his y3en, and he bigan for to se, and he is re-  
 26 storid, so þat he sy3 clerely alle þingis. :- And he sente him  
 in to his hous, seyinge, Go in to þi hous; and if thou schalt  
 27 go in to þe streete, seye to no man. :- And Jhesus entride yn  
 and his disciplis in to þe castels of Sezarie of Philip. And in  
 þe weye he axide his disciplis, seiynge to hem, Whom seyn  
 28 men me for to be? :- Ðe whiche answeriden to hym, seiynge,  
 Summe, John Baptist; oþere *seyn*, Helye; but oþere *seyn*, as  
 29 oon of þe prophetis. :- Ðanne he seiþ to hem, But whom seye  
 3e me for to be? Petre answeringe, seiþ to him, Ðou ert  
 30 Crist. :- And he þretenyde hem, þat þei schulden nat seie to  
 31 ony man of him. :- And he bigan for to teche hem, for it  
 bihoueþ mannis sone suffre manye þingis, and to be reproued  
 of þe hijeste prestis, and of eldere men, and scribis, and to  
 32 be slayn, and aftir þre dayes, for to rise a3en. :- And he spak  
 playnli þe word. And Petre takynge him, bygan for to blame  
 33 him. :- Ðe which turnyd, seyng his disciplis, manaside Petre,  
 seiynge, Go aftir me, Saþanas; for þou sauerist not þo þingis  
 34 þat ben of God, but þo þingis þat ben of men. :- And þe cum-  
 panye of peple gederid, wiþ his disciplis, he seide to hem, If  
 ony man wole sue me, denye he him-self, and take he his

cros, and sue he me.∴ Soplly who so wole make his soule, 35  
*that is, his lyf*, saf, he schal leese it; forsoþe he þat schal  
 leese his soule, *that is, his lyf*, for me and þe gospel, schal  
 mak it saf.∴ Soplly what profiteþ it a man, if he wynne al þe 36  
 world, and do peyringe to his soule?∴ or what chaungyng 37  
 schal a man 3yue for his soule?∴ Forsoþ who þat schal 38  
 kno[w]leche me, and my wordis in þis generacioun auoutresse,  
 and mannis sone schal knowleche him, whanne he schal  
 come in þe glory of his fadir, wiþ his aungels.∴ And he seide 39  
 to hem, Treuly I seie to 3ou, for þer ben summe of men  
 standinge here, þe whiche schulen not taste deeþ, til þei sen  
 þe rewme of God comyng in vertu.

## CAP. IX.

And aftir sixe dayes Jhesus took Petre, and James, and 1  
 John, and lediþ hem by hem selue aloone in to an hiȝ hil;  
 and he is transfigurid byfore hem. And his cloþis ben 2  
 maad schynynge and white ful moche as snow, and which  
 maner cloþis a fullere, *or walkere of cloþ*, may not make white  
 on erþe.∴ And Helye with Moyses apperide to hem, and þei 3  
 weren spekyng wiþ Jhesu.∴ And Petre answeringe seiþ 4  
 to Jhesu, Maistir, it is good for vs for to be here; make we  
 here þre tabernaclis, oon to þee, oon to Moyses, and oon to 4  
 Helye.∴ Soplly he wiste not what he schulde seie; forsoþe 5  
 þei weren agast by drede.∴ And þer is maad a cloude 6  
 schadewinge hem; and a voys cam of þe cloude, seyinge,  
 Þis is my mooste deereworþe sone, heere 3e him.∴ And anon 7  
 þei biholdinge aboute, syȝe no more any man, no-but Jhesus  
 oonly wiþ hem.∴ And hem comyng down fro þe hil, he 8  
 comaundide hem, þat þei schulde not telle to any man þo  
 þingis þat þei hadde seyn, no-but whanne mannis sone haþ  
 risun fro deede *spiritis*.∴ And þei heelden þe word at hem 9  
 silf, sekyng what [this] schulde be, whanne he hath risun fro  
 deede.∴ And þei axiden him, seyinge, What þerfore seyn 10

Pharisees and scribis, for it bihouep Helye for to come first. :-  
 11 Þe which answeringe seiþ to hem, Whanne Helye schal come  
 first, he schal restore alle þingis; and hou it is writun in  
 to mannis sone, þat he suffre many þingis, and be despisid. :-  
 12 But I seie to 3ou, for and Helye is comun, and þei diden to  
 him what euere þingis þei wolden, as it is writun of him. :-  
 13 And he comynge to his disciplis, sy3 a greet cumpany  
 14 aboute hem, and scribis axynge wiþ hem. :- And anon al þe  
 cumpanye seyng Jhesu, was astoneyed, and þei dreden; and  
 15 þei rennyng to, greeten him. :- And he axide hem, What  
 16 seken 3e among 3ou? :- And oon of þe cumpany answeringe  
 seide, Maistir, I haue brougt to þee my sone hauynge an  
 17 vnclene spirit; :- þe which wher euere he schal take hym,  
 hirtiþ him, and he froþiþ, or vomeþ, and betiþ to gidere wiþ  
 teþ, and wexiþ drye. And I seide to þi disciplis, þat þei  
 18 schulden caste hym out, and þei myzten not. :- Þe which  
 answeringe to hem seide, A! þou schrewid generacioun and  
 out of bileue, hou longe schal I be at 3ou, how longe schal I  
 19 suffre you? Brynge 3e hym to me. :- And þei brouzten hym  
 to. And whanne he hadde seyn him, anon þe spirit trou-  
 blide him; and he cast down in to þe erþe, was walewid  
 20 froþinge. :- And he axide his fadir, Hou moche of tyme it  
 21 is, siþen þis þing fel to him? :- And he seiþ, Fro childhod;  
 and ofte he haþ sent him and in to fier and in to watir, þat  
 he schulde leese him; but and if þou maist ony þing, help  
 22 vs, hauynge mercy on us. :- Sopli Jhesus seiþ to him, If þou  
 maist bileue, alle þingis ben possible to a man bileuynge. :-  
 23 And anon the fadir of þe child cryng wiþ teeris seide,  
 24 Lord, I bileue; help þou myn vnbileuefulness. :- And whanne  
 Jhesus hadde seyn þe company of peple rennyng to-gidere,  
 he manaside to þe vnclene spirit, seyng to him, Þou deaf  
 and doumb spirit, I comaund þee, go out fro him, and entre  
 25 not more in to him. :- And he cryng, and moche to-breid-  
 ynge him, wente out fro him; and he is maad as deed, so

þat manye seiden, þat he was deed. :- Forsoþ Jhesus holdynge 26  
 his hond, lifte vp him; and he roos. :- And whanne he hadde 27  
 entrid in to an hous, his disciplis axiden him priuely, Whi  
 myzten not we caste hym out? :- And he seyde to hem, Dis 28  
 kynde in no þing may go out, no-but in preier and fastinge. :-  
 And þei gon fro þennis, wenten forþ in to Galile; and he 29  
 wolde no man wite. :- He tauzte his disciplis, and seide to 30  
 hem, For mannus sone schal be bitrayed in to þe hondis  
 of men, and þei schulen sle him, and he slayn, on þe þridde  
 day shal rise azen. :- And þei knewen not þe word, and 31  
 dredden for to axe him. :- And þei camen to Cafarnaum. 32  
 Which whenne he was in þe hous, axide hem, What tretiden  
 3e in þe weie? :- And þei weren stille; soþli þei disputiden 33  
 among hem in þe weie, who of hem schulde be more. :- And 34  
 he sittinge clepide þe twelue, and seiþ to hem, If any man  
 wole be þe first among 3ou, he schal be þe laste, and myny-  
 stre of alle. :- And he takege a childe, ordeynede him in þe 35  
 myddil of hem; whom whanne he hadde byclippid, he seiþ  
 to hem, :- Who euere schal receyue oon of suche children in 36  
 my name, he receyueþ me; and who euere receyueth me,  
 he receyueþ not me aloone, but him þat sente me. :- John 37  
 answeride to him, sayinge, Maistir, we syzen sum oon for to  
 caste out fendis in þi name, þe which sueþ not vs, and we  
 han forbedun him. :- Soþli Jhesus seiþ to him, Nyle 3e forbede 38  
 him; þer is no man þat doþ vertu in my name, and may  
 soone speke yuele of me. :- Forsoþe he þat is not azens vs, 39  
 is for vs. :- Soþli who euere schal 3yue drynke to 3ou a cuppe 40  
 of cold watir in my name, for 3e ben of Crist, treuly I seie  
 to 3ou, he schal not leese his mede. :- And who euere schal 41  
 sclaudre oon of þes litle bileuynges in me, it is good to him  
 þat a mylne stoon of assis were don aboute his necke, and  
 [he] were sent in to þe see. :- And if þin hond sclaudre þee, 42  
 kitt it away; it is good to þee feble to entre in to lyf, þan  
 hauynge twey hondis go in to helle, in to fier þat neuere schal

43 be quenched, :- where þe worm of hem deieþ not, and þe fier  
 44 is not quenched. :- And if þi foot sclaundre þee, kitt it of; it  
 is good to þee for to entre crokid in to euerlasting lyf, þan  
 hauynge twey feet to be sent in to helle of fier, þat neuer  
 45 schal be quenched, :- where þe worm of hem deieþ not, and þe  
 46 fier is not quenched. :- Þat if þin yze sclaundre þee, cast it  
 out; it is good to þee for to entre gogil yzed in to rewme of  
 God, þan hauynge twey yzen for to be sent into helle of fier. :-  
 47 where þe worm of hem deieþ not, and þe fier is not quenched. :-  
 48 Forsop euery man schal be saltid, *or maad sauori*, wip fier,  
 49 and euery slayn sacrifice schal be sauorid wip salt. :- Salt is  
 good þing; þat if salt be vnsauori, in what þing schulen 3e  
 make it sauori? Haue 3e salt in 3ou, and haue 3e pees  
 among 3ou. :-

## CAP. X.

1 And Jhesus risynge up fro þennis, cam in to þe endis of  
 Jude ouer Jordan; and eftsoones þe cumpanyes of peple  
 camen to-gidere to him, and as he was wont, eftsoone he  
 2 tau3te hem. :- And Pharisees comynge ny3, axiden him, If it  
 be leefful to a man for to leeu, *or forsake*, his wyf? tempt-  
 3 inge him. :- And he answeringe seiþ to hem, What comaun-  
 4 dide Moyses to 3ou? :- Þe whiche seiden, Moyses suffride to  
 5 write a libel of forsakinge, and to forsake. :- To whom Jhesus  
 answeringe seiþ, To þe hardnesse of 3oure herte Moyses  
 6 wroot to 3ou þis precept. :- Forsope fro þe bigynnyng of  
 creature God made hem male and female; and he seide, :-  
 7 For þis þing a man schal leeu fadir and modir, and schal  
 8 clefe to his wif, :- and þei schulen be tweyne in o fleisch.  
 9 And so now þei ben not tweyne, but o fleisch. :- Þerfore þat  
 10 þing þat God ioynede to-gidere, no man departe. :- And  
 eftsoone in þe hows his disciplis axiden him of þe same  
 11 þing. :- And he seiþ to hem, Who euere schal leeu his wyf,  
 12 and wedde anoþer, he doþ auoutrie vpon hir. :- And if þe  
 wyf schal leeu hir hosebonde, and be weddid to anoþer,

she doþ auoutrie. :- And þei offriden to him litle children, 13  
 þat he schulde touch hem; soþeli disciplis þretenyden to men  
 offringe. :- Whom whanne Jhesus hadde seyn, he baar heuye, 14  
*or vnworþili*, and seiþ to hem, Suffre 3e litle children for to  
 come to me, and forbede 3e hem not, forsoþ of suche is þe  
 kyngdom of God. :- Treuli I seie to 3ou, who euere schal not 15  
 receyue þe kyngdom of God as þis litle child, he schal not  
 entre in to it. :- And he biclippinge hem, and puttinge hondis 16  
 vpon hem, blesside hem. :- And whanne Jhesus was gon out 17  
 in þe weye, o man rennyng bifore, þe kne bowid, preiede  
 him, seyng, Goode maistir, what schal I do, þat I receyue  
 euerlastinge lyf? :- Forsoþe Jhesus seide to him, What seist 18  
 þou me good? No man [is] good, no-but God aloone. :- Þou 19  
 hast knowen þe comaundementis, do þou non auoutrie, sle  
 not, stele not, seie not fals witnessinge, do no fraude, wor-  
 schippe þi fadir and modir. :- And he answeringe seiþ to him, 20  
 Maistir, I haue kept alle þese þingis fro my 3ouþe. :- Soþli 21  
 Jhesus biheld him, and louyde hym; and he seide to him,  
 O þing failiþ to þee; go þou, selle þou what euere þingis þou  
 hast, and 3yue to pore men, and þou schalt haue tresour in  
 heuene; and come, sue þou me. :- Þe which maad sorwful 22  
 in þe word, wente away mornynge, forsoþ he was hauynge  
 many possessiouns. :- And Jhesus biholdinge aboute, seiþ to 23  
 his disciplis, How hard þei þat han money schulen entre in  
 to þe kyngdom of God. :- Forsoþe þe disciplis weren stoneyed 24  
 in his wordis. And Jhesus eftsoone answeringe seiþ to hem,  
 3e litle sones, how hard þing it is, men tristyng in richessis  
 for to entre in to þe kyngdom of God. :- It is li3ter, *or esyer*, 25  
 a camel for to passe þorw a nedlis y3e, þan a riche man for  
 to entre in to þe kyngdom of God. :- Whiche wondriden more, 26  
 seyng at hem selue, And who may be maad saf? :- And 27  
 Jhesus biholdinge hem, seiþ to hem, Anentis men it is im-  
 possible, but not anemptis God; for alle þingis ben possible  
 anemptis God. :- And aftirward Petre bigan for to seye to 28



29 him, Loo! we han left alle þingis, and han sued þee. :- Jhesus  
 answeringe seiþ, Treuli I seie to þou, þer is no man þat schal  
 leeue hous, or breþeren, or sistris, or fadir, or modir, or  
 30 sones, or feeldis for me and for þe gospel, :- þe which schal not  
 taken an hundridfold so moche now in þis tyme, housis, and  
 breþeren, and sistris, and modris, and sones, and feldis, wiþ  
 persecuciouns, and in þe world to comynge euerlasting lyf. :-  
 31 Forsoþ many schulen be, þe firste þe laste, and þe laste þe  
 32 firste. :- Forsoþe þei weren in þe weye stizynge to Jerusalem;  
 and Jhesus wente bifore hem, and þei wondriden, and folow-  
 inge dredden. And eftsoone Jhesus takinge to twelue, bygan  
 33 to seye to hem, what þingis weren to come to him. :- For lo!  
 we stizen to Jerusalem, and mannus sone schal be bitrayed  
 to þe princes of prestis, and to scribis, and to eldere men;  
 and þei schulen dampne him by deef, and þei schulen bytake  
 34 him to heþene men. :- And þei schulen scorne him, and  
 byspeete him, and beete him; and þei schulen sle him, and  
 35 in þe þridde day he schal ryse aȝen. :- And James and Jon,  
 Zebedees sones, camen nyȝ to him, seyinge, Maistir, we  
 36 wolen, þat what euere we schulen axe, þou do to vs. :- And  
 37 he seide to hem, What wolen ȝe þat I do to þou? :- And þei  
 seiden, ȝyue to us, þat we sitten þat oon at þi riȝhalf, and þe  
 38 toþir at þe left, in þi glorie. :- Forsoþe Jhesus seiþ to hem,  
 ȝe witen not what ȝe schulen axe; mown ȝe drynke þe  
 cuppe, þe which I am to drynke, or be waischun wiþ þe bap-  
 39 tym, in which I am baptisid? :- And þei seiden to him, We  
 mown. Sopli Jhesus seiþ to hem, Treuli ȝe schulen drynke  
 þe cuppe þat I drynke, and ȝe schulen be waischun wiþ þe  
 40 baptytm, in which I am baptisid; :- sopli for to sitte at my  
 riȝhalf or lefthalf is not myn to ȝyue to þou, but to which it  
 41 is ordeyned. :- And þe ten heeringe hadden endignacioun of  
 42 James and John. :- Sopli Jhesus clepinge hem, seiþ to hem,  
 ȝe witen, þat þei þat semen, or *ben seyn*, to haue princehed of  
 folkis, lordschipen, or *ben lordis*, of hem, and þe princes of

hem han power of hem. :- Forsoþ it is not so in þou, but who<sup>43</sup>  
 euere schal wolle be maad more, schal be þoure mynystre, :-  
 and who euere schal wolle be þe firste in þou, schal be<sup>44</sup>  
 seruaunt of alle. :- Forwhi and mannissone cam not, þat it<sup>45</sup>  
 schulde be mynystrid to him, but þat he schulde mynystre,  
 and þyue his soule, *or lyf*, redempcioun, *or azen-byng*, for  
 manye. :- And þei camen to Jerico; and him goynge forþ<sup>46</sup>  
 fro Jerico, and his disciplis, and a ful moche cumpany of  
 peple, þe sone of Tymeý, Barþymeus, blynd, saat bisydis þe  
 weye beggyng. :- Þe which whanne he hadde herd, for it is<sup>47</sup>  
 Jhesus of Nazareþ, bigan to crie, and seye, Jhesu, þe sone of  
 Dauif, haue mercy on me. :- And manye þretnyden hym, þat<sup>48</sup>  
 he schulde be stille; and he criede moche more, Jhesu, þe  
 sone of Dauif, haue mercy on me. :- And Jhesu standinge<sup>49</sup>  
 comaundide hym for to be clepid; and þei clepiden þe  
 blynde man, seiynge to him, Be þou of betere herte, ryse vp,  
 he clepiþ þee. :- Þe which, his cloþ cast away, sturtinge cam<sup>50</sup>  
 to him. :- And Jhesus answeringe seide to him, What wolt<sup>51</sup>  
 þou I schal do to þee? Þe blynde man seide to him, Maistir,  
 þat I se. :- Sopli Jhesus seide to him, Go þou, þi feiþ haþ maad<sup>52</sup>  
 þee saaf. And anon he syþ, and suede him in þe weye. :-

## CAP. XI.

And whanne Jhesus cam nyþ to Jerusalem and to Betanye, 1  
 to þe mount of Olyuete, he sendiþ two of his disciplis, and  
 seiþ to hem, :- Go 3e in to þe castel þat is aþens þou; and anon 2  
 3e entrynge in þidur schulen fynde a colt tyed, on þe which  
 non of men sat 3it; vnbynde 3e, and bryng him. :- And if 3  
 ony man schal seie ony þing to you, seie 3e, þat he is nede-  
 ful to þe Lord, and anon he schal leue him hidur. :- And 4  
 þei goynge forþ, founden a colt bounden byfore þe 3ate wiþ-  
 outeforth, in þe meeting of tweye weyes; and þei vnbounden  
 him. :- And summe of men standinge þere seiden to hem, 5  
 What don 3e, vnbyndinge þe colt? :- And þei seiden to hem, 6

7 as Jhesus comaundide to hem; and þei leften hem. :- And  
 þei brouzten þe colt to Jhesu, and þei puttiden to him her  
 8 cloþis, and Jhesus sat upon him. :- Forsoþe manye strewiden  
 her cloþis in þe weye, soþeli oþere men kittiden bowis, *or*  
 9 *braunchis*, fro trees, and strewiden in þe weye. :- And þei þat  
 wenten bifore, and þat sueden, cryeden, seyinge, Osanna,  
 10 blessid is he þat comeþ in þe name of þe Lord; :- blessid þe  
 kyngdom þat comeþ of oure fadir Dauþ; Osanna in hiztees. :-  
 11 And he entride in to Jerusalem, in to þe temple; and alle  
 þingis seyn aboute, whanne þe our was now euenyng, he  
 12 wente in to Betanye, wiþ twelue. :- And anoþer day, whanne  
 13 he wente out of Betanye, he hungride. :- And whanne he  
 hadde seyn a fyge tree afer hauynge leeuys, he cam, if hap-  
 pily he schulde fynde ony þing þerynne; and whanne he  
 cam to it, he fond no þing, out-taken leeuys; for it was no  
 14 tyme of fygis. :- And Jhesus answeringe seide to it, Now no  
 more wiþ-outen ende ony man ete fruyt of þee. And his  
 15 disciples herden; and þei camen to Jerusalem. :- And whanne  
 he hadde entrid in to þe temple, he bigan for to caste out  
 men sellinge and biggyng in þe temple; and he turnyde  
 vpsodoun þe boordis of chaungeris, and þe chaieris of men  
 16 sellinge culueris; :- and he suffride not, þat ony man schulde  
 17 bere a vessel þurþ þe temple. :- And he tauzte hem, seyinge,  
 Wher it is not writun, For myn hous schal be clepid þe  
 hous of preiynge to alle folkis? forsoþ 3e han maad it a den  
 18 of þeues. :- Þe which þing herd, þe princes of prestis and  
 scribis souzten hou þei schulde leese him; forsoþ þei dreden  
 hym, for al þe cumpanye of peple wondride on his teching. :-  
 19 And whanne euenyng was maad, he wente out of þe citee. :-  
 20 And whanne þei passiden eerly, þei syzen the fige tree maad  
 21 drye fro þe rootis. :- And Petre hauynge mynde, seide to him,  
 Maistir, lo! þe fyge tree, whom þou cursedist, haþ dryed vp. :-  
 22 And Jhesus answering seiþ to him, Haue 3e þe feiþ of God; :-  
 23 treuli I seie to 3ou, þat who euere seiþ to þis hill, Take, and

sende in to þe see; and doutiþ not in his herte, but bileueþ, for what euere he schal seye, be it maad, it schal be maad to him. ∴ Þerfore I seie to 3ou, alle þingis what euere þingis 3e 24 preiyngre schulen axe, bileue 3e þat 3e schulen take, and þei schulen come to 3ou. ∴ And whanne 3e schulen stonde for 25 to preie, for3yue 3e, if 3e han ony þing azens ony man, þat and 3oure fadir þat is in heuenes, for3yue to 3ou 3oure synnes. ∴ Þat if 3e schulen not for3yue, neiþer 3oure fadir þat is in 26 heuenes, schal for3yue 3ou 3oure synnes. ∴ And eftsoone þei 27 camen to Jerusalem. And whanne he walkide in to þe temple, þe hizeste prestis, and scribis, and eldere men camen niȝ to him, and sei[d]en to him, ∴ In what power doist þou 28 þes þingis? or who 3af to þee þis power, þat þou do þes þingis? ∴ Forsoþe Jhesus answeringe seiþ to hem, And I schal axe 3ou 29 o word, and answeere 3e to me, and I schal seie to 3ou, in what power I do þes þingis. ∴ Wheþer was þe baptyem of John 30 of heuene, or of men? answeere 3e to me. ∴ And þei þouȝten 31 wiþ-inne hem selue, seiynge, If we schulen seie of heuene, he schal sei to vs, Whi þerfore bileuen 3e not to him; ∴ if 32 we schulen seie of men, we dreden þe peple; for alle men hadden John, for he was verily a prophete. ∴ And þei answer- 33 inge seyen to Jhesu, We witen neuere. And Jhesu answeringe seiþ to hem, Neiþer I seie to 3ou, in what power I do þes þingis. ∴

## CAP. XII.

And Jhesus bigan to speke parably, *or in parablis*. A 1 man plauntide a vynezerd, and puttide aboute an hegge, and dalf a lake, and bildide a tour, and hirede it to erþe tilieris, and wente forþ in pilgrymage; ∴ and sente to þe erþe tilieris 2 in tyme a seruaunt, þat he schulde receyue of þe fruyt of þe vynezerd at þe erþe tilieris. ∴ Þe whiche beten him takun, 3 and leften him voyde. ∴ And eftsoone he sente to hem 4 anoþer seruaunt, and þei woundiden him in þe heed, and ponscheden wiþ chidingis, *or reprouyngis*. ∴ And eftsoone he 5

sente anoþer, and þei slouen him, and opere mo, betyng  
 6 summe, but sleynge opere. :- Þerfore 3it he hauynge a sone  
 most dereworþ, and to hem he sente him þe laste, seyinge;  
 For by hap þei schulen schame my sone, *or drede wiþ reue-*  
 7 *rence.* :- Forsoþe þe tenauntis seyden to hem self, *or to gidere,*  
 Dis is þe eier; come 3e, sle we him, and þe eritage schal be  
 8 oure. :- And þei takynge him, castiden out wiþoute þe vne-  
 9 3erd, and slouen. :- Þerfore what schal the lord of þe vne-  
 3erd do? He schal come, and leese þe tenauntis, and 3yue  
 10 þe vne3erd to opere. :- Wher 3e han not rad þis scripture,  
 Þe stoon þe which men bildinge han dispisid, þis is maad in  
 11 to þe heed of þe corner? :- Dis þing is maad of þe Lord, and  
 12 is wondirful in oure 3en. :- And þei sou3ten for to holde him,  
 and þei dreden þe cumpanye of peple; soþli þei knewen for  
 to hem he seide þis parable; and him left, þei wenten away. :-  
 13 And þei senden to him summe of þe Farisees and Erodians,  
 14 for to take hym in word. :- Þe whiche comynge seyn to hym,  
 Maistir, we witen for þou ert soþfast, and reckist not of ony  
 man; soþly neiþer þou seest in to face of man, but þou  
 techist þe wey of God in treuþe. Is it leefful for to 3yue tri-  
 15 bute to Cesar, or we schulen not 3yue? :- Þe whiche witinge  
 her priuey falsnesse, seiþ to hem, What tempten 3e me?  
 16 brynge 3e to me a peny, þat I se. :- And þei offriden to him.  
 And he seiþ to hem, Whos is þis ymage, and þe in wrytinge?  
 17 Þei seien to him, Cesaris. :- Forsoþe Jhesus answeringe seiþ  
 to hem, Þerfore 3elde 3e to Cesar þat ben of Cesar, and to  
 God þo þingis þat ben of God. And alle wondriden on him. :-  
 18 And Saducees, þat seyen no resurecioun to be, camen to  
 19 him, and axiden him, seyinge, :- Maistir, Moyses wroot to vs,  
 þat if þe broþer of a man were deed, and lefte a wyf, and  
 lefte not sones, his broþer take his wyf, and reyse vp seed to  
 20 his broþir. :- Þerfore seuene briþeren weren; and þe firste  
 21 took a wyf, and is deed, no seed left. :- And þe secunde took  
 hir, and he is deed, and neiþer þis lefte seed. And þe þridde

also. :- And seuene tooken hir, and lefte not seed. And þe 22  
womman þe laste of alle is deed. :- Þanne in þe resurreccioun, 23  
whanne þei schulen rise aȝen, whos wyf of þese schal sche be?  
soply seuene hadden hir [to] wyf. :- And Jhesus answeringe 24  
seiþ to hem, Wher ȝe erren not þefore, not knowinge þe  
scripturis, noþer þe vertu of God? :- Forsoþe whanne þei 25  
schulen rise aȝen fro deed *men*, neiþer þei wedden, noþer ben  
weddid, but þei schulen be as aungels of God in heuenes. :-  
Sopli of deed men, þat þei rysen aȝein, han ȝe not rad in þe 26  
book of Moyses, on þe bousche, hou God seide to him,  
seiynge, I am God of Abraham, and God of Ysaac, and  
God of Jacob? :- He is not God of deede men, but *God* of 27  
lyuyng men; þefore ȝe erren moche. :- And oon of þe 28  
scribis, þat hadde herd hem sekyng to gidere, cam niȝ, and  
seyng þat he hadde wel answerid hem, axide hym, which  
was þe firste maundement of alle. :- Jhesus answeride to him, 29  
þat þe firste of alle comaundementis is, *Heere*, Israel, þe Lord  
þi God is oon; :- and þou schal[t] loue þe Lord þi God of 30  
al þin herte, and of al þi soule, and of al þi mynde, and of al  
þi vertu, *or myȝte*. Þis is þe firste maundement. :- Forsoþe þe 31  
secunde is lyk to þis, Þou schalt loue þi neiȝebore as þi silf.  
Þer is non oþir maundement more þan þese. :- And þe scribe 32  
seiþ to him, Maister, in treuþe þou has wel seid; for o God  
is, and þer is non, out-taken him; :- and þat he be loued of al 33  
herte, and of al þouȝt, *or mynde*, and of al vndirstondinge,  
and of al þe soule, and of al strengþe, and to loue the neiȝe-  
bore as him silf, is more þan alle brend offringis and sacri-  
ficis. :- Jhesus forsoþe seyng þat he hadde answerid wysely, 34  
seide to him, Þou ert not fer fro þe kyngdom of God. :- And 35  
now no man durste axe him. And Jhesus answeringe seide,  
teching in þe temple, Þefore how seyn scribis, Crist for to  
be þe sone of Dauid? :- To whom Dauid him silf seide in þe 36  
Hooly Gost, Þe Lord seide to my lord, Sitte on my riȝthalf,  
til I putte þin enemyes þe stool of þi feet. :- Þefore Dauid him 37

silf seiþ him a leed, and wherof is he his sone? And moche  
 38 company gladli herde him. :. And he seiðe to hem in his  
 teching, Be ȝe war of scribis, þat wolen wandre in stoolis,  
 39 and be salutid in chepinge, :. and sitte in synagogis in þe  
 40 firste chaires, and þe firste sitting places in soperis ; :. þe  
 whiche deuouren þe housis of widewis, vndir colour of long  
 41 preier ; þei taken lenger dom. :. And Jhesus sittinge aȝeins  
 þe treserie, biheld hou þe company of peple caste money  
 in to þe tresorie ; and manye riche castiden many þingis. :.  
 42 Soþli whanne o pore widowe hadde comen, sche sente tweye  
 43 mynutis, þat is, a ferþing. :. And his disciplis clepid to gidere,  
 he seiþ to hem, Treuly I seiðe to ȝou, for þis pore widowe  
 44 sente more þan alle, þat sente in to þe tresorie. :. Soþli alle  
 sente of þat þing þat was plenteuous to hem ; but þis of hir  
 myseste sente alle þingis þat she hadde, al hir lyfode.

## CAP. XIII.

1 And whanne he wente out of þe temple, oon of his dis-  
 ciples seiþ to him, Maistir, bihold, what maner stoones, and  
 2 what manere bildingis. :. And he answeringe seiþ to him,  
 Seeste þou alle þes greete bildingis ? þer schal not be left a  
 3 stoon vpon a stoon, þe which schal not be destroyed. :. And  
 whanne he sat in þe mount of Olyuete aȝens þe temple, þei  
 axiden hym by hem silue, Petre, and James, and John, and  
 4 Andrew. :. Seiðe þou to vs, whanne þes þingis schulen be maad,  
 and what tokene, whanne alle þes þingis schulen bigynne for  
 5 to be endid. :. And Jhesus answeringe bigan for to seiðe to  
 6 hem, Se ȝe, þat no man disceyue ȝou ; :. for many schulen  
 come in my name, seiynge, For I am ; and þei schulen dis-  
 7 ceyue manye. :. Soþli whanne ȝe schulen heere batels and  
 opyniouns of bateils, drede ȝe not ; forsoþe it bihoueþ þese  
 8 þingis for to be don, but not ȝit anon þe ende. :. For folk schal  
 rise vpon folk, and rewme vpon rewme, and erþe mouyng  
 schal be by places and hungur ; bigynnyngis of sorwis

[ben] þese þingis.:- Soþli se 3e 3ou silf, for þei schulen take 9  
 3ou in counceils, and 3e schulen be beten in synagogis; and  
 3e schulen stonde bifore kyngis and domes-men for me, in  
 to witnessing to hem.:- And in to alle folkis it bihouep first 10  
 þe gospel for to be prechid.:- And whanne þei schulen lede 11  
 3ou bitrayinge, nyle 3e þenke what 3e schulen speke, but  
 speke 3e þat þing þat schal be 3ouen to 3ou in þat our; soþli  
 3e ben not spekinge, but þe Hooly Gost.:- Forsoþe a broþer 12  
 schal bitraye þe broþer in to deep, and þe fadir þe sone, and  
 sones schulen ryse to gidre azens fadris and modris, and  
 ponysche hem by deep. :- And 3e schulen be in hate to alle 13  
 men for my name; but he þat schal susteyne in to þe ende,  
 þis schal be saf.:- Forsoþe whanne 3e schulen se þe abhomy- 14  
 nacioun of discomfort, standinge wher it owip not; vndir-  
 stonde he þat rediþ; þanne þei þat be in Judee, flee in to  
 hillis.:- And he þat is aboue þe roof, come he not down in to 15  
 þe hous, neiþer entre he, þat he take ony þing of his hows; :-  
 and he þat schal be in þe feeld, turne not azen byhynde for 16  
 to take his cloþ.:- Soþli wo to hem þat ben wiþ childe, and 17  
 norischinge in þo dayes.:- Þerfore preie 3e, þat þei ben not 18  
 don in wyntir.:- Forsoþ þe ilke dayes of tribulacioun schulen 19  
 be suche, whiche manere weren not fro þe bygynnyng of  
 creature, þe which God made, til now, neiþer schulen be. :-  
 And no-but þe Lord hadde breiggid þo dayes, al fleisch, 20  
*or mankynde*, hadde not be saf; but for þe chosene whom  
 he chees, þe Lord haþ breiggid [þe] dayes, *or maad schort*.:-  
 And þanne if ony man schulde seie to 3ou, Lo! here is Crist, 21  
 loo! there, beleue 3e not.:- For fals Cristis and fals prophetis 22  
 schulen ryse vp, and schulen 3yue tokenes and grete wondris,  
 to disceyue, if it may be don, 3he, þe chosene.:- Þerfore se 3e; 23  
 loo! I haue bifore seid to 3ou alle þingis.:- But in þo dayes, 24  
 astir þat tribulacioun, þe sunne schal be maad derk, and þe  
 mone schal not 3yue hir schynnyng,:- and sterris of heuenes 25  
 schal be fallinge down, and vertues þat be in heuenes, schulen



26 be mouyd.∴ And þanne þei schulen se mannis sone comynge  
 27 in cloudis of heuene, wiþ greet vertu and glorie.∴ And þanne  
 he schal sende his aungels, and schal gedre his chosene fro  
 foure wyndis, fro þe loweste þing of erþe vnto þe hizeste þing  
 28 of heuene.∴ Forsoþe of þe fyge tree lerne 3e þe parable.  
 Whanne now his braunche schal be tendre, and leeuys ben  
 29 sprongen out, 3e witen for somer is in þe nexte.∴ So and  
 whanne 3e schulen se alle þese þingis ben maad, wite 3e, þat  
 30 it is in þe nexte in þe doris.∴ Treuly I seye to you, for þis  
 generacioun schal not passe away, til alle þese þingis be don.∴  
 31 Heuene and erþe schal passe, forsoþe my wordis schulen not  
 32 passe.∴ Treuly of þat day or our no man woot, neþir aungelis  
 33 in heuene, neþer þe sone, no-but þe fadir.∴ Se 3e, wake 3e,  
 34 and preie 3e; sopli 3e witen not, whanne tyme is.∴ For as a  
 man þe which gon fer in pilgrimage, lefte his hous, and 3af  
 to his seruauntis power of euery work, and comaundide to þe  
 35 porter, þat he schulde wake.∴ Þerfore wake 3e, forsoþe 3e  
 witen not, whanne þe lord of þe hous comeþ, in þe euentide,  
 36 or in þe mydnyzt, or kockis crowynge, or morwynge;∴ lest  
 37 whanne he schal come sudenly, he fynde 3ou slepinge.∴ For-  
 soþe þat þat I seie to 3ou, I seie to alle, Wake 3e.

## CAP. XIV.

1 Forsoþe pask and þe feeste of þerf looues *withouten sour-*  
*dowz* was aftir þe secunde day. And þe hizeste prestis and  
 scribis souzten, hou þei schulden holde him wiþ gile, and sle.∴  
 2 Sopli þei seiden, Not in þe feeste day, lest perauenture noyse  
 3 were maad in þe peple.∴ And whanne he was at Betanye, in  
 þe hous of Symount leprous, and restid, a womman comynge,  
 hauynge a box of precious oynement spikanard; and the box  
 4 brokun, helde out on his heed.∴ Forsoþ þer weren summe  
 beringe vnworþily, *or heuyli*, wiþ-ynne hem silf, and seyynge,  
 5 Wherto is þis loss of oynement maad?∴ For þis oynement  
 myzte haue be sold more þan for þre hundrid pens, and þe

3ouun to pore men. And þei groyneden in to hir. : Sopli 6  
 Jhesus seide, Suffre hir; what be 3e heuy to hir? she hap  
 wrouzt good work in me. : For euer more 3e schulen haue 7  
 pore men wiþ 3ou, and whanne 3e schulen wolle, 3e mown  
 do wel to hem; forsoþ 3e schulen not euermore haue me. :  
 She dide þat þat she hadde; sche bifore cam for to anoynte 8  
 my body into buriyng. : Treuli I seie to 3ou, where euere 9  
 þis gospel schal be prechid in al þe world, and þat þis wom-  
 man hap done, schal be told in to mynde of hir. : And Judas 10  
 Scarioþ, oon of þe twelue, wente to þe hizeste prestis, þat he  
 schulde bitray him to hem. : Þe whiche heerynge ioiyeden, 11  
 and bihizten hem to 3yue him money. And he souzte how  
 he schulde bitraye him couenably. : And þe firste day of 12  
 þerue loues, whenne pask was offrid, disciplis seyn to him,  
 Whidir wolt þou we go, and make redy to þee, þat þou ete  
 pask? : And he sendiþ tweyne of his disciplis, and seiþ to 13  
 hem, Go 3e in to þe citee, and a man beringe a galoun of  
 watir schal renne to 3ou, *or come azens 3ou*; suwe 3e him. :  
 And whidir euere he schal entre, seye 3e to þe lord of þe 14  
 hous, For þe maister seiþ, Wher is my fulfilling, *or etyng place*,  
 where I schal ete pask wiþ my disciplis? : And he schal shewe 15  
 to 3ou a greet souping plate strewid, and þere make 3e redy  
 to vs. : And his disciplis wenten forþ, and camen in to þe 16  
 citee, and founde as he hadde seid to hem; and þei maden  
 redy pask. : Sopli euen maad, he cam wiþ twelue. : And hem 17  
 sittinge at þe mete, and etinge, Jhesus seiþ, Treuli I seie to 18  
 3ou, for oon of 3ou þat etiþ wiþ me, schal bitraye me. : And 19  
 þei bigunnen for to be sori, and to seie, ech by hym silf,  
 Wheþer I? : Þe which seiþ to hem, Oon of twelue þat puttiþ 20  
 yn þe hond wiþ me in þe plater. : And sopli mannis sone goþ, 21  
 as it is writun of him; forsoþ wo to þat man, bi whom mannis  
 sone schal be bitrayd. It were good to him, if þat ilke man  
 hadde not be borun. : And hem etinge, Jhesus took bred, 22  
 and blessinge brak, and 3af to hem, and seiþ, Take 3e; þis

23 is my body. :- And þe cuppe takun, he doynge gracis ʒaf to  
 24 hem, and alle drunkun þerof. :- And he seiþ to hem, Þis is  
 my blood of þe newe testament, þe which schal be shedd out  
 25 for manye. :- Treuly I seie to ʒou, for now I schal not drynke  
 of þis fruit of vyne, til in to þat daye whanne I schal drynke  
 26 it newe in þe rewme of God. :- And þe ympne, *or heriyng*,  
 27 seid, þei wenten out in to þe hil of Olyues. :- And Jhesus seiþ  
 to hem, Alle ʒe schulen be sclaudrid in me in þis nyzt; for  
 it is writun, I schal smyte þe schepherde, and þe scheep of  
 28 the floc schulen be disparplid. :- But aftir that I schal ryse  
 29 aʒen, I schal go bifore ʒou in to Galilee. :- Forsoþ Petre seiþ  
 30 to him, And if alle schulen be sclaudrid, but not I. :- And  
 Jhesus seiþ to him, Treuly I seie to þee, for þou to day bifore  
 þe cok in þis nyzt twyes ʒyue vois, þries þou ert to denye  
 31 me. :- And he spak more, And if it hilhoue me to dye to gidere  
 32 wiþ þee, I schal not denye thee. :- Soþli and lyk manere alle  
 seiden. And þei camen in to a place, to whom þe name  
 Geþsamany. And he seiþ to his disciplis, Sitte ʒe here, þe  
 33 while I preie. :- And he takij Petre and James and John wiþ  
 34 him, and bigan for to drede, and to heuye. :- And he seiþ to  
 hem, My soule is sorwful til to þe deeþ; susteyne ʒe, *or abide*  
 35 ʒe, here, and preie ʒe wiþ me. :- And whanne he hadde gon  
 forth a litel, he felde down on þe erþe, and preiede, þat, if  
 36 it myzte be, þe our schulde passe fro him. :- And he seide,  
 Fadir, alle þingis ben possible to þee, turne fro me þis  
 37 cuppe; but not þat I wole, but þat þat þou. :- And he cam,  
 and fond hem slepyng. And he seiþ to Petre, Symount,  
 38 slepist þou? myztist þou not wake wiþ me oon our? :- Wake  
 ʒe, and preie ʒe, þat ʒe entre not in to temptacioun; forsoþe  
 39 þe spirit is redy, but þe fleisch syk. :- And eftsoone he goynge  
 40 preiede, þe same word seyinge. :- And he turnyd aʒen eftsoone,  
 fond hem slepyng; soþli her yʒen were greuyd. And þei  
 41 knewen not, what þei schulden answeere to him. :- And he cam  
 þe þridde tyme, and seiþ to hem, Slepe ʒe now, and reste.

3e; soþli it sufficiþ. Þe our comeþ; loo! mannis sone schal  
 be bitrayed in to hondis of synful men.:- Ryse 3e, go we; 42  
 loo! he þat schal bytraye me is ny3.:- And, 3it him spekinge, 43  
 Judas Scarioþ, oon of þe twelue, cam, and wiþ him moche  
 cumpeny wiþ swerdis and staues, sent fro þe hiþeste prestis,  
 and scribis, and fro þe eldere men.:- Forsoþe þe traitour 44  
 hadde 3ouun to hem a tokene, seyinge, Whom euere I schal  
 kisse, he it is; holde 3e him, and lede 3e warly, *or queyntely*.:-  
 And whanne he cam, anon he cominge to him, seiþ, Maistir; 45  
 and he kissime him.:- And þei layden hondis in to him, and 46  
 heelden him.:- Soþli oon of men stondinge aboute, ledinge 47  
 out a swerd, smot þe seruaunt of þe hiþeste prest, and kitte  
 of to him an eere.:- And Jhesus answeringe seiþ to hem, As 48  
 to a þef 3e han gon out wiþ swerdis and staues, for to take  
 me?:- Forsoþ day by day I was at 3ou, techinge in þe temple, 49  
 and 3e heelden not me; but þat þe scripturis be fulfillid.:- 50  
 Þanne him forsakun, alle his disciplis fledden.:- Soþli sum 51  
 3ong man, cloþid wiþ lynnyn cloþ on þe bare, suede him;  
 and þei heelden him.:- And þe lynnyn cloþ forsakun, he nakid 52  
 fleiþ away fro hem.:- And þei ledden Jhesu to þe hiþeste prest. 53  
 And all camen to gidere in to oon, þe prestis and þe scribis  
 and eldere men.:- Forsoþ Petre suede him afer til wiþ-ynne 54  
 in to þe halle of þe hiþeste prest. And he sat wiþ þe myny-  
 stris, and warmyde him at þe fier.:- Forsoþe þe hiþeste prestis, 55  
 and al þe counceil, souzten witnessinge azens Jhesu, þat þei  
 schulen 3yue him to deef; neþer þei founden.:- Soþli manye 56  
 seiden fals witnessinge azens him, and þe witnessingis weren  
 not couenable.:- And summe risynge souzten fals witnessing 57  
 azens hym, seyinge,:- For we han herd him seiynge, I schal 58  
 vndo þis temple maad wiþ hondis, and aftir þe þridde day I  
 schal bilde a noþer not maad wiþ hondis.:- And þe witnessing 59  
 of hem was not couenable.:- Forsoþe þe hiþeste prest rysinge 60  
 vp in to þe myddel, axide him, seyinge, Answerist þou not  
 ony þing to þo þingis þat ben put to þee of þese?:- Soþli he 61

was stille, and no þing answeride. Eftsoone þe hizest prest axide him, and seide to him, Ert þou Crist, þe sone of blessid  
 62 God? :- Soþli Jhesus seide to him, I am; and 3e schulen se  
 mannis sone sittinge on þe riȝt half of þe vertu of God, and  
 63 comynge in cloudis of heuene. :- Forsoþ þe hizest prest, kit-  
 64 tinge his cloþis, seiþ, What 3it desyren we witnessis? :- 3e han  
 herde blasphemye. What semeþ to 3ou? Þe whiche alle  
 65 condempneden him for to be guilty of deef. :- And summe  
 bigunnen for to bispitte him, and to hide his y3en, and  
 smyte him wiþ boffatis, and seie to him, Prophecie þou.  
 66 And þe mynystris beeten him wiþ strokis, *or boffatis*. :- And  
 whanne Petre was in þe halle byneþen, oon of þe hand  
 67 maydens of þe hizest prest cam. :- And whanne sche hadde  
 seyn Petre warmynge him, sche biholdinge him seiþ, And  
 68 þou wast wiþ Jhesu of Nazareþ. :- And he denyede, seyinge,  
 Neþir I woot, neþer I haue knowun, what þou seist. And he  
 69 wente forþ bifore þe halle; and anon þe cok song. :- Eftsone  
 forsoþe whanne a noþer hand mayde hadde seyn him, she  
 bigan for to seie to men standinge aboute, For þis is of hem. :-  
 70 And he eftsone denyede. And aftir a litil, eftsoone þei þat  
 stooden nyȝ, seiden to Petre, Verily þou ert of hem, forwhi  
 71 and þou ert of Galilee. :- Soþli he bigan for to curse and  
 72 swere, For I knowe not þis man, whom 3e seyn. :- And anon  
 eftsounes þe cok song. And Petre biþouȝte on þe werd þat  
 Jhesus hadde seid to him, Bifore þe cok synge twyes, þries  
 1 þou schalt denye me. And he bigan for to wepe. And  
 anon þe morwe maad, þe hizeste prestis, makinge counceil  
 wiþ þe eldere men, and scribis, and al þe counceil, byndinge  
 Jhesu, ledden, and bitooken to Pilat.

## CAP. XV.

2 And Pilat axide him, Art þou kyng of Jewis? And he  
 3 answeringe seiþ to him, Þou seyst. :- And þe hizeste prestis  
 4 accusiden him in manye þingis. :- Pilat forsoþe eftsoune axide

him, seyinge, Dou answerist not ony þing? Seest þou, in  
 how manye þingis þei accusen þee? Forsoþe Jhesus more 5  
 no þing answeride, so þat Pilat schulde wondre. Forsoþ by 6  
 a solemne day he was wont to leeu to hem oon bounden,  
 whom euere þei axiden. Forsoþ þere was he þat was seid 7  
 Barabas, þat was boundun wiþ sleeris of men, and þat hadde  
 don manslauþtre in seducioun, *that is, debaat in cytee.* And 8  
 whanne þe cumpany hadde stiþe vp, he bigan for to preye,  
 as he euermore dide to hem. Soþely Pilat answeride to 9  
 hem, and seide, Wolen 3e I leeu to 3ou þe kyng of Jewis? Soþli  
 he wiste, þat þe hiþeste prestis hadden taken him by 10  
 enuye. Forsoþe þe bischopis stireden þe cumpenye of peple, 11  
 þat more he schulde leeu to hem Barabas. Forsoþ eftsoone 12  
 Pilat answeringe seiþ to hem, What þerfore wolen 3e I schal  
 do to þe kyng of Jewis? And þei eftsoone crieden, Crucifie 13  
 hym, *or put hym on the cros.* Forsoþ Pilat seide to hem, 14  
 Soþli what of yuel haþ he don? And þei crieden more,  
 Crucifie him. Soþli Pilat willinge for to do ynow to þe 15  
 peple, leste to hem Barabas, and bitook to hem Jhesu,  
 smyten, *or betun,* wiþ scourgis, þat he schulde be crucified. Forsoþe  
 knyztis led den him wiþynne, in to þe floor of þe 16  
 moot halle, and clepiden to gidere al þe cumpenye of knyztis,  
 and cloþiden him wiþ purpur. And þei foldinge a corowne 17  
 of þornes, puttiden to him; and bigunnen for to greet him, 18  
*sayinge,* Hail, þou kyng of Jewis. And þei smyten his heed 19  
 wiþ a reede, and bispatten him; and puttinge her knees þei  
 worshipiden him. And aftir þat þei hadden scornyd him, 20  
 þei vnclopiden him fro purpur, and cloþedyn him wiþ his  
 cloþis, and led den him, þat þei schulde crucifie him. And 21  
 þei constreyneden sum man passynge forþ, Symount of Sy-  
 renen, comynge fro þe town, þe fadir of Alysandre and Rufe,  
 þat he schulde take his cross. And þei led den him in to a 22  
 place Golgoþa, þat is interpretid, *or expowned,* þe place of  
 Caluarie. And þei 3auen him for to drynke wyn meddelid 23

24 wiþ myrre, and he took not.∴ And þei crucifynge him de-  
 partiden his cloþis, sendinge lot, who schulde take what. ∴  
 25 Forsoþ it was þe þridde our, *that men clepen vndrun*, and þei  
 26 crucifieden him.∴ And þe title of his cause was writun, Jhesus  
 27 of Nazareþ, kyng of Jewis.∴ And þei crucifen wiþ him twey  
 28 þeues, oon at þe riþthalf, and oon at his lefthalf.∴ And þe  
 prophecie is fulfild þat seiþ, And he is gesside, *or ordeyned*,  
 29 wiþ wickide men.∴ And passinge forþ þei blasfemyden him,  
 mouynge her heedis, and seyinge, Fy3! þou þat distroyest  
 30 þe temple of God, and in þre dayes aʒen bildest it;∴ þou  
 31 comynge down fro þe cros, make þi self saf.∴ Also and þe  
 hizeste prestes scornynge him, ech to oþer, wiþ scribis,  
 seiden, Crist, kyng of Ysrael, maade oþere men saf, he maye  
 32 not saue him silue.∴ Come he down now fro þe cross, þat  
 we se, and bileue. And þei þat weren crucified wiþ him,  
 33 puttedyn wrong, *or fals repref*, to him.∴ And þe sixte our,  
*or mydday*, maad, derknessis ben maad vpon al þe erþe til in  
 34 to þe nynþe our, *that is, noon.*∴ And in þe nynþe our Jhesus  
 criede wiþ greet vois, seyynge, Heloy, Heloy, lamazabatany,  
 þe which interpretid is, My God, my God, whi, *or wherto*,  
 35 hast þou forsake me?∴ And summe of men standinge aboute  
 36 heeringe seiden, Lo! he clepiþ Hely.∴ Sopli oon rennynge,  
 and fillinge a sponge wiþ vynegre, and puttinge aboute to a  
 reede, ʒaue him drynke, seyinge, Suffre ʒe, se we, if Hely  
 37 come for to do hym down.∴ Forsoþ Jhesus, a greet vois sent  
 38 out, deiede, *or sente out the brep.*∴ And þe veil of þe temple  
 is kitt in to tweyne fro þe hizeste til to down, *or byneth.*∴  
 39 Forsoþ centurio seyng, þe which stood euene aʒenst, for so  
 crijng he hadde deied, seiþ, Verrili, þis man was Goddis  
 40 sone.∴ Sopli þere weren and oþere wymmen biholdinge fro  
 affer, among whiche was Mary Mawdeleyn, and Mari of  
 41 James the lasse, and modir of Joseph, and Salome.∴ And  
 whanne Jhesus was in Galilee, þei folowiden him, and myn-  
 ystriden to him, and manye oþere *wymmen*, þat to gidere

stizeden vp wiþ him to Jerusalem.∴ And whanne euentyd 42  
 was now maad, for it was þe euentyd bifore þe saboþ,∴ Joseph 43  
 of Armaþie, þe noble decurioun, *that hadde ten men vndir*  
*him*, cam, þe which and he was abidinge þe rewme of God;  
 and hardily he entride in to Pilat, and axide þe body of Jhesu.∴ 44  
 Forsoþe Pilat wondride, if he hadde now deied.∴ And cen- 45  
 turio axid to, *or brouzt to*, he axide him, if he were now  
 deed; and whanne he hadde knowun of centurio, he 3af þe  
 body of Jhesu to Joseph.∴ Sopli Joseph byinge him lynnen 46  
 cloþ, and doynge him doun, wappede in þe lynen cloþ, and  
 puttide in a newe sepulcre þat was hewen in a stoon, and  
 walewid to a stoon at þe mouþ of the sepulcre.

## CAP. XVI.

Marie Mawdeleyn forsoþe, and Marie of Joseph biheelden, 47  
 where he was putt.∴ And whanne þe saboþ hadde passid, 1  
 Marie Mawdeleyn, and Marie of James, and Salome bouzten  
 oynementis, þat þei comynge schulden anoynte Jhesu ∴ And 2  
 ful eerly in oon of woke dayes, þei camen to þe sepulcre, þe  
 sunne now sprungun vp.∴ And þei seiden to gidere, Who 3  
 schal turne azen to vs þe stoon fro þe dore of þe sepulcre?∴  
 And þei biholdinge syzèn þe stoon walewid away, forsoþ it 4  
 was ful greet.∴ And þei goynge yn into þe sepulcre syzen a 5  
 zong *oon*, hilid wiþ a whit stoole, sittinge at þe rizt half; and  
 þei weren abaist, *or greetli aferd*.∴ Þe which seiþ to hem, 6  
 Nyle 3e drede; 3e seken Jhesu of Nazareþ crucified; he haþ  
 risun, he is not heere; lo! þe place where þei puttiden him.∴  
 But go 3e, seye 3e to his disciplis, and to Petre, for he schal 7  
 go byfore 3ou in to Galilee; þere 3e schulen se him, as he  
 seide to you.∴ And þei goynge out fledden fro þe sepulcre; 8  
 forsoþe drede and quakyng hadde assaylid hem, *or gon*  
*in to hem*, and to no man þei seiden ony þing, forsoþ þei  
 dredden.∴ Soply Jhesus, rysinge erly in þe first day of þe 9  
 wouke, apperide firste to Mary Mawdeleyn, of whom he



10 hadde cast out seuene deuellis.∴ She goynge tolde to hem  
 11 þat weren wiþ him, *hem* weylinge and wepynge.∴ And þei  
 heeringe þat he lyuede, and was seyn of hir, bileueden not.∴  
 12 Soþli after þes þingis tweyne of hem wandringe, he is  
 schewid in an oþer lyknesse, *or figure*, to hem goynge in  
 13 to a toun. ∴ And þei goynge toolden to oþere, neþir þei  
 14 bileuyden to hem. ∴ Forsoþ at þe laste, hem enleuene rest-  
 inge, Jhesus apperide to hem, and reprouyde þe vnbileue  
 of hem, and þe hardnesse of herte, for þei bileuyden not to  
 15 hem, þat hadden seyn him to haue risun fro deede.∴ And  
 he seide to hem, 3e goynge in to al þe world, preche þe  
 16 gospel to ech creature.∴ He þat schal bileue, and schal be  
 baptisid, *or cristenyd*, schal be sauyd; soþli he þat schal  
 17 bileue not, schal be dampned.∴ Forsoþ þese tokenes schulen  
 sue hem, þat schulen bileue. In my name þei schulen cast  
 18 out fendis; þei schulen speke wiþ newe tungis;∴ þei schulen  
 do away serpentis; and if þei schulen drynke ony venym,  
*or deedli þing, that bryngiþ deef*, it schal not noye hem.  
 Þei schulen putte hir hondis vpon sike men, and þei schulen  
 19 haue wel.∴ And soþli þe Lord Jhesu, aftir þat he hadde spoke  
 to hem, is takun vp in to heuene, and sittip on þe rizthalf  
 20 of God. ∴ Soþli þei gon forþ prechiden euerywhere, the  
 Lord worchinge wiþ, and conferminge þe word wiþ signes  
 folowinge.

*Here endiþ þe gospel of Mark.*

## XXIV.

### JOHN DE TREVISA.

A. D. 1387.

John Trevisa was a native of Cornwall, but resided chiefly in Gloucestershire, being vicar of Berkeley, and chaplain to Thomas Lord Berkeley. He is said to have been the author of an English version of the Old and New Testaments; of which, however, nothing is now known.

His best-known work is a translation of *Higden's Polychronicon*, which was completed in A. D. 1387. It was printed by Caxton in 1482, with a continuation of the narrative from 1357 to 1460.

The first volume of a complete edition of *Higden's Polychronicon*, with Trevisa's translation, has been published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, but as the English MS. selected for that edition is not, philologically, a very important one, the contemporary MS. Tiberius D. VII. (collated with Harl. MS. 1900) in the Southern dialect has been resorted to for the following extracts.

The second extract, *The Norman Invasion*, exhibits more of the translator's provincialisms than are apparent in the former one; and may be advantageously compared with Robert of Gloucester's narrative of this event (p. 62) in the same dialect.

#### I.

#### *Description of Britain.*

As Fraunce passeþ Britayn, so Brytain passeþ Irlond yn fayr weder ȝ nobleté, bute noȝt yn helpe; for þis ylond ys best to brynge forþ tren, ȝ fruyt, ȝ roþeron, ȝ oþere bestes, ȝ wyn groweþ þer-ynne in som places. Ðe lond haþ plenté of foules ȝ of bestes, of dyvers manere kinde; þe lond ys plentuos ȝ þe se also; þe lond ys noble, copious, ȝ ryche of

noble welles, ʒ of noble ryvers wiþ plenté of fysch. Þar ys gret plenté of smal fysch ʒ of eeles, so þat cherles in som place feedeþ sowes wiþ fysch. Þar buþ ofte ytake dolphyns, ʒ se-calves, ʒ balenes, (gret fysch, as hyt were of whaales kunde) ʒ dyvers manere schyl-fysch, among þe whoche schyl-fysch buþ moskles þat habbeþ wiþynne ham margey perles of al manere colour of<sup>1</sup> huʒ<sup>2</sup>, of rody ʒ red, of purple ʒ of bluʒ<sup>3</sup>, ʒ specialych ʒ moost of whyte. Þar ys also plenté of schyl-fysch þat me dyeþ wiþ fyn reed; þe rednes þer-of ys wondre fayr ʒ stable, ʒ steyneþ nevere wiþ cold ne wiþ heete, wiþ weete ne wiþ drythe, bote evere þe elþer þe hu ys þe veyrer; þar buþ also salt welles ʒ hoothe welles, þer-of eorneþ stremes of hoot baþes, to-deled in dyvers places acordyng for man ʒ womman, ʒ for al maner age, ʒong ʒ olde.

Basilius seiþ þat þe water þat eorneþ ʒ passeþ by veynes of certyn metayl takeþ in hys course gret heete. Þys ylond ys plentuous of veynes of metayls, of bras, of yre, of leed, of tyn, ʒ of selver; also yn þis ylond, under þe torf of þe lond, ys good marl yfounde. Þe thryft of þe fatnes dryeþ hymself þerynne, so þat evere þe þykker þe feeld ys ymarled þe betre corn hyt wol bere. Þer ys also anoþer maner whyt marl, þe lond ys þe betre four score ʒer þat þerwiþ ys ymarled.

Yn þis ylond groweþ a ston þat hatte gagates; ʒef me axeþ hys feyrnesse—<sup>4</sup>a ys blak as gemmes buþ; ʒef me axeþ hys kunde—a brenneþ yn water ʒ quencheþ in oyle; ʒef me axeþ hys myʒt—ʒif a ys yfroted ʒ yhat a<sup>5</sup> holdeþ what hym neyʒheþ; ʒef me axeþ hys goodnes—hyt heeleþ þe dropesy ʒ<sup>6</sup> hyt be ydrongke; ytend in þe fuyr hyt fereþ away serpentes; ʒef hys ys hat hyt holdeþ what hym neyʒheþ, as succuus a ston þat so hatte.

Þar buþ scheep þat bereþ good wolle; þar buþ meny hertes ʒ wyldē bestes, ʒ fewe wolves, þerfore scheep buþ þe more

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MS. reads *and bewe*.

<sup>2</sup> For *bw* or *bew*.

<sup>3</sup> For *blw* or *blewe*.

<sup>4</sup> Harl. MS. reads *be*.

<sup>5</sup> Harl. MS. has *it*.

<sup>6</sup> For *an*.

sykerlyche, wiþoute kepyng eylefte yn þe foold; ʒ yn þis ylond also buþ meny cites ʒ tounes faire, noble, ʒ ryche; meny grete ryvers ʒ stremes wiþ gret plenté of fysch; meny fayre wodes ʒ grete wiþ wel meny bestes, tame ʒ wylde. Þe eorþe of þat lond ys copious of metayl oor ʒ of saltz welles; of quareres of marbel, of dyvers manere stones, of reed, of whyt, of nasche, of hard, of chalk, ʒ of whyt lym; þar ys also whyt cley ʒ reed for to make of crokkes ʒ steenes ʒ oþer vessel, ʒ barnd tyyl to hele wiþ hous ʒ churches, as hyt were in þe oþer Samia þat hatte Samos. Also Flaundres loveþ þe wolle of þis lond, ʒ Normandy þe skynnes ʒ þe fellys; Gaskuyn þe yre ʒ þe leed; Irlond þe oor ʒ þe salt; al Europa loveþ ʒ desyreþ þe whyt metayl of þis lond.

Brytayne haþ ynow of al matyr þat neodeþ bugge ʒ sulle, oþer ys needfol to mannes use; þar lakkeþ nevere salt ʒ yre, þarfore a verseyour in hys metre preyseþ þis lond in þis manere:—

Engelond ys good lond fruytfol of þe wolle, bote a kornere! Engleond fol of pley! freomen wel worþy to pleye! freomen, freo tonges, þe hertæ freo! Freo buþ alle þe leden; here hond ys more freo, more betre þan here tonge.

Also Engelond hyzt of lond, ‘flour of londes al aboute;’ þat lond ys fol payd wiþ fruyt ʒ good of hys oune. Straange men þat neodeþ þat lond wel este releueþ; whan hongur greveþ, þat lond al men such feedeþ; þat lond ys good ynow; wondur moche fruyt bereþ ʒ corn; þat lond ys wel at eese, as long as men lyveþ in peese. Est ʒ west al lond knoweþ havnes ryzt wel of Engelond; here schyppes foondes ʒ ofte helpeþ meny londes. Þar mete, þar monay men habbeþ more comyn alway, for heer þat creftes-men wol gladlyche zeue ʒyftes yn lond ʒ yn strond. Wel wyde men spekeþ of Engelond. Lond [of] hony, mylk, chyse! þis lond schal bere þe pryse as al londes ryzt. Þis ylond haþ neode to noone; al londes mot seeche help neodes of þis alone of lykyng

þer woon. Wondrye myzte Salomon the rychesse þat þar ys an; 3erne wolde Octavian.

In Brytayne buþ hootē welles wel arayed 7 yhyzt to þe use of mankunde. Maystere[sse] of þulke welles ys þe gretē spyryt of Minerva. Yn hys hous fuyr duyreþ alwey þat never chaungeþ into askes, bote þar þe fuyr slakeþ hyt chaungeþ yn to stony clottes.

Yn Brytayne buþ meny wondres, noþeles foure buþ most wonderfol. Þe furste ys at Pectoun þar bloweþ so strong a wynd out of þe chenes of þe eorþe þat hyt casteþ up aze cloþes þat me casteþ yn. Þe secunde ys at Stonhenge, bysydes Salesbury, þar gretē stonēs 7 wondur huge buþ arered an hyz, as hyt were 3ates, so þat þar semeþ 3ates yset apon oþer 3ates; noþeles hyt ys nozt clerlych yknowe noþer parceyvet houz 7 wharfore a buþ so arered 7 so wonderlych yhonged. Þe þridde ys at Sherdhol þar ys gret holwenes undur eorþe; ofte meny men habbeþ ybe þerynne 7 ywalked about wiþynne 7 yseye ryvers 7 streemes, bote nowhar conneþ hy fynde non ende. Þe feurþe ys þat reyn ys yseye arered up of þe hulles, 7 anon yspronge aboute in þe feeldes. Also þer ys a gret pond þat conteyneþ þre score ylondes covenable for men to dwelle ynne, þat pound ys by-clypped aboute wiþ sixscore rooches; apon everych rooch ys an egle hys nest; and þre score ryvers eorneþ into to þat pound and non of ham alle eorneþ into þe se bot on. Þar ys a ponnd yclosed aboute wiþ a wal of tyyl 7 of ston; yn þat pound men wascheþ 7 baþeþ wel ofte, and everych man feeleþ þe water hoot oþer cold ryzt as a wol hymself. Þar buþ also saltē welles fer fram þe se 7 buþ salt al þe woke long forto Saturday noon, and fersche fram Saturday noon forto Monday. Þe water of þis welles whanne hys ysode turneþ into smal salt, fayr 7 whyyt. Also þar ys a pond þe water þer-of haþ wondur worchyngē, for þey al an ost stood by þe pond 7 turnede þe face þyderward þe water wolde drawe vyolentlyche

toward þe pond 7 weete al here cloþes; so scholde hors be drawe yn þe same wyse, bote-3ef þe face ys awayward fram þe water þe water noyep nozt. Þer ys a wel non stream eorneþ þarfram noþer þerto, and zet four maner fysch buþ ytake þar-ynne. Þat welle ys bote twenty foot long 7 twenty foot brood 7 nozt deop, bote to þe kneo, and ys yclosed wiþ hyze bankkes in everych syde.

Yn þe contray aboute Wynchestre ys a den; out of þat den alwey blowep a strong wynd, so þat no man may endure for to stonde tofore þat den. Þar ys also a pond þat turnep tre into yre 7 hyt be þer-ynne al a zer; and so tren buþ yschape into whetstones.

Also þer ys yn þe cop of an hul a buryel; everych man [þat] comeþ 7 metep þat buriel a schal fynde hyt evene ryzt of hys ounne meete, 7 zet a pylgrym oþer eny wery man kneoleþ þer-to, anon a schal be al fersch and of werynes schal he feele non nuy. Faste by þe ministre of Wynburney, þat ys nozt fer fram Bathe, ys a wode þat bereþ moche fruyt. Zef þe tren of þat wode falle into a water oþer grounde [þat] þar ys nyz 7 lygge þar al a zer þe tren teorneþ ynto stoones. Under þe cité of Chestre eorneþ þe ryver Dee, þat now to-deleþ Engeland 7 Wales; þat ryver everych monthe chaungeþ his fordes, as men of þe contray telleþ, 7 leveþ ofte þe chanel. Bote wheþer þe water drawe more toward Engeland oþer toward Wales, to what syde þat hyt be þat zer, men schal habbe þe wors ende 7 be overset, 7 þe men of þe oþer syde schal habbe þe betre ende, 7 be at here above. Whanne þe water chaungeþ, so hys cours hyt bodeþ such happes. Dis ryver Dee eorneth 7 comeþ out of þe lake þat hatte Pimbil-mere. Yn þe ryver is gret plenté of samon, noþeles in the lake ys never samon yfounde.

Tak heede how gret lyzt 7 bryztnesse of God hys myldenes haþ byschyne Englysche men seyþthe þat hy turnede furst to ryztfol byleve; so þat of no men yn on provynce buþ

yfounde so meny hole bodies of men after here deeþ yn lyknes of everlestyng þat schal be after þe day of doom, as hyt wel semeþ in þis holy seintes, Etheldred, Edmund þe kyng, Elphege 7 Cuthbert. Y trowe þat hyt ys ydo by special grace of God Almyȝty, for þe nacion þat ys yset, as hyt were, wiþoute þe worlde scholde take heed to duyryng of bodies withoute corrupcion 7 rotyng, and be þe more bold 7 studefast for to tryste on þe fynal arysyng of dede bodies for to leste evere more after þe day of doome. . . .

*De incolarum linguis.*

As hyt ys yknowe houȝ meny people buþ in þis ylonde, þer buþ also of so meny people longages 7 tonges; noþeles Walschemen 7 Scottes þat buþ noȝt ymelled wiþ oþere nacions holdeþ wel nyȝ here furste longage 7 speche. Bote ȝet Scottes, þat were some tyme confederat 7 wonede wiþ þe Pictes, drawe somewhat after here speche. Bote þe Flemynges þat woneþ in þe west syde of Wales habbeþ yleft here straunge speche 7 spekeþ Saxonlych ynow. Also Englyschæ men þeyȝ hy hadde fram þe bygynnyngre þre maner speche, Souþeron, Norþeron, 7 Myddel speche (in þe myddel of þe lond) as hy come of þre maner people of Germania; noþeles, by commyxstion 7 mellyngre furst with Danes 7 afterward wiþ Normans, in menye þe contray longage ys apeyred, 7 som useþ strange wlaffyngre, chyteryngre, harrayngre 7 garrayngre 7 grisbitinge. Þis apeyryng of þe burþe-tonge ys bycause of twey þinges,—on ys for chyldern in scoles aȝenes þe usage and manere of al oþere nacions buþ compelled for to leve here oun longage, 7 for to construe here lessons 7 here þingis a Freynsch 7 habbeþ supthe þe Normans come furst into Engeland. Also gentilmen children buþ ytauȝt for to speke Freynsch fram tyme þat a buþ yrokked in here cradel, 7 conneþ speke 7 pleye wiþ a child hys brouch; and uplondyschæ men wol lykne hamsylf to gentile men 7

fondeþ wiþ gret bysynes for to speke Freynsch for to be more ytold of.

Þys manere was moche y-used tofore þe furste moreyn 7 ys seþthe somdel ychaunged, for John Cornwal, a maystere of gramere, chaungede þe lore in gramere scole, 7 construccion of Freynsch into Englysch; 7 Richard Pencryche lurnede þat manere techynge of hym, 7 oþere men of Pencryche; so þat þe 3er of oure Lord, a þousond þre hundred, foure score 7 fyve of þe secunde kyng Richard after þe conquest nyne, in al þe gramere scoles of Engelond childern leueþ Freynsch 7 construeþ 7 lurneþ an Englysch, 7 habbeþ þer-by avauntage in on syde 7 desavauntage yn anoþer; here avauntage ys þat a lurneþ here gramere yn lasse tyme þan childern were ywoned to do—disavauntage ys þat now children of gramere scole conneþ no more Frensch þan can here lift heele, 7 þat ys harm for ham, 7 a scholle passe þe se 7 travayle in strange londes, 7 in meny caas also. Also gentil men habbeþ now moche yleft for to teche here childern Freynsch. Hyt semeþ a gret wondur hou3 Englysch þat ys þe burþ-tonge of Englyschemen 7 here oune longage 7 tonge ys so dyvers of soon<sup>1</sup> in þis ylond, 7 the longage of Normandy ys comlyng of anoþer lond, 7 haþ on manere soon among al men þat spekeþ hyt aryzt in Engelond. Noþeles þer ys as meny dyuers manere Frensch yn þe rem of Fraunce as ys dyvers manere Englysche in þe rem of Engelond.

Also of þe forseide Saxon tonge þat ys deled a þre, 7 ys abyde scarslyche wiþ feaw uplondysche men 7 ys gret wondur, for men of þe est wiþ men of þe west, as hyt were under þe same part of heyvene, acordeþ more in sounynge of speche þan men of þe norþ wiþ men of þe souþ; þerfore hyt ys þat Mercii, þat buþ men of myddel Engelond, as hyt were parteners of þe endes, undurstondeþ betre þe syde longages,

<sup>1</sup> For soun.



Norþeron and Souþeron, þan Norþern 7 Souþern undurstondeþ oyþer oþer.

Al þe longage of þe Norþhumbres, 7 specialych at 3orke, ys so scharp, slyttynge, 7 frotynge, 7 unschape þat we Souþeron men may þat longage unneþe undurstonde. Y trowe þat ys bycause þat a buþ ny3 to strange men 7 aliens þat spekeþ straungelyche, 7 also bycause þat þe kynges of Engelond woneþ alwey fer fram þat contray, for a buþ more yturnd to þe souþ contray; 7 3ef a goþ to þe norþ contray a goþ wiþ gret help 7 strengthe. Þe cause why a buþ more in þe souþ contray þan in þe Norþ may be [for] betre cornlond, more people, more noble cytes, 7 more profytable havenes.

## II.

*The Norman Invasion.*

WHANNE Harold was yset op in þe kyngdom he<sup>1</sup> þo3te no3t on þe covenantes þat were ymade bytwene hym 7 William; he huld hym-sylf dischargedede of þe oþ, vor William hys dou3ter þat he hadde yspoused was ded wyþinne age of wedlok, and also vor William was occupyed wyþ werres in londes þat were ny3 hym.

Bote William warnede hym of covaunant ybroke 7 mellede manas wyþ prayers. Harold seyde þat a nyse folly covaunant scholde no3t be yholde, 7 nameliche þe byhest of oþere menne kyngdom, wyþoute comyn assent of alle þe senatours; þare<sup>2</sup> a lewede oþ scholde be ybroke, namelyche while hyt was compelled to be yswore vor nede in a nedfol tyme.

In þe menetyme William arayeþ al þat nedeþ vor þe journey 7 geteþ assent of þe lordes of hys lond, and purchaseth favour of Alisaunder þe pope, wyþ a baner þat hym was sent.

Pues were þe causes why Duc William axede 7 chalengede Englonde azenes Harold:—þe deþ of Alvredus þat was hys cosyn, þe sone of Emma on Alvredus, hadde yproc[ul]red his deth; þe secunde þe exilyng of Robert Archebyschop of Canturbury; þe þrydde cause was, vor kyng Edward hadde byhote duc William þat a scholde be kyng after hym ef he dyede wyþoute chyldern; 7 Harold was yswore to volulle þat byheste.

þe lordes of Normandy consaylede among hemsylf what was beste to do of þys journey; 7 William þat was the duc hys sewer, þe sone of Osbert, consaylede to leve and vorseke þe journey, boþe vor scarsté of vyzyng 7 vor stryngþe, hardynes 7 sturnnes 7 cruwelnes of enemyes. þe oþere lordes were glad here-of 7 pottē here answeze 7 here wordes oppon þes William hys mouþ, al as he wolde sygge. Whanne he com tovore þe duc he seyde that he was redy to þe journey 7 alle þe oþere lordes; þanne myzte nozt þe lordes wyþdrawe vor schame.

Whanne duc William 7 hys men were longe ytaryed in Seynt Valeric hys haven, vor þe wynd was azenes ham, þe pupel grucchede 7 seyde þat hyt was a wodnes to chalange by stryngþe oþere menne lond, 7 namelyche while God strof azenes ham, 7 God moste graunte ham good wynd ef hy scholde seyle. Duc William made brynge out Seynt Valericus hys holy body 7 sette hym þer-oute vor to have wynd. Anone lykyng wynde vulde þe seyles.

þanne duc Willam cam toward Englonde, after Michelmasse day 7 londede at Hastyng in a plas þat hatte Peveneseye. In his goyng out of hys schyp a slod wyþ hys o voot 7 stykede in þe sond; 7 þe knyzt þat was nexte criede to him anon 7 seyde:—‘Now Ser Erle þou holdest Englonde, þou schalt ryzt neulichē be kyng.’ þanne he chargede þat hy scholde take no prayes, 7 seyde þat a most spare þynges þat scholde be hys ounē. And [he] lefte so vyftene dawes.

Harold com vram werre of Noreganes ⁊ hurde tyþynges hereof ⁊ hyede wel vast ⁊ hadde bote veawe knyȝtes aboute hym, vor he hadde ylost meny stalword men in þe rāþere batayle, ⁊ he hadde noȝt ysent vor more help; and, þeyȝ a hadde, men were wroþe ⁊ wolde have wyþdrawe ham, vor hy moste have no part of þe prayes in þe batayle of Noreganes. Bote Harold sent vorþ spyes vor to aweyte ⁊ se þe numbere ⁊ þe stringþe of hys enymyes. Duc William touk þu[es spyes] and ladde ham aboute hys tentes ⁊ hys pavylons ⁊ vedde ham ryȝt realyche ⁊ sent ham to Harold aȝe.

Þanne hy tolde Harold tyþynges ⁊ seyde þat al þat were in duc William his ost were prustes, vor hy hadde þe chekes ⁊ boþe lypes yschave. Englysche men usede þat tyme þe here of here overlippes to-sched ⁊ noȝt yschore. ‘Nay,’ quaf Harold, ‘hy beþ no prustes bote a beþ wel stalword knyȝtes.’ Þanne quaf Gurth, Harold hys ȝungeste broþer;— ‘why wolt þou unware vyȝte wyþ so meny orped men. We swore hym never non oþ; þanne hyt ys betere þat þou þat art yswore to hym wyþdrawe þe vor þe<sup>1</sup> a tyme ⁊ lete us þat beþ noȝt yswore vyȝte vor þe contray; ⁊ ef we habbeþ þe maystry wel hyt ys, ⁊ ef we beþ overcome þe cause ⁊ þe querel ys saf to þe.’

ȝut duc William sent a mon to Harold ⁊ profede hym þre weyes:—Oþer þat a scholde leve þe kyngdom, oþer holde þe kyngdom of duc William ⁊ regne undyr hym, oþer hy tweyne scholde vyȝte eyþer wyþ oþer in þat querel, in syȝt of boþe ostes, namelyche, while Kyng Edward was ded þat hadde ygraunted hym Englund, ef he dyede wyþoute heyr ⁊ by consayl ⁊ assent of Stigandus, þe archebyschop ⁊ of þe erles, Godwin ⁊ Siward, in token þare-of Godwin hys sone ⁊ hys newew were ysent to duc William. Bote Harold wolde noȝt assente to þe monk<sup>2</sup> hys message, bote seyde þat

<sup>1</sup> So in MS.

<sup>2</sup> MS. mong.

þe cause scholde be dereyned by dent of swerd, ʒ prayede onlyche þat God scholde deme bytwene ham tweyne.

Þanne þe osten in eyþer syde come to þe place of þe batayl in þe day of Seynt Kalixt, þe pope, þe teþe day of October, in a Saturday, in þe plas þar þe Abbay of Batayl ys buld, as we buþ enformed.

Þe nyzt to-vore þe batayle Englysche men ʒaf ham to songe ʒ to drynke ʒ woke al nyzt. Erlyche amorwe votmen wiþ here axes made a gret stryngþe of schyldes ʒ sette ham togedders ʒ hadde yhad þe meystry nadde þe Normans yfeyned to vle.

Kyng Harold stod on hys veet by hys baner wyþ his twey breþern (þat baner was afterward ysent to þe pope). Þe Normans þe nyzt tovore þe batayle schrof ham of here synnes ʒ were yhousled. Erlyche amorwe vootmen ʒ archers were yset in þe batayl ʒ þanne knyzttes, wyþ whynges in eyþer syde.

Duc William confortd hys men to þe batayl ʒ was ware þat hys haburjon was ytornd in ʒ out, ʒ amendede þat hap wyþ a bourd ʒ seyde—‘Þe stringþe of an erldom schal torne into a kyngdom.’ Bote, ar þe scheltroms come togedders, on of þe Normans syde, þat hyzte Tailefer by hys name, cast hys sword ʒ pleyde to vore þe osten ʒ slouʒ a banyour of Englysche men þat came aʒenes hym, ʒ dede eft þe same of an oper ʒ so a slouʒ þe þrydde ʒ was yslawe hymself.

Þanne anone þe scheltroms smyte togedders wyþ Roland hys songe, þat was bygonne in þe Normans syde. Þe batayle durede vram undern of þe day to eveson[g] tyme, ʒ nere noþer party wolde wyþdrawe (bote þe duc hys archers hadde here vorþ). Þanne þe duc made a token to hys men þat hy scholde feyne to vle, ʒ by þat weye Englysche men were bygyled ʒ desarayd ham, as hyt were, vor to pursywe ʒ to rese on here enymyes. Bote whanne Englysche men were so out of aray þe Normans arayed ham este ʒ tornede

aze oppon þe Englysche men þat were out of aray ʒ chasede ham in everyche syde. Atte laste Harold was yhyt wyþ an arewe ʒ loste hys on ye ʒ was yhurt on þe breyn ʒ vul don in þat plas, ʒ on of þe knyȝtes stykede hym in þe þyȝ whyle a lay þare; þarevore William potte þat knyȝt out of chevalry, vor he hadde ydo an vnkunnyngede dede. Þat day William loste þe þre beste hors þat he hadde, ʒ [hy] were ystyked ryȝt under hym; bote he bar hym so þat no blod com out of hys body.

Whanne þe victory was ydo, William buryede hys men þat were yslawe, ʒ grauntede hys enemyes to do þe same, who þat wolde, and sent Harold hys body to Harold hys moder wyþoute eny myde, as hue hadde yprayed; and hue buryede hym at Waltham in þe Abbay of Chanons þat Harold hadde yfounded.

Bote Girald Cambrensis in hys bok, þat hatte *Itenerarius*, wol mene þat Harold hadde meny woundes ʒ loste hys lyft ye wyþ a strok of an arewe ʒ was overcome ʒ scapede to þe contray of Chester ʒ lyvede þar holyliche, as me troweþ, an anker hys lyf in Seynt James celle vaste by Seynt Johan hys cherche ʒ made a gracyous ende, ʒ þat was yknowe by hys laste confessyon; ʒ þe comyn fame in þat cyté acordeþ to þat sawe.

## XXV.

### GEOFFREY CHAUCER.

1328—1400.

Chaucer was born in London, about the beginning of the reign of Edward III, in the year 1328, and died A. D. 1400; and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Chaucer's writings are very numerous, but his most famous and best-known work is *The Canterbury Tales*, written about 1390.

His chief minor poems comprise the following:

(a) *The Court of Love*; *The Assembly of Fowls*; *The Cuckow and the Nightingale*; *The Flower and the Leaf*; (written in the earlier period of the poet's life).

(b) *Chaucer's Dream*; *The Book of the Duchess*; *The Romaunt of the Rose*; *The House of Fame*; (middle period).

(c) *Troilus and Creseide*; and *The Legend of Good Women*; (later period).

The prose works of Chaucer are (besides a portion of the *Canterbury Tales*), *The Boke of Consolacion of Philosophie*, translated from Boethius' *De Consolatione Philosophiae*; *The Testament of Love*; and a *Treatise on the Astrolabe*.

The present extracts are copied, with some few corrections and additions, from MS. Harleian 7334 (collated throughout with Lansdowne MS. 851) by the editor of the present work.

#### I.

##### *The Pardoner's Tale.*

IN Flaundes whilom was a compayne  
Of 3onge folkes, that haunted[en] folye,  
As ryot, hasard, stywes, and tavernes;  
Wher as wip lutes, harpes, and gyternes,

Thay daunce and play at dees boþe day and night, 5  
 And ete also, and drynk over her might,  
 Thurgh which þay doon þe devyl sacrificise  
 Wiþinne þe develes temple, in cursed wise,  
 By superfluité abhominable.  
 Her othes been so greet and so dampnable, 10  
 That it is grisly for to hieere hem swere.  
 Our blisful Lordes body þay to-tere;  
 Hem þoughte Jewes rent him<sup>1</sup> nought y-nough;  
 And ech of hem at oþeres synne lough.  
 And right anoon þer come tombesteris, 15  
 [Fetis and smal, and 3onge fruyteter[i]s,  
 Singers wiþ harpes, baudes, wafer[er]es,  
 Whiche þat ben verray þe develes officeres,  
 To kyndle and blowe þe fuyr of leccherie,  
 Þat is anexid unto glotonye. 20  
 The holy wryt take I to my witnesse,  
 That luxury<sup>2</sup> is in wyn and dronkenesse.  
 Lo, how that dronken Loth unkyndely  
 Lay by his doughtres tuo unwityngly,  
 So dronk he was he niste what he wrought[e]. 25  
 Herodes, who-so wel þe story sought[e]<sup>3</sup>,  
 Whan he of wyn was repleet at his fest[e]<sup>4</sup>,  
 Right at his oughne table 3af his hest[e]<sup>4</sup>  
 To sle þe baptist Johan ful gilteles.  
 Seneca seiþ a good word<sup>5</sup> douteles; 30  
 He saiþ he can no difference fynde  
 Bituyx a man that is out of his mynde,  
 And a man þe which is dronkelewe;

<sup>1</sup> MS. *bem.*<sup>2</sup> Lansd. MS. 851, *lycberie.*<sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS. reads as follows:—*And þerefore sore repente him oubte.**Herodes, who so wil þe story secbe,**þere maie 3e leren 7 be ensample tebe.*<sup>4</sup> From Lansd. MS. 851. <sup>5</sup> Lansd. MS. has *Senec seiþe eke good wordes.*

But that woodnes, fallen in a schrewe<sup>1</sup>,  
 Persevereth lenger þan doth dronkenesse. 35  
 O glutonye, ful of corsidnesse;  
 O cause first of oure confusioun,  
 O original of oure dampnacioun,  
 Til Crist had[de] bought us<sup>2</sup> wiþ his blood agayn!  
 Lo[keth], how dere, schortly for to sayn, 40  
 Abought was first þis cursed felonye;  
 Corupt was al þis world for glotonye.  
 Adam our fader, and his wyf also,  
 Fro Paradys to labour and to wo  
 Were dryven for þat vice, it is no drede. 45  
 For whils þat Adam fasted, as I rede,  
 He was in Paradis, and whan þat he  
 Eet of the fruyt defendit of a tre,  
 He was out cast to wo and into peyne.  
 O glotony, wel ought us on þe pleyne! 50  
 O, wist a man how many maladyes  
 Folwith of excesse and of glotonyes,  
 He wolde be þe more mesurable  
 Of his diete, sitting at his table.  
 Allas! þe schorte þrote, þe tendre mouþ, 55  
 Makeþ þat Est, West, North and South,  
 In erþe, in ayer, in watir, man to swynke,  
 To gete a sely glotoun mete and drynke.  
 Of þis matier, O Poul, wel canstow trete.  
 Mete unto wombe, and wombe [ek] unto mete 60  
 Schal God destroyen boþe, as Powel saiþ.  
 Allas! a foul þing is it by my faiþ  
 To say þis word, and fouler is þe dede,  
 Whan men so drynken of þe whyt and rede<sup>3</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> The correct reading perhaps, is, *But woodnes, þat is fallen in a schrewe.*  
 The Lansd. MS. reads *Bot wodenes [þat] is falne in a schrewe.* <sup>2</sup> MS. *out.*

<sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS. *When men so drenken of þe white 7 of þe rede.*



That of his þrote he makij þis privé 65  
 Thurgh þilke cursed sperfluité.  
 Thapostil wepyng saij ful pitously,  
 Ther walkith many, of which þou told have I,  
 I say it now wepyng with pitous vois,  
 They are<sup>1</sup> enemys of Cristes croys, 70  
 Of which þe ende is deth, wombe is her God.  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
 How gret cost and labour is þe to fynde!  
 These cokes how þey stamp, and streyn, and grynde,  
 And torne substaunce into accident,  
 To fulfille þy licorous talent<sup>2</sup>! 75  
 Out of the harde boones gete þay  
 The mary<sup>3</sup>, for þay caste nouȝt away  
 That may go þurgh þe golet softe and soote;  
 Of spicery and levys, barke and roote,  
 Schal ben his sause maad to his delyt 80  
 To make him have a newe appetit.  
 But certes he þat haunteþ suche delices,  
 Is deed þer whiles þat he lyveþ in vices.  
 A licorous þing is wyn, and dronkenesse  
 Is ful of stryvyng and of wrecchednesse. 85  
 O dronke man, disfigured is þi face,  
 Sour is þi breþ, foul artow to embrace;  
 And þurgh þi dronken nese<sup>4</sup> sowneþ þe soun<sup>5</sup>,  
 As though thou seydest ay, Sampson, Sampson;  
 And þit, God wot, Sampson drank never wyn. 90  
 Thow fallist, as it were a stiked swyn;  
 Thy tonge is lost, and al þin honest cure,  
 For dronkenes is verray sepulture  
 Of mannes witt and his discrecioun,

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. *þere ben*.<sup>2</sup> Lansd. MS. *To fulfil al &c.*<sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *mery*.<sup>4</sup> MS. reads *dronkenesse*.<sup>5</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *And þorube þi drongen nose semeþ þi soune*.

In whom þat drynk haþ dominacioun. 95  
 He can no counseil kepe, it is no drede.  
 Now<sup>1</sup> keep 3ow from þe white and from þe rede,  
 [And] namely fro þe white wyn of Leepe,  
 That is to selle in Fleetstreet or in Chepe.  
 This wyn of Spayne crepith subtily 100  
 In oþer wynes growyng faste by,  
 Of which þer riseth such fumosit e,  
 That whan a man hath dronke draughtes þre,  
 And wenep þat he be at hom in Chepe,  
 He is in Spayne, right at þe toun of Lepe, 105  
 Nought at the Rochel, ne at Burdeaux toun;  
 And þanne wol[e] þai say, Sampson, Sampson,  
 But herken, lordyngs, o word, I 3ou pray,  
 That alle þe soverayn actes, dar I say,  
 Of victories in þe Olde Testament, 110  
 Þorough<sup>2</sup> the verray God omnipotent  
 Were doon in abstinence and in prayere;  
 Lokith the Bible, and þer 3e may it hier.  
 Loke Atthila þe grete conquerour,  
 Deyd in his sleep, with schame and dishonour, 115  
 Bleedyng ay at his nose in dronkenesse;  
 A captayn schuld ay lyve in sobrenesse.  
 And over al this, avyse 3ow right wel,  
 What was comaunded unto Lamuel;  
 Nought Samuel, but Lamuel say I. 120  
 Redith the Bible, and fyndep expresly  
 Of wyn 3evyng to hem þat han justice.  
 No more of þis, for it may wel suffice.  
 And now I have i-spoke of glotonye,  
 Now wil I 3ow defende hasardrye. 125  
 Hasard is verray moder of lesynges,  
 And of deceipt, and cursed forsweringes;

<sup>1</sup> MS. *Ne*<sup>2</sup> MS. :

Blaspheme of Crist, manslaughter, and wast also  
 Of catel, and of tyme; [and] forthermo<sup>1</sup>  
 It is reproef, and contrair to honour, 130  
 For to be halde a comun hasardour.  
 And ever þe heyer he is of astaat,  
 The more is he holden desolaat<sup>2</sup>.  
 If þat a prince use hasardrie,  
 In alle governance and policie 135  
 He is, as by comun opinioun,  
 Holde þe lasse in reputacioun.  
 Stilbon, þat was iholde a wis embasitour,  
 Was sent into Corinthe with gret honour  
 Fro Lacidome, to make hir alliaunce; 140  
 And whan he<sup>3</sup> cam, him happede par chaunce,  
 That alle þe grettest þat were of þat lond  
 Playing atte hasard he hem fond.  
 For which, as soone as [þat]<sup>4</sup> it mighte be,  
 He stal him hoom aȝein to his contré, 145  
 And saide ther, 'I nyl nouȝt lese my name,  
 I nyl not take on me so gret diffame,  
 ȝow for to allie unto noon hasardoures.  
 Sendeþ som oþer wise embasitoures,  
 For by my troupe, me were lever dye, 150  
 Than I ȝow scholde to hasardours allye.  
 For ȝe, þat ben so glorious in honoures,  
 Schal not allie ȝow with hasardoures,  
 As by my wil, ne as by my treté.'  
 This wise philosophre þus sayd he. 155  
 Lo eek how þat þe king Demetrius  
 The king of Parthes, as þe [book] saith us,  
 Sent him a paire dees of gold in scorn,

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *ȝ of oþer mo.*  
*ȝbalden is be dissolate.*

<sup>3</sup> MS. *bim.*

<sup>2</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *þe more*  
<sup>4</sup> Supplied from the Lansd. MS.

For he had used hasard þer to-forn;  
 For which he held his gloir and his renoun 160  
 At no valieu or reputacioun.

Lordes may fynde oþer maner play  
 Honest y-nough to dryve away þe day.

Now wol I speke of oþes fals and grete  
 A word or tuo, as oþer bookes entrete. 165

Gret swering is a þing abhominable,  
 And fals swering is more reprobable.

The hyhe God forbad sweryng at al,  
 Witnes on Mathew, but in special  
 Of sweryng saith the holy Jeremye, 170

Thou schalt say soth þin oþes, and not lye;  
 And swere in doom, and eek in rightwisnes;  
 But ydel sweryng is a cursednes.

Bihold and se, þer in þe firste table  
 Of hihe Goddes heste honorable, 175

How þat þe secounde heste [of him] is þis;  
 Tak not in ydelne[s] his<sup>1</sup> name amys.

Lo, he rather forbedith such sweryng,  
 Than homicide, or many a corsed þing.  
 I say as by order þus it stondith; 180

This knoweth he þat þe hestes understondeth.  
 How þat þe second hest of God is that.

And forþermore, I wol þe telle a[l] plat,  
 That<sup>2</sup> ve[n]gance schal not parte fro his hous,  
 That of his othes is outrageous. 185

'By Goddes precious hert, and by his nayles,  
 And by þe blood of Crist, þat is in Hayles,  
 Seven is my chaunce, and also cink and tray!

By Goddis armes, and þou falsly play,  
 This daggere schal þurgh þin herte goo!' 190

This fruyt comeþ of þe bicchid<sup>3</sup> boones tuo,

Lansd. MS. reads *my*.<sup>2</sup> MS. *The*.<sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS. *becched*.

Forswering, ire, falsnes, homicide.  
 Now for the love of Crist þat for us dyde,  
 Levith ȝoure othis, boþe gret and smale.  
 But, sires, now wol I telle forþ my tale. 195  
 These riottoures þre, of which I ȝou telle,  
 Longe erst þan prime rong of eny belle,  
 Were set hem in a tavern for to drynke;  
 And as þay sat[te], þay herd a belle clinke  
 Biforn a corps, was caried to þe grave; 200  
 That oon of hem gan calle unto his knave,  
 'Go bet,' quop he, 'and axe redily,  
 What corps is þat, [þat] passeth her forþby<sup>1</sup>;  
 And loke þou report his name wel.'  
 'Sire,' quod he, 'but þat nedep never a del; 205  
 It was me told er ȝe com heer tuo houres;  
 He was, pardy, an old felaw of ȝoures,  
 And sodeinly he was i-slayn to night;  
 Fordronk as he sat on his bench upright,  
 Ther com a privé thef, men clepen Deth, 210  
 That in þis contré al þe peple sleth;  
 And with his spere he smot his hert a-tuo,  
 And went his way wiþoute wordes mo.  
 He haþ a þousand slayn þis pestilence.  
 And, maister, er ȝe come in his presence, 215  
 Me thinkep þat it is ful necessarie,  
 For to be war of such an adversarie;  
 Beþ redy for to meet him evermore.  
 Thus taughte me my dame, I say nomore.'  
 'By seinte Mary!' sayde þe taverner, 220  
 'The child saiþ soþ; for he haþ slayn þis ȝeer,  
 Hens over a myle, wiþinne a gret village,  
 Boþe man and womman, child, [and hyne], and page;  
 I trowe his habitacioun be þere.

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *What corps it is þat passeþ fast[e] by.*

To ben avysed gret wisdom it were, 225  
 Er þat he dede a man þat dishonour.  
 ‘Ȝe, Goddis armes!’ quod þis ryottour,  
 ‘Is it such peril with him for to meete?  
 I schal him seeke by way and eek by strete,  
 I make avow to Goddis digne boones! 230  
 Herkneþ, felaws, we þre ben al oones;  
 Let ech of us hold up his hond to other,  
 And ech of us bycome oþeres broþer,  
 And we wil slee þis false traitour Deth;  
 He schal be slayne, [he] that so many sleeth, 235  
 By Goddis digneté, er it be night!’  
 Togideres han þese þre here trouþes plight  
 To lyve and deye ech of he[m] wiþ oþer,  
 As þough he were his oughne sworne<sup>1</sup> brother.  
 And up þai startyn, al dronke in þis rage, 240  
 And forþ þai goon towardes þat village,  
 Of which þe taverner haþ spoke biforn,  
 And many a grisly oth þan han þay sworn,  
 And Cristes blessed body þay to-rent[e],  
 Deth schal be deed, if þat þey may him hent[e]. 245  
 Right as þay wolde have turned over a style,  
 Whan þai han goon nought fully [half] a myle,  
 An old man and a pore with hem mette.  
 This olde man ful mekely hem grette,  
 And saide þus, ‘Lordynges, God ȝow se!’ 250  
 The proudest of þe ryotoures þre  
 Answerd aȝein, ‘What? carle, wiþ hard[e] grace<sup>2</sup>,  
 Why artow al for-wrapped save þi face?  
 Why lyvest þou [so longe] in so gret age<sup>3</sup>?’  
 This olde man gan loke on his visage 255  
 And saide þus, ‘For þat I can not fynde  
 A man, þough þat I walke[d] into Inde,

<sup>1</sup> Tyrwhitt reads *boren*.    <sup>2</sup> MS. reads *wiþ meschaunce*.    <sup>3</sup> MS. *gret an age*.

Neȝer in cité noon, ne in village,  
 That wol chaunge his ȝoupe for myn age ;  
 And þerefore moot I have myn age stille 260  
 As longe tyme as it is Goddes wille.  
 And Deth, allas ! ne wil not have my lif.  
 Thus walk I lik a resteles caytif,  
 And on the ground, which is my modres gate,  
 I knokke with my staf, erly and late, 265  
 And saye, ' Løeve moder, let me in.  
 Lo, how I wane, fleisch, and blood, and skyn.  
 Allas ! whan schuln my boones ben at rest ?  
 Moder, with ȝow wil<sup>1</sup> I chaunge my chest,  
 That in my chamber longe tyme haþ be, 270  
 ȝe, for an haire clout to wrap in me<sup>2</sup>.  
 But ȝet to me sche wil not do þat grace,  
 For which ful pale and welkid is my face.  
 But, sires, to ȝow it is no curtesye  
 To speke unto an old man vilonye, 275  
 But he trespas in word or elles [in] dede<sup>3</sup>.  
 In holy writ ȝe may your-self wel rede,  
 Aȝens an old man, hoor upon his hede,  
 ȝe scholde arise ; wherefor I yow rede,  
 Ne doth unto an old man more harm now, 280  
 Namore than ȝe wolde men dede to ȝow  
 In age, if that ȝe may so long abyde.  
 And God be with ȝou, wherso ȝe go or ryde !  
 I moot go þider as I have to goo.  
 ' Nay, olde cherl, by God ! þou schalt not so,' 285  
 Sayde þat oper hasardour anoon ;  
 ' Thou partist nouȝt so lightly, by seint Johan !  
 Thou spak right now of þat<sup>4</sup> traitour Deþ,  
 That in þis contre alle oure frendes sleþ ;

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *wold*.    <sup>2</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *wrappe me*.    <sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *Bot be trespas in worde, eyþer in dede*.    <sup>4</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *þilke*.

Have her my trouth, as þou art his aspye; 290  
 Tel wher he is, or elles þou schalt dye,  
 By God and by þat holy sacrament!  
 For soþly þou art oon of his assent  
 To slene<sup>1</sup> us 3onge folk, þou<sup>2</sup> false theef.  
 ‘Now, sires, þan if þat 3ow be so leef 295  
 To fynde Deþ, torn up þis croked way,  
 For in þat grove I laft him, by my fay,  
 Under a tree, and þer he wil abyde;  
 Ne for 3our bost he nyl him no þing hyde.  
 Se 3e þat ook? right þer 3e schuln him fynde. 300  
 God save 3ow, þat bought a3ein mankynde,  
 And 3ow amend.’ Þus sayde þis olde man.  
 And everich of þese riotoures ran,  
 Til þay come to þe tre, and þer þay founde  
 Of florins fyn of gold y-coyned rounde, 305  
 Wel neygh a seven busshels, as hem<sup>3</sup> thought[e].  
 No lenger þanne after Deth[e] þay sought[e];  
 But ech of hem so glad was of þat sight[e],  
 For þat þe florens so faire were and bright[e],  
 That doun þai sette hem by þat precious hord. 310  
 The 3ongest of hem spak þe firste word.  
 ‘Breþeren,’ quod he, ‘takeþ keep what I schal say[e];  
 My witte is gret, þough þat I bourde and play[e].  
 This tresour haþ fortune to us given  
 In mirth and jolyté our lif to lyven, 315  
 And lightly as it comth, so wil we spende.  
 Ey, Goddis precious dignité! who wende  
 To day, þat we schuld have so fair a grace?  
 But might[e] þis gold be caried fro þis place  
 Hom to myn hous, or ellis unto 3oures, 320  
 (For wel I wot þat þis gold is nouzt oures),  
 Than were we in heyh felicité.

<sup>1</sup> MS. reads *schewe*.<sup>2</sup> MS. reads *þe*.<sup>3</sup> MS. *me*.



But trewely by day it may not be ;  
 Men wolde say that we were þeves stronge,  
 And for oure tresour doon us for to honge. 325  
 This tresour moste caried be by night[e]  
 As wysly and as slely as it might[e].  
 Wherefore I rede, þat cut among us alle  
 Be drawe, and let se wher þe cut wil falle ;  
 [And] he þat haþ þe cut, wiþ herte bliþe 330  
 Schal renne to þe toun, and þat ful swithe,  
 To bring us bred and wyn ful prively ;  
 And tuo of us schal kepe subtilly  
 This tresour wel ; and if he wil not tarie,  
 Whan it is night, we wol þis tresour carie 335  
 By oon assent, þer as us likeþ best.  
 That oon of hem þe cut brought in his fest,  
 And bad hem drawe and loke wher it wil falle ;  
 And it fel on the 3ongest of hem alle ;  
 And forþ toward þe toun he went anoon. 340  
 And al-so soone as he was agoon,  
 That oon of hem spak [þus] unto þat oþer ;  
 ‘Thow wost wel þat þou art my sworne broþer,  
 Thy profyt wol I telle þe anoon.  
 Thow wost wel þat our felaw is agoon, 345  
 And her is gold, and þat ful gret plenté,  
 That schal departed be among us þre.  
 But napeles, if I can schape it so,  
 That it departed were bitwix us tuo,  
 Had I not doon a frendes torn to þe?’ 350  
 That oþer answerd, ‘I not how þat may be ;  
 He wot wel þat þe gold is wiþ us tway[e].  
 What schulde we þan do ? what schuld we say[e] ?’  
 ‘Schal it be counsail?’ sayde þe ferste schrewe,  
 ‘And I schal telle þe in wordes fewe 355  
 What we schul doon, and bringe it wel aboute.’

‘ I graunte,’ quod þat oþer, ‘ wiþoute doute,  
That by my trouþe I wil the nought bywray[e].’

‘ Now,’ quod þe first[e], ‘ þou wost wel we ben tway[e],  
And two of us schuln strenger be þan oon. 360

Lok[e], whanne he is sett, and þat anoon,  
Arys, as [þough] thou woldest with him pleye;  
And I schal ryf him thurgh þe sydes tweye,  
Whils [that] þou strogelest wiþ him as in game,  
And with þi dagger loke þou do þe same; 365

And þan schal al þe gold departed be,  
My dere frend, bitwixe þe and me;  
Than may we [boþe] oure lustes al fulfille,  
And play at dees right at our owne wille.’  
And þus accorded ben þese schrewes twayn, 370  
To sle þe þridde, as ȝe herd[e] me sayn.

This ȝongest, which þat wente to þe toun,  
Ful fast in hert he rollith up and doun  
The beauté of þe florins newe and bright[e];  
‘ O Lord!’ quod he, ‘ if so were þat I might[e] 375  
Have al þis gold unto my self alloone,

Ther is no man þat lyveþ under þe troone  
Of God<sup>1</sup>, þat schulde lyve so mery as I.’  
And atte last þe feend, oure enemy,  
Put in his thought, þat he schuld[e] poysoun beye, 380  
Wiþ which he mighte sle his felaws tweye.

For-why, þe feend fond him in such lyvyngre,  
That he had[de] leve to sorwe him to bryngre.  
For þis witterly was his [ful] entent[e]  
To slen hem boþe, and never to repent[e]. 385  
And forth he goþ, no lenger wold he tary[e],

Into þe toun unto a potecary[e],  
And prayde him þat he him wolde selle  
Som poysoun, þat he might his rattis quelle.

<sup>1</sup> MS. *gold*.

And eek þer was a polkat in his hawe, 390  
 [þat], as he sayde, his capouns had i-slawe;  
 And said he wold him wreke, if þat he might[e],  
 On vermyn, þat destroyed him by night[e].  
 Thapotecary answerd: 'And þou schalt have  
 A þing þat, also God my soule save, 395  
 In al þis world þer nys no creature,  
 That ete or dronk had of þis confecture,  
 Nought but þe mountaunce of a corn of whete,  
 That he ne schuld his lif anoon for-lete;  
 3e, sterve he schal, and þat in lasse while, 400  
 Than þou wilt goon a paas not but a myle,  
 The poysoun is so strong and violent.'  
 This cursed man haþ in his hond i-hent  
 This poysoun in a box, and sins<sup>1</sup> he ran  
 Into the nexte stret unto a man, 405  
 And borwed him large botels þre;  
 And in þe two his poysoun poured he;  
 The þrid he keped[e] clene for his drynke,  
 For al þe night he schop him for to swynke  
 In caryng the gold out of þat place. 410  
 And whan þis riotour, with sory grace,  
 Hath<sup>2</sup> fillid with wyn his [grete] botels þre,  
 To his felaws aþein repaireth he.

What nedith it [therof] to sermoun<sup>3</sup> more?  
 For right as þay had[de] cast his deth bifore, 415  
 Right so þay han him slayn, and þat anoon.  
 And whan þis was i-doon, þan spak þat oon:—  
 'Now let us drynk and sitte, and make us mery  
 And sippen we wil his body bery.'  
 And afterward it happed him par cas, 420  
 To take the botel þer þe poysoun was,  
 And drank, and 3af his felaw drink also,

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *seþen*.<sup>2</sup> MS. *bad*.<sup>3</sup> MS. reads *sermoun it*.

For which [anon] þay sterved[e]<sup>1</sup> boþe tuo.  
 But certes I suppose þat Avycen<sup>2</sup>  
 Wrot never in canoun, ne in non fen, 425  
 Mo wonder sorwes of empoisonyng,  
 Than hadde þese wrecches tuo here endyng.  
 Thus endid been þese homicides tuo,  
 And eek þe fals empoysoner also.  
 O cursed synne ful of cursednesse! 430  
 O traytorous homicidy! O wikkednesse<sup>3</sup>!  
 O glotony, luxurie, and hasardrye<sup>4</sup>!  
 Thou blasphemour of Crist with vilanye,  
 And oþes grete, of usage and of pride!  
 Allas! mankynde, how may it bytyde, 435  
 That to þy creatour, which þat þe wrought[e],  
 And wiþ his precious herte-blood þe bought[e],  
 Thou art so fals and so unkynde, allas!  
 'Now, goodmen, God forþeve 3ow 3our trespas,  
 And ware yow fro the synne of avarice.' 440

*The Prioress Tale.*

O LORD, oure Lord, þy name how merveylous  
 Is in þis large world i-sprad! (quod sche)  
 For nought oonly þy laude precious  
 Parformed is by men of heih degre,  
 But by mouthes of children þy bounté 445  
 Parformed is, [for] on oure brest soukyng  
 Som tyme schewe þay þin heriyng.  
 Wherefore in laude, as I best can or may,  
 Of þe and of þy white lily flour,  
 Which þat þe bar, and is a mayde alway, 450  
 To telle a story I wil do my labour;  
 Nought þat I may encresce 3oure honour,

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *storuen*.    <sup>2</sup> Harl. MS. reads *Amycen*.    <sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS.  
 reads *O trayteres homicideres*.    <sup>4</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *O luxurie, O basardye*.

For sche hir silf is honour and [þerto] roote  
Of bounté, next hir Sone, and soules boote.

O modir mayde, o mayde mooder fre ! 455  
O bussh unbrent, brennyng in Moises sight[e],  
That ravysshedest doun fro þe deité,  
Thurgh þin humblesse, þe gost þat in the alight[e];  
Of whos vertu, he in þin herte pight[ē],  
Conceyved was þe Fadres sapience ; 460  
Help me to telle it in þy reverence.

Lady, þi bounté, and þy magnificence,  
Thy vertu and þi gret humilité,  
Ther may no tonge expres in no science ;  
For som tyme, lady, er men pray[e] to þe, 465  
Thow gost biforn of þy benignité,  
And getist us þe light, þurgh þy prayere,  
To gyden us þe way to þy Sone so deere.

My connyng is so weyk, o blisful queene,  
For to declare þy grete worþinesse, 470  
That I may not þis in my wyt susteene ;  
But as a child of twelf month old or lesse,  
That can unneþes eny word expresse,  
Right so fare I, and þerfor I þou pray[e],  
Gydeth<sup>1</sup> my song, þat I schal of þow say[e]. 475

Ther was in Acy, in a greet citee,  
Amonges Cristen folk a Jewerye,  
Susteyned by a lord of þat contre,  
For foul usure, and lucre of felonye,  
Hateful to Crist, and to his compaignye ; 480  
And þurgh þe strete men might[e] ride and wende,  
For it was fre, and open at everich ende.

A litel scole of Cristen folk þer stood  
Doun at þe forþer end, in which þer were

<sup>1</sup> MS. reads *Endith*.

Children an heep y-comen of Cristen<sup>1</sup> blood, 485  
 That lered in þat scole, 3er by 3ere,  
 Such maner doctrine as men used[e] þere;  
 This is to say, to synge[n] and to rede,  
 As smale childer doon in her childhede.

Among þese children was a wydow sone, 490  
 A litel clergeoun, þat seve 3er was of age,  
 That day by day to scole was his wone;  
 And eek also, wherso he saugh þymage  
 Of Cristes moder, had he in usage,  
 As him was taught, to knele adoun, and say[e] 495  
 His *Ave Maria*, as he goþ by þe way[e].

Thus haþ þis widow hir litel child i-taught  
 Oure blisful lady, Cristes moder deere,  
 To worschip ay, and he for3at it nought;  
 For cely child wil alway soone leere. 500  
 But ay whan I remembre of þis matiere,  
 Seint Nicholas stont ever in my presence,  
 For he so 3ong to Crist dede reverence.

This litel child, his litel book lernynge,  
 As he sat in þe scole in his primere, 505  
 He *O alma redemptoris* herde synge,  
 As children lerned her antiphonere;  
 And as he durst, he drough him<sup>2</sup> ner and neere,  
 And herkned ever þe wordes and þe note,  
 Til he þe firste vers couþe al by rote. 510

Nought wist he what þis Latyni was to say[e],  
 For he so 3ong and tender was of age;  
 But on a day his felaw gan he pray[e]  
 To expoune him þe song in his langage,  
 Or telle him what þis song was in usage; 515  
 This prayd he him to construe and declare,  
 Ful often tyme upon his knees bare.

<sup>1</sup> MS. *cristes*.<sup>2</sup> MS. *hem*.

His felaw, which þat elder was þan he,  
 Answerd him þus: 'Þis song, I have herd seye,  
 Was maked of our blisful lady fre, 520  
 Hire to saluen, and eek hire to preye  
 To ben our help and socour whan we deye.  
 I can no more expoune in this matere;  
 I lerne song, I can no more gramer[e].'

'And is þis song i-maad in reverence 525  
 Of Cristes moder?' sayde þis innocent;  
 'Now certes I wol do my diligence  
 To conne it al, er Cristemasse be went;  
 Though þat I for my primer schal be schent,  
 And schal be betyn þries in an hour, 530  
 I wol it conne, our lady to honoure.'

His felaw taught him hom-ward prively  
 From day to day, til he couþe it by rote,  
 And þan he song it wel and boldely;  
 Twyes on þe day it passed[e] þurgh his þrote, 535  
 From word to word accordyng with the note,  
 To scole-ward and hom-ward whan he went[e];  
 On Cristes moder was set al<sup>1</sup> his entent[e].

As I have sayd, þurghout þe Jewrye  
 This litel child, as he cam to and fro, 540  
 Ful merily þan wold he syng and crie,  
*O alma redemptoris*, evermo;  
 The swetnes haþ his herte persed so  
 Of Cristes moder, that to hir to pray[e]  
 He can not stynt of syngyng by þe way[e]. 545

Oure firste foo, þe serpent Sathanas,  
 That hath in Jewes hert his waspis nest,  
 Upswal and sayde: 'O Ebreik peple, allas!  
 Is þis a þing to 3ow þat is honest,  
 That such a boy schal walken as him lest 550

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *set was*, and omits *al*.

In ȝoure despyt, and synge of such sentence,  
Which is aȝens your lawes reverence?'

Fro þennesforth þe Jewes han conspired  
This innocent out of þis world to enchace<sup>1</sup>,  
An homicide þerto han ȝe[t] þay hired. 555  
That in an aley had a privé place;  
And as þe childe gan forþby [for] to pace,  
This false Jewe him hent, and huld ful faste,  
And kut his þrote, and [in a pute him caste<sup>2</sup>].

I say in a wardrobe þay him þrew[e], 560  
Wher as þe Jewes purgen her entraile.  
O cursed folk! O Herodes al newe!  
What may ȝour evyl entente ȝou availe?  
Morther wol out, certeyn it wil nought faile,  
And namly þer þonour of God schuld[e] sprede; 565  
The blood out criep on ȝour cursed dede.

O martir soudit<sup>3</sup> to virginité,  
Now maystow synge, folwyng ever in oon  
The white lomb celestial, quod sche,  
Of which þe grete evaungelist seint Johan 570  
In Pathmos wroot, which seith þat þay [þat] goon  
Bifore þe lamb, and synge a song al newe,  
That never fleischly wommen þay [ne] knewe.

This pore widowe wayteþ al þis night,  
After þis litel child, but he cometh nought; 575  
For which as soone as it was dayes light,  
With face pale, in drede and busy þought,  
Sche haþ at scole and elles wher him sought;  
Til fynally sche gan of hem aspye,  
That he was last seyn in þe Jewerie. 580

With moodres pité in hir brest enclosed,  
Sche goþ, as sche were half out of hir<sup>4</sup> mynde,

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *cbace*.  
*atte laste*.

<sup>2</sup> The Harl. MS. reads *and þrew bim in*  
<sup>3</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *soundede*.

<sup>4</sup> Lansd. MS. omits *bir*.



To every place, wher sche haþ supposed  
 By likihede hir child[e] for to fynde;  
 And ever on Cristes mooder meke and kynde 585  
 Sche cried, and atte laste þus sche wrought[e],  
 Among þe cursed Jewes sche him sought[e].

Sche freyned, and sche prayed[e] pitously  
 To every Jew þat dwelled in þat place,  
 To telle hir, if hir child wente þer by; 590  
 Thay sayden nay; but Jhesu of his grace  
 3af in hir þought, wiþinne a litel space,  
 That in þat place after hir sone sche cryde,  
 Wher as he was cast in a put bysyde<sup>1</sup>.

O grete God, that parfornedist þin laude 595  
 By mouth of innocenz, lo, here þy might!  
 This gemme of chastité, þis emeraude,  
 And eek of martirdom þe ruby bright[e]!  
 Ther he with þrote y-corve<sup>2</sup> lay upright[e],  
 He *Alma redemptoris* gan to synge 600  
 So lowde, þat al þe place bigan to rynge.

The Cristen folk, þat þurgh þe strete went[e],  
 In comen, for to wonder upon þis thing;  
 And hastily for the provost þay sent[e].  
 He cam anoon, wiþoute taryng, 605  
 And heriede Crist, þat is of heven King,  
 And eek his moder, honour of mankynde,  
 And after þat þe Jewes let he bynde.

This child with pitous lamentacioun  
 Up taken was, syngyng his song alway; 610  
 And with honour of gret processioun,  
 Thay caried him unto þe next abbay.  
 His modir swownyng by þe beere lay;  
 Unneþe might[e] þe poeple þat was there  
 This newe Rachel bringe fro þe beere. 615

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. omits *as*, and reads *putte*.

<sup>2</sup> MS. *i-kut*.

With torment and with schamful deth echon  
 This provost doþ þese Jewes for to sterve,  
 That of þis moerder wist, and þat anoon;  
 He wolde no such cursednesse observe;  
 Evel schal have, þat evyl wol deserve. 620  
 Therefore with wilde hors he dede hem drawe,  
 And after þat he heng hem by þe lawe.

Upon his beere ay lith þis innocent  
 Biforn þe chief auter whiles þe masse last[e];  
 And after þat, þabbot with his covent 625  
 Haþ sped hem for to burie him ful fast[e];  
 And whan þay halywater on him cast[e],  
 3et spak þis child, whan spreynde was þe water<sup>1</sup>,  
 And song *O alma redemptoris mater*.

This abbot, which þat was an holy man, 630  
 As monkes ben, or elles oughte be,  
 This 3onge child to conjure he bigan,  
 And sayd: 'O deere child, I halse þe,  
 In vertu of þe holy Trinité,  
 Tel me what is þy cause for to synge, 635  
 Sith that þy þrote is kit at my semynge.'

'My þrote is kiþ unto my nekke-boon,'  
 Sayde þis child, 'and as by way of kynde  
 I schulde han ben deed long tyme agoon;  
 But Jhesu Crist, as 3e in bookes fynde, 640  
 Wol þat his glorie laste and be in mynde;  
 And for þe worschip of his moder deere,  
 3et may I synge *O alma* lowde and cleere.

'This welle of mercy, Cristes moder swete,  
 I loved alway, as after my connynge; 645  
 And whan þat I my lyf schulde leete,  
 To me sche cam, and bad me for to synge  
 This antym verrailly in my deyinge,

<sup>1</sup> Lansd. MS. reads *boly water*.

As þe have herd; and, whan þat I had[de] songe,  
 Me þought[e] sche layde a grayn under my tonge<sup>1</sup>.

‘Wherfor I synge, and synge moot certeyne 651  
 In honour of þat blisful mayden fre,  
 Til fro my tonge taken is þe greyne.  
 And after þat þus saide sche to me:  
 ‘My litil child, now wil I fecche þe, 655  
 Whan þat þe grayn is fro þi tonge i-take;  
 Be nought agast, I wol the nought forsake.’

This holy monk, this abbot him mene I,  
 His tonge out caught, and took away þe greyn;  
 And he ʒaf up þe gost ful softly. 660  
 And whan þe abbot hath þis wonder seyn,  
 His salte teres striken down as reyn;  
 And gruf he fel adoun unto þe grounde,  
 And stille he lay, as he had[de] ben y-bounde.

The covent eek lay on þe pavyment[e] 665  
 Wepying and heryng Cristes moder deere.  
 And after þat þay rise, and forþ þay went[e,]  
 And took away þis martir fro his beere,  
 And in a tombe of marble stoones cleere  
 Enclosed[e] þay þis litil body sweete; 670  
 Ther he is now, God lene us for to meete!

O ʒonge Hughe of Lyncoln; slayn also  
 Wip cursed Jewes (as it is notable,  
 For it nys but a litel while ago),  
 Pray eek for us, we synful folk unstable, 675  
 That of his mercy God so merciablen  
 On us his grete mercy multiplie,  
 For reverence of his modir Marie. Amen.

<sup>1</sup> The metre would be improved by the following reading:—  
*Me þought a grayn sche layde &c.*

## XXVI.

### JOHN GOWER.

A. D. 1325—1408.

John Gower, spoken of by his contemporary and friend Chaucer as the 'Moral Gower,' was a person of condition, being connected with a knightly family of Kent, and possessed of considerable property. He studied at Merton College, Oxford, and adopted the profession of the law.

Gower is the author of three well-known poetical works, the *Speculum Meditantis*, written in French; the *Vox Clamantis*, written in Latin; and the *Confessio Amantis*, in English (A. D. 1393). The *Confessio Amantis* has been several times printed,—by Caxton, in 1483; by Berthelet, in 1532; and by Pauli, in 1857. The following extracts, selected from the Fifth Book, are transcribed from Harl. MS. 3869 in the British Museum.

#### *The Tale of the Caskets.*

In a cronique þis I rede,  
Aboute a king, as moste nede,  
Ther was of knyhtes and squiers,  
Gret route and ek of officers:  
Some of long time him hadden served 5  
And þoghten þat þei have deserved  
Avancement, and gon wiþoute;  
And some also ben of þe route

That comen bot awhile agon  
 And þei avanced were anon. 10  
 These olde men upon þis þing,  
 So as þei dorst, aȝein þe king,  
 Among hemself compleignen ofte ;  
 Bot þer is noþing seid so softe  
 That it ne comþ out ate laste. 15  
 The king it wiste, and als-so faste  
 As he which was of hih prudence :  
 He schop þefore an evidence  
 Of hem þat pleignen in þat cas,  
 To knowe in whos defalte it was. 20  
 And wiþinne his oghne entente  
 That no man wist[e] what it mente,  
 Anon he let tuo cofres make  
 Of o semblance, and of o make,  
 So lich, þat no lif þilke þrowe 25  
 That on mai fro þat oþer knowe,  
 Thei were into his chambre broght,  
 Bot no man wot why þei be wroght,  
 And natheles þe king haþ bede  
 That þei be set in privé stede, 30  
 As he þat was of wisdome slih ;  
 As he þerto his time sih,  
 Al prively, þat non it wiste,  
 His oghne hondes þat o kiste  
 Of fin gold and of fin perreie, 35  
 The which out of his tresorie  
 Was take, anon he felde fullē,  
 That oþer coffre of straw and mulle  
 Wiþ stones meined, he felde also.  
 Thus be þei fullē boþe tuo, 40  
 So þat erliche upon a day,

He bad wipinne, þer he lay,  
 Ther scholde be to-fore his bed,  
 A bord upset and faire spred :  
 And þanne he let þe cofres fette, 45  
 Upon þe bord and dede hem sette.  
 He knew þe names wel of tho  
 The which azein him grucch[d]e so,  
 Boþe of his chambre and of his halle ;  
 Anon he sende for hem alle, 50  
 And seide to hem in þis wise :—  
 Ther schal no man his happ despise :  
 I wot wel 3e have longe served  
 And God wot what 3e have deserved ;  
 Bot if it is along on me 55  
 Of þat 3e unavanced be,  
 Or elles it belong on 3ou,  
 The soþe schal be proved nou.  
 To stoppe wiþ 3oure evele word,  
 Lo ! hier tuo cofres on the bord. 60  
 Ches which 3ou list of boþe tuo,  
 And witeþ wel þat on of tho  
 Is wiþ tresor sò full begon,  
 That if 3e happe þerupon,  
 3e schull be riche men for evere, 65  
 Now ches and tak which 3ou is levere.  
 Bot be wel war er þat 3e take,  
 For of þat on I undertake  
 Ther is no maner good þerinne,  
 Wherof 3e mihten profit winne. 70  
 Now goþ togedre on on assent,  
 And takeþ 3oure avisement ;  
 For, bot I 3ou þis dai avance,  
 It stant upon 3oure oghne chance,

Al only in defalte of grace; 75  
 So schal be schewed in þis place  
 Upon þou alle wel afyn,  
 That no defalte schal be myn.  
 Thei knelen alle, and wiþ o vois,  
 The king þei þonken of þis chois; 80  
 And after þat þei up arise  
 And gon aside and hem avise;  
 And ate laste þei acorde  
 (Wherof her tale to recorde  
 To what issue þei be falle). 85  
 A knyht schal speke for hem alle.  
 He kneleþ doun unto þe king  
 And seiþ þat þei upon þis þing,  
 Or for to winne or for to lese,  
 Ben alle avised for to chese. 90  
 Tho tok þis knyht a 3erde on honde  
 And goþ þere as þe cofres stonde,  
 And wiþ assent of everichon  
 He leiþ his 3erde upon þat on,  
 And seiþ þe king hou þilke same 95  
 Thei chese in reguerdoun be name,  
 And preiþ him þat þei mote it have.  
 The king which wolde his honour save,  
 Whan he haþ herd þe comun vois,  
 Haþ graunted hem here oghne chois, 100  
 And tok hem þerupon þe keie;  
 Bot, for he wolde it were seie,  
 What good þei have as þei suppose.  
 He bad anon þe cofre unclose,  
 Which was fulfild wiþ straw and stones! 105  
 Thus be þei served al at ones.  
 This king þanne in [þe] same stede,

Anon þat oþer cofre undede,  
 Wheras þei sihen gret richness  
 Wel more þan þei couþen gesse. 110  
 Lo! seiþ þe kyng, nou mai 3e se  
 That þer is no defalte in me;  
 Forþi miself I wole aquite,  
 And bereþ 3e 3oure oghne wite  
 Of þat fortune haþ 3ou refused. 115  
 Thus was þis wise king excused:  
 And þei lefte of here evele speche,  
 And mercy of here king beseche.

*Aeson regains his Youth at the Hands of Medea.*

JASON, which sih his fader old,  
 Upon Medea made him bold, 120  
 Of arte magique, which sche couþe,  
 And preiþ hire, þat his fader 3ouþe  
 Sche wolde make a3einward newe.  
 And sche þat was toward him trewe,  
 Behihte him, þat sche wolde it do, 125  
 Whan þat sche time sawh þerto.  
 Bot what sche dede in þat matiere  
 It is a wonder þing to hiere,  
 Bot 3it for þe novellerie  
 I þenke tellen a [gret] partie. 130  
 Þus it befell upon a nyht,  
 Whan þer was nocht bot sterre-liht,  
 Sche was vanysst riht as hir liste,  
 That no wyht bot hir-self it wiste,  
 And þat was ate mydnyht tyde, 135  
 The world was stille on every side,  
 Wij open hed and fot al bare



Hir hir to-sprad sche gan to fare,  
 Upon hir cloþes gert sche was  
 Al specheles, and on þe gras, 140  
 Sche glad forþ as an addre doþ.  
 Non oþerwise sche ne goþ,  
 Til sche cam to þe fresshe flod,  
 And þere awhile sche wiþstod  
 And þere sche torned hire aboute 145  
 And thries ek sche gan doun loute;  
 And in þe flod sche wette hir her,  
 And þries on þe water þer  
 Sche gaspeþ wiþ a drechinge onde,  
 And þo sche tok hir speche on honde. 150  
 Ferst sche began to clepe and calle  
 Upward unto þe sterres alle;  
 To wynd, to air, to see, to lond  
 Sche preide; and ek hield up hir hond  
 To Echates (and gan to crie), 155  
 Which is goddesse of sorcerie,  
 Sche seide: 'Helpeþ at þis nede,  
 And as ȝe maden me to spede,  
 Whan Jason cam þe flees to seche,  
 So helpe me now, I ȝow beseche.' 160  
 Wiþ þat sche lokeþ and was war,  
 Doun fro þe sky þer cam a char,  
 The which dragons aboute drowe.  
 And þo sche gan hir hed doun bowe,  
 And up sche styh, and faire and wel 165  
 Sche drof forþ boþe chare and whel,  
 Above in þair among þe skyes;  
 The lond of Crete and þo parties  
 Sche soughte, and faste gan hire hye,  
 And þereupon the hules hye 170

Of Othrin & Olimpe also,  
 And ek of oþre hulles mo,  
 Sche fond and gadreþ herbes suote ;  
 Sche pulleþ up som be þe þe rote,  
 And manye wiþ a knyf sche sherþ, 175  
 And alle into hir char sche berþ.  
 Thus whan sche haþ þe hulles sought,  
 The flodes þer forȝat sche nought  
 Eridian and Amphrisos,  
 Peneie and ek Spercheidos; 180  
 To hem sche wente and þer sche nom  
 Boþe of þe water and of þe fom,  
 The sond and ek þe smale stones,  
 Whiche as sche ches out for þe nones,  
 And of þe rede see a part, 185  
 That was behovelich to hire art,  
 Sche tok; and after þat aboute,  
 Sche soughte sondri sedes oute,  
 In feldes and in many greves,  
 And ek a part sche tok of leves; 190  
 But þing, which mihte hire most availe,  
 Sche fond in Crete and in Thessaile.  
 In<sup>1</sup> daies and in nyhtes nyne,  
 Wiþ gret travaile and wiþ gret peyne,  
 Sche was pourveid of every piece, 195  
 And torneþ homward into Grece.  
 Before þe gates of Eson,  
 Hir char sche let away to gon  
 And tok out ferst þat was þerinne,  
 For þo sche þoghte to beginne 200  
 Suche thing, as semeþ impossible  
 And made hir selven invisible,

<sup>1</sup> The MS. has *pre*.

As sche þat was wiþ air enclosed  
 And mihte of no man be desclosed ;  
 Sche tok up turves of þe lond, 205  
 Wiþoute helpe of mannes hond,  
 Al heled wiþ þe grene gras,  
 Of which an alter mad þer was  
 Unto Echates, þe goddesse  
 Of art magique and the maistresse ; 210  
 And eft an oþer to invente,  
 As sche whiche dede hir hole intente.  
 Tho tok sche feld-wode and verveyne,  
 Of herbes be noght betre tweyne,  
 Of which anon wiþoute let 215  
 These alters ben aboute set.  
 Tuo sondry puttes faste by  
 Sche made, and wiþ þat hastely  
 A wether, which was blak, sche slouh,  
 And out þerof þe blod sche drouh 220  
 And dede into the pettes tuo ;  
 Warm milk sche putte also þerto  
 Wiþ hony meynd, and in such wise  
 Sche gan to make hir sacrificise,  
 And cried and preide forþ wiþal 225  
 To Pluto þe god infernal,  
 And to þe queene Proserpine.  
 And so sche soghte out al þe line  
 Of hem, þat longen to þat craft,  
 Behinde was no name laft, 230  
 And preide hem alle, as sche wel couþe  
 To grante Eson his ferste youþe.  
 This olde Eson broght forþ was þo,  
 Awei sche bad alle oþre go  
 Upon peril þat mihte falle, 235

And wiþ þat wõrd þei wenten alle  
 And lesten þere hem tuo alone.  
 And þo sche gan to gaspe and gone,  
 And made signes manyon,  
 And seide hir wordes þerupon; 240  
 So þat wiþ spellinge of hir charmes  
 Sche tok Eson in bothe hire armes,  
 And made him for to slepe faste  
 And him upon hire herbes caste;  
 The bleeke wether þo sche tok 245  
 And hiewh þe fleissh, as doþ a cok;  
 On eiper alter part sche leide,  
 And wiþ þe charmes þat sche seide  
 A fyr doun fro þe sky alyhte,  
 And made it for to brenne lyhte. 250  
 And whan Medea sawh it brenne,  
 Anon sche gan to sterte and renne  
 The fyri aulters al aboute.  
 Ther was no beste which goþ oute  
 More wylde, þan sche semeþ þer. 255  
 Aboute hir schuldres hyng hir her,  
 As þogh sche were out of hir mynde  
 And torned in anoper kinde.  
 Tho lay þer certein wode cleft,  
 Of which þe pieces now and eft 260  
 Sche made hem in the pettes wete,  
 And putte hem in the fyri hete,  
 And tok þe brond wiþ al þe blase,  
 And þries sche began to rase  
 Aboute Eson, þer as he slepte. 265  
 And eft wiþ water, which sche kepte,  
 She made a cercle aboute him þries,  
 And eft with fyr of sulphre twyes;

Ful many anoþer þing sche dede,  
 Which is nocht writen in þis stede. 270  
 Bot þo sche ran so up and down,  
 Sche made many a wonder soun;  
 Somtime lich unto þe cock,  
 Somtime unto þe laverock,  
 Somtime kaclep as an hen, 275  
 Somtime spekep as don þe men.  
 And riht so as hir jargon strangeþ  
 In sondri wise hir forme changeþ,  
 Sche semeþ fai[r]e and no womman;  
 For wiþ þe craftes þat sche can 280  
 Sche was, as who seiþ, a goddesse,  
 And what hir liste, more or lesse,  
 Sche dede, in þe bokes as we finde,  
 That passeþ over mannes kinde;  
 But who þat wole of wondres hiere, 285  
 What þing sche wroghte in þis matiere,  
 To make an ende of þat sche gan,  
 Such merveile herde nevere man.  
 Apointed in þe newe mone,  
 Whan it was time for to done, 290  
 Sche sette a caldron on þe fyr,  
 In which was al þe hole atir,  
 Wheron þe medicine stod,  
 Of jus, of water and of blod,  
 And let it buile in such a plite, 295  
 Til þat sche sawh þe spume whyte;  
 And þo sche caste in rynde and rote  
 And sed and flour, þat was for bote,  
 Wiþ many an herbe and many a ston,  
 Wherof sche haþ þer manyon. 300  
 And ek Cimpheius, þe serpent,

To hire haþ alle his scales lent,  
 Chelidre hire ȝaf his adres skin,  
 And sche to builen caste hem in,  
 A[nd] part ek of þe horned oule, 305  
 The which men hiere on nyhtes houle;  
 And of a raven, which was told  
 Of nyne hundred wynter old,  
 Sche tok þe hed wiþ the bile;  
 And as þe medicine it wile, 310  
 Sche tok þer after þe bouele  
 Of þe seewolf, and for þe hele  
 Of Eson wiþ a thousand mo  
 Of þinges, þat sche hadde þo,  
 In þat caldron togidre, as blive, 315  
 Sche putte and tok þanne of olyve  
 A drie braunche hem wiþ to stere,  
 The which anon gan floure and bere  
 And waxe al freissh and grene aȝein;  
 Whan sche þis vertu hadde sein, 320  
 Sche let þe leste drope of alle  
 Upon þe bar[e] flor doun falle;  
 Anon þer sprong up flour and gras  
 Where as þe drope falle was,  
 •And wox anon al medwe grene, 325  
 So þat it mihte wel be sene.  
 Medea þanne knewe and wiste  
 Hir medicine is for to triste,  
 And goþ to Eson þer he lay  
 And tok a swerd was of assay, 330  
 With which a wounde upon his side  
 Sche made, þat þer out mai slide  
 The blod wiþinne, which was olde  
 And sek and trouble and fieble and cold.

And þo sche tok unto his us 335  
Of herbes al þe beste jus  
And poured it into his wounde,  
That made his veynes fulle and sounde.  
And þo sche made his wounde[s] clos  
And tok his hand, and up he ros. 340  
And þo sche gaf him drinke a drauhte,  
Of which his zoupe azein he cauhte,  
His hed, his herte and his visage  
Lich unto twenty wynter age ;  
Hise hore heres were away 345  
And lich unto þe freisse may,  
Whan passed ben þe colde schoures,  
Riht so recouereþ he his floures.

# NOTES.

## I.

### *English Version of Genesis and Exodus.*

**Page 1, line 1.** *ger = yer = year.* In this poem an initial *g* often stands for *yb* or *y*, sometimes represented in Old English writers by the Saxon character *ȝ*. Compare *gunkeste* = youngest (p. 1, l. 3). *g* (final) = *gb* or *y* (Modern English *w*), as *sag* = *sagb* = *say* = *saw*. *g* before *t* = *ȝ* = *gb*, as *rigt* = right (p. 1, l. 13), *þhogte* = thought, *nogt* = *nought* = not, *sogt* = sought, *wrogt* = wrought (p. 2, ll. 22, 27, 28, 34). *g* before *-en* answers to the modern *w*, as *ogen* = *oȝen* = own, *dragen* = drawn. In some few cases *g* before *-en* answers to *ai*, as *slagen*, O. E. *slawen* = slain. O. E. *bagel* = *bawel* = hail.

1. 2. *Quane = wbanne* = when (see l. 12). The Southern dialect never represents the A. S. *bw* (O. E. *bu*, Mod. E. *wb*) by *qu* or *qw*. It is exceedingly common in the Northumbrian dialect, and is often to be met with in the East and West Midland dialects.

1. 4. *Brictest of waspene* = brightest of form; *waspene* an error of the scribe, (who probably wrote from dictation,) for *wasteme*, A. S. *wāstm*: (1) growth, increase, fruit; (2) form, stature. The root of the word is probably the A. S. *weaxan*, to *wax*, grow, increase. Cp. Shakespeare's 'man of wax' = man of puberty, a man of full growth.

*of witter wunne* = of good ability. *witter* = wise, skilful; still preserved in *wit*, *witty*, *to wit*, *wist*. The A. S. word answering to *witter* was *witol* = wise, knowing. O. E. *wytuol* (wit-ful), intelligent. *wunne* = A. S. *wunna*, *gewunna*, practice, custom, use. Mod. E. *wont* from *wun-ian*, to *won*, dwell, inhabit, stay, exist.

1. 5. *breðere = breðer* = brethren. In O. E. we find *deȝter* = daughters, *bend* = hands.

1. 6. To his father he did discover and lay bare.

*gan* contracted from *bi-gan* (began) is often used as a *tense* auxiliary = did, as *gan love* = did love.

*un-billen* = O. E. *un-belle* = *un-bele* = un-cover. A. S. *bélan*, to cover, conceal, from whence *Hell* = the hidden place.

11. 7, 8. He would (desired) that they should so conduct themselves that they should be well-behaved.



l. 7. *He sulde* = they should, *sulde* = *schulde* = should. In this poem an initial *s* (properly *ss*) = *sb*, as *soren* = *sboren* = shorn (p. 1, l. 13).

*bem* = themselves. The personal pronouns are often used by O.E. writers for the compound forms.

*ten* = to conduct. A.S. *teōn* (pret. *teab*, pp. *ge-togen*), to tug, tow, draw, lead. The root is found in *wanton* = *wan-towen*, un-trained, wilful; and is connected with A.S. *tibtan*, to draw, whence our word *tight*.

l. 8. *wel-ðewed* = well-behaved. *ðewed* is from A.S. *þeaw*, *þeau*, a manner, habit, from *þeon*, to thrive, flourish. It exists in Mod. E. *thewes*.

l. 9. *for-ði* = for that (reason) = therefore, wherefore.

*wexen wið gret nið* = waxed in great envy = became very envious. *wið* = in; sometimes it = from. *nið* = A.S. *nīð*, *nýð*, wickedness, malice, strife. (Ger. *neid*, envy, spite), hence *nið-a*, a wicked wretch. O.E. *niðing*, an abject, a vile fellow, a miser. In the North of England *nitbing* is used for *sparing*.

l. 11. *niðful* = envious; *bold* = bad. Cp. the modern use of the word forward.

l. 13. *soren* = shorn, cut, reaped. *Sbear* has often the sense of to cut or reap, in O.E.

l. 14. And theirs (= their sheaves) there lay all before him.

*Here* = theirs, *it* = there; *it was* often = *there* was.

*bem* seems to be an error for *bim*.

P. 2, l. 16. *wurðeden* = honoured (*wurðed* in l. 18 is the pp.), from A.S. *wurðian*, to honour, hence Eng. *worship* = A.S. *wurð-scipe*, honour, O.E. *worþ-scipe*. The same root is seen in *worþ*, *worþy*.

*frigti* = frighty, fearful, timid.

l. 17. *sen* = seen = be seen, appear.

l. 20. *sulen* = *shulen* = shall (pl.). *luten*, from A.S. *lutian*, to bow, incline, bow down to, do obeisance to. The O.E. *under-lout* = subject, servant. Cf. *under-louton*, subjiçio, subjecto; from *lowtyrē*, conquinisco, inclino, (Prompt. Parv.). In the North of England, to bow, in the rustic fashion, is still termed to *lout*. The modern word *lout*, originally a menial, contains the same root.

l. 21. *cbidden* = chode, pl. pret. See Grammatical Introduction, article Verb.

l. 22. *ðoge* = though, nevertheless; *siðe* = *siðen*, afterwards.

l. 24. *Hirdnesse* = herds. The root is the A.S. *beord*, *berd*, *bōrd*, flock; *berd*, wealth, treasure, *board*.

l. 25. *to dalen ebron* = to the vale of Hebron.

l. 28. *sogt* = sought, having sought.

l. 29. *fro feren kumen* = coming from afar (at a distance). *fro* = O.Norse *frá*, from, is still found in *forwārd* (= *frowārd*, O.E. *fraward*), *frowardness* fromward in O.E. has often the same signification.

*feren* = a-far. O.E. *ferne* = *farne* = distant. A.S. *feorran*, far from; *feor* = O.E. *fer*, far. Chaucer uses the phrases *ferne balwes* = distant saints. *faré cart* = a distant cart. The affix *-en* denotes motion from, or to, as in O.E. *bennen*, *ibennen*, *wbanen* = *benn-e*, *ibenn-e*, *wbann-e* = hence, thence, whence.

*kumen* = *kumende* = coming. The rhyming of the present participle with the past participle or infinitive in *-en* is not uncommon.

l. 30. *on ros* = arose. In l. 31 the preposition is placed after the verb for the sake of the rhyme. *bem* is in the dative and not accusative case.

l. 30. *numen* = *nomen* = taken. The A.S. *niman*, to take, seize (pret. *nam*, O.E. *nom*), still exists in *numb*, *benumb*, *nimble*. A.S. *be-nyman*, to take, take away, deprive. North. Prov. Eng. *nim*, to steal, take up hastily. In O.E. *nomyn* = *numen* = numbered = taken with the palsy. 'I *benome*, I make lame or take away the use of one's lymbes.' *Je perclus* (Palsgrave). *Benomme* or *benombe* of one's lymbes, *perclus* (Palsgrave). This man is taken or *benomed* (Horman). See Promp. Parv. p. 358. *Nimble* = O.E. *nymyl* = handy or skilful in taking, and hence quick of limb, active.

l. 31. *Swilc* = such, in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries was the Northern and Midland form of the word. In the Southern dialect the *i* becomes *u*, the *l* is dropped, and the *c* is softened into *ch*. In earlier writers we find the form *swulch*, from whence *swuch* and such. *Each* (O.E. *ilk*, *uch*, *ich*, and *ech*) and *wicib* (O.E. *wibik*, *buuch*) have undergone similar changes. *Such* or *swilc* is a compound, being derived from *swa* (so) and *lic* (like); *wicib* or *wibic* = *wba* (who) + *lic*; *each* or *ilk* = *æ* (one) + *lic*.

l. 32. They all counselled to slay him.

*redden*, pl. pret. = advised, planned. A.S. *ræd*, counsel, advice, opinion; *rædan*, to counsel, advise. Eng. *riddle* = A.S. *ræd-els*.

ll. 32, 33. *slo-u*, *slo* = slay. This is a Midland form for the Northern *sla* = slay = Southern *sle* for *slea*. A.S. *sleán* (pret. *sloh*, pp. *slagen*), to strike, beat, kill. The root taking various forms is seen in sledge-hammer, A.S. *slege*, slaughter, O.E. *slagt* = *slaght*; A.S. *slege*, a slaying, O.N. *slatr*, slaughter. Cp. Ger. *schlagen*, to strike; *schlact*, battle; *schlachten*, to slay.

l. 34. *Oðer* = *otter* = or.

l. 35. *ðor-guiles* = there-whilst = whilst.

*slep* = slept: *lept*, *wept* were formerly written *lep*, *wep*, and belonged to the strong or irregular class of verbs.

l. 36. *ðisternesse* is an error for *cisternesse* = *cistern*, pit (Lat. *cisterna*).

l. 37. Yet let him be cast, naked and cold.

*wurð* is from *weorðan*, to be, to become. We have *weorðan* in the phrases 'wo *worþ* the day!' 'wo *worþ* the hour!' The verb was thus inflected in A.S. :—

Ind. Pres.	1. <i>weorðe</i> ,	2. <i>wyrst</i> ,	3. <i>wyrð</i> .
„ Pret.	1. <i>weard</i> ,	2. <i>wurde</i> ,	3. <i>wearð</i> .
„ Imper.	<i>weorð</i> .		

l. 38. What-so-ever his dreams may signify.

*ow-en* = *og-en*, pl. = ought (may be).

*a-wold* = in force, meaning (see *wold*, p. 3, l. 52). If *a-wold* were the inf. it would be written *a-wold-en* or *a-wold-e*. A.S. *wald*, power, dominion; *waldan*, to rule, wield.

l. 39. *sor* = sorrowful. This refers of course to Reuben only.

l. 40. *drecben* = to delay, from A.S. *drécan*, to vex, trouble; and hence to hinder, delay, *dretch*. Wedgwood connects it with *dregs* and *drag*.

l. 41. *gede* = *yede* = went. The A.S. verb *gangan*, *gan*, to go, or *gang*, had the two preterites *geþing* and *eþde*. The substitute of *ie* or *ye* for the *eþ* has given rise to the form *yede* or *gede*.

l. 42. *erue* = A.S. *yrfe*, *erfe*, cattle, animals; also wealth, inheritance.

*lewse* = pasture. Prov. Eng. *leasowe*, *leese*. O.E. *leswen*, to pasture; from A.S. *læsu*, a pasture; *læsian*, to pasture, feed.

l. 43. *red* = advice, counsel (see note to l. 32).

l. 44. *fulfilt of derne sped* = fulfilled in secret haste (speed).

For *of* we should perhaps read *on* = in; and instead of *derne* we might read *derue*, bold, wicked.

l. 45. *cbafare* = *cbaf-fare* = chaffer, merchandise. A.S. *cedþ*, a bargain, sale; whence Eng. *cheap*; *cedþ-an*, to buy. *cedþian* = O.E. *cope*, buy, *cheapen*.

l. 46. *spices-ware* = spices. Cp. *waters-ware*, collection of waters (see l. 72, p. 84). The A.S. *wáru, ware*, merchandise, is used as an affix in *bard-ware*, *iron-ware* (see l. 84, p. 4).

P. 3, l. 47. *gunne* = pl. did (see note to l. 6). *ten* = to go (see note to l. 7).

l. 50. *cbapmen* = merchants (see note to l. 45).

l. 51. *wast* = *was* + *t* = was it.

l. 52. *storue* = should die. The A.S. *storfan*; O.E. *sterve*, to die (pret. *stearf*; O.E. *starf, sterf*; pret. *ge-storfen*, O.E. *storuen*), is the root of the Eng. *starve, starvation*. As early as 1340 *sterue* was used in the same sense as the modern verb 'to starve.'

*wold* = power (see note to l. 38).

l. 55. *ðbogte* = appeared, from the A.S. *þincan*, to seem, appear. It is used impersonally, as in *metbinks* = it appears to me.

*swem* = astonished, from the A.S. *swima*, a stupor, giddiness, O.N. *swimra*, to be dizzy. Cp. the expression 'a swimming in the head.'

l. 56. *wende* = *weened*, thought, supposed. A.S. *wēnan*, to think, *ween*.

*slagen* = slain (see note to l. 1, p. 1).

*rem* = cry. A.S. *bream*, din, wailing, clamour; *breman*, to cry out, O.N. *rymia*, to bellow; *brema*, to resound.

l. 57. *Nile* = *ne* + *wile* = will not.

*blinnen* = cease, leave off. A.S. *blinnan* (pret. *blan*, pp. *blunnen*), from *bi* (= be) and *linnan*, to cease.

*swiic sorwe be cliued* = such sorrow he endured. *cliued* seems to be = *cleaved*; but as the verb to cleave is generally used as a *strong verb*, it is probable that the reading is corrupt. Perhaps we ought to read *bim dreued* = troubled (afflicted) him. *cliued* and *liued* should be written *cliued[e]* and *liued[e]*, being preterites and not p. participles.

l. 59. *nomen* = *numen*, pret. pl. took (see note to l. 30, p. 2).

*sruð* = *sbrud* = shroud, clothing. Bailey explains *sbrud* as to cover, shelter. A.S. *scrud*, garment, clothing; *scrýdan*, to clothe.

l. 60. *ðe*, which. The A.S. *þe* (indeclinable) was used in all cases for *se* (m.), *seo* (f.), *þæt* (neut.), which.

*mad* = pp. made. Notice that the pret. would be *mad-e*.

*im* = him; *prud* = pride, A.S. *prút, prýt, prút*. O.E. *prute*, proud. The O.E. *prot, trut*, was an interjection of contempt, Fy! Ger. *trotz*, scorn. O.D. *prat*, arrogant.

l. 61. *He* is an error for *In*; *blod* = blood.

*wenien* = pret. pl. turned. A.S. *wend*, a turn, change; *wendan*, to go, proceed (pret. *wende*, Eng. *went*); whence O.E. *went*, a turning, course, way, road. We must connect *went* with *wind*; A.S. *windan*.

l. 62. *ðo* = *ða* = then, the root of *tbe-n, tbe-n-ce* = O.E. *tba-nne, tba-nn-es*.

*rewli* = *rueful* = sorrowful, piteous. A.S. *reþw, breþw*; (1) grief, contrition; (2) *raw, rear*; *breþwan, breþwsian*, to *rue*, grieve, repent; *breþw-lic*, cruel, mournful; *breþwnes*, repentance.

*lit* = stain, spot. O.N. *lita*, to stain.

- l. 63. *Sonders men* = messengers. The usual form is *sondes-men*, from the A.S. *sond*, *sand* or *sending*, mission, messenger.
- l. 65. *boden*, pret. pl. *bad*. A.S. *bebōdan* (3rd sing. *být*, pl. *budon*, pret. *bead*, pp. *ge-boden*), to bid, offer. From this root we get *béd*, a prayer, request; *bydel*, Eng. *beadle*, a messenger, preacher (see note to l. 67, p. 3).
- l. 66. *wede* = *weed* = garment. Cp. widow's *weeds*. Trench confounds the A.S. *wād*, a garment, with *wēod*, herb, grass, weed.
- l. 67. *Senten* = (pl. pret.) they sent.  
*bode* = message, word. A.S. *bod*, *ge-bod*, command; *bod-a*, a messenger; *bodian*, to tell, preach (see note to l. 65, p. 3).  
*funden* = pret. pl. found.
- l. 69. *gret* = cried. A.S. *grētan*, *greetan* (pret. *grét*). North Prov. Eng. *greet*, to cry out, weep.  
*der* = pl. *deer* = beasts, animals. A.S. *debr*, animal, wild beast; *deer* being originally a neuter noun, like *swine*, has no separate form for the plural.
- l. 70. *swolgen* = swallowed. A.S. *swelgan*, *swilgan*, to swallow, *swill* (pret. *swealb*, *suealg* = O.E. *swal*, *swol*; pp. *ge-swolgen*).
- l. 71. *baigre* = sack-cloth. A.S. *bār*, hair; *bær-a*, cloth made of hair.  
*srid* = *sbrouted* = clothed (see note to l. 59, p. 3).
- l. 72. *grot* = bewailing, mourning. This substantive is formed from the verb *gretan*, to weep (see note to l. 69, p. 3).  
*sorge* = sorrow. A.S. *sorb* = care, anxiety. The *g* has been softened down to *w*. Cp. *morrow*. A.S. *morgen*.
- l. 74. *bertedin*, console; literally, to encourage. Cp. *berting*, consolation, encouragement (l. 76).
- l. 75. *quat* = *quað* = quoth.
- l. 76. *wrogt* = *wrought* = worked. The same root occurs in *wright*.
- l. 77. *sal* = *sbal* = shall.  
*ligten* = *alight* = descend. A.S. *libtan*, *alibtan*, to alight, descend. Eng. to *light* upon a thing.  
*til* = to. O.N. *tíl*, to. A.S. *tíl*, end, object. O.E. *tylle*, to lead, reach, touch. A.S. *tilian*, to procure, get, *till*.
- l. 78. *groten* = to grieve, bewail (see note to l. 69, p. 3).  
*bale* = destruction. A.S. *bealu*, *bealo*, bale, woe, evil; whence Eng. *bale*, *baleful*.
- P. 4, l. 79. *sundri* = separate. A.S. *sunder* = separate, *asunder*; *sundor*, apart; *sundrian*, to separate; *sundrig*, *sundry*, separate.  
*stede* = place. Eng. *stead*; Cp. home-*stead*, bed-*stead*. A.S. *steda*, *styde*. O.E. *stude*, place, station; *stede*, stable, *steady* (*sted-ig*); *steadfast* (*sted-fæst*). The root of all these words is the A.S. *standan*, to stand.
- l. 80. *seli* = good, blessed. A.S. *sál*, time, opportunity, luck, happiness; *sál*, prosperous, good; *sælig*, happy (Ger. *selig*), whence Mod. E. *silly*, originally harmless, guileless, simple.  
*reste dede* = did rest.
- l. 81. *stunden* = abode, passed the time. A.S. *stund*, a *stound*, space of time. O.E. *stound-mele*, at intervals. Ger. *stund*, an hour.
- l. 82. *ðeden* = *eðen* = thence, O.N. *ðaðan*.  
*nam*, took (see note to l. 30, p. 2).
- l. 83. *skiuden* = (pret. pl.) *sbifted*, changed. Norse *skifta*, Dan. *skifte*, to change, shift.

l. 83. *fare* = A. S. *fær, faru*, journey, course, way. *faran*, to go (pret. *fôr*, pp. *ge-faren*). Cp. way-faring, *wel-fare*.

l. 84. *ledden* = pret. pl. led.

*ware* = purchase, property, goods (see note to l. 46, p. 3).

l. 85. *steward* = steward. O. N. *stivardr*, from *stjã*. Norse *sti*, domestic occupation; *stia*, to be busy about the house, to take care of cattle. O. N. *stia*, sheep-house. Cp. Dan. *sti*, a *sty*.

l. 86. They made quickly covenant (bargain) of purchase.

*swiðe* = quickly. A. S. *swið*, strong; *swiðe*, very; *swiðan*, to strengthen.

*bigetel* = property, purchase; from A. S. *begetan*, *be-getan*, to get, *beget*, obtain.

*forward* = covenant; from the A. S. *fore-word*, bargain.

l. 87. *So micbel* = as much. A. S. *mycel, micel*, great, mickle. Other O. E. forms are *mucbel, mocbel, mocbe* (whence Eng. much), and *mikel*.

*fe* = property, wealth. A. S. *feob* (Ger. *vieh*), cattle, money, riches, whence Eng. *fee*. Cp. Lat. *pecus*, cattle, and *pecunia*, money.

*bem told* = valued by them. The A. S. *tellan*, to tell, signifying to reckon, estimate; whence *tal*, number; *tale*, reckoning.

l. 88. They have bought for themselves. *him* is probably an error for *bem* = them-selves.

l. 89. *trewið* = *trowetb* = believes. A. S. *treow, treowe*, trust, pledge, *truce* (O. E. *trewe, trewes*); *treowe*, true; *treowian trãwian*, to trust, confide, *trow*; *treows-ian*, to give one's word, to bind; *treowð*, troth, truth.

*wiwes* = *wiwes* = wife's.

l. 90. *baued* = *baueð* = has.

*dempt* = *demt* = *deemed, doomed*, condemned. A. S. *dem-a*, a judge; *deman*, to judge, *deem*, examine, *doom*; *dóm*, doom, trial. O. E. *demster, deemster*, judge.

*bale* = punishment (see note to l. 78, p. 4).

l. 91. *sperd* = fastened, shut up. Bailey has *spar*, to shut as a door. A. S. *sparran*, to shut, Ger. *sperran*. Cp. Du. *sperre, sparre*, rod, rafter, bar, *spar*.

l. 92. *barðe*, an error for *barde*, hard, straitly.

l. 93. *stund* = time (see note to l. 81, p. 4).

l. 94. *prisuner* = the one who has the care of the prison, the jailor.

l. 95. *cbartre*, an error for *cbwartre*. A. S. *cwart-ern*, a prison, a guard-house.

*bi-tagt* = handed over, assigned, entrusted to; from O. E. *bitecbe* or *bitake*. A. S. *betãctan*, deliver to, *betake*, commit.

l. 96. *ðo* = the. A. S. *þa*, the plural of the definite article.

*prisunes* = prisoners. Cp. O. E. *trumpes*, trumpeters; *buntes*, huntsmen.

*bagt* = *agt* = care, sorrow. Ger. *acht*, care; *achten*, to mind. A. S. *eahtan*, to meditate.

l. 97. *Or* = *or*, either, or.

*misdede* = *misdeed*, fault, trespass.

*on-sagen* = *un-sage* = wicked speech. A. S. *sagu*, speech; *sagan, secgan*, to say; whence the Eng. *saw*, a saying, a proverb. O. E. *sootb-saw*, a true saying.

l. 98. *woren* = *waren* = *weren, were*.

l. 99. *bed* = presented, offered (see note on l. 65, p. 3).

l. 101. *boðen onigt* = both in the night. *onigt* = *on nigt*, a night. The form *on* (o before a consonant) is preferred by Northern writers to *an* or *a*,

the corresponding Southern preposition. Cp. *o-frigbt* = *afrigbt*, frightened, in the next line.

l. 102. And they became very sore afraid.

l. 103. *on sel* = a time, on a time. A.S. *sél*, time (see note on l. 80, p. 4).

l. 105. He heard them mourn, he enquired wherefore.

*freinde* = *frainde* = enquired, asked. The A.S. *fregnan*, to enquire, was a strong verb, and made the pret. *frægn*, the pp. *frugnen*.

l. 106. *ogen awold ðat* = would cause that (see note on l. 38, p. 2).

P. 5, l. 110. The interpretation will depend on God.

*recking* = interpretation, is from the A.S. *recan*, say, tell, interpret; whence *reckon*.

l. 112. *waxen buges* = full-grown boughs (for *waxen*, see note on l. 9, p. 1). *buges* = boughs. A.S. *bob*, a bough; from *bugan*, *beogan*, to bend (pret. *beab*, *beág*; pp. *ge-bogen*), whence Eng. *bow*, *bay*, *bay-window*; *buxum* = O.E. *bugb-som*, obedient, pliant.

ll. 113, 114. First it bloomed (flowered), and afterwards it bore the ripe berries (grapes), as I became aware (or perceived).

*so* = as, seems needed before *wurð*.

*Orest* = *arst* = *erst*, first. A.S. *ær*; O.E. *ar*, *er*, *or*, before, *ere* (superl. *ærest*, *ærost*, first).

l. 116. *ðbugte* = *ðo3te* = appeared (see note on l. 55, p. 3).

*wrong* = wrung, squeezed; the pret. of *wringen*, to wring, squeeze.

l. 118. *als* = *al* + *se* = *al* + *swa*, as.

*wune* = wont, accustomed (see note on l. 4, p. 1).

l. 120. *heilnesse* = health, wholeness. A.S. *bál-nes*, from *bál*, *bál*, whole. The Eng. *whole*, formerly written *hal* or *bol*, has no right to the *w*: *wholesome*, *beal* (A.S. *bálan*, to heal), *bealby*, are from the same root. The O.E. word *belend* (A.S. *báland*) signified the healing one, the Saviour.

l. 125. Present my petition to Pharaoh.

*berðne* = *ernde* = errand, message. A.S. *ærend*, *ærende*, message, news.

l. 126. *wurðe don* = may be taken. *Do* is often used by O.E. writers in the following senses: (1) to cause, make; (2) to place, put.

l. 127. *kinde lond* = native land, the land of one's *kin*. A.S. *cynde*, natural; *cynd*, nature; from *cyn* = *kin*, race, *kindred*, *kind*; *cyn*, *akin*, Cp. the 'kindly (natural) fruits of the earth.' The O.E. *u:kind* signifies unnatural, ungrateful.

l. 128. *wrigteleslike* = *wrigte-les-like*, innocently. A.S. *wróbt*, an accusation, blame, fault; from *wrégan*, to accuse, *bewray*.

l. 129. *bred-wrigte* = *bread-wright*, bread-maker, baker. *wrigte* (Eng. *wright*) is the A.S. *wyrhta*, a workman, artificer; from *wyrca* (pret. *workte*, Eng. *wrought*), to work, still existing in *wheelwright*, &c.

*liðeð*, imp. listen. O.N. *blyða*, to listen; *bliod*, a sound, voice. Cp. A.S. *blystan*, to listen; O.N. *blust*, an ear.

l. 130. *bread-lepes* = bread-baskets. A.S. *leap*, basket, hamper. Prov. Eng. *leap*, a basket.

l. 133. *fugeles* = fowls. A.S. *fugol*, *flugol*, a bird; from *fleogan*, to fly. This shows that in *fowl* an *l* has been dropped, which is retained in the noun *fly* (A.S. *fleoġe*). Cp. Ger. *fliegen*, to fly; *wogel*, a bird.

*lagt* = seized from. A.S. *laccan*, *gelæccan*, to catch, seize, *latch*.

l. 135. *weren* = protect, guard, defend. A.S. *wærian*, *wërian*, to defend, protect, keep off; *wárian*, to beware; from *wær*, cautious, wary, aware.

l. 136. *beren* = bear away.

l. 137. It were *liever* to me = I had rather.

l. 138. Of pleasant (lucky) dreams to tell the meaning.

*eddi* = A.S. *éddig*, blessed, happy; from *édd*, happiness.

*recben* = tell (see note to l. 110, p. 5).

*swep* = *swap* = *swop*, blow, force; and hence meaning.

l. 140. Be put (hung) on the cross, alas!

*rode* = A.S. *rôd*, cross, rood. Fris. *rode*, the gallows.

*weila-wei* = A.S. *wá-lá-wá*, well-a-way! well-a-day! *wá* = *wœ*, sorrow, grief.

l. 141. *to-teren* = tear in pieces. *to* answers to the Lat. *dis-*, Ger. *zer-*. *to-break* (= A.S. *to-breccan*, Lat. *dis-rumpere*) occurs in Eng. Bible, "all to-brake his head."

l. 142. That no money (wealth) be able to save thee.

*agte* = money. The plural *agtes*, moneys, occurs in l. 276, p. 10. A.S. *æbt* = property, cattle, possessions; from *agan*, to own.

*mugen* = *mogen* = be able. A.S. *magan*; whence Eng. *may*, *main*, *might*, &c.

P. 6, l. 143. It became true (was fulfilled) as Joseph had said.

*soð* = *sooth*, true, truth; as in Eng. *for-sooth*, *sooth-sayer*.

l. 146. *wið uten erð* = in a distant or foreign land. *uten* = distant, foreign. A.S. *ute*, without, out, abroad; *utan*, beyond.

*erð* = abode, dwelling-place. A.S. *eard*, country, region; *eardian*, to dwell, settle in; *eardung*, dwelling; *eardung-stow*, dwelling-place.

l. 149. *neet* = *neat*. A.S. *nyten*, *niten*, cattle, beast. O.N. *naut*, an ox; whence *neat-berd*. The meaning of the word is 'unintelligent,' from A.S. *nitan*, *ne-witan*, not to know.

l. 150. Every one very fat and large (great).

*Euerilc*, softened into *euerich*, is the origin of *every*. *ilc* = *icb* = *each*.

l. 151. *ðo* = those (see note to l. 96).

l. 152. Who brought (did) the fat (ones) to grief.

l. 153 *freten*, eaten; from *frete*, to eat. A.S. *fretan* (pret. *fræt*, pp. *gefreten*); whence Eng. *fret*, to rub, wear, consume. With this root is connected *fritter*, *fritters*, and *wart* (A.S. *vrat*), Du. *vræt*.

l. 157. On a rank (strong) bush and well-favoured (in full bloom).

*tidi* is used by Shakespeare in the sense of 'in good condition,' plump. In O.E. *tidi* has the sense of *timely*, good, beautiful, from A.S. *tíd*, time, *tide*; whence *tíd-an*, to happen, *be-tide*. Cp. O. Swedish *tidig*, beautiful.

l. 159. Withered (faded) and small, and drought-seized (struck).

*welkede* = faded. Ger. *welken*, to fade. A.S. *wealowian*, *wealwian*, to fade, wither.

*drugte numen* = drought (dryness)-taken (see note on l. 30, p. 2).

ll. 161, 162. To-together they smote, and in a stound (second)

The fat ones thrust to the ground.

*To-samen* = together. A.S. (prefix) *sam* = together; *sama*, the same; *sam-nian*, to assemble.

*ðrist hem*, an error for *ðristen*, pl. thrust. A.S. *bræstian*, to twist, press.

l. 163. *abraid* = awoke; to start suddenly. A.S. *bredan*, *bregdan*, to weave, braid, gripe, drive. O.N. *bregða*, in addition to these meanings, signifies to change, to awake out of sleep, start: O.N. *bragð*, signifies a quick motion; whence the O.E. *at a braid*, at once, instantaneously. *Upbraid*,

is, originally, to raise a sudden shout, to accuse. Bailey has the word *bread*, appearance, which may be compared with the Prov. E. *braid*, to pretend, resemble, from the O. N. *bragð*, gesture; *bragr*, habit; *at braga*, to imitate. Shakespeare uses *braid* for manners.

*ðbogt* = *thought*, anxiety, care. Cp. the phrase 'take no *thought*.'

l. 166. Who could explain the meaning of the dreams.

*un-don* = *un-do*, to discover, explain.

l. 168. *ðat* = what. O.E. writers use *ther* for *where*, *iben* for *when*.

l. 171. *bogt*, seems to be an error for *sogt* = *sought*, looked for.

l. 174. *wold* = force, signification (see note on l. 38, p. 2).

P. 7, l. 178. *tawnen* = show, make known. Du. *toon*, to show.

l. 180. *fulsum-bed* = fulsome-head, abundance, plenteousness.

*numen* = passed. The O.E. *nime*, signifies to take the way, to go, pass.

l. 182. *nedful* = needful, necessitous, severe.

*is* = *his* = them. This pronoun is used by Robert of Gloucester and Dan Michel of Kent. See Grammatical Introduction, article *Pronouns*.

l. 184. *rospen* = rasp, diminish. Du. *raspen*, to grate.

*raken* = consume. O.N. *raka*, to scrape; Sw. *raka*, to shave.

ll. 185, 186. I advise the king now here before (the famine)

To make barns and gather corn.

*laðes* = barns. Dan. *lade*, a barn.

ll. 187, 188. That thy folk be not surprised (taken unawares)

When the famine years are forth come (come to pass).

*hungri* = hungry, famine. The O.E. *bunger*, is often used for famine (see l. 209, p. 8). The Gothic *bugrjan*, to hunger, suggests that A.S. *bugu*, little, scarce, is the root of the word.

l. 190. That became to him afterwards good fortune.

*seli sped* = happy speed, prosperity (see note on l. 80, p. 4).

ll. 191, 200. He gave Joseph his ring And his collar of gold for honour, And bad him all his land rule, And under him highest for to be; And bad him wield in his hand His folk, and wealth, and all his land. There was under him Potiphar And his wife, that him so *falsely* bore (witness) against. Joseph to wife his daughter took, Either now or formerly when she (first) became (known to him).

l. 192. *bege* = collar, is from the A.S. *beðgan*, *búgan*, to bend; *beab*, *beb*, *beag*, signifies a ring, bracelet, collar, crown.

*wurðing* = honour, worship (see note on l. 16, p. 2).

l. 198. *to-bar* = bore against, accused falsely.

l. 204. *geld* = requited, yielded. A.S. *gylt*, payment; also a *guild*, club; *gylðan* (pret. *geald*, pp. *galden*), to pay, *yield*.

l. 205. *fulsum* = full-some, plenteous (see l. 180, p. 7).

*faren* = passed, gone; from *faren*, to go. A.S. *faru*, a journey, *fare*; *faran*, to go (pret. *for*, pp. *gefaren*).

l. 206. Joseph could (knew how to) make them aware beforehand.

l. 208. *ynug* = enough. A.S. *ge-nog*, sufficient. O.N. *nogr*, abundant.

P. 8, l. 210. *for-ðan* = for-that (reason), therefore.

l. 212. *bilef* = *bileaf* = remained. A.S. *belifan*, to remain, abide (pret. *belaf*, *beleaf*).

l. 213. *for nede sogt* = peaceable by necessity. *sogt* = *sagt*. A.S. *sabt*, peaceable; or perhaps *sogt* = *sought*, driven to seek (food) (see l. 217, p. 8).

l. 215. *luttan* = did obeisance (see *luten*, l. 20, p. 2).



*frigitlike* = timidly, frightened-like; from *frigti*, timid, fearful (see l. 16, p. 2).

l. 216. *Anð*, an error for *and*.

*mildelike* = mildly, meekly. The Southern form of the adv. would be *mildelicbe*.

l. 217. *sondes* = messengers (see note on l. 63, p. 3).

l. 219. Joseph them knew perfectly in his mind. For *ben* read *þem*, them.

l. 220. Also he pretended (as) he knew them not. Read *so* or *also* before *he knew*.

l. 223. *came* should be *cume*, pl. come.

l. 227. *Oc* = A.S. *ac*, but.

*sunen* = sons.

l. 228. *doð es* = compels them (see *is*, them, in l. 182, p. 7). But *es* may be an error for *us*.

l. 230. *gure bering* = your bearing, behaviour.

ll. 231-234. How should one man, poor, forgotten, Such and so many sons beget? For seldom it betides (befalls) any king himself Such men to see of his offspring.

l. 237. *boten* = named, called. A.S. *bátan* (pret. *batte*), to call, name; *bátan* (pret. *bét*, *hebt*, pp. *báten*), to promise.

l. 239. *feið* = faith.

l. 240. *eðen* = *beðen* = hence. O.N. *beðan*.

P. 9, l. 243. *for-dred* = afraid, in great *dread*; *for*, intensitive (Lat. *per-ger. ver-*), as in *for-go*, *for-bid*, &c.

l. 244. *oc* = also. Dan. *og*, and.

*ðburg* = *ðurg* = through.

*for-red* = deceive. A.S. *for-ráðdan*, to miscounsel, deceive; from *ráð*, counsel (see note on l. 32, p. 2).

l. 246. *speren* (see note on l. 91, p. 4).

l. 248. *ton* = that one, the first, &c. So *totber* = that other, the second.

l. 250. *To wedde* = for security, as hostage. A.S. *wed*, pledge, earnest; *weddian*, to bargain, contract, *wed*; *wed-lác*, wedlock.

l. 251. *on-on* = *anon* = in one (instant), immediately, at once.

l. 254. *bi-ment* = bemoaned, bewailed. A.S. *bemānan*, to bemoan; from *mānan*, to moan.

l. 256. *Wrightful* = guilty (see note on l. 128, p. 5).

l. 257. *sinigeden* = pl. pret. sinned. A.S. *singian*, to sin.

*quillum* or = awhile ere (before); *quill-um* = awhile, formerly. The *um*, as in O.E. *ferr-um*, afar, is the A.S. *ymbe*, O.E. *umbe*, *um*, around. *quillum* is sometimes written *umquile*.

l. 259. *werneden*, pl. denied, refused. A.S. *wyrnan*, to warn, forbid, refuse, deny.

l. 260. *drege* = suffer. A.S. *dreogan* (pret. *dreag*, pp. *drogen*), to bear, suffer, work.

l. 261. Knew none of them in his mind.

*Wende* = weened.

*bere non* = none of them.

*mod* = mind. A.S. *mōd*, mood. The O.E. *modi* (Eng. *moody*), signifies proud, exalted.

l. 266. *pilt* = thrust. O.E. *pult*; Dan. *putte*, to *put*, put into, put away.

- l. 268. *bunden*, pret. pl. *bound*. Cp. the phrase 'our *bounden* duty.'
- l. 271. *ouer-ðogt* = over-anxious, frightened.
- P. 10, l. 273. *sped* = speed, success.
- l. 274. *frigtibed* = frighty-hood, fear (see l. 16, p. 2).
- l. 278. *bi-meneð* = bemoaneth (see note on l. 254, p. 9).
- l. 279. Very great sorrow is me become (befallen).  
*Wel*, by O.E. writers, is used as an adv. = very.
- l. 280. *aren* = are. This part of the verb 'to be' is of Norse origin.
- l. 284. *Dead* = *deað* = death.  
*segeð* = falleth, alighteth, cometh. A.S. *sgian*, to fall, to set; *sægan*, to cause to descend.
- l. 285. *bi-leven* = *bi-leven* = remain (see *bilef*, note on l. 212, p. 8).
- l. 287. *us sal ben bard* = to us it shall be hard = it will go hard with us.
- l. 288. *no* = *ne* = not; like the Scotch *na*.  
*forward* = covenant, agreement (see note on l. 84, p. 4).
- l. 289. *Wex derðe* = famine (dearth) came. *derðe* = *dearth*. A.S. *debre*, dear, precious. The O.E. *durpe*, *derpe* = value, worth.
- l. 290. *est* may be an error for *eft* = again.  
*bit* = biddeth, commandeth.
- l. 291. *duren*, pl. dare. A.S. *dearan*, to dare: (1st pers. sing.) *dear*, (2nd pers. sing.) *dearst*; pl. *durron*, pret. *dorste*; Eng. *durst*.
- l. 293. *quan it is ned* = since it is necessary.
- l. 294. And (I) know no better plan.  
*can* = know. A.S. *cunnan*: (1) *can*, (2) *cunne*, *canst*; pl. *cunnon*, pret. *cūðe* (Eng. could), pp. *ge-cūð*; Eng. *couth*, in *uncouth* = unknown, and hence strange.
- l. 296. That to them thereof there lack none.  
*wante*, in O.E. often signifies 'to lack'; as in the modern phrase 'it *wants* so many to make up the number.'
- l. 299. *of dere pris* = of great price, of precious value (see note on l. 289, p. 10).
- l. 301. God grant him well disposed to be.  
*buune*, grant = A.S. *unnan*, 'to grant, give. This root still exists in the phrases 'he *owned* to having done it'; 'I have *owned* to it.' *own* has here nothing to do with the verb *owe*, but signifies *granted*, or *conceded* (see *Owl and Nigthingale*, l. 547, p. 36).  
*eði-modes* = *eði-moded* = easy-minded, well-disposed, kind. A.S. *eáð*, easy; *eáðe*, easily; *eáð-móð*, easy-minded (see l. 138, p. 5).
- ll. 303, 304. Then took they forth *the* way right,  
 Till they were come into Egypt quickly.  
*ligt* = *light*, easily, quickly. Cp. the expression 'to get off *lightly*.'
- P. 11, l. 306. Natural thought in his heart was then.  
*ðag* = *ða* = *ðo*, then.
- l. 307. *gerken* = to prepare. A.S. *gearcian*, to prepare, make ready. The Elizabethan writers employ the verb *yark* in the sense of 'to make up.'  
*meten* = *mete* = meat. The *n* is added to the vowel-ending for the sake of the rhyme.
- l. 309. *biri* = a city. A.S. *byri*, *byrig*, *burb*, *burg* = Eng. *borough*. The *bury* is of frequent occurrence as an affix in local names; as *Canter-bury*, *New-bury*, &c. The French *bourg* is borrowed from the Teutonic dialects, whence Eng. *burgess*, Fr. *bourgeois*, a citizen.
- l. 310. None of them had then cheerful countenances.

- l. 310. *loten* = faces. O.E. *late*, O.N. *læti*, cheer, face.
- l. 312. *gur* = your; *gu* = you.
- l. 314. *ur non* = none of us. Cp. *ber non* = none of them (see l. 310, p. 11).
- l. 316. For I now have my conditions (agreement) (*i. e.* that Benjamin should be brought to him).
- ll. 319, 320. Very glad he was of their coming,  
For he was kept there as hostage.  
*fagen* = *fain* = joyful. We often find the *g* becoming *w*; whence O.E. *fawe*, *fawen*, *fain* = A.S. *fægen*, glad; *fægnian*, to rejoice, exult, flatter.
- to nome* = as a pledge, or security. *nome* seems to mean one seized as an hostage; from the A.S. *næme*, a seizing; *niman*, to take.
- l. 321. *undren* = A.S. *undern*, the third hour of the day, that is, nine o'clock in the morning; extending also to the sixth hour in the morning. It literally signifies the intervening period, which accounts for its sometimes denoting a part of the forenoon, or a meal taken at that time, and sometimes a period between noon and sunset. *aandorn* = *aandurib* = *undern*, is still used in the North of England.
- l. 327. *leuelike* = kindly; from *leue* = A.S. *leof*, dear.
- l. 328. *of kinde blod* = of kindred blood.
- l. 332. Know I *not* that he thereon trembleth? *i. e.* for the safety of Benjamin.
- biueð* = trembleth. *bifian*, *beofian*, to tremble, shake. Prov. Eng. *bever*, *beaver*, to shake.
- l. 334. *bode-word* = command. A.S. *bod*, command (see l. 67, p. 3).
- l. 337. *Him* = to him.
- ouer-wente* = turned over, became faint.
- l. 338. Natural love did overcome him.
- P. 12, l. 339. *stille* = still, secretly.
- l. 340. That all his face became wet with (of) tears.
- wlite* = *wliten* = face (see l. 341, p. 12). A.S. *wlite*, face, beauty; *wlitan*, to look, see
- l. 341. After that weeping he washed his face.  
*weis* = washed, pret. of *wassen*, to wash (see l. 343, p. 12). A.S. *waskan*, to wash (pret. *wōsc*, pp. *wāscen*). In the present stage of the language, *wash* has become a verb of the weak conjugation; but a remnant of the strong form is preserved in the adj. *un-washen*.
- l. 347. *sonde* = A.S. *sand*, *sond*, a sending, a dish (mess).
- l. 349. In abundance (of food) they became joyous (glad).
- ll. 350-356. Joseph thought thereof no harm, But it pleased him exceedingly well, And he them instructed and taught well, And how they should best conduct themselves When they came into unkind (unnatural) deeds. And all the better shall ye speed If ye will with truth conduct yourselves (*i. e.* act faithfully, honestly).
- l. 350. *scaðe* = *scatbe*, harm, as in *scatbeless*; *scatbing*, lightning. A.S. *sceaðan*, *sceaðian*, to steal, spoil, hurt; *sceað-a*, a thief, an enemy; *scaðþe*, injury, loss.
- l. 351. *likede* = pleased. The impersonal verb *like* in O.E. signifies 'to please,' as in the modern phrase 'if you like' = if it please you. A.S. *lician*, to be pleased with. O.N. *lika*, to be to one's taste.
- l. 354. *ðeden* = *deden* = deeds.
- l. 358. *Or or* = *first ere* (see note on l. 113, p. 5).

- l. 358. *ferden*, pl. went. A.S. *féran*, to go (pret. *ferde*); *ferd*, an expedition.
- l. 361. *agte* = owned. A.S. *agan*, to own.
- l. 365. This messenger overtaketh them quickly.  
*raðe* = quickly. A.S. *bræð*, swift, quick; *bræd*, quick; whence *ratbe* (Milton), early; *rather*, sooner.
- l. 366. And accuses (calls after) *them* of injury and loss.
- ll. 367-370. Unhappy (wretched) men, what have ye done?  
 Great misfortune is come upon you,  
 For it is not hidden from my lord  
 That one of you hath his cup stolen.
- l. 368. *un-selðe* = *un-selðe* = misery, grief. A.S. *un-sál*, unhappy; *un-sælig* = *un-seli* (l. 367, p. 12), miserable, wicked; *un-selð*, misery, adversity (see note on l. 80, p. 4).
- l. 369. *for-bolen* = concealed, hidden. A.S. *for-bélan*, to hide; *bélan* (pret. *bæl*, pp. *ge-belen*), to cover, hide.
- l. 370. *gure on* = one of you.
- P. 18, l. 371. *sikerlike* = confidently, boldly. O.E. *siker*, secure, safe. Ger. *sicher*; Fris. *sikur*.
- ll. 372-374. Upon whom thou findest it indeed,  
 Let him be slain and let us again be driven  
 Into thralldom (slavery) evermore to live.
- witterlike* = indeed, truly. *witter* signifies wise, true (see note on l. 4, p. 1; l. 382, p. 13).
- l. 375. *ransaken* = to search, *ransack*. Sw. *ransaka*, to search for stolen goods, from O.N. *rannr*, a house, and Sw. *sóka*, to seek.  
*on and on* = one and one, singly.
- l. 380. *reweli lote* = sorrowful cheer (see notes on l. 62, p. 3; l. 310, p. 11).  
*wep* = O.E. *wop*, weeping. Cp. O.E. *gret* and *grot*, lamentation; *lop*, a leap.
- l. 382. *o wol* (= *wel*) *witter ðogt* = of very wise thought, of very keen perception, i. e. very discerning (see l. 372, p. 13).
- l. 387. Provided that thou spare Benjamin.  
*fríðe* = to protect. A.S. *fréoðian*, to give peace or security; *freoðu*, peace, security.
- l. 388. *on trewtbe min* = upon my promise (pledged troth).
- l. 392. *toðere* = others, pl. of *toðer* = *ðat oðer*, that other, the other.
- l. 393. *une-ðes* = scarcely, with difficulty. A.S. *un-eað*, uneasy; *uneaðe*, uneasily (see l. 301, p. 10).  
*e gret* = *be-gret* = he wept (see l. 69, p. 3).
- l. 394. See l. 340, p. 12.
- l. 396. For your safety first hither brought.  
*belðe* = safety (see note on l. 120, p. 5).
- l. 397. *To*, an error for *two*.
- l. 398. Yet shall five fully be passed.
- l. 401. *Rapeð gu* = haste you. Du. *rap*, nimble. O.N. *rapa*, to hasten. Perhaps this is connected with Eng. *rap out* = utter with violence. Sw. *rapp*, a blow; Bavarian *rappen*, to snatch; Eng. *rapt*.
- l. 402. And say (tell) him what (how great) are my pleasures (bliss).
- P. 14, l. 408. *Ilc bere* = each of them (see ll. 310, p. 11; 370, p. 12).
- l. 409. *kid* = made known. A.S. *cyðan*, to make known, declare, tell; *cyð*, knowledge. Cp. *un-couð*, unknown, and hence strange, rude (see l. 294, p. 10).
- l. 410. *wurð bi-tid* = had come about, had happened.

1. 412. *dragen* = to draw (near), go to a place.
1. 413. *timen* = prosper, fare well. A.S. *tima*, time; *ge-timian*, to happen, fall out (well).
1. 414. He had *them* take carts and waggons (wains).
1. 417. *bet* = promised. A.S. *hatan* (pret. *bet*, pp. *báten*), to command, promise (see note on l. 237, p. 8).
1. 418. *bet* = better. A.S. *bet*, better; *bétan*, to make better, amend, remedy; hence O.E. *beet*, kindle, or repair a fire. From the root *bet*, we get Eng. *boot*, *booty*, *bootless*. A.S. *bót*, *bótu*, boot, remedy, atonement. *to bóte* = to boot, with advantage, moreover.
1. 419. Joseph gave each of them two changes of raiment.
1. 423. Also many others there-to.
- fele* = many. A.S. *feala*, *féla*, many.
1. 425. *wið semes fest* = loaded (fastened) with burdens. *seme* is the A.S. *seam*, a horse-load, *seam* (eight bushels.)
1. 428. And had them hasten home quickly (see note on l. 401, p. 13).
1. 434. *gretteð* = greeteth (pret. *grette*). A.S. *grétan*, to salute, bid welcome. Du. *groeten*, to salute.
- P. 15, l. 436. *cliveð* = cleaveth, adheres, clings. A.S. *clivan*, Du. *kleeven*, to stick to, adhere to.
1. 438. *Wel me*. *me* is the dative after the interjection *wel*. Cp. the use of the dative in the phrase 'woe is me.'
1. 440. That I have thus awaited such time, *i. e.* that I have lived to see this day.
- ll. 441, 442. And I shall to my son go, And sec (him) ere I from (this) world depart (see ll. 487, 488, p. 16).
- cbare* = *cbaren* = to depart. A.S. *cerre*, a turn, bending; *cerran*, to turn, pass over. Du. *keeren*, to turn. We retain this root in *a-jar* = *achar*, on the turn. Gawain Douglas uses *on-cbar* for *ajar*. *cbar* is a turn of work; whence *cbar-woman*. "As the maid that milks, and does the meanest *cbares*."—Ant. and Cleop. iv. 13; v. 2.
1. 452. How many years be (arc) on thee.
- ll. 453-462. An hundred years and thirty more Have I endured (lived) in (the) world's woe, Yet (they) appear to me few Though I have passed them in woe, Since I began in world to be, Here in (a) strange land among mankind. So thinketh every wise man Who knoweth whereof mankind began, And who of Adam's guilt considereth, That he here in strange (foreign) lands dwelleth.
- drogen*, pp. of *dregen*. A.S. *dreógen* (pret. *dreag*, *dreob*, pp. *ge-drogen*), to suffer, endure, finish.
1. 455. *fo* = *fa* = few. A.S. *feawa*, *fea*; Goth. *faws*; Icelandic *fúr*(m), *fú*(f), *fútt*(n).
1. 458. See note on l. 146, p. 6.
1. 461. *muneð* = considers. A.S. *munan*, *gemunan*, to consider. It is still retained in the expression 'mind what you are about.'
1. 462. *wuneð* = dwells. A.S. *wunian*, to dwell, inhabit; *wunung* = O.E. *woning*, a dwelling (see l. 469, p. 16).
1. 463. *wurðen wel* = fare well. A.S. *weorðan*, to become (see note on l. 37, p. 2).
1. 464. *seli mel* = good sustenance (meal).
- P. 16, l. 468. *y-oten* = called (see note on l. 237, p. 8).

- l. 472. *ending* = death.
- l. 473. *leue suna* = dear, beloved son.
- l. 474. *ðar-offe* = thereof.
- mune*, remember (see note on l. 461, p. 15).
- l. 475. That when it should be done with him, *i. e.* when he was dead.
- l. 477. And truly he there hath to him said.
- l. 479. So was (it) pleasing to him to be laid.
- lif = lef = lief*, pleasing, dear (see note on l. 327, p. 11).
- l. 480. *stille* = quietly, alone.
- l. 481. *bim* = to him.
- eldere* = elders. The more common form is *eldern*.
- l. 483. *grauen* = buried. A.S. *grafan*, to carve, dig; whence *grave*.
- l. 487. Or *ðan* = ere that.
- off werlde* = from the world.
- l. 492. *for-let* = left, departed. A.S. *forlétan*, to quit; from *létan*, to allow, permit, let go, dismiss. Ger. *lassen*, to permit. The radical notion is to 'loosen'. Ger. (Prov.) *lass*, slow, slack. O.N. *latr*, slow; whence Eng. *late*, *lazy*, *loiter*, &c.
- strif* = strife, is used here for trouble.
- l. 493. Joseph caused his body to be honourably prepared (for burial).
- licb* = body. A.S. *lic*, *lice*, a corpse (Ger. *leiche*); whence *licb-wake*, the vigil held over a dead body; *licb-gate*, the gate where the corpse is set down on entering a churchyard to await the arrival of the minister.
- geren* = to set in order, prepare. A.S. *gearo*, *gearu*, ready, prepared; *yare* (Shakespeare); *gearwian*, *gyran*, to make ready, prepare; whence Eng. *gear*. (A.S. *gearwa*, preparation, clothing.) Wedgwood connects O.Fr. *garbe*, gracefulness, good fashion, Italian *garbo*, comeliness, behaviour, Eng. *garb* (originally signifying the *mode* of doing anything), fashion of dress, with the A.S. *gearwan*. Goth. *garaujan*, to prepare.
- l. 494. Wash and richly anoint.
- smeren* = to anoint, *smear*; A.S. *smeru*, fat, grease. O.N. *smör*, fat, butter. O.E. *smore*, or *smoor*, to daub. A.S. *smérian*, to smear (*smorian*, to suffocate). Du. *smeeren*. Ger. *schmieren*.
- l. 495. And spice-like (with spices) sweet to be scented.
- smaken* = to scent. A.S. *smæc*, taste, savour, *smack*; *smæccan* (Ger. *schmatzen*, O.N. *smatta*), to taste, smack the lips. Connected with this root are the Prov. Eng. *smoucb*, a loud kiss; *smatch*, a taste; *smattering* (= O.E. *smackering*).
- l. 496. And Egypt's folk kept a vigil for him.
- bi-waken* = bewaked; from *waken*, to keep a vigil, or *watch*. A.S. *wæcan*, to watch.
- P. 17, l. 501. *gatie* = granted. A.S. *geatan*; O.N. *geta*, to grant.
- l. 502. *feres* = companions. A.S. *fera*, *gefera*, a companion; from *féran*, to go, journey. Cp. O.E. *play-ferer*, a play-fellow.
- l. 503. *wopnede* = armed (weaponed). A.S. *wæpñ*, a weapon; *wæpned-mann*, a male; *wæpen-getæc*, a *wapen-take* or hundred (so called because the inhabitants within such districts were taught the use of arms).
- wis of beren* = wise, skilful in armed expeditions (skilful in conducting expeditions).
- beren* = army, expedition. A.S. *bere*, an army, troop; *berian*, *bergian*, to act as an army, to ravage; whence to *barry* (Sc. *berry*, rob, spoil), *barrowing*;

Cp. O.E. to *barrow*. Christ was said to *barrow* hell when, after His crucifixion, He delivered the souls of the righteous who had died and had been held captive by Satan since the beginning of world. From *bere*, an army, is derived the A.S. *bere-beorgan* (*beorgan* = to protect), lodge, *barbour* (O.E. *barborow*); whence *barbour* and *barbinger* = *barbour-ager*. Cp. *messenger*, from message; and *scavenger*, from scavage.

ll. 505, 506. That bier is led, this folk is quick, They went about (along) by Adad.

*rad* = A.S. *rád, ræd*, active, prepared, whence *ready*. Du. *rede*, plain, straight.

l. 506. *foren*, pret. pl. of *faren*, to go (see l. 205, p. 8).

l. 508. *binening* = lamentation. A.S. *bemānan*, to bewail; *mānan*, to moan (see l. 254, p. 9).

l. 509. *numen*, pp. of *nimen*, to take, gone (taken the way).

l. 510. *flum* = river, stream. A.S. *flum*, Prov. Eng. *flem, flume*, a mill-stream. Norse *flauma*, to flow. The *m* is merely a suffix, the root being A.S. *flowan*, to run, *flow*.

l. 511. *ouer þbaran* = *ouer faren*, to pass over; from *faren*, to go.

l. 512. *biriele* = tomb, sepulchre. A.S. *byrigels*, a sepulchre, *burial* (-place); from *byrgan*, to bury. Du. *bergben*, to hide; Ger. *bergen*, to conceal.

l. 518-522. Us he this message bad say, 'Our sin thou for him (for his sake) forgive, Provided that we under thee live.' They all fell there at his feet (literally *to the feet to him*), To beg (entreat) mercy and offer (the) oath (of fealty to him).

*beden* = *beden* = *bidden*, to entreat. A.S. *béd*, prayer. 'To bid one's *beads*' was to say one's prayers (see ll. 589, 591, p. 81); the *bead* being originally used for the purpose of helping the memory. Cp. *beadsman*, a petitioner; *bead-roll*, a list (of persons to be prayed for); *beadhouse*, an almshouse.

*mæðe* = A.S. *mæð* = measure, moderation; *mæt*, modest, moderate; *mætan*, *metan*, to measure, *mete* (out).

*bedden oc* = offer oath. *oc* is an error for *ot* = *op* = oath, A.S. *ath*.

l. 527. *sibbe* = kin, kindred, relations. A.S. *sib*, peace, kindred; whence *gossip* (= God-sib), which originally signified a godfather or godmother, *i. e.* one related in God by the ordinance of baptism.

P. 18, ll. 534, 535. Listen to it (my prayer), and promise it now,

That my petition be not forlorn (*lost* sight of).

*Lestod* = *lesteð* = listen to. A.S. *blystan*, to hear, attend to; *blist*, hearing. O.N. *blust*, an ear.

l. 537. See l. 501, p. 17.

l. 538. Perhaps (since *red* = advice) we ought to read *God do ðe soule [on] seli-spæd* = May God place the soul in bliss (happy-speed) (see l. 190, p. 7).

l. 545. *to ful in wis* = *to ful iwis* = very completely in sooth (indeed), *i. e.* fully.

l. 548. *lefful soules ned* = the need of precious souls. *lefful*, from *lef*, dear, signifies dear, precious.

l. 550. *engel tale* = English speech.

l. 552. May God help him (richly) effectually.

*weli* = A.S. *welig*, wealthy, rich; from *wel*, well.

*mot* = may. A.S. *mot*, may, can, *must*, ought (2nd pers. *most*, pret. *moste*).

l. 553. And preserve his soul from sorrow and tears (see l. 72, p. 3).

*berge* = preserve. A.S. *beorgan, bergan*, to protect, shelter; whence *barbour* (see note on l. 503, p. 17).

l. 554. *pine* = pain. A.S. *pinan*, Du. *pijne*, pain; *pijnen*. O.N. *pina*, to torture. Ger. *pein*, pain; whence Eng. to pine.

l. 556. God grant them in His bliss to live joyfully.

*lene* = grant. Many editors of O.E. works print *leue* (=leve, give leave to), for *lene*, as if from A.S. *lefan*, to permit; *lene* is from *lænan*, to give, lend.

*spilen* = A.S. *spilian*, semi-Saxon, *spilen*, to divert oneself. O.H.Ger. *spil*, sport, joy.

## II.

*The Owl and the Nightingale.*

P. 19, l. 1. *one* = *ane* = a (see ll. 2, 4, p. 19).

l. 2. *supe* = *suipe* = *swipe*, very.

*dizele* = secret. A.S. *digelian*, to hide; *digel*, *digle*, secret. Bosworth connects it with *deagan*, to steep, wet, dye.

*bale* = A.S. *bal*, a hiding-place, connected with *bele*, to cover. It is generally considered as = Prov. Eng. *bale*, hole, hollow.

ll. 3, 4. I heard hold great talk An owl and a nightingale.

l. 5. *plait* = *plaid*, *pleading*, debate. Fr. *plaid*, suit at law; *plaidier*, to sue, plead; whence Eng. *plea* (see l. 12, p. 19).

l. 6. *lud among* = loud at intervals. *lud* = A.S. *blud*, loud; O.N. *bliod*; Ger. *laut*, sound.

ll. 7, 8. And each against (the) other swelled (out with wrath, anger),

And let out all that evil mood.

*wole* = evil. A.S. *wól*, plague; *wæl*, slaughter.

l. 9. *custe* = habits. O.N. *kostr*, habits, character; probably connected with A.S. *ceosan*. Du. *kiesen*, *kieren*, to choose; O.E. *kire*, choice, custom.

l. 10. *alre-worste* = the worst of all. *alre* is the gen. pl. of *al*, all; in later English this became *al-d-re*, *al-d-er* and *al-th-er*.

*bi wuste* = they wist, knew.

l. 11. *bure and bure* = Fr. *bure á bure* = tête a tête, in company with, together (Coleridge). More probably *bure and bure* = at intervals, alternately; from the A.S. *buru*, for a time.

*of opere songe* = of (each) other's song.

l. 12. *bolde*, pl. pret. held.

P. 20, l. 14. *burne* = corner. A.S. *birne*, angle, corner, *born*.

*brecbe* = brake, woody glen. This word has puzzled Marsh and Coleridge, who have suggested *beech*.

l. 15. *up* = *upe* = upon.

l. 16. *blosme i-noze* = enough (abundance) of blossoms (flowers). A.S. *blosma*, a bloom, flower; *inoze* = enough (adj. pl. agreeing with *blosme*).

l. 17. If hegge (A.S. *beg* is masc.) be considered as fem., *ore* = *anre*, one; otherwise it = *ane*, one, as in ll. 2, 4.

l. 18. *I-meind* = *i-menged* = *mingled*, mixed. A.S. *mengian*, to mix; *ming*, *ming-le*.

*spire* (O.N. *spira*, Dan. *spire*) = sprout, twig. O.E. *spyre*, 'the sharp seed of corn that springs from the ground.' Prov. E. *spire*, a young tree, a *spire*. O.N. *spir*, point, top.

*segge* = A.S. *seg*, scdge.



1. 19. She was the more joyful on account of (for) the twigs.  
*rise* = branch, twig. A.S. *bris*, Dan. *riis*, branch, spray.
1. 20. And sang in notes of many kinds.  
*a* = an = in. *a* is used before consonants; *an* before vowels.  
*vele cunne* = of many kinds, diverse, various.  
*wise* = *guise*, mode. Ger. *weise*, mode, way.
1. 21. It seemed that it were the tone.  
*Dreim*. A.S. *dream* = song, melody, music, joy; *dreman*, to play, rejoice.  
 Dan. *drum*, a booming sound. Drayton speaks of a *drumbling* tabor; whence Eng. *drum*, to *drum*.
1. 22. *þau* = þa; = though.  
*be* refers to *dreim* which is masc.
- ll. 23, 24. It seemed better (rather) that it were shot from harp, &c.
1. 26. When the owl sang her(self) at times (intervals).
1. 27. *bi-growe* = *begrowen*, overgrown.
1. 28. It was the dwelling-place of the owl.  
*þare* = of the (gen. fem.).  
*earding-stowe* = dwelling-place (see *erd* in *Gen. and Ex.*, l. 146, p. 6).
- ll. 29-32. The nightingale saw her, And beheld her and looked over, And thought very contemptibly of the owl, For one holdeth her loathsome and foul.  
*lodlich* = A.S. *lúd-lic* = hateful; *lúð*, evil, harm; *lúð*, hateful, evil; *lúðian*, to loathe; Du. *leed*, Ger. *leid*, grief, evil.
1. 33. *Unwist* = coward, caitiff; from O.E. *wigt*; O.Sc. *wicht*; Sw. *vig*, brave, active.  
*flo* = *fleo* = flee. Cp. *so* = *seo* = see (l. 34).
1. 35. *wole lete* = foul (vile) voice. A.S. *leoð*, song. Coleridge explains it by *face* (see *lote*, l. 310, p. 11).
1. 36. *for-lete* = leave off, forsake. A.S. *for-létan*, to quit.
1. 37. *borte* = *beorte* = heart.  
*at-flip* = becomes faint; literally, flutters, fleeth away.  
*falt* = faltereth, failleth. Coleridge treats *falt* as if = *faileþ*, fails. I take it to be the 3rd pers. sing. of *falte*, to *falter*. O.N. *fatra*, to bungle; Dan. *faute*, to fail; Sp. *falta*, to fail.
- ll. 38-40. When thou art pressed (near) to me I would rather spit (be sick) than sing Of thy foul cackling (chattering).  
*luste* = *liste* = it were pleasing. The root exists in *listless*, *lust*, *lusty*, &c.  
*ʒoʒelinge* = *gagging*. Sw. *gaggen*, to stutter. The same root seems to exist in *gag* (O.E. *gaggyn*, to strain by the throat, suffocate), *goggle*, *jog*, to shake.
1. 41. The owl refrained (kept silence) until evening.  
*þos* = *þeos*, fem. this.  
*fort* = *forte* = *for-to*. We find this form used as late as 1387.
1. 42. *leng* = longer. In A.S. we find *leng* and *lengre*. Cp. *bet* and *betre*.  
*bileve* = remain (quiet) (see *bi-lewen*, *Gen. and Ex.* l. 285, p. 10).
1. 44. That wellnigh she lost her breath.  
*fnast* = breath (or windpipe) (see l. 210, p. 45). O.E. *fnaste*, to breathe.  
 A.S. *fnæst*, puff, blast, rage; *fnæstiað*, windpipe. It is probably connected with A.S. *fnæosung*, a sneezing; from *næse*, nose. (The dilation of the nostrils is a well-known sign of anger.) Cp. *s-næeze*, *s-nore* (to make noises through the nose).

*at-scbet* = was expended, spent; from A.S. *æt*, from, away; *sceotan*, to shoot, dart (pret. *sceat*). The preterite *sset* = shot, is used by Robert of Gloucester. In another part of this poem, l. 1621, we have *at scbote*, destroyed (by a shot). Coleridge derives *at-scbet* from A.S. *scedan*, to hurt, scathe, and makes it signify *burst*.

l. 45. *warp* = utter; literally, to throw out. A.S. *weorpan* (pret. *wearp*, pp. *geworpen*); Ger. *werfen*, to cast, turn; whence *mould-warp*, a mole (*i. e.* a caster up of mould or earth), *warf*, *warped*, &c.

l. 46. *Hu þinþe* = *Hu þinþ þe* = How seems it thee? what do you think?

P. 21, l. 47. *West* = *wost* = knowest.

l. 48. *writelinge*. Coleridge renders it 'trills in a song.' A.S. *wriðan*, to writhe, twist.

l. 49. Often thou causest me offence (indignation).

*grame* = A.S. *gram*, furious, fierce; *grama*, anger, wrath; *gramian*, to anger. Cp. A.S. *grim*, fury, rage; *grima*, a ghost; *grom*, fierce. Du. *grimmen*, to snarl, grin; whence Eng. *grim*, *grumpy*, *grumble*.

l. 50. *tone* = *teone* = *tene*, pain, wrong, injury. A.S. *teon*, *teona*, injury; *teonan*, *tynan*, to anger, incense. It is probably connected with A.S. *tyndan*, *tendan*, to kindle, Prov. Eng. *tende*; whence Eng. *tinder*.

l. 51-54. If I held thee in my power, So betide it that I might! An (if) thou wert out of thy branches, Thou shouldst sing in another (different) manner.

*note* = A.S. *notu*, power, possession; *notian*, to use, possess.

l. 56. *loki* = enclose, guard. A.S. *locan*, to shut, close. The O.E. *loke*, *loki*, signifies (1) to keep close, guard; (2) to conclude, decide. Cp. O.E. *lokinge*, custody, care.

*bare* = grove. A.S. *bearu*, grove. Norse *barr*, tree; whence *bar* and *s-par*.

l. 57. *blete* = *blede* = foliage. A.S. *blæd*, leaf, *blade* (of grass).

l. 58. *reche* = care, reck. A.S. *rec*, care; *recan* (pret. *rohþe*, O.E. *rogþte*), to take care; *recce-leas*, reckless.

l. 60. *segge* = (subj.) mayest say.

ll. 61, 62. I know that thou art cruel (unmild, savage, fierce) With those that may not from thee shield (themselves).

l. 63. *tukest* = annoys, harrasses. A.S. *tucian*, to punish, torment.

*wroþe* (adv.) is the A.S. *wrāðe*, fiercely, furiously; from *wrāð*, wrath, anger.

*wuele* = A.S. *yfele*, evilly, badly; from *yfel*, evil, vile. The *u* represents *y* as in O.E. *bul* = *bil* = *bill*, &c.

l. 64. *fuzele* = fowls, birds.

l. 65. *fuel-kunne* (dat. after *lob*) = *fuzel-kunne*, fowl-kind, birds.

l. 66. *alle bo* = *alle beo* = they all.

• *bonne* = *beonne* = hence.

l. 67. *bi-schricþeþ* = shriek or scream at. *schirchþeþ* = *sbrieketþ*, *screecþeþ*. *schirche* is a softened form of *skrike*; Swed. *skrika*, to cry; whence *screech* and *sbriek*.

*bi-gredet* = hoot, call after. A.S. *grædan*, to cry, call, say. O.E. *grede* (sb.), cry, voice; *grede*, to cry, murmur, grumble; whence *greed*, and *greedy* (Goth. *gredags*, hungry), originally a crying for food.

l. 69. *ek forþe* = even; *em-forþ* (used by Chaucer) would be a better reading.

*solve* = very, is the definite form (after the article) of *self*.

*mose* = hedge-sparrow. A.S. *māse*, a tit-mouse.

l. 70. *Hire þonkes* (gen. absolute) = with her will, willingly. A.S. *þonc*, þanc, thank, will.

*to-tose* = hurt, injure. A.S. *teosu*, *teso*, hurt, injury; probably connected with *tease*; A.S. *tāsan*, to annoy, assault.

l. 73. *swore* = *sweore*, neck. A.S. *sweora*, *swira*, neck; O.E. *swire*, *swere*.

ll. 75-78. Thine eyes are coal-black and broad,  
Right as they were painted with woad;  
Thou starest as if thou wouldest bite  
All that thou mightest with claws smite.

l. 78. *mist* = *mizt* = mightest.

l. 80. *owel* = awl. A.S. *æl*, *awel*, fork, *awl*.

l. 84. *mesbe* = (mash, s-mash) beat, tear in pieces. Sw. *mäska*.

l. 85. *i-cundur* = more like. A.S. *gecynde*, natural (see *kinde* l. 127, p. 5), and *cunde*, nature (l. 89, p. 22).

l. 86. That sitteth at the mill under the wheel. Coleridge leaves *cogge* unexplained in his Glossarial Index. It seems to signify a *wheel*, *cog*. Sw. *kugge*, an individual prominence in an indented wheel.

l. 87. *fule wizte* = foul creatures. *wigte* = A.S. *wibt*, creature, animal, thing, *wight*.

l. 89. *sittest* is to be pronounced *sitst*.

l. 94. Thou feedest them on a very foul food.

l. 95. *þos word* = *þeos word* = these words. *word* in A.S. is plural as well as singular.

*a3af* = uttered, gave out.

l. 96. *tale* = argument, being feminine, requires *þare*, the fem. of the definite article.

l. 98. Right as (if) one were touching a shrill harp.

*grulde* = to shake (if the true reading), may be from the Du. *grillen*, to shiver, tremble. Coleridge suggests A.S. *grillan*, to provoke, the original meaning of which was to shiver; whence O.E. *grille*, cold, shivering. For *grulde*, I would suggest *glude* = *glewde*, from A.S. *gleowian*, *glitwian*, to play on an instrument, sing; whence Eng. *glee*.

*scbille* = shrill. O.N. *skryla*, to cry in a high note. Low Du. *scbrell*, harsh, sharp. The form *scbille* is very common in early English. It is formed by metathesis from *sbrille*, the secondary form being *schirille*, and by loss of the *r* we get *scbille*. The Sc. *skirl*, signifies to cry with a shrill voice.

ll. 99-104 are parenthetical; it is the nightingale who is now represented as speaking.

l. 99. *luste* = listened.

l. 100. *noper-ward* = *neoper-ward* = downwards. A.S. *niðer-weard*, *neoðer-ward*, from *neoðe*, down, *neðer*, below, still existing in *be-neath*, *netbermost*.

l. 101. *to-swolle* = *to-swolze* = exceedingly swollen, enraged. Cp. *i-swolze*, swollen, l. 102, p. 22.

*i-bolze* = puffed up, swollen with rage. A.S. *belgan*, to enrage, make angry. Sw. *bulna*, to swell, *bulge*. The O.E. *bollen*, or *bolnen*, is used by Wicliffe, and exists in *bole*, the round stem of a tree, and *bowl*.

l. 103. *i-war* = A.S. *ge-wær*, wary, cautious, *aware*.

l. 104. *a bisemar* = in scorn, mockery. A.S. *bi-smér*, mockery, reproach; from *smére*, fat; *smérian*, to besmear; *bismérian*, to insult, mock.

l. 106. *Wbi neltu = wbi ne wilt thou = why wilt thou not? why don't you?* So *nile 3e* often means *don't you, do not*.

*flon = fleon = flee*.

l. 107, 108. And see which of us two be

Of brighter hue, of fairer colour (complexion).

l. 109. *No þu bavest = hast thou not?* Daniel Rogers uses *no is*, is it not so? So the O.E. *no sbalt thou*, shalt thou not?

l. 110. *Ne kepich = Ne kepe ich = I care not*. I have no fear; *kepen = keep* guard, take care, take note of. As a noun, *kep* = care, in phrase 'take *kep*,' to take care.

P. 23, l. 112. Thou twingest therewith as doth a (pair of) tongs.

*tuengst* = twingest. Dan. *twinge*, to twinge.

*tonge = tongs*. A.S. *tange*. The pl. *tangen*, or *tongen*, is not uncommon in O.E. writers.

ll. 113, 114. Thou thoughtest as do those like thee,

With fair words to deceive me.

*i-like* or *i-licbe* = compeers; from the A.S. *ge-lic*, like.

*bi-swike* = deceive, mock. A.S. *bi-swican*, to deceive, from *swic*, deceit, treachery; *swica*, a traitor; *swican*, to deceive; *swicdom*, fraud, deceit (see ll. 118, 119, p. 23).

*molde = ne wolde* = would not.

*raddest* = advisedest; see l. 116, where *misraddest* = misadvisedest (see *red* in l. 43, p. 2, and *for-rede*, l. 243, p. 9, and *unrede*, l. 117, p. 23, folly, want of wisdom).

l. 117. Shame on thee for thy wickedness!

l. 118. *Un-wro3ten*. Coleridge accepts this as a correct reading, and explains it by *undone, destroyed*; but the meaning is evidently the reverse. The sense which best suits the context is *uncovered, revealed, made known*. The verb *werke*, to work, makes the pp. *wro3t*, and not *wro3ten*. The correct reading is *un-wro3en* = *uncovered*, disclosed; from A.S. *unwreon*, to reveal; *wreon*, to cover (pret. *wreab*, pp. *ge-wrogen*), whence Eng. *rig, beuray*.

l. 120. *hud*, imp. hide.

*wowe* = wrong, wickedness. A.S. *wob*: (1) a bending, turning; (2) error, wrong, perversity. *Awkward* contains the same root. A.S. *a-wob*, awry. O.S. *avub*, (the *a* = *af* = off); whence gawk and gawky; *wowe* is sometimes written *wou* (see l. 378, p. 74).

l. 121. *spene = swene = schewen*, to shew, exhibit.

l. 123. *bete* = hate. A.S. *bête*, hate; whence A.S. *bétel*, O.E. *batil*, fierce.

l. 124. *ope* = open, apparent.

*under-3ete* = understood. A.S. *under-gitan*, to perceive, discover. Cp. A.S. *andget*, the understanding. O.E. *get*, mode, fashion.

l. 125. *un-wrenche* = evil designs, tricks. A.S. *unwraenc*, vice (disingenuousness), *wrence*, a trick. The O.E. *wrenche*, is often used (as it was no doubt originally) in a good sense = art, device.

l. 126. *war* = wary (see l. 103, p. 22).

*blenche* = to avoid, *flinch*. Hamlet: "If he do *blenb*, I know my course."

l. 127. *to þriste* = very bold. A.S. *þrist*, bold, daring; *þristian*, dare, presume.

l. 128. *liste* = wiles, craft. A.S. *list*, perhaps connected with Du. *leest*, form, make (Eng. shoemaker's *last*). Ger. *leisten*, model, form.

l. 134. *un-werste* = *un-wreste* = wicked. A.S. *unwrest*, weak, wicked; *wraest*, good. O.N. *bres*, spirited.

l. 135. *fo we on* = take we on, let us proceed. *fo* = *fob*, take. A.S. *fīn*, to take (pret. *fēng*, pp. *ge-fongen*); whence *fangs*, *fīnger*.

l. 136. *wisdomē*. Wright prints *ilome*, which is an adv. = frequently; Stevenson gives the reading *isome*, peaceably.

l. 140. *Plaidi mid fo3e* = plead (debate) with (mutual) consent. *fo3e* = A.S. *fog*, agreement; from *fegan*, to join; *gefeig*, rule.

l. 141. *bure eiper* = each of us.

l. 142. *skile* = skill, prudence, wisdom. O.N. *skil*, separation, discrimination; Dan. *skille*, to sever; A.S. *scylan*, to distinguish, divide,

l. 143. *Þu schal us seme*. The printed edition (and the MS.) exhibit this reading; but as the O.E. *th* and *w* are often confounded in MSS., the correct reading may be *Wu schal us deme*, &c., i. e. Who shall arbitrate for us, that can and will decide equitably between us: *seme* = arbitrate; A.S. *seman*, arbitrate, judge.

P. 24, l. 146. *þaref = þarf* = need. A.S. *þearf*, need, want; *þearfa*, poor; *þearfan*, *þurfan*, to need.

l. 149. *gleu* = A.S. *glēaw*, skilful.

l. 150. *unþeu* = vice (see l. 8, p. 1).

l. 153. *schede* = distinguish, separate. A.S. *sceadan*, Ger. *scheiden*, to divide. It still exists in water-*shed*, *shedding* of hair. Bailey has *shead*, to distinguish.

l. 154. *þuster* = A.S. *þeoster*, darkness. Ger. *finster*, dimness; A.S. *þeoster-nes*, darkness.

l. 158. *wile = one while*, a while, at one time, formerly (see l. 155, p. 24). *breme* = stern, severe. The literal meaning of *breme* is fiery, raging, eager; from *brennen*, to burn, as *brimstone*, burning-stone. Cp. Du. *bremen*, to burn with desire; Fris. *brimme*, to roar.

l. 159. *lof = leof* = dear. The meaning of the line is And dear to him were the nightingale.

l. 160. *gente and smale* = gentle and small.

l. 161. *suþe acoled* = very much cooled down.

l. 162. He is not for thee befooled.

l. 164. *legge* = (subj.) should lay.

*buve = abuve* = above.

l. 165. *queme* = please. A.S. *cweman*, to please, delight; from *cwiman*, to come. The Eng. *whim*, is probably from the same source.

l. 167. *bim* = himself.

*ripe* = of mature judgment.

*fastrede* = inflexible, impartial, firm in counsel. A.S. *fæst-ræd*, constant, firm, bold (see *red*, l. 43, p. 2).

ll. 168, 169. *lust bim* = pleaseth him.

l. 170. He will go in (the) right way.

l. 172. *aaware* = everywhere.

l. 177. *afere* = to frighten, *afear*.

l. 178. *i-bere = bere* = voice, sound, noise.

P. 25, l. 179. *schircest* = shriekiest (see l. 67, p. 21).

*sollest* = yellest. A.S. *galan* (pret. *gol*, pp. *ge-galen*); O.N. *gala*, to sing; A.S. *gala*, a nightin-gale.

*ferē* = mate, companion (see l. 502, p. 17).

l. 180. *grislich*. A.S. *grislic*, horrible, *grisly*; from *a-grīsan* (pret. *agros*), to dread, fear. Ger. *grausen*, to shudder.

l. 181. *snepe* = foolish. O.N. *snápr*, foolish (Coleridge). *snepe*, from the Fris. *snope*, *snubbe*, to reprove sharply, Eng. *snub*. O.E. *snaipe*, to reprove, would seem to mean 'worthy of reproof.' Cp. N. Prov. Eng. *sneap*, to snub.

l. 185. *schuniet* = shuns. A.S. *scunian*, to shun, avoid. The O.E. *schunien* (*schonnen*), signifies also to *sbove*, draw aside; whence Eng. *sbunt*.

l. 187. *þat is lof misdede* = that misdeed (wickedness) is dear to, i. e. that loves wickedness.

l. 190. *of-toned* = very angry, vexed; from *teone*, anger (see l. 50, p. 21). *of*, as a prefix, has an intensitive meaning, like *for* in *forgive*, *forbreak*.

l. 192. *galegale* = chatterer; more literally a wanton licentious talker; from *gál*, wanton, and *galan*, to sing, talk (see note on l. 179, p. 25).

l. 194. *spale* = a turn, change, rest. Cp. the expression 'a *spell* of work,' 'a fresh *spell*.'

l. 196. *mine þroze* = my turn. *þroze* = A.S. *þrab*, *þrag* (O.E. *þrowe*), time, season, space, opportunity.

l. 198. *a-wreke* = avenged. A.S. *wrécán* (pret. *wrác*, pp. *ge-wrecen*), revenge, punish, *wreak*, exile; whence *wræc-a*, an exile, *wretch*.

l. 199. *bi-telle* = excuse, defend.

l. 200. *spelle* = fable (as in phrase *ealdra cwena spell*, old wives' fables). A.S. *spell*, O.N. *spjall*, discourse, rumour, language. A.S. *spellian*, to declare, relate. This root still exists in *gospel*.

l. 201. *bude* = hide.

l. 202. *nich ne nai* = a strong expression of denial or disapproval; to *nikke nay*, is to deny strongly. *nich* seems to be A.S. *nic* = *ne*, not, and *ic*, I, not I.

l. 203. *lust* = *lusteib* = listeneth.

l. 208. *biþte* = A.S. *biþt*, hope, delight; *hibtan*, to rejoice,

l. 210. *schende* = to reprove, blame. A.S. *sceond*, O.E. *sbonde*, shame, disgrace; *scendan*, to shame, disgrace, *sbend*.

P. 26, l. 213. *fozle* = birds; the dative after the adj. *loþ*, hateful.

l. 214. *floþ* = *fleoþ* = flieth.

*þuwele* = underwood. A.S. *þufe*, twig, branch.

l. 215. *bi-chermet* = chirpeth about, or around. A.S. *cyrn*, noise, O.E. *cberme*, *charme*, hum, noise of birds (see l. 221, p. 26), whence 'a *charm* of goldfinches' = a flock of those birds.

l. 217. *Me is lof* = I had rather (see l. 183, p. 25).

l. 220. *mersbe* = A.S. *mersc*, marsh, fen, bog; probably connected with *mere*, a lake, pool, sea, *meer*.

l. 222. *schirme* = fight, contest. Fr. *escrimer*, to fence. O.E. *skirmen*, to fight. Dan. *skjerm*, defence. Du. *scherm*, a screen; *schermen* to defend.

l. 223. *folþeþ* = followeth. A.S. *folgian* to follow. Bosworth connects it with *folc*, people, folk.

l. 224. *fliþt* = flieth; *lat* = letteth.

l. 227. *rorde* = *reorde* = voice, singing. A.S. *reord*, *reard*, reason, language; *reordian*, to speak.

*þoning* = confused noise, din. A.S. *þuning*, noise. The printed text reads *woning* = *wonying*, which means *wbining*; but the reading and meaning here given suits the context much better; for further on, l. 234, the owl says his voice is like the sound of a *great born*. The root of *þoning* is seen in A.S. *þunnan*, to din, thunder; whence *thunder*, O.E. *thoner*. Cp. Ger. *donner*, thunder; Norse *duna*, to thunder; Eng. *din*, *s-tun*.

l. 230. *fulle dreme* = full note (see l. 21, p. 20).

*stefne* = voice. A.S. *stefen*, *stemn*, voice, sound, message.

l. 233. *un-orne* = rude. A.S. *unbrne*, vigorous, bold. *unornelske*, rudely, occurs in *Havelok the Dane*, l. 1941.

l. 240. *sopþe* = *seopþe* = afterwards; from A.S. *sið*, late, lately; *sið-ða*, *sið-ðan*, *seoðða*, afterwards, since. *Since* is from the O.E. *sinnes*, from *sin*, a contraction of *sið-ðan*. Cp. Low Ger. *sint*, and Du. *sinds*, since.

*won* = *hwon* = *hwan*, when.

l. 241. *sipe* = time. A.S. *sið*, path, way, turn, time; *siðan*, times. *Þridde sipe*, third time.

l. 242. *adizte* = *digbte* = adapt, order, prepare. Ger. *dichten*, A.S. *dibtan*, to set in order, dispose; *dibt*, a disposing.

P. 27, l. 243. *iso* = *iseo* = see.

*vorre* = *veorre* = afar (see l. 29, p. 2).

l. 244. *dai-rim* = break of day. A.S. *dæg-rim*, day-dawn.

l. 246. *note* = good, benefit, labour. A.S. *notu* (see l. 51, p. 21).

l. 252. *swikeþ* = ceaseth. A.S. *swican*, to cease.

l. 253. *adunest* = dinnest, stunniest. A.S. *dyne*, thunder, din; *dynian*, to thunder, din.

l. 254. *þas monnes earen* = the ears of the man.

*þar* = where. O.E. *þat* often signifies *what*.

l. 256. *me ne telþ of þar* = one esteemeth not thereof.

l. 257. *murþe* = mirth. A.S. *myrþð*, pleasure, from *myrg*, pleasure. O.E. *murgen*, make merry (see l. 261, p. 27, l. 357, p. 107).

l. 258. That she shall (*murþe* is fem.) please very badly.

l. 262. *þinche wel un-murie* = appear doleful (unmerry, unpleasant).

l. 263. *over un-wille* = beyond what is desirable, or wished for. A.S. *on-will*, desirable.

l. 264. *aspille* = spill, spoil. A.S. *spillan*, destroy, spoil. Low Ger. *spillen*, to spill, waste.

l. 267. *godbede* = goodness, *good-head*.

l. 268. *unmeþe* = want of moderation. A.S. *unmete* (see *meðe*, l. 522, p. 17).

*over-dede* = excess, *over-deed*, over-doing.

l. 270. *At-bold* = *atbeold* = restrained; from *at* (A.S. *æt*) and *bolden*, to hold.

l. 272. *alegge* = call in question, confute. A.S. *a-leccan*, lay down, bring forth reasons, *allay*, suppress; *leccan* (O.E. *ligge*), to lay, place.

P. 28, l. 275. *of-þuzte*, pret. of *ofþenke* = repent. O.E. *for-þinke*.

l. 276. *so for-worþ i-ladde* = led so far, i. e. carried so far.

l. 277. *oferd* = afraid. A.S. *of-færed*, very frightened, affrighted.

l. 280. *bardelicþe* = hardily, boldly.

l. 281. With his foe beareth (putteth on) a bold face.

l. 282. *areþe* = fear. A.S. *earþ*, *earg*, idle, timid; *yrþð*, fear; *yrþðo*, sloth. *areþ*, in l. 285, signifies fearful, afraid. The root still exists in *arþ*, sly, mischievous (Ger. *arg*, bad), *arrant*, as if *arw-and*, from O.E. *arwe*, bad + *and*, the ending of the imperfect participle.

l. 286. *of-bore* = forbear. Cp. *of-þinke*, *of-ferd* (ll. 275, 277, p. 28).

*bareþ* = *baret* = debate, contest, quarrel. O.N. *baratta*.

l. 291. Thou singest as doth a hen in the snow.

l. 293. *þomere* = sorrowful. A.S. *geomor*, grim, sad; *geomrian*, to groan, bewail. Prov. Eng. *yammer*.

l. 297. *forbernest* = burnest greatly, art burnt up, consumed.

*onde* = A.S. *anda*, malice.

l. 300. *un-wille* = A.S. *un-willa*, unpleasant; *willa*, pleasure.

l. 301. *Grucching* = murmuring. Fr. *groucher*, O.E. *grucbe*, to grieve, murmur, complain; whence Eng. *grudge*.

*luring* = louting. Du. *loeren*, to frown; Low Ger. *luren*, to look displeased.

*hop* = *beop* = are.

*rade* = present, ready.

ll. 305, 306. He cared (*recked*) not though companies were mingled (huddled together) by heads and hair, *i. e.* were fighting and pulling one another by the hair.

P. 29, l. 307. *þire* (fem. dat.), thy.

l. 314. And rejoiceth against (on account of) my coming (see *bizt*, l. 208, p. 25).

l. 318. *þu bit wite* = thou may know it.

l. 319. *Bid = bit* = biddeth.

l. 321. *rude* = *rode* = complexion. A.S. *rude*; Low Ger. *rood*, redness; whence *ruddy*.

l. 324. *Skentinge* = a merry song. O.E. *skente*, to amuse, delight. O.N. *skemta*.

l. 326. Thou hast returned answer as thou besoughtest (desired).

*bi-cloped* = *bi-cleoped*, from A.S. *cleopian*. O.E. *clepe*, to cry, call; Scotch *clep*, to tattle. Chaucer uses *clappe*, to boast, praise.

*bede* is the 2nd pers. pret. of *biddan*, to entreat. Cp. *speke* = spakest, (l. 330, p. 29).

l. 328. *ar* = before (the same as *or*, in l. 358, p. 12).

*unker* = of us two. A.S. *uneer*.

l. 332. Thou twittest me as to my meat (food).

*atutest* = *at-witest* = reproachest. A.S. *æt-witan*, reproach, from *wite*, punishment (O.E. *wite*, blame); *witan*, *witian*, to punish, blame.

l. 335. *attercoppe* = A.S. *attæccoppa*, a spider. It signifies literally poison-cup, from *attor*, *atter*, poison, and *cuppa*, a cup. *Cob-web* (O.E. *copweft*), retains the last syllable only of the original word. In some of the Teutonic dialects the spider is called a *koppe*, on account of its carrying a bag. The O.Sw. *kopp*, signifies a *bee*.

*fule vli3e* = foul (nasty) flies; *vli3e* = *vli3en* (A.S. *fleogan*).

P. 30, l. 337. Among (in) the crevices of the hard bark.

*volde* = *fold*, bend, crevice. A.S. *feald*, a fold.

ll. 338, 339. Yet I can do much good service, For I can guard men's dwellings.

*wike*, in ll. 338, and 340, signifies service, office, duty. A.S. *wyce*. In the *Ormulum* we find *wikenn*, office, duty, charge, while *Lazamon* uses *wikenares*, ministers, attendants. *wike*, in l. 329, signifies a dwelling; A.S. *wic*, a dwelling-place, castle, bay (cp. *wich*, as an element in local names); *wician*, to dwell.

l. 343. *at* should be written *atte* or *ate*.

*derne* = dark. A.S. *dearn*, dark; *dyrnian*, to hide.

l. 345. To cleanse it from the foul mouse.

l. 347. *i-vo* = *i-fon* = to take, seize (see l. 125, p. 23).

l. 349. To desire other dwelling-place.

*yernen* = A.S. *geornian*, to desire, *yearn*; *georn*, desirous, eager; *georne*



eagerly, earnestly, O.E. *ærne*; whence Eng. *earnest*. See l. 362, p. 30, where *ærne* = *æorne*, has the meaning of intently, earnestly.

l. 350. *tron* = *treon* = trees.

l. 351. *noping blete* = not at all despicable. *blete*, wretched, miserable. A.S. *bleát* (Sc. *blate*), miserable.

l. 353. That ever continueth (standeth) alike blooming (flourishing).

*i-blowe* = *i-blouen* = blown (as in 'a full-blown rose'). A.S. *blwian*, to bloom, blow, flourish; whence *blossom*, and *bloom*.

l. 354. *bis bou* = *bis beou*, refers to the ivy, and signifies its hue, colour, appearance.

*vor-lost* = *for-leoseb* = to lose, lose wholly.

l. 355. When it snoweth nor when it freezeth.

l. 356. *i-bold* = A.S. *ge-beald*, residence, *bold*; from *ge-bealdan*, *bealdan*, to keep, preserve, *bold*.

l. 361. Was wellnigh out of patience become, *i.e.* had nearly lost all command of herself.

P. 31, l. 377. Than all that ever thy kin (species) could (were able to do).

l. 382. *fundeþ* = endeavours to go, seeks. A.S. *fundian*, to endeavour to find, go forward. The O.E. *funden* also signifies to go, walk.

l. 385. *ginneþ* = *beginneþ* = do. It is here used as a *tense* auxiliary, and the pret. *gan* (corrupted into *can* and *con*) = did (see l. 6, p. 1).

l. 389. *bi-æete* = beget, obtain (see *bi-æetel*, l. 86, p. 4).

l. 390. *nime æeme* = may take heed, attend to. *æeme* = A.S. *gýme*, care, anxiety. *gýman*, to take care of, regard.

l. 393. *wicke-tunes* = establishments, stations. *wice* = *wike* (in l. 339), dwelling. *tunes* = enclosures, *towns*.

l. 398. *wat I mai*, is our phrase *what I can*, what I am able to do.

P. 32, l. 400. *bo* = *beo* = they.

l. 401. *raddere* = the readier, the more disposed.

l. 405. *þat ever is ecbe* = that is everlasting. *ecbe* = eternal. A.S. *éce*, from *écan*, to prolong, *eke*.

l. 406. *clinge* = wither, dry up (used by Shakespeare). A.S. *clingan*, to shrink, wither. In Sussex they speak of a *clung bat*, a dry stick.

l. 407. *Her among* = among them.

l. 409. *þe sulfe þe pope* = *þe sulfe (sulve) pope* = the very pope, the pope himself.

l. 411. *an oþer wes[e]* = in another wise (manner).

l. 413. *at-stonde* = withstand.

l. 415. Thou goest (fares) wholly with deceit.

l. 416. *bi-leist* = belieest. A.S. *leþgan*, to lie, deceive.

l. 417. *þincþ soþ* = appeareth true.

l. 418. *i-sliked* = made *sleek*, or smooth, feigned, deceitful. O.N. *sleikja*, Dan. *slikke*, to lick.

l. 419. *bi-semed* = *beseemed*, made *seemly*, or fair. Spenser uses *seemed* in the sense of *beseemed*. O.N. *sama*, to fit, be fitting or becoming; Dan. *sømmelig*, seemly.

*bi-liked*. Coleridge says 'rendered *likely* or probable.' It may also signify 'made pleasing'; from O.E. *liken*, *liki*, to please.

ll. 420, 421. That all those that hear (take in) them (*i.e.* thy words), They ween that thou speakest the truth.

ll. 422-425. Stop! Stop! one shall unmask thee; Then shall it be well

seen That thou hast greatly lied, When thy leasing (lies) is made manifest (bewrayed).

- l. 427. *fundieþ bonne* (*beonne*) = goeth hence (see l. 382, p. 31).  
 l. 429. *alre wonder mest* = most wonderful of all.  
 l. 432. *ricbe* = kingdom. O.E. *rike* = A.S. *rice*, kingdom.  
 P. 33, l. 433. *an oder* (*oðer*) *þeode* = in another land. A.S. *þeod*, a country; *þeodan*, to join, associate.  
 l. 437. *Hwi nultu* = why will you not? why don't you?  
 l. 438. *singin* (*singen*) *men* = sing to men.  
 l. 442. *beom* or *bom* = them, is required after *teche*.  
 l. 443. *wisi* = shew, teach. A.S. *wisian*, to instruct, shew; from *wis*, wise.  
 l. 445. *ydel wel* = useless (worthless) well. *on-idel* (l. 448) = in vain. A.S. *idel*, vain; Du. *ijdel*; O.E. *idel*, empty, vain; O.N. *audr*, empty, vacant. O.Fr. *uide*, waste, void.  
 l. 446. *snel* = swift. Sc. *snell*, sharp, active. A.S. *snel*, quick; *snele*, quickly.  
 l. 447. *for-drue* = *for-drugen* = dry up. A.S. *for-drugan*, *for-druwian*, to dry up, parch; *drugan*, to dry; *drugað*, *drought*, dryness.  
*dune* = heath. A.S. *dun*, a hill, down.  
 l. 450. *hupte* = hopped.  
*blowe* = *blowen* = blooming.  
 l. 451. *herre* = higher. A.S. *heab*, high; *hýrre*, higher; *hýbst*, *bébst* (O.E. *bext*, *best*), highest.  
 l. 452. *beo nu wear* = be now aware (sure).  
 l. 454. *nust* = *ne wust* = *ne wost*, knowest not.  
 l. 455. *zeilpest* = yelpest, boastest. A.S. *gealp*, a loud sound, clang; *gilp*, glory, pride; *gilpan* (pret. *gealp*, pp. *gegolpen*), to glory, boast; whence Eng. *yelp*.  
*manne loþ* = hateful to men.  
 l. 456. *evereuch wibt* = every creature.  
*worþ* = *wroþ* = displeased.  
 l. 457. And mid howling (yelling) and crying.  
 l. 458. *wanst* = *wenst* = weenest.  
*un-iede* = inexcusable, wicked. A.S. *un-láed*, from *lád*, excuse, way (Eng. *lode*); *ládian*, to excuse, clear.  
 l. 459. *gromes* = men, *grooms*, A.S. *guma*, a man; whence Eng. *groom*, *bride-groom*.  
 l. 460. *an-boð* = an-hangeth, hang up.  
 l. 461. *to-twicbet* = pull or pluck at. A.S. *twiccian*, to pull, *twitch*.  
 l. 462. *schaules* = scarecrow, literally *spectacle*; from A.S. *scedwian*, to look, *show*.  
 l. 463. *þunch* = *þuncþ* = seemeth (see l. 465, p. 34).  
 P. 34, l. 465. *gest an bonde* = triest to deceive. Cp. the O.E. phrase *bere an* (*on*) *bande* = accuse falsely.  
 l. 467. *i-cwede* = spoken; from A.S. *cwēðan* (pret. *cwæð*, quoth, pp. *gewe-den*), to say, speak; *cwiðdan*, to speak; *cwide*, *cwiðe*, speech, saying; whence *be-quest*, and *bequeath*.  
 l. 470. *bribte* = *brizte* = clearly.  
 l. 473. *þrostle* = a thrush. The A.S. *þrostle*. *þrosle*, a thrush, is derived from a root signifying *brown*. In East Anglia *þrostle* = thrush.  
*wude-wale* = *wode-wale* = wood-pecker.

- ll. 475-477. Because it appeared to them that she had  
The owl overcome, wherefor they shouted (applause)  
And sang also in many wise.

*vale* = *fale* = *fele*, many.

l. 479. *gred þe manne ascbame* = cryeth shame upon the man.

l. 480. That playeth at dice and loseth the game.

*taveleþ* is from the A.S. *tæfel*, *tæfl*, a dice or gaming table, a game at dice; *tæflan*, to play at dice.

*gome* = game. A.S. *gamen*, game, joy, sport; *gamenian*, to sport; whence Eng. *game*, *gamble* (vulg. *gammon*, nonsense), *gambol*.

l. 482. *i-banned ferde* = levied (thine) army. The O.E. *bannen* = to assemble an army; whence *ban*, to proclaim, forbid, curse. A.S. *abannan*, to proclaim, command; *abannan út*, to call out, assemble.

l. 486. *tome*, adv. = in vain. A.S. *tom*, empty, void. O.E. *tome*, leisure, still existing in the phrase 'I have no *time* (leisure).'

l. 496. *weolcne* = sky. Wright prints *weoluce*. It is the modern word *welkin*; A.S. *welcn*, *wolcen*; from *wealcan* (pret. *weolc*), to roll, turn, revolve, Eng. *walk* (the pret. walked in O.E. was *welk*).

P. 35, l. 502. *þingþ* = *þincþ* = seems.

l. 506. *utbeste* = O.E. *out-bese*, outcry; from A.S. *ut*, out, and *bæs*, command, be-best.

l. 507. *fiht-lac* = fighting. *-lac* occurs as an affix in *wedlock*, *knowledge*, &c.

l. 508. *raþe* = quickly.

l. 514. *onsene* = A.S. *on-seón*, aspect, face, countenance; from *seón*, to see.

l. 516. *hwatlice* = quickly, soon. A.S. *hwæt-lice*; from *hwæt*, sharp, quick, bold.

l. 517. Gone after her army.

l. 519. Perhaps *ne dradde* is to be understood after *niztegale*. The meaning of the line is The nightingale was not frightened with such words.

l. 520. *orde* = point. A.S. *órd*, O.N. *odir*, a point; whence Eng. *odd*.

ll. 523, 524. Through big words, and with (bold) countenance,

Causes his foe for fear to sweat.

l. 526. *War com* = *were ycome* = had come. *War* may be read *þar*, there, and *com* would mean came.

P. 36, l. 529. *þorte* = *þrote* = throat.

l. 530. And sang willingly (with pleasure) to many men.

l. 532. *a wolde* = in the wood. A.S. *weald*, *wald*, grove, wood, *wold*; whence *threshold* (O.E. *thresb-wold*), from *þrescian*, to beat, tread.

l. 541. To you (two) shall betide harm and disgrace.

l. 542. *doþ griþ-bruce* = commit a breach of the peace. A.S. *griþ*, peace, protection; *griþ-brice*, peace-breaking. *bruce* is only a softened form of A.S. *brice*, a *breach*.

l. 543. *i-some* = peaceable, reconciled together. A.S. *ge-some*, from *samian* or *somnian*, to collect.

l. 547. *an*, first person sing. of *unnan*, to grant (see l. 301, p. 10).

l. 549. *Ab do*, for *ab [hi] do* = but I do it.

l. 556. *wule* is evidently an error for *wulde*, would, were willing.

l. 558. *linde* (fem.) = the linden tree.

P. 37, l. 569. That his bishops may greatly shame.

l. 572. Why will they not betake themselves to counsel? *i. e.* why will they not take thought together?

- l. 579. *leteþ* = pass by, leave unnoticed.  
 l. 581. And giveth rent (income, revenue) very indifferently.  
*mis-liche* = indifferently, badly. A.S. *missen-lic*, *misselic*, dissimilar, various.  
 l. 582. *leteþ* = esteem, think  
 l. 584. *litle childre* = to little children.  
 l. 585. *adwole* = in error. A.S. *dwola*, error; *dwelian*, to err, mistake.  
 Cp. Goth. *dvals*, foolish. Prov. Eng. *dwaule*, to talk incoherently.  
 l. 586. That ever abideth (endureth), master Nichol.  
 l. 587. *ute we þab to þim fare* = but out let us nevertheless go to him.  
 l. 589. *Do we* = do we, let us do.  
 l. 593. *ende of orde* = (?) *ende or orde*, end or beginning.  
 l. 595. *mis-rempe* = misstate, misplead. O.N. *remba*, to strive.  
 l. 596. Do thou oppose and stop judgment.  
*crempe* = cramp, interrupt, stop. Du. *krimpen*, to crimp, contract, decrease. We have the same root in *crump* and *crumple*.  
 ll. 598, 599. All without army and without retinue,  
 Until they reached Portesham.

## III.

*The Story of Harvelok the Dane.*

The reader will find it convenient to recollect that in this romance *ct*, *ctb* (= *cht*) are written for *ght* (or *zt*), as *knict* = *knight*; *wicth* = *wight*. Occasionally the *c* is omitted, as *moutbe* = *mouctbe* = *nigbte*. *d* is often omitted after a liquid, as *lon*, *lond*; *gol*, *gold*, &c.

P. 39, l. 3. *stark* = *strong*. A.S. *starc*, O.E. *sterc*, strong, severe, sharp; whence Eng. *starch*.

l. 5. *sueyn* = domestic servant, *swain*. A.S. *swán*, herdsman, servant; O.N. *sveinn*, a boy; Dan. *svend*, a bachelor.

P. 40, l. 16. *þan* = when.

*wolde* = would, is often written *wulde*.

l. 17. *fulde* = completed, numbered.

l. 21. *bende* = near. A.S. *gebende* (O.E. *ibende*), *bende*; whence *bandy*, the sense of near.

l. 22. *botbe*. To suit the rhyme we should read *bede*, or *bade*. Icel. *bádir*, both; O.Sax. *bēde*.

l. 24. *boslon* = *boslen* = to administer the sacrament, to *bousel* (see l. 26, p. 40). A.S. *búsel*, offering, oblation; O.N. *bunsl*, sacrifice.

l. 27. *quiste* = be-quest (see l. 467, p. 34).

l. 32. *gangen* = A.S. *gangan*, to go; whence Sc. *gang*, to go, Eng. *gangway*, *gang*.

l. 42. And in his hand bear a strong spear.

P. 41, l. 49. *belde* = *eld* = age.

l. 51. *messe-gere* = mass-gear, apparatus of the mass.

l. 59. *wonges* = fields, plains. Prov. Eng. *wong*. A.S. *wang*, a plain, field, meadow (cp. *Wan*-stead = *wang-stede*).

l. 66. *mirke nich* = dark night. *mirke* = dark, *murky*. A.S. *mirc*, dark, darkness.

- P. 42, l. 80.** *febl̄like* = feebly, badly, scantily.
- l. 81. He gave not (the consideration of) a nut for his oaths.
- l. 87. *Witbuten on* = except on.
- l. 95, 96 *waris* = curse. *waried*, cursed. A.S. *wærg-ian*, to curse.
- l. 100. *tilled* = drawn. A.S. *tilian*, to get, gain; Eng. *till*. The O.E. *tillen* signifies not only to till the ground, but to gain or procure food by some means or other.
- P. 43, l. 115.** *Wbat is tbow* = What is there to you? what is the matter with you? The printed text reads *tbow* which is evidently an error for *yow*, to you.
- l. 116. *goulen* = yowl. This is a northern form of *zullen*, to yell.
- l. 122. Half part (half as much) as we may (can) eat.  
*moun* = pl. pres. of *mowen*, be able.
- l. 124. *nis it no* = is (not) there no?
- l. 131. *leyke* = to play. A.S. *lācan*, to play; *lūc*, play. Vulg. Eng. *lark*, sport.
- l. 132. *bleike* = pale. A.S. *blæc*, *blūc*, O.N. *bleikr*, Du. *bleek*; whence *bleak* and *bleach*. The original meaning of *black*, Wedgwood says, is pale.
- l. 133. *karf*, pret. of *kerven*, to cut, carve. A.S. *ceorfan* (pret. *cearf*, pp. *ge-corfen*), cut, hew, engrave.
- l. 134. And afterwards (hacked) them all to pieces.  
*grotes* = pieces. A.S. *grūt*, meal; Du. *grut*, broken, grain; Eng. *grit*, *grots*, *groats*, *grouts*, *grounds*.
- l. 136. *bith wawe* = *bi the wawe* = by the wall. *wawe* = wall = A.S. *wab*; whence Eng. *wain-scot*, Du. *wagen-schot* (the latter syllable we have in *sblade*, a lath, from O.E. *scheden*, to divide).
- l. 146. *manrede* = homage. The *-rede* is an affix common to many O.E. words, and still exists in *kin-d-red*.
- P. 44, l. 148.** *To that forward* = on that condition (promise).
- l. 157. Nor never yet conceived me.  
*gat* = begot, conceived.
- l. 160. *lewe* = luke (warm). A.S. *bleowan*, to warm; *bleow*, *bleo*, shelter, shade, *lee*.
- l. 164. *tbit* = *tbo* + *it* = then it. It may be merely another form for *tbat*; it occurs however in *Genesis and Exodus*.
- l. 166. *thoucbe* = *thogb* = thought, nevertheless.
- ll. 167, 168. *nouth* (l. 167) = *moucte* = might; l. 168, = *nozt* = *nogbt* = not. *drepe* = kill, slay. A.S. *drepan*, to strike, hew, wound.
- l. 171. *lives* = alive. Chaucer frequently uses the gen. form in this sense.
- l. 174. *waiten* = to watch for, lie in wait for.
- l. 175. *brouct of liue* = brought from life, put to death.
- l. 183. *bals* = neck. A.S. *beals*, *bals*; whence O.E. *balse*, Prov. Eng. *bawse*, to embrace.
- l. 184. *flete* = swim, float. A.S. *fleotan*, to float, swim. Sc. *flete*, to flow; whence *fleet*, *fleeting*, *flutter*.
- l. 209. *keuel of clutes* = (covering), coat of rags. *keuel* = *covel* = A.S. *cufle*, a cowl. *clute* = A.S. *clūt*, a little clot, clout, seam, patch. O.E. *cloute* signifies to mend.
- l. 213. *bethede* = *bettede* = commanded.
- P. 46, l. 219.** *cleue* = cottage. A.S. *cleafa*, O.N. *klef*.
- l. 222. *witb*, perhaps an error for *wilt*.

ll. 229, 230. The final rhymes were originally *adoun* and *croune*.

l. 234. *grip* = griffin, from O. E. *gripen*, to seize.

*ern* = A. S. *ern*, *earn*, eagle.

l. 235. *wolune* = a she-wolf, just as *vixen* = she-fox. Cp. O. E. *dovene*, a female dove.

l. 244. *boues* = *bi-boues* = behovest.

l. 246. *binne* = within. A. S. *binnan*. Cp. *bute*, without. The first syllable is the prefix *bi* or *be*, as in *beyond*, *beside*, &c.

P. 47, l. 250. *sbir* = *sbire*, sheer, clear, bright. A. S. *scír*, pure, clear. *sbeer*. O. N. *skirr*, clean.

l. 253. *it* = there.

*stem* = flame. A. S. *stém*, vapour, smoke.

l. 256. *cerges* = tapers. Ger. *kerze*, Fr. *cierges*, church tapers.

*inne*. Sir F. Madden suggests *tinne*, ten, as the correct reading; but more probably it is *negbinne*, nine.

l. 257. *wat* = *cwap* = spake, quoth.

l. 261. *sturten* = *sterten*, pret. pl. started.

l. 265. *serk* = A. S. *syrc*, *serce*, a shirt.

l. 266. *kyne merk*, a king's (or royal) mark. A. S. *cyne*, royal; whence *cyne-dom*, Eng. *kin-g-dom*.

l. 282. *cherles* = *churis*. A. S. *ceorl*, a man, countryman; Icel. *karl*, a man; Ger. *kerl*, a fellow.

*bine* = servants, hinds. A. S. *bina* (for *bigna*), a domestic, a member of a family. O. N. *biön*, a family. A. S. *bige*, *biwa*; whence Eng. *bive*.

P. 48, l. 300. *thrist[e]* = thrust.

l. 301. *prangled* = compressed, stifled. Du. *prangen*, to compress.

l. 303. *mayth* = *mayst*, mayest.

l. 304. *fete* = *fette* = to fetch. The Promptorium Parvulorum records the two forms "*fetcbyn* or *fettyn*, affero." A. S. *feccan*, *fettan*; Ger. *fassen*, to seize.

l. 306. *flaunes* = pancakes. Fr. *flan*, a *flawn*, a custard, or egg-pie.

*al with sulik* = with all such, suchlike.

l. 309. *men* is here the indefinite pronoun. Ger. *man*, O. E. *me*, one.

*seyt* = *seyth* = saith.

l. 313. *Grundlike* is evidently an error for *grudilike*, ravenously, greedily. Coleridge explains it 'deeply.'

l. 314. *mitbe* = moderate. A. S. *mæðian*, to measure, use gently. Coleridge connects it with A. S. *miðan*, to hide, dissemble.

P. 49, l. 339. *bibetet* = promised it; it is not an error for *bibetest*, for *bibeten* is a strong verb, and the 2nd pers. pret. is *bibet-e*; the *t* is the pronoun *it* joined to the verb. This seems to have been common in the East Midland dialects, as we find traces of it in the Ormulum, and *Genesis and Exodus*.

l. 348. *ig* for *ic* = O. E. *ich*, I.

l. 349. *galues* = gallows. A. S. *galga*, a gallows, gibbet, cross.

so *God me rede* is equivalent to the modern expression 'so help me God.'

l. 350. *wicke* = wicked. The O. E. *wicke* often signifies *weak*, poor, as if from A. S. *wican*, to be weak, to decay.

P. 50, l. 355. *Wat sbal me to rede* = What shall I do? literally, what shall (be) to me for counsel, *i. e.* what is the best *plan* to adopt in this emergency.

ll. 356, 357. Let him know that he (Havelok) is alive, he will both (of us)

High hang on (the) gallows-tree. The O.E. *tre* = wood, and is used as an affix = beam in *rode-tre*, the cross. Dan. *tre*, wood.

l. 365. *Al he sold*, qy. for *al is sold*. The pret. requires us to read *solde*.

*doutbe* = might avail, or be worth anything. Sc. *dow*, to avail, prosper, be able. A.S. *dugan* (3rd sing. *deab*, pl. *dugon*; pret. *dubte*, *dobte*). Du. *doogen*, to profit, avail; whence *do* in the phrases 'this will *do*,' 'how do you *do*;' and *doughty* (A.S. *dybtig*, fit, useful, brave).

l. 367. *to the peni drou* = turned into money.

l. 369. *tere*, an . . . *pike* = tar and pitch. *ter* = A.S. *tyro*, *teor*, *tearo*, signifies resin, *tar*, and is connected with *teár*, a tear, or drop. *pike* = O.E. *pycbe*, A.S. *pic*, Ger. *pech*, Du. *pik*, pitch.

l. 370. *doutede* = feared, doubted.

*krike* = A.S. *crecca*, Du. *kreke*, creek, haven. Icel. *kryki*, corner, from *krokr*, a hook. The O.E. *cryke* signifies also a brook (and still does so in America).

l. 376. *bauedet* = *bauede* + *it*, had it (see note on l. 339, p. 49).

l. 378. *þrinne* = three; *twin*, for *two*, is very common in O.E. writers.

P. 51, l. 386. *bise* = the north wind. O.H. Ger. *bisa*. In Switzerland, on the lake of Geneva, the north wind is called the *bise*.

l. 392. *thrie* = thrice; *twie* occurs in O.E. for *twice*. They are much older forms than the O.E. *twies* and *thries*; the *e* represents A.S. adv.-ending *-en*.

*bidene* = subsequently. It also signifies *presently*. Marsh says it is of Dutch origin, being compounded of the particle *by* and the demonstrative pronoun *dien*; *by-dene* = thereby, therefor; and hence *immediately*, &c.

l. 395. *lende* = to proceed. A.S. *gelandian*, to land, arrive. Dan. *lande*, to go ashore.

l. 399. *cote* = A.S. *cote*, cottage, *cot*. Cp. *sheep-cote*, *dove-cote*.

l. 400. *flote* = company. The O.Fr. *flote*, a crowd, is probably connected with *fleet* and *float*.

l. 402. *erthe* = *erde*, to dwell. A.S. *eardian*, to dwell. Cp. *erd*, land, abode, l. 146, p. 6; *earding-stowe*, l. 28, p. 20.

l. 403, 404. So that they well were Of their harbour (dwelling) harboured (lodged) there (see note on l. 553, p. 18).

l. 405. *aute* = *aughte* = owned.

l. 406, *laute* = *laughte*, took. A.S. *laccan*, *gelaccan*, to seize, (pret. *ge-læbte*), whence *latch*.

#### IV.

##### *The Romance of King Alexander.*

P. 52, l. 5. We ought to read 'And oth[e] south half, *and on the south quarter*.' *otbe* = O.E. *ape*, on the.

ll. 11, 12. *chele* = *chills*, cold; *wele* = weal, wealth. If we must read *chalen* = *chealen*, then *wele* should be *welen*.

P. 53, l. 17. *ydles* = islands. The Promptorium Parvulorum has " *ilde*, betwene too freshe waters, *amnis*; *ilde*, londe in the sea, *insula*." With the double forms *ydle* and *ylde*, compare O.E. *wordle* and *world*.

l. 22. Nor hold thou it (not) marvellous,

*ferlich* = *ferlicbe* = fearful. A.S. *færlíc*, sudden, from *fær*, sudden (also sudden fear), fearful, horrid.

l. 23. *gestes* = tales, stories, relations. Lat. *gerere*, *gestum*, to do; whence *gest* or *gist*, a feat or deed done, and thence a relation, story.

l. 31. *balt*, an error for *batte*, called.

l. 38. *engyneful* = ingenious. O.E. *engine*, device. Fr. *engin*, contrivance, craft, from Lat. *ingenium*.

l. 39. *auenauant* = Fr. *avenant*, graceful, beautiful.

l. 40. *stalworth* (often written *stalward*) = A.S. *stæl-weorð*, worth taking or stealing.

l. 42. *queynteste* = quaintest. O. Fr. *coint*, neat, fine, trim. Lat. *cognitus*, known; and hence familiar, agreeable.

P. 54, l. 54. *sergeaunz* = menservants. Fr. *sergent*, a beadle. Ital. *sergente*, a serjeant, beadle, servant. Mid. Lat. *serviens ad legem*, a serjeant-at-law.

l. 60. *is cleped* = called; *ycleped* is no doubt the correct reading.

l. 70. That they are soon as black as pitch.

l. 71. *outelyng* = lying beyond others, external; *-lyng* is an adv. suffix, as in *dark-ling* (in the dark); *bead-long* (O.E. *bead-lynge*; Sc. *beadlins*).

l. 75. *baunteth* = frequent. Fr. *banter*, to frequent, haunt; Bret. *bent*, a way.

P. 55, l. 88. *airen* = eggs; from O.E. *ey* (A.S. *æg*, pl. *ægru*), an egg; whence *eyry*.

l. 89. *garnement* = garment; from Fr. *garnir*, provide, supply, adorn; *garnement*, garnishing, decking, munition; whence *garnish*, *garrison*. (O.E. *garsono*.)

l. 104. *gabbe* = joking. A.S. *gabban*, to scoff, delude. O.E. *gabben* signifies to talk; whence *gab*, *gabble*. Cp. Dan. and Sc. *gab*, the mouth. O.N. *gabba*, to mock, lie. Du. *gabberen*, to joke.

P. 56, l. 111. *An eigbe* = one eye.

l. 113. *ryneth* = *reyneth* = raineth.

l. 114. *wrieth* = covers, hides; *wryen*, to cover (l. 116). See *unwroȝen*, l. 118, p. 23.

l. 120. *bawen* = haws. *baw* = A.S. *baga*, haw, hedge; whence *baw-thorn*, a hedge-thorn.

*bepen* = hips. *bip* = the fruit of the wild rose. A.S. *biop*; Norse *bjupa*.

*slon* = sloes. A.S. *slá* (Du. *sleeuwe*), a sloe. Du. *slee*, *sleeuw*, dull, blunt, sour.

*rabben* = turnips. Du. *raap*, a turnip. Eng. *rape* seed.

l. 136. *purchaseyng* = subsistence; from *purcbacen*, to procure. Fr. *pourchasser*, to pursue after, to obtain the object of pursuit. Ital. *procacciare*, to chase for, procure

l. 139. *Hynd and forth* = *hynden forth* = backwards.

l. 140. *on any cas* = on any adventure.

P. 57, l. 142. *biwite*, pp. gone; from *witen*, to go. A.S. *witan*, to depart.

l. 160. *to wonde* = to fear, also to hesitate, delay. A.S. *wandian*.

l. 167. *medlé* = Fr. *medlée*, now *melée*, tumult, conflict, *medlay*; from *medler*, *meller*, to mix, *mell*.

P. 58, l. 172. *greyn and ord* = edge and point.

l. 173. *more los* = of greater renown (fame). Fr. *los*, report. Lat. *laus*, praise.

l. 175. *marreys* = marshes. Fr. *marais*, marsh (Ital. *marese*, a fenny place), from Fr. *mare*, a standing water.



- l. 176. No beast neither has his (mode of) fighting.  
 l. 184. *feloun* = fierce, cruel. Fr. *felle*, cruel, fierce; *felon*, cruel, rough; *felonié*, anger, cruelty, treason.  
 l. 188. *keruynge* should evidently be *keruynde*, cutting.  
 ll. 193, 194. Nor no man may him take (latch),  
 But it be (except) that he take (him) unawares.  
*snache* = to take suddenly or unawares. Eng. *snatch*.  
 l. 196. Horrible it is after the (like the) devil (fiend).  
 P. 59, l. 206. *selcouth* = strange, wonderful; literal'y *seldom* known, rare.  
 A. S. *selde*, seldom, and *cup*, known.  
 ll. 209, 210. *drybe*. . . . . *contray*. The O.E. for *dry* is often written *draye*.  
 l. 218. *afygbteib* = *afaiteth* = reduce (to subjection). Fr. *afaiter*; O.E. *afaitye*, to manage, subdue.  
 l. 228. *side* = A. S. *síd*, ample, great. O.E. *side* = long, as in phrase 'wide and side.'  
 P. 60, l. 235. *byreved* = bereaved (of a member or part of the body).  
 l. 242. *y-wbet* = sharpened. A. S. *bwæt*, sharp, keen; *bwettan*, to sharpen.  
 l. 257. supply is before *al*.  
 l. 262. *y-grope* = investigated, searched out. A. S. *gráþian*, to feel, *grope*; whence *gripe*, *grapple*.  
 P. 61, l. 274. *aswelt* = is put out, is quenched. A. S. *asweltan*, to die, depart; *sweltan*, to die, perish; whence *swel'er* (O.E. *swelte*, *swelter*, to die, faint).

## V.

*Reign of William the Conqueror.*

- P. 62, l. 2. *er*, for *ber-after*, hereafter.  
 l. 12. To keep (defend) it well for him, and he well to him trusted.  
 P. 63, l. 23. *fole dede* = a foolish deed.  
 l. 25. *wailoker* = much rather, the more (see l. 516, p. 35).  
 l. 28. *nede* is here an adv. = of necessity, and is equivalent to O.E. *nedes*, needs.  
 l. 2. *of-sende* = send for; so *of-aksen*, to ask for. The *negative* and *intensive* use of this prefix has already been pointed out.  
 l. 34. *porchas* = winning, booty (see l. 136, p. 56).  
 l. 42. *biof þe* = behoof. A. S. *bebófan*, to behave, to be fit, need. *bebóflíc* = O.E. *behovely*, *ochevoful*, needful.  
*witie* = Semi-Saxon *witen*, to protect, defend, keep.  
 P. 64, l. 51. *asoiledede* = absolved, assoiled. O. Fr. *assoiler*, to acquit. Lat. *absolvere*, loose from.  
 l. 53. *bere*, sbj. should bear; the pret. indic. would be *ber*, or *bar*.  
 l. 58. *abide mo* = to await more (men).  
 l. 59. *preste* = ready. Lat. *præsto*, in readiness; whence to *press* for a soldier, *press-gang*, *press-money*, &c.  
 l. 74. *izete* = *i-yete* = eaten. In the South of England the people say I have *a-yeat* an apple.  
 P. 65, l. 82. *sley* = sly, crafty. O.N. *slægr*, crafty. Norse *slög*, expert, clever; whence *sleight*.

- l. 84. *dereyni* = Fr. *desraigner*, try, prove.  
 l. 86. *lokinge* = award judgment, decision; from *loki*, to enclose, keep, decide (see l. 56, p. 21).  
 l. 107. *izolde* = *izolden*, pp. restored. Hearne's copy reads *bii zelde*.  
 P. 66, l. 116. *wrastlede* = wrestled. A.S. *wrastlian*, *wræxlian*, to wrestle; from *wrastian*, to writhe, twist, wrest.  
 l. 118. *luþer* = A.S. *lýðer*, bad, wicked. Cp. Ger. *liederlich*, loose, disorderly. Du. *lodder*, a loose person.  
*wrenche* = A.S. *wrenc*, deceit, stratagem.  
 l. 135. *baneur* = the bannerer, banner-bearer.  
 l. 137. *ginne* = contrivance, skill (see *engyneful*, l. 38, p. 53).  
 l. 139. *ne dude hom nozt* = rendered their efforts useless.  
 P. 67, l. 142. *agaste* = aghast, frightened. Gothic *us-gaisjan*, to frighten.  
 l. 154. *no wille . . . of dunt* = no power of striking. *dunt* = dint, stroke, blow. A.S. *dynt*, stroke, blow; whence *dent*, *dint*.  
 l. 165. *a day* = in (that) day.  
 l. 166. *as me say* = as one saw.  
 l. 167. *uor-arnð* might signify hotly pursued, as if from *urnen*, to run; but A.S. *yrnan*, O.E. *urnen*, are strong verbs, and therefore the pp. would be *urnen*, not *arnð*. The true reading is *uor-arnð* = harassed, for the stroke over the syllable *arnð* in the MS. stands for *m* or *n*; *uor-arnð* is from A.S. *earmian*, to grieve, trouble; *earm*, miserable.  
 l. 168. *debrused* = bruised. O. Fr. *bruiser*, Fr. *briser*, to bruise, crush.  
 P. 68, l. 174. *bor noþer* = neither of them.  
 l. 176. *an-aunter* = in doubt, doubtful. *an* = on or in; *aunter* = adventure, adventure, chance.  
*keueringe* = recovering. The O.E. vb. *cover*, is frequently used for to *recover*.  
 l. 198. *an erþe* = into earth, burial.  
 l. 199. *fon* = foes. A.S. *fū*, enemy; from *fian*, to hate.  
 l. 201. *ȝ largelicþe*, &c. = and liberally proffered him of her wealth.  
 P. 69, l. 230. *esste* = asked. A.S. *æscian*, to ask (see *esse* l. 367, p. 73).  
 P. 70, l. 247. *goderbele* = good fortune, happiness; from *gode* = good, *bele* = health. Cp. O.E. *wrotberþele*, misfortune.  
 l. 248. *into kunde more* = more into natural right.  
 l. 262. *seffede* = endowed. Fr. *seffer*, to convey the *fief* or *fee* (Mid. Lat. *feudum*, property in land distributed by the conqueror to his companions in arms, as a reward for their services) to a new owner.  
 l. 265. *uorlore* = ruined, *forlorn*. Cp. *frore* (Milton), for *frozen*.  
 P. 71, l. 279. *debonere* = Fr. *debonnaire*, courteous, affable = *de bon aire*, good-humoured. Cp. Fr. *de mal aire*, bad-humoured.  
 l. 285. *wened* = altar. A.S. *wesofod*, altar.  
 l. 287. *bulde* = flay. Cp. A.S. *bild*, battle; *byldere*, a butcher.  
 l. 295. *as God ȝef þat cas* = as God gave that hap, *i. e.* as God had ordained.  
 P. 72, l. 328. *no u[e]r* = no farther (see l. 330).  
*at-route* = to advance with troops, make raids (see next line following).  
 l. 334. *route* = army. O. Fr. *route*, crowd, troop.  
 P. 73, l. 344. *untiled* = uncultivated, untilled (see notes to l. 77, p. 3, and l. 100, p. 42).  
 l. 345. *adauntede* = subdued. Fr. *dompter*, *donter*, to tame. Sc. *dant*, to subdue, from Lat. *domitare*.

l. 353. *biden* = *bides* of land. A *bide* of land = as much as could be tilled by a single plough. The word *bide* is still used as a measure of land in Norway.

l. 358. *al clene* = thoroughly.

l. 359. *scrit*, like *scroll* = a register, literally a slip or shred of parchment. A.S. *scrúð*; Low Ger. *scrööde*, a part, fragment.

l. 368. *ende* = end. It may be an error for *ernde*, errand.

P. 74, l. 374. *þat þar* for *þan þar*, than there.

l. 378. *astorede* = stored, filled. O.Fr. *estorer*, to erect, build, garnish. Lat. *instaurare*, repair, renew.

l. 386. *þer to*, Hearne's copy reads *a tuo*, in two.

l. 387. *spurnde* = stumbled. A.S. *spurnan*, to kick, stumble; *sporningc*, a stumbling-block.

l. 390. *þur blind* = entirely blind. *þur* = *pure*, entire. In Wiclif, Exod. xxi. 26, it means 'blind of one eye.' It has now the meaning of almost blind.

P. 75, l. 408. *ballede* = bald. The original meaning seems to have been (1) shining, (2) white (as in *bald*-faced stag). A.S. *bæl*, a funeral pile, a burning.

l. 409. *lende* = loins, pl. *lenden*. A.S. *lendenu*, the loins. The root-meaning is probably *broad*. Lat. *lumbus*, whence Fr. *lombe*. O.Fr. *logne*; Sc. *lunyie*; Eng. *loin*. *Lanky* is probably connected with *lende*; Fris. *lunk*, hip-bone.

l. 412. *arblaste* = arbalast; Mid. Lat. *arcubalista* (see *arblasters*, l. 430, p. 75), crossbow.

l. 414. *non vuel* = *non uuel* = no evil, sickness; *in is deþ vuel* = in his death fell; *vuel* = *vul* = O.E. *vil* or *fil*, fell.

l. 416. *a3t* = noble. A.S. *æbt*.

P. 78, l. 441. *Manne orf* = men's cattle.

*qualm* = A.S. *cwealm*, pestilence, death, destruction. Dan. *quæle*, to choke. Swed. *qual*, sickness; *qualm*, hot, stifling weather.

l. 450. *sette . . . to ferme* = Mid. Lat. *dare* or *ponere ad firmam*, to let on lease; *firma*, rent. A.S. *feorm*, supper, board, hospitality. Lands were once let on the condition of supplying the lord with so many night's entertainment for his household.

l. 457. *tricherye* = treachery, is another form of *trickery*.

l. 468. *edwit* = twitting, reproach. A.S. *ed-witan*, to reproach, *twit*. *ed-* = Lat. *re-* (see *atwite*, l. 332, p. 29).

l. 470. *cbircbegong* = churching, literally church-going.

*bende* = sickness, is another form of *bond*.

l. 471. *atten* = *at þen* = at the; before a consonant it is *atte*, as *atte laste*, *atte beste*, &c.

P. 77, l. 490. *grony* = to groan, complain (of being ill). A.S. *gránan*, to lament. *groan* is connected with *grunt*; O.E. *gruny*, to groan; Ger. *grunzen*, to growl, mutter.

l. 494. *leches* = surgeons, physicians. A.S. *læce*, a physician, *leech*.

l. 497. *deol* = dole, sorrow. Sc. *dùle*, grief; Fr. *deuil*, mourning; Lat. *dolere*, to grieve.

P. 78, l. 505. *porchas*, conquest (see l. 126, p. 56).

l. 509. *dele* = distribute. A.S. *dæl*, a part, *dole*, *deal*; *dalan*, to divide, dispense.

l. 528. *seisine* = possession. Fr. *saisine*, seisin, from *saisir*, to seize.

## VI.

*The Life of St. Dunstan.*

P. 79, l. 531. *more* = root; Prov. Eng. *moor*, root. The etymology is uncertain.

l. 536. *aqueynte*, pret. was quenched. Cp. O.E. *adreynte*, drowned.

l. 545. *þurf*, for *þurb*, through. Cp. O.E. *þof* = *tbog*, though.

P. 80, l. 558. *ipez* = thrive. O.E. *the*, to thrive, flourish = A.S. *þeon*, to thrive (pret. *þáb*, pp. *gebogen*, *gebungen*).

l. 565. *deynte* = pleasure, dainty. It literally signifies (1) *toothsome*, nice, (2) rare. Cp. O.E. *daintith*, dainty; Welsh *dant*, a tooth; *dantaidd*, toothsome, delicate.

l. 567. *bone* = petition, prayer, *boon*. A.S. *ben*, prayer; from *biddan*, to ask. Cp. Icel. *beidne*, petition, from *beida*, ask, *bid*.

l. 583. *budinge* = secrecy, *biding*; from O.E. *bude*, to hide; whence O.E. *bidinges*, a secret place. Du. *bueden*, to protect, cover. Norse *bide*, lair of a beast.

P. 81, l. 591. *oreisouns* = orisons, prayers.

l. 594. *be ne kipte*, &c. = he took not of them no (any) reward.

l. 596. *bedes bede* = would offer prayers. Cp. our phrase to 'bid beads.'

l. 604. *Treofinge* = playfully, triflingly. *-inge* is an adv.-ending = *-ly*. *trifle* signifies literally 'small piece.' A.S. *trifelan*, to pound.

l. 611. *blaste* = blazed. A.S. *blase*, a torch, blaze.

l. 612. *wrickede* = wriggled; probably connected with *writbe*, *wring*, *wrinkle*, &c. A.S. *wrigan*, to tend to, move to.

l. 615. *snytte* = wiped. A.S. *snytan*, snite, clean. The literal meaning of *snite* is to blow the nose; O.N. *snyta*, to blow the nose; *snite* is of course connected with *snout*.

l. 618. *lifte* = air, as in *a-loft*. A.S. *lyft*; O.N. *loft*, sky, air; *á-loft*, on high; Dan. *loft*, ceiling, loft; *lǫfte*, to *lift*, raise.

l. 619. *calewe* = bald-pate. A.S. *calu*, bald. Lat. *callow*.

l. 621. *atom ysnyt his nose* = at home with his nose snited (his nose being snited),

l. 622. *bisede* = hastened. A.S. *bigan*, *bigan*, endeavours, hasten. Dan. *bige*, to pant for.

*pose* = cold in the head. It may be the Fr. *pousse*, asthma, from Lat. *pulsus*; *pursy* = Fr. *poussif*.

## VII.

*Metrical English Psalter.*

P. 82, l. 6. *lof* = A.S. *lōf*, praise; *lōfian*, to praise; *lof-sang*, a hymn, psalm; *lōf-sum*, laudable, *lovesome*.

P. 83, l. 17. *mensk* = honour. It is a sb. from the A.S. *mennisc*: (1) mankind; (2) human; whence O.E. *menske*, gracious.

l. 22. *In-over* is a translation of Lat. *insuper*.

l. 24. *stibes* = paths, ways. A.S. *stig*, a way, path; *stigan* (pret. *stáb*,

pp. *gestigen*), to go, climb, ascend; whence *stile* (A.S. *stigel*), *stirrup* (A.S. *stig-rap*), *stair* (A.S. *stæger*); O.E. *stegb* = Prov. Eng. *stie*, *steye*, ladder. See *up-stegb*, ascended, l. 65, p. 84.

l. 27. *teld* = tabernacle. A.S. *teld*, tent, tabernacle; *teldian*, to pitch a tent. Cp. 'tilt' of a cart.

l. 28. *mone* = shall. O.N. *mun*, shall, may, must.

l. 29. *wem-les* = pure, spotless. A.S. *wem*, *womm*, spot, blemish, *wem*; *wemman*, to spoil, corrupt.

l. 35. *es lede* = Lat. *deductus est*.

l. 39. *okir* = usury; O.N. *okr*, from *auka*, to increase, *eke*.

P. 84, l. 45. *to-flight* = refuge. A.S. *geberg*.

l. 46. *leser* = liberator, deliverer; from A.S. *leosan*, *leasan*, *lysan*, to loosen, redeem; whence O.E. *lesnesse*, forgiveness.

ll. 53, 54. *Um-gaf* = Lat. *circum dederunt*; *um-griped* = Lat. *prævenierunt*. The prefix *um* = A.S. *ymb*, around, about; as in O.E. *um-gang*, circuit; *um-thinke*, consider.

*weles* = *weles* = wells, pits. A.S. *wæl*. A whirlpool, in Lancashire still called a *weele*.

*quede* = evil. Du. *kwaad*, bad; O.E. *quede*, the devil.

l. 6. *Bi-sied* = *bi-sized* = came upon. A.S. *be-sigan*, to descend.

l. 57. *drowing* = persecution. O.E. *drove*, to trouble, persecute; A.S. *dréfan*, to make muddy, disturb, vex. Chaucer uses *droyv*, troubled. See *to-dreved*, troubled, l. 68, p. 84.

l. 63. The MS. reads *þof*, but the correct reading is evidently *þof = þogb*, though; so that *þof þaim be latb* = though it be displeasing to them.

l. 65. *reke* = smoke, reek. A.S. *rec*; Du. *rook*, smoke.

l. 68. *Kindled*, often written *kinled*. O.N. *kynda*, to set fire to; *kyndill*, a light, *candle*. Norse *kynnel*, a torch, whence *cannel coal* (coal that burns like a torch).

l. 69. *belled* = bowed, from *belde*, to incline to, bend; A.S. *byldan*, *bealdan*, to incline, bend; whence *beel*. Cp. O.N. *balla*, to incline; *bella*, to pour (Prov. Eng. *bele*, to pour out).

l. 73. *lurking* = hiding-place, lair. O.N. *lurka*, to lie in wait, *lurk*; whence *lurch* and *lurcher*.

P. 85, l. 75. Waters that were dark of hue (colour, appearance).

l. 76. *skewe* = sky. A.S. *scúa*, a shade, cloud. O.N. *sky*, a cloud; Cp. Ger. *wolke*, cloud, with Eng. *welkin*, the sky.

l. 77. *levening* = lightning. O.E. *levin*, *lewenynge*, lightning; Dan. *lyn*. Norse *lyón*, lightning; *lygne*, to lighten.

l. 84. *groundes* = foundations.

l. 85. *snubbing* = *snubbing*, rebuke, reproach. Swed. *snubba*, to reprove; O.N. *snubba*, to cut short. Dan. *snubbed*, stumpy; *snubbe*, to curtail; whence *snub-nose* (See note on l. 401, p. 181).

l. 86. *one-sprute* = a sprouting or spurting forth. Cotgrave has "*regailer*, to *spurt* or *sprout* (as water) back again." Swed. *spruta*. Norse *sputra*, *spryta*, to spurt, spout.

P. 86, l. 111. *balgb* for *balgb[e]* = A.S. *balga*, a saint. Chaucer has *balews*, saints.

l. 121. *unfiled* = undefiled. A.S. *be-fulan*, to befoul, defile; *befyled*, defiled. O.N. *füll*, stinking; *fyla*, to stink. Cp. O.E. *file*, a wicked wretch.

l. 123. *Fraisted* = tried, purified. O.N. *fresta*, to try.

l. 131. *at fight* = to fight. The use of the preposition *at* = *to*, before verbs in the infinitive mood is good evidence of Danish influence in the Northumbrian dialect.

l. 133. *for-biling of bele of þe* = Lat. *protectionem salutis tuæ*. A.S. *ge-schildnesse bælu ðinne*; Eng. version, "shield of thy salvation."

l. 139. *filgbe* = A.S. *fyłgean*, to follow.

*umlap* = lap about, surround, seize. O.E. *wlap*, to fold. A cognate root is seen in Ital. *involuppate*; Fr. *envelopper*.

l. 140. *ogain torne* = turn back, return.

*to* = *unto* = until.

*wane* = may be consumed. A.S. *wana*, lack (as in *wan-hope*, *wan-ton*, &c.); *wanian*, diminish, *wane*.

P. 87, l. 145. *o-bak* = *on-bak*, on the back. The A.S. version has *bec*; Lat. *version dorsum*; Eng. version 'necks.'

l. 149. *gnide* = A.S. *gnidan*, break (in pieces), rub, comminute.

*likam* = face, countenance; literally the body. A.S. *lic*, form, body; *licbama*, the living body.

l. 152. *genge* = people, gentiles. A.S. *genge*, troop, host; probably connected with O.E. *gangan*, to go.

ll. 155, 156. *Outen* = foreign, strange (see l. 146, p. 6).

l. 167. *birþes* = nations. A.S. *ge-byrd*, a family, lineage; from *béran*, to bear; whence *birth*, &c.

P. 88, l. 177. *winli* = joyous, winsome. A.S. *win*, pleasure; *wine*, a friend; *wynlic*, joyous; *wynsum*, pleasant, *winsoms* (see l. 203, p. 89).

l. 181. *In un-nait* = Lat. *in vano*. O.E. *in ydel*, vain, useless; A.S. *unnet*, useless, from *neotan*, to use, enjoy.

l. 186. *laitand* = seeking. O.E. *laite*, O.N. *leyta*, to seek, discover.

P. 89, l. 205. *bies*, for *ogain-bies* = redeems; Cp. O.E. *wip-begge*, to redeem. The use of the verb *begge* or *bye* = buy, for *redeem*, is not uncommon in O.E. writers.

l. 207. *filles* = satiates.

l. 221. *est del* = *west del*. The *del* (A.S. *deal*) is in these words merely an affix = *part*.

l. 223. *rewed es* translates the Lat. *miseretur*.

l. 226. *schaft* = frame, form. A.S. *scaft*, *gescaft*, creature; *scapan* (pret. *scop*, pp. *gescapen*), to form, *shape*, create.

l. 230. *welyen* = *welwen* = wither. A.S. *wealwian*, *wealowigan*, to roll up, dry up, wither, *wallow*.

P. 90, l. 257. *Strekand* = spreading, covering, from *streke* = A.S. *streccan*, to stretch. O.H. Ger. *strac*, rigid, straight; *straccben*, to be stiff. A.S. *strec*, rigid, violent. O.E. *strek*, bold, powerful. By metathesis we get O.E. *sterk* = *stark*, starch.

*fel* = A.S. *fel*, skin. It still exists in *fell-monger*.

l. 258. *overestes* = highest parts. The *-est* or *-ost* as the superlative suffix of adv. is seen in *overmost*, O.E. *over-m-est*; *utter-est* = *utter-m-ost*, and *upperest* = *upper-m-ost*,

l. 263. *groundes* (= Lat. *fundavit*), from O.E. *grounde*, to lay the foundation of, establish. The A.S. equivalent of *groundes* is *staðelade*, from *staðel-ian*, to found, set fast; whence O.E. *staðelnes* (A.S. *staðel-nes*), stability, foundation. We have another form of this root in *stead*, *steadfast*, *steady*, &c.

P. 91, l. 271. *Mere* = A.S. *gemære*, boundary, limit; Du. *meere*, boundary, *maere*.

l. 282. *gresse* = grass. The Southern dialect generally prefers the softer form *gers*, A.S. *gærs*. Cp. *thrist* for *thirst*, l. 276.

l. 294. *irchones* = *urcbins*, hedgehogs (we still have *sea-urcbin*), from Greek *ἐχίνος* (connected with *ἀκανθα*, a thorn; *κεντεῖν*, to prick). The A.S. term for *bedgebog* is *igil* or *il* (connected with *æl*, *al*, an awl).

l. 296. *setel-gange* = A.S. *setl-gong*, *setl-gang*, sun-set, setting (literally seat-going). The first element is retained in the word *settle*.

l. 299. *romand* = *ramand* = roaring. A.S. *bream*, cry, scream; *breman*, to cry, weep.

P. 92, l. 309. *roume* = A.S. *rum*, space, spacious; whence *roomy*; *roam*, to walk at large; O.E. *rume*, to clear a space, make room.

*til bende* is an error for *tilende*, stretching, leading. O.N. *til*, to.

## IX.

*The Proverbs of Hendyng.*

Throughout this poem *ue* = *eo* = *e*.

P. 96, l. 4. *thonkes* = thoughts.

ll. 16, 17. And take care that (thou) forbid none other to be wise and good.

l. 18. *bue* = *beo* = *be*.

l. 19. *feb* = A.S. *fab*. O.E. *fob*: (1) of different colours; hence (2) a dress of various colours, particoloured.

*grys* = Fr. *gris*, a kind of fur.

l. 21. *warysoun* = *warison*. Fr. *guerison*, a reward.

P. 97, l. 24. *con fonde* = can attempt, can do.

l. 29. As many lands, so many customs.

l. 32. *lerne*. The rhyme requires *lere*, to learn.

l. 33. *other-wbyle* = sometimes; *wbyle*, like the Sc. *wbyles*, has occasionally this signification.

l. 35. *Woltou*, *nultou* = wilt thou (or) wilt thou not. *i.e.* willing or unwilling.

l. 37. *Luef* = *leof* = *leue*, dear, beloved.

l. 44. *fol coutbe* = well assured, full sure.

l. 47. *fode* = a child; literally a *fostered* one. A.S. *fédan*, to feed, nourish.

P. 98, l. 59. Though it may appear game (pleasure) to the body.

l. 64. *gle* = music. A.S. *gléð*, music, song, joy, *glee*.

l. 66. *sot* = A.S. and Fr. *sot*, a fool, as in *be-sotted*, *sot*, &c.

l. 80. *male* = bag, chest, *mail*. O.H.Ger. *malaba*. Ital. *mala*, coffer, trunk; O.Fr. *male*, a great budget.

l. 88. *wertibe* = *werde* = destiny. A.S. *weord*, *wyrd*, fate. Eng. *wierd*.

l. 89. There should be only a comma after the word *fylle*.

l. 90. Some such word as *wil* must be supplied after *myn*.

*won* = desire.

l. 93. *Este* = pleasant, dear. A.S. *este*, agreeable, delicate.

*owne* = one's own.

- l. 97. Provided thou delay to borrow, *i. e.* if you do not get into debt.
- P. 100, l. 117. *gedelyng*, literally a needy person; from A.S. *gād*, want, need. It is generally considered, however, to represent the A.S. *gædeling*, a companion, *fellow*, vagabond.
- l. 119. *un-sabt* = dissatisfied, discontented, unfriendly. A.S. *sabt*, peace, agreement; *sabtilian*, reconcile (*settle* a difference), make peace; whence O.E. *saghtle*, to reconcile.
- l. 123. *lyf* = *luf* = favour.
- l. 125. *that is luef* = *that him is luef* = that prefers.
- l. 130. *Schenchen* = to pour out, give to drink. A.S. *scenc*, drink; *scencan* (Sc. *skink*), to pour out, give drink.
- l. 139. Under bush shall men abide the storm.
- l. 144. *treye* = A.S. *trega*, vexation, tribulation; *tregian*, to vex.
- l. 147, 148. *best* = *begbest* = highest; *nest* = *negbest* = nearest.
- P. 101, l. 153. *ene* = once. Cp. *twi-e*, *thri-e*, twice, thrice. This *e* represents an older *n*.
- l. 155. *unfeyn* = unfain, unwilling (to lend).
- l. 156. Seldom cometh loan laughing home.
- l. 160. When to thee were loth, *i. e.* when thou wert least inclined.
- l. 164. *ednetb*. Coleridge considers this an error for *endetb*, but it may be an error for *edwit*, reproach.
- l. 172. He is free of horse that ne'er had none.  
*ner* as a contraction for *never* is very uncommon in O.E.
- l. 174. *munte* = to go over, cross. A.S. *myntan*, to propose, to set forth.
- l. 179. *after wille* = according to one's desire.
- P. 102, l. 182. *lype* = A.S. *blýp*, leap.
- l. 188. Oft haste repenteth.
- l. 191. *wyt at wolde* = wit (wisdom) at command.
- l. 192. *ore* = *ecoure* = your.
- soule-bote* = soul-boot, salvation of the soul.
- l. 194. *ro* = A.S. *row*; O.N. *ró*, peace. Cp. O.E. *rooles*, restless; Eng. *un-ru-ly*.

## X.

*Specimens of Lyric Poetry.*

- P. 103, l. 206. *baundoun* = power. Fr. *bandon*, power, authority. The literal meaning is *proclamation*. Cp. Ital. *bando*, Eng. *banns*.
- l. 207. *An bendy bap* = a (piece of) good fortune.
- l. 208. *Icbot* = *icb wot* = I know.
- l. 215. *be* = *bue* = *beo*, she.
- l. 217. *forsake* = refuse.
- l. 218. *feye* = near to die, dead. A.S. *fage*, dying.
- l. 220. At night when I turn (in bed) and watch.
- l. 221. *wonges* = cheeks. A.S. *wang*, jaw, cheek; *wang-tooth*, a grinder, is still used in the North of England.
- l. 227. *may* = A.S. *mæg*, maid; *mægð* (Ger. *magd*) = maid, from *magan*,



to be able; the literal meaning is probably *full-grown*. Cp. A.S. *mæg*, a man.

l. 232. I have yearned of yore, *i. e.* I have long been in great anxiety (distress).

l. 235. *Geynest under gore* = O most lovely one under dress, *i. e.* O thou the loveliest that wearest female apparel. *geyn* = *gain*, elegant, as in *un-gain-ly*. O.N. *gegn*, convenient, suitable; *gegna*: (1) to meet, (2) answer, fit. Sc. *gane*, to suffice.

*gore*, a narrow slip let into a woman's dress; hence the dress itself. O.N. *gára*, to rend (Coleridge). Wedgwood connects *gore* with A.S. *gar*, a spear; Eng. *gore*, to pierce.

l. 236. *roune* = *rune* = song. A.S. *run*, a conversation; O.E. *roune* or *rounde*, one in the ear; Du. *roenen*. Ger. *raunen*, to whisper.

P. 104, l. 242. *sad* = A.S. *sæd*, satisfied.

l. 256. *nuly* = *ne-wul-i* = I will not.

P. 105, l. 273. *Burde* = lady. This is merely another form (by metathesis) of *bride*.

l. 275. *bys* = Fr. *bis*, purple. Lat. *byssus*.

l. 286. *boc* = *book*, scythe.

l. 287. *to fon* = receive. *fon* and *bon* (hang) are common contractions of *fongen* and *bongen*.

l. 292. *Lomen* = tools. A.S. *lōma*, tool, utensil. The weaving-machine being one of the most important pieces of furniture in O.E. houses, the word *loom* received the special meaning which it now has; and from the weaving-machine being handed down from father to son, we have evidently the compound term *beir-loom*, now applied to any valuable hereditary property.

l. 294. *undreb* = out of patience, from *dreben* (*dregen*), to suffer (see l. 453, p. 15).

l. 295. So idle for to (see them) stand.

ll. 296-298. It had so bestead (happened)

That no man them had offered

Their tools to engage. *i. e.* no one had asked their services.

P. 106, l. 305. *alle ant some* = all and together, one and all.

l. 311. *rabt*, pret. of *reche*, tell, reckon, give. A.S. *recau* (pret. *reabt*).

l. 321. *leode* = men, people. A.S. *leōd*, *leōda*, a countryman, a man; *leōde*, people; whence *lewd* = O.E. *lewed*, the laity.

l. 322. This does not mean 'I am not the less to be believed,' but 'I am not to be accounted false.'

*lees* = A.S. *leas*, false.

l. 328. *un-sete* = A.S. *un-sidu*, vice, wickedness; from *sidu*, manner, custom, duty; *side*, modesty.

P. 107, l. 334. *unfete* = not *feat*, not good. *feat* = Fr. *fait*, made, done; from Lat. *facere*; O.Fr. *faire*; whence O.Fr. *faicture*, the making, form, or workmanship of a thing; whence *features*. O.E. *fetise*, well-made, neat; O.Fr. *faictis*. Lat. *facticius*.

l. 344. *ibretetb* = tires (himself with singing); from *ibrete*, A.S. *þreotan*, tire, weary.

l. 350. *rayleib* = puts on (as a garment). A.S. *brægel*, a garment; whence night-rail.

l. 357. *Miles* = maidens (?) A.S. *meowle*, maid, virgin.

- murgetb* = rejoice with, be merry. A.S. *myrg*, pleasure; *murge*, joyful.  
*makes* = mates, companions (a softened form of which we have in *match*).  
 A.S. *macca*, a husband, mate.  
 l. 358. *striketb* = runs, flows, trickles. A.S. *strican*, to go on; whence 'to strike sail.'  
 P. 108, l. 365. Dews moisten the downs.  
*donketb*, from O.E. *donke*, to damp, moisten. Milton uses *dank* (O.E. *donk*), moist. It is probably connected with Du. *donker*. Ger. *dunkel*, dark; Prov. Eng. *danker*, a dark cloud.  
 l. 372. *wunne weole* = this delightful happiness. *wunne* is gen. fem. of *wyn* or *wun*; A.S. *wyn*, joy, delight. *weole* = A.S. *wæla*, wealth, bliss, *weal*.  
 l. 373. *fleme* = banished, exiled. A.S. *fleam*, a flight; *flyman*, to banish.

## XI.

*The Tale of Pers the Usurer.*

- P. 109, l. 4. *nygun* = a niggard. O.N. *nyggia*, to gnaw, rub, scrape; *nuggjen*, stingy. Sw. *njugg*, sparing. The same root is contained in *niggle*.  
 l. 9. *batren* = clothes. O.E. *bater*, clothing; A.S. *bæteru*, clothing; Ger. *bader*, a rag.  
*barme* = bosom, lap. A.S. *bearm*.  
 P. 110, l. 19. *janglede* = *jangling*, chattering. O.Fr. *jangler*, to prattle, tattle, jest, lie. Du. *jangelen*, to yelp.  
 l. 26. *gryl* = sharp, stern. O.E. *gril*, cold, shivering; Du. *grillen*, to shiver, tremble.  
 P. 111, l. 55. *balydom* = *balidom*, reliques of the saints, on which sacred (holy) oaths (dooms) were formerly taken.  
 l. 69. *the to party* = the one side. *to* = *ta* = *tane* = that one, the one.  
 P. 112, l. 96. *peys* = weight. Fr. *poiser*, *peser*, to weigh; from *poids* (Lat. *pondus*), weight; whence to *poise*.  
 l. 103. *Sygbyng* = sighing. O.E. *sigbe* and *sike*; A.S. *sican*, Low. Ger. *sichben*, to sigh; whence *sougb*, Sc. *souch*, the sound of the wind.  
 l. 105. *acouped* = *aculped* = accused, from Lat. *culpa*; whence *culprit* (as if a corruption of *culpatus*, the old Law Latin for an accused person).  
 P. 113, l. 132. *kyrtyl* = A.S. *cyrtel*, Dan. *kjortel*, a garment, either for man or woman.  
*as-smerte* = at once, smartly, quickly. Cp. *as-swybe*, immediately, l. 136.  
 P. 115, l. 198. *manas* = menace. Fr. *menace*; Ital. *minaccia*; Lat. *minæ*, *minacia*, threats.  
 l. 207. *sele* = man. A.S. *sel*, *gesell*, companion.  
 P. 116, l. 247. *brycbe* = humble, low, mean. Du. *brack*, rejected, damaged.  
 P. 117, l. 253. *ouer-skyle* = exceedingly; literally, immoderately. See *skile*, reason, l. 142, p. 23.  
 l. 254. *swele* = to swill, wash. A.S. *swilian*, to wash.  
 l. 265. *foltede* = foolish. Fr. *fol*, foolish. It may be connected with Spanish *falta*, a fault; *faltär*, to fail, be deficient.  
 P. 118, l. 313. *stonte* = *stont* = standeth.  
 P. 119, l. 339. *squyler* = a *swiller* or *scullion*. O.E. *squillary*, scullery; from O.E. *swille* or *squille*, to wash. O.N. *skola*; Dan. *skylle*, to rinse.

## XII.

*De Baptismo.*

P. 122, l. 16. *sithere* = cider. Fr. *cidre*; Lat. *sicera*.

l. 18. This christening one may refuse.

*Tborz* = *theos* = this.

ll. 20, 21. For though it were water first,  
Of water hath it (now) no particle.

l. 22. *fortbe* = froth, scum (of anything). O.N. *froda*, scum; Low Ger. *traiben*, steam, vapour.

l. 25. *Tbazt* = *tba3* = though.

l. 32. In what time falleth in the year.

*falibe* = *falleib*, happeneth.

l. 34. *eue ardaunt* = burning water, brandy.

l. 37. *mitte beste* = with the best.

l. 39. *keschte* is evidently an error for *kest* = casteth.

l. 42. *te-tealte* = overturned, worthless. A.S. *tealtian*, to tilt, shake, be in jeopardy.

P. 123, l. 45. *tbrinne* = *tber-inne*, therein.

ll. 52, 53. For [where]-with to wash is nothing  
That man cometh to so easily.

l. 65. Without diminution and (or ?) increase.

l. 66. *more* (and in l. 78) = *moze* = may.

P. 124, l. 78. *3if* = *gef* = gave.

l. 81. *i-leave* = A.S. *ge-leáf*, permission, leave.

l. 82. *At felle* = *that felle* = that fell, sinned.

l. 83. *Olepi* = *onlepi* = once.

l. 89. *The ned* = *the nede* = (it behoveth) thee of necessity.

l. 92. *love* = *alve* = *balfe* = side, place.

l. 98. *3e* = he. *bis* = is.

P. 125, l. 100. That christeneth one (child) twice.

l. 103. *For-bedetb* = *for-budetb* = *for-bidetb*, conceals.

l. 108. *scheawib quike* = appears alive.

l. 112. *weyeb* = depart. O.E. *weyen*, to go astray; A.S. *wægan*, to deceive, elude. *weyeb* may be an error for *weyveth*, waiveth.

l. 114. *fot* = *fet* = *vet* = *vat*, vessel.

*weweb* = contriveth, makes shift with.

P. 126, l. 140. *i-gistned* = received or entertained as guests. O.E. *gest*, a stranger, *guest*; Goth. *gasts*, a stranger; Welsh *gwest*, lodging, entertainment; Fr. *giste*, lodging. See *gesting*, lodging, l. 71, p. 129.

## XIII.

*Cursor Mundi.*

P. 128, l. 118. *stern* = star. This is a Northern form of the word, corresponding to the Southern English *sterre*; O.N. *stjarna*; Goth. *stairno*, star; Du. *sterren*, to twinkle; O.N. *stirna*, to glitter.

l. 22. *first uncuib* = (for a long) period uncouth, unknown. *first* = A.S. *fyrst*, space of time, period; O.E. *frest*, *furst*, delay.

l. 25. *Amang squilk* = *Amanges quilk*, amongst which (whom).

l. 34. *Desselic* = secretly, closely. A.S. *dýgel*, darkness; *dýgel-lic*, secret, close.

l. 44. *kyd*, pret. of *kytbe*, to shew. A.S. *cýðan*, to make known.

P. 120, l. 51. *fortb-wit* = *for-wit* = before (see l. 127, p. 131). Cp. O.E. *in-wit*, within; *ut-wit*, without, &c.

l. 53. *scrippes* = wallets, scrips. Fris. *skrap*, a pocket; O.N. *skreppa*; Fr. *escarpe*, a wallet, scrip.

l. 60. *trutbes tru* = true thoughts.

l. 63. *leme* = light. A.S. *leōma*, ray of light, flame; *leōman*, to shine, *g-leam*.

l. 66. *can unkyth* = did hide, disappear (see l. 44).

l. 67. *sant drighbtin* = holy lord.

l. 68. *wiperwin* = an enemy, opponent. *wiper* = *wip* = against, in *witb-stand*; *win* = A.S. *win*, war; *winnan*, to contend, struggle.

l. 69. *þof-queþer* = though whether, nevertheless. A.S. *þeab-bwæðere*, yet, moreover, nevertheless.

l. 72. *spird* = enquired. O.E. *spere*, Sc. *speer*, to ask. A.S. *spirian*, to inquire; also to track.

P. 130, l. 87. *þat ful o suik* = that (man) full of treachery.

l. 107. *þat sal be yare* = that shall be quickly (done).

l. 110. *bon* = *bozun* = bound, ready (to start), from *buinn*, pp. of Icel. vb. *bua*, to prepare, set out; whence *bound*, in the expression 'the ship is bound for New York' (see l. 211, p. 133).

P. 131, ll. 131, 132. An ointment (balm) of wonderful bitterness

That (a) dead man's body is anointed with.

*smerl* = A.S. *smérels*, ointment; from *sméru*, fat. Eng. *smear*.

l. 133. *For rotting* = for (preventing) decay.

l. 136. *At ans* = at *anes*, at once.

l. 141. *conrai* = entertainment. The same root is contained in Fr. *conroyer*, to *curry*, dress leather; Fr. *ar-rayer*, to *array*.

*digbt* = set in order, prepare.

l. 150. The fourth a child, much greater than they.

P. 132, l. 168. *þeþing* = scorn. O.N. *báðung*, contempt, scorn.

l. 174. *kyth* = country. A.S. *cýð*, a region.

l. 180. That many innocent (one's) should suffer for it.

l. 181. *sak* = fault, guilt; *saccles*, innocent, guiltless. A.S. *sacan*, to contend; *sacu*, strife, crime.

l. 182. *ta wrake* = take vengeance.

l. 183. *ani slik* = any such. *slik* = *swilk* = *silk*, such; whence (by dropping *l*) Sc. *sic*, such.

P. 133, l. 186. *for-farn*, pp. of *forfare*, to perish, destroy.

ll. 203, 204. There was a great distress of weeping Of those children that were slain. The phrase '*sweem* of mornynge,' *tristicia*, occurs in the Promp. Parv. *quain* = whining, mourning.

*sume* (cp. *swem* in l. 55, p. 3) = trouble, grief.

l. 208. *gest* = *gessed*, *guessed*, thought, decided. Du. *gbiissen*, to reckon, estimate. It may be an error for *gert*, caused.

l. 211. *busk and ga* = get ready and go. *busk* = Icel. *bua*, to prepare; *at buast* (= at *buasc*), contracted from *at bua sig*, signifies 'to bend one's steps.'

l. 216. *wildrin* = wilderness; probably A.S. *wild-debren*, pertaining to wild beasts.

P. 134, l. 229. *cove* = cave, den. Holland translates *in secretis recessibus* by 'in secret *coves* or nooks.' Lat. *cavus*, hollow; Portuguese *cova*, hole, pit.

l. 237. *glopnid* = terrified. Prov. Eng. *glop*, *gloppen*, to stare, feel astonished; O.N. *glápa*, to stare, gape.

l. 247. *ne for-pi* = nevertheless.

l. 251. *barn-site* = child-sorrow, sorrow that a mother feels for her child. *site* = O.N. *sít*, sorrow, sin. See *site*, to sorrow, l. 298, p. 136.

P. 135, l. 259. *dute* perhaps signifies 'to obey.' The Cambridge MS. reads *route* = to advance, march on.

l. 282. *bett* = *bete* = heat.

P. 136, l. 287. *pat wil resun* = that reason demands, *i.e.* that is reasonable.

l. 289. *a wei* = a little (?) but it might signify 'in the way.'

l. 295. Mary, I am surprised at you!

l. 319. *fra mi forward* = from (at) my command.

P. 137, l. 320. *orcherd* = *orchard* = *ort-zerd*. A.S. *wyrt-geard*, from *wyrt* = herb, and *geard* = yard, enclosure.

l. 322. *of a prise* = of one value.

l. 329. *strand* = stream. This is not an uncommon meaning of the word in O.E. writers.

P. 138, l. 373. *o þair knaing* = of their knowing, *i.e.* of their acquaintances.

l. 375. *siquar* = *sibe-quar* = *time-ware*, time, period.

l. 378. *maumet* = idol. The O.Fr. *niabommet*, an idol, *mabumerie*, idolatry, shew the word is borrowed from the name of *Mabomet*. Cp. O.E. *maumetry*, idolatry; *maument*, an idol. It is often confounded with *mammet*, a doll, puppet.

P. 139, l. 400. *bar in bir arme*. The Cambridge MS. reads *bare in barme* (= bosom, breast).

ll. 407, 408. What he does (to) our gods, or may cause to be done, he may do to us if we work (act) not more wisely. It may mean 'what do our gods or may do here that we act the better (for it).'

l. 408. *wrick* should be *wark*; and *wark* in l. 409 should be *wrick* = *wreke*, vengeance; as the Cambridge copy reads *wreche*.

l. 415. *drund* = were drowned. The metre requires *drunkened* (see l. 274, p. 154).

l. 417. *or-guar* = elsewhere, anywhere.

P. 140, l. 423. *bak* = hatchet. Fr. *bacher*, to hack; *bacchette*, a small axe.

l. 427. *yate-ward* = gate-keeper. Cp. *dore-ward*, *bot-ward*, door-keeper, boat-keeper, &c.

l. 436. *our batber slog*[f]b = the steps of us both. *batber*, gen. pl. of *batbe*, both; Cp. *alþer*, of all. *slogtb* = trace, footprints; whence Eng. *slot*, *sleuth*, *sleuth-bound*. O.N. *slöd*, a path, track, way; Prov. Eng. *cart-slood*, cart-rut.

l. 438. *gren*. The Cambridge MS. reads *sene*,

l. 445. *falau* = dry, faded; O.E. *fallewe*, pale. A.S. *fealwe*, pale, yellowish or reddish. Ger. *falb*, pale, faded. Chaucer uses the phrase *bis bewe falewe* = his pale hue.

P. 141, l. 480. *sum* = Dan. *som*, as.

l. 483. *tight* = *digbt*, decided, determined. The Cambridge MS. reads *dist*.

- P. 142, l. 486. *Mikelik* = *mekelik* = meekly.
- l. 497. *utenemes* = *utemest*, most remote, outmost. A.S. *ut-ema*, outermost.
- l. 503. *fel* = *fele* = many.
- l. 509. *scba* = *schaw* = grove, wood. O.N. *skogr*, Dan. *skov*, a wood; O.N. *skuggi*, O. Du. *scbawe*, Sc. *scug*, shade, shelter.
- P. 143, l. 525. *suepel band* = swaddling-band. A.S. *sweðel*. Du. *swadel*, a swathing band.
- l. 526. *suelland* = *squelland* = squealing, crying.
- l. 528. *be* = *egbe* = *ye* = eye.
- P. 144, l. 554. *lam* = loam. A.S. *lam*; Du. *leem*, clay, earth; probably connected with *lime* (O.N. *lim*, glue) and *s-lime*.
- l. 555. *pepins* = *pippins*, pips, seeds. Dan. *pippe*, to shoot, spring forth,
- l. 559. *and pine*. The Cambridge MS. reads *and palme pine*, and in l. 566 it reads *palme* for *pine*.
- l. 561. The Cambridge MS. reads *þe fadir bi cidre sbal þou take*, i. e. by (or in) the cedar thou shalt understand (God) the Father.
- l. 568. *Gain gifes*. The Cambridge MS reads *gode gifis*.
- P. 145, l. 600. *wande*, like the O.E. *3erd*, signifies a branch, *stem*.
- l. 604. *Halmes* (so in MS.) = branches. Eng. *balm*, *baum*, stalk of corn. The Cambridge MS. reads *bolynes*, and if this be a correct reading, *balnes* should be printed *balines* = holiness. The Cambridge MS., in the Midland dialect, however, is not to be always trusted as a true version of the older Northumbrian copy.
- l. 611. *in an* = in one (place). Chaucer employs the phrase 'ever in *oon*' = ever in one state.
- l. 612. Without increase or diminution.

## XIV.

## Sunday Sermons in Verse.

- P. 146, l. 15. *mersuine* = *meer-swine* = sea-hog, porpoise, dolphin. A.S. *mere-swin*. In France the *porpesse* (hog-fish) is known by the name of *marsouin*. O.N. *marsvin*, sea-swine or sea-hog.
- qualle* = whale. The *qu* represents *bw* in the A.S. *bwæl*, a whale, as in *walrus*.
- P. 147, l. 28. *flay* = frighten. The printed copy incorrectly reads *slay*. Harl. MS. 4196 has the reading here given; see l. 281, p. 176, where the word occurs again.
- l. 36. *quek* = *quike* = living.
- l. 39. *at a schift* (like O.E. *at a brayd*) = in a turn, in a twinkling, in a moment.
- P. 148, l. 69. *bird* = it behaved. A.S. *býrian*, to become, behave.
- plibtful* = *plightful*, dangerous. *plibt* is connected with *pledge*. A.S. *plibt* = (1) a pledge, wager; (2) obligation, danger.
- l. 76. *Igain-sawe* = *ogain-sawe* = contradiction, denial.
- l. 83. *enfermer* = the infirmarius of the Abbey.
- P. 149, l. 88. *riuelic*, from *riue*, Eng. *rife*, frequently. Du. *riif*, copious; O.N. *rifr*, liberal; *rifka*, to increase.

l. 89. Supply *and* after *Faithe*.

*lufreden* = good-will, love. The suffix *-reden* = *-red* as in *kin-d-red*, &c.

l. 90. *Fel auntour* = fell adventure, it happened by chance.

l. 95. *telid* = shewed, told.

l. 96. *ful bard* = very afflicted. Cp. the phrase 'to go *bard* with one.'

l. 118. *War scoþe ne bafð ben* = *war-ne scoþe bafð ben* = unless she had been (at hand to help me). *war-ne* = if not, unless; it is sometimes written *warn* = Old Saxon *ne wari*, unless. Fris. *wara*, but. Some have explained *war-ne* by *were it not*, but compare its use in the following passages:—

" For here has na man payn swa strang,  
 Þat he ne has som tyme hope omang,

\* \* \* \* \*

Elles suld þe hert, thurgh sorow and care,  
 Over-tyte fayle, *warn* som hope ware;

And men says, '*warn* hope ware it suld brest.'

HAMPOLE'S *Pricke of Consc.*, ll. 7264-7266.

P. 150, l. 140. *overlop* = omission, from O.E. *ouerlepe*, to leap (skip) over, omit.

l. 143. *mald* = accuse. A.S. *meld*, evidence, proof; *meldian*. Dan. *melde*, to discover, betray.

P. 152, l. 201. *se bare* = sea-waves. *bare*s in l. 204 = flows. The *bore* in a river = *tidal wave*.

l. 214. And (the) harm (scathe) that the less (poor men) suffer on account of the more (greater).

P. 153, l. 222. *wandreitb* = peril. O.N. *vandrædi*, danger, difficulty.

l. 240. *nite* = refuse; perhaps from A.S. *nytan*, not to know.

P. 154, l. 257. *bisend* = betokened. A.S. *bysen*, example, resemblance: *bysenian*, to give an example. See l. 259, where *biseninges* = tokens.

l. 277. *wattri*, an error for *attri*, poisonous.

P. 155, l. 287. *corsing* = dealing (as a broker); from O.Fr. *couracier*, a broker, dealer; whence 'horse-courser.'

l. 318. *will of wan* = destitute of dwelling, homeless. O.E. *wille*, to go astray; *wan* = *wane* = dwelling.

l. 319. *pok no sek* = poke (bag) nor sack.

P. 156, l. 342. *arskes* = water-newts. Prov. Eng. *ask*, a lizard; A.S. *apexe*, a lizard. Garnet says that *ask* is probably connected with Gaelic *easg*, eel, the first element in *apexe* (Ger. *eidechse*), a lizard, newt, signifying prickly, sharp. See note on *bedge-bog*, *urchin*, l. 294, p. 91.

l. 345. *rage* = madness. Lat. *rabies*, rage, madness. Sicilian *raggia*. Fr. *rage*; Portug. *raivar*, to rage, *rave*.

l. 348. *in a ras* = in a great hurry. *ras* = A.S. *ræs*. O.E. *res*. O.N. *rás*, race, rush, force; *ræse* or *race* = tidal currents, as the *Race* of Alderney.

P. 157, l. 358. Nor give thou of thyself any account, *i. e.* take no thought of thyself.

l. 364. *seli radde* = dreadfully (wonderfully) afraid. *seli* = A.S. *sellic*, wonderful; *sellice*, wonderfully; from *seld*, seldom, rarely. Cp. O.E. *selcouth*, seldom known, wonderful.

l. 386. *riped* = searched. O.E. *ripe*, to try, search; A.S. *ripan*, to cut; whence *reap*, *rip*, &c.

P. 158, l. 393. *fertered* = enshrined. O.Fr. *fertre*, a shrine.

## XV.

## Sermon on Matthew xxiv. 43.

To this Sermon in Arundel MS. 57, there is the following marginal note:—  
*Vor to ssake away heuiness / and drede: and bys wende / into love of God.*  
 For to shake away heaviness and dread, and turn it (her, i. e. dread) into the love of God.

Note.—*ea, ie* = *e*; *v* = *f*; *z* = *s*.

P. 159, l. 1. *þellyche* = this. *þellyche* = A.S. *þyllic*, *þylc* (*þý*, the; *lic*, like), the like, such. O.E. *thilke*, *thulke*, this.

l. 2. *uorbysne* = A.S. *forebysen*, example (see *bysend*, l. 257, p. 154).

l. 5. *dolue* = should undermine, dig through, from *delve* (pret. *dalf*), to dig. *þolye* = to suffer, endure; A.S. *þólian*.

l. 6. *wyl of skele* = the will of reason.

l. 7. *besteriinge* = bestirrings, emotions.

ll. 8–10. Such a household shall be too (much) slack (slothful) and wilful, unless the same father's stiffness (strength) restrain and order them (aright).

l. 12. *inwytt* = inner wit, inner sense, conscience.

P. 160, ll. 1–3. For which treasure, that this same house be not broken through, chiefly he watcheth.

l. 4. *þayles* = nevertheless.

l. 5. *kachereles* = catchpolls, servants. The O.E. *cacbe*, catch, signifies to drive away.

l. 6. *onlosti* = un-lusty, careless, idle, literally unwilling; from A.S. *lust*, *lyst*, pleasure, desire.

l. 9. *uorlete* = A.S. *for-lætan*, to forgo, relinquish.

*wylny* = A.S. *wilnian*, to desire; *wiln*, a wish.

l. 10. *bessette* = to be-shut, to shut out.

ll. 11–13. Next that, he setteth strength; that strength should withdraw the fiends whom sleight (prudence) commands (sends to say) to be cast out, that is, foul lusts should be withdrawn (abstained from) and reprov'd.

l. 21. *ysoze* = *ysagen* = seen.

l. 22. *þe;liche clom* = a profound silence. Chaucer uses *clom* as an interjection = hush! It is evidently connected with Prov. Eng. *clam*, *clom*, to pinch, starve. A.S. *clam*, bond; Du. *klemmen*, to pinch, compress.

ll. 24, 25. *ich do you to wytene* = I assure you, literally I do (cause) you to wit (know). *wytene* is the gerundial infinitive (see *to comene*, come, l. 27).

l. 27. *abyt nazt* = abideth not, delayeth not.

l. 32. *chaynen auere* = chains on fire, fiery chains.

l. 34. *and bise brengēþ* = and (they) bringeth them. *bise*, (acc.) them.

P. 161, l. 6. *comste* = *comestu* = comest thou.

l. 7. *yzze þe* = sawest thou; *þe* = thou thyself.

l. 9. *Vol of brene on-þolyinde* = full of intolerable burning (see *þolye*, l. 5, p. 159).

l. 12. *wantrokiyngē* = default, want. *wan-* = *un*, as in *wan-þope*, despair, here used intensively; *-trokiyngē*, want; A.S. *trucan*, to fail, abate; whence *truckle*.



- l. 17. *buoþe* = *boþe* = both (are).  
 l. 27. *y-byreþ* = *byereþ* = hear.  
*yeueþ youre* = *yeueþ yeare* = give ear, listen.  
**P. 162**, l. 1. *bauberck*. O.Fr. *bauberc*; O.H.Ger. *bals-berc*; A.S. *beals-beorg*, coat of mail, *babergeon* (*beals*, neck; *beorgan*, to cover).  
 l. 10. *bit þingþ þet*, &c. = it seems that, &c.  
 l. 11, *be cas* = perchance.  
 l. 19. *longe godes drede* = on account of the fear of God. *longe* = *ilong* = along of. A.S. *gelang*, owing to; *gelingan*, to happen. Chaucer uses '*long on*,' on account of. Shakespeare has '*long of*,' *Cymbeline*. v. 5.  
 l. 26. *sseawere* = shower, mirror; *ssede*, *sbade*, shadow. The phrase *ac be*, &c. = but by (as in) a glass darkly.  
 l. 27. *onspekynde* = un-speaking, ineffable.  
*on-todelinde* = *un-to-deal-ing*, indivisible.  
 l. 30. *y-þorsse* = *þrasbed*, struck (dazzled, blinded). A.S. *þerscan* (pret. *þarsc*, pp. *geþorscen*), to *þresb*, beat.  
 l. 33. *half* = side, part.  
**P. 163**, l. 1. *ssepþes* = forms. A.S. *sceppan*, to form, shape.  
 l. 5. *zodes* may be for *zones* = of the Son, or for *godes* = of God.  
 l. 9. *an-bejed* = *an-bigb-ed* = exalted. The *an-* is the same prefix as in *anbanged*.  
 l. 16. *blefþ* = endures. The context seems to require *bleue* = *bleuen* = *bi-leuen*, to endure, continue, last.  
 l. 17. *berynges* = praises, honours. O.E. *bery*, A.S. *bérian*, to praise, honour (see l. 23, p. 164).  
 l. 24. *alle preste* = all the proudest, highest; *preste* = *preteste* = proudest. A.S. *pryt*, *prut*, pride.  
**P. 164**, l. 6. *buyter* qualifies *cloþinge* in l. 7.  
 l. 7. *nessbede* = tenderness, delicateness. A.S. *hnæsc*, tender, soft, *nesb*, *nasty* (= O.E. *nasky*).  
 l. 16. *lbest* = *ble:t* = listeneth.  
*Hyt lykeþ þet þou zayst* = What thou sayest pleaseth (us).  
 l. 19. *menesse* = communion, fellowship. A.S. *ge-mæne*, communion; *ge-mænnes*, fellowship. The *ge* (= Lat. *con*) = Gothic *ga*, an older form of which is seen in Ger. *gan-z*, all.  
 l. 26. *be lyue* = *þe lyue* (?) = the life.  
**P. 165**, l. 3. *onzyginde* = un-see-ing, invisible.  
 l. 11. *gessynge* = *lessynge* = diminution. *gessynge*, if correct, would signify deeming, thought.  
 ll. 30, 31. *and oþre* = et cetera.

## XVI.

*The Pricke of Conscience.*

**P. 166**, l. 15. *Als-tite* = as-soon, immediately. *tite*, soon, is connected with *tide*, time.

l. 27. *forme-fader* = first father, forefather. *forme* = A.S. *frum*, first; *frym*, original. It is of course connected with *former*.

**P. 169**, l. 47. *sembland*, sometimes written *semblant* = appearance.

*pure* = *pouer* = poor.

- l. 56. *fon* = *few* (see ll. 158, 159). The *n* represents *e* in A.S. *feaw-e*, *few*.  
 P. 170, l. 96. *by skille* = with reason, rightly.
- l. 105. *Angers* = troubles, grievances. Lat. *angere*, to strain; *angor*, anguish, vexation.  
*yvels* = evils, diseases, *ills*.  
*appayre* = impair. Fr. *piré*, Lat. *pejor*, worse.
- P. 171, l. 111. *tyns* = loses. O.N. *týna*, to lose; A.S. *tebn*, loss.
- l. 114. *jaunys* = jaundice. Fr. *jaunisse*; from *jaune*, yellow.  
 P. 172, l. 150. *beld* = *eld* = age.
- l. 165. *dysy* = dizzy. A.S. *dýs-ig*, foolish, erring. O.E. *dizze*, to stun.
- l. 167. *rouncles* = wrinkles. Sc. *runkle*, a wrinkle. Ger. *runzel*, Sw. *rynka*, A.S. *wrinclian*, to wrinkle. The root *rinc* or *runc* = crooked, bent, appears in *ring*. O.N. *bringr*, a circle; Dan. *krinkel*, crooked; Eng. *crinkle*, *crumple* (Sc. *crunkle*), *crimp*, *crank*, *sbrink* (A.S. *scrincan*, Sw. *skyrnka*).
- l. 168. *His mynde es sbort* = His memory is short.
- l. 169. *band* = *and* = breath. O.N. *andú*, breath.
- P. 173, l. 174. *for-worþes* = come to nothing. A.S. *for-weorþan*, to become nothing, be undone, perish.
- l. 175. *moutes* = falls off, *moult*. Du. *muiten*, to moult.
- l. 178. *slavers* = slobbers, drivels. O.N. *slafra*, to lick; *slefa*, *slaver*, drivel; whence *slow-worm* (Norse *sleva*).
- l. 182. *soucbes* = suspects. O. Fr. *soucher*, to suspect, be suspicious.
- l. 184. *bard baldand* = hard-holding, i. e. close-fisted, stingy.
- l. 187. *latsom*: not *late-some*, but *wlatsom* = loath, irksome. A.S. *wlætian*, *wlatian*, to loathe, irk.  
*slaw* = A.S. *slaw*, slow, idle, lazy. Du. *slee*, blunt; O.N. *sliofr*, Dan. *sløv*, blunt, dull; whence *sloib*, *sleeueless* (as in sleeveless errand, late), which last should be written *sleeve*; *sloe* (so called because of its rough flavour).
- l. 191. *lakes* = blames. O.E. *lac*, fault, defect, *lack*; Du. *lack*, want; Sw. *lak*, vice, fault.
- P. 174, l. 205. *cover agayn* = *agayn cover* = recover.
- P. 175, l. 242. *worow* = to strangle. Sc. *worry*, to strangle, choke; Ger. *würgen*. Eng. *worry*. Dogs that *worry* sheep seize them by the throat.
- l. 243. *rogg*. Sc. *rug*, to tear in pieces. Norse *rugga*, to shake, rock; whence *rug*, *rugged*.
- P. 176, l. 290. *lates about-ga* = causes to revolve.
- P. 177, l. 312. *a* = *ane* = one. Cp. *to* = *ta* = *tane*, the one (l. 69, p. 111).
- P. 178, l. 337. *domland* = dark, cloudy, is formed from a verb *domle* or *dromle*, to be disturbed, with which we may compare Prov. E. *droumy*, dirty; *drumly*, muddy; *drumble*, to be disturbed, confused (Shaks. "Look how you *drumble*.") Sc. *drum*, dull.
- l. 353. *or-litel* = *ouer little* = very little.
- l. 354. *bigg* seems here to mean 'well furnished.' A.S. *byggan*, to build, inhabit. O. Sw. *bygga*, to prepare, build. In the North of England *bug*, or *big*, signifies swollen, elated, as if connected with *bulge*. Dan. *bugne*, to bend, bulge.
- l. 363. *Now eese us a thyng* = Now to us a thing is pleasant:
- P. 179, l. 370. *dede stoure* = death-struggle, the agony of death. O.N. *stúra*, sorrow, disturbance. Du. *stuer*, fierce. O. Sc. *stour*, battle, conflict, Sc. *stourne*, *stern*.
- P. 180, l. 402. *dede band* = death's hand.

l. 427. *titte* = tug, pull. O.E. *tytte*, to pull suddenly. A.S. *tibtan*, 'to draw, *tigtien*.

P. 181, l. 429. *ilka synogbe and lith* = each sinew and joint. A.S. *litb*, Ger. *g-lieb*, a limb, joint. Norse *lide*, to bend the limbs; whence *litby*, *litbe*, (pliable), *lithesome*, *lissome* (active, pliant).

l. 451. *raumpe* = ramp, stamp with the feet. Ital. *rampare*, to ramp, clamber; whence *romp*, *rampage*, &c.

*skoul* = scowl. Dan. *skule*, to cast down the eyes. Prov. Eng. *skelly*. Dan. *skele*.

*stare* = O.N. *star*, sight, look; *stara*, to gaze, stare.

l. 452. *blere* = to put out the tongue, to make grimaces, wry mouths. It is probably connected with Du. *blaeren*, to roar, *blare*.

P. 182, l. 479. *fil'd* = defiled; *filand*, defiling (l. 495, p. 183). A.S. *fylian*, Du. *vuylen*, to make foul or filthy; whence O.E. *file*, a vile wretch.

P. 183, l. 497. *slotered* = bespattered. Prov. Ger. *schlott*, mud; *schlüten*, to dabble in the wet and dirt. Prov. Eng. *slotch*, a sloven; *slutch*, mud. With these words are connected *slut*, Dan. *slatte*; Ger. *scllottern*, to dangle, wabble.

## XVII.

### Political Songs.

P. 185, l. 29. *frith and fen* = forest and marsh. Gael. *frith*, a heath, deer-park, forest. Prov. Eng. *frith*, unused pasture land, brushwood.

P. 186, l. 64. *laykes lett* = spoilt their sport. *layke* = A.S. *lac*, sport, lark.

P. 187, l. 83. *boved* = remained. Prov. Eng. *bove* = to float on the water, remain in a place; whence *bov-er*. Welsh *bofian*, to fluctuate, suspend, hang over.

l. 93. *wane* = quantity. Some etymologists connected it with *won* or *wan* the preterite of O.E. *wynne*, to win, but others make it equivalent to A.S. *hwon*, *quid*, *pauullulum*; comparing it with Lat. *quid*, *quanti*, *quot*, &c.

P. 189, l. 141. *japes* = boasts. Fr. *japper*, to yelp. *jape* is a softened form of the root *gab*; O.E. *gabbe*, to lie, deceive.

P. 190, l. 166. *ascry* = Sw. *anskri*, outcry, alarm.

l. 180. *frek* = bold, daring. A.S. *frec*, bold, daring; whence *freca*, a bold one. O.E. *freke*, a man, knight.

l. 183. Then availed him no glee.

P. 191, l. 197. *feld*. Mr. Wright alters this to *ferd*, frightened, but *feld* = hidden. Prov. Eng. *feel*, to hide.

l. 206. *nakers* = kind of kettle-drums.

l. 208. *alblast* = O.E. *arblast*, a cross-bow. Lat. *arcubalista*.

P. 193, l. 270. *pencelle* = pennon, banner. Fr. *pencil*. Lat. *penna*.

l. 272. *graytbest gate* = the most direct (nearest) way.

P. 194, l. 282. *dubbed*, from O.E. *dub*, to arrange, prepare, decorate. O. Fr. *addouber*, to dress, arm at all points; Fr. *douber*, to rig or trim a ship.

l. 294. *o-ferrum* = afar. Cp. *wbil-om*, O.E. *quil-um* or *um-quile*, awhile, formerly. The *-um* is the A.S. *ymbe*, about. Cp. O.E. *umgang*, circuit; *um-set* (l. 324). Trench quotes *um-stroke* = circumference, from Fuller.

l. 303. *ine* = *egben* = eyes.

P. 195, l. 330. *cant* = crafty. O. Fr. *coint*, Prov. Fr. *conte*, neat, fine, pretty.

## XVIII.

*The Voiage and Travaile of Sir John Maundeville.*

P. 198, l. 23. *cbeventeyn* = chieftain. Fr. *chef*, from Lat. *caput*, the head.

P. 204, l. 8. *avaled* = descended. Fr. *à val*, downwards; *à mont et à val*, towards the hill and towards the vale, upwards and downwards. 'To vail his flag' = 'To lower his flag.' 'vailed lids,' Hamlet.

## XIX.

*Alliterative Poems. The Deluge.*

P. 207, l. 1. *wy3e3* = men. A.S. *wig-a*, a warrior; from *wig*, war.

l. 2. *faut* = fault. Fr. *faute*; Sp. *falta*, defect, offence, failing; from Lat. *fallere*.

l. 6. *for-gart* = lost. It literally signifies *for-did*, ruined; from O.E. *gar*, *ger*, to do, cause, make (see l. 396, p. 158).

l. 7. *eggyng* = instigation. O.N. *egg*, an edge; *eggja*, to sharpen, instigate.

l. 9. *defence* = prohibition. O.E. *defend*; Fr. *defendre*, prohibit, forbid; whence *fend*, *fender*, *fence*.

l. 10. *payne* = penalty. Fr. *peine*. Lat. *pœna*.

*perily* = *aperily* = openly, plainly.

l. 12. *drepe3* = destroys. A.S. *drepan*, to strike, hew, wound.

l. 15. *for-þrast* = overwhelmed; from *þreste*, *þruste*. A.S. *þræstian*, to rack, twist, torture.

P. 208, l. 16. *mawgre* = displeasure. Fr. *mal*, ill, *gré*, will, pleasure.

l. 21. *stytest* may be written for *styfest* = sturdiest, boldest; or for *stythest*, strongest, most stubborn. A.S. *styð*, firm.

l. 25. *gayn* = suitable, good. Sc. *gane*, to suffice, be fit. O.N. *gegn*, convenient.

l. 26. *boute* = without. Cp. O.E. *binne*, *within*; *buve*, above.

l. 29. *loke to kynde* = keep to nature, *i. e.* observe the laws of nature.

l. 37. *on folken wise* = after the manner of men.

l. 44. *in monge3* = among. Cp. O.E. *in-middes*, amidst.

l. 48. *forloyned* = gone astray, departed; from Fr. *loin*, far, which we have in *pur-loin*, O.Fr. *purloigner*.

P. 209, l. 50. *werp* = to throw out, to utter, speak.

l. 54. *burne* = man. A.S. *beorn*, warrior, chief.

l. 63. *in-nogbe knawen* = enough (well)-known.

l. 67. *nwy* = anger; *nwyed*, grieved (l. 72). Ital. *annoiare*; Fr. *ennuyer*, to vex, annoy, grieve.

l. 72. *gore* = sin, but literally vileness, filthiness. A.S. *g6r*, dirt, mud. Cp. Eng. *gorbelly*, *gorcrow*.

*glette* = wickedness, but literally filth, dirt. Prov. Eng. *glut*, Fr. *glette*, slime. O.N. *glæta*, wet.

l. 78. *cleme* = to daub or plaster with mud or clay. A.S. *clem. clam*: (1) mud, clay; (2) a bandage, fold; (3) prison. Du. *klemmen*, to pinch; *klampen*, to hook together. The root still exists in *clammy*, *clomp*, *clumsy*. (O.E. *clommed*, *clommed*.) Cp. Prov. Eng. *clame*, to stick or glue; *clam*, *clem*, to pinch (with hunger), starve.

P. 210, l. 84. *vpon* is written for *opon* or *open*.

l. 85. *sware* = *square* = square.

l. 86. *dutande* = shutting; from *dute* = A.S. *dyttan*, to shut up, close, *dit*. Shakespeare uses *dicb*, another form of *dit*, "Much good *dicb* (fill) thy good heart, *Apemantes*."—(Timon of Athens).

l. 97. *meyny of azte* = household (family) of eight.

l. 101. *borwed* = unclean. A.S. *bóru*, *bóruwa*, filth, dirt.

l. 103. *bo-beste3* = she-beasts; *bo* = *beo* = she.

l. 105. *frette* = furnish. A.S. *frætwu*, *frætu*, finery, treasure; *frætewian*, to trim, adorn. Drayton uses *fret*, in the sense of an ornamental border, lace.

l. 109. *fettled* = set in order, fully prepared. Wedgwood says "the fundamental idea perhaps is that of binding up, binding together; from A.S. *fetel*, a girdle, Sw. *faetill*, a girdle, band (Ger. *fessel*, a thong; from *fassen*, to hold)."

l. 114. *as þou me wyt lance3* = as thou givest me instruction, as thou directest me.

P. 211, l. 116. *þrep* = gainsaying, contradiction; *witb outen þrep*, answers to our expression 'without more words,' or 'without more ado.'

l. 118. *steke* = to shut up, fasten. A.S. *sticca*, a stick, stake; *sticcian*: (1) to stick, pierce; (2) to stick, adhere, cleave to. Du. *steken*, to stick, stick fast. Sc. *steek*, to shut. O.N. *stika*, to dam. The pret. *stac*, closed up, occurs in l. 205, p. 213.

*seyed* = passed, from O.E. *sweye*, to go, turn, *sway* (see l. 185, p. 213; l. 321, p. 217).

l. 120. *rowtande ryge* = a rushing shower. *rowtande*, may signify roaring; from O.E. *route*, to roar, howl; O.N. *briota*, to grunt, snore. The rendering *rusbing*, connects *rowtande* with *rout*, a gang, and *rout*, a discomfiture; Fr. *route*, from Lat. *rupta*, a division.

*ryge* = shower. A.S. *reb*, deluge, which seems to be connected with *regen* (by loss of *g*) = rain. Goth. *riqn*.

ll. 123-126. Except you eight in this ark stowed [placed], And seed that I will save of these various beasts. Now Noah never ceases (that night he begins) Ere all were stowed and enclosed, as the command required.

l. 128. *wbicbebe*, an old and genuine form of *butcb* = A.S. *bwæcce*, a chest, bin. Cp. Fr. *buche*, chest; Du. *bok*, a pen; Norse *bokk*, a small apartment.

l. 130. *Waltes* = wells, flows. A.S. *weallan*, *wyllan*, to spring up, boil, flow; *wealtian*, to roll; *well*, A.S. *wyl*, is from the same root. Cp. *wallebeued* = well-head, source, spring (l. 130); *ouer-waltes3*, overwhelms (l. 136).

ll. 131, 132. There was no stream that did not quickly outburst;

The great flowing deep to the sky was raised.

*lauande* = flowing (rapidly). The A.S. *lafian*, signifies to sprinkle water; whence to *lave*. A cognate element is found in *laundry*. Sp. *lavanderia*; *laundress*; Fr. *lavandière*; Ital. *lavare*, to wash.

*logbe* = A.S. *lagu*, water, sea, lake.

l. 135. *Fon* is the preterite of the old verb *fyne*, to come to an end, to cease, finish.

- l. 141. *wylger* = more wildly, more fiercely.
- l. 145. *brentest* = highest, steepest. O.E. *brent*, high, steep, is connected with Dan. *bryn*, edge, eminence; Welsh *bryn*, a hill.
- l. 146. *A* is an error for *and*.  
*beterly* (= quickly, hastily) is connected with A.S. *bête*, hate; *bétel*, fierce; *bettan*, to pursue, drive. Cp. N. Prov. Eng. *better*, eager, earnest.
- l. 146. [*b*]aled = rushed. Fr. *baler*, to *bale*, *baul*, tow. Ger. *bolen*, to fetch, drag.
- l. 148. *raykande* = rushing, from O.E. *rayke*, N. Prov. Eng. *rake*, O.N. *reka*, to go.
- P. 212, ll. 149, 150. Ere each valley was brim-full to the edges (tops) of the hills, And every valley as deep that overflowed at the brinks.  
*brurd-fül* = full to the brim. A.S. *brerd*, *breord*, margin, rim, bank; *brord*, point, blade or spire of grass.
- l. 154. Some swam thereon that believed (trowed) themselves safe.
- l. 156. *rurd* = cry. A.S. *reord*, speech, language.
- l. 157. *byse* = high grounds, heights.
- l. 158. *bysed* = hastened, hied. A.S. *bigan*, to hasten; *bige*, diligent. Du. *biigben*, Dan. *bige*, to pant.
- l. 160. *Re-couerer of þe creator* may signify 'recovery (safety) of the Creator,' or 'Saviour of the creature.'
- l. 161. *mase* = *mese* = *meþe*, moderation, pity, compassion.
- l. 167. Friend looks to friend and his leave takes.  
*luf* = *lef* = dear, beloved (one).
- l. 172. *burkled* = rested, settled. Prov. Eng. *burkle*, to squat; *burcb*, to cuddle. Eng. *ruck*; Low Du. *burken*, to squat down.
- l. 173. *mourkne* = to rot. O.N. *morkinn*, rotten; *morkna*, to rot. O.E. *morkin*, a wild beast found dead, carrion.
- P. 213, l. 183. *myke* = Du. *mik*, the crutches of a boat, which sustain the main boom or the mast and sail when they are lowered for the convenience of rowing.
- l. 185. *Hurrok* = oar. Dan. *rykke*, to draw. Prov. Eng. *orruck-boles*, oar-drawing holes. Eng. *rullocks*.
- l. 187. *flyt* = motion, is connected with Eng. *flit*, *flutter*, *flutter*.
- l. 190. *Nyf* = *ne* + *if* = if not.  
*lumpen* = befallen. A.S. *limþan* (pret. *lomþ*), to happen, concern.
- l. 191. *a lel date* = a true date (period); *lel* = *leal*, *loyal*.
- l. 199. *rosly* = roughly. It seems to be an error, however, for *rewly*, sad, sorrowful.
- l. 200. *ioyst* = rejoiced, happy, joyful.
- l. 204. *lasned* = became less; from O.E. *lasse*, less.
- l. 205. *stangez* = pools, wells. Lat. *stagnum*, a standing water. O.Fr. *estang*, a pond.
- l. 206. Bid leave off the rain, it abated at once.
- l. 212. *rasse* = eminence, is still used in the North of England for a mound, hill-top, and is an affix in local names. N. Prov. Eng. *raise*, O.N. *reysa*.
- P. 214, l. 215, *kyste* = chest, ark.
- l. 235. *doune* = *dovne* = *dovene* = a female dove (see l. 247, p. 215). Cp. *vixen*, a female fox; O.E. *wolvene*, a female wolf.
- P. 215, l. 249. *skyrmez* = looks about, seems to be another form of the

North Prov. Eng. *skime*, to look aside. O.N. *skima*, to glance around; *skima*, a glimpse; A.S. *sciman*, to glitter; Eng. *shimmer*.

l. 257. *Iumpred* = *jumpre* = trouble. Cp. O.E. *jumbre*, *jumpre*, to shake together, agitate.

† l. 264: *tolke* = person, here refers to God. It literally signifies an ambassador. O.N. *túlkr*, an interpreter; *túlka*, to interpret.

l. 265. *glam* = word. Sw. *glamma*, to chatter, talk; *glam*, talk. Cp. O.N. *glam*, clash, clangour; Sc. *glamer*, noise.

l. 270. *þrublande* = urging onwards. O.E. *þroble*, to press on.

P. 216, l. 293. *rengne33e* = *rengne3* = courses. A.S. *bring*, a ring, circuit.

l. 295. Then was a design manifested when escaped all the wild (animals).

*skyllly* = *skylle* = reason, design, *skill*. *skyualde* seems to be another form of *skifte*, ordained; A.S. *scyftan*, to order, appoint.

l. 301. *gorste3* = places overgrown with furze, or *gorse*. Welsh *gores*, *gorest*, waste, open. Prov. Eng. *gorsty*, overgrown with furze.

### *Destruction of Sodom.*

P. 217, l. 315. *flytande* = chiding, roaring. A.S. *flitan*, to scold, quarrel.

l. 318. *ridlande* = pouring. O.N. *reda*, to tremble, shake. Du. *riideren*, to shiver. Ger. *rütteln*, to shake, sift, *riddle*.

l. 334. *Rydelles* = *redeles* = without advice, uncertain what to do.

l. 336. *3omerly* = A.S. *geomorlic*, doleful, sorrowful; *geomor*, sad, grim; from *geomrian*, to grieve, groan.

*3arm* = Welsh *garm*, shout, outcry. *garmio*, to set up a cry.

l. 338. *ro3un of a recbe* = a cloud of smoke; *recbe*, *reke*, vapour, smoke, *reek* (A.S. *rec*, smoke), *reeking*.

l. 339. *vselle3* = ashes. A.S. *ysela*, *ysla*, spark, hot ashes.

P. 218, l. 340. *flot* = boiling fat. O.N. *flot*, grease swimming on the surface of broth. Low Ger. *flot*, cream. The same root is contained in *fleet*, *flood*, &c.

l. 341. *bet* = kindled; from O.E. *bete*, to make up the fire.

l. 346. *blubrande* = bubbling, boiling up. Cp. Prov. Eng. *blob*, *blab*, a bubble, drop; *blubber*, to bubble, foam. Chaucer uses *blubber* in the sense of *bubble*.

l. 358. *scalke* = man. A.S. *sceale*, a servant, soldier, man; *marshal* (Mid. Lat. *marescalcus*), is from the O.H.Ger. *mäbre* (Eng. *mare*), horse, and *scalk*, a servant. Cp. Fr. *marechal*, a blacksmith; *seneschal* (Mid. Lat. *siniscalcus*, *famulorum senior*, the steward) is from Goth. *sineigs*, old (superl. *sinista*), and *skalks*, a servant.

l. 353. *coste3 of kynde* = the properties of nature, natural properties (see l. 9, p. 19).

l. 359. *bropley* = filthy, nasty, vile; from O.E. *bratbe*, *brotbe*, fierce, rough, bad, abominable. O.N. *brædi*, anger.

l. 367. The bituminous (sticky) asphalt that spice-mongers sell.

l. 370. *terne* = lake, *tarn*. O.N. *tjörn*.

## XX.

*Sir Gawayne and the Green Knight.*

P. 220, l. 2. *brittene*d = destroyed. A.S. *brytan*, to break; *bryttian*, to crumble; *brytta*, a fragment; *brytlic*, broken in pieces; whence Eng. *brittle*.

l. 8. *Pro* = from the time that.

l. 9. *bobbaunce* = pride, boasting. Fr. *bobance*.

l. 19. *skete* = O.N. *skjótt*, quickly.

P. 221, l. 27. *I attle schawe* = I will endeavour to shew. *attle* (Sc. *ettle*), to endeavour; N. Prov. Eng. *ettle*, *attle*; O.N. *aetta*, to intend.

l. 29. *outrage aventure* = an extraordinary adventure.

l. 43. *kayre* = to go, literally to turn one's steps to a place. A.S. *cérran*, Ger. *kebren*.

l. 49. *as leuest hem þoʒt* = as seemed best to them.

P. 222, l. 60. *ʒep* = quick. A.S. *gæp*, crafty.

l. 61. *douth* = *doube* = the noble, doughty one (see l. 365, p. 50).

l. 65. Christmas celebrated anew, proclaimed full often. *Nayte* = O.N. *neyta*, to use, employ.

l. 66. *bonde-selle* = gifts. It is still preserved in *bansel*, an earnest, something given or done to make good a contract. A.S. *bond*, hand, and *sellan*, to give, bestow.

P. 223, l. 99. *fulsun* = A.S. *fulestan*, *fylstan*, to aid, favour; *fylst*, help.

l. 104. *stiztle* = to direct, rule, set in order. A.S. *stibtan*, to govern, dispose; whence O.E. *stickler*, umpire; *stickle* for, to maintain one's right.

P. 224, l. 129. *lote* = sound. Sw. *låte*, cry, voice; *låt*, sound; *låta*, to sound.

l. 140. *etayn* = A.S. *ebtan*, a giant.

l. 142. *in his muckel* = in his *muckness* or greatness of size.

P. 225, l. 165. *tor* = tedious, difficult. O.N. *tor* (used as a prefix), difficulty, trouble.

l. 173. *ferkkes* = rides. It is connected with *firk*, a sudden movement, jerk. A.S. *frician* (whence the O.E. *firke*), to dance.

P. 226, l. 181. *fax* = hair. A.S. *feax*.

l. 188. *cemmed* = bent, knotted. O.E. *cam*, *camous*, crooked, curved. Bret. *kamm*, crooked. Fr. *cambrer*, to bow, crook; whence *cambering*, *cabrel*.

l. 194. *þwarle knot* = a garland. A.S. *þwæl*, ribbon, garland.

P. 227, l. 206. *bolyn bobbe* = a branch of holly.

l. 216. *gracons* = gracious, pleasing, beautiful; *gracons* may signify Grecian.

l. 222. *dut be no woþe* = he feared no harm; *dut* = *dutte*, *doubted*, feared.

l. 230. *stemmed* = stood still. O.N. *stemma*, to stop, dam. Other forms of the root are seen in *stammer* = A.S. *stamer*, stammering; O.N. *stama*, to stammer; Sc. *stammer*, to stagger; O.E. *stamber*, to stumble.

P. 228, l. 234. *swogbe* = (1) swooning, (2) dead, deep.



ll. 244, 245. As all were fallen asleep, so ceased their words in hie (suddenly).

P. 229, l. 267. *founded in fere* = come in company.

l. 290. *bur* = blow. O.E. *bire*, violence, force, rush. Welsh *bur*, violence, rage.

l. 294. *flet* = floor. A.S. *flett*, a room, palace.

l. 295. *diȝt me dom* = give me permission.

l. 296. *barlay* = by our lady.

P. 230, l. 304. *runisch-ly* = fiercely. O.E. *runisch*, strange, uncouth, fierce; A.S. *rún*, mystery (see l. 457, p. 235).

l. 305. *bresed broȝez* = bristly (shaggy) brows.

l. 310. *rous* = *ros* = renown, praise. Sc. *ruse*, Dan. *rose*, to praise.

l. 312. *gryndel-layk* = valour, boldness, literally fierceness, anger; from O.E. *gryndel*, angry, Norse *grina*, to wry the mouth, *grin*; *grinale*, sour-looking. *-layk* is the Norse form corresponding to the A.S. *-lac*, in *knowledge*, *wedlock*.

P. 231, l. 327. *bayben þy bone* = grant thy request.

P. 233, l. 412. *bot slokes* = but stay, stop talking; *sloke* = Eng. *slake*.

l. 418. *lut* = *lout* = inclination, stooping (see l. 20, p. 2).

P. 234, l. 420. *note* = tool, weapon (see l. 51, p. 21).

l. 424. *schyndered* = shivered, splintered. Prov. Eng. *sbinder* = to shiver to pieces. Our word *skin*, seems originally to have signified a *splinter*. Cp. *skin-bone*. Ger. *schien Bein*; from *schiene*, a splint.

ll. 438, 439, *þaz bedlez nowe in stedde* = though headless now on steed, or though headless he were on steed.

l. 440. *bluk* = *bulk*. O.E. *bouk*, body; *bluk* may be an error for *blunk* = *blonk*, horse.

l. 443. By the time his reasons (conduct) were explained.

P. 235, l. 459. *fole boues* = the hoofs of the foal, his horse's hoofs.

## XXI.

### *The Romance of William and the Werwolf.*

P. 237, l. 4. *ken* = *kun* = *kin* = cows, *kine*.

l. 9. *bayte on* = to set on (as in *bait* a bull). Icel. *beita*, to bait, hunt with hawk or dog. O.Fr. *abetter*, to incite, animate, *abet*.

l. 12. *Clouzand kyndely bis schon* = mending (patching) shoes according to custom. A.S. *clút*, a patch. Cp. *cloet*, dish-clout, &c.

l. 15. *darked* = was hiding (for fear). O.E. *dare*, to lie motionless, to be stupified or terrified. Low Ger. *be-daren*, to be still, quiet. To *dare* birds is to catch them by frightening them with a hawk, &c. Prov. Eng. *dor*, to frighten, stupify; *dor*, a fool.

*bim own* = *bim one* = himself.

P. 238, l. 31. *Feld foute* = felt the smell, got scent. *foute* = *fewt* = trace of a fox or beast of chase by the odour.

P. 239, l. 81. *non eiȝ* = nō egg. The MS. reads *no neiȝ*.

l. 82. *ginneþ*. Sir F. Madden thinks that some such verb as *berke*, is wanting after *ginneþ* = beginneth. It seems probable that *ginneþ* = howl utter, send out, from A.S. *ginan*, to open, *yawn*.

P. 241, l. 139. All the form of man so amiss had she shaped (transformed).

P. 243, l. 193. 7 *buntyng* = *an buntyng* = a hunting.

l. 205. *þurþ* = *þurgh* = *þur3* = through.

P. 245, l. 267. *to neþb him so þende* = to approach him so near.

P. 246, l. 314. *fordedes* = *fayre dedes* = kind actions.

P. 247, l. 353, *kyn* = *kynde* = kind.

## XXII.

*The Vision of Piers Ploughman.*

P. 249, l. 4. *sheep* = *scheepe* = shepherd.

P. 250, l. 38. *askeþ* = require, demand.

P. 252, l. 82. *Fou3ten atte[n] alle* (*ale*) = fought at the ale.

l. 86. *Roberdes knaves*. In the Statutes of 5 Ed. III, c. 14, a class of malefactors guilty of robbery and murder, are called *Roberdesmen*.

l. 91. *seint Jeme* = St. James of Compostello.

l. 104. *Alle þe ffoure ordres* = all the four orders, *i. e.* the Franciscans, Augustines, Dominicans, and Carmelites.

P. 253, l. 135. *bouchede hem* = stopped their mouths.

l. 137. *Ragemon* = catalogue, list. The full expression is *ragemon rolle*, or *rolle of ragman*; whence *rigmarole*.

P. 254, l. 167. *mom* = sound (made by closed lips); whence *mum*, silence; *mumble* (O.N. *mumla*, to mutter). Cp. O.E. *mumyn* ("as they that noight speke), *mutio*."—Prompt. Parv. To cry *mum* = to cry silence.

P. 259, l. 322. *ellene* = *ellerne* = elder (tree). See Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost*, v. 2.

l. 340. *borwes* = sureties, sponsors.

P. 260, l. 362. *bose* = *bwo se* = who so.

P. 262, l. 416. *summe in þe eorþe*. According to the popular creed of the middle ages, the less guilty of the rebellious angels were permitted to occupy the different elements on earth instead of being condemned to the pit.

l. 446. *daffe* = a fool, is connected with *daff*, to daunt; *daft*, stupid, *deaf*.

P. 263, l. 465. *3edde* = to sing. A.S. *geddian*, to sing; Norse *gidda*, to shake; whence Eng. *giddy*.

ll. 474, 475. *wolde*. In the first line *wolde* signifies desired; in the second it seems an error for *wroþte*, did.

P. 265, l. 531. *ffauvel* = *favel* = deception by flattery, cajolery; *to curry favour*, is a corruption of *curry favel*. *Favel* (Fr. *fauveau*, from *fauve*, yellow) was the name of a horse, for its colour, as *Bayard*, *Dun*, *Lyard*.

P. 267, l. 580. *dune* = *din*. Wright's text reads *doom*, judgment, decision.

l. 598. *To-logged* = *to-lugged* = pulled about by the ear or hair. O.E. *lug*, the ear; Sw. *lugga*, to pull one by the hair.

P. 267, l. 602. And bidden to pack off.

P. 268, l. 621. *wip beoden* = *wip-beolden* = withheld.

P. 272, l. 749. *recbeþ* = become rich. Wright's text reads *ricben*.

*Regatorie*. Regrating, or the buying up of provisions and other things cheaply and selling them dearly, was one of the great sources of oppression of the poor by the rich in the middle ages.

P. 276, l. 909. *blaberde* = babbled, gabbled. Dan. *blabbre*, to gabble. The root is retained in *blab* (see l. 346, p. 218).

P. 277, l. 919. *bis pestilences*. This refers to the three pestilences in the reign of Edward III. The first lasted from May 31, 1348, to Sept. 29, 1349; the second lasted from Aug. 15, 1361, to May 3, 1362; the third raged from July 2, to Sept. 29, 1369.

l. 926. *passchet* = dashed, beaten. O.E. *pasb*, to dash.

P. 278, l. 959. *gustus* = *gestes* = deeds.

l. 963. *Caurimauri* = a moth-eaten garment.

P. 279, l. 1001, *beiledede* = *beilsede* = saluted, greeted. Dan *bilse*, Eng. *bail*.

P. 281, l. 1064. *atte Noke* = *atten oke* = at the oak. Cp. *John Nokes*, John at the oaks; *John Styles*, John at the stile.

l. 1080. *Donet* = grammar, elements; from *Donatus*, whose treatise was the foundation of the mediaeval grammars.

P. 282, l. 1085. *pak-neelde* = pack-needle. Du. *naelde*, O.N. *nål*, a needle; *neelde*, seems to be a contraction of *needle*. Cp. Goth. *netbla*. O.H.G. *nādala*, *nālda*, a needle. The root *nad*, signifying a prick or sting, occurs in A.S. *næddre*, O.E. *nedder*, an adder.

l. 1097. *Auncel* (Wright's text reads *auncer*), a small vessel or cup.

l. 1107. *bummede* = drank. Prov. Eng *bum*, drink; *bumpy*, tipsy. Cp. Eng. *bumper*.

l. 1115. *boxterye* = huckstery. Ger. *böker*, a retailer, a petty dealer. Prov. Ger. *bukler*, a huckster.

P. 283, l. 1123. *Rode of Bromholm*. At the Priory of Bromholm, in Norfolk, there was a celebrated cross said to be made of fragments of the real cross, and much resorted to by pilgrims. It was brought from Constantinople to England in 1223.

P. 284, l. 1153. *vernicle*, diminutive of *Veronike*; a copy of the picture of Christ which is supposed to have been miraculously imprinted upon a handkerchief preserved in the church of St. Peter at Rome. (Tyrwhitt).

P. 288, 1284. *þerf* = A.S. *þeorf*, unleavened.

## XXIII.

### Gospel of St. Mark.

P. 309, v. 9. *gobatis* = fragments. *gobet* signifies a morsel, mouthful; Gael. *gob*, the mouth. Cp. *gobble*, *goblet* (Fr. *gobelet*, a wide-mouthed vessel).

P. 314, v. 46. *gogil-ysed* = goggle-eyed, which signifies literally a full, rolling eye; from *goggle*, to shake, *joggle*; Gael. *gog*, a nod.

P. 315, v. 27. *anentis* = as regards, with respect to. A.S. *ongean*, against, opposite; Sw. *gent*.

## XXIV.

*Description of Britain.*

P. 334, l. 6. *margey perles*. The term *margey* = *margery*, is a corruption of *margarite*, a pearl; Gr. *μαργαρίτης*.

l. 24. *a ys* = *ba ys* = he is. This pronoun (signifying also *sbe, it, they*), is still used in the Southern counties.

P. 335, l. 8. *steenes* = stone vessels. Spenser uses *stean* in this sense.

P. 338, l. 23. *wlaffynge* = babbling. A.S. *wæflan*, to whiffle, babble, speak indistinctly. N. Prov. Eng. *wbiffler*, a silly, trifling fellow; *wbiffle-wbaffle*, nonsense.

*The Norman Invasion.*

P. 342, l. 18. *orped* = valiant, daring, literally headlong, from O.N. *verpa*, to throw, *warp*.

## XXV.

*The Pardoner's Tale.*

P. 348, l. 77. *mary* = marrow. A.S. *mearg*, marrow; Prov. Eng. *merowe*, delicate; A.S. *merwe*, *mearu*, tender, soft.

P. 351, l. 187. *þe blood of Crist þat is in Hayles*. The Abbey of Hailes in Gloucestershire, founded by Richard king of the Romans, brother to Henry III. This precious relique, which was afterwards called 'the blood of Hailes,' was brought out of Germany by the son of Richard, Edmund, who bestowed a third part of it upon his father's Abbey of Hailes. (Holinshed v. ii. p. 275).

P. 352, l. 209. *upright* signifies flat on the back.

P. 359, l. 425. *Fen*: the name of the sections of Avicenne's great work entitled *Canun*.

## XXVI.

*The Tale of the Caskets.*

P. 368, l. 38. *mulle* = dust. Cp. O.E. *mullok*, rubbish; Low Ger. *mullen*, to rub.

l. 39. *meined* = *meinged* = mingled or mixed.

P. 372, l. 149. *drechinge onde* = a heavily-drawn breath.

P. 375, l. 241. *spellinge of hir charmes* = the recital of her charms. The A.S. *spellian*, signifies to recite; whence *spell*, an incantation, as in *magic spell*.

l. 245. *bleeke* is an error for *blake* = black.

## GLOSSARY.

[The numbers refer to the pages of the Notes where the etymology and derivations are given.]

- A, one.  
 A, all.  
 A, in, one.  
 A, he, it, they.  
 Abaist, Abayst, Abayste, abashed, humbled, terrified.  
 Abashed, frightened.  
 Abaye, at bay.  
 Abbe, to have.  
 Abbei, an abbey.  
 Abbeþ, pl. have.  
 Abbod, an abbot.  
 Abbodes, abbots.  
*abit*, endures, suffers.  
 Abid, imp. stop.  
 Abide, Abiden, pp. awaited.  
 Abide, Abiden, Abyde, to await, to delay.  
 Abidende, patient, enduring. [ries.  
 Abit, Abyt, abides, tar-  
 Abiten, to bite.  
 Ablame, to defame.  
 Abod, abode, stayed, awaited, remained, refrained.  
 Abof, above.  
 Abraid, arose, started (out of sleep). 386.  
 Abouten, about.  
 Aboven, above.  
 Abuggen, to atone for, expiate.  
 Abute, Abuten, about.  
 Abyd, put off.  
 Abyrne, the deep, abyss.
- Abyt, abideth.  
 Ac, but.  
 Achaped, escaped.  
 Achtande, eighth.  
 Acoled, cooled.  
 Acorde, to agree.  
 Acordyng, agreeing, fit.  
 Acouped, accused. 421.  
 Acoye, to entice, decoy.  
 Acquyte, to acquit.  
 Acsi, to ask.  
 Acursi, to curse.  
 Adai, by day.  
 Adaunte, to subdue, conquer. 413.  
 Adde, had.  
 Adizte, to set in order, (see Dizte). 402.  
 Adonward, down.  
 Adrad, afraid, in dread.  
 Adrawe, to draw.  
 Adun, Adoune, down, downwards.  
 Adunest, dinnest. 402.  
 Adwole, in error. 407.  
 Afer, Aferr, far, afar.  
 Aferd, Aferde, frightened, afraid.  
 Aferes, dealings, affairs.  
 Afoled, befooled.  
 Afure, on fire. [412.  
 Afyghte, to endeavour.  
 Afyn, finally, lastly.  
 Agast, Agaste, aghast, frightened, terrified. 413.  
 Agaynes, against.  
 Agen, Ageyn, again, back.
- Aghlich, horrible, terrible.  
 Agh, pres. ought.  
 Aght, pret. ought.  
 Agon, Agoon, gone, ago.  
 Agrayþinge, decoration, ornament.  
 Agreþed, adorned.  
 Agte, owned. 391.  
 Agte, possessions, money, wealth. 386.  
 Agtes, payments. 386.  
 Ah, but.  
 Ai, Ay, ever, aye.  
 Aire, heir.  
 Airen, Ayren, eggs. 411.  
 Aijer, either, each.  
 Aiware, everywhere.  
 Ake, to ache.  
 Al, (1) all, whole, (2) quite, very.  
 Al a, a whole.  
 Alblast, a crossbow. 430.  
 Ald, Alde, old.  
 Alderes, elders.  
 Alegge, to call in question. 402.  
 Algate, yet, nevertheless.  
 Alizte, pp. descended.  
 Alle, pl. all. [livelong.  
 Alle longe, the entire, Alle = *ale*. 437.  
 Alliaunce, alliance.  
 Almesse, Almous, alms.  
 Almest, almost.  
 Along, Alonge, on account of. 428.  
 Alosed, renowned, famed.

- Alre, of all.  
 Alre-best, the best of all.  
 Alre-worste, the worst of all. 395.  
 Als, Also, as, also.  
 Also, as.  
 Alson = *als-son*, immediately. [also.  
 Alsua, Alswa, Alsswa, Alsuith, Alswith, immediately, at once.  
 Alpat, because.  
 Alwey, always.  
 Alyhte, descended.  
 Alyned, anointed.  
 Alyte, a little.  
 Amang, among.  
 Amanges, Amangs, amongst.  
 Amidde, Amydde, amidst.  
 Among, at intervals.  
 Amonges, amongst.  
 Amorwe, on the morrow, in the morning.  
 Ampoules, bottles containing oil or holy water.  
 An, (1) in, on, (2) and.  
 An, a, one. 425.  
 Au, if.  
 An (pret. of Unnen), grant. 406.  
 Anamayled, enameled.  
 Anan, anon.  
 Anaunter, in doubt doubtful. 413.  
 Ancher, an anchorite.  
 Ancres, a nun.  
 And, breath. 429.  
 Andsuere, Andswere, answer.  
 Ane, one.  
 An-end, lastly. [earth.  
 Anerþe, in earth, on Aneve, in the evening.  
 Anger, Angre, disease, sorrow, trouble. 429.  
 Anheh, Anhey, Anheh, Anheg, Anheig, on high, aloud.  
 Anheged, exalted. 428.  
 Anhoð, pl. hang up.  
 Anker, Ankre, anchor.  
 Anly, only.  
 Anentis, Anemptis, as regards, with respect to.  
 Annyzed, annoyed.  
 Anon-rijttes, at once.  
 Anoon, anon.  
 Anoye, to annoy.  
 Ans, once.  
 Ant, and. [them.  
 Antiphonere, Antym, Anunder, under.  
 Aparty, partly. [appear.  
 Aperi[e], Apeeren, to Apert, open, plain.  
 Aperteliche, openly.  
 Apeyre, Appayre, to impair. 429.  
 Apeyryng, impairing.  
 Applen, apples.  
 Apose, Aposer, to question, pose. [415.  
 Aqueynte, quenched.  
 Aqueyntaunce, acquaintance.  
 Aquyte, to acquit.  
 Ar, before, ere.  
 Ar, Aren, are.  
 Arblaste, crossbow. 414.  
 Arblasters, bowmen, archers.  
 Arc, chest, bin. [strive.  
 Areche, to reach to, to Arehþe, fear. 402.  
 Arere, to raise. [count.  
 Aresoun, reason, acrewe, an arrow.  
 Are3, timid.  
 Are3þe, fear. 402.  
 Ari3t, aright, rightly.  
 Arn, are.  
 Aroun, around.  
 Arskes, water-lizards.  
 Arsoun3, saddle-bow.  
 Arst, first.  
 Artow, art thou.  
 Arwe, an arrow.  
 Ar3e, afraid, timid.  
 Asayle, to assail.  
 Asaut, Assaut, assault.  
 As-bare openly.  
 As-blive, immediately, quickly.  
 Aschame, in shame.  
 Ascry, alarm, outcry. 430.  
 Ase = also, as.  
 As-faste, at once.  
 Askage, to escape.  
 Aske, Aske3, ash, ashes.  
 Askinge, a petition, request.  
 Aslawe, slain.  
 As-smerte, smartly, quickly, at once.  
 Asoile, Asoyle, Assoyle, to absolve. 412.  
 Aspaltoun, asphalt, bitumen.  
 Asperaunt, rough, fierce.  
 Aspie, Aspien, to espy.  
 Aspile, to spoil. 402.  
 Aspye, a watch, a spy.  
 Aspye, to learn by watching.  
 Asselen, to seal.  
 As-swyþe, As-swyþe, immediately, at once.  
 As-tit, As-tyt, at once.  
 Astoneyed, astonished.  
 Astore, to furnish. 414.  
 Astrangele, to strangle.  
 Aswelt, quenches. 412.  
 Asydis, aside.  
 At, conj. that.  
 At, to, of.  
 At ans, at once.  
 Ate at, at the.  
 At-flip, flies from, flutters. 396. [held.  
 Athold = *atbeold*, with-  
 Atom, at home.  
 At-route, to make an incursion. 413.  
 At-schet, spent. 397.  
 Atsonde, (1) to withstand, (2) to await.  
 Atte, Atten, at the. 414.  
 Atten-ende, at last, lastly.  
 Attercoppe, a spider. 403.  
 Attle, to endeavour, to try. 435.

- Atuittest, reproachest,  
 twittest. 403.  
 At-vore, before.  
 Aþ, hath.  
 Aþel, noble, a noble-  
 man, knight.  
 Au = *agb* = *ow*, ought.  
 Aucte = *agbt*, wealth.  
 Auen, Aun, Aune, own.  
 Auht, possessions, goods.  
 Aumayl, enamel.  
 Aumener, an almoner.  
 Auncel, a small vessel or  
 cup, a pair of scales.  
 Auncetere, ancestor.  
 Auncre, a nun.  
 Aungel, angel.  
 Aunter, adventure.  
 Auntour, chance.  
 Auntour, adventure, '*fel  
 auntour*,' it happened.  
 Aute = *agbt*, owned.  
 Auter, an altar.  
 Auþer, either.  
 Avale, in many.  
 Avale, to descend, let  
 down. 431.  
 Avance, Avaunse, ad-  
 vance.  
 Avancement, advance-  
 ment.  
 Avauntage, advantage.  
 Ave, to have.  
 Avenaunt, pleasant,  
 beautiful. 411.  
 Avenge, pl. took.  
 Aventures, adventures.  
 Avere, on fire.  
 Aveð, hath.  
 Avise, to advise, to take  
 note of, to heed.  
 Avisement, caution,  
 heed.  
 Avoutrie, adultery.  
 Avow, vow. [tious.  
 Avysed, advised, cau-  
 Awake, to arouse.  
 Awede, to go mad.  
 Awei, away.  
 Awayward, away from.  
 Awold = *awolde*, cause,  
 produce. 385, 387.
- Awold, in signification.  
 381.  
 Awondered, astonished.  
 Awreke, to avenge. 401.  
 Axe, Axen, to ask.  
 Axeste, askest thou.  
 Ay, ever.  
 Ayen, again, against.  
 Ayenboghthe, redeemed.  
 Ayer, air.  
 Ayeyn, again, against.  
 Aywhore, everywhere.  
 Ajaf, gave out, uttered.  
 A3e, A3en, A3ene, A3ein,  
 A3eyn, again, against,  
 back, towards.  
 A3ein-ward, back.  
 A3enes, A3ens, against.  
 A3en-bie, to redeem.  
 A3en-biyng, redemption.  
 A3en-stonde, A3ein-  
 stonde, to withstand,  
 oppose.  
 A3er, yearly.  
 A3t, noble. 414.  
 A3te, ought. -  
 A3te, eight.  
 A3tsum, anxious (see  
 Hagt). 384.
- Bac, the back.  
 Bad, Bead, offered.  
 Bad, entreated.  
 Baie, at bay.  
 Balaunce, peril, jeopardy.  
 Bald, bold. [boldly.  
 Baldeliche, baldly,  
 Bale, sorrow, grief, cala-  
 mity, ruin. 383,  
 Balfully, sorrowfully.  
 Balie, the belly.  
 Ballede, bald. 414.  
 Ban, Bane, a bone.  
 Baner, a banner.  
 Baneur, Banyour, ban-  
 ner-bearer.  
 Banne, to curse.  
 Bannes = *banes*, bones.  
 Bar, bore.  
 Bare, wave. 426.  
 Bare, a grove. 397.  
 Bare, a boar.
- Bare, openly.  
 Baren, to lay bare, to  
 expose.  
 Baret, Bare3, strife, con-  
 test. 402. [bargain.  
 Bargan, strife, contest,  
 Barlay, by our lady.  
 Barm, Barme, bosom,  
 lap. 421.  
 Barn, Barne, a child.  
 Barnage, childhood.  
 Barnde, burnt. [424.  
 Barn-site, child-sorrow.  
 Barn-tem, progeny, des-  
 cendants.  
 Baroun, a baron.  
 Barred, striped.  
 Barst, burst.  
 Bataile, Batayle, a battle,  
 an armed host.  
 Bate, to abate.  
 Bath, Bathe, both.  
 Bather, of both.  
 Baude, a broker, go-  
 between.  
 Baundoun, Bandoun,  
 power, jurisdiction,  
 rule. 419.  
 Baussenez, badgers.  
 Bawe-lyne, bow-line.  
 Bayst, abashed, flinched.  
 Bayte, to set on. 436  
 Bayþen, to grant.  
 Be, by.  
 Bead, bad, commanded.  
 Be-bedde, to supply with  
 bed, or lodging.  
 Bebledd, covered with  
 blood.  
 Becom, became.  
 Bedd (pl. Bedden), offered.  
 384.  
 Bed, Bede, a prayer. 415.  
 Bede = *bide*, to abide.  
 Bede, Beden, to offer.  
 415.  
 Bede = *bed*, bad, com-  
 manded.  
 Bede, promisedest.  
 Beden, Bedene, bidden.  
 Bedene, Bidene, forth-  
 with.

- Bedreden, bedridden.  
 Beere, beer.  
 Befyl, besell.  
 Beeth, are.  
 Bege, bracelet, collar.  
 387.  
 Beggere, a beggar.  
 Beheold, beheld.  
 Behihte, promised.  
 Behoveliche, needful,  
 necessary.  
 Beke, beak.  
 Bekenne, to commend.  
 Beknowe, to acknow-  
 ledge.  
 Beld, protection.  
 Belde, strong, bold.  
 Belyfe, Belyfe, Belyve,  
 Blive, quickly, at  
 once.  
 Belong = *be along*, be  
 on account of.  
 Bem, beam, ray.  
 Bemene, to denote,  
 mean.  
 Bende, bent, curved.  
 Ben, (1) to be, (2) are,  
 (3) been.  
 Ben, Bene, prayer.  
 Bent, slope of a hill,  
 upland.  
 Benyme, to deprive.  
 Beo, Beon, to be.  
 Beode, to offer.  
 Beodemon, messenger.  
 Beodle, messenger,  
 beadle. 394.  
 Beodmen, messengers.  
 Beodes, prayers.  
 Beohihte, promised.  
 Beolve, belief.  
 Beon, to be.  
 Beore, a bear.  
 Beore, Beoren, to bear.  
 Beoþ, Beþ, are.  
 Ber, bare, bore.  
 Ber, Bere, noise.  
 Ber, beer.  
 Berd, Berde, a beard.  
 Berdle, beardless.  
 Bere, a noise.  
 Bere, Beren, to bear.  
 Berge, to protect. 394.  
 Berke, to bark.  
 Berking, barking.  
 Bering, behaviour.  
 Bern, Berne, a child.  
 Bernynde, burning.  
 Berþ, bears.  
 Berwen, to preserve. 394.  
 Bes, shall be, is.  
 Besette, to exclude. 427.  
 Best, Beste, a beast.  
 Besteriinge, emotions.  
 Bestow, shalt thou be.  
 Besoghte, besought.  
 Bet, better. 392.  
 Bet, did beat.  
 Bet, 'go bet,' hasten.  
 Bet, kindled, made up  
 the fire. 392.  
 Bete, to repent, to a-  
 mend one's life. 392,  
 Bete, to beat.  
 Betel-brouwed, having  
 overhanging brows,  
 having a heavy look.  
 Beten, ornamented.  
 Betere, Betre, better.  
 Betewe, between.  
 Beth, Beþ, is, are.  
 Beth = *bede*, to com-  
 mand.  
 Beþe = *batbe*, both.  
 Beþohte, Beþouhte, be-  
 thought.  
 Beþen, to entreat. 394.  
 Bewreyng, bewraying,  
 accusation.  
 Beye, to buy.  
 Bi, be, by.  
 Bicalle, to call after,  
 accuse.  
 Bicam, became.  
 Bicchid boones, dice.  
 Bicherme, to chirp as  
 birds do.  
 Bicloped = *bicleoped*,  
 spoken. 403.  
 Bicom, became.  
 Bicom, pp. gone.  
 Bicume, Bicumen, (1) to  
 become, befall, hap-  
 pen, (2) pp. befallen.  
 Bid = *bit*, bids.  
 Bidde, to pray.  
 Bidde = *bede*, to offer.  
 Bide, to abide.  
 Bidene, forthwith, im-  
 mediately, subse-  
 quently. 410.  
 Bidder, a beggar.  
 Bie, to buy, redeem. 417.  
 Bifalle, befallen.  
 Bifel, Bifil, Bifyl, befell.  
 Bifor, Bifore, Biforen,  
 Biforn, before.  
 Big, Bigg, richly en-  
 dowed, furnished with  
 arms. 429.  
 Bige, Bigge, to build.  
 429.  
 Bigen, to buy.  
 Bigete, Bigeten, to ob-  
 tain, beget.  
 Bigetel, what is obtained  
 by conquest, or pur-  
 chase. 404.  
 Biggyng, buying.  
 Biginne, Bigynne, to  
 begin.  
 Biginning, beginning.  
 Bigonne, pp. begun.  
 Bigraven, carved.  
 Bigrede, to scream,  
 shout. 397.  
 Bigrowe, overgrown.  
 Bigrypte, seized.  
 Bihalde, to behold.  
 Biheld, Biheild, beheld.  
 Bihete, to promise.  
 Bihetet, promisedst it.  
 Bihinde, Bihynde, be-  
 hind.  
 Bihold, Biheold, beheld.  
 Bihote, to promise.  
 Bihuld, beheld.  
 Bii, to atone for, expiate.  
 Bikkenned, commended.  
 Bile, the bill (of a bird).  
 Bilef, remained. 387.  
 Bileist, speakest falsely,  
*beliest*.  
 Bileve, belief.  
 Bileve, Bileven, Bilewen,  
 to remain.



- Bilfoder, food.  
 Bilike, to make likely,  
 or to render pleasing.  
 404.  
 Bilonge, to belong to,  
 depend upon.  
 Bilouked, shut up.  
 Bi-lowen, to accuse  
 falsely. [ment.  
 Bimene, to bemoan, la-  
 bimening, lamentation.\*  
 394.  
 Biment, bemoaned, la-  
 mented. 388.  
 Bineoðe, Bineoþe, be-  
 neath.  
 Binime, Binyme, to de-  
 prive of, rob. 381.  
 Binne, within. 409.  
 Binom, took away, de-  
 prived of.  
 Bioþþe, behoof. 412.  
 Biqueþ, bequeathed. 405.  
 Biquede, bequest. 405.  
 Bird, behoved. 425.  
 Bire, haste, rush. 436.  
 Biri, city, town. 389.  
 Biriele, a tomb, sepul-  
 chre. 394.  
 Bi-rolled, rushed about.  
 Birþe, nation, tribe. 417.  
 Bischriche, to shriek,  
 scream. 397.  
 Bischopen, to bishops.  
 Bisay = *besaw*, ordained.  
 Bise, the north wind.  
 410. [sech.  
 Biseke, Biseken, to be-  
 Bisemar, scorn, mock-  
 ery, shame. 398.  
 Biseme, to render  
 seemly. 404.  
 Biseo, to ordain, ap-  
 point.  
 Bisen, to rule over.  
 Bisend, betokened,  
 likened. 426.  
 Riseninge, token, sign.  
 Bisied, came upon. 416.  
 Bisides, besides.  
 Bisop, Bissop, bishop.  
 Bisoþt, besought.
- Bispeke, bespoken,  
 agreed.  
 Bispitte, to spit on.  
 Bistad, alleged,  
 Bistad, happened, placed  
 (in peril).  
 Bistod, Bistode, stood,  
 stood still.  
 Biswike, to deceive,  
 cheat, defraud. 399.  
 Bisyþes, betimes, at  
 times.  
 Bit, biddeth, bids.  
 Bitagte, Bitaucte, gave,  
 assigned. 384.  
 Bitake, to entrust to,  
 hand over, assign, be-  
 queath. 384.  
 Bitache, to entrust, give  
 (see Bitake).  
 Bitelle, to speak, plead.  
 Bitide, to betide, befall.  
 Bith, by the. 408.  
 Bitid, befallen. [over.  
 Bitook, gave, handed  
 Bitraye, to betray.  
 Bitucne, Bitwen, be-  
 tween.  
 Bituixen, Bituxen, be-  
 twixt, between.  
 Bitweone, between.  
 Bitwixe, betwixt.  
 Bitymes, betimes.  
 Biþoþte, bethought.  
 Bive, to tremble. 390.  
 Biwaken, to keep a vigil  
 for the dead. 393.  
 Biwite, gone. 411.  
 Biþendis, beyond. [474.  
 Biþete, to obtain, get.  
 Biþete, possessions.  
 Biþonde, beyond.  
 Blabere, to babble,  
 mutter. 438.  
 Blabered, babbled.  
 Blac, Blak, Blake, black.  
 Blan, cease (see Blinne).  
 Blase, blaze, flame.  
 Blaste, blazed.  
 Blaunner, a kind of  
 lawn or fur.  
 Blaw, Blawe, to blow.
- Bled, to bleed.  
 Blefþ, remains (see Bi-  
 leve).  
 Bleek, Bleike, pale,  
 livid. 408. [399.  
 Blenche, to flinch, waver.  
 Blende, mixed.  
 Bleo, colour, complex-  
 ion, hue.  
 Blere, to blear the eye,  
 deceive.  
 Blere, to put out the  
 tongue, to make  
 grimaces. 430.  
 Blete, poor, mean. 404.  
 Blete, foliage. 397.  
 Blethely, blithefully, joy-  
 fully.  
 Blin, Blinne, Blinnen, to  
 cease, stop. 382.  
 Blisse, to bless.  
 Blissing, blessing.  
 Blive, quickly.  
 Blo, blue.  
 Blod, Blode, blood.  
 Blome, flower, bloom.  
 Blonk, a horse, originally  
 a *white* horse.  
 Blossme, Blostme, blos-  
 som, bloom. 395.  
 Blossmen, blossoms.  
 Blou, to blow.  
 Blowe, blooming.  
 Blubrande, bubbling,  
 boiling. 434.  
 Bluk = *buk* = *bulk*, body.  
 436.  
 Blunder, confusion, ruin.  
 Blycande, shining.  
 Blykked, shone.  
 Blynne, to cease.  
 Blyssen, blisses, joys.  
 Blyþeliche, joyfully.  
 Bo = *beo*, to be. [434.  
 Bobbaunce, boast, pride.  
 Bobbe, a branch.  
 Boc, a book.  
 Bocher, butcher.  
 Bod = *abod*, awaited.  
 Bod, sb. delay.  
 Bod, Bode, message,  
 word, command. 383.

- Bode, offered.  
 Bode = *abod*, dwelt.  
 Bodé, body.  
 Boden, bidden, asked, bade, 383.  
 Bodes, commands.  
 Bodeþ, forbodes, portends.  
 Bodworde, message.  
 Boffat, Boffet, a blow, buffet.  
 Bogh, Boghe, a bough.  
 Bogh, Boghe, to bow.  
 Boght, Bogte, Boht, bought. [for.  
 Boght, expiated, atoned  
 Boghud, bent.  
 Bok, Boke, a book.  
 Boke, a buck.  
 Bofdeliche, boldly.  
 Bolle, bowl.  
 Bollen, swollen. 398.  
 Boln, Bolne, to swell, rise.  
 Bon, a bone.  
 Bon = *beon*, to be.  
 Bon = *boun*, ready. 423.  
 Bon, Bone, petition, request, *boon*. 415.  
 Bond, bound, established.  
 Bond, (1) force, meaning, (2) prison.  
 Bondon = *bonden*, bounden, bound.  
 Bonene, of bone.  
 Bonk, a bank, pl. Bonke3, Bonkke3.  
 Bonure, debonair, courteous.  
 Boot, boat.  
 Bor, Bore, a boar.  
 Bord, Borde, a table.  
 Borde, a bird.  
 Bore, pp. born.  
 Borewe, a pledge.  
 Borewyng, borrowing.  
 Borgages, lands in towns held by a particular tenure.  
 Borgounes, produces, bears.  
 Borne, Bourne, water, stream, *burn*.  
 Borough, a town, *borough*.  
 Borwe, a pledge, security.  
 Borw3, a city.  
 Bosk, Boske, a bush.  
 Bost, boast, pride.  
 Bot, Bote, but, except.  
 Bot, bit, pierced.  
 Bot (to) = *to boot*, for security. 392.  
 Bote, 'for bote,' to boot.  
 Bote, remedy, salvation. 392.  
 Bote-yef, unless.  
 Botel, bottle.  
 Botles, bootless, irremediable.  
 Botme, the bottom.  
 Bothen, Boðen, both.  
 Boþem, pit, bottom.  
 Boþeme3, valleys, bottoms.  
 Boþemle3, bottomless.  
 Botoun3, buttons.  
 Bouche, to stop one's mouth.  
 Bouele, bowel.  
 Boun, ready. 423.  
 Bounté, goodness, bounty.  
 Bouw, room, chamber.  
 Bourde, to jest, joke.  
 Bourde, a jest.  
 Bout, Boute, without.  
 Bouzte, bought, atoned, expiated.  
 Bowande, obedient.  
 Bowe, to go, hasten.  
 Boxum, obedient. 385.  
 Boxumly, obediently.  
 Boxunnes, obedience.  
 Bo3, Bo3e, a bough.  
 Bo3, Bo3e, a bow.  
 Bo3e, to hasten.  
 Brac, broke.  
 Brad, Brade, broad.  
 Brak, broke. [386.  
 Brayd, started, turned.  
 Brayde, to start, rush to, awake.  
 Brayde, (1) 'in (or at) a *brayde*,' in a turn, in a trice, (2) an assault. 386.  
 Brayinde, roaring.  
 Brayden, embroidered.  
 Breadlepes, bread-baskets. 385.  
 Brec, broke. [395.  
 Breche, a woody glen.  
 Bred, Brede, bread.  
 Brede, breadth, abroad.  
 Bred-wrigte, a baker. 385.  
 Bref, short.  
 Breke, to break.  
 Brem, Breme, (1) quick, active, vigorously, violently, (2) fierce, angrily, (3) lofty, proud. 400.  
 Bremli, Bremly, Bremely, violently, rapidly, fiercely, vigorously.  
 Bren, Brenne, to burn.  
 Brend, Brende, Brenned, burnt.  
 Brene, a burning.  
 Brennand, burning.  
 Brennyng, burning.  
 Brent, burnt.  
 Brentest, highest. 433.  
 Bressed, rugged, shaggy.  
 Brest, Breste, to burst.  
 Brether, Breþer, Breðere, Briðere, brethren, brothers.  
 Breþe, vapour, steam, breath. [brewers.  
 Brewesters, female  
 Breuh, brewed. [ened.  
 Breygid, abridged, short-  
 bricteste, brightest.  
 Brig, a bridge,  
 Brihte, clearly.  
 Brin, Brinne, to burn.  
 Brinnand, burning.  
 Brint, burnt.  
 Brittened, broken, destroyed. 435.  
 Bri3t, Bry3t, bright.  
 Bri3tnesse, brightness.  
 Broche, a brooch.

- Brod, Brode, broad.  
 Broht, Brohte, Broucte,  
   Brouthe, Brojt,  
   Brojte, brought.  
 Bronch, a branch.  
 Bronde3, brands, embers,  
   ashes.  
 Broþley, filthy. 434.  
 Bro3e3, brows.  
 Broune, brown.  
 Brurd-ful, full to the  
   brim. 433.  
 Brusten, to burst.  
 Bruttenet, cut in pieces.  
   435.  
 Bryche, low, mean. 421.  
 Brydde, a bird.  
 Brynstone, brimstone.  
 Bue, Buen, to be.  
 Bues, obeys.  
 Bueþ, are.  
 Buffet, a blow.  
 Buges, boughs. 385.  
 Bugge, Bygge, to buy.  
 Bugh, a bough.  
 Bugles, buffaloes.  
 Buile, Builen, to boil.  
 Buk, Buke, a book.  
 Bukke3, bucks.  
 Bule3, bulls.  
 Bult, built.  
 Bummed, tasted, drank.  
 Bun, ready.  
 Buope, both. 428.  
 Bur, a blow. 436.  
 Burde, Buyrde, a woman,  
   lady. 420.  
 Buringe, burial.  
 Burn, Burne, a man, a  
   nobleman. 431.  
 Burgeis, a Burgess,  
   citizen.  
 Buryel, tomb.  
 Bur3e, a city, borough.  
 Buschen, to busk, go out.  
 Busk, a bush.  
 Busk, Buske, (1) to pre-  
   pare (for a journey),  
   (2) to go on a  
   journey, to go (one's  
   way). 425.  
 Bustelyng, wandering  
   about, uncertain what  
   way to take.  
 Bute, without.  
 Bute-if, except.  
 Buton, but.  
 Bup, are.  
 Buve, above.  
 By, to be.  
 Bycom, became.  
 Byclippe, to surround.  
 Byclippe, Byclepe, to call.  
 Byd = byt, prays.  
 Bydde, to pray.  
 Byddinde, praying.  
 Byde, Byden, to remain,  
   abide.  
 Byde3, abides.  
 Bydene (see Bidene).  
 Bye, to buy.  
 Byeþ, be, are.  
 Byfalle, to befall.  
 Byfyl, befell.  
 Bygile, to beguile.  
 Bygete, to obtain.  
 Bygeten, begotten.  
 Bygyng, a building.  
   429.  
 Bygonne, begun.  
 Byholde, to behold.  
 Byhove, to behave.  
 Byleave, belief.  
 Bylyve, quickly, imme-  
   diately.  
 Bynne, within.  
 Bynneþen, beneath.  
 Byrad, determined, re-  
   solved.  
 Byreve, to deprive, be-  
   reave.  
 Bys, purple. 420.  
 Byse, to be wary, cau-  
   tious.  
 Byschyne, pp. shone  
   upon.  
 Byside, besides.  
 Bysou3t, besought.  
 Byspeete, to spit on.  
 Byta3te, assigned.  
 Bythuixte, betwixt.  
 Bytuene, Bytweone, be-  
   tween.  
 Bytyde, to befall.  
 Bywraye, to accuse, be-  
   tray. 385.  
 Cacche, Cache, to catch,  
   drive away, chase.  
 Cald, Calde, cold.  
 Calewe, bald. 415.  
 Calling, invitation.  
 Cam, came.  
 Can, know, knows.  
 Candlen, candles. 389.  
 Cant, crafty, brave. 430.  
 Capados, a hood, or  
   close cap.  
 Care, sorrow.  
 Carefully, sorrowfully.  
 Carien, to wander.  
 Carl, churl, man. 409.  
 Caroin, a dead body,  
   carrion.  
 Carpe, Carppe, to talk.  
 Cas, Case, hap, chance,  
   adventure, circum-  
   stance, occurrence.  
 Casten, to devise, plan.  
 Casten, pp. cast.  
 Catel, Catele, Catelle,  
   wealth.  
 Caytife, a wretch.  
 Caytefte, Caytife,  
   wretchedness.  
 Caurimauri, a worm-  
   eaten garment.  
 Ca3te, caught.  
 Cellen, cells. [Sely].  
 Cely, good, gentle (see  
   Cemmed, twisted, folded).  
   435.  
 Cerges, tapers. 409.  
 Certeyn, certain.  
 Ceteis, cities.  
 Chacen, to drive out.  
 Chacche, to drive, catch.  
 Chafare, chaffer. 382.  
 Chalange, Challenge,  
   claim.  
 Chapman, Chapmon, a  
   merchant. 382.  
 Chare, Char, a car.  
 Chare, Charen, to turn.  
   392.  
 Chartre, a prison. 384.

- Charpe, sharp.  
 Chast, chaste.  
 Chance, chance, fortune, adventure.  
 Chaunche, chance, to befall. [able.  
 Chaungeable, change-  
 Chaynen, chains.  
 Che, she.  
 Chees, chose.  
 Cheld, cold.  
 Chelde, a shield.  
 Chele, chill, cold. 410.  
 Chenes, chinks, fissures.  
 Chepyng, market.  
 Cherde, turned.  
 Chere, cheer, face.  
 Cherl, a churl, rustic, man. 409.  
 Cherli, gladly, joyfully.  
 Ches, imp. choose.  
 Ches, Chees, chose.  
 Cheeven, to prosper, succeed.  
 Chese, to choose.  
 Cheste, strife.  
 Chesun, reason. [431.  
 Cheventeyn, a chieftain.  
 Chewen, to eschew.  
 Chibolles, a kind of leek, Fr. *ciboule*.  
 Childer, Childre, Childern, Chyldern, children.  
 Childhede, childhood.  
 Chirchen, churches.  
 Chirchegong, churching.  
 Chirie, a cherry.  
 Chirme, noise, chirping of birds.  
 Chois, choice. [go.  
 Choose, take (the way),  
 Chyse, cheese. [fully.  
 Chysly, choicely, care-  
 Chyteringe, chirping, chittering.  
 Cisternesse, a cistern.  
 Clade, clad.  
 Clanly, purely, cleanly, in purity.  
 Clansi, to cleanse.  
 Clef, cleaved.  
 Cleme, to daub with plaster. 432.  
 Clene, pure, clean.  
 Clenge, to cling.  
 Clennes, cleanness, purity.  
 Clensing, cleansing.  
 Clepe, Clepen, to call. 403.  
 Clept, called, *y-clept*.  
 Clepyng, calling.  
 Clere, clear. [clerk.  
 Clergeoun, a young Clerken, of clerks, of men in holy orders.  
 Clerlych, clearly.  
 Cler-matin, a kind of fine wheaten bread.  
 Cleve, a cottage. 408.  
 Cleyme, to claim.  
 Clinge, Clyng, to wither, shrivel. 404.  
 Clink, to ring, toll.  
 Clippe, to embrace, clasp.  
 Clive, to cleave, adhere to. 392.  
 Clived, suffered. 382.  
 Clom, silence, peace. 427.  
 Clos, Cloos, close, secret.  
 Clottes, clods.  
 Clouystand = *cloutand*, patching. 436.  
 Clout, a piece, fragment, rag. 408.  
 Clowtez, pieces.  
 Clupie, to call.  
 Clute, a rag. 408.  
 Cnoke, to knock.  
 Coc, cock.  
 Cofre, Cofer, chest, ark.  
 Coffyn, a basket.  
 Cogge, a wheel. 398.  
 Cokeneye, a lean chicken. [bread.  
 Coket, a kind of fine  
 Col, Cole, a coal.  
 Col plontes, cabbage-plants, coleworts.  
 Com, came. [ment.  
 Comanment, command-  
 Combres, destroys.  
 Comen, Comyn, common.  
 Comene, to come.  
 Comers, commerce.  
 Comlyng, a stranger.  
 Comlych, comely.  
 Commun = *comen*, pp. come.  
 Compaignye, company.  
 Compers, companions.  
 Compleynen, to complain.  
 Comse, Comsen, to commence, begin, endeavour.  
 Comynde, coming.  
 Comynge = *comene*, to come.  
 Con, aux. vb. did.  
 Con, Can, knows, pl. Conne, Cunne, 'Conthonke,' give thanks.  
 Cone, Conne, Conen, pl. to know.  
 Conne, Connen, to learn.  
 Confort, comfort.  
 Conninge, knowledge.  
 Conrai, a course, entertainment. 425.  
 Conseile, to counsel.  
 Contene, to contain.  
 Contray, Contraye, Contreie, a country.  
 Contrarius, diverse, contrary.  
 Conyng, a rabbit.  
 Coostez, coasts.  
 Cop, Coppe, top, hill-top.  
 Corageus, courageous.  
 Coren, corn.  
 Cors, body.  
 Cors, course.  
 Corse, to curse.  
 Corsed, cursed.  
 Corseynt, a relique, the body of a saint.  
 Corsyes, curses. [426.  
 Corsing, horse-dealing.  
 Cortays, Corteys, courteous, kind.  
 Cortaysye, courtesy.

- Cortesliche, courteously.  
 Cosin, cousin.  
 Cost, expense.  
 Cost, Coste, coast, border.  
 Costes, Costez, customs, laws, properties. 395.  
 Cote, a coat.  
 Cote, a cot. 410.  
 Cou, cow.  
 Coude, Couth, Couthe, Coupe, could, knew.  
 Coujde, Coujpe = *coupe*, knew.  
 Couherde, a cow-herd.  
 Coust, couldst.  
 Coupe, a cup.  
 Covatous, covetous.  
 Cove, a cave, cavern. 424.  
 Covent, convent.  
 Covenable, convenient.  
 Covenably, conveniently.  
 Cover, to recover.  
 Covetyse, covetousness.  
 Crabben, crabs.  
 Craft, force, art.  
 Craftes, abilities.  
 Crages, crags, rocks.  
 Crane, to crack.  
 Craven, to ask.  
 Craym, cream.  
 Creftesman, craftsman.  
 Crei, cry.  
 Crepe, to creep.  
 Cremppe, to stop. 407.  
 Cresped, crisped, curled.  
 Cresten, christian.  
 Creyme, chrism, oil used in anointing. [tian.  
 Cristen, Cristene, crist-  
 Cristni, Cristny, Crist-  
 nye, to baptize.  
 Cristnyng, baptism.  
 Crizinge, crying.  
 Croft, a field.  
 Croice, Crois, cross.  
 Croked, crooked.  
 Crokkes, crocks, pots.  
 Cronique, a chronicle.  
 Crop, Crophe, top.  
 Cropure, crupper.  
 Cros, a cross.  
 Croune, a crown.  
 Crouny, to crown.  
 Crounyng, coronation.  
 Croys, a cross.  
 Crudde, curd.  
 Crummes, crumbs.  
 Cullen, to kill.  
 Culvere, a dove.  
 Cum = *com*, came.  
 Cumand, to command.  
 Cumandment, commandment.  
 Cum, Cumen, to come.  
 Cumly, comely, fair.  
 Cummen, pp. come.  
 Cums, imp. come.  
 Cumse to commence.  
 Cunde, kind.  
 Cunne, kin.  
 Cunne, to know.  
 Cunnyng, knowledge.  
 Cuntenance, countenance, form, pretence.  
 Cupide3, cubits.  
 Cuppe-mell, cup by cup.  
 Cure, care.  
 Curtaisli, courteously.  
 Curteislé, Curtesliche, Curteysly, Curteysliche, courteously.  
 Curteys, courteous.  
 Curteysy, courtesy.  
 Cusse, to kiss.  
 Custe, habits. 395.  
 Cut, a lot.  
 Cupe, knew, could.  
 Cupest, knewest.  
 Cwaj, spoke.  
 Daffe, a fool.  
 Dai, day.  
 Dai-lyst, daylight.  
 Dai-rim, daybreak. 402.  
 Dai-sterre, day-star.  
 Dalf, digged. 427.  
 Dalt, dealt.  
 Dam, ocean.  
 Dam, dame.  
 Dammage, loss.  
 Dar, dare.  
 Dare, to tremble, to lie hid. 436.  
 Darked, lay hidden. 436.  
 Darst, darest, durst.  
 Dat = *dat*, that.  
 Daunger, danger.  
 Daunsyng, dancing.  
 Daunte, to tame. 413.  
 Dayes-e3e, daisy.  
 Dayntes, Dayntyte3, dainties, rarities.  
 De = *de*, the.  
 Dead = *deað*, death.  
 Debaat, sedition.  
 Debonere, debonair, courteous. 413.  
 Debrekyng, breaking.  
 Debrused, bruised. 413.  
 Dece, the dais, the high table.  
 Ded, Dede, dead, 'Dede Se,' Dead Sea.  
 Ded, Dede, death. 429.  
 Ded, Dede, deed.  
 Dede, did, caused.  
 Deedly, deadly.  
 Deed, death.  
 Deede, dead.  
 Deef, Def, deaf. [tell.  
 Deeme, to deem, judge, Dees, dice.  
 Defalte, fault.  
 Defaute, want. [431.  
 Defence, prohibition.  
 Defende, to forbid, prohibit.  
 Defendit, forbidden.  
 Defigured, disfigured.  
 Defye, to digest.  
 Degyset, disguised.  
 Deide, died.  
 Del, Dele part distributing, *deal*. 417.  
 Dele, to divide, distribute, have dealings with. 414.  
 Delful, doleful.  
 Delices, delicacies,  
 Deliverly, dexterously, quickly.  
 Delivry, to deliver.

- Delt, distributed, divided, dealt.  
 Delve, to dig.  
 Delver, a digger.  
 Dem, Deme, (1) to *deem*, judge, decide, doom, (2) to name, call. 384.  
 Deme, cause, doom, censure.  
 Demes, dooms, decrees.  
 Demmed, dammed, filled up.  
 Dempt, condemned.  
 Demþ, judges, thinks.  
 Deol, dole, grief. 414.  
 Deop, Deope, deep.  
 Deore, dear, beloved.  
 Deores, lovers.  
 Deore, to dare.  
 Deowes, dews.  
 Dep, Depe, deep, deeply.  
 Departe, to separate, divide.  
 Depe, to dip.  
 Der, a beast. 383.  
 Der, Dere, (1) dear, beloved, precious, joyful, joyous, (2) rarity, dainty. 389.  
 Dere, Deren, to hurt, injure.  
 Dereyni, to contest, prove. 412.  
 Derk, Derke, dark.  
 Derknesse, darkness.  
 Dern, Derne, secret, secretly. 403.  
 Derrest, noblest. [389.  
 Derðe, dearth, famine.  
 Derworth, Derworþe, precious, beloved.  
 Derworþly, honourable.  
 Desavauntage, disadvantage.  
 Desclosed, disclosed.  
 Descrifþe, to describe.  
 Deserite, to disinherit.  
 Despit, a wrong. [tiny.  
 Destené, Destenye, destrue, to destroy.  
 Desparþle, to scatter.  
 Desselic, secretly. 423.  
 Dette, debt. [death.  
 Deth, Deþ, Deth, Deþe, Deþ, does, causes.  
 Devise, Devyße, to tell, describe. [tining.  
 Devisyng, telling, men-  
 Devoydyng, doing, or putting away.  
 Deye, to die.  
 Deyl, part, share, *deal*.  
 Deynté, pleasure, dainty. 415.  
 Deystyné, destiny.  
 Deje, to die.  
 Deyter, daughters.  
 Dich, a ditch. [der.  
 Diffame, to defame, slander.  
 Dighte, (1) to prepare, set in order, (2) ordain, determine, doom, pret. Dighte, pp. Dight, 402.  
 Digne, to deign.  
 Diht, composes.  
 Diht, condemned, doomed (see Dighte).  
 Dihte, to prepare. 402.  
 Dilitable, delectable, pleasant.  
 Dimnes, darkness.  
 Dingneté, dignity.  
 Dingneliche, Dingneliche, properly, fitly, worthily.  
 Dint, a blow. 413.  
 Disceyve, to deceive.  
 Disclaundre, disrespect.  
 Discreve, Discrive, Discryve, to describe.  
 Disparþled, Disparþoiled, scattered.  
 Distruen, to destroy.  
 Dizle, secret. 395.  
 Dizt, pp, arranged, ordained.  
 Dizte, ordained.  
 Dizte, to give (see Dighte). 402.  
 Diztti, to ordain.  
 Do, to cause, place, give.  
 Doande, Doende, doing.  
 Doghty, doughty, valiant. 410.  
 Dok, tail.  
 Dolve (pret. subj. of *Delve*, to dig, break through), digged. 427.  
 Dom, Dome, doom, judgment, opinion, permission, pl. Domes, decisions. 384. [429.  
 Domland, cloudy, dark.  
 Don, Done, (1) to do, cause, put, (2) done, taken, put. [438.  
 Donet, a grammar.  
 Dong, Donge, dung.  
 Dongen (pp. of Dinge, to beat), beaten.  
 Donke, to moisten. 421.  
 Donne, to be done.  
 Donward, downward.  
 Dool, grief, dole. 414.  
 Dor = ðor, there.  
 Dor, Dore, a door.  
 Doreward, a doorkeeper.  
 Dorst, Dorste, durst.  
 Doser, back of a seat.  
 Dostu, doest thou.  
 Dotest, ravest, speakest foolishly. Wright's text reads *Doted*.  
 Doþ, causes, doth.  
 Douhtre, a daughter.  
 Doumbe, dumb.  
 Doun, Doune, down.  
 Dounes, hills, *dawns*.  
 Doun-falland, descending.  
 Dout, Doute, fear.  
 Doute, to fear.  
 Douthe, availed, was of value. 410.  
 Douth, Douþe, doughty, valiant(men), knights. 410, 435.  
 Dovene, Dovne, a female dove. 433.  
 Douhtiore, braver.  
 Dowed, availed. 410.  
 Dowelle, to dwell.  
 Dowter, a daughter.

- Dowve, a dove.  
 Dozein, a dozen.  
 Dozter, a daughter.  
 Doztren, daughters.  
 Drad, dread, fear,  
 'Adrad,' in fear.  
 Dragen, (1) to draw,  
 draw near, (2) drawn.  
 Drauhte, a draught.  
 Draun, Drawe, drawn.  
 Draze, (1) to draw, (2)  
 drawn.  
 Drechen, to delay. 381.  
 Drechinge, gasping,  
 heavy. 381.  
 Dred, Drede, dread, fear.  
 Dredand, Dredeand, Dre-  
 dende, fearing.  
 Dredful, fearful, timid.  
 Drednes, Dridnes, fear.  
 Drege, to suffer. 388.  
 Dreim, song, music. 396.  
 Dreinchen, to drown,  
 drench.  
 Drem, Dreme, a dream.  
 Dreme, song, music.  
 396.  
 Drempte, dreamed.  
 Drenchen, Drinchen,  
 Dreinchen, to drown.  
 Drepe, to slay, kill. 401,  
 408.  
 Dreri, Drery, dreary, sor-  
 rowful.  
 Dresse, to direct, pre-  
 pare, arrange, seat.  
 Dreve, to trouble, grieve.  
 Drezly, slowly.  
 Drighten, the Lord.  
 Drive forþ, to pass.  
 Drof, Drofe, drove,  
 threw. [392.  
 Drogen, drawn, passed.  
 Dronk, drank.  
 Dronke, Dronken,  
 drunken.  
 Dronkelewe, drunken.  
 Dronkene, to drown.  
 Dronkenes, drunkenness.  
 Drope, a drop. [drew.  
 Drou, Drouz, Drow,
- Drovy, troubled, dis-  
 turbed (see Dreve).  
 Drozþe, drought.  
 Drugte, drought. 386.  
 Druize, Druyze, to be-  
 come dry.  
 Drund, drowned.  
 Drunkene, to drown.  
 Drurie, love, gallantry,  
 a love-token.  
 Druye, dry.  
 Dryf, imp. drive, go.  
 Dryhe, dry.  
 Dryz, severe, stern, *dry*.  
 Dryze, to suffer, endure,  
 live. 388.  
 Dryzed, endured.  
 Dryzly, sternly, sharply.  
 Dryztyn, Dryzttyn, Lord.  
 Dubbe, to decorate, or-  
 nament. 430.  
 Dubonere, debonair,  
 courteous.  
 Duc, duke.  
 Dude, did.  
 Duelle, to dwell, delay.  
 Duere, dear, beloved.  
 Dun, Dune, down. [405.  
 Dun, Dune, hill, heath.  
 Dune, a noise, din.  
 Dunt, dint, blow.  
 Duppe, to dip.  
 Dure, Duren, to last,  
 endure.  
 Duren, dare.  
 Durre, pl. dare.  
 Dut, feared. 389.  
 Dutande, shutting, clos-  
 ing. 432.  
 Dute, to fear, doubt.  
 Duyryng, duration.  
 Dwery, a dwarf.  
 Dwyne, to dwindle, fade.  
 Dy, to die.  
 Dyap, death.  
 Dych, a ditch.  
 Dyevel, a devil.  
 Dyeveln, devils.  
 Dygne, worthy.  
 Dykers, ditchers.  
 Dym, Dymme, dark.
- Dyn, noise.  
 Dynet, dinner.  
 Dynet, dined. [413.  
 Dynt, blow, pl. Dynttes.  
 Dystrye, to destroy.  
 Dyze, Dyzen, to die.
- E, he.  
 Ear, ere, before.  
 Earding-stowe, dwelling-  
 place. 386.  
 Earen, ears.  
 Ech, Eche, each.  
 Eche, eke, also.  
 Eche, eternal,  
 Eche, to eke, increase.  
 Echedeyl, each part.  
 Echen, each.  
 Echon, Echone, Echoun,  
 each one.  
 Eddi, pleasant. 389.  
 Edneth = *edwit*.  
 Edwit, reproach, sorrow.  
 Eek, eke, also.  
 Feld, age.  
 Eese, pleasure, ease.  
 Eet, ate.  
 Ef, if.  
 Efsne, even.  
 Ef-sone = *eftsone*, after-  
 wards.  
 Eft, again.  
 Efter, after.  
 Eftsone, Eftsoone, Eft-  
 soones, afterwards.  
 Egge, edge.  
 Egge, to instigate. 431.  
 Egges, edges.  
 Eggyng, instigation.  
 Eghe, an eye.  
 Eghen, eyes.  
 Egle, an eagle.  
 Eie, Eighe, eye.  
 Field, old.  
 Eile, to ail.  
 Eir, heir.  
 Eijer, each.  
 Eiz = *ey*, egg.  
 Eize, an eye.  
 Eighen, Eizyen, eyes.  
 Ek, also

- Ekforþe, even.  
 Eld, Elde, old age, old  
 Eled, grown old.  
 Eldere, Elderne, elders.  
 Eldore, elder.  
 Eldrynges, elders.  
 Elleft, eleventh.  
 Ellene = *ellerne*, an  
 elder-tree. 437.  
 Ellen, an ell. [wise.  
 Elles, Ellis, else, other  
 Ellez = *elles*, provided.  
 Elnjerde, a staff of an  
 ell in length.  
 Elring, a fish so called.  
 Elþer, older.  
 Em, an uncle. [dor.  
 Embassitour, ambassa-  
 Emcristen, fellow Chris-  
 tian.  
 Emeraude, emerald.  
 Empoisonyng, poison-  
 ing.  
 Empoysoner, poisoner.  
 Enbrauded, embroider  
 ed.  
 Enchace, to drive out.  
 Enchaunmens, enchant-  
 ments.  
 Encresce, to increase.  
 Enden, to come to an  
 end.  
 Endentur, crevices.  
 Endi, to end.  
 Ending, Endyng, death.  
 Enc, Enes, once. 419.  
 Enesed, entangled. It  
 may be an error for  
 Evesed, bordered,  
 trimmed.  
 Enfermer, the Infirma-  
 rius of an abbey.  
 Enflawned, inflamed.  
 Engel, angel.  
 Engel, English.  
 Engyneful, skilful.  
 Eni, any.  
 Enker, bright.  
 Enmy, an enemy.  
 Enne, one (acc.). [dow.  
 Enoumbre, to oversha-  
 Enpoysened, poisoned.  
 Enqueri, to inquire.  
 Enseure, to insure.  
 Entrete, to treat of.  
 Eode, went.  
 Eorne, to run.  
 Eorþe, earth.  
 Eovil[e], evilly, badly.  
 Er, (1) before, (2) are.  
 Erand, an errand.  
 Erd, land, abode. 386.  
 Erde, earth.  
 Erding-stowe, dwelling-  
 place, abode.  
 Ere, (1) an ear, (2) are.  
 Eres, ears.  
 Erf, Erfe, cattle. 381.  
 Ering, earing.  
 Erl, an earl.  
 Erliche, Erlyche, early.  
 Ern, Erne, an eagle.  
 Ernde, an errand.  
 Ernest, earnest.  
 Ernestly, quickly.  
 Erst, first. [that.  
 Erst þan = *er þan*, ere  
 Ert, art.  
 Erth, earth.  
 Erthe, to dwell.  
 Erþe, earth, ground.  
 Erþeli, earthily. [quake.  
 Erþe-movyng, earth-  
 Ertou, art thou.  
 Erur, before.  
 Erve, cattle. 381.  
 Es, is.  
 Esse, (1) is, (2) to ask.  
 Esste, asked.  
 Est, the east.  
 Este, pleasant. 418.  
 Et, ate.  
 Etayn, a giant. 435.  
 Ete, to eat.  
 Eten, to eat.  
 Ette, ate.  
 Ethen, hence.  
 Eþen = *beþen*, hence.  
 Eþi-modes, kind, merci-  
 ful. 389. [435.  
 Ettle, to come, arrive.  
 Evelez, evils.  
 Evereuch, every.  
 Everilc, each. 386.  
 Evre, ever.  
 Evrich, every.  
 Evreich, every, each.  
 Evrelestynde, everlast-  
 ing.  
 Evylle, sickness.  
 Ewe ardaunt, brandy.  
 Expoune, Expowne, to  
 expound.  
 Eyr, the air.  
 Eyre, heir.  
 Eþe, an eye.  
 Eþen, eyes.  
 Fa, Faa, a foe. 413.  
 Faand, found.  
 Faas, Faes, foes.  
 Fade, hostile.  
 Fader, a father.  
 Fagen, fain, glad. 390.  
 Faght, fought.  
 Fai, faith.  
 Faines, gladdens, re-  
 joices.  
 Faire, Fayre, fair, hon-  
 ourable, courteous,  
 worthily.  
 Fais, foes.  
 Falau, fallow. 424.  
 Fale = *fete*, many.  
 Falle, (1) to befall, (2)  
 fallen.  
 Fals, false.  
 Falshede, falsehood.  
 Falthe, falleth, falls.  
 Falt, falters, fails.  
 Famen, foemen, enemies.  
 Fand, found.  
 Fande, to try, tempt.  
 Fanding, temptation,  
 trial, pl. Fandinges.  
 Fang, Fange, to take.  
 Fannand, waving, flow-  
 ing. [flies.  
 Fannez, fans, flutters.  
 Fantoum, Fantum, an ap-  
 parition, a phantom.  
 Fantasye, fancy.  
 Farand, good, noble.



- Far, Fare, Faren, to go, proceed, act, behave.  
 Fare, way, course.  
 Fare, Faren, gone, departed. 384.  
 Fars, fares. [400.  
 Fastrede, firm in counsel.  
 Fapmed, embraced.  
 Faure, Fawre, four.  
 Faurtend, fourteenth.  
 Faut, a fault. 431.  
 Fauvel, Fauwel, Favel, flattery. 437.  
 Fax, hair. 435.  
 Fay, faith.  
 Fayli, to fail.  
 Fayn, glad.  
 Fayrnes, beauty. [craft.  
 Fayryze, magic, witch-  
 Fayten, to mortify  
 Fe, Fee, cattle, money, property, *fee*. 384.  
 Feblelike, feebly, poorly, niggardly.  
 Febli, to become feeble.  
 Feblore, feebler.  
 Febly, to become feeble.  
 Feche, Fecche, Fechen, to fetch.  
 Feend, fiend, devil.  
 Fees, cities.  
 Feer, fire.  
 Feere, a companion.  
 Feffede, endowed, bestowed. 413.  
 Feh, a dress of various colours. 418.  
 Fei, faith. [courteous.  
 Feir, Feire, fair, civil, Feirth, fourth.  
 Feith, Feib, faith.  
 Feibely, Feizeþly, Feiþliche, truly.  
 Fel, Felle, fierce, cruel.  
 Fel, Felle, a hill, pl. Fels, Felles, hills.  
 Fel, Felle, the skin, hide. 417.  
 Fel, Fele, many. 392.  
 Felau, Felaw, Felawe, a fellow, companion.  
 Felawschape, Felaysþyp, fellowship.  
 Feld, (1) felt, (2) hidden.  
 Feld, Felde, a field.  
 Feldfare, a bird so called.  
 Felde, (1) fell, (2) filled.  
 Fele, many.  
 Fele, to feel, experience.  
 Felefelded, manifold, multiplied.  
 Felle, hardy, fierce, cruel, horrible, dreadful. 412.  
 Felon, Felun, (1) a wretch, (2) wretched, wicked. 412.  
 Felonye, shame, disgrace, crime.  
 Felunliche, Felunly, wickedly, fiercely.  
 Fen, the name of the sections of Avicenne's great work entitled *Canun*.  
 Feþ, dirt, mud, marsh.  
 Fend, an enemy, fiend, devil.  
 Feng, took.  
 Feole, many.  
 Feor, Fer, Ferr, far.  
 Ferd, Ferde, Fered, fear, fright.  
 Ferd, Ferde, went, departed, fared. 391.  
 Ferde, Verde, army, host. 391.  
 Ferdnes, fear.  
 Fere, (1) fire, (2) bold, courageous, (3) to frighten.  
 Fere, (1) a mate, companion, (2) akin, 'in *ferre*,' together, in company.  
 Feren, companions.  
 Feren, afar. 380.  
 Ferene, fern, brake.  
 Ferforþ, far.  
 Ferkkes, rides. 435.  
 Ferli, Ferly, (1) a marvel, wonder, (2) marvel-  
 lous, strange, (3) wonder-  
 derfully, greatly.  
 Ferlich, Ferliche, (1) marvellous, wondrous, (2) wonderfully, 'ferly *fele*,' very much. 411.  
 Ferlikes, marvels, miracles.  
 Ferlilic, Ferlyly, wonder-  
 fully, greatly.  
 Ferme, farm. [farther.  
 Ferre, (1) distant, (2) Fersch, fresh. [426.  
 Fertered, enshrined.  
 Ferthe, fourth.  
 Ferþing, Ferþyng, a fourth part, a fourthing.  
 Fesauns, a pheasant.  
 Ferre, (1) fist, (2) loaded.  
 Fest, Feste, a feast.  
 Fest, Festen, to fasten, to confine.  
 Fested, Festend, fastened.  
 Festnes, fastness, stability.  
 Fet, feet.  
 Fet, Fette, fat.  
 Fete, Fette, (1) to fetch, (2) fetched.  
 Fel, Felil, a vessel.  
 Fetis, Fetys, neat, nice, pleasant, comely.  
 Fetisliche, neatly, nicely.  
 Fetre, to fetter.  
 Fette, Fetten, to fetch.  
 Fettle, prepared, made ready. 432.  
 Feþered, feathered.  
 Feþly = *feibly*, truly.  
 Feute, scent.  
 Feye, dead. 419.  
 Fey, faith.  
 Feyne, to feign.  
 Feyntise, (1) deceit, (2) faintness.  
 Feyr, Feyre, fair, beautiful. [witchcraft.  
 Feyrie, Feyrye, magic, Feyrnesse, complexion, beauty.

- Feyp, faith. [tending.  
 Feztande, fighting, con-  
 Feztung, fighting.  
 Fieble, feeble.  
 Fierthe, fourth.  
 Fif, five.  
 Fifetende, fifteenth.  
 Fift, fifth.  
 Fiht, (1) fight, (2) fights.  
 Fihtlac, fighting, con-  
 test. 406.  
 Fikel, deceitful, *fickle*.  
 Filand, defiling. 416.  
 Fild, defiled.  
 Fildore, gold wire.  
 File, to defile.  
 Filghe, to follow. 417.  
 Fille, a girl (?)  
 Filt, filled. [fine.  
 Fin, Fyn, (1) end, (2)  
 Fir, fire.  
 First = *frist*, a long  
 period, delay. 423.  
 Fises, fishes.  
 Figt, (1) a fight, (2)  
 fights.  
 Fijte, to fight.  
 Flamme, a flame.  
 Flamyn, a priest.  
 Flaunes, pancakes. 409.  
 Flaunkes sparks. [en.  
 Flay, to terrify, fright-  
 Fleand, fleeing, flying.  
 Flees, fleece.  
 Flegh, Fleih, flew.  
 Fleigheing, flying.  
 Fleis, Fleissh, flesh.  
 Fleischly, fleshly,  
 Fleiz, flew.  
 Fleme, (1) to banish,  
 (2) banished, exiled.  
 421.  
 Fleo, to flee.  
 Fleschlych, carnal.  
 Flet, a floor.  
 Flete, to float, swim.  
 Fletez, floats.  
 Flette, floated.  
 Flexs, flesh.  
 Fleynge, flying. [flesh.  
 Fleyshlust, lust of the
- Flez, flew.  
 Flighand, flying.  
 Flitte, to remove.  
 Flijst, fliest.  
 Flijst, flies.  
 Flo, to slay.  
 Flo = *fleo*, to flee.  
 Flo, an arrow.  
 Flod, Flode, a flood.  
 Floh = *flop*, flows.  
 Flon, arrows.  
 Flon = *fleon*, to flee.  
 Flor, floor.  
 Flot, boiling fat. 434.  
 Flote, a company. 410.  
 Flote, floated.  
 Flop = *fleop*, flies, fly.  
 Flowe, Flowen, pl. flew.  
 Flozed, flowed.  
 Flude, a flood.  
 Flum, a stream, river.  
 394.  
 Flwe, flew.  
 Flyt, current, course  
 (from *flitte*, to re-  
 move).  
 Flytande, striving, con-  
 tending (from *flite* or  
*flyte*, to chide). 434.  
 Flyth, flies.  
 Flyzes, flies.  
 Flyt, flight.  
 Fnast, breath. 396.  
 Fnaste, to breathe.  
 Fo we, let us proceed.  
 400.  
 Fo, foe.  
 Fo, few. 392.  
 Foch, Foche, to fetch.  
 Fode, food.  
 Fode, person, creature,  
 child, pl. Fodez, crea-  
 tures. 418.  
 Foded = *fonded*, tempt-  
 ed, enticed.  
 Foghles, Fogheles, birds.  
 Fol, full, very.  
 Folcouthe, well assured.  
 Folde, earth.  
 Foldez, imp. turn over  
 to, assign.
- Folé, foal. [foolish.  
 Fole, (1) a fool, (2)  
 Folewe, to follow.  
 Folfille, to fulfill.  
 Folfult, fulfilled.  
 Folken, of people.  
 Folmarde, a polecat.  
 Folpayd, richly endowed.  
 Foltede, foolish. 421.  
 Folwing, following.  
 Foly, foolishly.  
 Folowand, Foluande,  
 Folwande, following,  
 corresponding.  
 Folze, to follow. 401.  
 Fom, foam.  
 Fomon, an enemy.  
 Fon, Fone, few. 429.  
 Fon, ceased. 432.  
 Fon, to take. 420.  
 Fon, foes. 413.  
 Fond, Fonde, found.  
 Fonde, to try, attempt,  
 engage.  
 Fondyng, temptation.  
 Foner, fewer.  
 Fonge, to take, receive.  
 Fongez, takes.  
 Fonger, receiver.  
 Font, found.  
 Foo, foe, enemy.  
 Foondes, harbours.  
 For, went. 384.  
 For = *feor*, far.  
 Forbedd, forbad.  
 Forbede, Forbeode, to  
 forbid.  
 Forbedun, forbidden.  
 Forbere, to forbear, ab-  
 stain.  
 Forberne, to consume.  
 Fordedes, good deeds.  
 Fordon, Fordo, (1) to  
 ruin, destroy, (2) un-  
 done.  
 Fordred, sore afraid.  
 Fordronk = *fordronken*,  
 exceedingly drunk.  
 Fordrue, dried up. 405.  
 Foren, gone, departed,  
 pl. went.

- Foreward, Forewarde,  
Forward, Forwarde,  
a promise, covenant,  
agreement.  
Forfare, to destroy.  
Forferde, destroyed.  
Forga, to forego.  
Forgaf, forgave.  
Forgart, lost. 431.  
Forgete, to forget.  
Forhede, to hide. 422.  
Forhele, to hide, keep  
secret. 373, 391.  
Forhiler, concealer.  
Forhiling, refuge, asy-  
lum. [den. 391.  
Forhole, Forholen, hid-  
Forleost, loseth.  
Forlese, to destroy.  
Forlet, (1) leaves off, (2)  
left. 393, 396.  
Forlete, to leave, refuse.  
Forloren, Forlorl, for-  
lorl, lost, ruined, des-  
troyed. [431.  
Forloyned, gone astray.  
Formast, first.  
Forme, first. 428.  
Forme-fader, Formere-  
fader, Forme-foster,  
first father.  
Formest, first.  
Formyour, creator.  
Fornes, furnace.  
Fornumen, taken away,  
deprived of.  
Forquat, Forqui, for-  
what, wherefore.  
Forred, covered with fur.  
For-red, deceived. 388.  
Forsake, to refuse.  
Forsoc, refused.  
Forsoth, Forsop, For-  
sothe, forsooth, truly,  
indeed.  
Forst, frost. [falsely.  
Forswere, to swear  
Forsweringe, perjury.  
Forsweringes, perjuries.  
Fort, Forte, Forto, un-  
til, for to.
- Forth, forwards. [422.  
Forthie, scum, *frotb.*  
Forþ, way, passage.  
Forthan, Forþan, for  
that reason, therefore.  
Forþ cumen, pp. come to  
pass.  
Forþe = *forþi*, therefore.  
Forþer, to further.  
Forthers, Forþer, fur-  
ther, moreover.  
Forthfare, to go forth.  
Forthi, Forthie, there-  
fore, wherefore, al-  
though. [fore.  
Forði, therefore, where-  
Forþinke, Forþynke, to  
repent. [forth.  
Forthledand, leading  
Forþrast, thrust down,  
overwhelmed. 431.  
Forþwit, before. 423.  
Fortone, fortune.  
Fortune (be), perchance.  
Forvorth, far forth, far.  
Forwake, to be weary  
with watching.  
Forward, Forwarde, co-  
venant, agreement.  
Forwhi, wherefore.  
Forwit, before. 423.  
Forworthes, come to  
nothing, perish. 429.  
Forwro3t, overworked,  
fatigued.  
For3, a furrow.  
For3af, forgave. [387.  
For3elde, to requite.  
For3et, forgot.  
For-jete, to forget.  
For3eten, forgotten.  
For3etyng, forgetful-  
ness. [forgive.  
For3eve, For3yve, to  
For3oven, forgiven.  
Fot = *fat*, vat, vessel,  
422.  
Fot, Fote, a foot.  
Fotte, to fetch.  
Foted, footed.  
Foul, a fowl, bird.
- Fouled, Fowled, defiled.  
Founde, to establish.  
Founde = *fonde*, to seek.  
Founde, to go, come.  
Founde, pp. found.  
Foundere, to destroy.  
Founde[re]de, destroyed.  
Founjt, the baptismal  
fount.  
Founs, the bottom.  
Fourtene ni3t, fortnight.  
Foute, scent.  
Fou3ten, fought.  
Foyne, to fence, push  
aside.  
Foyson, Foyoun, Foy-  
syr, plenty, abun-  
dance.  
Fo3e, consent. 400.  
Fojle, Fo3ele, a bird, fowl.  
Fra, from. 383.  
Frainde, enquired.  
Fraiste, to try, seek.  
Fram, from.  
Frame, advantage.  
Fraward, forward.  
Frayn, Frayne, to ask,  
enquire, seek. 385.  
Frayst, sought. 416.  
Frayst, Frayste, to seek.  
Fraysted, tried.  
Frayste3, seeks.  
Freedom, generosity.  
Freeltie, frailty.  
Freinde, enquired. 385.  
Freis, Freisshe, fresh.  
Frek, bold, hardy. 430.  
Frek, Freke, a man,  
person, pl. Freke3,  
430.  
Frele, frail.  
Frelliche, Frely, (1) no-  
ble, good, (2) richly,  
beautifully.  
Freme = *queme*, to  
please.  
Frend, Freind, a friend.  
Freo, free,  
Freamen, freemen.  
Fret, Frete, to eat. 386.  
Freten, eaten, devoured.

- Frette, to furnish, fill. 432.  
 Freyliche, Freliche, good, noble.  
 Frigti, timid, fearful.  
 Frigthed, fear.  
 Frigilike, timidly.  
 Frith, Fryth, a wood. 430. [tect.  
 Friðe, to preserve, pro-  
 Fro, from. 380.  
 Frost, freezes. [ring.  
 Fortynge, rubbing, jar-  
 Froþe, to foam.  
 Froþing, foaming.  
 Frount, forehead.  
 Frut, Frutte, Fryt, fruit.  
 Fuel-kunne, birds.  
 Fuhele, Fugele, Fuzele, fowl, bird.  
 Fuir, fire.  
 Ful, Fule, foul. 416.  
 Fuld, complete, fulfilled.  
 Fule, a fool.  
 Fulfid, Fulfilt, ful-  
 filled, filled full.  
 Fulhed, fulness.  
 Fulle, perfect.  
 Fulsum, abundant. 387.  
 Fulsumhed, abundance,  
 plenteousness. [435.  
 Fulsun, to aid, assist.  
 Fulwes, follows.  
 Fumosite, fumes arising  
 from excessive drink-  
 ing.  
 Funde, Funden, found.  
 Fundeþ, Fundieþ, goes,  
 pl. go. 404.  
 Fur, fire.  
 Furmest, first.  
 Fust, the first.  
 Fuyr, fire.  
 Fuzele, a bird.  
 Fyht, fights.  
 Fylyng, defiling.  
 Fyn, ending.  
 Fyned, ceased.  
 Fyrre, farther.  
 Fyþer, feather, pl. Fy-  
 Fyzt, fight, contest.  
 Ga, to go. [go.  
 Gaes, Gaas, Gais, imp.  
 Gabbe, to lie, joke. 411.  
 GADERE, GADEREN, GA-  
 dre, Gadery, to ga-  
 ther.  
 Gaf, gave.  
 Gain, good. 431.  
 Gainges, goings, paths  
 (see Ga).  
 Galegale, chatterer. 400,  
 401. [409.  
 Galues, the gallows.  
 Galwe-tre, the gallows.  
 Galle, gall.  
 Game, Gamen, play,  
 sport, pleasure.  
 Gan, did.  
 Gan, pp. gone. [ing.  
 Gangand, going, walk-  
 Gangen, to go. 407.  
 Gar, to make.  
 Gare, ready, *year*. 393.  
 Garnement, garment.  
 Garryng, having a harsh  
 gutteral sound.  
 Gart, made.  
 Gast, aghast.  
 Gast, Gaste, ghost, spirit.  
 Gasflic, spiritually.  
 Gat, gate, path, way.  
 Gatte, Gatten, granted.  
 393.  
 Gaude, ornament.  
 Gayn, good, service-  
 able, useful. 431.  
 Gaynliche, pleasantly.  
 Gaynly, kindly.  
 Ge, ye.  
 Gede, went.  
 Gedelyng = *gadling*,  
 vagabond. 419.  
 Gedere, Gedre, to ga-  
 ther, lift up.  
 Gef, (1) if, (2) gave.  
 Gees, geese.  
 Geld, requited (see  
 3elde). 387.  
 Gendered, born.  
 Gendrez, kinds.  
 Gendrye, to engender.  
 Genge, nations. 417.  
 Gent, gentle.  
 Gentiliche, nobly.  
 Ger, to compel, to make.  
 Ger, Gere, year.  
 Gered, behaved, man-  
 nered.  
 Gered, clothed.  
 Geren, to prepare, set  
 in order. 303. [389.  
 Gerken, to prepare.  
 Gern, Gerne, earnestly.  
 Gers, Geres, compels.  
 Gert, (1) did, caused, (2)  
 girded.  
 Geserne, Giserne, axe.  
 Gesse, to think, suppose.  
 Gesse, to deem, sup-  
 pose, order, place.  
 Gessynge, judging, cen-  
 suring.  
 Gest = *gert* (p. 133, l.  
 208), caused.  
 Gest, goest. 405.  
 Gest, guest, stranger.  
 Gest, made.  
 Gestening, Gestning,  
 lodging. 422.  
 Gestes, deeds, stories.  
 Get, yet.  
 Gete, to get.  
 Gett, handed down,  
 transmitted.  
 Geb, goes.  
 Geve, Geven, to give.  
 Geven, given.  
 Geynest, fairest (see  
 Gayn). 420.  
 Ghe, she.  
 Gif, Gife, to give.  
 Gilden-moth, golden  
 mouth.  
 Gile, to beguile.  
 Gilt, guilt. [vice, craft.  
 Ginne, contrivance, de-  
 Ginne, to begin.  
 Ginneþ, howis. 436.  
 Girde, girded.  
 Giserne, axe.

- Givand, giving. [glided].  
 Glad, Glade, Glode,  
 Gladdore, more glad.  
 Glade, glad.  
 Glade, to become glad,  
 to gladden.  
 Gladur, more glad.  
 Glam, word. 434.  
 Glaumande, boisterous.  
 Gle, song, glee. 418.  
 Gled, Glede, glad.  
 Glede, to rejoice, be  
*glad*.  
 Glednesse, gladness.  
 Glediynde, rejoicing.  
 Glemered, glimmered.  
 Glent, looked, glanced,  
 shone.  
 Gleu, skilful. 400.  
 Glod, came.  
 Gloir, glory.  
 Glopnid, Gloppend,  
 terrified, frightened.  
 423.  
 Glosed, spoke pleasantly,  
 flattered.  
 Glosynge, interpreting.  
 Glotonie, gluttony. [ing].  
 Glouand, burning, glow-  
 Glydande, going, walk-  
 ing.  
 Gnide, to break in  
 pieces. 417.  
 Gobet, Gobat, a piece,  
 morsel. 438.  
 God, Gode, good.  
 Goddeli, goodly, plea-  
 santly.  
 Godelych, good, goodly.  
 Goderhele, welfare,  
 safety. 413.  
 Godhede, goodness.  
 Godles, goodness, having  
 no goods.  
 Godnisse, goodness.  
 Godspelle, gospel.  
 Golet, gullet.  
 Gome, man. 405.  
 Gome, Gomen, sport,  
 play, *game*. 406.  
 Gon, Gone, to go.
- Gone, to gasp, yawn.  
 Gonge, to go (see  
 Gange).  
 Gonne, pl. began, did.  
 Goon, to go.  
 Goot, a goat.  
 Gorde, rushed.  
 Gore, dress. 420.  
 Gore, filth. 431.  
 Gorstez, gorse, heath.  
 Gost, Goste, spirit.  
 Gotes, streams.  
 Got3, goes.  
 Gop, goes.  
 Gop, imp. go. [408.  
 Goud, good. [408.  
 Goule, Goulen, to howl.  
 Gou we, let us go.  
 Grad = *gret*, cries  
 (shame upon).  
 Grad, Gradde, cried.  
 Graibe, to ordain.  
 Gram, Grame, anger,  
 wrath, disgust, grief.  
 397.  
 Gramere, grammar.  
 Granand, groaning.  
 Granti, to consent,  
 grant.  
 Gratlyche, greatly.  
 Gratheli = *graitbeli*,  
 readily, easily.  
 Grattest, greatest.  
 Graunte, Graunti, to  
 grant.  
 Grave, to bury.  
 Graven, buried.  
 Graybe, ready.  
 Graybe, to prepare.  
 Graybed, placed, seated.  
 Graybed, prepared,  
 dressed. [diest.  
 Graybest, nearest, rea-  
 Graybely, quickly, rea-  
 dily, firmly.  
 Graz, grace.  
 Grede, cry, to cry. 397.  
 Gredy, greedy. [noise.  
 Gredyng, Gredyng,  
 Greetli, greatly.  
 Greet, Greete, great.
- Greibede, prepared.  
 Greme, to anger, wrath.  
 Gren, Grene, green.  
 Grenne, to grin.  
 Gres, Gresse, grass. 418.  
 Greses, grasses.  
 Gret, wept. 383, 392.  
 Gret, Grete, great;  
 comp. Gretter.  
 Gret, Grete, to cry,  
 weep. 392.  
 Gretaude, mourning,  
 weeping, sorrowing.  
 Gretes, of the great.  
 Grete, to greet.  
 Grete = *grette*, wept.  
 Gretely, greatly.  
 Greten, to greet.  
 Greten, wept.  
 Gretli, greatly.  
 Gretliche, greatly.  
 Grette, greeted, saluted.  
 Gretyng, greeting.  
 Greved, grieved.  
 Greve, grove.  
 Grevi, to be heavy.  
 Greyn, Greyne, grain.  
 Greythe, to prepare, or-  
 der, build.  
 Greythede, prepared,  
 made.  
 Griefe, to grieve.  
 Grim, savage, fierce.  
 Grinding, gnashing.  
 Grip, dragon. 409.  
 Grisbritege, a gnashing  
 or grinding of the  
 teeth. [fear. 400.  
 Grise, to be afraid, to  
 Grislich, Grisliche, hor-  
 rid, horrible, fright-  
 ful.  
 Griseliche, horrible.  
 Grisely, Grisly, horrid,  
 horrible. [406.  
 Grith, safety, peace.  
 Gripbruche, breach of  
 the peace. 406.  
 Grocching, grumbling.  
 Grome, man. 405.  
 Groniynge, groaning.



- Havest, Haves, hast.  
 Havkes, hawks.  
 Havid, Haved, had.  
 Havis, has.  
 Hawbergh, hauberk.  
 Hawe, enclosure, garden.  
 457. [ries. 411.  
 Hawen, hawthorn ber-  
 Hazer, more fit.  
 He, eye. 425.  
 He = *heo*, she,  
 He, *bo*, or *hus*, they.  
 Heape, assembly,  
 Hed, Hede, the head.  
 Hede, heed.  
 Hedde, Hedden, had.  
 Hedles, headless.  
 Heed, the head.  
 Heengen, pl. hang.  
 Heved, the head.  
 Hef, rose, swelled.  
 Hegest, highest.  
 Hegge, a hedge.  
 Hegh, Heghe, high,  
 Heghest, highest.  
 Heghnes, highness,  
 height.  
 Heght, height.  
 Hei, Heie, high.  
 Heiemen, Heyemen,  
 noblemen.  
 Heihliche, greatly.  
 Heilede = *beilsede*, sa-  
 luted. 438.  
 Heilnesse, health. 385.  
 Heind = *bend*, courteous.  
 Heivol, haughty,  
 Heize, high.  
 Heizte, height.  
 Hel, Hele, salvation.  
 Held, Helde = *eld*, old  
 age, age.  
 Helde = *bolde*, esteem.  
 Helde, to bend down.  
 416.  
 Helder, rather.  
 Hele, to heal.  
 Hele, salvation, health.  
 Helod, covered. 379.  
 Heles, covers.  
 Heling, salvation.  
 Helm, a helmet.  
 Helpe, health.  
 Helpe, safety.  
 Hem, them.  
 Heme, a shirt, skirt.  
 Hend, Hende, hands.  
 Hende, near. 467.  
 Hende, urbane, cour-  
 teous.  
 Hendely, courteously.  
 Hendest, most courteous.  
 Hendy, gracious.  
 Henge, to hang, [hence.  
 Hennes, (1) hens, (2)  
 Hens, hence.  
 Hent, Hente, seized.  
 Heo, (1) they, (2) she.  
 Heom, them.  
 Heonnes, hence.  
 Heor, Heore, their.  
 Heore, theirs. 411.  
 Her = *er*, before.  
 Her-bi, hereby.  
 Her, (1) hear, (2) here.  
 Her, Here, the hair.  
 Her, of them.  
 Her-of, hereof.  
 Herande, hearing. [394.  
 Herbergeri, lodging.  
 Herbivore, here before.  
 Herborw, harbour,  
 abode. 394.  
 Herborwed, lodged,  
 sheltered. 394.  
 Herd, hard.  
 Herde, a keeper of  
 cattle.  
 Herdes = *erdes*, lands.,  
 Herdne, an errand. 385.  
 Here, an army. 393.  
 Here, of them, their.  
 Here, to hear, pret.  
 Herde.  
 Here, a hair shirt.  
 Here, the hair.  
 Here-ward, her-ward.  
 Heres, theirs.  
 Heren, an army. 393.  
 Herie, to praise. 428.  
 Heried, invaded.  
 Heriyng, praise.  
 Herke, Herkne, to  
 hearken.  
 Herle, fillet.  
 Hernes, brains.  
 , eagles.  
 Herre, higher. 405.  
 Hert, a hart.  
 Herte, the heart.  
 Herte-blood, heart's  
 blood. [383.  
 Herteden, consoled.  
 Herting, consolation,  
 comfort.  
 Herttes, Herttez, harts.  
 Hervest, harvest.  
 Herte, to praise. 428.  
 Heryng, praise.  
 Heryng, hearing.  
 Hest, hast.  
 Hest, highest. 419.  
 Hestes, behests.  
 Het = *et*, ate.  
 Het, it. [mised. 392.  
 Het, was called, pro-  
 Hete, (1) heat, (2) hate.  
 Hete, bid. 392. [433.  
 Heterly, quickly, hastily.  
 Heth, Heb, hath.  
 Hethe, to entreat.  
 Hepe, heath. [408.  
 Hethede, commanded.  
 Hethen, Heðen, hence.  
 Heþene, heathen.  
 Heþing, scorn. 423.  
 Hett = *bete*, heat.  
 Hette, called, promised.  
 Hetterly, fiercely. 433.  
 Hettez, promisedest.  
 Heu, hue.  
 Hevé, heavy.  
 Heved, the head.  
 Hevede, had.  
 Heven, to raise.  
 Heveneriche, the king-  
 dom of heaven.  
 Hevenlyche, heavenly.  
 Hevidles, headless.  
 Hevy, heavy.  
 Hevyd, the head.  
 Hey, Heye, hay.  
 Heyer, higher.

- Heyt, height.  
 Heze, high.  
 —, great, high.  
 Heslyche, chiefly.  
 Hezbe, height.  
 Hi, Hy, (1) they, (2) she.  
 Hi, Hie, haste, to hasten.  
 Hiden, hides of land.  
 Hider, hither.  
 Hiderward, hitherward.  
 Hidir, hither. [quickly.  
 Hie, haste, 'in hie,'  
 Hield, held.  
 Hiere, to hear.  
 Hewh, hewed, cut.  
 Hight, called, was called,  
 promised.  
 Hih, high.  
 Hiht, Hihte, was called,  
 commanded, pro-  
 mised. 392.  
 Hii, they.  
 Hile, to cover. 379.  
 Hilid, covered.  
 Hiling, covering. [vants.  
 Hine, (1) him, (2) ser-  
 Hinehede, servants.  
 Hingande, hanging.  
 Hir = *ber*, hair.  
 Hirdnesse, herds.  
 Hire, (1) her, (2) their.  
 Hirede, let on hire.  
 His, her.  
 Hise, them.  
 Hittez, arrives.  
 Hij, Hijze, high.  
 Hijze, to hasten. 415.  
 Hijede, hastened.  
 Hijliche, long.  
 Hijt = *bit*, it.  
 Hijt, promised. 392.  
 Hijte, joy, honour. 401.  
 Hijte, to rejoice. [est.  
 Hijtees = *bizeste*, high-  
 Ho, (1) she, (2) who.  
 Ho = *beo*, they.  
 Ho-bestez, she-beasts.  
 Hoble, to hobble.  
 Hoc, hook, sickle.  
 Hod, a hood.  
 Hoge, huge.  
 Hogt = *logt*, taken.  
 Hoked, hooked.  
 Hokes, hooks.  
 Hol, whole, sound.  
 Hold = *beold*, held.  
 Holde to, to go to.  
 Holde, beholden, in-  
 debted. [hold.  
 Holde = *beolde*, should  
 Holde, faithful.  
 Holden, held, kept.  
 Hole, whole.  
 Holewe, hollow.  
 Holly, wholly.  
 Hollyn, holly.  
 Holw, hollow.  
 Holyliche, adv. holy.  
 Hom, (1) home, (2) them.  
 Homicidy, murder.  
 Hond, hand.  
 Hond, Honde, hound.  
 Honde, hands.  
 Hondele, to handle.  
 Honden, hands.  
 Hond selle, hansom, gift.  
 Honge, Hongen, to  
 hang.  
 Honger, hunger.  
 Honne, hence.  
 Hontinge, hunting.  
 Hopurand, honouring.  
 Hoor, hoar, hoary.  
 Hoot, hot.  
 Hop, hope, trust. [ing.  
 Hopand, hoping, trust-  
 Hor, their, of them.  
 Hordom, whoredom.  
 Hore, (1) hoary, (2) their.  
 Hors, pl. horses.  
 Horte = *beorte*, the heart.  
 Horwed, unclean. 432.  
 Hose, whose.  
 Hoseli, Hosle, Hoslon,  
 to housle, to admi-  
 nister the sacrament.  
 407.  
 Hote, hot.  
 Hote, to command. 392  
 Hoten, called.  
 Hotene, promised.  
 Hoteð, imp. promise.  
 Hoteth, is called.  
 Hou, how.  
 Houle, an owl.  
 Houve, cap, hood.  
 Hove, to abide, dwell.  
 Hoved, abode.  
 Hoven, raised.  
 Hovene, heaven.  
 Hovenriche, the king-  
 dom of heaven.  
 Hoves, behoves.  
 Hoves, hoofs.  
 Hovez, hovers.  
 How = *beow*, colour,  
 hue, 404.  
 How-gate, how-so.  
 Hoxterye, huckstry.  
 438.  
 Hu, Huz, colour, hue.  
 Hu, how.  
 Huam, whom.  
 Huanne, when.  
 Huannes, whence.  
 Hud, imp. hide.  
 Hude, to hide.  
 Hudinge, secresy. 415.  
 Hue, they.  
 Huer, where.  
 Huere, their.  
 Huerto, whereto.  
 Huermeye, wherewith.  
 Huervore, wherefore.  
 Huet, what.  
 Huichen, which.  
 Huirnes = *burnes*, cor-  
 ners, hiding-places.  
 Hul, a hill.  
 Huld, held.  
 Hulde, to hold.  
 Hulde, pl. held.  
 Hulde, to flay. 413.  
 Hulde, should hold.  
 Hule, an owl.  
 Hules, protects.  
 Hulles, hills. [dred.  
 Hundret, Hundreth, hun-  
 Hunger, famine.  
 Hungren, to hunger.  
 Hungri-ger, famine-  
 years.  
 Hunke, acc. us two.



- Hunne, to grant. 389.  
 Huo, who.  
 Hupte, hopped.  
 Hurde, heard.  
 Hure, our, of us. 400.  
 Hure, Huire, hire, re-ward.  
 Hure and hure, alter-nately. 395.  
 Hurkled, rested. 433.  
 Hurne, corner. 395.  
 Hurrok, an oar. 433.  
 Hurte, the heart.  
 Hus, Huse, a house.  
 Huych, Huyche, which.  
 Hure, hire.  
 Huyter, whiter.  
 Hwan, when.  
 Hwar, where.  
 Hwat, why, what.  
 Hwatliche, quickly. 406.  
 Hwe, hue, colour, com-plexion.  
 Hwed, hued, coloured.  
 Hwere, where.  
 Hwet, what I lo!  
 Hwi, why. [interval.  
 Hwil, Hwile, while, an  
 Hwo, who.  
 Hwuch, which, what.  
 Hy, she.  
 Hy, they.  
 Hyh, Hyhe, high.  
 Hyht, promised.  
 Hynd, hinder, back-wards,  
 Hyne, him.  
 Hyne, a servant, *hind*.  
 Hyng, Hynge, to hang.  
 Hyre, (1) her, (2) their.  
 Hyghte, was called.  
 Hyz, Hyze, high.  
 Hyze, heights.  
 Hyzed, hastened.  
 Hyzest, highest.  
 Hyzez, hastens. [height.  
 Hyzt, (1) called, (2)
- Ibere, sound, noise. 400.  
 Iblesset, pp. blessed.  
 Iblowe, blown. 404.  
 I-bore, born.  
 Ibounde, pp. bound.  
 I-broken, broken.  
 I-brojt, pp. brought.  
 Ic, I.  
 Icaried, pp. carried.  
 Ich, (1) I, (2) each.  
 Ichabbe, Ichave, I have.  
 Icham, I am.  
 Ichcholle, I will.  
 Iche, each.  
 I-clepet, pp. called.  
 Ichot = *I wot*, I know.  
 Icholle = *ich wolle*, I will.  
 Ichulle, I will.  
 I-cloped, pp. clothed.  
 Icluped, pp. called.  
 Icome, pp. come.  
 Icopet, coped, having a cope.  
 I-cristned, I-cristnid, I-cristened, pp. baptized.  
 Icundur, more like. 398.  
 Icwede, spoken. 405.  
 Icweme, to please.  
 Idel, (1) idle, (2) idol.  
 Idelnisse, idleness.  
 Idolven, pp. dug.  
 Ido, Idon, done, caused.  
 Idyket, pp. ditched.  
 Ifare, gone.  
 I-frizet, pp. fried.  
 Ifuld, pp. filled.  
 Ig, I.  
 Igain, Igaines, against.  
 Igain-sawe, contradic-tion. 384.  
 I-gistned, pp. lodged, en-tertained. 422.  
 I-gon, gone.  
 Igranted, pp. granted.  
 I-had, pp. had.  
 Ihert, pp. heard.  
 Ihold, residence. 404.  
 Iholde, esteemed.  
 I-hote, called.  
 I-hunted, pp. hunted.  
 Ihuret, pp. rewarded.  
 I-kept, pp. kept.  
 I-kest, casts, cast.  
 Il, bad wicked.  
 Iladde, led.  
 Ilaste, lasted.  
 I-leave, permission.  
 I-leve, to believe.  
 I-lezen, lain. [peers.  
 Ilike, (1) alike, (2) com-liknet, compared.  
 Ilijst, pp. lit.  
 Ilk, (1) same, (2) each.  
 Ilka, each.  
 Ilkan, each one.  
 Ilike, same.  
 Ille, bad, wicked.  
 Ilome, frequently.  
 Ilyche, alike.  
 Imad, pp. made.  
 Imang, Imange, among.  
 Imeind, mixed. 395.  
 Imid, amid, amidst.  
 In-come, to come in.  
 In-don, pp. collected, ga-thered.  
 Ine = *egben*, eyes. 430.  
 Inc, in.  
 In-middes, amidst.  
 In-mongez, amongst.  
 Inne, adv. in.  
 In-nogh, Innoghe, enough, sufficiently, '*innoghe knawen*,' well-known.  
 Inomen, taken.  
 Inou, enough.  
 Inouwe, pl. enough.  
 Insijt, insight.  
 In-spranc, entered, sprang in.  
 Insted, instead.  
 In-wis = *iwis*, truly.  
 Inwyt, Innerwit, con-science.  
 I-ordeyned, pp. ordained.  
 Ioyden, pl. rejoiced.  
 I-potayne, hippopota-mus.  
 Irchones, Irchounes, hedghogs. 418.  
 Ire, her.

- I-redy, ready.  
 Is, them.  
 Ised, pp. said.  
 Isei, Isey, saw.  
 Iseo, to see.  
 Iset, pp. set.  
 Iseþ, pl. see.  
 Iseye, pl. saw.  
 Isejen, seen.  
 Islept, pp. slept. [404.  
 Isliked, made smooth.  
 Isome, peaceable. 406.  
 Isowen, sown. [tained  
 Isoustained, pp. sus-  
 spoused, pp. spoused.  
 Issote, pp. shot.  
 Issue, hole, opening.  
 Isustained, pp. sustained.  
 I-termynet, pp. ended.  
 Iþez, throve. 415.  
 Itide, to betide.  
 I-trized, Itrizet, pp. tried,  
 proved.  
 Iturnd, pp. turned.  
 Ivel, evil, disease, sick-  
 ness.  
 Ivo, seize. 403.  
 Iwar, wary. 398.  
 Iwis, truly.  
 Iwite, to blame.  
 Iwoned, wont, accus-  
 tomed.  
 Iwonne, pp. won.  
 I-wriþen, pp. twisted, en-  
 twined.  
 Iwrouþt, pp. worked.  
 I-wyis = *iwis*, indeed, in  
 truth.  
 I-þete, eaten. 412.  
 I-3olde, restored. 413.  
 Janglande, talking. 421.  
 Janglers, chatters.  
 Japers, jesters. [vices.  
 Japes, Japez, jokes, de-  
 Jaunys, jaundice.  
 Jeantez, giants.  
 Jolef, pleasant.  
 Jolilê, joyfully, merrily.  
 Joly, pleasant, joyful.  
 Jopardê, jeopardy.  
 Jornes, journeys.  
 Joyfnes, youth.  
 Joyst, rejoiced.  
 Juge, judge.  
 Justise, judge.  
 Jumpred = *jumpre*, sor-  
 row, trouble. 434.  
 Kachereles, catchpolls.  
 Kalle, to cry out, ex-  
 claim.  
 Karf, cut. 408.  
 Karful, sorrowful.  
 Kas, accident, 'as yn  
*kas,*' as happened.  
 Kateyl, wealth.  
 Kay, left.  
 Kayred, departed, went.  
 Kayser, emperor.  
 Kaytefes, wretches.  
 Kechyn, kitchen.  
 Kei, key.  
 Keizes, keys.  
 Kele, to cool.  
 Ken, kine.  
 Ken, Kene, keen, strong.  
 Kende, (1) kind, nature,  
 (2) natural.  
 Kendeliche, naturally.  
 Kendes, natures, kinds.  
 Keþe, bold, keen.  
 Kenly, keenly.  
 Kenne, kin.  
 Kenne, shew.  
 Kenned, shewn, taught.  
 Keneþ, teaches.  
 Kepe, Kepen, to keep  
 watch, care for, re-  
 gard. 399.  
 Keþez, regards.  
 Kepich, care I. 399.  
 Kepud, kept.  
 Kepyng, care.  
 Kertles, mantles.  
 Kerve, to cut. 408.  
 Kervynge, cutting.  
 Keschte = *kescbt*, casts.  
 Kest, (1) cast, (2) kissed.  
 Keste, to cast.  
 Kesten, pl. pret. cast.  
 Kete, noble.  
 Kevel, covering. 408.  
 Keveringe, recovering.  
 Kid, made known. 385.  
 Kinde, natural (form).  
 Kindely, by nature.  
 Kingrik, Kingrike, a  
 kingdom.  
 Kinnesman, kinsman.  
 Kipte, took.  
 Kirc, Kirke, church.  
 Kith, Kithe, to shew.  
 423.  
 Kithing, knowledge.  
 Kitte, to cut.  
 Kleþing, clothing.  
 Knaing = *knawing*, ac-  
 quaintances.  
 Knau, know. [ledge.  
 Knaulechyng, know-  
 Knave, boy, servant.  
 Knawe, to know.  
 Kneo, a knee.  
 Kneole, to kneel.  
 Kneolyng, kneeling.  
 Kneuz, knew.  
 Kniht, knight.  
 Knihted, knighthood.  
 Knoleche, to acknow-  
 ledge.  
 Knowen, (1) to know,  
 (2) known. [ledging.  
 Knowleching, acknow-  
 Knowlych, knowledge.  
 Knowing, Knowyng,  
 Knowynge, knowledge.  
 Koles, coals.  
 Kolled, embraced.  
 Komen, pp. come.  
 Kontrey, country.  
 Koured, cowered.  
 Kouthe, known.  
 Krike, creek. 410.  
 Kud, known, renowned.  
 Kudde, revealed, mani-  
 fested.  
 Kueade, evil.  
 coming.  
 Kumly, comely.  
 Kun, kin.  
 Kunde, (1) nature, (2)

- native, (3) natural, right.  
 Kunne, kin, race, nation.  
 Kunnes, 'any *kunnes*,' of any kind, any kind of.  
 Kubbēs, customs.  
 Kuvere, recover.  
 Kuynde, natural.  
 Kuyndely, kindly.  
 Kuyndliche, naturally.  
 Kyd, appeared. 423.  
 Kyd, Kydde, renowned, well-known. 423.  
 Kyn, kine. [race.  
 Kyn, Kynde, kin, kind.  
 Kynd, Kynde, nature.  
 Kynde, rightful.  
 Kyndely, according to custom.  
 Kyne, royal. 409.  
 Kyngene, of kings.  
 Kyrf, cut, stroke, 'on *kyrf*,' one blow.  
 Kyrtyl, a mantle. 421.  
 Kyst, Kyste, chest, ark.  
 Kyth, city, country. kingdom. 423.  
 Kyþēs, kingdoms, regions.  
 Lacche, to take, have. 410.  
 Lacching, receiving.  
 Lace, belt, girdle.  
 Lach, to take, have.  
 Lad, Ladde, led.  
 Laft, Lafte, left.  
 Laght, Lagt, took. 385.  
 Laghter, laughter.  
 Lahynde, laughing.  
 Lai, law.  
 Laite, to seek. 417.  
 Laitand, seeking.  
 Lake-ryftes, lake-rifts, lake-fissures.  
 Lake, to blame. 429.  
 Lam, loam, dust. 425.  
 Lance, gives, affords.  
 Lang, Lange, long. [sing.  
 Lang-mode, long-suffer-  
 Lange, to long for.  
 Langar, Langer, longer.  
 Lapped, wrapped, enclosed.  
 Lare, Lore, instruction.  
 Largeliche, largely, liberally.  
 Lasse, less.  
 Lased, became less.  
 Lastand, lasting, everlasting. [tended.  
 Lasted, reached, ex-  
 Lastende, lasting.  
 Lat, lets, permits.  
 Late, imp. let.  
 Latere, latter.  
 Lates, lets.  
 Lath, Lathe, loath, displeased, loathsome, displeasing. 429.  
 Laðes, barns. 387.  
 Latsom, loath, disinclined. 429.  
 Lauer, lower.  
 Laumpe, lamp.  
 Lauhwe, to laugh.  
 Laused, opened.  
 Laute, took. 410.  
 Lavande, flowing. 432.  
 Laverd, lord.  
 Laverding, a lord, noble.  
 Laverdschipe, lordship.  
 Laverock, lark.  
 Law, Lawe, low.  
 Lay, (1) a song, (2) law.  
 Layke, to play, 430, 408.  
 Laykes, sports.  
 Laykes, sports, devices.  
 Laykyng, sport, play, amusement.  
 Layt, Layte, to seek.  
 Layt, lightning.  
 Laytes, seeks.  
 Layth, wicked.  
 Lazē, to laugh.  
 Lazed, laughed.  
 Lazēs, laughs.  
 Lazinge, laughing.  
 Lazt, seized, taken, fastened. 385, 410.  
 Lebarde, leopards.  
 Leche, to heal.  
 Leche, a physician. 414.  
 Leche-craft, the healing art.  
 Leches, physicians.  
 Led, lead. [pass, live.  
 Lede, to lead, direct, to Lede (lif for lyf), try (life for life).  
 Lede, Leden, language, tongues. 420.  
 Lede, man, person, people. 420.  
 Ledes, people.  
 Ledez, men, mortals.  
 Lead, lead.  
 Leef, leaf.  
 Leelly, truly, faithfully.  
 Leendis, loins.  
 Leepis, baskets. 385.  
 Lees, less.  
 Lees, false. 420.  
 Leete, to leave.  
 Leeve, to believe.  
 Lef, Lefe, to leave.  
 Lef, pleasing, dear, 'lef sir,' dear sir.  
 Lef, permission.  
 Lefdye, lady.  
 Lefe, beloved.  
 Leeful, Leful, Leeveful, permissible, lawful.  
 Lefful, dear, precious. 394.  
 Legge, (1) lay, (2) liege.  
 Leide, laid.  
 Lel, Lele, loyal, true.  
 Lelliche, Lelly, Lellyche, Lely, truly.  
 Lely-flowre, lily-flower.  
 Lelye, truly.  
 Leme, a light. 423.  
 Len, Lene, to lend.  
 Lend, lent. [414.  
 Lende, Lenden, loins.  
 Lende, to proceed. 410.  
 Lene, lean. [395.  
 Lene, to grant, permit.  
 Leng, Lenge, to dwell, abide.

- Leng, longer.  
 Lenge, long.  
 Lenged, dwelt. [longer.  
 Lengere, Lengore,  
 Lengest, longest.  
 Lenkþe, Lenþe, length.  
 Lent, gave.  
 Lent, gone, abode.  
 Lenten, the season of  
   Lent.  
 Leod, a man. 420.  
 Leode, people.  
 Leof, dear, pleasant.  
 Leome, limb.  
 Leon, lion.  
 Leonede, leaned.  
 Leop, leaped, ran.  
 Leor, countenance.  
 Leorne, to learn.  
 Leose, Leosen, to lose.  
 Leosinge, loss.  
 Leovest, dearest.  
 Lep, leaped.  
 Lepe, Lepen, to leap,  
   run, hasten.  
 Lepte, danced.  
 Lepes, leaps, runs.  
 Lerde, taught.  
 Lere, countenance.  
 Lere, to teach, learn.  
 Lerede, taught.  
 Lernen, to learn.  
 Les, Lesse, less.  
 Les, imp. loose, release.  
 Lese, meadow, pasture.  
   381.  
 Lese, to destroy.  
 Leser, deliverer. 416.  
 Lesse, to become less.  
 Lessinge, lessening, di-  
   minution.  
 Lest, lost, loses.  
 Lest, please.  
 Lest, Leste, (1) least, (2)  
   contrivance, device  
 Leste, to last.  
 Lested = *lesteð*, imp.  
   listen to. 394.  
 Lesten, Lestne, to listen.  
 Lesewynge, pasturing.  
 Let, hindrance.
- Lete, to forsake, leave,  
   to leave off.  
 Lete, to let, permit.  
 Lete, voice. 396.  
 Lett, Lette, put a stop  
   to, to hinder.  
 Leþerne, leathern.  
 Leve, leaf. [to live.  
 Leve, (1) to believe, (2)  
 Leve, to forsake, leave  
   off.  
 Leve, Leue, to grant.  
 Leve, leave, permission.  
 Leve, pl. dear.  
 Leved, having leaves.  
 Leved, Levede, re-  
   mained.  
 Levedi, Levedy, lady.  
 Levelike, kindly. 390.  
 Leven, to believe.  
 Levening, lightning.  
 Levere, rather, liefer.  
 Leves, imp. believe.  
 Levest, most pleasing,  
   *lievest*.  
 Leve3, pl. leave.  
 Leve3, leaves (of trees).  
 Lewde, Lewed, lay-men,  
   ignorant, unlearned.  
 Lewe, warm. 408.  
 Lewed-men, laymen.  
 Lewse, pasture. 381.  
 Ley, to lay.  
 Leyd, laid.  
 Leyke, to play. 408.  
 Lhest, listens.  
 Lhord, Lhorde, lord.  
 Libardes, leopards.  
 Libbe, to live.  
 Licam, the body. 393.  
 Lich, (1) like, (2)  
   body. 393.  
 Lichame, body.  
 Licour, liquor.  
 Lif, life.  
 Lif=*lef* pleasing. [time.  
 Lif-dawes, life-days, life-  
 Lifd, lived.  
 Life, Lyfe, to live.  
 Lifode, sustenance, live-  
   lihood.
- Lift, Lifte, firmament,  
   sky. 415.  
 Lift, the left.  
 Ligge, to lie. [lied.  
 Lighed, spoke falsely,  
 Light, active.  
 Light, (1) to lighten, to  
   set light to, (2) to  
   alight, descend.  
 Ligten, to descend.  
 Liht, (1) fallen, (2) light.  
 Lihþ, lies.  
 Lik, like. [383.  
 Likam, body, form.  
 Like, to delight, please.  
   390.  
 Likerous, pleasant, de-  
   lightful.  
 Likes, pleases.  
 Liknes, likeness.  
 Linde, linden-tree.  
 List, pleases.  
 Listely, pleasantly.  
 Listes, wiles. 399.  
 Lit, stain. 382.  
 Litele, to make little.  
 Lith, limb, member.  
 Liðe, to listen. 385.  
 Lither, bad, wicked, un-  
   toward.  
 Lives, alive. 408.  
 Li3t, light, imp. alight.  
 Li3t, Li3te, to lighten,  
   amuse.  
 Li3te, easy, easily.  
 Li3ter, easier.  
 Li3þ, lies.  
 Li3tliche, easily, quickly.  
 Li3tinge, lightning.  
 Li3ttere, quicker.  
 Llak, lake. [called.  
 Lobbekeling, a fish so  
 Lobres, lubbers;  
   Wright's text reads  
   *Lobies*.  
 Lode3-mon, a pilot.  
 Lodlych, loathsome.  
   396. [415.  
 Lof, (1) love, (2) praise.  
 Lofe, to love.  
 Lof, Lofe, Loof, a loaf.

- Lof = *leaf*, dear, pleasing. 401.  
 Lofte, 'upon *lofte*,' 'on*lofte*,' on high, above, aloft.  
 Lofden, pl. loved.  
 Logh, laughed.  
 Loghe, deep. 432.  
 Loh, laughed.  
 Lok, Loke, to look.  
 Loken, locked up.  
 Loke3, looks.  
 Loki, to enclose. 397.  
 Lokke3, locks.  
 Lokyng, looking.  
 Lokyng, custody.  
 Loky, to guard. 397.  
 Lomb, Lombe, lamb.  
 Lome, ark, vessel, tool. 420.  
 Lomen, Lomes, tools.  
 Lond, Londe, land.  
 Lone, (1) a lane, (2) loan.  
 Longage, language.  
 Longe, to belong. [428].  
 Longe, on account of.  
 Longes, belongs.  
 Loovis, Lovis, loaves.  
 Lopen, pp. run.  
 Lordlich, lordly.  
 Lordyng, Loverdyng, a lord, lordling.  
 Lore, instruction, knowledge, wisdom.  
 Lore, pp. lost. [out.  
 Lorked, lurked, stole  
 Lorne, lost.  
 Los, fame. 411.  
 Lossom, Lossum, love-some, lovely.  
 Lostes, lusts.  
 Losyng, perdition.  
 Lote, sound. 435.  
 Lote, cheer. 390, 391.  
 Loten, faces. 390, 391.  
 Lote3, voices.  
 Loth, Loþ, indisposed, disinclined.  
 Loþe, disinclination, displeasure.  
 Loþli, loathsome.  
 Louh, low.  
 Louked, fastened, looped.  
 Loure, to scowl.  
 Lout, Loute, to stoop, to bow, obey. 380.  
 Loutede, did bow.  
 Loutte, imp.bend, stoop.  
 Louwest, lowest.  
 Lovand, praising.  
 Love = *alve* = *balve*, side part.  
 Love, to praise.  
 Loveles, without love.  
 Loverd, Lord. [lonely.  
 Loveliche, pleasantly.  
 Lovelokest, most lovely.  
 Lovelych, lovely.  
 Lovye, to love. [ing.  
 Lowande, shining, glow-  
 Lowkande, closing.  
 Lo3, the deep. 432.  
 Lo3e, (1) pl. low, (2) pit.  
 Lo3en, pl. laughed.  
 Lud, loud. 395.  
 Lud, man, servant.  
 Lud, language, song.  
 Lude, a man, a knight.  
 Ludes, servants, vassals.  
 Luef, favourite, beloved.  
 Luef (is), prefers, loves.  
 Lufe, to love.  
 Lufly, Luflych, lovely, pleasantly.  
 Luflyly, courteously, lovingly.  
 Lufreden, Lufredene, love.  
 Luft, left.  
 Lugged, lodged.  
 Lullede, lolled, hung.  
 Lumpen, befallen.  
 Lur, loss.  
 Luring, louring. 403.  
 Lurking, hiding-place, lair. 416.  
 Lurne, to learn.  
 Luste, pleased.  
 Lut, Lout, bend. 380.  
 Lute, little.  
 Luted, bowed.  
 Lutel, little.  
 Luper, wretched.  
 Lutten, did obeisance. 380.  
 Luyte, little.  
 Lybbe, to live.  
 Lyf, life.  
 Lyf = *lef*, love, favour.  
 Lyfand, living.  
 Lyftande, lifting, floating.  
 Lyflode, subsistence, livelihood.  
 Lyft, lifted, extolled.  
 Lyfte, to raise, build.  
 Lyfte, (1) lifted, (2) sky.  
 Lygge, to lie.  
 Lyghtly, easily, soon.  
 Lyht, lighteth, descends.  
 Lyht, Lyhte, light.  
 Lyk, like.  
 Lykame, body, shape, form.  
 Lyke, to please, delight, '*lyked not ille*,' be not displeased.  
 Lyke3, pleased.  
 Lyking, pleasure.  
 Lykkest, most like.  
 Lykne, to liken, compare.  
 Lykyng, pleasure.  
 Lylie-whyt, white as a lily.  
 Lym, limb.  
 Lyndes, loins.  
 Lyounes, lions.  
 Lype, a leap.  
 Ly3e, pleased.  
 Lyte, little.  
 Lyve, life.  
 Ly3e, to lie to, deceive.  
 Ly3en, to tell lies.  
 Ly3ere, liar.  
 Ly3t = *ly3te*, to alight.  
 Ly3t, light, active.  
 Ly3t, easily, lightly.  
 Ly3t, befell, happened.  
 Ly3t, Ly3te, light.  
 Ly3tly, lightly, quickly.

- Ma, more.  
 Maad, pp. made.  
 Mac, make.  
 Mach = *macbe*, to match.  
 Mad, frightened, astounded.  
 Mad, pp. made.  
 Maiesté, majesty.  
 Maister, Maistir, master.  
 Maisters, chiefs, masters.  
 Maistre, Maistrie, mastery, victory.  
 Makand, making.  
 Make, companion, equal, match. 421.  
 Maked, Makede, made.  
 Makes, Make3, couples, (male and female), wives.  
 Makye, to make.  
 Makyere, maker, creator.  
 Male, bag, mail. 418.  
 Malys, malice.  
 Man, one.  
 Manas, menace, threats.  
 Manasside, charged.  
 Mancion, mansion.  
 Mandeth, mends, improves.  
 Maners, virtues.  
 Manhed, humanity, kindness.  
 Mankunde, mankind.  
 Man-kynne, mankind.  
 Manliche, manly.  
 Manne, men's.  
 Manqueller, man-killer, executioner.  
 Manrede, homage. 408.  
 Manslau3tre, manslaughter.  
 Mansleynge, manslaughter, murder.  
 Mantile, a mantle.  
 Manyere, manner.  
 Mar, Mare, more, greater.  
 Marchantes, Marchaundes, Marchaundes, merchants.
- Marchaundise, merchandise.  
 Marchaundrie, Marchaundrye, merchandise, business.  
 Marewe, morrow, morning.  
 Marge[r]ly perles, pearls. 438.  
 Marreys, marsh. 411.  
 Mas, makes.  
 Mase, moderation.  
 Masse, prayer,  
 Maste, most, greatest.  
 Mate, afraid.  
 Mater, Materie, substance, matter.  
 Maugre, in spite of. 431.  
 Maumentri, idols.  
 Maumet, an idol. 424.  
 Maundemens, commandments.  
 Maunget, eaten.  
 Mawe, stomach, maw.  
 Mawgre, displeasure. 431.  
 May, maid, maiden. 419.  
 Maydenhod, maidenhead.  
 Maydynes, maidens.  
 Mayh, (1) strength, main, (2) great, *main*, powerful, strong.  
 Mayné, Mayny, servants, household.  
 Mayntene, to maintain.  
 Mayster, master, knight.  
 Maysteresse, mistress.  
 Maystrie, mastery.  
 Mayster3, masters, superiors.  
 Mayth, mayest.  
 Majty, mighty.  
 Me, one, they.  
 Meddelid, mixed. 411.  
 Mede, meed, pay.  
 Mede, mead.  
 Medecin, medicine.  
 Mede-wyves, midwives.  
 Medle, conflict. 411.
- Meede, reward.  
 Meel, meal.  
 Meer, lake.  
 Meete, measurement.  
 Meeten, to dream.  
 Meine, household, domestics.  
 Meined, mixed. 395.  
 Meires, mayors.  
 Meke, meek.  
 Meke, to make meek.  
 Mekeliche, meekly.  
 Mekille, much.  
 Meklii, Mekly, meekly.  
 Mel, meal.  
 Meld, Melde, to rebuke, accuse. 426.  
 Mele, to speak.  
 Melle, to mix. 411.  
 Melly, conflict, contest. 411.  
 Mellynge, mixing. 411.  
 Melodye, melody.  
 Men, one, they.  
 Mene, to mean, signify.  
 Mene, mean, middle.  
 Merie, pleasantly.  
 Meneth, pl. sorrow, grieve.  
 Meng, imp. mix. 395.  
 Menesse, fellowship. 428.  
 Mensk, Menske, honour.  
 Menske, to honour. 415.  
 Mensked, adorned.  
 Menskelye, honourably, decently.  
 Menskful, honourable, respected.  
 Ment, (1) remembered, (2) bemoaned.  
 Meny, Menzé, company, host.  
 Merciede, thanked.  
 Mere, boundary. 418.  
 Merk, mark.  
 Merke, dark.  
 Merþes, mirths, sports.  
 Mersuine = *meerzwine*, porpoise. 425.

- Mervayle, Mervaylle,  
 Merveyle, Merveylle,  
 marvel, wonder, mi-  
 racle.  
 Mervelous, marvellous.  
 Mesagyr, Messenger,  
 Messagere, Messa-  
 gyer, messenger.  
 Meshe, to tear in  
 pieces. 398.  
 Mesauntere, misfortune.  
 Meseise, uneasiness,  
 trouble.  
 Mesur, Mesure, modera-  
 tion.  
 Mesurable, Mesurabul,  
 moderate, temperate.  
 Mest, most.  
 Mestedel, most part.  
 Met, mete, to measure.  
 Mete, meat.  
 Mete, proper, meet.  
 Meten, meat. 38.  
 Meten, to measure, pp.  
 measured.  
 Mett = *mete*, to meet.  
 Metinge, measurement.  
 Meth, Meþe, Meþe,  
 mercy, pity, modera-  
 tion. 394.  
 Meþelez, immoderate,  
 extraordinary.  
 Meþink, methinks.  
 Meve, to move.  
 Mevez, moves.  
 Mey, may.  
 Meyné, household.  
 Meyntene, to maintain.  
 Meyny, assembly,  
 household, family.  
 Miche, much.  
 Mid, with.  
 Mid, middle.  
 Mide, with.  
 Midward, middle.  
 Mightand, mighty.  
 Miht, might.  
 Miht, mightest.  
 Mihti, mighty.  
 Mihtful, mighty.  
 Mikel, much, great.  
 Mikeland, great.  
 Mikeled, made great,  
 increased.  
 Mikelik, meekly.  
 Mikle, great (distance),  
 far.  
 Milce, pity.  
 Mildelike, meekly.  
 Miles, maidens. 420.  
 Min, mind, remem-  
 brance.  
 Min, Mine, to bear in  
 mind.  
 Mined, mindful.  
 Mines, rememberest,  
 thinkest.  
 Mirk, Mirke, dark. 407.  
 Mirkenes, darkness.  
 Mirknesses, darknesses.  
 Mirthes, joys, pleasures.  
 Mis, Misse, to lose.  
 Misbeleevynge, unbe-  
 lieving.  
 Mischance, misfortune.  
 Mischeving, misfortune.  
 Mischief, misfortune.  
 Misdede, misdeeds.  
 Misdo, to do amiss.  
 Misliche, badly. 407.  
 Misliked, was dis-  
 pleased.  
 Misliking, displeasure.  
 Misrempe, to misplead.  
 407.  
 Mis-seid, slandered.  
 Missely, badly.  
 Mist = *miht*, mightest.  
 398.  
 Mister, need.  
 Mithe, to satiate, ap-  
 pease. 409.  
 Mitte, with the.  
 Mix, wretch.  
 Miþthi, mighty.  
 Mo, more.  
 Moch, Moche, much,  
 great.  
 Mochedel, very much.  
 Mochel, great.  
 Mod, Mode, mood,  
 mind, manner. 388.  
 Moder, mother, mo-  
 ther's.  
 Mody, moody, proud.  
 388.  
 Moght, Moht, might.  
 Molaynes, embossed or-  
 naments.  
 Mold, Molde, earth,  
 world, mould.  
 Molde3, dry lands.  
 Mom, a sound, mutter-  
 ing. 437.  
 Mon, man, one.  
 Moné, money.  
 Mone, shall. 416.  
 Mone, the moon.  
 Monge3, In-monge3,  
 amidst.  
 Moni, many.  
 Mont, mount.  
 Montain, mountain.  
 Mony, Monye, many.  
 Monye, money.  
 Monyth, a month.  
 Moon, moaning, mourn-  
 ing.  
 Mounep, month.  
 Mor, a moor.  
 More, greater.  
 - - - may.  
 More, root.  
 Mornynge, mourning.  
 Morun, the morn, morn-  
 ing.  
 Morwe, morrow, morn-  
 ing.  
 Morwynge, morning.  
 Mose, hedge-sparrow.  
 398.  
 Moskles, mussels.  
 Most, Moste, must.  
 Most, Moste, greatest.  
 Moste, might.  
 Mot, Mote, must, may.  
 394.  
 Moun, be able. 408.  
 Mountouns, amount.  
 Mourkne, to rot, decay.  
 433.  
 Mournen, to mourn.  
 Moutes, falls off. 429.

- Mowen, to be able, may.  
 Mowe, mayest.  
 Mowen, pl. may.  
 Mowth, mouth.  
 Mo3e, pl. may.  
 Mo3t = *mot*, must.  
 Mo3t, might.  
 Much, great.  
 Muckel, greatness,  
 muchness. 435.  
 Mudde, mud, mire.  
 Mugen, to be able. 386.  
 Mught, might.  
 Mukel, great, greatness.  
 Mulle, dust. 439.  
 Mune, to consider. 392.  
 Munstrals, minstrels.  
 Munteth, purposes, or  
 intends (to go). 419.  
 Muthe, mouth.  
 Murnyng, mourning.  
 Murge, to make merry.  
 421.  
 Murgeth, pl. make  
 merry.  
 Murie, pleasant.  
 Murþhe, Murþe, mirth,  
 pleasantness. 402.  
 Muze, may.  
 Myche, much, very.  
 Myd, with.  
 Myddes, midst.  
 Myddes, middle.  
 Myde, with.  
 Mydlerd, middle-earth,  
 the world.  
 Myghtfulness, might,  
 strength.  
 Myht, mightest.  
 Myke, the crutches of  
 a boat, which sus-  
 tain the mainboom,  
 or the mast and sail,  
 when they are lowered  
 for the convenience  
 of rowing. 433.  
 Mykel, much.  
 Mykel-hede, greatness.  
 Mylde, meek.  
 Myldely, meekly, hum-  
 bly.
- Mylder, meeker.  
 Mynde, memory.  
 Mynen, to undermine.  
 Mynn, Mynne, to re-  
 collect, remember.  
 Myrk, Myrke, dark.  
 407.  
 Myriest, most pleasant.  
 Myry, pleasant, ami-  
 cable.  
 Myryly, pleasantly, joy-  
 ously.  
 Myschaunce, mistakes,  
 misdeeds, misfortune.  
 Mysdede, wronged.  
 Myssse, amiss, badly.  
 Myssseyde, slandered.  
 My3t, might.  
 My3te3, mights, powers.
- Na, Naa, no.  
 Nabbe, to have not.  
 Nad = *nade*, had not.  
 Nadde, Nade, had not.  
 Naghertale, night-time.  
 Naght, naught.  
 Naht, not.  
 Nai, denial.  
 Nakers, kettle-drums.  
 Nakryn, of kettle-  
 drums.  
 Nam, took, went, took  
 the way.  
 Namare, no more.  
 Nameliche, Namely,  
 Namlic, chiefly, espe-  
 cially.  
 Nan, Nane, none.  
 Nan-mo, Nan-more, no  
 more.  
 Nart, art not.  
 Nas, was not.  
 Nasche, soft. 428.  
 Nat, not.  
 Natheles, nevertheless.  
 Naþer, neither.  
 Nothing, nothing.  
 Nauþer, neither.  
 Nau3t, not.  
 Nave, have not.  
 Nawþer, neither.
- Nayte, to use. 435.  
 Nayted, celebrated.  
 Naytly, neatly, deftly.  
 Na3t, not.  
 Ne, nor, not.  
 Nebsseft, image.  
 Nec, neck.  
 Nedde, had not.  
 Neddur, Nedere, adder,  
 serpent.  
 Neede, of necessity,  
*needs*.  
 Nede, '*ful nede*,' = '*ful  
 needs*,' of necessity.  
 Nedful, necessitous. 387.  
 Nedles, needless, useless.  
 Nedys, needs, of neces-  
 sity.  
 Neet, neat, cattle. 386.  
 Nefen, Nefue, to name.  
 Nefur, never.  
 Negh, Neghe, to come  
 near.  
 Neghburgh, neighbour.  
 Neghes, approaches.  
 Neh, Neih, high, near.  
 Neist, next.  
 Neiz, high.  
 Neizhebor, neighbour.  
 Nek, Nekke, the neck.  
 Nel, will not.  
 Neltu, wilt thou not.  
 Nem, took.  
 Neme 3e, take ye.  
 Nemned, named.  
 Nempnen, to name.  
 Neod, Neode, need,  
 work.  
 Neodes, of necessity.  
 Neodful, needful, neces-  
 sary.  
 Neo3e, nine.  
 Ner, nearer.  
 Nere, near.  
 Nere, were not.  
 Nerre, nearer.  
 Nes, was not.  
 Nese, nose.  
 Nesshede, delicacy, soft-  
 ness. 428.  
 Nest, nearest.



- Nestland, nestling.  
 Neth, hath not.  
 Neu, new.  
 Neveu, nephew.  
 Neven, Nevene, to name.  
 Nevenes, names.  
 Never þe helder, never  
 the more (see Helder).  
 Nevre, never.  
 Newed, renewed.  
 Neʒe, to approach.  
 Neʒed, approached.  
 Neʒh[e], to approach.  
 Neʒhebor, neighbour.  
 Nich, denial.  
 Nich = *nicht*, night.  
 Nightes, by night.  
 Nigramauncy, necromancy.  
 Niht, night.  
 Nil, Nile, will not.  
 Nime, to take.  
 Nis, is not.  
 Nið, envy. 380.  
 Niðful, envious. 380.  
 Nite, to refuse. 426.  
 Niwe, new.  
 Nixt, next.  
 Niyzt, night.  
 No = *ne*, not. 389.  
 No-but, only.  
 Nobelay, nobleness.  
 Noblete, nobility, nobleness.  
 Nobleye, nobility.  
 Nobliche, nobly.  
 Noght, Noht, not.  
 Noke, notch, nook, corner.  
 Nokes, corners, passages.  
 Nolde, would not.  
 Nolleþ, pl. will not.  
 Nom, took.  
 Nombre, number.  
 Nome, pl. took.  
 Nome, security, 390.  
 Nome, name.  
 Nomen, taken.  
 Non, none.
- Non, None, noon.  
 Nonne, a nun.  
 Nonnerye, a nunnery.  
 Nout, not.  
 Nouthr, neither.  
 Nouzt, not.  
 Norischi, to nourish.  
 Norysshynge, nourishing.  
 Not, knows not.  
 Not but = *no-but*, only, except.  
 Note, devices, plans, power, business. 397, 402.  
 Note, nut.  
 Note, weapon, tool. 397, 436.  
 Nobeles, nevertheless.  
 Notemuges, nutmegs.  
 Noþer, neither.  
 Noþerward, downwards, 398.  
 Nou, now.  
 Nouþer, neither.  
 Nouwherc, nowhere.  
 Nowel, Christmas.  
 Nowþe, now (then).  
 Nowther, neither.  
 Noyce, noise.  
 Noye, to annoy.  
 Nozt, not.  
 Nu, now.  
 Nul, will not.  
 Nultou, wilt thou not.  
 Nuly, I will not.  
 Numen, taken. 381, 386.  
 Nummun = *nomen*, taken.  
 Nust, knowest not.  
 Nuste, knew not.  
 Nuy, annoy, harm.  
 Nwe, new.  
 Nwe, anew, recently.  
 Nwe-ʒer, new-year.  
 Nwy = *annoy*, anger. 431.  
 Nwyed, annoyed, made angry. [year.  
 Nw-ʒer, Nw-ʒere, new-
- Nw-ʒeres, new-year's.  
 Nyeʒ, night.  
 Nyf, if not.  
 Nyghtegale, nightingale.  
 Nygun, a niggard, miser. 421.  
 Nyht, night.  
 Nyhtes, by night.  
 Nyle, will not.  
 Nyme, to take.  
 Nymmeʒ, takes.  
 Nymb, receives.  
 Nys, extraordinary, foolish.  
 Nywe, new.  
 Nyxt, next.  
 Nyze, night.  
 Nyzt, Nyzte, night.
- O, of.  
 O, one.  
 Obak, on the back.  
 Obedyent, obedience.  
 Obeyschen, to obey.  
 Obout, about.  
 About-ga, to revolve.  
 Oc, also, 388.  
 Oc = *oð*, oath.  
 Odde, odd, uneven.  
 Of, off, from.  
 Of-dret, sore afraid.  
 Oferd, afraid.  
 O-ferrum, afar. 430.  
 Offerand, Offerand, offering.  
 O-firr, afar.  
 Of-saw, perceived.  
 Of-scapie, to escape.  
 Of-seie, perceived.  
 Of-sende, send for. 412.  
 Of-seye, perceived.  
 Ofþuʒte, repented. 402.  
 Oftoned, very angry. 401.  
 Og, owe, ought.  
 Ogain, again.  
 Ogain-saghes, contradiction, reproaches.  
 Ogaines, Oganis, Ogayne, against.

- Oght, Oht, ought.  
 Ok, Oke, Ook, oak.  
 Okerer, Okerere, a usurer.  
 Okering, Okeryng, usury.  
 Okir, usury. 416.  
 Olepi, only.  
 Olt, old.  
 On, one.  
 Onan, anon.  
 Onde, breath. 439.  
 Onde, jealousy. 403.  
 On-dep, adeep, in the deep.  
 One, alone, self.  
 Onderstonde, to understand. [stood.  
 Onderstonde, pp. under-  
 Ondervonge, to receive.  
 Ondervonge, pp. re-  
 ceived.  
 Ondervynge, pret. pl. received.  
 On-end, at last.  
 Ones, once.  
 One-sprute, outburst. 416.  
 Onewe, anew, again.  
 One3, once.  
 On-fanged, up-took.  
 On-ferrum, afar.  
 On-grounde, aground.  
 Onigt, at night. 384.  
 On-loft, On-lofte, above, on the surface, aloft.  
 Onlosti, idle, slothful. 427.  
 Onlyche, only.  
 On-lyve, alive.  
 Onneaþe, scarcely.  
 Onon, anon. 388.  
 On-raw, in row, in array.  
 On-rounde, around.  
 Onsagen, wicked speech. 384.  
 Onsene, face, 406.  
 On-sidis, aside.  
 On-slep, On-slepe, asleep.  
 Onspekynde, ineffable.  
 Onsware3, answers.  
 On-polyynde, On-poly-  
 inde, intolerable, un-  
 bearable. 427.  
 On-todelinde, indivisi-  
 ble.  
 Onzyginde, invisible.  
 Oo, ever, aye.  
 Oon, one, 'in oon,' in  
 one state.  
 Ooþ, oath.  
 Ope, open.  
 Openlic, openly.  
 Opon, upon.  
 Oppenand, opening.  
 Oppenes, imp. open.  
 Opyne, open, manifest.  
 Oor, ore.  
 Or...or, either...or.  
 Or = *ur*, our.  
 Or, Ore = *eower*, your.  
 Orcherd, orchard. 424.  
 Ordayny, to order, rule.  
 Orde, point, end. 406.  
 Ordeynour, ruler, or-  
 dainer.  
 Ore, mercy.  
 Ore, your. 419.  
 Ore, before.  
 Orçisouns, prayers.  
 Orange, orange.  
 Oreste, first. 385.  
 Orf, cattle.  
 Or-quar, anywhere.  
 Orisoun, prayer.  
 Or-litel, over-little, too  
 little.  
 Orped, valiant. 439.  
 Or-quar, anywhere.  
 Ory3t, aright.  
 Oth, on the.  
 Oþ, Othe, oath.  
 Oþer, or.  
 Oþerwhile, sometimes.  
 Other-whyle, some-  
 times.  
 Oþren, dat. others.  
 Ou, you.  
 Ouert, fruit.  
 Ouhte, ought.  
 Oune, own, one's own.  
 Ous, us.  
 Out-berre, to take out.  
 Outen, foreign, strange.  
 417.  
 Out-taken, excepted,  
 excluded.  
 Outelyng, external.  
 Out-toke, took out.  
 Outrage, extraordinary.  
 Ouzt, Ouzte, ought.  
 Overal, everywhere.  
 Overcomþ, overcomes,  
 surpasses.  
 Overrestes, uppermost  
 parts. 417.  
 Over-fare, to overgo.  
 Over-ga, to overgo.  
 Overgeþ, surpasses,  
 overgoes.  
 Overgon, overgone,  
 passed.  
 Overlop, omission.  
 Overmastes, highest,  
 uppermost.  
 Over-mykel, overmuch,  
 too much.  
 Over - paran = *over-  
 faren*, to pass over.  
 394.  
 Over-skyle, extraordi-  
 narily. 421.  
 Over-spradde, over-  
 spread.  
 Overtan, overtaken.  
 Over-þogt, frightened.  
 389.  
 Over-þwert, across,  
 athwart.  
 Over-walt, overturned.  
 Over-waltes, overflows.  
 Over-wente, turned  
 over. 390.  
 Ow, you.  
 Owai, away.  
 Owe, Owen, own.  
 Owel, awl. 398.  
 Owen, ought.  
 Owip, ought, owes.  
 Own = alone, 'by  
 himself.

Oxspring, offspring.  
Oynement, ointment.  
Oze, Ozen, Ozene, own.  
Ozt, ought.

Pacche, patch.  
Paie, pleasure, liking.  
Paid, pleased.  
Pak-needle, pack-needle.  
438.

Paleys, palace.  
Palesye, palsy.  
Pane, cloth.  
Pape, pope.  
Parauntre, perhaps.  
Parfit, Parfite, perfect.  
Parforme, to perform.  
Parisschens, parishioners.

Parten, to share.  
Partiliche, plainly.  
Party, Partye, side, part.  
Pas, Passe, to surpass.  
Pas, passage.  
Passet, passed.  
Pases, paths.  
Passchet, blown, dashed.  
438.

Passynge, surpassing.  
Pay, pleasure.  
Payd, Payde, pleased.  
Paye, to please.  
Payne, penalty.  
Payenes, pagans.  
Payneme, pagan.  
Payttrure, the defence  
for the neck of a  
horse.

Pees, peace.  
Peine, penalty.  
Pelle, a rich cloth, pall.  
Peire, to impair, defame.  
Pellure, Pelure, a kind  
of rich and costly fur.  
Penzanz, Penaunce,  
penance.  
Pencelle, banner. 430.  
Pendautes, the drop-  
ping ornaments of  
horse-gear.  
Pennes, feathers.

Pens, pence.  
Pented, appertained.  
Peosen, pl. pease.  
Perce, to pierce.  
Percyl, parsley.  
Pereye, perry.  
Perrey, jewellery.  
Persun, parson.  
Pertelyche, apertly,  
openly.  
Pertene, to appertain.  
Pertiliche, Pertly, clear-  
ly, openly, plainly.  
Pes, peace.  
Pesecoddes, pea-shells.  
Pette, pit.  
Peyn, Peyne, pain.  
Peynen, to endeavour.  
Peyneble, painstaking,  
earnestly.  
Peyned = *pyned*, tor-  
mented.  
Peys, weight. 421.  
Peyse, to weigh.  
Pike, pitch. 410.  
Pilewe, pillow.  
Pilt, thrust. 388.  
Pine, torment.  
Pinen, torments.  
Piries, pear-trees.  
Piriwhit, perry.  
Pitaile, foot-soldiers.  
Plaidi, to plead. 400.  
Plait, pleading. 395.  
Plas, place.  
Plat, Platte, flat.  
Plate, steel armour for  
the body.  
Plaunte, to plant.  
Playne, to complain.  
Playnt, complaint.  
Pleiden, to plead.  
Pleide, played.  
Plenté, plenty.  
Plenteousliche, plente-  
ously.  
Plentez, fulness.  
Plese, to please.  
Plete, to plait.  
Pley, play.  
Pleye, to play.

Pleyn, Pleyne, to com-  
plain.  
Pleynand, complaining.  
Pleynly, plainly.  
Pliht, bound.  
Plihten, to pledge.  
Plihtful, dangerous.  
425.

Plont, plant. [plough.  
Plou, Plouz, Plowgh,  
Plyghte, Plyht, pledged.  
Plyzt, harm.  
Poeir, Poer, power.  
Pok, poke, pocket.  
Pons, pence.  
Ponysche, to punish, to  
torment.

Porchas, what is obtain-  
ed by conquest. 414.  
Pore, poor.  
Porettes, Porettes, leeks.  
Pors, purse.  
Porveid, provided,  
guarded.  
Porveynde, providing,  
doing.

Pose, a cold in the  
head. 415.  
Potecary, apothecary.  
Potte, to put.  
Pouce, pulse.  
Pouder, dust.  
Pound, a pond.  
Pouwer, power.  
Pover, Povere, poor.  
Poverore, poorer.  
Povert, poverty.  
Pourveid, provided.  
Powdre, dust.  
Poynt, a particle.  
Prangled, compressed.

409.  
Preic, to pray.  
Preisen, to praise.  
Preistes, priests.  
Preiynge, prayer.  
Preize, to pray.  
Prentys, apprentice.  
Preostes, priests.  
Preoven, to prove.  
Prese, press.

- Preste, a priest.  
 Preste, ready. 412.  
 Preste, proudest. 428.  
 Prestely, quickly, readily.  
 Presteste, prompt, most punctual.  
 Pretilyche, prettily.  
 Preve, tried, proved.  
 Preve, to prove.  
 Prevy, secret.  
 Preye, to pray.  
 Preyere, prayer.  
 Preyse, to praise.  
 Prinched, dominion, rule.  
 Pris, Prise, prize, honour, value.  
 Prist = *prest*, active, quick.  
 Prisuner, a jailor.  
 Prisunes, prisoners.  
 Prive, Privei, Pryvé, secret, familiar.  
 Priveliche, secretly.  
 Pryvete, secret.  
 Promysioun, promise.  
 Prout, proud.  
 Provendrerer, holders of benefices.  
 Prud, Prude, Pruide, pride. 382.  
 Prute, pride.  
 Prys, Pryse, price, prize.  
 Pryvyte, a secret.  
 Puire, pure.  
 Pult, put.  
 Pulte, to put, thrust.  
 Pupplische, to publish.  
 Pur, pure.  
 Pur-blind, wholly blind. 414.  
 Purchacen, to procure. 411.  
 Pure, poor.  
 Pured, refined.  
 Purpos, purpose, mind.  
 Purpre, Purpur, purple.  
 Purvay, to get ready.  
 Purveance, ordinance, plot.  
 Pute, Putte, pit.  
 Puttide, put.  
 Pyk, pike.  
 Pyn = *pyne*, sorrow.  
 Pyne, to torment.  
 Pynen, Pynes, torments.  
 Pynnyng-stole, a stool of punishment, a cucking-stool.  
 Pyns = *pynes*, torments.  
 Pysan, gorget of mail or plate attached to the helmet.  
 Pyté, pity.  
 Qua, who.  
 Quac, to quake.  
 Quain, whining, weeping.  
 Quaintelye, knowingly, cunningly.  
 Quakand, quaking.  
 Qualle, whale. 425.  
 Qualm, disease. 414.  
 Quar, where.  
 Quarbi, whereby.  
 Quare, where.  
 Quarfor, wherefore.  
 Quarin, wherein.  
 Quar-of, whereof  
 Quar-boru, where-through.  
 Quarelle, dart, arrow.  
 Quareres, quarries.  
 Quat, what. [ever.  
 Quat-als-ever, whatsoever.  
 Quat, Quab, quoth, said, answered.  
 Quatkin, what kind.  
 Quat-sa-ever, whatsoever.  
 Quatso, whatsoever.  
 Quavande, waving, flowing.  
 Quawes, waves.  
 Quede, a wretch. 416.  
 Quede, evil. 416.  
 Quedir, whether.  
 Queintise, a stratagem.  
 Queinteliche, quaintly, gaily.  
 Quik, living.  
 Quelle, to kill.  
 Queme, to please. 400.  
 Quen, when.  
 Quer, whether.  
 Quet, Quete, wheat.  
 Queben, whence.  
 Queynte, quaint. 411.  
 Queynte, quenched.  
 Queyntely, craftily, cautiously.  
 Qui, why.  
 Quic, alive.  
 Quicliche, quickly.  
 Quil, Quile, while, time.  
 Quilk, which.  
 Quils, whilst.  
 Quiste, bequest. 407.  
 Quit clayme, to give up the claim to a thing.  
 Quit, Quite, to reward.  
 Quite, white.  
 Quoake = *quok*, quaked.  
 Quo-so, whoso,  
 Quyle, while.  
 Raadd, afraid.  
 Rabben, turnips. 411.  
 Rac, wind, *rack*, or driving clouds.  
 Rad, active. 394.  
 Rad, Rade, frightened, afraid.  
 Rad, rode.  
 Rad, promised.  
 Radde, frightened, afraid.  
 Radde, pret. read.  
 Raddere, readier.  
 Raddest, advisedest.  
 Rade, ready.  
 Rade, rode.  
 Rade, road, way.  
 Radly, quickly, readily.  
 Rage, madness, fever. 426.  
 Ragemon, a roll. 437.  
 Raght, reached.  
 Raht, reckoned. 420.  
 Railed, set in order.

- Raken, to consume. 387. [391.  
 Ransaken, to ransack.  
 Rap, haste, hurry.  
 Rape, to hasten. 391.  
 Kapli, quickly.  
 Ras, rose.  
 Ras, rush, haste, hurry.  
 Rase, to run. 348.  
 Rasse, eminence. 433.  
 Rathe, Raðe Raþe, soon, quickly. 391.  
 Rathly, quickly.  
 Rattis, rats. [*reached*.  
 Rauhte, obtained,  
 Raump, to ramp. 430.  
 Raunsoun, ransom.  
 Rawþe, mercy, pity. 382.  
 Raykande, rushing, rapid.  
 Rayke, to go. 433.  
 Rayke3, goes.  
 Rayle, to deck, ornament, to set in order.  
 Rayled, arrayed.  
 Raymen, to roam. It may also signify to rule.  
 Raynande, raining.  
 Raysoun, reason, argument.  
 Razt, reached, went.  
 Realych, royally.  
 Rearde, sound. 433.  
 Reawere, piteous, kind.  
 Reche, to reach, take.  
 Reche, smoke, reek. 434.  
 Reche, to *reck*, care. 397.  
 Rechen, to tell. 385.  
 Reching, interpretation. 385.  
 Rechles, careless.  
 Recles, incense. 434.  
 Recoverer, recovery, or recoveror.  
 Red, imp. advise, propose.  
 Red, Rede, counsel, advice. 381.  
 Redde, related.  
 Redden, pl. counselled.  
 Rede, remedy. 381.  
 Rede, to advise. 381.  
 Rede3, advisest.  
 Redly, readily.  
 Redy, ready.  
 Reed, red.  
 Refourme, to confirm, re-establish.  
 Regnynde, reigning.  
 Regratour, retailer.  
 Reke, reek, smoke. 416.  
 Rekenly, nobly, princely.  
 Rele, to roll, pace.  
 Relyf, remainder.  
 Relyves, remnants, leavings.  
 Rem, cry. 382.  
 Rem, realm.  
 Ren = *renne*, to run.  
 Rended, rent.  
 Reneye, refuse, forsake.  
 Rengned, reigned.  
 Rengne33e, courses. 434.  
 Renk, a knight.  
 Renkkes, men, people.  
 Renne, to run.  
 Rennyng, running.  
 Rent, Rente, revenue.  
 Repreve, to reprove.  
 Reprevynges, reprooffs.  
 Reprof, reproof.  
 Rere, to raise.  
 Rerde, Rerid, reared, raised.  
 Res, haste. 348.  
 Resceyve, to receive.  
 Rese, haste.  
 Reste, rested.  
 Resteles, Restle3, restless, unceasing.  
 Resun, reason, right.  
 Reu, to repent. 382, 391.  
 Reuful, piteous, sorrowful.  
 Reuful, merciful, kind.  
 Reuli, sorrowfully,  
 Reume, realm, kingdom.  
 Reuel, Reul, rule.  
 Reve, to bereave.  
 Revel, feasting, festivity.  
 Rew, imp. have pity.  
 Rewe, to pity. 382.  
 Rewed, merciful.  
 Reweli, Rewli, sorrowful. 382, 391.  
 Rewful, merciful.  
 Rewle, to rule, direct.  
 Rewme, realm.  
 Rewþe, pity. 382.  
 Reyn, rain.  
 Reysoun, reason, right.  
 Ribaudye, ribaldry.  
 Riche, kingdom. 405.  
 Richeliche, richly.  
 Richesse, riches.  
 Ricchis, sets out, goes.  
 Ridlande, pouring. 434.  
 Rif, rife, rive, tear.  
 Riffes, fissures, openings (see Ryve).  
 Rig, back.  
 Righte, to set right.  
 Riht, right.  
 Rihtfolle, righteously, equitably.  
 Rihtfuliche, rightfully.  
 Rike, kingdom.  
 Rimed, spake loudly.  
 Riped, searched. 426.  
 Risand, Riseand, rising.  
 Rise, branch. 396.  
 Rith, right.  
 Rivelic, frequently, often. 425.  
 Rwe, to repent. 382.  
 Rwe3 (me) repents me.  
 Ri3t, Ri3te, right.  
 Ri3ti, to set right.  
 Ri3tly, rightly.  
 Ro, a roe.  
 Ro, peace. 419.  
 Robberie, robbery.  
 Roche, rock.  
 Rode, rood, cross. 386.  
 Rode-tre, the cross.  
 Rode, complexion, colour. 402.

- Rody, ruddy, flesh-coloured. [429.  
 Rogg = *rogge*, to rend.  
 Rok, rock.  
 Role, to roll.  
 Romand, roaring. 417.  
 Ron, ran.  
 Ronk, rank, bold.  
 Roo, the roe.  
 Rooless, restless.  
 Rooch, a rock.  
 Roode, cross.  
 Rore, to roar.  
 Ros, rose.  
 Rospen, to rasp, diminish. 387.  
 Rot, Rote, root.  
 Rober, rudder,  
 Roþeron, oxen.  
 Rofun, a cloud.  
 Roting, decay.  
 Rotte = *rote*, root.  
 Roume, broad, roomy. 418.  
 Rounce, horse, steed.  
 Roun, to take counsel.  
 Roun, prayer, song. 420. [429.  
 Rounce, to wrinkle.  
 Rous, praise, renown. 436.  
 Rout, company, host. 413.  
 Rout, rush.  
 Routhe, pity, mercy.  
 Rowt, army.  
 Rowtande, rushing, pouring. 432.  
 Rowtes, companies.  
 Roze, rough.  
 Rozly, roughly. 433.  
 Ruchched, Ruched, settled, righted, rolled.  
 Rude, complexion. 402.  
 Ruele, rushed.  
 Rulen, to rule.  
 Rungen, pl. rang.  
 Runisch, fierce, sudden. 436.  
 Runischly, fiercely.  
 Runnen, pl. ran.
- Rurd, noise, cry. 433.  
 Rwly, piteously.  
 Ryalmes, realms.  
 Ryche, rich (men).  
 Ryd, to release.  
 Rydelles, perplexed. 434.  
 Ryden, ridden.  
 Ryf = *ryfe*, rive, pierce.  
 Ryg, Ryge, shower, rain. 432.  
 Ryht, aright.  
 Ryn, Rynne, to run.  
 Ryne, to rain.  
 Rynnes, runs.  
 Rys, a branch, twig.  
 Rysed, rose.  
 Ryve, to tear, rive.  
 Ryzt, prepared.  
 Ryzt, right, righteousness.  
 Ryztez, aright.  
 Ryztfol, rightful.  
 Ryztnesse, equity.  
 Ryztwys, righteous.  
 Ryztvolle, righteous.  
 Ryztvolliche, rightfully, righteously.
- Sa, so.  
 Saaf, safe, whole.  
 Sac, fault. 423.  
 Saccles, innocent.  
 Sacclesli, innocently.  
 Sad, staid, sober, tired, weary.  
 Sad, satisfied. 420.  
 Saddyly, sorrowfully.  
 Sadloker, more heavily.  
 Saf, safe.  
 Safliche, safely.  
 Sag, Sagh, saw.  
 Sagh, saws, words.  
 Saghtel, peace, concord. 419.  
 Sak, sake.  
 Sak, fault, sin. 423.  
 Sakerfyse, sacrifice.  
 Sal, Sale, Sall, shall.  
 Sald, sold,  
 Sale, hall.
- Salme, to sing psalms.  
 Salt, shalt.  
 Saltou, shalt thou.  
 Saluen, to salute,  
 Same, Samen, together, 'alle samen,' altogether.  
 Samened, Samned, gathered, collected.  
 Sand, message. 383.  
 Sant, holy.  
 Santes, saints.  
 Sar, Sare, sorrowfully, sorely.  
 Sare, sore, sorrowful.  
 Sari, Sary, sorry.  
 Sarmoun, discourse, sermon.  
 Sattle, to settle.  
 Sau, saw.  
 Sauf, Saufe, Sauffe, safe.  
 Sauffiche, safely.  
 Saugh, Sauh, saw.  
 Saul, Saule, the soul.  
 Saun, Saunz, without.  
 Saundyuer, Sandiver, red ochre.  
 Sauveur, saviour.  
 Savur, savour.  
 Savyte, safety.  
 Sawel, Sawell, the soul.  
 Sawes, words.  
 Sawh, Say, saw.  
 Sa3ez, words.  
 Sa3tled, settled.  
 Sa3tlyng, reconciliation, peace.  
 Scade, divided.  
 Scaped, escaped.  
 Scaðe, scathe, harm, wrong. 390.  
 Scau, to shew.  
 Scene, bright, sheen.  
 Sceu, to shew.  
 Scha = *sebau*, wood, grove. 425.  
 Schadewe, a shadow.  
 Schaft, (1) form, make, (2) an arrow. 417.  
 Schalk, Schalke, man, person. 434.

- Schaltow, shalt thou.  
 Schamie, imp. be  
   ashamed.  
 Schankes, legs.  
 Schape, Schapen, to  
   shape, devise, plan,  
   prepare.  
 Schapp, shape.  
 Scharplyche, sharply,  
   quickly.  
 Schauing, manifestation,  
   appearance.  
 Schaw, Schawe, to shew.  
 Schawe, a wood, grove.  
 Schawles, a scarecrow.  
 Scheawith, pl. appear.  
 Schede, to separate, dis-  
   tinguish. 400.  
                                   , shep-  
                                   herd.  
 Schel, shall.  
 Schelde, a shield.  
 Schelder, shielder.  
 Schenchen, to pour out,  
   to give drink. 419.  
 Schende, to destroy,  
   ruin, spoil, to hurt,  
   harm, 401.  
 Schene, bright, sheen.  
 Schent, destroyed,  
   beaten.  
 Schere, to cut.  
 Schete, to shoot.  
 Schethe, a sheath.  
 Schew, Schewe, to shew.  
 Schiff, turn, instant.  
 Schild, Schilde, shield.  
 Schilde, to shield.  
 Schille, shrill. 398.  
 Schilling, shillings.  
 Schire, bright clear.  
   409.  
 Schirche, to shriek. 400.  
 Schirme, to fight, con-  
   tend. 401.  
 Schirreves, sheriffs.  
 Scho, she.  
 Schok, shook.  
 Scholde, should.  
 Scholdest, shoulddest.  
 Scholes, hangs down (?)
- Schome, shame.  
 Schomliche, modestly.  
 Schonde, shame, dis-  
   grace.  
 Schonkes, legs.  
 Schoon, shoes.  
 Schop, Schope, created,  
   devised, made,  
   planned.  
 Schopen, pl. became,  
   turned to.  
 Schote, to shoot.  
 Schowved, pushed,  
   shoved.  
 Schraf, shrove.  
 Schred, clothed.  
 Schrewe, wretch, fiend,  
   villain.  
 Schrewid, wicked.  
 Schrippe, scrip.  
 Schrof, shrove.  
 Schroud, Schroude,  
   clothing, shroud, gar-  
   ment. [fess.  
 Schryve, to thrive, con-  
 Schuld, Schulde, should.  
 Schulden, pl. should.  
 Schuldren, Schuldres,  
   shoulders.  
 Schule, shall.  
 Schulen, Schulle, Schul-  
   len, pl. shall.  
 Schuln, pl. shall.  
 Schuniet, shuns. 401.  
 Schyl-fysch, shell-fish.  
 Schyndered, shivered.  
   436.  
 Schyre, bright.  
 Schwne, shun, ward off.  
 Sckile, skill 400.  
 Sclaundrid, offended.  
 Sco, she.  
 Scor, score.  
 Scorn, shorn, cut.  
 Scrippes, wallets. 423.  
 Scrit, a writing, a roll  
   of parchment. 414.  
 Scriven, shriven.  
 Scued, shewed.  
 Sealte, salt.  
 Seche, to seek.
- Sechende, seeking.  
 Sechez, seeks.  
 Seckes, sacks.  
 Seculere, a layman.  
 Sed, Sede, pp. said.  
 Sed, Sede, seed.  
 Seg, a man, person.  
 Seg, Segge, a man, per-  
   son, knight.  
 Sege, siege.  
 Segeð, falls, alights. 389.  
 Segge, sedge.  
 Segge, may say.  
 Segge, Seggen, to say.  
 Seh, saw.  
 Seid, Seide, said.  
 Seidestow, saidest thou.  
 Seie, to say.  
 Seie, seen.  
 Seigen, to say.  
 Seiles, sails.  
 Sein, saint.  
 Sein, seen.  
 Seised, possessed.  
 Seisine, possession. 414.  
 Seist, sayest.  
 Seith, says.  
 Seiyng, saying.  
 Sek, a sack.  
 Sek, Seke, sick.  
 Sekand, seeking.  
 Seke, to seek.  
 Sekenesses, sicknesses,  
   diseases.  
 Seker, sure, certain.  
 Sekes, seekest.  
 Seknesse, sickness.  
 Seky, to seek, to look  
   for.  
 Sel, seal.  
 Sel, time. 385.  
 Selve, Selven, self, selves.  
 Selcouth, Selcouthe,  
   strange, wonderful.  
   412.  
 Selcut, Selcuth, wonder,  
   wonderful. 412.  
 Selden, Seldene, seldom.  
 Seldum, seldom.  
 Sele, man. 421.  
 Self, Selve, self, very.

- Seli, good, blessed, simple. 383.  
 Seli-red = *seli-sped*, success, bliss.  
 Seli-sped, prosperity, good fortune, happiness. 387.  
 Selk, silk.  
 Selkouth, marvellous, wonderful, great.  
 Selli, Selly, (1) greatly, wondrously, (2) a marvel.  
 Sellye3, marvels.  
 Selven, himself.  
 Selure, canopy.  
 Selver, silver.  
 Sely, blessed, happy, good, well-disposed, simple. 383.  
 Semblance, appearance, form.  
 Semblaud, face, countenance, appearance.  
 Semblant, Semblaunt, appearance, countenance.  
 Semblance, appearance.  
 Semble, Semblee, assembly.  
 Sembled, assembled.  
 Seme, to arbitrate, decide. 400.  
 Semes, loads. 392.  
 Semet, Semis, seems.  
 Semloker, more seemly.  
 Semly, seemly, beautiful.  
 Semlokest, most seemly, pleasant.  
 Semyng, appearance, 'at my *semyng*,' as appears to me.  
 Sen, (1) to see, to appear, (2) seen, (3) since.  
 Send, Sende, sent.  
 Sendal, fine silk.  
 Sene, seen.  
 Sene, truthful.  
 Seo, to see.  
 Seolfe, self, very.  
 Seon, to see.  
 Seoth, sees.  
 Seop, pl. see.  
 Ser, Sere, diverse.  
 Serdai, different days.  
 Sergeaunz, Servauntes, soldiers, servants.  
 Seriaun, sergeant (at law).  
 Serk, a shirt. 409.  
 Sermoune, (1) word, discourse, (2) to discourse, relate.  
 Servage, service, vassalage.  
 Servaunt, a servant.  
 Servie, to serve.  
 Servis, service.  
 Servisabul, serviceable.  
 Serw, Serwe, sorrow.  
 Sese, to cease.  
 Seson, Sc-soune3, seasons.  
 Sest, seest.  
 Sesun, season.  
 Sete, seat.  
 Setel-gange, setting. 418.  
 Sep, pl. see.  
 Sepen, afterwards.  
 Seppe, Seppen, since, afterwards.  
 Settand, setting.  
 Sette3 (on), lights upon.  
 Seuid, followed.  
 Seve, seven.  
 Sevepe, seventh.  
 Sevend, seventh.  
 Sewid, Sewede, followed.  
 Sewes, dishes.  
 Sewyngly, in order.  
 Sextene, sixteen.  
 Sixty, sixty. [Seyn.  
 Sey, Seye, to say, pl.  
 Seyde, said.  
 Seyed, passed. 432.  
 Seyl, sail.  
 Seyn, seen.  
 Seyt, says.  
 Seyyng, saying.  
 Sez, saw.  
 Shadewe, shadow.  
 Shamlic, shamefully.  
 Shap, shape.  
 Shape, to make, form.  
 Shel, Sheld, shield.  
 Shep, sheep.  
 Sheren, to reap.  
 Shete, to shoot.  
 Shir, bright, clear. 409.  
 Sho, she.  
 Shole, Sholen, pl. shall.  
 Sholden, should.  
 Shome, shame, disgrace.  
 Shop, put (see Schop).  
 Shote, pp. shot.  
 Shote, to shoot.  
 Shrive, to shrive.  
 Shrewes, wretches, wicked persons.  
 Shulde, should.  
 Shuldre, the shoulder.  
 Shule, Shulen, pl. shall.  
 Shynand, shining.  
 Shype, a ship.  
 Sibbe, relations. 394.  
 Sidbordez, side-boards.  
 Side, long. 412.  
 Sigge, to say.  
 Sih, saw.  
 Siht, sight.  
 Sik, sick.  
 Sikenesse, sickness.  
 Siker, (1) true, sure, certain, (2) to assure.  
 Sikerest, securest, safest.  
 Sikerli, Sikerlike, truly, indeed, boldly. 391.  
 Silc, such.  
 Sille, seat.  
 Sine, since.  
 Sines, sins.  
 Singin, to sing.  
 Sinigeden, sinned. 388.  
 Sins, afterwards.  
 Siquar, period, time. 424.  
 Sist, seest.  
 Sit, sits.  
 Site, (1) sorrow, (2) sorrow. 424.



- Sith, since. [402.  
 Sijbe, time, pl. Sijbes.  
 Sithen, Sijpen, Siðe, then,  
 since, afterwards, sub-  
 sequently.  
 Sithere, cider. 422.  
 Sijþbe, afterwards.  
 Sitten, pp. sat.  
 Sitte3, sits.  
 Sijt, sight.  
 Skatere, to scatter.  
 Skele, skill, reason. 434.  
 Skentinge, song. 403.  
 Skete, quickly, soon.  
 434.  
 Skewe, sky. 416.  
 Skille, reason, right.  
 400.  
 Skilles, reasons.  
 Skivden, changed,  
 shifted. 383.  
 Skoul, to scowl. 430.  
 Skowte3, to scud about,  
 search out.  
 Skwe, the sky, clouds.  
 Skyes, clouds.  
 Skyfte, to shift, change.  
 Skyllle, reason.  
 Skyilly, skill, purpose,  
 design. 434.  
 Skyrme3, to look nar-  
 rowly about. 433.  
 Skyvalde, manifested,  
 devised. 434.  
 Sla, to slay.  
 Slac, slow.  
 Slade, dale.  
 Slagen, slain.  
 Slake, to abate.  
 Slan, slain.  
 Slavers, slobbers. 429.  
 Slaw, Slawe, slow. 427.  
 Slazt, slaughter, murder.  
 Sle, Slee, to slay.  
 Sleghe, Sleghe, wise,  
 crafty. 412.  
 Sleght, skill, craft.  
 Sley, slyly, prudently.  
 Slen, Slene, to slay.  
 Slep, sleep, 'on slep,'  
 asleep.
- Slep, slept.  
 Slepand, sleeping.  
 Slepe, to sleep.  
 Slepyng, sleep.  
 Sleuþe, sloth, idleness.  
 Sley, prudent, sly.  
 Sleygh, crafty, skilful.  
 Sleynge, slaying, mur-  
 der.  
 Sleje, prudent. 412.  
 Sleþbe, prudence.  
 Sliih, prudent, wise.  
 Sliik, such. 423.  
 Slo, to slay.  
 Slogh, slew  
 Slogth, path, step.  
 Slokes, imp. stop. 436.  
 Slon, to slay. 381.  
 Slon, sloes. 411.  
 Slonge, pl slung.  
 Slotered, defiled, be-  
 spattered. 430.  
 Slou, Slouh, Slow, Slowe,  
 Slowgh, slew,  
 Smach, smell, flavour,  
 stink. 393.  
 Smachande, smelling,  
 savouring.  
 Smacke, to taste, en-  
 joy.  
 Smaken, to scent. 393.  
 Smacky, to taste, enjoy,  
 long for. 393.  
 Smal, Smale, small.  
 Smeren, to anoint. 393.  
 Smerl, a gum, balm,  
 ointment. 423.  
 Smerld, embalmed.  
 Smert, (1) smart, active,  
 (2) severe.  
 Smerte, 'as smerte,'  
 smartly, at once.  
 Smerte, to smart.  
 Smiland, smiling.  
 Smit, smites.  
 Smolderande, smoulder-  
 ing  
 Smoltes, smells.  
 Smot, smote.  
 Smyt, smites.  
 Smyþ, a carpenter.
- Smyþbe, a smithy.  
 Snache, to seize sud-  
 denly, snatch.  
 Snaw, snow.  
 Snel, Snelle, quick,  
 quickly, suddenly.  
 405.  
 Snepe, foolish. 401.  
 Snibbing, rebuke. 416.  
 Snou, snow.  
 Snyte, to wipe. 415.  
 So = seo, to see.  
 Sobrelliche, Sobrelyche,  
 soberly.  
 Sobreté, sobriety.  
 Soctoure, assistance,  
 help, succour.  
 Sodianli, Sodeynliche,  
 suddenly.  
 Sogat, thus.  
 Soght, Sogt, Sogte,  
 Sohte, sought. 387.  
 Som, some.  
 Somdel, somewhat.  
 Some, together, 'alle  
 ant some,' one and  
 all. 420.  
 Somer, summer.  
 Somony, to summon.  
 Somwat, somewhat.  
 Son, soon.  
 Son, sound.  
 Sond, sand.  
 Sond, Sonde, word, mes-  
 sage, messenger. 383.  
 Sonde, dish. 390.  
 Sonder (in-), asunder.  
 Sondere-men, messen-  
 gers. 383.  
 Sondes, messengers.  
 Sonde3-mon, a messen-  
 ger.  
 Sone, soon.  
 Sone, a son.  
 - ang.  
 Sonkken, pl. sank.  
 Sonne, the sun.  
 Sor, sorrowful.  
 Sore, sorrow.  
 Sore, sorely, sorrow-  
 fully.

- Soreghes, sorrows.  
 Soren, shorn, reaped.  
 Sorewe, sorrow.  
 Sorful, sorrowful.  
 Sorge, sorrow. 383.  
 Sori, sorry, sorrowful.  
 Sot, a fool. 418.  
 Soþnesse, truth.  
 Soþþe, afterwards. 402.  
 Sottes, fool's  
 Soth, Soþ, Sothe, Soþe,  
 true, truth.  
 Sothly, Soþly, truly.  
 Soukand, sucking.  
 Souht, Soust, sought.  
 Sourquidrye, pride.  
 Sowe, sown.  
 Spac, spake.  
 Spad, a spade.  
 Spak, spake.  
 Spale, spell, rest. 401.  
 Sparlyr, calf of the leg.  
 Sparþe, battle.  
 Sparwe, a sparrow.  
 Spec, spake.  
 Specheles, speechless.  
 Specialych, specially.  
 Sped, succeeded.  
 Sped, speed, haste.  
 Spedd, Spedde, suc-  
 ceeded.  
 Speddestu, succeedest  
 thou.  
 Spede, to succeed, pros-  
 per.  
 Spedeþ, prospers.  
 Spek, imp. speak.  
 Spek, Speke, to speak.  
 Speke, spakest.  
 Speke, pl. spoke.  
 Speke, Speken, to speak.  
 Spelle, delay, rest.  
 Spelle, a (false) speech.  
 Spelle, discourse, tale,  
 story. 401.  
 Spellinge, reciting, a  
 magical incantation.  
 439.  
 Spende, spent.  
 Spene, expend, or =  
*scheuen*, to shew.
- Spenet, fastened.  
 Sperd, Sperde, fastened,  
 confined, imprisoned.  
 Spere, a spear.  
 Speren, to shut up, con-  
 fine. 384.  
 Speride, shut up, en-  
 closed.  
 Sperling, a fish so called.  
 Speten, to spit, vomit.  
 Spetos, sharp.  
 Spetynge, spitting,  
 Spicelike, with spices.  
 Spicers, sellers of spices.  
 Spices-ware, spicery.  
 382.  
 Spilen, to enjoy, have  
 pleasure. 395.  
 Spille, to destroy, ruin,  
 spoil. 402.  
 Spird, inquired. 423.  
 Spire, twigs. 395.  
 Spirs, imp. inquire.  
 Spoke, spoken.  
 Spoushod, spousehood,  
 marriage.  
 Spousi, to espouse.  
 Spraule, Sprawel, to  
 sprawl.  
 Sprawlyng, stragglng.  
 Spray, sprig, branch.  
 Sprede, Spreden, to  
 spread.  
 Sprong, sprang.  
 Sprongen, Sprungen, pp.  
 sprung forth, risen.  
 Spume, foam, scum.  
 Spuniande, sticky.  
 Spurnde, stumbled. 414.  
 Spuse, spouse.  
 Spyllez, spoils. 402.  
 Spyrakle, spirit.  
 Spysereþ, spice-mongers.  
 Srid, clothed.  
 Srud, change of cloth-  
 ing. 382.  
 Ssame, shame.  
 Ssame, to be ashamed.  
 Sscet, shot.  
 Sseawe, to shew.  
 Sseawere, mirror. 428.
- Sseawy, to shew, ap-  
 pear.  
 Ssedde, shed.  
 Ssede, shade.  
 Ssel, shall.  
 Ssceld, a shield.  
 Ssende, to destroy.  
 Ssetare, shooter, archer.  
 Ssete, to shoot.  
 Sseppe, form.  
 Ssepþes, forms. 428.  
 Ssipvol, shipfull.  
 Ssire, shire.  
 Ssolde, should.  
 Ssoldren, shoulders.  
 Ssolle, pl. shall.  
 Ssrfite, shrift.  
 Ssrriue, pl. shrove.  
 Stac, closed, shut. 432.  
 Stad, placed.  
 Stale, Stalle, a place,  
 seat.  
 Stalword, Stalworth,  
 Stalworþe, strong,  
 brave. 411.  
 Stalworthede, stedfast-  
 ness.  
 Stalwortly, strongly,  
 stubbornly.  
 Stalworþest, bravest.  
 Stamyn, threshold.  
 Stanc, a pool. 433.  
 Stan, Stane, a stone.  
 Stang, a pool. 433.  
 Stangeþ, pools.  
 Stant, stands.  
 Starc, stark, strong. 407.  
 Stareand, Starinde, star-  
 ing, gaping.  
 Stark, strong.  
 Stat, state.  
 Stabelnes, foundation.  
 417.  
 Staued, Stawed, stowed,  
 placed in safety.  
 Stauex, stows, places in  
 safety.  
 Sted, Stede, place, 383.  
 Stede a steed, horse.  
 Steene, a stone vessel.

- Stefhede, stiffness, strength.  
 Stefne, voice. 402.  
 Stegh, Steghe, to ascend. 415.  
 Stegh, ascended.  
 Stek, folded.  
 Steke3, imp. shut or fasten up. 432.  
 Stel-bawe, stirrups.  
 Stele, handle.  
 Stele, to steal.  
 Stel-gere, steel-gear, armour.  
 Stem, Steme, light, flame. 409.  
 Stemmed, stopped, stood still. 435.  
 Steorne, stern.  
 Steornliche, sternly.  
 Stepmoder, a step-mother.  
 Stepmoderes, step-mothers.  
 Stere, to stir.  
 Stern, Sterne, a star. 422.  
 Sternes, stars.  
 Sterne, a star.  
 Sterren, stars.  
 Stert, started.  
 Sterte, (1) to start, (2) started.  
 Sterve, to die. 382.  
 Sterved[e], died. *Storven* is a better reading.  
 Steven, voice, command. 401.  
 Steyne, to stain.  
 Stezen, to ascend.  
 Sties, paths. 415.  
 Stif, stiff, stubborn, brave.  
 Stif, strong, bold.  
 Stiffuly, strongly, quickly.  
 Stify, strongly.  
 Stihes, paths. 415.  
 Stille, quietly, secretly.  
 Stint, Stinte, to stop.
- Stirte, started.  
 Stiward, steward. 384.  
 Stize, Stizen, (1) to ascend, (2) ascended.  
 Stizede, ascended.  
 Stiztles, rules, directs. 435.  
 Stoc, stock, trunk.  
 Stod, stood  
 Stok, stock, trunk.  
 Stoken, enclosed.  
 Stoken, pp. shut up. 432.  
 Ston, stone.  
 Stond, imp. stand.  
 Stonde, Stonden, to stand.  
 Stoneyinge, astonishment.  
 Stont, stands.  
 Stope, to stop (up).  
 Storve, should die (see *Sterve*).  
 Stound, Stounde, a short period of time, a moment, an interval. 383.  
 Stouned, Stowned, astounded.  
 Stoupand, stooping.  
 Stoupe, to stoop.  
 Stour, Stoure, a conflict, agony. 429.  
 Stowres, attacks.  
 Stra, a straw.  
 Strand, stream. 424.  
 Strang, Strange, strong.  
 Strangeþ, becomes strong.  
 Strayne, Strayny, to restrain, rule.  
 Strecche, to stretch, move.  
 Streght, straight.  
 Streitliche, strictly, narrowly.  
 Streijt, stretched.  
 Strekand, stretching, covering. 417.  
 Strem, stream.  
 Stremmes, streams.
- Streme3, streams.  
 Strend = *strene*, race, progeny.  
 Stronger, stronger.  
 Strongþed, strengthened.  
 Strengþe, strength, force.  
 Strengthide, strengthened.  
 Strenkle, to scatter.  
 Strenthe, force, meaning, signification.  
 Strenþ, strength.  
 Strete, a street.  
 Streyt[e], narrow.  
 Strejt, straight.  
 Strif, strife. 393.  
 Striif, strife, trouble.  
 Strike, to strike up, to play.  
 Strike, to run, flow. 421.  
 Stroies, destroys.  
 Strondis, strands, streams.  
 Strye, to destroy.  
 Stryed, destroyed.  
 Stude, a place.  
 Stunde, a moment (see *Stound*), short period of time. 383.  
 Stunden, to abide. 333.  
 Stunden, pl. abode.  
 Stures, stirs  
 Sturioun, sturgeon.  
 Sturne, stern.  
 Sturten, pl. started.  
 Sturtes, stirrups.  
 Sty, a path, road.  
 Styfly, strongly, safely.  
 Styh, ascended.  
 Styngie, ascending.  
 Stynkande, stinking.  
 Stynt, Stynte, to stop.  
 Styringes, movements.  
 Styryed, stirred, moved.  
 Styste3 = *stynte3*, stops.  
 Stytest, strongest.  
 Stybly, stiffly.  
 Sty3e, to grow up.  
 Sua, so.

- Sual, swelled.  
 Suanis, swains, servants.  
 Suank, labour'd, toiled.  
 Sue, Swe, to follow.  
 Suein, a swain, man.  
 Suelland, squealing, crying. 425.  
 Sueme, tribulation. 382.  
 Suerd, a sword.  
 Suere, to swear.  
 Suet, Suetē, to sweat.  
 Suepel-band, swaddle-band. 425.  
 Suetlik, sweetly.  
 Suetnes, sweetness.  
 Suette, sweet.  
 Sueyn, swain, servant. 407.  
 Suffrende, suffering, enduring.  
 Suich, Suiche, such.  
 Suik, Suike, treachery.  
 Suikedom, treachery, falseness.  
 Suikedom, treachery, deceit.  
 Suikelhede, fraud, deceit, treachery.  
 Suilk, such.  
 Suim, swoon.  
 Suith, Suithe, Suipe. very quickly.  
 Suiðe, quickly.  
 Suld, Sulde, should.  
 Sule, Sulen, pl. shall.  
 Sulfē, very, self.  
 Sulle, Sullen, to sell.  
 Sullers, sellers.  
 Sulte, very, same. 398.  
 Sulver, silver.  
 Sum, as. 424.  
 Sumdel, somewhat.  
 Sume = *suim*, grief, affliction. 382, 423.  
 Sumere, summer.  
 Summe, some, certain.  
 Sumpnour, summoner, apparitor.  
 Sumquat, somewhat.  
 Sundri, separate. 383.  
 Sune, sound.  
 Sune, son.  
 Sunen, Sunez, sons.  
 Sunkken, pl. sank.  
 Sunne, sun.  
 Sunne, sin.  
 Sunne-bem, a sunbeam.  
 Suor, swore.  
 Suote, sweet.  
 Survise, service, course.  
 Susteene, Susteine, Susteini, to sustain.  
 Suster, a sister.  
 Susteyne, to sustain.  
 Suth, truth.  
 Suth, south.  
 Suþe = *swipe*, very.  
 Suþþe, afterwards.  
 Suwe, to follow.  
 Suweþ, pl. follow.  
 Suythe, much, greatly.  
 Swa, so.  
 Swal, swelled.  
 Swange, loins.  
 Sware, square.  
 Swe = *sweyed*, rushed.  
 Sweande, flowing.  
 Swele, to wash. 421.  
 Swelt, Swelte, to destroy.  
 Swem, troubled, grieved. 382.  
 Swep, meaning. 386.  
 Swteord, a sword.  
 Sweordis, swords.  
 Swerd, a sword.  
 Swere, Sweren, to swear.  
 Swete, to sweat.  
 Swetnesse, sweetness.  
 Swevene, Swevenyng, a dream.  
 Sweynes, servants.  
 Swike, to cease. 402.  
 Swike, a traitor. 399.  
 Swikedam, deceit, fraud, treachery. 399.  
 Swikeldome, treachery, deceit.  
 Swilk, Swilk, Swilke, such. 381.  
 Swin, swine.  
 Swink, Swinke, to labour, toil, work.  
 Swiðe, very quickly. 384.  
 Swo, so.  
 Swoghe, (1) swoon, (2) deep.  
 Swolgen, pp. swallowed. 383.  
 Swon, a swan.  
 Swonken, labour'd, toiled.  
 Swore, the neck. 398.  
 Sworen, sworn.  
 Swuch, Swych, such.  
 Swymmed, swam.  
 Swynke, to labour.  
 Swyre, the neck.  
 Swyþe, heavily, fast. 384.  
 Syghyng, sighing.  
 Syk, sick, weak.  
 Sykerlyk, Sykerlyche, truly, indeed, secure.  
 Sykernes, security.  
 Sylveren = *sylveren*, silver dishes.  
 Symented, cemented.  
 Syn, Synne, since.  
 Syngne, sign, token.  
 Synkande, sinking.  
 Synkkez, sinks.  
 Synoghe, sinew.  
 Syth, time.  
 Sythen, afterwards.  
 Sythes, Syþez, times.  
 Syze, Syzen, saw.  
 Syzt, Syzte, sight.  
 Ta, to take.  
 Taa, a toe.  
 Tabart, coat.  
 Tac = *take*, to take.  
 Tachched, attached.  
 Tades, tades.  
 Taght, Tagte, taught.  
 Tak, take.  
 Take, pp. taken.  
 Taken, a token, sign.  
 Takening, Takning, Takninge, a token, sign.  
 Tal, tale, discourse.

- Tald, Talde, told. 384.  
 Tale, speech, tidings, news, question, account, report.  
 Tale, to tell.  
 Talentyf, desirous.  
 Talis, tales.  
 Talkkande, talking.  
 Tan, Tane, taken.  
 Targes, targets.  
 Tars tapites, Tharsian tapestry.  
 Tas, tocs.  
 Tat, that.  
 Taugte, taught.  
 Tavele, to play at dice. 406.  
 Taverners, keepers of taverns.  
 Tawnen, to shew. 387.  
 Te, to.  
 Tech, imp. teach.  
 Teche, Techen, to teach.  
 Techeres, teachers.  
 Teches, Techches, marks.  
 Teeme, theme.  
 Teld, Telde, tabernacle tent. 416.  
 Telde, to raise up.  
 Teldes, habitations, dwellings.  
 Telid, shewed.  
 Tellus, tells.  
 Tels, imp. tell.  
 Telþ, telleth, esteems.  
 Temptande, tempting.  
 Ten, to go, to conduct. 380.  
 Tend, tenth.  
 Tende, pret. lighted.  
 Tende, to kindle, light up. 398.  
 Tene, grief, tribulation, anger, sorrow. 398, 401.  
 Tent, attend.  
 Teoneþ, grieveth.  
 Tere, to tar. 410.  
 Terme, lake, pool, 434.
- Te-tealte, in jeopardy, in vain. 422.  
 Teyntis, tents.  
 Tha, those.  
 Theder, thither.  
 Thah, though, provided.  
 Thaim, them.  
 Thair, their.  
 Thanes, men, nobles.  
 Thanne, then, when.  
 Thapotecary, the apothecary.  
 Thankynges, thanks.  
 Thar, Thare, there, where.  
 Thar, need.  
 Tharby, thereby.  
 Tharin, therein.  
 Tharto, thereto.  
 Tharwit, therewith.  
 Thayre, their.  
 Thazt = *thaz*, though.  
 Thefs, thieves.  
 Thenche, to think.  
 Thennes, thence. [thou].  
 Thenkeste, thinkest  
 Theo, pl. the.  
 Theode, countries, lands.  
 Theose, these, those.  
 Ther, there.  
 Ther-offe, thereof.  
 Therinne, therein.  
 Thester, dark, darkness. 400.  
 Thertil, thereto.  
 Thew, virtue.  
 Thewes, virtues, morals, good manners.  
 Thider, Thidre, thither.  
 Thinc, appears.  
 Thes, these.  
 Thit = *tho + it*, then it.  
 Tho, those.  
 Thought, appeared.  
 Thoughtfulest, the most thoughtful.  
 Thoh, though.  
 Thol, Thole, suffer.  
 Tholand, bearing enduring.
- Thole, Tholien, Tholye, to suffer, to endure, permit, be patient.  
 Thoner, thunder.  
 Thonered, thundered.  
 Thonk, thought, thanks.  
 Thoo, then.  
 Thoos, those.  
 Thore, there.  
 Thoru, through.  
 Thoruthlike, throughout-like, piercingly.  
 Thouche, though.  
 Thoucte, thought.  
 Thouth, thought, devised.  
 Thouthe, thought.  
 Thow, an error for Yow, you.  
 Thu, thou.  
 Thunche, to appear, seem.  
 Thurgh, Thurz, through.  
 Thral, Thrall, Thralle, slave.  
 Thralled[e], enslaved, brought into bondage.  
 Threste, to thrust.  
 Threstelcoc, a thrush.  
 Threstes, thirsts.  
 Threte, to threaten.  
 Threte, to tire. 420.  
 Thretend, thirteenth.  
 Thretynges, threats.  
 Thrid, Thridde, third.  
 Thrie, Thries, thrice.  
 Thrin, Thrinne, three.  
 Thrist, thrust.  
 Thritti, thirty.  
 Thritteind, thirteenth.  
 Throwe, time.  
 Þaa, the, those.  
 Þaim, them.  
 Þare, of the, to the.  
 Þaref = *þarf*, need. 400.  
 Þare-vore, therefore.  
 Þarwyþ, therewith.  
 Þas = *þes*, of the.  
 Þas, those.  
 Þau, Þauh, Þauz, though.

Fa3, though.  
 Fajles, nevertheless.  
 Feder, thither.  
 Fei, though.  
 Fei, they.  
 Fellich, Felliche, Fel-  
 lych, Bellyche, the  
 like, such.  
 Fen, (dat. and acc.) the.  
 Fenche, to think.  
 Fenche, to seem, appear.  
 Fenk, Fenke, to think.  
 Fenke, to appear, seem.  
 Fennes, Fennis, thence.  
 Fennesforth, thence-  
 forth.  
 Feo (f.), the.  
 Feo = Fo, the, these.  
 Feode, land, nation.  
 Feos, these.  
 Feos (f.), this.  
 Fer, there.  
 Fer, Fere, Fir, these.  
 Ferf, unleavened.  
 Ferfer, thereafter.  
 Ferferne, therefore.  
 Ferinne, therein.  
 Fervore, therefore.  
 Ferwe, through.  
 Fes, these.  
 Fes (m.), the.  
 Fet, that.  
 Feßen, thence. 383.  
 Fewe, manner, custom.  
 380.  
 Fewed, behaved, con-  
 ducted. 380.  
 Feves, thieves.  
 Feyes, manners, cus-  
 toms, qualities, vir-  
 tues.  
 Fider, Fidir, Fidur, thi-  
 ther.  
 Fik, thick.  
 Fikke, thickly.  
 Filk, Filke, this, these.  
 Finc = Finks, or Finkþ,  
 appears.  
 Finche, to think.  
 Pinche, to seem.  
 Pinch, seems.

Pinche = pinch þe, ap-  
 pears to the.  
 Pinge, sake.  
 Pingþ, appears.  
 Pir, these.  
 Pire, of thy, to thy.  
 Pired, pierced.  
 Pis (obliq. case *pise*,  
*bisse*), this.  
 Pis, Pise, these.  
 Piselven, thyself.  
 Pisterne = *cisternesse*,  
 cistern, pit.  
 Fo, those.  
 Fo, then.  
 Fof, though.  
 Fofqueþer, nevertheless.  
 423.  
 Foghthe, (1) seemed, ap-  
 peared, (2) thought.  
 Fole, imp. suffer.  
 Folemodness, Folemod-  
 nesse, patience, en-  
 durance.  
 Folye, to suffer, endure.  
 Folyinde (see On poly-  
 inde.)  
 Fondringe, Fondrynge,  
 thunder.  
 Fonken, to thank.  
 Fonkes, thanks,  
 thoughts. 398.  
 Fonkes (hire), willingly.  
 398.  
 Foning, noise, din. 401.  
 Fonne, then, when.  
 Foste = *throate*, throat.  
 Foru, through.  
 Foruout, throughout.  
 Forw, Forw3, through.  
 Fos, these.  
 Fos = *feos*, this.  
 Fouhte, seemed.  
 Fouyt, thought.  
 Fousand, a thousand.  
 Fousandþiþe, thou-  
 sand times.  
 Fousent, Fousynde,  
 thousand.  
 Fow, thou.  
 Foz, though.

Fozles, nevertheless.  
 Fozt, Fozte, thought.  
 Foztes, thoughts.  
 Frawen, bound, twisted.  
 Freadbare, threadbare.  
 Freo, three.  
 Frep, contradiction,  
 gainsaying. 432.  
 Prete, (1) to threaten,  
 (2) a threat.  
 Pretene, to enjoin,  
 threaten.  
 Pretté, thirty.  
 Frettene, thirteen.  
 Fride, third.  
 Fries, thrice.  
 Friste, daring. 399.  
 Fritti, thirty.  
 Froliche, heartily.  
 Froly, quickly.  
 Froly, thoroughly, cer-  
 tainly.  
 Fronge, throng, crowd.  
 Frostle, a thrush. 405.  
 Frote, the throat.  
 Frowe, time.  
 Frown, thrown,  
 crowded.  
 Froze, time, turn. 401.  
 Frublande, crowding.  
 434.  
 Fryd, Frydde, third.  
 Frye3, thrice.  
 Fryft, thrift, luck, good-  
 ness.  
 Fryven, grown up,  
 thrifty.  
 Fu, thou.  
 Fu = *wu*, how.  
 Fuder, thither.  
 Fuderward, thither-  
 ward.  
 Fulk, Fulke, this,  
 these.  
 Funch = *Funchþ*, ap-  
 pears (see Fenche.)  
 Funch, appears, seems.  
 Funderþrast, thunder-  
 bolt.  
 Furf, Furh, Furgh,  
 through. 415.

- Purleden, pl. pierced.  
 Purl, needed.  
 Purth = *Purb*, through.  
 Purz, through.  
 Fuster, darkness.  
 Fuvele, underwood.  
 401.  
 Puzte, seemed, appeared.  
 Pwari-knot, a hard knot, a garland.  
 Pyef (obliq. case *pyeve*), a thief.  
 pyester, dark. 400.  
 Pyesternesse, darkness.  
 Pykke, thickly.  
 Pyse, these.  
 Pys, thigh.  
 Pwong, a thong.  
 ōag, then.  
 ōar-offe, thereof.  
 ōhurg, through.  
 ōe, who, which, that.  
 ōer, there.  
 ōeden = *deden*, deeds.  
 ōeden, ōeōen, thence.  
 ōenke, to think.  
 ōewed, behaved.  
 ōis, these.  
 ōider, thither.  
 ōhogt, anxiety.  
 ōhogte, ōhugte, appeared. 382.  
 ōhurg, through.  
 ōisternesse, darkness.  
 ōo, those.  
 ōoge, nevertheless.  
 ōor, there.  
 ōor-bi, thereby.  
 ōor-fore, therefore.  
 ōor-offen, thereof.  
 ōor-on, thereon.  
 ōraldom, slavery.  
 ōridde, third.  
 ōrist, thrust.  
 ōu, thou.  
 Tidde, befell.  
 Tide, time, at intervals.  
 Tidi, beautiful. 386.  
 Tight, determined. 424.
- Tiliieris, tillers, '*erþe-tiliieris*,' husbandmen.  
 Til, Tille, to. 383.  
 Tilled, brought. 408.  
 Tilward, toward.  
 Tilynge, tilling.  
 Tim, time.  
 Timen, to have success, be prosperous. 392.  
 Timbred, built.  
 Tine, to lose. 429.  
 Tipand, tidings, news.  
 Tirne, to turn.  
 Tirnenden, pl. turned.  
 Tite, quickly, suddenly. 428.  
 Titte, a tug, pull, wrench. 430.  
 Titter, quicker, more quickly.  
 Tithand, Tiping, tidings, news.  
 Tize, to tie.  
 Tizt, soon, quickly.  
 Tiztly, quickly, at once.  
 To, the one. 421.  
 To, until.  
 To-bar, falsely accused. 387.  
 To-breddest = *to-breddes*, makest broad.  
 To-breidyngc, tearing.  
 To-breke, break violently.  
 To-broke, pp. broken in pieces.  
 Toc, took.  
 To-deled, divided.  
 To-dreved, troubled.  
 To-flight, refuge.  
 To-for, before.  
 To-fore, before.  
 Toft, a field.  
 To-gadere, To-geder, Togider, together.  
 Tok, took.  
 Tokenes, tokens.  
 Toknen, tokens, signs.  
 Tolden, reckoned. 384.  
 Tole, tool.
- Tolke, man, person. 434.  
 Tollere, a taker or receiver of *toll*.  
 To-logged, pulled about by the ear. 437.  
 Tombesteris = *tombles-teres*, dancing-women.  
 Tome, in vain. 406.  
 Ton, the one.  
 Tone = *teone*, grief, anger. 397.  
 Tong, Tonge, tongue. 399.  
 Tonge, a pair of tongs.  
 Top, Toppe, top, head.  
 Toppynge, mane.  
 Tor, difficult, tedious.  
 Toreni, torn.  
 To-rent, rent in pieces.  
 Tormens, torments.  
 Torn, turn, stratagem.  
 Tome, to turn.  
 To-rof, rent in pieces.  
 Torres, Tours, towers.  
 To-samen, together. 386.  
 To-sprad, spread about.  
 To-suolle, swollen. 398.  
 To-teren, to tear in pieces. 385.  
 Tother, Toþir, the second, that other.  
 Toðere, the others.  
 To-tose, hurt, to tease. 398.  
 To-twiche, pull at. 405.  
 Toun, a town.  
 Tour, a tower.  
 Tovore, before.  
 Tournayed, jousted.  
 Touber, that other, the other.  
 Towalten, burst, welled up.  
 Towardes, towards.  
 Towche, to touch.  
 Towches, touches.  
 Traisted, trusted.  
 Trammes, devices, plans.

- Travail, labour, fatigue.  
 Trayne, device, deceit.  
 Trayste, to trust.  
 Trawayle = *travayle*,  
 labour.  
 Trawed, trowed, be-  
 lieved.  
 Trawþ truth.  
 Tre, timber, plank,  
 beam.  
 Tremblande, trembling.  
 Tren, trees.  
 Treoflinge, playfully.  
 415.  
 Tresore, Tresour, trea-  
 sure.  
 Tresorie, treasury.  
 Tretiden, disputed.  
 Treuþe, Treuthe, troth,  
 pledged word, faith.  
 Trew, true.  
 Trewed, believed.  
 Trewely, Trewly, truly.  
 , be-  
 lieves. 384.  
 Trewthe, pledged word.  
 391.  
 Treye, sorrow, grief,  
 trouble. 419.  
 Triedest, the most tried,  
 most proved.  
 Tricherie, treachery.  
 Triwe, true, faithful.  
 Tro, a tree.  
 Triste, to trust.  
 Tron, trees. 404.  
 Trone, throne.  
 Trost, Froste, to trust.  
 Trouþe, troth, promise.  
 Trow, Trowe, to trow,  
 believe, trust.  
 Trowyng, opinion.  
 Tru, true.  
 Truage, hostage.  
 Trumpes, trumpets.  
 Trusse, to pack (off.)  
 Tristing, trusting.  
 Truþe, truth.  
 Tryed, valuable, costly.  
 Tuelf, twelve.  
 Tuelft, twelfth.
- Tuengst, twingest. 399.  
 Tuengde, twinged,  
 twitched.  
 Tuin, two.  
 Tukest, takest ven-  
 geance, annoy. 397.  
 Tulk, man. 434.  
 Tulkes, men, warriors.  
 Tun, Tune, a town.  
 Tunes, towns (see  
 Wicke tunes.) 404.  
 Tung, Tunge, tongue.  
 Tuo, two.  
 Turned tyme, time  
 elapsed, gone by.  
 Turves, pl. of turf.  
 Tussh, tusk.  
 Tuxes, tusks.  
 Twa, Twaye, Twayn,  
 two.  
 Twei, two.  
 Twelf, twelve.  
 Tweye, Tweyne, Twyes,  
 two, twice.  
 Twinne, two.  
 Twyn, Twynne, to part,  
 separate.  
 Twynne, two.  
 Twynnen, joined.  
 Tyde, to betide, happen.  
 Tyeno, anger, sorrow.  
 Tyl, to.  
 Tylle, to lead. 383.  
 Tyme, to befall.  
 Tyne, to lose. 429.  
 Tyned, enclosed, shut up.  
 Tyred, attired.  
 Tysyk, consumption.  
 Tyte, soon.  
 Tyþyng, tiding.  
 Tyþynges, tidings, news.
- Uch, Uche, each.  
 Uche a, every.  
 Uchon, Uchone, each  
 one.  
 Ugly, horrible.  
 Uglines, loathsomeness.  
 Ule, owl.  
 Umbe-grouen, about  
 grown, covered.
- Umbefoldes, encircles.  
 Umbel-torne, twisted.  
 Umbilaid, encircled.  
 Umbre, showers.  
 Umgaf, surrounded.  
 Umgang, circuit.  
 Umgriped, embraced.  
 Umplappe, to encircle.  
 Umset, surrounded.  
 Umthoght, bethought.  
 Umstride, to bestride.  
 Unadvanced, unadvanced.  
 Unbileve, unbelief.  
 Unbilevefulnessse, un-  
 belief.  
 Unblyþe, sad, joyless.  
 Unbond, unbound.  
 Unbounden, pl. un-  
 bound.  
 Unbrent, unburnt.  
 Unbrosten, unburst.  
 Uncouþe, strange,  
 foreign. 423.  
 Uncuth, strange, un-  
 known.  
 Undede, undid, opened.  
 Under, noon. 390.  
 Underand, innocent.  
 (see Deren).  
 Unders, puts under,  
 subjects.  
 Understanden, pp. un-  
 derstood.  
 Understod, received.  
 Undertoc, agreed.  
 Undertok, undertook,  
 took.  
 Underverg, received.  
 Underzete, understood.  
 399.  
 Undirstonden, pp. un-  
 derstood.  
 Undon, to explain.  
 Undreh, impatient, dis-  
 satisfied. 420.  
 Undren, Undrun, the  
 third hour of the  
 day. 390.  
 Undurfong, received.  
 Un-eðes, scarcely, not  
 easily. 391.



- Unfere, feeble, sick.  
 Unfest, unstable.  
 Unfete, bad. 420.  
 Unfeyn, reluctant.  
 Unfiled, undefiled. 416.  
 Unglad, sorrowful.  
 Unhap, misfortune,  
 accident.  
 Unhiled, uncovered.  
 379.  
 Unhillen, to disclose.  
 379.  
 Unhuled, uncovered,  
 disclosed.  
 Unker, of us (two). 403.  
 Unkeveleden, unco-  
 vered. 408.  
 Unkinde, Unkuynde,  
 unnatural, unkind.  
 Unkyth = *Unkythe*, to  
 become invisible.  
 423.  
 Unlede, wicked. 405.  
 Unlose, to unloose.  
 Unmete, extraordinary.  
 Un-mepe, immodera-  
 tion. 402.  
 Unmilde, savage.  
 Un-murie, unpleasant.  
 402.  
 Unnait, vanity. 417.  
 Unnepe, scarcely. 391.  
 Unnethes, scarcely.  
 Unprudent, unwise.  
 Un-orne, rude. 402.  
 Un-rede, folly, wicked-  
 ness (see Red).  
 Unright, wrong.  
 Un-rihtfulnesse, wrong.  
 Unriht, wrong, unright.  
 Unsaht, angry, dis-  
 pleased, unfriendly.  
 419.  
 Unschilful, unreason-  
 able.  
 Unsele, unfortunate.  
 391.  
 Unseli, unhappy,  
 wretched.  
 Unseldehe, misfortune.  
 391.
- Unsete, vice. 420.  
 Unsouwen, to unsow,  
 take off.  
 Unpeu, vice (see  
 Thewe).  
 Unthewes, vices.  
 Unbryftely, wickedly.  
 Unthryfte, imprudence,  
 folly, misfortune.  
 Untille, unto.  
 Untrewe, untrue.  
 Untuled, uncultivated,  
 untilled.  
 Unwemmed, pure, spot-  
 less. 416.  
 Un-werste, wicked,  
 wrong. 399.  
 Unwille, unpleasant. 403.  
 Un-wille, desirable,  
 wished for. 402.  
 Unwis, unwise.  
 Unwijt, coward. 396.  
 Un-wijtis, cowards.  
 Un-worþ, displeasing,  
 unbecom-  
 ing.  
 Unworþelych, unwor-  
 thy, bad.  
 Unwraсте, beggarly,  
 poor. 399.  
 Un-wrenche, craft,  
 wicked devices. 399.  
 Unwreste, badly. 399.  
 Unwroze, discovered.  
 399.  
 Unwrosten = *unwrozen*,  
 discovered. 399.  
 Up, Upe, upon.  
 Upbraiding, reproach.  
 Up-brayd, upbraiding.  
 Upe, up.  
 Upehovene, upraise.  
 Upheve, to raise.  
 Uphoven, raised.  
 Upon, open.  
 Uprisinge, resurrection.  
 Upset, set up.  
 Upsodoun, up-side-  
 down.  
 Upstegh, rose up.  
 Upsteghe, to go up.  
 Upsteghing, ascending.
- Upsterte, started up.  
 Upswal, swelled up  
 (with anger).  
 Up-wafte, up-waft.  
 Up-zele, to yield.  
 Ur, Ure, our.  
 Usellez, ashes (hot).  
 434.  
 Usez, employs, passes.  
 Ut, Ute, out.  
 Ute-brast, outburst.  
 Ute we, let us go out.  
 Ut-comen, pl. out-came.  
 Uten, foreign. 386.  
 Utenemes, uttermost.  
 425.  
 Utheste, outcry, alarm.  
 406.  
 Utlete, outlet, bay.  
 Uuel = *vul*, fell.  
 Uvele, badly. 397.
- Vader, father.  
 Vair, Vaire, good, fair,  
 well.  
 Vale = *veale*, many.  
 valeie, a valley.  
 Vallynge, falling.  
 Vantward, vauntward.  
 Variand, Variande,  
 changing.  
 Vaste, fast.  
 Varþ, fareth, acts.  
 Vayn, Vayne, vein.  
 Vel, fell.  
 Velde, field.  
 Velazes, companions.  
 Velazrede, fellowship.  
 Vele, many.  
 Veng, took, possessed.  
 Venkquyst, vanquished,  
 destroyed.  
 Ver, Vere, fire.  
 Ver, Verre, farther.  
 413.  
 Verayly, truly.  
 Verde, retinue, fol-  
 lowers.  
 Vermeile, red.  
 Verrayment, Verrey-  
 ment, truly.

Vers, verse.  
 Verst, first.  
 Verveyne, vervain.  
 Vewe, few.  
 Villiche, vilely, foully.  
 Vilonye, dishonour, shame.  
 Vinde, to find.  
 Vlije, flies. 403.  
 Vo, foe.  
 Vol, full.  
 Volc, Volk, folk, people.  
 Vold, field, earth.  
 Volde, fold. 403.  
 Volliche, Vollyche, fully.  
 Volnesse, fulness.  
 Volveld, fulfilled, perfected.  
 Vome, foam.  
 Vomeþ, foameth (at the mouth).  
 Vor, for.  
 Vorarnd, pursued or troubled. 413.  
 Vorbarnd, burnt, consumed.  
 Vorbed, forbad.  
 Vorbernd, consumed.  
 Vorbysne, example. 427.  
 Vorewarde, covenant, promise.  
 Vorlete, to refuse. 427.  
 Vorlore, ruined. 413.  
 Vorlost, loses. 404.  
 Vorpriked, pierced.  
 Vorre = *feorre*, afar. 402.  
 Vorsuore, perjured.  
 Vorte, for to.  
 Vorth, Vorþ, forth.  
 Vorþan, therefore.  
 Vor-þi, wherefore.  
 Vorwounded, severely wounded.  
 Vorzete, to forget.  
 Vorzuelze, to swallow, devour.  
 Vorzoþe, forsooth.  
 Voul, foul.

Voyde, to leave.  
 Voyde, to make void, empty.  
 Voys, voice.  
 Vram, from.  
 Vrom, from.  
 Vuel = *uvel*, evil, sickness. 414.  
 Vuele = *uuele*, wickedly, evilly.  
 Vus = *Uus*, us.  
 Vyage, voyage.  
 Vyende, fiend.  
 Vylanye, crime, sin.  
 Vylanye, shame, disgrace.  
 Vynezerd, vineyard.  
 Vynnes, fins.  
 Wa, (1) woe, (2) sorrowful.  
 Wa = *bwa*, who.  
 Waferis, sellers of cakes.  
 Wafte, wafted, threw.  
 Wafullie, Wafullic, wofully.  
 Wailawai, well-a-day ! alas !  
 Wain, sb. decrease.  
 Waines, waggons.  
 Waiour, a wager.  
 Waisching, washing.  
 Waischun, washed.  
 Waiten, to lie in wait.  
 Waites, watches.  
 Wakan, to stir up.  
 Wakand, waking.  
 Wake, to keep awake, keep watch, to keep a vigil for the dead.  
 Waken, Wakene, to raise up, stir up.  
 Wakeþ, Wakyep, imp. watch.  
 Waking, sb. watch.  
 Wakkest, weakest.  
 Wakne, to awaken.  
 Wakned, excited.  
 Waky, to keep watch.  
 Wakynde, watching.  
 Wal, wall.

Wald, Walde, would.  
 Wale, to seek.  
 Walewid, rolled. 417.  
 Walkand, walking.  
 Walkere, a fuller of cloth.  
 Walld, would.  
 Walle-heved, well-head, spring.  
 Walle, to boil up.  
 Walt, exercised, employed.  
 Walt, rolled. 432.  
 Walter, to flow.  
 Waltere, tossed.  
 Waltes, Waltez, rushes or wells out, flows. 432.  
 Wan, Wane, when.  
 Wan, which.  
 Wan, got, won.  
 Wand, Waand, delay.  
 Wandes, Wandez, branches, wands, staves.  
 Wandre, to walk, wander.  
 Wandreth, Wandrethe, sorrow, trouble. 426.  
 Wandrynge, walking.  
 Wane, Wanne, Whanne, when.  
 Wane, to decrease, diminish. 417.  
 Wane, diminution.  
 Wane, dwelling (see Won).  
 Wane, quantity. 430.  
 Wangelist, evangelist.  
 Wanhope, despair.  
 Wanne, when.  
 Wante, to lack. 389.  
 Wantede, failed.  
 Wanting, lack.  
 Wantrokiyng, lack. 427.  
 Wapnid, weaponed, armed.  
 War, Ware, cautious, crafty, prudent, aware. 398.

- War, Ware, were.  
 Ward, regard.  
 Warde, to guard.  
 Wardeyn, guardian.  
 Wardrobe, a jakes, privy.  
 Ware-vore, wherefore.  
 Ware-þoru, where-through.  
 Ware, to guard.  
 Ware, to employ, use.  
 Ware, goods.  
 Ware, where.  
 Waren, to make aware.  
 Warie, to curse. 408.  
 Waried, cursed.  
 Warld, world.  
 Warly, craftily, cautiously.  
 Warne, unless. 426.  
 Warni, to warn.  
 Warp, uttered (pret. of Werpe, to throw). 397.  
 Warpen, to cast, to hurl.  
 Warso, whereso  
 Warþoru, where-through.  
 Wary, to curse.  
 Warysoun, reward. 418.  
 Wasche, to flood, overwhelm.  
 Waschen, washed.  
 Waspene = *Wasteme*, form. 379.  
 Wassen, to wash.  
 Wast, was it.  
 Wast, the waist.  
 Wast[e], to waste, destroy.  
 Wasti, to waste, consume.  
 Wastours, destroyers.  
 Wat, what.  
 , spake.  
 Wate, wet.  
 Water, flood.  
 Watloker, the rather, the more so. 412.  
 Watrand, watering.  
 Wattere3, waters.
- Wattri = *attri*, poisonous. 403.  
 Watz, was. [closed].  
 Waunden, wound, en-  
 Wawe, (pl. Wawes, Wawe3, Wawis), wave.  
 Wawe, wall. 408.  
 Wax, sb. increase.  
 Wax, became.  
 Waxlokes, waves.  
 Waxen, to become, grow, multiply.  
 Wayk, Wayke, weak.  
 Wayned, brought.  
 Wayte, to keep guard, watch, to watch for, to see, to lay wait, to watch an opportunity to do harm.  
 Wayve, to wave, shake.  
 Waze3, waves.  
 Wear, careful. [388].  
 Wedde, pledge, security.  
 Wedden, to wed, marry.  
 Wede, clothing.  
 Wede, to go mad.  
 Weden, garments.  
 Weder, storm, weather.  
 Wedere3, storms.  
 Weeles, wells.  
 Weepe, to weep.  
 Wei, Weie, way.  
 Weila-wei, Weilawei, alas! well-a-day!  
 Weis, washed. 390.  
 Wel, very.  
 Weld, Welde, Welden, to wield, govern, rule.  
 Wele, weal, bliss.  
 Wele, well.  
 WelI, rich. 394.  
 Welkes, fades. 417.  
 Welkede, withered.  
 Welkid, withered, faded.  
 Welkyn, sky, firmament. 406.  
 Welle, to boil. 432.  
 Welt = *welte*, exercised, used, possessed. 389, 419.
- Welth, Welþe, Welðe, wealth.  
 Welud, withered. 417.  
 Welwude, withered.  
 Welyen, to wither. 417.  
 Wem, blemish. 416.  
 Wemles, Wemmeles, pure, unblemished, unspotted.  
 Wenche, young maiden.  
 Wendand, going, departing.  
 Wend, Wende, thought, weened.  
 Wende, to go.  
 Wend, thought, believed.  
 Wendes, goes.  
 Wene, to ween, suppose.  
 Wene, doubt.  
 Wenene, whence.  
 Wenges, wings.  
 Wenten, pl. turned.  
 Weolcne, sky, welkin. 406.  
 Weole, weal, wealth. 421.  
 Weolþe, wealth.  
 Weore, were.  
 Weori, weary.  
 Wepyng, weeping.  
 Wep, wept.  
 Wep, weeping. 391.  
 Wepe, Wepen, to weep.  
 Weping, weeping.  
 Wepne, Weppen, Wep-pene, weapon.  
 Wer, were.  
 Werbles, warbles, notes.  
 Were, wert.  
 Were, (1) war, battle, (2) doubt.  
 Wereden, pl. protect.  
 Weren, to defend, guard. 385.  
 Werez, enjoys, wears.  
 Werinisse, weariness.  
 Werk, work.  
 Werke3, works.  
 Werlde wo, world's woe.  
 Werdly, worldly.

- Werldys, world's.  
 Werme, worm, reptile.  
 Wern, were.  
 Werne, to refuse, deny.  
 388.  
 Werneden, pl. refused.  
 Werp, uttered.  
 Werre, war.  
 Werren, wars.  
 Werrende, warring.  
 Werthe, (1) honour. (2)  
 destiny. 418.  
 Wery, weary.  
 Werynesse, weariness.  
 Wes, was.  
 Wes = *wise*, mode.  
 Wessche, to wash.  
 West = *wost*, knowest.  
 Wete, wet.  
 Wette, wetted.  
 Weve, to *waive*, forbid.  
 Weved, altar. 413.  
 Wex, increased, became.  
 Wexe, to grow, become,  
 to increase.  
 Wexe, imp. become.  
 Wexen, pp. increased.  
 Wey, Weye, way.  
 Weye, to depart.  
 Weye, to weigh.  
 Weyebondes, waistband.  
 Weyen, pp. weighed.  
 Weyk, weak.  
 Weylinge, Weylyng,  
 wailing.  
 Wha, who.  
 Wham, whom.  
 Whanne, when.  
 Whannes, whence.  
 Whare, where.  
 Whaut, what.  
 Wheder, whether.  
 Whel, a wheel.  
 Whenne, whence. 432.  
 Whichche, hutch, ark.  
 Whider, whither.  
 Whil, While, while,  
 time.  
 Whilk, which.  
 Whilles, whilst.  
 White = *wite*, to blame.  
 Whittore, whiter.  
 Whyle, sometimes.  
 Whon, when.  
 Whos, whose.  
 Wic, Wicke, wicked.  
 409.  
 Wiche-craft, Wicche-  
 craft, witchcraft.  
 Wickenes, sin.  
 Wicke-tunes, establish-  
 ments. 404.  
 Wicth = *wight*, brave.  
 Wid, (1) with, (2) wide.  
 Wide-pher, far.  
 Wider, whither.  
 Widew, a widow.  
 Wiezh = *wiz*, a person.  
 Wif, wife, woman.  
 Wight, active, brave.  
 Wiht, person, creature.  
 Wihtliche, quickly.  
 Wike, duties. 403.  
 Wike, wicked.  
 Wike, habitation, dwell-  
 ing. 403.  
 Wikkedliche, wickedly.  
 Wiknes, wickedness.  
 Wil, will.  
 Wildrin, wilderness.  
 424.  
 Wile, will.  
 Wile, formerly.  
 Will, destitute. 426.  
 Wille, pleasure.  
 Willesfol, wilful.  
 Wilne, Wilnen, to de-  
 sire. 427.  
 Wilnygge, desire.  
 Wilte, Wiltu, wilt thou.  
 Win-tre, a vine.  
 Win, joy, bliss.  
 Windes-ware, winds.  
 Wink, sleep.  
 Winli, winsome. 415.  
 Winne, bliss, safety.  
 Winne, to get.  
 Winsome, joyful, win-  
 some, kind, lenient.  
 Wintre, winter, year.  
 Wirche, to work.  
 Wirchen, to work, do.  
 Wis, wise.  
 Wise, mode, manner.  
 396.  
 Wis, to instruct, teach.  
 405.  
 Wisliker, the more  
 wisely.  
 Wisly, wisely, safely.  
 Wiss, Wisse, Wissen,  
 to instruct, teach, di-  
 rect, shew. 405.  
 Wist, took care of.  
 Wiste, knew.  
 Wisten, pl. knew.  
 Wit, Wite, to go,  
 vanish. 411.  
 Wite, to bear witness,  
 'God it wite,' so help  
 me God.  
 Wite, to keep, preserve.  
 Wite, blame, fault. 403.  
 Wite, to learn, know.  
 Wite (he), let him  
 learn.  
 Wite, to hide.  
 Wited, took care of.  
 Witen, to learn.  
 Witerlike, Witerly,  
 truly.  
 Witeword, precept, in-  
 struction.  
 Wip, from.  
 Wipere, which of two.  
 Wiberwin, an enemy.  
 423.  
 Wiphalt, withholds.  
 With-holden, pp. with-  
 held.  
 Wipinnen, within.  
 Wipoute forth, without.  
 Wipouten, Wipowten,  
 without.  
 Wið-ðan-ðat, provided.  
 Withuten, Wiðuten,  
 without, except.  
 Wipstod, remained,  
 stayed.  
 Wip-segge, to gainsay.  
 Witie, to keep.  
 Witin, within.  
 Witouten, without.

- Witow, Wittow, know thou.  
 Witter, wise, good. 379.  
 Witterly, truly.  
 Wittes, senses.  
 Witty, wise.  
 Witute, Wituten, without.  
 Witynge, knowing.  
 Wive, dat. wife.  
 Wives, women.  
 Wiwes, wife's.  
 Wijes, men. 430.  
 Wjzt, quickly.  
 Wijtes, creatures. 398.  
 Wjztl, soon.  
 Wjztliche, Wjztly, greatly, quickly, soon.  
 Wlatsum, detestable, hateful. 429.  
 Wlappede, wrapped.  
 Wlates, 'me wlatez,' I am disgusted. 429.  
 Wlite, features. 390.  
 Wlonk, beautiful, pleasant.  
 Wlyteth, look (pleased). 390.  
 Wo, sorrowful.  
 Wod, wood.  
 Wod, raging.  
 Wod, Wode, mad, uncontrolled.  
 Wodenesse, madness.  
 Wode, wood.  
 Woderove, woodruff.  
 Woede = *wode*, weed.  
 Woso, who-so.  
 Woke, week.  
 Wol, will.  
 , contemptibly.  
 Wolawo, alas! well-a-day!  
 Wol-cume, to welcome.  
 Wold, power, signification. 381, 419.  
 Wold, wood. 406.  
 Wolde, desired.  
 Wolde, would.  
 Woldest, wouldest.
- Woldustow, wouldest thou.  
 Wole, will.  
 Wole, evil. 395.  
 Woken, pl. will.  
 Wolle, wool.  
 Wollene, woollen.  
 Wolt, wilt.  
 Wone, custom.  
 Woltou, be thou willing, wilt thou.  
 Wolvine, a she-wolf. 409.  
 Wolwes, wolves.  
 Womb, Wombe, belly.  
 Wombede, bellied.  
 Wommon, a woman.  
 Won, abode, dwelling.  
 Won, treasure, earning.  
 Won, will, opinion.  
 Won, Wone, to dwell. 392.  
 Wonde, to refrain.  
 Wonde, to fear (to speak out), to delay. 411.  
 Wonde, to cease.  
 Wonder, very, 'wonder fast,' very fast.  
 Wonderliche, very, wonderfully.  
 Wonderuolle, wonderful.  
 Wondri, to wonder.  
 Wondringe, wandering.  
 Wonand, dwelling.  
 Wone, wont.  
 Wone, to dwell. 392.  
 Wone, custom.  
 Woned = *waned*, decreased. 417.  
 Wonen, to dwell, remain. 392.  
 Wonen, pp. gained.  
 Wones, Wone3, dwellings.  
 Wonges, cheeks. 419.  
 Wonges, meadows. 407.  
 Woning, Woninge, dwelling, abode.  
 Wonnand, dwelling.
- Wonne, pl. won, got.  
 Wonne, pp. got.  
 Wonnen, pp. came, got (to a place).  
 Wont, want, lack.  
 Wont, dwelt.  
 Wony, to dwell. 392.  
 Wonyande, lives.  
 Wonye, to dwell.  
 Wonying, Wonyinge, Wonyng, abode, habitation.  
 Wop, weeping. 391.  
 Wopnede, armed. 393.  
 Worc, work.  
 Worch, imp. work.  
 Worche, Worchen, to work.  
 Worching, Worchinge, making, working.  
 Worchipful, honourable.  
 Wore, were.  
 Wore, wert.  
 Woren, pl. were.  
 Woice, voice.  
 Worldis = *worldisb*, worldly.  
 Worli = *worpli*, good.  
 Worme, reptile.  
 Wit, with.  
 Worne, to deny (see Werne).  
 Wordle, world.  
 Worow, to strangle. 429.  
 Worpen, cast.  
 Worre, war.  
 Worri, to make war upon.  
 Wors, worse.  
 Worschupe, worship.  
 Worschupe, Worschu-pen, Worschipe, Worschippe, Wors-sipe, to worship, to honour.  
 Wot, Woot, Wote, know.  
 Wortes, herbs.  
 Worþ, becomes.

- Worþ = *wroþ*, angry.  
 Worþe, to become.  
 Worthē, to become,  
 imp. '*worþe bim*,'  
 let him be.  
 Worþed, came to.  
 Worþelych, worthy,  
 good.  
     , imp. become,  
     turn.  
 Worthi, worthily.  
 Worþilych, honourable.  
 Wosschen, pp. washed.  
 Wost, knowest.  
 Wostou, knowest thou.  
 Woþe, harm.  
 Wou, wrong. 399.  
 Wouke, week.  
 Wounder, very.  
 Wowe, wall. 408.  
 Wowe, wrong, injus-  
 tice. 399.  
 Wowe, to woo.  
 Wowyng, wooing.  
 Wox = *woxe*, pp. be-  
 come.  
 Woþe, wickedness. 399.  
 Woþt = *wot*, know.  
 Wrak, Wake, ven-  
 geance.  
 Wraht, wrought.  
 Wrakful, angry, venge-  
 ful, full of vengeance.  
 Wrangle, wrong.  
 Wrangwis, wicked.  
 Wrangwislie, badly,  
 Wrangwisnes, sin, un-  
 righteousness.  
 Wranne, wren.  
 Wrastle, to wrestle.  
 413.  
 Wrathē, to be angry.  
 Wrathful, angry,  
 Wraththeles, without  
 wrath, not displeased.  
 Wraþþe, to make angry.  
 Wrecche, a wretch, vil-  
 lain.  
 Wrecche, wretched.  
 Wrecche, vengeance,  
*wreak*.  
 Wrecchede, wretched-  
 ness.  
 Wrecche, vengeance,  
 punishment.  
 Wrecche, Wrecche,  
 wretched.  
 Wreched, wretched.  
 Wrechednes, wretched-  
 ness.  
 Wreke, Wreken, to  
 wreak, avenge.  
 Wreken, pp. avenged.  
 Wrenchez, devices. 399.  
 Wreten, (1) to write,  
 (2) written.  
 Wrethe, wrath.  
 Wrethful, wrathful,  
 angry.  
 Wrick, work.  
 Wrickede, wriggled.  
 415.  
 Wrie, Wryen, to cover.  
 399.  
 Wrigtful, guilty. 385.  
 Wrigtleslike, inno-  
 cently. 385.  
 Wring, flow.  
 Writ, writes.  
 Writelingē, trills in a  
 song. 397.  
 Wroght, laboured.  
 Wrohte, made.  
 Wrōng, squeezed,  
 wrung.  
 Wrogen, wrung (dry).  
 Wrot, Wroot, wrote.  
 Wroþe, (1) displeased,  
 (2) angrily.  
 Wroþly, Wroþely,  
 angrily, fiercely.  
 Wrouth, Wrouhte,  
 Wrouzte, worked,  
 wrought, made, did,  
 acted.  
 Wroþt, Wroþte, worked,  
 made, did.  
 Wrypes, wriggles,  
 crawls.  
 Wu, who.  
 Wu, how.  
 Wuch, which.  
 Wude, a wood.  
 Wudewale, a bird called  
 the *witwall*. 405.  
 Wulde, would.  
 Wule, will.  
 Wulle, pl. will.  
 Wule, while.  
 Wult, wilt.  
 Wune, ability. 379.  
 Wune, to dwell. 392.  
 Wune, custom, wont.  
 Wune, won.  
 Wunes, customs.  
 Wunne, joy, bliss. 421.  
 Wultu, wilt thou.  
 Wurche, to work.  
 Wurne, to refuse (see  
 Werne).  
 Wurð, (1) became,  
 (2) is.  
 Wurð (he), let him be.  
 (2) worthy.  
 Wurþe, (1) worth, value,  
 Wurðe, (1) to be, (2)  
 may be. 381.  
 Wurðe wroþt, was  
 done.  
 Wurðeden, worshipped,  
 honoured. 380.  
 Wurðed, honoured.  
 Wurðen, to be (in rest).  
 Wurðen, to worship,  
 honour.  
 Wurðen, pl. became.  
 Wurðing, honour.  
 Wusche, to wish.  
 Wuste, knew.  
 Wyd, wide.  
 Wydene, wide.  
 Wyderward, whither-  
 ward.  
 Wydowande, withering,  
 dry.  
 Wydow, widow's.  
 Wyf, wife, woman.  
 Wyght, active.  
 Wyht, creature.  
 Wighthe = *wigbte*,  
 brave.  
 Wyle, (1) while, (2)  
 will.

- Wylger, wilder.  
 Wylle, to desire.  
 Wylle, pleasure, 'myd  
*wylle*, willingly.  
 Wyllesvol, wilful.  
 Wylne, Wylny, to de-  
 sire. 427.  
 Wylnyng, Wylningge,  
 desire.  
 Wylsfully, wilfully.  
 Wymmon, a woman.  
 Wyn, wine.  
 Wynde3, turns, goes.  
 Wynes fille, fill of plea-  
 sure.  
 Wynne, to get, win.  
 Wynnynge, gains.  
 Wyn3ord, vineyard.  
 Wyrle, whirled, rushed.  
 Wyse, manner.  
 Wysed, directed.  
 Wysen, to instruct.  
 Wysly, wisely.  
 Wyt, knowledge.  
 Wyt, Wyte, to learn.  
 379.  
 Wyte, Wytene, to  
 know, learn.  
 Wyter, wise. 379.  
 Wyttes, senses.  
 Wy3dra3þ, withdraws.  
 Wy3-zede, to refuse.  
 Wy3, man, person.  
 Wy3e, a man, creature.  
 430.  
 Wy3es, men.  
 Wy3t, active, brave.  
 Wy3t, loud, merry.  
 Wy3t, wight, crea-  
 ture.  
 Wy3test, bravest.  
  
 Yaf, gave.  
 Yald, yielded.  
 Yare, quickly. 423.  
 Yateward, gatekeeper.  
 424.  
 Ybe, been.  
 Ybiriad, pp. buried.  
 Yblyssed, pp. blessed.  
 Ybore, born, borne,  
 Ybroke, broken.  
 Ybrozt, pp. brought.  
 Ych, I.  
 Ychabbe, I have.  
 Yche = *ilk*, same.  
 Ycham, I am.  
 Ychot, I wot, I know.  
 Ycharged, pp. loaded.  
 Ychaunged, pp. changed.  
 Yclenzed, pp. purified,  
 cleansed.  
 Ycleped, Yclepud,  
 Yclept, pp. called.  
 Yclosed, pp. closed.  
 Ycoroued, pp. crowned.  
 Ydle, idle, useless. 405.  
 Ydle, an isle. 410.  
 Ydemd, pp. deemed.  
 Y-dizt, pl. determined,  
 resolved.  
 Ydo, done.  
 Ydolve, broken through.  
 Y-don, done.  
 Y-dronke, drunk.  
 Yef, if.  
 Yefþ, gives.  
 Yfounde, pp. found.  
 Yeme, Yemen, to pro-  
 tect. 404.  
 Yemyng, rule.  
 Yernen, to desire. 403.  
 Y-ete, pp. eaten.  
 Yeve, to give.  
 Yeven, pp. given.  
 Y-froted, pp. rubbed.  
 Y-graunted, pp. granted.  
 Ygrope, pp. searched  
 out. 412.  
 Yhad, pl. had.  
 Yhat, made hot.  
 Yheld, Yhelde, to give,  
 yield.  
 Y-hent, taken.  
 Yher, Yhere, a year,  
 years.  
 Yherd, pp. heard.  
 Yhere, to hear.  
 Yhit, yet.  
 Yholde, pp. held, kept.  
 Yhonged, pp. suspended,  
 hanged.  
 Yhoten, pp. called.  
 Yhouth, youth.  
 Yhung, young.  
 Yhurt, pp. hurt.  
 Y-hyerd, heard.  
 Y-hyreþ, imp. hear.  
 Y-hyzt, ordained.  
 Yif, imp. give.  
 Yif, if.  
 Y-knaup, knows.  
 Y-knowe, known.  
 Y-kuenct, pp. quenched.  
 Ylaste, lasted.  
 Y-left, pp. left.  
 Ylent, pp. come.  
 Ylered, pp. taught.  
 Yliche, alike, like.  
 Y-lokked, shut in.  
 Ylond, island.  
 Ylore, Ylost, pp. lost.  
 Ylle, wickedly.  
 Y-mad, pp. made.  
 Ymake, adv. to match.  
 Ymade, pp. made.  
 Ymarled, having a soil  
 consisting of *marl*.  
 Ymelled, pp. mixed.  
 Ymengud, Ymeyned,  
 pp. mixed.  
 Ympne, a hymn.  
 Ynemmed, pp. named.  
 Ynne, in.  
 Ynoh, Ynou, Ynou3,  
 enough. 387.  
 Ynowe, pl. enough.  
 Yno3, Ynu3, greatly,  
 sufficiently, enough.  
 Yod, went.  
 Yoten, pp. called.  
 Youre = *yeare*, ear.  
 Yprimisined, pp. dressed,  
 covered,  
 Ypyned, pp. tormented.  
 Yre, Yren, Yrn, iron.  
 Y-rokked, pp. rocked.  
 Yschape, pp. trans-  
 formed.  
 Yschave, shaven.  
 Yschent, pp. destroyed,  
 ruined.  
 Yschore, shorn, cut.

Yse, ice.  
 Yse, to see.  
 Ysent, pp. sent.  
 Yseo, to see.  
 Yset, pp. set, established.  
 Ysey, saw.  
 Yseye, seen.  
 Y-shuldred, having shoulders.  
 Yslawe, slain.  
 Ysnyt, pp. wiped. 415.  
 Ysode, sodden, boiled.  
 Yso3e, seen. 427.  
 Yspoused, pp. spoused.  
 Yspronge, sprung, sprinkled.  
 Ysseawed, shewn.  
 Ystyked, pp. stabbed.  
 Yswore, sworn.  
 Ysy, to see.  
 Ytake, taken.  
 Ytaryed, pp. tarried.  
 Ytaugt, pp. taught.  
 Yþe3, waves.  
 Yþorse, struck. 428.  
 Ytold, pp. esteemed, told.  
 Yturnd, turned.  
 Yunge, young.  
 Yvels, diseases.  
 Y-take, taken.  
 Y-used, pp. used.  
 Yvels, diseases.  
 Y-wasted, consumed.  
 Y-waxe, grown.  
 Ywhet, pp. sharpened. 412.  
 Ywis, Ywys, truly.  
 Ywite, to learn.  
 Y-write, Y-wryte, written.  
 Y-zed, pp. said.  
 Y-ze3e, sawest. 427.  
 Yzyeþ, pl. see.  
 Yyeþ, imp. give.  
 Ywyteþ, imp. know, learn.  
 Yzed, pp. said.  
 Yzeþ, pl. see.  
 Yze3, saw.

Yze3en, pl. saw.  
 Yzi, to see.  
 Yzo3e, seen.  
 Yzy, to see.  
 Y3e, eye.  
 Y3en, eyes.  
 Y3e-lydde3, eyelids.  
 Y3eve, given.  
 Y-3yrned, pp. been anxious, grieved for.

Zang, song.  
 Zaulen, souls.  
 Zay, imp. say.  
 Zayst, sayest.  
 Zayþ, says.  
 Zede, said.  
 Zelf, self.  
 Zelve (obliq. case), self.  
 Zennen, sins.  
 Zente, sent.  
 Zevevald, sevenfold.  
 Zigge, Zygge, to say.  
 Ziker, sure, confident.  
 Zittinde, Zittynde, sitting.  
 Zofthede, delicacy, softness.  
 Zomdel, somewhat.  
 Zome, some.  
 Zomþyng, something.  
 Zone, son.  
 Zonge, pl. sang.  
 Zor3e, sorrow.  
 Zostren, sisters.  
 Zoþ, true.  
 Zuete, sweet.  
 Zuord, sword.  
 Zuyfte, swift.  
 Zyenne, to see.  
 Zykere, pl. sure, confident.  
 Zynge, to sing.  
 Zyþe, time.  
 Zy3te, Zy3þe, sight.  
 3a, yea.  
 3af, gave.  
 3al, yelled.  
 3are, ready, prepared. 423.

3arkede, prepared.  
 3arm, cry. 434.  
 3ate, gate.  
 3atus, 3atis, gates.  
 3ave, gave.  
 3e, 3he, yea.  
 3edde, to sing, recite. 437.  
 3ede, went.  
 3ederly, certainly, truly, perfectly, wholly.  
 3ef, gave.  
 3ef, if.  
 3eilpe, to boast. 405.  
 3eld, imp. requite, pret. gave,  
 3eldingus, gifts.  
 3elde, (1) to yield, (2) to requite.  
 3ene, to shew.  
 3eode, went.  
 3eorne, eagerly, earnestly, quickly.  
 3eorne, to desire.  
 3eþ, active, brave, quick.  
 3eme, care. 404.  
 3eme, to preserve, to take care of.  
 3ellynge, yelling.  
 3e3ed, proclaimed. 396.  
 3er, a year.  
 3erd, 3erde, rod, staff.  
 3erne, earnestly, readily.  
 3erne, to desire.  
 3et, 3ete, yet.  
 3eve, to give.  
 3he = 3e, yea.  
 3if, if.  
 3ifte, a gift.  
 3ive, to give.  
 3ode, went.  
 3ol, Christmas.  
 3ollest, yellest. 400.  
 3olden, requited, returned.  
 3ong, 3onge, young.  
 3ongore, younger.  
 3ore, yore, formerly.  
 3ongost, youngest.



3orne, eagerly.  
 3ore, long ago, yore.  
 3ou, 3ow, you.  
 3our, your.  
 3oures, your.  
 3ouþe, youth.  
 3oven, given.

3ow, you.  
 3omere, sad, com-  
 plaining. 293.  
 3omerly, sad, piteous.  
 3o3elinge, chattering.  
 396.  
 3ulinge, yelling.

3ulpe, to boast.  
 3ut, 3ute, yet.  
 3yf, if.  
 3yfte, a gift.  
 3yrnden, yearned, de-  
 sired.  
 3yve, to give.

## CORRECTIONS AND EMENDATIONS.

Page	3, line	61, <i>for</i>	He	<i>read</i>	In.
"	4, "	92, "	harðe	"	harde.
"	6, "	155, "	And	"	An.
"	8, "	219, "	hen	"	hem.
"	28, "	278, "	wr[o]þe	"	w[o]rþe.
"	53, "	31, "	halt	"	hatt.
"	348, "	66, "	sperfluite	"	superfluité.
"	383, line	4 from bottom, <i>for</i>	eðen	<i>read</i>	ðeðen.

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