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SELECT EARLY ENGLISH POEMS



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II

THE PARLEMENT OF THE THRE AGES

An Alliterative Poem on the Nine Worthies and the Heroes of Romance



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I WOL BIWAYLE IN MANER OF TRAGEDIE
THE HARM OF HEM THAT STODE IN HEIGH DEGREE,
AND FILLEN SO THAT THER NAS NO REMEDIE
TO BRINGE HEM OUT OF HIR ADVERSITEE;
FOR CERTEIN, WHAN THAT FORTUNE LIST TO FLEE,
THER MAY NO MAN THE COURS OF HIR WITHHOLDE;
LAT NO MAN TRUSTE ON BLIND PROSPERITEE;
BE WAR BY THISE ENSAMPLES TREWE AND OLDE.

Chaucer, The Monkes Tale.

PREFACE

The Manuscripts. The Parlement of the Thre Ages, first printed by the present editor for the Roxburghe Club in 1897, is preserved in one of Robert Thornton's famous miscellanies of English poems and romances. The MS. was acquired by the British Museum in 1879; its press-mark is Additional MSS. 31042. It is a quarto of the fifteenth century, containing in all twenty-six different items. The present poem is to be found on pages 169-76 b.

At the Crawford sale in 1891 the British Museum purchased a manuscript miscellany, belonging originally to Sir James Ware (ob. 1666), and included in the catalogue of his books printed at Dublin in 1648. The collection of pieces, originally bound together, comprises for the most part works relating to Ireland, topographical, linguistic, and legendary, the whole of the contents being in Latin and Irish, with the exception of sixteen pages at the end, written in an English hand of the fifteenth century. It was the good fortune of the writer to identify these pages as being a large part of The Parlement of the Thre Ages (from line 226 to the end), and the discovery proved of value, for several difficulties in Add. 31042 were cleared up by the newly-discovered fragment (numbered 33994 in the Museum collection). In the present volume the more important variant readings are quoted in the textual notes at the end. The MSS. are clearly independent of each other in their relationship to the original MS.

¹ The history of the volume is given in the Museum Catalogue under Add. 33991.

The fragment is followed by a short list, in the same hand, headed 'Distretacio Rerum':

'An heerd of hertis
An heerd of dere
An heerd of Cranes
An heerd of Curlues
An heerd of wrennes
An Heerd of Wrennes
An Heerd of Wrennes
An Heerd of Wrennes
An Heerd of Market
An Heerd of Heerd of Heerd of Heerd of Market
An Heerd of Heer

In view of the almost technical character of much of alliterative poetry, this catalogue of terms, written at the end of the *Parlement*, is not without interest (cp. Juliana Bernes's Boke of Huntinge, Twety's Treatise on Venery, &c.).

General Characteristics of the Poem. The MSS. of The Parlement of the Thre Ages afford no direct evidence of authorship, date of composition, or the original locality of the poem. One's first impression is that The Parlement is a sort of summary of longer poems—an epitome reminiscent of lines and passages in the chief alliterative poems of the second half of the fourteenth century. On the other hand, no criteria gainsay the theory that would assign it to the author of Winnere and Wastoure, which can be dated not much later than 1350; and so it may have been the prologue rather than the epilogue of the alliterative revival.1 The opening and closing lines seem to connect it with Piers the Plowman; the elaborate machinery of the deer-stalking suggests points of contact with the masterly description of the hunting of the deer, the boar, and the fox, in Sir Gawayne and the Grene Knyght. The author's delight in bright colours, and a certain joyousness in his

¹ Cp. Preface to Winnere and Wastoure. A striking list of parallel passages from The Parlement as compared with Gawayne, Alexander, Troy Book, Titus, and Morte Arthure, is given by Dr. George Neilson, in Huchown of the Awle Ryale (1902), in support of his theory, which would assign to that author all these poems and more.

descriptions, together with occasional characteristic marks of diction, recall the poet of Sir Gawayne; but in poetical talent, as well as in wealth of language, to say nothing of intellectual power and acquirements of learning, our author is altogether inferior to that gifted 'maker'. His choice of theme, so well suited to the genius of the new-old poetry, with its picturesqueness, colour, lofty aspiration, and didactic tendency, was certainly a happy inspiration; and his achievement, though it reveals occasional lapses, must have been regarded by his contemporaries as eminently successful. The Parlement of the Thre Ages wears with conscious dignity the livery of a great and ancient house.

The Nine Worthies. The list of the heroes and heroines of romance enumerated in *The Parlement of the Thre Ages* is by far the fullest to be found in Middle-English literature, and forms a valuable supplement to the account of the 'wyghes that were wyseste'; both sections are evidently an extension of the author's original scheme to write in the grand style a panegyric on 'The Nine Worthies'.

It would seem that he took his subject from the most famous 'Alexander' romance of the fourteenth century, Longuyon's Vœux du Paon, written at the beginning of the century, and at once popular throughout Western Europe.¹ Two French poets continued Longuyon's work; it was soon translated into Dutch,² and probably before the middle of the next century was independently rendered into Scottish verse by two poets at work about the same time—the one, a nameless poet, using Barbour's octosyllabic verse;³ the other, the famous Sir Gilbert

¹ Cp. M. Paul Meyer's remarks in Bulletin de la Société des Anciens Textes français, 1883, &c.; also the same scholar's Alexandre le Grand dans la litt. fr., 1886.

² Cp. Bibliotheek van Middelnederlandsche Letterkunde: 'Roman van Cassamus uitgegeven door Dr. Eelco Verwijs'; this is a fragment; it does not yield us a Dutch rendering of 'The Nine Worthies'.

Hay ('Chamberlain to the French King,' Charles VII), to whom Dunbar alludes in his Lament, showing his preference for the heroic couplet. The two versions, absolutely distinct, are often confused; the former, written in 1438, was printed for Arbuthnet, about 1580, and again reprinted in 1831 by the Bannatyne Club; the latter, still unprinted, is extant in two MSS. belonging to the Marquis of Breadalbane. The romance was the delight of that rough chieftain 'the Black Duncan'. It may be inferred that Gilbert Hay's French manuscript did not contain the account of 'The Nine Worthies'; the passage is not to be found in his translation.

Appendices VI and VII give the French original, evidently used by the author of *The Parlement of the Thre Ages*, together with the corresponding passage in Arbuthnet's *Buik of the most Noble and Vailzeand Conquerour*.

The subject of 'The Nine Worthies' seems to have had special attraction for the poets of the North of England and Scotland. Perhaps the finest treatment of the theme is Arthur's Dream in the alliterative Morte Arthure,² the great Arthurian romance, written about 1380, imperishably enshrined in Malory's immortal prose.³ Later, Ane Ballet de novem

taken from the Roman d'Alixandre, the fourth, fifth, sixth, and half of the seventh Chansons (cp. Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the Brit. Mus., Add. 16956). 'The Forray of Gadderis', in particular, shows Barbour's influence; we know that he was familiar with the story (cp. Barbour's Bruce, book iii). Dr. A. Herrmann, in his Untersuchungen (Halle, 1893), disposes of the theory that the first section of The Buik of Alexander, and the second and third sections, might be by different hands.

¹ Op. The Black Book of Taymouth, Bannatyne Club, 1855. Gilbert of the Haye's Prose MS. has been published by the Scottish Text Society, ed. J. H. Stevenson (1896, 1914).

J. H. Stevenson (1896, 1914).

2 'The Dream' is a vision of 'Fortune's Wheel', the kings being vividly described. This fine episode is possibly the original source of the alliterative-stanzaic poem entitled 'Fortune' (cp. Reliquiae Antiquae).

3 Malory suppresses the last part, the part containing 'The Dream',

3 Malory suppresses the last part, the part containing 'The Dream', and replaces it in his twenty-first book by the version of Harl. MS. 2252, 'Le Mort Arthur' (cp. Sommer, Sources of 'Le Morte Darthur', p. 175). On the other hand, Caxton, in his Preface to 'Le Morte Darthur', has an

nobilibus puts forward a claim for 'Robert the Brois' as not below any of 'the Nine' in doughty deeds.1

It is maintained by M. Paul Meyer that Longuyon's verses on 'The Nine Worthies' mark their first appearance in literature. There is no evidence that 'the Nine' had previously figured in pageants, tapestry, or decorative embellishments. The impression, however, given by the passage in Longuyon suggests that its introduction into the Vaux du Paon may have been due to an already existing 'device' or 'ballad'. It is interesting to note that the author of the Cursor Mundi, belonging to the beginning of the fourteenth century, was evidently familiar with 'the Nine'; in the Prologue he mentions the three Pagans and the three Christians: The three Jewish Worthies are omitted in his brief enumeration, for the design of the work is to tell the biblical story at full length.

As an indication of the popularity of the subject, it is necessary to point out that the earliest extant example of block-printing is an elaborate pictorial representation of the 'Worthies', preserved in the National Library, Paris, and belonging to about the year 1455.²

It does not come within the province of the present study

interesting statement to the effect that 'many noble and dyuers gentylmen of thys royame of Englond camen and demaunded me many and oftymes wherfore that I have not do made and emprynte the noble hystorye of the saynt greal and of the moost renomed crysten kyng, first and chyef of the thre best crysten and worthy'; then follows a summary account of the Nine Worthies.

¹ Appendix x.
² Reproduced in M. Thierry-Poux's elaborate portfolio of facsimiles illustrative of early printing. The verses will be found in the Appendix. To about the same time belong the fragments discovered at Metz. The orthography is somewhat different from that of the Paris version. (Cp. Bulletin de la Société d'Archéologie de la Moselle, 1862, &c.) Concerning 'The Nine Worthies', see further Dunlop's History of Prose Fiction, ed. H. Wilson, vol. i, p. 270; Warton's History of English Poetry, ed. W. C. Hazlitt, vol. ii, p. 198; article by J. J. Guiffrey in Mémoires de la Société nationale des-Antiquaires de France, vol. xl (1880),

to carry the history of 'The Nine Worthies' into the sixteenth century. Shakespeare's Love's Labour's Lost attests its popularity as a mumming-play among the rustics of England; there is extant 'the book of the words' of one of the plays at least a hundred years older than the pageant presented by Don Armado and his friends. 'Pompey the Great' did not always oust the conqueror of Britain, yet, on the strength of Shakespeare's burlesque, most people would now assign him a place among the famous Nine. The lamentable story of 'Pyramus and Thisbe' is not more closely associated with Bottom the Weaver, Starveling, and Quince, than are the Nine Worthies with 'the pedant, the braggart, the hedge-priest, the fool, and the boy':—

'Abate throw at novum; and the whole world again Cannot prick out five such, take each one in his vein.'

¹ Cp. Appendix xi. 'Divers play Alexander in the villages,' observes Williams in his Discourse of Warre, 1590, 'but few or none in the field.'



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FROM BRIT. MUS. MSS. ADD. 31042

PROLOGUE.

N THE monethet of Maye when mirthes bene fele, And the sesone of somere when softe bene the wedres, Als I went to the wodde my werdes to dreghe, In-to pe schawes my-selfe a schotte me to gete 5 At ane hert or ane hynde, happen as it myghte: And as Dryghtyn the day droue frome be heuen, Als I habade one a banke be a bryme syde, There the gryse was grene growen with floures-The primrose, the pervynke, and piliole be riche— 10 The dewe appon dayses donkede full faire, Burgons & blossoms & braunches full swete, And the mery mystes full myldely gane falle: The cukkowe, the cowschote, kene were pay bothen, And the throstills full throly threpen in the bankes, 15 And iche foule in that frythe faynere pan oper That the derke was done & the daye lightenede: Hertys and hyndes one hillys pay gouen, The foxe and the filmarte pay flede to be erthe, The hare hurkles by hawes, & harde thedir dryves, 20 And ferkes faste to hir fourme & fatills hir to sitt. Als I stode in that stede one stalkynge I thoughte; Bothe my body and my bowe I buskede with leues; And turnede to-wardes a tree & tariede there a while; And als I lokede to a launde a littill me be-syde,

- ²⁵ I seghe ane hert with ane hede, ane heghe for the nones; Alle vnburneschede was p⁶ beme, full borely p⁶ mydle, With iche feetur as thi fote, for-frayed in the greues, With auntlers one aythere syde egheliche longe; The ryalls full richely raughten frome the myddes,
- 30 With surryals full semely appon sydes twayne;
 And he assommet and sett of vi. and of †fyve,
 And per-to borely and brode and of body grete,
 And a coloppe for a kynge, cache hym who myghte.
 Bot there sewet hym a sowre pat seruet hym full 3erne,
- 35 That woke & warned hym when the wynde faylede,
 That none so sleghe in his slepe with sleghte scholde hym
 dere,

And went the wayes hym by-fore when any wothe tyde. My lyame than full lightly lete I down falle,
And to the bole of a birche my berselett I cowchide;

- 40 I waitted wiesly the wynde by waggynge of leues,
 Stalkede full stilly no stikkes to breke,
 And crepite to a crabtre and couerede me ther-vndere:
 Then I bende vp my bowe and bownede me to schote,
 Tighte vp my tylere and taysede at the hert:
- 45 Bot the sowre hat hym sewet sett vp the nese,
 And wayttede wittyly abowte & wyndide full 3erne.
 Then I moste stonde als I stode, and stirre no fote ferrere,
 For had I my[n]tid or mouede or made any synys,
 Alle my layke hade bene loste hat I hade longe wayttede.
- 50 Bot gnattes gretely me greuede and gnewen myn eghne;
 And he stotayde and stelkett and starede full brode,
 Bot at the laste he loutted down & laughte till his mete,
 And I hallede to the hokes and the hert smote,
 And happenyd that I hitt hym by-hynde be lefte scholdire,
- 55 pat po blode braste owte appon bothe the sydes:

 And he balkede and brayed and bruschede thurgh pe greues,

As alle had hurlede one ane hepe pat in the holte longede; And sone the sowre pat hym sewet resorte to his feris, And pay, forfrayede of his fare, to po fellys pay hyen;

- 60 And I hyede to my hounde and hent hym vp sone,
 And louset my lyame and lete hym vmbycaste;
 The breris and the brakans were blody by-ronnen;
 And he assentis to pat sewte and seches hym aftire,
 There he was crepyde in-to a krage and crouschede to be erthe;
- 65 Dede als a dore-nayle doun was he fallen;
 And I hym hent by be hede and heryett hym vttire,
 Turned his troches & tachede thaym in-to the erthe,
 Kest vp that keuduart and kutt of his tonge,
 Brayde [out] his bowells my berselett to fede,
- 70 And I s[clis]te hym at he assaye to see how me semyde,
 And he was floreschede full faire of two fyngere brode.
 I chese to the chawylls chefe to be-gynn,
 And ritte down at a rase reghte to the tayle,
 And han he herbere anone aftir I makede,
- 75 I raughte the righte legge by-fore, ritt it per-aftir, And so fro legge to legge I lepe thaym aboute, And po felle fro pe fete fayre I departede, And flewe it down with my fiste faste to the rigge; I tighte owte my trenchore and toke of the scholdirs,
- So Cuttede corbyns bone and kest it a-waye;
 I slitte hym full sleghely, and slyppede in my fyngere,
 Lesse the poynte scholde perche the pawnche or the guttys:
 I soughte owte my sewet and semblete it to-gedre,
 And pullede oute the paw[n]che and putt it in an hole:
- 85 I grippede owte the guttes and graythede thaym be-syde, And than the nombles anone name I there-aftire, Rent vp fro the rygge reghte to the myddis; And than the fourches full fayre I fonge fro pe sydes, And chynede hym chefely, and choppede of the nekke,

90 And po hede and the haulse homelyde in sondree;
po fete of the fourche I feste thurgh the sydis,
And heuced alle in-to ane hole and hidde it with ferne,
With hethe and with hore mosse hilde it about,
pat no fostere of the fee scholde fynde it ther-aftir;
95 Hid the hornes and the hede in ane hologhe oke,
pat no hunte scholde it hent ne haue it in sighte.
I foundede faste there-fro for ferde to be wryghede,
And sett me oute one a syde to see how it cheuced,
To wayte it frome wylde swyne that wyse bene of nesse;
100 And als I satte in my sette the sone was so warme,
And I for slepeles was slome and slomerde a while,
And there me dremed, in that dowte, a full dreghe sweuynn
And whate I seghe in my saule the sothe I schall telle.

I.

Y SEGHE thre thro men threpden full zerne 105 And mot[ed]en of myche-whate and maden thaym full tale. And 3e will, ledys, me listen ane [littille]-while, I schall reken thaire araye redely for sothe, And to sowe neuen thaire names naytly there-aftire. The firste was a ferse freke, fayrere than thies othere, 110 A bolde beryn one a blonke bownne for to ryde, A hathelle on ane heghe horse with hauke appon hande. He was balghe in the breste and brode in the scholdirs, His axles and his armes were [eghe-]liche longe, And in the medill als a mayden menskfully schapen. 115 Longe legges, and large, and lele for to schewe, He streghte hym in his sterapis and stode vp-rightes. He ne hade no hode ne no hatte bot his here one, A chaplet one his chefe-lere, chosen for the nones, Raylede alle with rede rose, richeste of floures, 120 With trayfoyles and trewloues of full triede perles,

With a chefe chareboole chosen in the myddes.

He was gerede alle in grene, alle with golde by-weuede,
Embroddirde alle with besanttes and beralles full riche:

His colere with calsydoynnes clustrede full thikke,

125 With many dyamandes full dere dighte one his sleues.

pe semys with saphirssett were full many,
With emeraudes and amatistes appon iche syde,
With full riche rubyes raylede by the hemmes;
pe price of that perry were worthe powndes full many.

His sadill was of sykamoure that he satt inn,
His bridell alle of brente golde with silke brayden raynes,
His [t]r[a]poure was of tartaryne, hat traylede to be erthe,
And he throly was threuen of thritty zere of elde,
And there-to zonge and zape, and zouthe was his name;
135 And the semely[est] segge that I seghe euer,

II.

THE seconde segge in his sete satte at his ese,
A renke alle in rosette pat rowmly was schapyn;
In a golyone of graye girde in the myddes,
And iche bagge in his bosome bettir than othere.

140 One his golde and his gude gretly he mousede,
His renttes and his reches rekened he full ofte,
OF mukkyng, of marlelyng, and mendynge of howses,
OF benes of his bondemen, of benefetis many,
OF presanttes of polayle, of pu[r]filis als,

145 OF purches of ploughe-londes, of parkes full faire,
OF profettis of his pastours, that his purse mendis,
OF stiewarde[s], of storrours, stirkes to bye,
OF clerkes of countours, his courtes to holde,
And alle his witt in this werlde was one his wele one:

150 Hym semyde, for to see to, of sexty 3ere elde,
And per-fore men in his marche Medill-elde hym callede.

III.

THE thirde was a laythe lede lenyde one his syde, A beryne bownn alle in blake, with bedis in his hande; Croked and courbede, encrampeschett for elde;

- 155 Alle disfygured was his face, and fadit his hewe, His berde and browes were blanchede full whitte, And the hare one his hede hewede of the same, He was ballede and blynde and alle babirlippede, Totheles and tenefull, I tell 30we for sothe;
- 160 And euer he momelide and ment and mercy he askede, And cried kenely one Criste, and his crede sayde, With sawtries full sere tymes, to sayntes in heuen; Envyous and angrye, and Elde was his name. I helde hym be my hapynge a hundrethe zeris of age,
- 165 And bot his cruche and his couche he carede for no more. Now hafe [I] rekkende 30w theire araye, redely the sothe, And also namede 30w thaire names naytly there-aftire, And now thaire carpynge I sall kythe, knowe it if 30we liste.

IV.

NOW this gome alle in grene so gayly attyrede,
This hathelle one this heghe horse, with hauke one his
fiste,

He was songe and sape and sernynge to armes, And pleynede hym one paramours and peteuosely syghede. He sett hym vp in his sadill and seyde† theis wordes: 'My lady, my leman, þat I hafe luffede euer,

175 My wele and my wirchip, in werlde where bou duellys, My playstere of paramours; with pappis full swete, Alle my hope and my hele, myn herte es thyn ownn! I by-hete the a heste, and heghely I a-vowe, There schall no hode ne no hatt one my hede sitt,

180 Till pat I joyntly with a gesserante justede hafe one[s], And done dedis for thi loue, doghety in armes.'

v.

BOT then this gome alle in graye greued with this wordes,

And sayde, 'felowe, be my faythe bou fonnes full zerne, For alle fantome and foly that thou with faris.

185 Where es pe londe and the lythe pat pou arte lorde ouer? For alle thy ryalle araye, renttis hase pou none; Ne for thi pompe and thi pride, penyes bot fewe: For alle thi golde and thi gude gloes one thi clothes, And pou hafe caughte thi kaple, pou cares for no fothire.

Thi brydell of brent golde wolde bullokes the gete;
The pryce of thi perrye wolde purches the londes;
And wonne, wy, in thi witt, for wele-neghe pou spilles.'

VI.

THAN the gome alle in grene greued full sore,

195 And sayd, 'sir, be my soule, thi consell es feble.

Bot thi golde and thi gude thou hase no god ells;

For, be be lorde and the laye pat I leue inne,

And by the Gode that me gaffe goste and soule,

Me were leuere one this launde lengen a while,

200 Stoken in my stele-wede, one my stede bakke,
Harde haspede in my helme, and in my here-wedys,
With a grym grownden glayfe graythely in myn honde,
And see a kene knyghte come and cowpe with my-seluen,
pat I myghte halde pat I hafe highte and heghely avowede,

²⁰⁵ And parfourme my profers and prouen my strengthes,

Than alle the golde and the gude that thoue gatt euer,

Than alle the londe and the lythe that thoue arte lorde ouer,

And ryde to a reuere redily there-aftir,
With haukes full hawtayne that heghe willen flye;

210 And when po fewlis bene founden, fawkoneres hyenn
To lache oute thaire lessches and lowsen thaym sone,
And keppyn of thaire caprons, and casten fro honde,
And than the hawteste in haste hyghes to the towre,
With theire bellys so brighte blethely thay ryngen,

215 And there they houen appon heghte, as it were heuen

angelles.

Then the fawkoners full fersely to floodes pay hyen, To the reuere with thaire roddes to rere vp the fewles, Sowssches thaym full serely to seruen thaire hawkes. Than tercelettes full tayttely telys down stryken,

Laners and lanerettis lightten to thes endes,
Metyn with the maulerdes and many down striken;
Fawkons pay founden freely to lighte,
With hoo and howghe to the heron pay hitten hym full ofte,
Buffetyn hym, betyn hym, and brynges hym to sege,

Then fawkoners full fersely and sesyn hym there-aftire.

Then fawkoners full fersely founden pam aftire,

To helpen thaire hawkes thay hyen thaym full 3erne,

For the bitt of his bill bitterly he strikes.

They knelyn down one theire knees and krepyn full lowe,

230 Wynnen to his wynges and wrythen thaym to-gedire,
Brosten the bones and brekyn thaym in sondire,
Puttis owte with a penn pe [pyth] one his gloue,
And quo[p]es thaym to the querrye that quelled hym to pe
dethe.

He quysses thaym and quotes thaym, quyppeys full lowde, 235 Cheres [tha]ym full chefely ecchekkes to leue;

Than henntis thaym one honde and hodes thaym ther-aftire,
Cowples vp theire cowers thaire caprons to holde,
Lowppes in thaire lesses thorowe vertwells of siluere;

pan he laches to his luyre, and lokes to his horse,

240 And lepis vpe one the lefte syde, als po laghe askes.

Portours full pristly putten vpe the fowlis,

And taryen for theire tercelettis pat tenyn thaym full ofte,

For some chosen to po echecheke, poghe some chefe bettire;

Spanyells full spedily pay spryngen abowte,

And than kayre to the courte that I come fro,
With ladys full louely to lappyn in myn armes,
And clyp thaym and kysse thaym and comforthe myn hert;
And than with damesels dere to daunsen in thaire chambirs;

of kempes and of conquerours, of kynges full noblee,
How tha[y] wirchipe and welthe wanne in thaire lyues;
With renkes in ryotte to reuelle in haulle,
With coundythes and carolles and compaynyes sere,

And this es life for to lede while I schalle lyfe here;
And thou with wandrynge and woo schalte wake for thi
gudes,

And be thou doluen and dede, thi dole schall be schorte, And he that thou leste luffes schall layke hym there-with, 260 And spend that thou; sparede, the deuyll spede hym ells!

Than this renke alle in rosett rothelede thies wordes:

He sayde, 'thryfte and thou have threpid this thirtene wynter.

I seghe wele samples bene so the that sayde bene [ful] 3 ore: Fole es that with foles delys: flyte we no lengare!

VII

THAN this beryn alle in blake bownnes hym to speke, And sayde, 'sirres, by my soule, sottes bene 3e bothe.

Bot will 3e hendely me herken ane hande-while, And I schalle stynte 30ur stryffe and stillen 30ur threpe. I sett ensample bi my-selfe, and sek[e] it no forthire:

- I was als euerrous in armes as ouler of soure-seluen,
 And as styffe in a stourre one my stede bake,
 And as gaye in my gere als any gome ells,
 And as lelly by-luffede with ladyse and maydens.
- And as myche wirchip I wane i-wis as 3e bothen;
 And aftir irkede me with this, and ese was me leuere,
 Als man in his medill elde his makande wolde haue.
 Than I mukkede and marlede and made vp my howses,
- And purcheste me ploughe-londes and pastures full noble;
 Gatte gude and golde full gaynly to honde;
 Reches and renttes were ryfe to my-seluen.
 Bot elde vndire-3ode me are I laste wiste,
 And alle disfegurede my face and fadide my hewe,
- 285 Bothe my browes and my berde blawnchede full whitte,—
 And when he sotted my syghte, than sowed myn hert—
 Croked me, cowrbed me, encrampeschet myn hondes,
 pat I ne may hefe pam to my hede, ne noghte helpe my-seluen,
 Ne stale stonden one my fete, bot I my staffe haue.
- ²⁹⁰ Makes 30ure mirrours bi me, men, bi 30ure trouthe;
 This schadowe in my schewere schunte 3e no while.
 And now es dethe at my dore that I drede moste;
 I ne wot wiche daye, ne when, ne whate tyme he comes,
 Ne whedir-wardes, ne whare, ne whatte to do aftire;
- 295 But many modyere than I, men one this molde,
 Hafe passed the pase þat I schall passe sone;
 And I schall neuen 30w the names of† nyne of the beste
 pat euer wy in this werlde wiste appon erthe,
 pat were conquerours full kene and kiddeste of oper.

VIII.

THE firste was sir Ector, and aldeste of tyme,
When Troygens of Troye were tried to fighte
With Menylawse po mody kynge and men out of Grece,
pat paire cite assegede and sayled it full zerne,
For Elayne his ownn quene that there-inn was halden,

305 pat Paresche the proude knyghte paramours louede. Sir Ectore was euerous, als the storye telles, And als clerkes in the cronycle cownten posothe, Nowmbron thaym to [nynety] and ix mo by tale Of kynges with crounes he killede with his handes,

310 And full fele oper folke, als ferly were ellis.

Then Achilles his adversarye vndide with his werkes,
With wyles, and no wirchipe, woundede hym to dethe,
Als he tentid to a tulke pat he tuke of were,
And he was slayne for that slaughte sleghely per-aftir,

315 With the wyles of a woman, as he had wroghte by-fore.

Than Menylawse pe mody kynge hade myrthe at his hert, pat Ectore hys enymy siche auntoure hade fallen,

And with the Gregeis of Grece he girde ouer the walles,
pe prowde paleys dide he pulle down to pe erthe,

And pen po Trogens of Troye teneden full sore,
And semble[d]† paym full s[ar]rely, and sadly pay foughten;
Bot the lure at the laste lighte appon Troye;
For there sir Priamus the prynce put was to dethe,

325 And Pantasilia pe [prowde] quene paste hym by-fore. Sir Troylus, a trewe knyghte, pat tristyly hade foghten, Neptolemus, a noble knyghte, at nede pat wolde noghte fayle, Palamedes, a prise knyghte, and preued in armes, Vlixes and Ercules pat† euerrous were bothe,

330 And oper fele of pat ferde fared of the same, As Dittes and Dares demed[e]n togedir.

IX.

AFTIR this sir Alysaunder alle pe worlde wanne, Bothe the see and the sonde and the sadde erthe, pe iles of the oryent to Ercules boundes,

- And to the come of Antecriste vnclosede be pay neuer;
 And conquered Calcas knyghtly ther-aftire,
 Ther jentille Jazon p⁶ [Gr]ewe wane pe flese of golde.
 Then grathede he hym to Gadres the gates full righte,
- And there sir G[adyfer]e pe gude the G[a]derayns assemblet,
 And rode oute full ryally to rescowe the praye;
 And pan Emenyduse hym mete, and made hym full tame,
 And girdes Gadyfere to the grounde, gronande full sore,
 And there that doughty was dede, and mekill dole makede.
- 345 Then Alixander the emperour, pat athell kyng hym-seluen, Arayed hym for to ryde with the renkes pat he hade:
 Ther was the mody Meneduse, a mane of Artage,
 He was duke of pat douth and a dussypere;
 Sir Filot and sir Florydase, full ferse men of armes;
- 350 Sir Clyton and sir Caulus, knyghtis full noble;
 And sir Garsyene the gaye, a gude man of armes;
 And sir Lyncamoure thaym ledys with a lighte will.
 And than sir Cassamus thaym kepide, and the kyng prayede
 To fare in-to Fesome his frendis to helpe;
- 355 For one Carrus the kynge was comen owte of Inde, And hade Fozome affrayede and Fozayne asegede For dame Fozonase the faire that he of lufe by-soughte. The kynge agreed hym to goo and graythed him sone, In mendys of Amenyduse bat he hade mys-done.
- 360 Then ferde he to-warde Facron, and by the flode abydes, And there he tighte vp his tentis and taried there a while. There knyghtis full kenely caughten theire leue To fare in-to Fozayne dame Fozonase to see,

And Idores and Edease, alle by-dene;

Was neuer speche by-fore spoken sped bettir aftir,
For als pay demden too doo, thay deden full euen.
For there sir Porus the prynce in-to the prese thrynges,
And bare the batelle one bake, and abashede thaym swythe,

370 And than the bolde Bawderayne bowes to the kyng,
And brayde owte the brighte brande owt of the kynges
hande,

And Florydase full freschely foundes hym aftir, And hent the helme of his hede and the halse crakede. Than sir Gadefere, the gude, gripis his axe,

375 And in-to the Indyans ofte auntirs hym sone,
And thaire stiffe standerte to stikkes he hewes,
And than sir Cassamus, the kene, Carrus releues;
When he was fallen appon fote he fet hym his stede;
And aftir that sir Cassamus sir Carus he drepitt,

380 And for pat poynte sir Porus perset hym to dethe;
And than the Indyans ofte vttire pam droghen,
And fledden faste of the felde and Alexandere suede.
When pay were skaterede and skayled and skyftede in sondere,

Alyxandere, oure athell kyng, ames hym to lenge, 385 And fares in-to Fozayne, festes to make, And weddis wy vn-to wy that wilnede to-gedire. Sir Porus, the pryce knyghte, moste praysed of othere, Fonge Fozonase to fere, and fayne were thay bothe; The bolde Bawderayne of Baderose, sir Cassayle hym-seluen,

390 Bele Edyas the faire birde, bade he no noper;
And sir Betys, the beryne, the beste of his tyme,
Idores, his awnn lufe, aughte he hym-seluen.
Then iche lede hade the loue that he hade longe zernede,
Sir Alixander, oure emperour, ames hym to ryde,

395 And bewes to-wardes Babyloyne, with the beryns pat were leuede,

By-cause of dame Cand[ac]e that comforthed hym moste; And that cite he by-segede, and assayllede it aftire, While hym the satis were sete, and solden the keyes; And there that pereles prynce was puysonede to dede;

400 pare he was dede of a drynke, as dole es to here,
That the curssede Cassander in a cowpe hym broghte.
He conquered with conqueste kyngdomes twelue,
And dalte thaym to his dussypers when he the dethe
tholede,

And thus the worthieste of this werlde wente to his ende.

X.

THANE sir Sezere hym-seluen, that Julyus was hatten,
Alle Inglande he aughte at his awnn will,
When the Bruyte in his booke Bretayne it callede.
The trewe toure of Londone in his tyme he makede,
And craftely the condithe he compaste there aftire,

410 And then he droghe hym to Dovire, and duellyde there a
while.

And closede ther a castelle with cornells full heghe; Warnestorede it full wiesely, als witnesses the sothe, For there es hony in that holde holden sythen his tyme. Than rode he in to Romayne, and rawns[on]ede it sone;

And Cassabalount be kynge conquerede there-aftire;
Then graythed he hym in-to Grece, and gete [it] hym be-lyue;
The semely cite Alexaunder seside he ther-aftire,
Affrike and Arraby and Egipt the noble;
Surry and Sessoyne sessede he to-gedir,

420 With alle the iles of the see appon iche a syde.

Thies thre were paynymes full priste, and passed alle othere.

XI.

OF thre Jewes full gentill jugge[n] we aftir, In the Olde Testament as the storye tellis, In a booke of the Bible that breues of kynges, 425 And renkes bat rede kane Regum it callen. The firste was gentill Josue pat was a Jewe noble, Was heryet for his holynes in-to heuen-riche. When Pharaoo had flayede the folkes of Israelle, Thay ranne into the Rede See for radde of hym-seluen; 430 And than Josue the Jewe, Jhesus he prayed That the peple myghte passe vnpereschede that tyme; And than the see sett vp appon sydes twayne, In manere of a mode walle that made were with hondes, And thay soughten ouer the see, sownnde, alle to-gedir; 435 And Pharaoo full fersely folowede thaym aftire, And efte Josue be Jewe Jhesus he prayede, And the see sattillede agayne and sanke thaym there-inn,-A soppe for the Sathanas, vnsele haue theire bones! And aftire Josue be Jewe full gentilly hym bere, 440 And conquerede kynges and kyngdomes twelue, And was a conqueroure full kene and moste kyd in his tyme.

XII.

THAN Dauid the doughty, thurghe D[r]ightyn[es] sonde,
Was caughte from kepyng of schepe, & a kyng made.
The grete grym Golyas he to grounde broghte,

445 And sloughe hym with his slynge & with no sleghte ells.
The stone thurghe his stele helme stang† into his brayne,
And he was dede of that dynt: the deuyll hafe that reche that the day of the day of

There he was dede at that dede, as dole es to here; For Bersabee his awnn birde was alle pat bale rerede.

XIII.

THE gentill Judas Machabee was a Jewe kene,

And there-to worthy in were, and wyse of his dedis:

Antiochus and Appolyne, aythere he drepide:

And Nychanore, anoper kynge, full naytly there-aftire:

And was a conquerour kydde, and knawen with the beste.

Thies thre were Jewes full joly and justers full noble,

460 That full loughe haue bene layde [of] full longe tyme:

Of siche doughety doers [deme] what es worthen.

XIV.

OF the thre Cristen to carpe couthely there-aftir, pat were conquerours full kene and kyngdomes wonnen: Areste was sir Arthure, and eldeste of tyme, 465 For alle Inglande he aughte at his awnn will, And was kynge of this kythe, and the crowne hade. His courte was at Carlele comonly holden, With renkes full ryalle of his rownnde table, pat Merlyn with his maystries made in his tyme, And sett the sege perilous so semely one highte, There no segge scholde sitt bot hym scholde schame tyde, Owthir dethe with-inn the thirde daye demed to hym-seluen, Bot sir Galade the gude that the gree wanne. There was sir Launcelot de Lake full lusty in armes, 475 And sir Gawayne the gude that neuer gome harmede, Sir Askanore, sir Ewayne, sir Errake fytz Lake, And sir Kay the kene and kyd of his dedis, Sir Perceualle de Galeys pat preued had bene ofte, Mordrede and Bedwere, men of mekyll myghte, 480 And othere fele of that ferde, folke of the beste.

Then [R]oystone be riche kyng, full rakill of his werkes, He made a blyot† to his bride of the berdes of kynges, And aughtilde sir Arthures berde one scholde be; Bot Arthure, oure athell kynge, anober he thynkes,

- 485 And faughte with hym in the felde till he was fey worthen. And þan sir Arthure, oure [athell] kyng, ames hym to ryde: Vppon Sayn Michaells mounte meruaylles he wroghte, There a dragone he dreped, þat drede was full sore; And than he sayled ouer the see into sere londes,
- 490 Whils alle the beryns of Bretayne bewede hym to fote.
 Gascoyne and Gyane gatt he there-aftir,
 And conquered kyngdomes and contrees full fele.
 Than ames he in-to Inglonde into his awnn kythe:
 The gates to-wardes Glassthenbery full graythely he rydes;
- And ther sir Mordrede hym mett by a more syde,
 And faughte with hym in the felde to alle were fey worthen,
 Bot Arthur oure athell kyng, and [Ewan] his knyghte.
 And when the felde was flowen and fey bot thaym-seluen,
 Than Arthure sir [Ewan] athes, by his trouthe,
- And whatt selcouthes he see, the sothe scholde he telle.

 And [Ewan] swith to the swerde, and swange it in the mere,

 And ane hande by the hiltys hastely it grippes,

 And brawndeschet that brighte swerde, and bere it a-waye:
- To his lorde, there he hym lefte, and lokes abowte,
 And he ne wiste in alle this werlde where he was by-comen:
 And then he hyghes hym in haste, and hedis to the mere,
 And seghe a bote from the banke and beryns there-inn.
- 510 There-inn was sir Arthure and othere of his ferys,
 And also Morgn la faye that myche couthe of sleghte,
 And there ayther segge seghe other laste, for sawe he hym
 no more.

XV.

SIR Godfraye de Bolenn siche grace of God hade
pat alle Romanye he rode and rawnnsunte it sone;
515 pe Amorelle of Antyoche aftire he drepit,
pat was called Corborant, kiluarde of dedis;
And aftir he was callede kynge, and the crownn hade
Of Jer[u]salem and of the Jewes gentill to-gedir,
And with the wirchipe of this werlde he went to his ende.

XVI.

- THAN was sir Cherlemayne chosen chefe kynge of Fraunce, With his doghty doussypers, to do als hym lykede; Sir Rowlande the riche and Duke Raynere of Jene, Olyner and Aubrye and Ogere Deauneys, And sir Naymes at the nede that neuer wolde fayle,
- 525 Turpyn and Terry, two full tryed lordes,
 And sir Sampsone hym-selfe of the Mounte Ryalle,
 Sir Berarde de Moundres, a bolde beryn in armes,
 And gud sir Gy de Burgoyne, full gracyous of dedis;
 The katur fitz Emowntez were kydde k[nyght]es alle,
- 530 And oper moo than I may myne or any man elles.

 And then sir Cherlles be chefe ches for to ryde,

 And paste to-wardes Polborne to prouen his strenghte:

 Salamadyne the Sowdane he sloghe with his handis,

 And pat [cite] he by-segede, and saylede it full ofte,
- 535 While hym his 3ernynge was 3ett and the 3ates opynede; And Witthyne thaire waryed kynge wolde nott abyde, Bot soghte into Sessoyne socoure hym to gete, And Cherlemayne, oure chefe kynge, cheses in-to the burgh, And dame Naoles anone he name to hym-seluen,
- 540 And maried hir to Maundevyle pat scho hade myche louede, And spedd hym into hethyn Spayne spedely there-aftire, And fittilled† hym by Flagott faire for to loge.

and Be free from on hafte fel toroned pomos Ind ge to a boto fro polidine a bernet pome. Light in war of dithin a of of the feel. Baild moveton of lawfay part moch conde of field The toofunde stolown for free of god he had Test all commyon go works a worm land at full on The Amount of Antroth after he Sevens Fat was called torbolamit Entransial Jose. and after be man called that a trolon bad PRATTINE Juny gontilly to there. nd to Abouffind of pro bould be bent to far endo hen for that lemann how chaffon bring of former he for donathte duche point to do as from heith. In Hoboland po with Inte p & Vance po fa The being In been a organs tob Domes. And & Mamos actual procon Mock fante. opin a term the ful turns shafft. If Samfon from Other of no mobine foralt. Son Berones De apmover à Cots berns un armor. and gode form of known full discour of Jed. and Estrofor Bombontos bow but Emortifalt. And other mo por I map moone or any morn off. Ind Grant Egholat ped chief chiefe for to bido. and will to board frament to fibe for fronth.



There Olyuer the euerous aunterde hym-seluen,
And faughte with sir Ferambrace, and fonge hym one were,
545 And than they fologhed hym in a fonte, and Florence hym
callede;

And than moued he hym to Mawltryple sir [Merchel] to seche,

And that Emperour at Egremorte aftir he takes,

And wolde hafe made sir [Merchel] a man of oure faythe,

And garte feche forthe a founte byfore †his eghne;

And he dispysede it and spitte and spournede it to the erthe,
And one swyftely with a swerde swapped of his hede;
And dame Floripe po faire was [fologhed] there-aftire,
And kende thaym to the corownne pat Criste had one hede,
And the nayles, anone, nayttly there-aftire,

555 When he with passyoun and pyne was [put] one the rode. And than those relikes so riche redely he takes, And at Sayne Denys he paym dide, and duellyd there for

euer.

And than bodworde vnto [Balame] full boldly he sendys,
And bade hym Cristyne by-come and one Criste leue,
560 Or he scholde bette down his b[urgh] and brenn hym
there-inn:

And garte Genyone goo that erande that greuede thaym alle Than rode he to Rowncyuale, pat rewed hym aftire, There sir Rowlande, the ryche Duke, refte was his lyfe; And Olyuer, his awnn fere, that ay had bene trewe,

And sir Turpyn the trewe, that full triste was at nede,
And full fele othir folke, als ferly were elles.

Then suede he the Sarazenes seuen 3ere and more,
And the Sowdane at Saragose full sothely he fyndis,

And there he bett down po burghe, and sir [Balame] he tuke, 570 And that day he dide [hym] to the dethe, als he had wele seruede.

Bot by than his wyes were wery, and woundede full many, And he fared into France to fongen thaire riste, And neghede to-warde Nerbone that noyede thaym full sore, And pat cite he asseggede appone sere halfues,

- 575 While hym the 3ates were 3ette and 3olden the keyes, And Emorye made Emperour, even at that tyme, To [haue] and to holde it to hym and† his ayers. And then thay ferden in-to Fraunce to fongen thaire ese, And at Sayn Denys he dyede, at his dayes tyme.
- 580 Now hafe I neuened 30w the names off nyne of po beste pat euer were in this werlde wiste appon erthe,
 And the doghtyeste of dedis in thaire dayes tyme,
 Bot doghetynes, when dede comes, ne dare noghte habyde.

XVII.

OF wyghes pat were wyseste will 3e now here,
And I schall schortly 3ow schewe and schutt me ful sone.
Arestotle he was arste in Alexander tyme,
And was a fyne philozophire and a fynour noble,
[H]e g[er]te Alexander to graythe and gete golde when hym
liste,

And multiplye metalles with mercurye watirs,

590 And with his ewe ardaunt and arsneke pouders,

With salpetir and sal-jeme and siche many othire,

And menge his metalles and make fyne siluere,

And was a [b]launchere of the best thurgh blaste of his fyre.

Then Virgill, thurgh his vertus, ver[r]ayle he maket

595 Bodyes of brighte brasse full boldely to speke,

To telle whate be-tydde had, and whate be-tyde scholde,

When Dioclesyane was dighte to be dere emperour;

Of Rome and of Romanye the rygalte he hade.

XVIII.

THAN sir Salomon hym-selfe sett hym by hy[s] one;
600 This Bookes in the Bible bothe bene to-gedirs.

That one of wisdome and of witte wondirfully teches;
His sampills and his sawes bene sett in the toper;
And he was the wyseste in witt that euer wonnede in erthe;
And his techynges will bene trowde whills powerlde standes,
605 Bothe with kynges and knyghtis and kaysers ther-inn.

XIX.

MERLYN was a meruayllous man, and made many thynges,

And naymely nygromancye nayttede he ofte,
And graythe[d] Galyan a boure to [gete] hir per-in,
That no wy scholde hir wielde ne wynne from hym-seluen.
610 Theis were the wyseste in the worlde of witt pat euer 3itt
were,

Bot dethe wondes for no witt to wende were hym lykes.

XX.

NOW of the prowdeste in presse pat paramoures loueden I schalle titly 30w telle, and tary 30w no lengere. Amadase and Edoyne, in erthe are thay bothe,

615 That in golde and in grene were gaye in thaire tyme;
And sir Sampsone hym-selfe, full sauage of his dedys,
And Dalyda his derelynge,† now dethe has pam bo[th]e.
Sir Ypomadonn de Poele, full priste in hi[s] armes,
p° faire Fere de Calabre, now faren are they bothe.

620 Generides p° gentill, full joly in his tyme,
And Clarionas pat was so clere, are [closede in] erthe.
Sir Eglamour of Artas, full euerous in armes,
And Cristabelle the clere maye es crept in hir graue;
And sir Tristrem the trewe, full triste of hym-seluen,

625 And Ysoute, his awnn lufe, in erthe are pay bothe.

Whare es now Dame Dido was qwene of Cartage?

Dame Cand[ac]e the comly,† quene of Babyloyne?

Penelopie that was price and pas[sid] alle othere,

And dame Gaynore the gaye, nowe grauen are thay bopen;

630 And othere moo than I may mene, or any man elles.

XXI.

SYTHEN doughtynes when dede comes ne dare noghte habyde,

Ne dethe wondes for no witt to wende where hym lykes, And thereto paramours and pride puttes he full lowe, Ne there es reches ne rent may rawnsone 30ur lyues,

- 635 Ne noghte es sekire to zoure-selfe in certayne bot dethe, And he es so vncertayne that sodaynly he comes, Me thynke p^e wele of this werlde worthes to noghte. Ecclesiastes the clerke declares in his booke Vanitas vanitatum et omnia vanitas,
- 640 pat alle [es] vayne[st of] vanytes, and vanyte es alle;
 For-thi amendes 30ure mysse whills 3e are men here,
 Quia in inferno nulla est redempcio;
 For in helle es no helpe, I hete 30w for sothe;
 Als God in his gospelle graythely 30w teches,
- 645 Ite ostendite vos sacerdotibus,

 [G]o schryue 30w full schirle, and schewe 30w to prestis;

 Et ecce omnia munda sunt vobis,

And pat 3e wronge [haue] wroghte schall worthen full clene. Thou man in thi medill elde, hafe mynde whate I saye!

650 I am thi sire and thou my sone, the sothe for to telle, And he the sone of thi-selfe, pat sittis one the stede, For Elde es sire of Midill Elde, and Midill-elde of 3outhe: And haues gud daye, for now I go; to graue moste me wende; Dethe dynges one my dore, I dare no lengare byde.'

- 655 When I had lenged and layne a full longe while, I herde a bogle one a bonke be blowen full lowde, And I wakkened therwith and waytted me vmbe; Than the sone was sett and syled full loughe; And I founded appon fote and ferkede towarde townn.
- And in the monethe of Maye thies mirthes me tydde,
 Als I schurtted me in a schelfe in poschawes faire,
 And belde me in the birches with bewes full smale,
 And lugede me in the leues pat lighte were & grene:
 There, dere Drightyne, this daye dele vs of this blysse,

665 And Marie, pat es mylde qwene, amende vs of synn!

Amen Amen.

Thus endes THE THRE AGES.

Alexander the Great Julius Caesar Joshua David Judas 1 (King Arthur Godfrers de Bolenn Charlemagne Amadas and Idoyne Samson and Dalilah spornedon and the Duchess of Calabria Generides and Clarionas Eglamour and Christabel Tristram and Isould Dido Candace Guinevert



'MS.' indicates a reference to MS. 31042, which is taken as the basis of the text; 'B.' refers to the fragmentary MS. 33994. Both the MSS. were printed in extenso in the editio princeps, Roxburghe Club, 1897, prepared by the present editor for the late Sir John Evans. The variant readings are limited to such as seem to be of any importance for the text; most of the unrecorded errors appear to be of no interest, save as illustrations of textual corruptions. 'K.' refers to the review of the book by the late Professor E. Kölbing, Englische Studien, xxv. 2 (Breslau, 1898); 'S.' = Studien über den Stabreim in der mittelenglischen Alliterationsdichtung von Karl Schumacher (Bonner Studien z. eng. Phil. vol. xi), 1914.

I. TEXTUAL NOTES

1	MS. monethes. 14 (?) threp[d]en. 31 MS. v fyve.
	MS. mytid (= mytid = myntid). 69 MS. brayde his bowells.
	MS. sisilte; S. slitte (cp. l. 81).
72	(?) [at be] chefe; K. (who compares 'on be chefe of be cholle',
	Aunt. of Arth. 114).
84	MS. pawche. 105 MS. moten. 106 MS. hande-while.
113	MS. i-liche; S. egheliche (cp. 1. 28).
135	MS, semely, 144 MS, pufilis, 164 K, (?) honing
166	[I] omitted in MS. 173 MS. seyden.
176	MS. my lady with. 180 K. 'ones' for MS. onere.
228	[I] omitted in MS. MS. my lady with. B. with pe butte. 173 MS. seyden. 180 K. 'ones' for MS. onere. 232 MS. maryo; B. marow.
233	quotes; better perhaps B. whopis.
234	quysses; B. wharris. MS. quyppes, (?) and q. B. & whopes.
235	MS. cheresche hym; B. cheris þem.
238	Lowppes in; B. Lappis vp.
243	chefe; B. chefe (= chese) to bo. 252 MS. thaire; B. bey.
	MS. thou haste longe sparede; B pou spared. No space in MS.
263	B. omits well; MS. omits ful; B. ful. 268 B. omits And.
269	sekis; B. feche. 281 B. Igate.
283	B. vndur-yede; S. vnder-ede. K. areste, for MSS. firste. MS. xix; B. nynety. B. he pulled. 297 MS. ix nyne. 301 B. trochis. 313 tulke; B. toure. B. he pulled. 320 MS. the heuen; B. hevyn.
300	K. areste, for MSS. firste. 301 B. trochis.
308	MS. xix; B. nynety. 313 tulke; B. toure.
319	B. he pulled. 320 MS. the heuen; B. hevyn.
321	B. and to the troge of Troy he tendith for socour.
322	MS. semblen; B. semblid. MS. sorely; B. surely.
325	MS. be quene; so B.
327	B. Septelamus a noble knyght and proued yn armes; S., N. a noble
	knyght þat neuer wolde fayle (cp. l. 327).
329	MS. pat full; B. omits full.
331	MS. and demedon; B. demyn.
	Jazon; B. Josue; MS. jewe.
340	MS. godfraye; so B. MS. goderayns; B. his gedring.
	B. pat duche. 354 B. frende.
	Classic Company and the Law an

364 B. alle the pes.

357 S. pat he fayne wolde loue.

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371 S. the beryns hande. 389 B. Cassabul. 365 B. peris. 412 B. Warme-storid. 396 MS. Candore; B. Cadace. 421 B. prest. 414 MS. rawnsede; B. raunsomed. 428 B. folk. 422 MS. jugge; B. jugges were aftur. 429 Thay; B. bt. 438 B. for Sathanas. 442 MS. deightyn; B. drighten found. 446 MS. stongen; B. the stones . . . stang. 451 B. in awnter he vised. 460 MS. sythen gane full; B. of ful. 461 Not in B.; MS. looke. 464 S. aldeste; B. best yn his. 471 B. hym schame; (?) schame for sorwe; cp. S. p. 95. 481 MS. Boystone. 482 MS. Ablyot. 486 K. [athell], not in MSS. (cp. 1. 497). 497, 499, 505 MS. Wawayne; B. Ewan. 498 felde; B. folk; the latter reading is preferred by K. 502 MS. sir Wawayne swith; B. Ewan start swith. 518 MS. Jerasalem. 525 B. knyghtes. 529 MS. kynges. 542 MS. ffittilled. 534 MS. pat he; B. pat Cite he. 546 MS. Balame; B. Marchel. 548 MS. Balame: B. marcel. 549 MS. with his: B. his. 552 MS. cristened; B. halowd. 555 MS, naylede; B. was on be rode naylid. 558 MS. vnto Merchill; B. Balaam. 560 MS. borowes; B. burgh. 569 MS. sir Merchill; B. balam. 570 B. That day he dud hym to deed. S. (?) duly for wele. 577 MS. kepe it; B. haue & hald; MS. to hym and to; B. to hym and his. 588 MS. The grete. 580 MS. ix nyne. 592 B. And myngyng his materalse. 593 MS. plaunchere: B. blawcher. 594 MS. veruayle; B veryall 599 MS. hym one; B. his one. 604 Not in B. 608 MS. graythen; B. grathid. MS. kepe; B. gete. 617 MS. and now dethe. MS. boghte; B. now deth hath bem bothe. 618 MS. hir; B. his. 621 are bothe nowe bot erthe; so B. 626 K. (?) 'duchesse', for 'qwene'; the line is omitted in B. 627 MS. Candore; so B. MS. was called quene; so B. 628 MS. pasten; B. passid. 635 B. ne certayne. 640 MS. vayne and; so B. 646 MS. To; B. Go. 648 MS. And 3e pat wronge wroghte; B. & S. pat ye haue wrong wroght shall worth. 658 B. salid.

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NOTES

2-7. The conventional opening of the poem is suggestive of the Prologue of Piers the Plowman.

9-16. Cp. Le Roman de la Rose, 11. 55-80.

14. Cp. 'The throstills full throly they threpen to-gedire;' Winnere and Wastoure, 37.

21-99. The deer-stalking in this poem supplements the description of the hunting of the deer, the boar, and the fox, in Gawain and the Green Knight; cp. this passage with ll. 1328-56.

27. (?) Like thy foot was each antler, 'frayed' (i.e. rubbed) in the thickets; for 'feetur' cp. 'affeted', in the sense of 'well proportioned',

Master of the Game, ed. Baillie-Grohman, 1914.

35. when the wynde faylede, refers to the deer getting to windward of the hunter, and smelling him; when there was no wind, the stag had to watch all round.

44. 'drew up my tiller' (i.e. handle of a cross-bow), and bent the

cross-bow, viz. by putting the string into a notch.

53. I hallede to the hokes, i.e. I hauled to, pulled up the hook or trigger beneath the crossbow. 'Hoke' should probably be read for 'hokes'.

67. tached, fastened; probably the stag's head was pushed back,

so that his throat was upward, and his horns down.

80. Cp. '& be corbeles fee thay kest in a greue,' Gawain, 1355.

91. be fete of the fourche I feste thurgh the sydis, i.e. 'the feet of the haunch I fastened through the sides'. Perhaps this refers to pushing one foot through the side of the other foot. This gives something to hold by. He then heaved it, by putting his hand through

the loop.

94. fostere of the fee; i.e. (probably) 'foster in fee'; 'forester, a sworn officer of the Forest, appointed by the King's Letters Patent to walk the Forest, watching both the Vert and the Venison, attaching and presenting all Trespassers against them, within their own Bailiwick or Walk. . . . And though these Letters Patent are ordinarily granted but quamdiu se bene gesserint, yet they are granted to some and their Heirs, who are hereby called Foresters, or Foresters in Fee'. Blount, Law Dictionary, 1717. An interesting illustration of the tomb of 'a foster of fee' is given in Sir H. Dryden's Art of Hunting, by William Twici, 1843.

98. how it cheuede, i.e. how things went.

189. 'If you have caught your horse, you are anxious about no waggon-load', i.e. you only care to have a horse to ride, not for

agriculture; cp. Winnere and Wastoure, 11. 239-40.

213. And than the hawteste in haste hyghes to the towre: 'to the towre,' a technical term of falconry; Fr. tour, a turn, wheel, flight; cp. 'Shee (the hobby) is of the number of those Hawkes that are hie flying & towre Hawks,' Turberville, Booke of Falconrie, p. 53, ed. 1611. The word was probably confused with the ordinary 'tower'; cp. 'A falcon towering in her pride of place'; Macbeth, 11, iv. 12, 13.

237. cowers (B. cours); the word is perhaps an Anglicized form of Fr. cuir, familiar to readers of Middle English in the compound cuir, bouilli (i.e. boiled leather; leather soaked in hot water, and when soft, moulded or pressed into any required form), coer-buille, qwyrbolle, curbulze, etc. No instance is recorded in N. E. D. of the present word, which seems to signify leather braces for keeping on the hood. In modern Falconry 'to couple up the cowers' is 'to draw the hood', i.e. 'to draw the braces which open and close the hood behind'.

238. Lowppes in thaire lesses thorowe vertwells of siluere, i.e. varvels, or flat rings of silver, with the owner's name engraved thereon. These rings were permanently attached to the end of the jesses, and through these one end of the leash was passed, the other end being prevented from going through by a leather button. (Cp. Harting's Bibliotheca Accipitraria, pp. xx, xxi, et passim.) 'Vertwells'

probably for some word with '1', (?) 'lainers'.

262. 'this thirtene wynter', i.e. a dozen years and more, since he was about seventeen, cp. l. 133; for a similar use of 'thirtene', cp. 'threppede thorowe be thykkys thryttene sythis', Morte Arthure, 2216.

271. euerrous; this epithet occurs five times in the poem, and reminds one of 'yeuer, yeuernes, yeuerus, zyueris, zyuerus, yeverly', in the Alliterative Troy Book. The two forms are both, I think, to be referred to OE. gifre; cp. ziuernesse, Old Eng. Misc. 'Every' and 'yevery 'are found as variants in Scottish dialects; Dr. Wright (under 'aiverie' in E.D.D.) derives from 'AF. aveir Lat. habere, +y'; S. proposes to explain 'euerrous' as from the same alleged French source +ous. If, as I maintain, 'euerrous' and 'generous' are identical. they serve to differentiate the two poems in a striking manner.

300-31. The source of this account of Hector seems to have been Guido de Colonna's Hystoria Troiana; 'Dittes and Dares' (l. 331) is from Guido's prologue; cp. Allit. Troy Book (E. E. T. S.); Lydgate's Troy Book (E. E. T. S.); The Seege of Troye, ed. C. H. A. Wager, 1899.

332-404. Our author's main source for his account of Alexander was evidently the 'chanson de geste' called Vœux du Paon, by Jacques de Longuyon of Lorraine, who wrote it for Thibaut II, Duke of Lorraine (1304-12). In this poem we find the earliest enumeration of the Nine Worthies (vide Preface). A Scottish version of the poem, The Buik of the most noble & vailzand conquerour Alexander the Great, was composed in 1438, printed by Alexander Arbuthnet at Edinburgh in 1580, and

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reprinted for the Bannatyne Club in 1831 (cp. Weber's Metrical Romances, vol. i, Appendix; Ward's Catalogue of Manuscript Romances, vol. i; A. Herrmann, Ueber das Schottische Alexanderbuch, 1893).

The popularity of the stories of Alexander is referred to by Chaucer

in his 'littel tragedy' of Alexander, in The Monkes Tale.

334. be iles of the oryent to Ercules boundes: cp. Allit. Troy Book, ll. 310-15; Lydgate's Troy Book, ll. 600-4, 610-11.

335-6. 'Ther Ely and Ennoke euer hafe bene sythen,

And to the come of Antecriste vnclosede be pay neuer.' The text represents the author's words; the substitution of 'Criste' in B. for 'Antecriste' is due to a scribe's attempt to improve the original. Ely (i.e. Elijah) and Ennoke play an important part in the Antichrist legend, and many allusions to them occur in early literature; e.g. 'Quis pugnaturus est in consummacione seculi cum Anticristo? Enoch et Elias' (Adrian and Epictetus, v. Kemble's Salomon and Saturn, p. 215). Cp. W. Bousset, Der Antichrist in der Ueberlieferung des Judenthums, des neuen Testaments u. der alten Kirche (Göttingen, 1895).

Elijah and Enoch figure in the Ethiopic version of the Alexander story (cp. Dr. Budge's translations of the Syriac and Ethiopic texts); but they are not found in the ordinary Pseudo-Callisthenes. The word 'vnclosede' suggests that our author has confused Elijah and Enoch with two other important and better-known personages of the Antichrist drama, who figure most prominently in the romances of Alexander, viz. Gog and Magog, whose mention in Ezekiel is probably answerable for the traditions concerning them to be found in the East and West. Already in the Koran it is told how Dhu'lkarnein (i.e. Alexander the Great) shut them up behind inaccessible mountains, and built the Caucasian wall which the giants could neither scale nor undermine (v. chap. xviii); cp. Mandeville's Travels.

337-8. And conquered Calcas knyghtly ther-aftire,

Ther jentille Jazon be [Gr]ewe (MS. Jewe) wane be flese of golde;

[B. 'There jentill Josue be Jewe wan be slevis of gold.']
I am inclined to think that 'Jewe' of the MSS. is a scribal error for 'Grewe' (i.e. Greek); the emendation relieves the author of a gross error, and at the same time restores the alliterative effect to the line.

I no longer suggest that our author may have read a version of the story in which Jason (or Joshua), and not (as in Josephus) Jaddus or Jaddua, was the name of the high-priest of Jerusalem who received Alexander the Great with so much honour, and confused him with Jason who won the Golden Fleece at Colchis.

347. the mody Meneduse, a mane of Artage: probably 'Emenidus of Arcadia' (in the Scottish version 'de Archarde'), the slayer of

Gadifer the elder, referred to previously, l. 342.

355. one Carrus the kynge was comen owte of Inde, i.e. 'Clar-

vus li vndois' of the French romance.

356. Fozome, i.e. 'Fezome', or 'Fezonas', the sister of Gadifer's

sons, Gadifer the younger and Betis (in the next line 'Fozonase' in A., 'ffezonas' in B.). Their town was 'Phezon' (or 'Epheson'), here 'Fozayne'; 'Fesome,' 354.

360. Facron (?) = 'Phuron' (as in the Veux du Paon).

364. Idores and Edease, i.e. 'Edée et Ydorus filles Antigonier.'

365. And there sir Porus and his prynces to the poo avowede, i.e. made their vows upon the peacock, which Porrus had shot; and Cassamus called upon the knights to make their vows when it was served up at table. (This forms the subject of Part II of Vœux du Paon; Part III deals with the accomplishment of the vows.)

370. the bolde Bawderayne, i.e. 'Cassiel li baudrains,' king of

Bauderis or Media.

377. sir Cassamus, the kene, Carrus releues: 'Carus' (as in ll. 355, 379) instead of 'Clarus'; Cassamus swore that if the Greeks won the battle, and he saw Clarus on foot and at disadvantage, he would relieve and remount him for the sake of Porrus, his son.

389. The bolde Bawderayne of Baderose, sir Cassayle hymseluen: Cassiel is always referred to in the romance as 'li baudrains' or 'the baderane', i.e. a person of Baderis; evidently the origin of the name was lost sight of; hence 'the Bawderayne of Baderose' (i.e.

Baderis); cp. note, l. 370.

405-20. Thane sir Sezere hym-seluen that Julyus was hatten, etc. Compared with the account of Julius Caesar given in the Vœux du Paon, these lines are noteworthy for the prominence they give to Caesar's connexion with Britain, and the traditions relating to his foundation of the Tower of London and Dover Castle. The reference to the former tradition is, as Koelbing pointed out, found in the oldest MS. of the metrical Chronicle of England (c. 1324); cp. Stern-

berg, Eng. Stud. xviii.

407. When the Bruyte in his booke Bretayne it callede, i.e. when the Brut, or Chronicle of British history, in its book called England 'Britain'. 'Bruyte' = a chronicle of British history from the mythical Brutus downwards, and referred originally to such works as Geoffrey of Monmouth's Brut, Le Roman de Brut of Wace, or Layamon's Brut. According to Mr. Gwenogvryn Evans (Academy, No. 1035, p. 233), the transferred sense of Latin Brutus, French and Welsh Brut = historia, chronica, arose towards the end of the twelfth century. The words 'when the Bruyte in his booke Bretayne it callede' look like a mere amplification of the French original of the words 'all that was callit Bertane than' (Væux du Paon), and probably do not refer directly to Layamon's Brut, though a full account of Caesar's defeat of Cassibelan is to be found there; cp. also Ueber eine versificire mittelenglische Chronik, R. Sternberg, Englische Studien, xviii, pp. 375-6.

413. there es hony in that holde holden sythen his tyme. The following passage in Lambarde's Perambulation of Kent throws light on the otherwise obscure meaning of the line: 'The Castle at Dover (say Lydgate and Rosse) was first builded by Julius Cæsar, the Romane

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Emperour, in memorie of whome they of the Castell kept till this day certene vessels of old wine and salts, which they affirm to be the remaine of such provision as he brought unto it. As touching the which (if they be naturall and not sophisticate) I suppose them more likely to have been of that store which Hubert de Burgh laid in there.'

423-5. Our author has not improved on his original in amplifying

the simple reference to 'the Old Testament'.

The writer certainly did not read of Joshua and Judas Maccabeus in 'Regum', though the statement was true as far as David is concerned, for 1 and 2 Samuel were formerly called 1 and 2 Kings (cp.

Piers Plowman, B. iii. 257).

426-41. The firste was gentill Josue pat was a Jewe noble, etc. The crossing of the Jordan is curiously blended with the crossing of the Red Sea, and to Joshua is assigned the rôle of Moses. The Hebrew Joshua is the same as the Greek Jesus, and Joshua is called Jesus in Acts vii. 45, Hebrews iv. 8. Joshua, the Leader of the Israelites to the promised land, was taken to be a type of Jesus the Leader of the faithful to the promised salvation:—

'Io vidi per la croce un lume tratto del nomar Josuè, com' ei si feo,

nè mi fu noto il dir prima che'l fatto.'

Paradiso, xviii, ll. 37-9.

442-53. Than Dauid the doughty, thurghe D[r]ightyn[es] sonde, etc. Our author adds to the few lines in the Vœux du Paon a reference to the story of David's treachery towards Uriah, as a sort of protest to the unqualified praise there given; cp. 'he was ouer all sa wele doand' (The Avowis of Alexander).

444. Golyas, the regular mediaeval form of the Philistine's name, hence the buffoon Bishop Golias of the 'Apocalypsis Golia' (whence E. goliardeys; Fr. goliardois; Lat. goliardus, goliardensis, etc.).

451. For Vrye his awnn knyghte in aventure he wysede. The present lines recall Langland's striking reference:

'Al-so Marie Magdelene ho myghte do worsse
As in lykynge of lecherye no lyf denyede?
And Dauid the douhty that deuynede how Vrye
Mighte slilokeste be slayn and sente hym to werre
Leelliche as by hus lok with a lettere of gyle...

Now beeth these seintes, as men seyen and souereynes in heuene; (c. xii. 263-9).

453. For Bersabee his awnn birde: the ordinary form of the name in Middle English; cp. Wyclif's Bible, 2 Kings (= 2 Sam. A. V.) xi. 3: 'Than Dauid sente, and asserchede, what was the womman; and it is toold to hym, that she was Bersabee, the dougter of Elyam, the wijf of Vrye Ethei.' The form of the name is ultimately derived from the Septuagint, where $\beta\eta\rho\sigma\alpha\beta\epsilon\epsilon$ occurs for 'Bath-sheba' or 'Bath-shua'.

454-61. The gentill Judas Machabee: the poet has added nothing

to the brief account given in the Vœux du Paon.

456. Antiochus: Chaucer makes Antiochus the subject of one of

his 'tragedies' in The Monkes Tale.

464-512. Areste was sir Arthure, etc.: the writer has amplified his original, which deals mainly with Arthur's encounter with the giant on Mount Michael, by adding a summary account of Arthur's passing. In the MS. Wawayne (i.e. Gawain) takes the place of Sir Bedwere (ll. 497, 499, 502, 505), but it is clear from the alliterative structure of the line that Wawayne is a scribal error for a knight whose name begins with a vowel, and probably Text B. preserves the correct reading, viz. 'Ewan' (a scribal modification of 'Ewayne'). Possibly the poet had some authority for making 'Ewayne, le fyse de roy Vryence', the companion of Arthur before his passing away; on the other hand the error may have been due to ignorance of the romances (in the French prose Lancelot Girflet acts the part of Bedwere). Ewayne and Gawayne were cousins and great friends, the latter sharing the former's banishment when Arthur suspected him of being party to the plots of his mother Morgan. In British romance no knight occupies a more conspicuous position than Owain ab Urien Rheged. The Welsh story of 'The Lady of the Fountain' (Lady Guest's Mabinogion, vol. i); the English romance of 'Ywain and Gawain' (ed. Ritson, 1802; G. Schleich, Oppeln, 1887); Hartmann von Aue's Iwein; the Icelandic 'Ivens Saga' (Kölbing's Riddarasögur, pp. 75-136); the Swedish 'Herr Ivan Lejon-Riddaren' (Svenska Fornskrift-Sällskapet, 1845-9); all these versions are for the most part derived from the Chevalier au Lyon by Chrestien de Troyes. The account deviates from the account given in the Morte d'Arthur, and from all the various versions considered in connexion therewith (cp. Sommer's Le Morte Darthur, vol. iii, pp. 265-78, etc.).

481. [R]oystone: so in Vaux du Paon the name of the giant is 'Ruston'. M. Paul Meyer has the following note on the form: 'Il faut lire Riton ou Rithon au lieu de Ruston. Il s'agit du géant Ritho dont Geoffroi de Monmouth (x. 3) raconte la défaite, et qui figure dans divers romans postérieurs. L'histoire du géant du Mont-Saint-Michel est racontée par Geoffroi de Monmouth dans le même chapitre.'

In Morte Darthur (Book I. xxvii) the story is told of 'Kynge Ryons' who had 'purfyled a mantel with kynges berdes and there lacked one place of the mantel', etc.; in I. xvii we have 'Ryence'; in the Avowis of Alexander 'Rostrik'; cp. W. Förster, Zeitschrift für rom. Phil. I. p. 91.

487. Vppon Sayn Michaells mounte meruaylles he wroghte,

etc.; cp. Morte Darthur, Book V.

488. There a dragone he dreped: not a dragon, but a giant; cp. Alliterative Morte Arthur, ll. 840 ff.; so Malory. The dragon is only

seen in a dream.

513-19. Sir Godfraye de Bolenn, etc.: it is difficult to understand why Godfrey precedes Charlemagne, unless it is due to the author's utter ignorance of chronology; his knowledge of the last of the Nine Worthies is certainly vague, nor has he clearly understood the six lines

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of his original; the historical Godfrey was not as attractive to the fourteenth-century poet as the legendary Charlemagne and Arthur; he was much too modern. William of Tyre's history of the First Crusade belongs to about 1170, and became the source of the accounts of Godfrey's achievements (cp. Caxton's Godfrey of Boloyne, or Last Siege of Jerusalem, ed. Dr. Mary N. Colvin, E. E. T. S., Extra Series, lxiv; Caxton's preface is especially noteworthy).

514. Romanye; cp. Caxton: 'In this tyme cam tydynges fro Rome that doubled theyr sorow and anguysshis'; 'Rome' = 'Romanye' (in the French, 'Roumanie'), derived from William of Tyre's 'in partibus Romaniæ', by which phrase he indicates the country between Con-

stantinople and Antioch.

516. Corborant: generally called 'Corbaran' in the French poems on the crusades; properly, 'Kerbogha', Sultan of Aleppo; in the

History of Godfrey he is named 'Corbagat'.

517. And aftir he was callede kynge, etc. William of Tyre tells how Godfrey refused to be called 'King of Jerusalem', not wishing to wear a crown of gold in that city where his Saviour had been crowned with thorns. Baldwin, his brother, who succeeded him within two years, styled himself 'Rex Hierusalem, Latinorum Primus'.

520-83. The account of Charlemagne falls broadly into five divisions: (i) an enumeration of 'the doghty doussypers'; (ii) the war with the Saxons; (iii) Oliver's fight with Ferumbras; (iv) the disaster at Roncesvalles; (v) the siege of Narbonne, and the death of Charles. Our author can hardly have derived his story from any one source, and there are many curious elements in the passage elaborated from

the few lines on Charlemagne in Les Vœux du Paon.

(i) Lines 522-9. The list of the peers does not coincide with that given in any of the French or English romances (v. Histoire poétique de Charlemagne, par Gaston Paris, p. 507; Sir Ferumbras, edited by Sidney J. Herrtage, p. 193; The Sowdone of Babylone, ed. E. Hausknecht (E. E. T. S.), p. xxvii. 'The Katur fitz Emowntez' (i.e. the Four Sons of Aymon) count together as one, so that the number may not exceed twelve, but several lists give sixteen or even more 'barons of themperour Charles and pyeres of Fraunce'. Eight of the names enumerated in the present list are identical with those given in Ferumbras, viz. Roland, Oliver, Aubry, Ogere Deauneys (i.e. Ogier of Denmark), Naymes of Bavaria, Terry (i.e. Thierry), Berarde de Moundres (i.e. Berarde of Montdidier), Gy de Burgoyne (i.e. Guy of Burgundy). Raynere of Jene (i.e. Reyner of Genoa), the father of Oliver, figures in Ferumbras, but not as one of the douzeperes; Turpyn, Sampsonne (i.e. Samson of Burgundy, frequently mentioned in the lists), and 'the Katur fitz Emowntez' are not found there at all. Turpin, the knight-bishop of the romances, has an important place in the poem of Aspremont, in the Enfances Ogier. According to the Chanson de Roland, he met his death at Roncesvaux, and this narrative our author follows (vide 1. 565). The Chronicle of Turpin makes him survive the battle. 'Terry and Turpyn' are mentioned together among the

douzeperes in the fragmentary English Song of Roland (ed. S. J. Herr-

tage, 'The Sege of Melayne', etc., E. E. T. S., pp. 105-36).

(ii) Lines 531-40 evidently epitomize the struggle between Charles and the Saxons which is the subject of Jean Bodel's Chanson des Saxons (ed. Francisque Michel). The introduction of Salamadyne the Sowdane looks, however, like a confusion of Charlemagne with Godefroy of Bouillon, unless the familiar name is substituted for 'Agoulant' of Les Vœux du Paon. 'Polborne' (Text B. Puerne) is a crux; perhaps it is a corruption of 'Paderborn', where Charles held his great Champ-de-Mai, and which was certainly the most important spot in the struggles between the Franks and Saxons. The word recalls the equally difficult place-name 'Belferne' in the Chanson de Roland (stanza lxx, vide L. Gautier's last edition): 'Reis Almaris, de le regne de Belferne', where Belferne is glossed 'nom de royaume paien (?)'; in the English Roland, Amaris is described as 'a prince of Portingall'.

536. Witthyne; Text B. 'Wyghtelyne'; = Guitelin (v. Chanson des Saxons) or Guitechin = Witikind or Widukind, the great Saxon leader, the hero of the Saxon wars against Charles, 'the Second Arminius of Germany'. I know no other record of the name in

Early English literature.

539-40. I cannot discover whence the poet derived 'dame Naoles' as the name of the wife, and 'Maundevyle' as the name of her lover. In the *Chanson des Saxons* and other versions the lady's name is Sibile, and her lover is Baudouin, Roland's brother; their story forms

an important part of the Chanson.

(iii) Lines 541-57. This condensation of the Romance of Ferumbras is remarkable for the introduction of 'Merchel' (i.e. 'Marsile', the pagan hero of Roland) instead of 'Balan' (as he is called in the French, Provençal, and English versions of Syr Ferumbras), or 'Laban' (cp. The Sowdone of Babylone); the correction, it is true, has been made in the text, but the alliteration of the line reveals the poet's error. 'Balan' was the father of Ferumbras; 'Marsile', the uncle of Ferragus. The former figures in the Ferumbras cycle; the latter in the Roland poems. No Charlemagne romance seems to have been more popular in England than 'the Romanys of worthi Ferambrace', wherewith it will be remembered 'the gud king' Bruce comforted his men, 'and maid thaim gamyn and solace' (cp. Barbour's Bruce, ed. Skeat, III, 435-66).

542. Flagott, i.e. Flagot, the Spanish river on which are situated the cities of Mantrible, or Mauntrible, here called 'Mawltriple', and Agremour, or Egremour, here 'Egremorte' ('Aigremont' Ferumbras). The Romance tells how when the twelve peers besieged in Agremar send Richard of Normandy to Charlemagne to ask his aid, Richard starts in the direction of Mantrible, but finding the bridge blocked up and guarded, he is obliged to swim across the water. Charlemagne, hearing of the distress of his peers, starts towards Mantrible, and then continues his march against the soudan at Agremar (cp. The Sowdone

of Babylone; Sir Ferumbras, etc.).

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545. And than they fologhed hym in a fonte, and Florence hym callede; cp.

'pan was cristned sir Firumbras, a man of gret deffens, Ys name ther y-chaunged was, & was ihote Florens, Ac poz me tornde par ys name, as pe manere was,

Euere 3ut after a baar be same, & men cliped him Firumbras, (Sir Ferumbras, 11. 1086-9.)

551. And one swyftely, i.e. Sir Ogier.

555. [put]; cp. 'Prow Pylat pyned he was, & put on be rode', Sege of Jerusalem, 8.

557. And at Sayne Denys, etc.

Cp. 'Karlemaines s'en va au moustier Saint Denis;
Là manda arcevesques, evesques benéis,
Les reliques lor monstre Damedieu Jesu Cris.'

(Vide Sir Ferumbras, p. 188, l. 6076.)

The French Romance goes on to say that within three years came the treachery of Gwenelon:

'Ne tarda que iii. ans qu'Espaigne fu gastée; Là fu la traïsons de Rollant pourparlée.'

duellyd there for euer: better, 'and [they] duelled there', etc. (iv) Lines 558-70. This summary account of Genelon's treachery, and the battle of 'Rowncyuale', was evidently suggested by the closing lines of Sir Ferumbras (quoted above). 'Balame' (ll. 558, 569) is the poet's error for 'Merchel', to which it has been changed by some one better acquainted with the details of the story; the alliteration, however, has preserved the error.

561. Genyone: B. 'Golyan'; in Soudone of Babylone the form is

'Genelyn'; in the English Roland 'Gwynylon'.

As far as the form in Text A. is concerned, it is noteworthy that the Latin 'Battle of Roncevaux' (vide Appendix to La Chanson de Roland, ed. Francisque Michel) gives the name as 'Gueno', the colophon reading 'Explicit de tradicione guenonis'. But perhaps 'Genyone' is merely a verbal error for 'Genylone'.

562. Rowncyuale: the regular English form of 'Roncesvalles'.
569. According to the *Chanson de Roland*, Marsile (here 'Balame')
was fatally wounded by Roland a few moments before his own death.

(v) Lines 571-7. Emorye made Emperour, euen at that tyme, etc. Our author here alludes to 'Aimeri de Narbonne', whose story belongs to the cycle of Guillaume d'Orange, who saved Narbonne from the Saracens in 793 (cp. Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the Department of Manuscripts in the British Museum, vol. i, pp. 632-63; also Aymeri de Narbonne, and La Mort Aymeri de Narbonne, Société des Anciens Textes français).

577. To [haue] and to holde it; cp. 'be fairest of Grece | To haue

and to hold', Troy Book, 2415.

586. Arestotle he was arste in Alexander tyme, etc.: the reference is obviously to the famous, though spurious, Secretum

Secretorum Aristotelis, addressed under the name of Aristotle to his

pupil Alexander the Great.

The greater part of Hoccleve's De Regimine Principum is from this work; and Chaucer, in his Chanouns Yemannes Tale, refers to 'the secree of secrees'; cp. Secrees of old Philisoffres (E. E. T. S., 1894).

594. Then Virgill, thurgh his vertus, ver[r]ayle he maket Bodyes of brighte brasse full boldely to speke, etc.

The reference is to the story in the Latin Gesta Romanorum telling how Virgil, the enchanter, placed a magical image in the middle of Rome, which communicated to the Emperor Titus all the secret offences committed every day in the city. Among the many allusions to Virgil's magical powers perhaps the most interesting in English literature are Gower's story of the Magic Mirrors (Confessio Amantis, book v; cp. also book viii); the ninth tale of The Seuen Sages (Weber's Metrical Romances, vol. iii); the black-letter romance of Virgilius, printed at Antwerp in the year 1510; Lydgate's reference in Tragedies of Bochas, book ix, ch. i, st. 4. (The chief work dealing with 'Virgil in the Middle Ages' is Comparetti's; English trans., Sonnenschein.)

599-605. Than sir Salomon, etc.: the poet refers to (i) the apocryphal Book of Wisdom, and (ii) Ecclesiasticus; these books, attributed to Solomon, were in the Middle Ages better known than Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, the former probably owing to its allegorical interpretation; cp. St. Augustine, De Trin. vii. 3 'Cum pronunciatur in Scriptura aut enarratur aliquid de Sapientia sive dicente ipsa sive

cum de illa dicitur, Filius nobis potissimum insinuatur'.

599. by hy[e] one: this reading of B. gives the idiomatic form of the genitive with 'one', i.e. 'by himself alone'; cp. 'to kayre al his one', Gawain, 1048; 'we bot oure one', ibid., 1230, 2245.

608. And graythe[d] Galyan (B. Golyan) a boure to [gete] hir

per-in,
That no wy scholde hir wielde ne wynne from hymseluen;

'Golyan' or 'Galyan' = 'Viviane' or 'Vivien', Lady of the Lake; the original form of the name seems to have been Ninian, transformed by scribes to Niuian, Niuienne, Viuienne; Malory calls her

Nymue or Nyneue.

The allusion to Vivien in connexion with Merlin's 'wit' is at first sight not altogether happy, for it recalls the weird scene in 'the deep forest glades of Broceliande', where 'the woman's wit triumphed over the sage's wisdom', and Vivien, turning Merlin's craft against himself, 'graythed a bour' for the great Enchanter to keep him there imprisoned, 'lost to life, and use, and name, and fame'.

Our author, however, alludes to an episode in the story of Merlin not found in Malory's account of the Vivien incident (book iv, ch. i). The explanation of the passage is to be found in the French Suite de Merlin (vide Sommer, vol. iii), where it is narrated that Merlin builds by the 'lac de Dyane' a palace so rich and beautiful that no king nor

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prince, 'en toute la petite Bretaigne', could boast of possessing the like. Merlin by enchantment renders the palace invisible, so that no one who does not belong to Niviene's 'maisnie' can see it. He stays there with Niviene for a long time, and while he loves her best of all the world she hates him; she would fain be rid of him, but knows not how, he is so wise (ibid., p. 118).

614. Amadase and Edoyne (B. 'Amadas & Ydoyne') are frequently referred to, in company with Tristram and Isoude, as the embodiments of ideal love, and as the subject of popular romances of the time; cp. Cursor Mundi, 1-20; Luue Run, Old English Miscellany,

p. 95; E. E. T. S. (v. Appendix).

The fullest allusion occurs in the romance of *Emare* (cp. Ritson's *Metrical Romances*, vol. ii), where a beautiful description is given of a piece of cloth made by the daughter of the Amerayle of the Saracens, presented by the King of Cesyle to the Emperor Aetyus; thereupon were portrayed the love-stories of Idoyne and Amadas, Tristram and Isowde, Florys and Blauncheflour, and others.

Similar references are to be found in Gower's Confessio Amantis (book vi, l. 879); in the romance of Sir Degrevant (l. 1478; v. The Thornton Romances, ed. J. O. Halliwell, Camden Society, 1844), etc.

Probably no English version was ever made of the love-story of Idoyne and Amadas, though we have two variants of a romance of Sir Amadace (vide Weber's Metrical Romances, vol. iii, and Robson's Three Metrical Romances, Camden Society, 1842), but this is merely a fantastic tale of quixotic adventure, without any elements of romantic love. Idoyne is not even mentioned therein. The old French romance of the lovers is extant (cp. Amadas et Ydoine, ed. Hippeau, 1863; Hist. Litt. xxii; Romania, xviii; Gaston Paris, 'Sur Amadas et Idoine,' An English Miscellany, Oxford, 1901; Larmine's West Irish Tales). The romance was among the books bequeathed by Guy Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, to the Abbey of Bordesley in Worcestershire (cp. Todd's Illustrations to Chaucer and Gower, p. 161).

617. Dalyda (for 'Dalilah'), the ordinary mediaeval form of the name, was originally a Greek formation, due to analogy with words ending in ιδα; the form is found in the Septuagint (Roger Bacon already alludes to the error, and explains it in his Compendium Studii;

vide Rolls edition).

618. The romance of Sir Ipomedon, son of Hermogenes, King of Apulia, tells the chivalrous adventures of the hero before he wins the daughter of the Duke of Calabria for his wife. The name of the lady is not given in the English version, which is merely an abridgement from the French original, written about 1185 by Hue de Rotelande, a poet living at Credenhill, near Hereford, a contemporary of Walter Map, who (according to a passage at the end of Part I of the poem) excelled the author in the art of lying:

'Sul ne sai pas de mentir l'art, Walter map reset ben sa part.'

Throughout the romance the young Duchess of Calabria is called

'la fière pucelle', or 'La Fière'; hence 'be faire Fere' of the text (vide Ward's Catalogue of Romances in the MS. Department of the British Museum, vol. i, pp. 728-57; Wright's Biographia Britannica Literaria, Anglo-Norman Period, pp. 338-40; Ipomedon, in drei englischen Bearbeitungen, E. Kölbing, Breslau, 1889).

620. Generides be gentill, full joly in his tyme, And Clarionas bat was so clere, etc.

The English versions of the romance of Sir Generydes belong to about the middle of the fifteenth century; the French original is lost. The same fate has befallen a Latin translation which was made from the French by 'a clerk at Hertford'. An English version of the tale was printed in the sixteenth century, but only a few mutilated fragments of the edition are known to exist'; cp. Generydes; a Romance in Seven-line Stanzas, edited by W. A. Wright; Sir Generides, ed. Furnivall, Roxburghe Club; O. Zirwer, Untersuchungen zu den

beiden Generidesromanzen, Breslau, 1889.

622. Sir Eglamour of Artas, full euerous in armes. English metrical romance of Sir Eglamour of Artois was first printed by J. O. Halliwell in The Thornton Romances, from a Cambridge MS.; Ellis gave a full abstract in Specimens of Early Metrical Romances. It occurs also in the Percy Folio (cp. vol. ii, pp. 338-89). The romance relates how Eglamour loved 'Cristabella', the daughter of his lord, the Earl of 'Artas'; how she was delivered of a boy while her lover was absent on an expedition; how she and her child were turned adrift in a boat; how the child was carried away by a 'gryppe'; how, after a lapse of years, the son was nearly married to his mother; and how, eventually, he and his parents were happily united (cf. Ward's Cat. of Romances, Brit. Mus., vol. i, pp. 766-7). The MSS. of Sir Eglamour are later than the end of the fourteenth century, or all events not earlier (cp. Englische Studien, vii, pp. 191 ff.). Its source is so far unknown; a French original has not been discovered. The poem is closely related to the romance of Torrent of Portugal (the only MS. of which belongs to the fifteenth century); cp. E. E. T. S., 1887; Zielke, Zu Sir Eglamour, Kiel, 1889; Schleich. Archiv xcii.

Sir Eglamour was printed at Edinburgh by Walter Chepman and Andro Myllar, under the title of Sir Glamor, 1508, and subsequently at London by Copland and Walley (cp. Hazlitt's Handbook to Early English Literature, p. 177). In Archiv xcv J. Hall printed a fragment

of an edition by Bankes.

624. And sir Tristrem the trewe, etc.; cp. Note, 1. 614. The most valuable of modern editions of Sir Tristrem is E. Kölbing's (Heilbronn, 1882).

629. Gaynore, i.e. Guinevere; cp. Wenore, Gaw. and Gr. Kn., 945.

643. Cp. Piers Plowman, C. xxi. 153. 665. B. 'of oure mysse.' The rhyme is obviously an 'improvement' not due to the original writer of the poem.

GLOSSARY

anober, another thing, otherwise, a, v. an. abashede, pt. 3s. discomfited, 484; OE. an + očer. 369; AF. abaïss-, lengthened stem any, 37; OE. ænig. of OF. esbahir. appon, upon, 10; vppon, 487; aboute, 76; abowte, 46; OE. OE. uppan. araye, n. attire, 107; AF. arai. onbūtan. abydes, v. habyde. arayed, prepared, 346; AF. adversarye, 311; OF. adversier. arayer. ardaunt, ardent, inflammable, affrayede, attacked, 356; AF. 590; OF. ardant. afrayer. aftire, 63; OE. æfter. are, before, 283; OE. ær. agayne, 437; OE. ongegn. are, v. bene. age, 164; OF. aage. areste, first, 464; OE. ærest. agreed, 358; OF. agréer. armes, arms, 113; OE. earm. aldeste, v. olde. armes, deeds of arms, 171; OF. alle, adj., all, 49; adv., 26; OE. armes. arsneke, arsenic, 590; OF. areall. als, as, 3; as, 5; OE. alswa. senik. also, 167; OE. alswā. arte, v. bene. am, v. bene. as, v. als. amatistes, amethysts, 127; OF. asegede, v. asseggede. askes, requires, 240; pt. 3 s. amatiste. Amen, 665; L. āmēn. askede, 160; OE. ascian. amende, pr. 3 s. subj. reform, 665; assaye, trial of grease of a deer, imp. pl. amendes, 641; OF. 70; OF. assai. amender. assayllede, 397; OF. asaillir. ames, pr. 3 s. resolves, 384; OPic. asseggede, pt. 3 s. besieged, 574; pl. assegede, 303; pp. asegede, 356; OF. asegier. amorelle, emir, 515; OF. amiral; assemblet, 340; OF. assembler. Arab. amīr-al-mā, commander of the sea. assentis, yields, complies, 63; an, indef. art. 84: ane, 5, 25; a, OF. assenter. assommet, pp. elevated, (?) full-4; OE. an. and, 2; if, 106, 189; OE. and. grown, 31; OF. assommer. angels, 215; at, 5; OE. æt. angelles, athell, noble, 345; OE. æ8ele. angele. angrye, 163; ON. angr + -y. athes, conjures, 499; OE. *æšan; anone, straightway, 74; OE. on cp. ab. attyrede, 169; OF. atirier. ān.

aughte, obtained, possessed, 392, 406; OE. āgan, āhte.

aughtilde, intended, 483; cp. ON. ætla, from *ahtila; cp. OE. eahtian.

auntirs, pr. 3s. ventures, 375; pt. 3s. aunterde, 543; OF. aventurer.

auntlers, antlers, 28; OF. antoillier; late L. *ant(e)oculārem.

aventure, adventure, 451; auntoure, 317; OF. aventure.

a-vowe, pr. 1s. vow, 178; pp. avowede, 204; pt. 3 pl. made vows, 365; OF. avouer.

a-waye, 504; OE. aweg. awnn, own, 392; OE. agen.

axe, 374; OE. æx.

axles, pl. shoulders, 113; OE. eaxl.

ay, ever, 564; ON. ei. ayers, heirs, 577; OF. eir, heir.

aythere, each of the two, 28, 456; ayther, 512; OE. æghwæčer.

babirlippede, large lipped, 158; cp. F. babine, lip of a horse; OE. lippe.

bade, pt. 3s. asked, 390; commanded, 559; OE. biddan.

bagge, money-bag, 139; ON. baggi.

bakke, 200; bake, 272; one b., aback, 369; OE. bæc.

bale, mischief, 453; OE. bealu. balghe, rounded, swelling, thick, 112; OE. belg, bælg, a bag.

balkede, stopped short, 56; OE. balca, n.

ballede, bald, 158; cp. Welsh bal, having a white streak on the forehead.

banke, 7; ON. *banki, bakki. bare, pt. 3s. bore, 369; bere, 439, 504; OE. beran.

be, v. bene, by.

be-dagged, covered with mud, 245; ON. döggva; Sw. dagga, to bedew.

bedis, beads, 153; OE. (ge)bed.
be-gynn, 72; OE. beginnan.
belde, built, 662; OE. *byldan, pp. gebyld.

belo, beautiful, 390; OF. bel. bellys, bells, 214; OE. belle. be-lyue, quickly, 416; by-lyue,

505; ME. bi life.
beme, the main trunk of a stag's
horn which bears the antlers,
26; OE. beam.

bende, stretched, 43; OE. bendan.

bene, inf. be, 604; pr. 1s. am, 650; 2s. arte, 185; 3s. es, 177; pl. are, 614; bene, 263; ben, 245; be (with future significance), 336; 2s. subj. 258; pt. s. was, 16; pl. were, 13; 3s. subj. 129, 199, 433, 566; pp. bene, 49; OE. bēon.

benefetis, benefits, profits, 143; AF. benfet.

benes, requests, 143; OE. bēn. beralles, beryls, 123; OF. beril. berde, beard, 156; pl. berdes, 482; OE. beard.

bere, v. bare.

berselett, hound, 39, 69; OF. berseret; med.L. bersare, to hunt. beryn, warrior, man, 110; beryne, 153; pl. beryns, 509; OE. beorn.

besanttes, bezants, coins, 123; OF. besan, from L. Byzantium.

beste, v. gud. be-syde, beside, 24; OE. be

sīdan.
bette, inf. beat, 560; pr. 3 pl.
betvn 224; nt 3 s bett 569;

betyn, 224; pt. 3s. bett, 569; OE. beatan. bettir, v. gud.

be-tryde, inf. happen, 596; pp. be-tydde, 596; OE. be+tīdan. betyn, v. bette.

GLOSSARY

bewes, bends his way, 395; bowes, 370; pt. 3 pl. bewede, bowed, bent, 490; OE. bugan. bewes, boughs, 662; OE. boh. Bible, 424; OF. bible. bill, 228; OE. bile. birche, 39; OE. bierce. birde, lady, 390, 453; (?) OE. byrde, noble, rich. bitt, cutting edge, 228; OE. bite. bitterly, fiercely, 228; OE. biterlīce. blake, black, 153; OE. blæc. blanchede, v. blawnchede. blaste, blowing, 593; OE. blæst. [b]launchere, blancher, 593; OF. blanchier. blawnchede, pt. 3 s. blanched, 285; pp. blanchede, 156; OF. blanchir. blethely, blithely, merrily, 214; OE. blive + -ly. blode, blood, 55; OE. blod. blody, bloodily, with blood, 62; OE. blodig. blonke, (white) horse, 110; OE. blanca, white; cp. ON. blakkr, steed. blossoms, pl. 11; OE. blostm. blowen, pp. 656; OE. blawan. blynde, 158; OE. blind. blyot, tunic, 482; OF. bliaut; med.L. blialdus, bliaudus. blysse, 664; OE. blīps. bodworde, message, 558; OE. bod + word. body, 22; pl. bodyes, 595; OE. bodig. bogle, bugle, 656; OF. bugle. bolde, 110; OM. bald. boldly, 558; boldely, 595; OM. bald + -ly. bole, tree-trunk, 39; ON. bolr. bondemen, serfs, 143; OE, bonda + mann. bone, 80: OE, ban. booke, 407; OE. boc. borely, large, strong, 26; stately,

tall, 32; (?) OE. *būrlīc, fit for a bower, handsome. bosome, 139; OE. bosm. bot, but, 34; unless, 289; except, 165, 498; only, 187; OE. butan. bote, boat, 509; OE. bat. bothe, 22; bothen, 13, 276; ON. bāðir. boundes, pl. limits, 334; OF. bone, bune; AF. bounde. boure, bower, 608; OE. bur. bowe, 22; OE. boga. bowells, 69; OF. bouel. bowes, v. bewes. bownn, ready, 153; bownne, 110; ON. būinn. bownnes, pr. 3 s. prepares, 265; pt. 1 s. bownede, 43; from ON. būinn, adj. brakans, brackens, 62; cp. Sw. bräken. brande, sword, 371; OE. brand. brasse, 595; OE. bræs. braste, pt. 3s. burst, 55; 3pl. brosten, 231; ON. bresta; OE. berstan. braunches, pl. branches, 11; OF. branche. brawndeschet, brandished, 504; OF. brandiss-, lengthened stem of brandir. brayde, pt. s. wrenched, 69, 371; pp. brayden, plaited, 131; OE. bregdan. brayed, cried out, 56; OF. braire. bravne, 446; OE. brægn. breke, inf. break, 41; pr. 3 pl. brekyn, 231; OE. brecan. brenn, inf. burn, 560; pp. brente, burnished, 131; ON. brenna. breris, briars, 62; OAngl. brer. breste, 112; OE. breost. breues, narrates, 424; ON. brēfa; med.L. breviāre. bride, 482; OE. bryd. bridell, 131; brydell, 191; OE. brīdell. brighte, 214; OE. beorht.

brode, broad, 32; adv. 51; n. breadth, 71; OE. brad. broghte, v. brynges.

brosten, v. brast.

browes, 156; OE. brū.

bruschede, rushed with force, 56; OF. brosser.

Bruyte, the Brut, a chronicle of British history, 407; v. Note.

brydell, v. bridell.

bryme, water, stream; b. syde, the side of a brook, 7; OE. brymme.

brynges, pr. 3 pl. bring, 224; pt. 3 s. broghte, 401; OE. bringan. buffetyn, pr. 3 pl. buffet, 224; OF. buffet, n.

bullokes, 191; OE. bulluc.

burghe, castle, city, 569; OE. burh.

burgons, pl.buds, 11; OF. burjon. buskede, arrayed, 22; ON. būask. by, 19, 571; be, 7, 164, 183, 195; OE. bī, be.

by-cause, 396; OE. bi + OF. cause.

by-come, inf. become, 559; pp. by-comen, come, 507; OE. becuman.

byde, remain, 654; OE. bīdan.
by-dene, straightway, 364; (?)
OE. bi dēn(e), pp. of don
(Skeat).

bye, inf. buy, 147; imp. s. 190; OE. bycgan.

by-fore, in front, 75; OE. beforan.

by-hete, pr. 1s. promise, 178, OE. behātan, behēt.

by-hynde, 54; OE. bihindan. by-luffede, pp. beloved, 274; OE.

by-lyue, v. be-lyue.

bi + lufian.

by-ronnen, pp. overrun, covered, 62; OE. berinnan.

by-segede, besieged, 397; OE. be-+aphetic form of OF. asegier. by-soughte, 357; OE. be+secan.

by-weuede, bedecked, 122; OE. bewæfan.

cache, inf. catch, 33; pt. 3 pl. caughten, took, 362; pp. caughte, 443; ONF. cachier.

callen, pr. 3 pl. call, 425; pt. 3 pl. callede, 151; ON. kalla. calsydoynnes, chalcedonies, 124;

L. c(h)alcedonius. caprons, hoods, 212, 237; OF.

capron. cares, pr. 2 s. 189; pt. 3 s. carede,

165; OE. carian.

carolles, 254; OF. carole. carpe, inf. speak, 462; ON. karpa. carpynge, n. talk, 168; ON.

karpa + -ing. castelle, 411; ONF. castel. casten, inf. cast, 212; pt. 1s.

kest vp, turned over, 68; ON. kasta.

certayne, in c., for certain, 635; OF. certain.

chambirs, 249; OF. chambre. chaplet, garland, 118; OF. chapelet.

chareboole, carbuncle, 121; OF. charboucle.

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hore, hoary, grey, 93; OE. har. hornes, 95; OE. horn. horse, 111; OE. hors. hounde, 60; OE. hund. houen, hover, 215; etym. unknown. how, 70; OE. hū. howghe, interj. ho, 223. howses, houses, 142; OE. hūs. hundrethe, hundred, 164; ON. hundra&. hunte, hunter, 96; OE. hunta. hurkles, squats, 19; cp. MLG. hurken. hurlede, struck with forcible collision, dashed together, 57; cp. Dan. hurle, to whirr. hyghes, pr. 3s. hurries, 508; 3 pl. 213; hyen, 59, 216; hyenn, 210; pt. 1s. hyede, 60; OE. hīgian. hym, v. he. hym-seluen, himself, 389; hymselfe, 526; OE. him selfum. hynde, hind, 5; pl. hyndes, 17; OE. hind. I, 3; dat. acc. me, 4, 24, 42; OE. ic, mē. iche, each, 15, 393; OE. æghwilc. iles, islands, 334; OF, isle, ile. in, 1; inn, 130; inne, 197; OE. in. in sondire, asunder, 231; OE. on sundran. in-to, 4, 64; OE. in to. irkede, it became irksome, 277; (?) ON. yrkja. it, 5, 80; OE. hit. i-wis, assuredly, 276; OE. gewis, adj. jentille, v. gentill. joly, brave, noble, 459, 620; OF.

joyntly, continuously, steadily, 180; OF. joint+-ly.

jugge[n], pr. pl. subj. judge, 422;

joli.

OF. jugier.

justede, pp. jousted, 180; OF. juster.
justers, jousters, 459; OF. justeor.

kane, pr. 3 pl. can, 425; pt. 3 s. couthe, knew, 511; OE. cunnan. kaple, horse, nag, 189; cp. Icel. kapall.

katur, four, 529; OF. quatre. kayre, inf. go, return, 246; ON. keyra.

kaysers, emperors, 605; cp. OHG. keisar; L. Caesar.

kempes, warriors, 251; OE. cempa.

kende, instructed, directed, 553; OE. cennan.

kene, bold, active, 13; OE. cēne. kenely, eagerly, 161, 362; OE. cēnlīce.

keppyn of, inf. snatch off, 212; pt. 3s. kepide, met, greeted, 353; late ÖE. cēpan.

kepyng, keeping, 443; late OE. cēpan +-ing.

kest, v. casten.

keuduart, rogue, 68; cp. kiluarde.

keyes, 398; OE. cæg. kiddeste, v. kyd.

killede, killed, 309; (?) cp. EFris. küllen, to strike.

kiluarde, rogue, 516; OF. culvert, cuivert, cuivert; L. collibertus, conlibertus; cp. keuduart.

knawen, v. knowe. knees, 229; OE. cnēo.

knelyn, kneel, 229; OE. cneowlian.

knowe, inf. 168; pp. knawen, 458; OE. cnāwan.

knyghte, 203; OE. cniht. knyghtly, gallantly, 337; OE. cniht+-ly.

krage, crag, overhanging rock, cave, 64; cp. W. craig.

krepyn, pr. 3 pl. creep, 229; pt.

1 s. crepite, 42; pp. crepyde 64; crept, 623; OE. creopan. kutt, v. cuttede.

kyd, famous, renowned, 441, 477; kydde, 458; sup. kiddeste, 299; OE. (ge)cyted; pp. of cytan; cp. kythe.

kyngdomes, kingdoms, 402; OE. cyningdom.

kynge, 33; pl. kynges, 251; OE. cyning.

kysse, inf. kiss, 248; OE. cyssan. kythe, inf. make known, 168; OE. cysan; cp. kyd.

kythe, country, 466; OE. cybb.

lache, inf. take, seize, 211; pr. 3s. laches, 239; pt. 3s. laughte, 52; OE. læcc(e)an.

lady, 174; pl. ladyse, 274; OE. hlæfdige.

laghe, custom, 240; late OE. lagu.

lanerettis, male falcons, 220; OF. laneret.

laners, female falcons, 220; OF. lanier.

lappyn, inf. clasp, 247; cp. OE. læppa, a fold of a garment. large, 115; OF. large, fem.

laste, last, 52, 323; OE. latost. laughte, v. lache.

launde, lawn, glade, 24; OF. launde.

layde, laid low, 460; OE. lecgan. laye, faith, 197; OF. lei.

layke, n. sport, 49; ON. leikr.
layke, inf. make sport, 259; ON. leika.

layne, pp. lain, 655; OE. licgan. laythe, loathsome, 152; ON. leiðr. lede, man, 152, 393; pl. ledys, people, 106; OE. lēod.

lede, inf. lead, 256; pr. 3s. ledys, 352; OE. lædan.

lefte, adj. 54; OE. left.

lefte, v. leue. legge, 75; ON. leggr. lele, loyal, comely, 115; OF. lelly, faithfully, 274; OF. leel +-Iy.leman, beloved one, 174; OE. leof + mann. lengare, v. longe. lengen, inf. tarry, 199; lenge, 384; pp. lenged, 655; OE. lengan. lenyde, bent, 152; OE. (ge)hleonod, pp. lepis, pr. 3s. leaps, 240; pt. 1s. lepe, ran (with the point of the knife), 76; OE. hleapan. lessches, leashes, 211; lesses, 238; OF. lesse. lesse, lest, 82; OE. $\sqrt[8]{y}$ læs $\sqrt[8]{e}$. leste, v. littille. lete, pt. 1 s. let, 38, 61; OE. lætan. leue, n. leave, 362; OE. $l\bar{e}af$. leue, inf. leave, 235; pt. 3s. lefte, 506; pp. leuede, 395; OE. læfan. leue, inf. believe, 559; pr. 1 s. 197; OAngl. lefan. leuere, dearer, 199, 277; OE. leofra. leues, pl. leaves, 22; OE. leaf. life, 256; pl. lyues, 252; OE. lif. lighte, adj. 352; OE. leoht. lighte, inf. alight, 222; pr. 3 pl. lightten, 220; pt. 3s. lighte, fell, 323; OE. lihtan. lightenede, pp. become light, dawned, 16; OE. lihtan +-en. lightly, 38; OE. leohtlice. likame, body, 275; OE. līchama. liste, pt. impers. it pleased, 588; pr. subj. 168; OE. lystan. listen, inf. 106; ONorthumb. lysna. littill, adj. little, 24; adv. sup. leste, 259; OE. lytel, sup. adv. læst.

loge, inf. lodge, 542; pt. 1s. lugede, 663; OF. logier. lokes, pr. 3 s. 239; pt. 1 s. lokede, 24; OE. locian. longe, adj. 28; adv. 49; comp. lengare, 264, 654; lengere, 613; OE. lang, long; comp. adv. leng. longede, pt. 3s. abode, 57; OE. (ge)lang, adj.; cp. lengan. lorde, 185; OE. hlāford. loste, 49; OE. losian. lothe, loathsome, 275; OE. lab. loughe, low, 460, 658; lowe, 229; ON. lagr. louset, v. lowsen. loutted, stooped, 52; OE. lūtan. loue, louede, v. lufe, luffes. louely, beautiful, 247, 275; OE. lowde, loudly, 234, 656; OE. hlüde. lowe, v. loughe. lowppes, pr. 3 s. loops, 238; etym. unknown. lowsen, inf. let loose, 211; pt. 1 s. louset, loosened, 61; ON. lauss, adj. lufe, n. love, beloved one, 357, 392; loue, 181, 393; OE. lufu. luffes, pr. 2 s. loves, 259; pt. 3 s. louede, 305; pp. luffede, 174; OE. lufian. lugede, v. loge. lure, loss, 323; OE. lyre. luyre, lure, 239; OF. leurre. lyame, leash, 38, 61; OF. liem. lyfe, inf. live, 256; OAngl. lifian. lykes, pr. impers. it pleases, 611; pt. lykede, 521; OE. līcian. lythe, company, people, 185, 207; ON. lyör.

makande, comfort, profit, 278; ON. makindi, friendly intercourse; cp. mod. Icel. ī makindum, at one's ease; hence

lyues, v. life.

makande = comfort; cp. also dialect makint, confident, possessing assurance; makintly, confidently, with ease (E.D.D.). make, imp. s. 190; pl. makes, 290; pt. 1s. makede, reached, 74; made, made, 279; 3s. 342; maket, 594; 3 pl. maden, 105; pp. made, 48; makede, 344; OE. macian. mane, man, 347; pl. men, 104; OE. mann. manere, manner, 433; manere. many, 125; OE. manig. marche, march, boundary, district, 151; OF. marche. maried, pt. 3 s. gave in marriage, 540; OF. marier. marlede, manured with marl, 279; cp. OF. marle; med. L. marlāre. marlelyng, dressing land with marl, 142; OF. marle + -ing. maulerdes, mallards, wild drakes, 221; OF. mallart. may, pr. 1 s. 530; pt. 3 s. myghte, 5; OE. magan, meahte. mayden, 114; OE. mægden. Maye, May, 1; OF. mai. maye, maiden, 623; (?) OE. mæg. maystries, masteries, powers, 469; OF. maistrie. me, v. I. medill, middle, 649; midill, 652; used as n. medill, waist, mydle, middle 'beam'), 26; OE. middel. medill-elde, middle age, 151; cp. elde. mekyll, great, 479; OE. micel. men, v. mane. mendis, pr. 3 pl. amend, repair, 146; AF. mender; OF. amender. mendynge, repair, 142; AF. mender + -ing. mendys, amends, reparation, 359: aphetic form of OF. amendes, pl.

mene, indicate (call to mind), 630; OE. mænan. menge, inf. mix, 592; OE. menmenskfully, gracefully, 114; ON. mennska + -fully. ment, pt. 3s. moaned, 160; OE. mæran. mercurye waters, mercury, 589; med. L. mercurius. mercy, 160; OF. merci. mere, mere, lake, 500, 508; OE. mere. meruaylles, pl. marvels, 487; OF. merveille. meruayllous, marvellous, 606; OF. merveillos. mery, pleasant, 12; OE. mymetals, 589: metalles, OF. metal. mete, food, 52; OE. mete. metyn, pr. 3 pl. meet, 221; pt. 3 s. mete, 342; mett, 495; OE. mētan. midill, v. medill. mirrours, mirrors, 290; OF. mirour. mo, v. myche. mode, mud, 433; cp. LG. mod. mody, proud, 302; comp. mo-dyere, 295; OE. modig. molde, earth, 295; OE. molde. momelide, mumbled, chattered, 160; cp. Du. mommelen. monethe, month, 1; OE. monap. more, moor, 495; OE. mor. more, moste, v. myche. mosse, moss, 93; OE. mos. moste, pr. impers. must, 653; OE. mot, moste. mot[ed]en, disputed, 105; OE. mötian. mounte, 487; OE. munt; cp. OF. mont. mousede, mused, 140; OF. muser. moued, pt. 3s. moved, 546; pp.

mouede, 48; OF. movoir.

mukkede, manured, 279; cp. ON. moka; Dan. muge. mukkyng, manuring, 142. multiplye, inf. 589; OF. multiplier. my, pron. poss. 3; myn, 50, 177; OE. mīn. myche, much, 276, 511; comp. mo, 308; more, 165; adv. sup. moste, 292; OE. micel, mycel, māra, mā (adv.), mæst. myche-whate, many different things, 105; OE. mycel + hwæt. myddes, middle, 29; myddis, 87; cp. OE. to middes. mydle, v. medill. myghte, v. may. mylde, 665; OE. milde. myldely, 12; OE. mildelīce. myn, v. my. mynde, mind, attention, 649; OE. (ge)mynd. myne, inf. call to mind, 530; ON. minna. my[n]tid, pp. attempted move), 48; OE. myntan. myrthe, joy, 316; pl. mirthes, 1; OE. myrgb. mys-done, pp. maltreated, 359; OE. misdon. my-selfe, 269; my-seluen, 203; OE. mē self. mysse, defect, sin, 641; OE. missan, vb.; cp. Du. mis, error. mystes, 12; OE. mist.

name, n. 134; pl. names, 108; OE. nama.
name, pt. 1 s. took, 86; 3 s. 539; OE. niman.
namede, pp. 167; OE. (ge)namian.
nayles, pl. 554; OE. nægl.
naymely, especially, 607; OE.
nama+-ly.
naytly, thoroughly, dexterously,
quickly, 108, 457; nayttly,
554; ON. neytr+-ly.

nayttede, practised, 607; ON. ne, not, 507; ne ... ne, neither ... nor, 117; OE. ne. nede, need, 327; OE. ned. neghede, approached, 573; OE. nēah, adv. nekke, neck, 89; OE. hnecca. nese, nose, 45; nesse, scent, 99; cp. MDu. nese. neuen, inf. name, 108, 297; pp. neuened, 580; ON. nefna. no, v. none. noble, 280; noblee, 251; OF. noble. noghte, not, 288; nott, 536; OE. nāwiht. nombles, entrails, 86: OF. numbles. none, no one, 36; no, no, 47; OE. nān. nones, nonce, 25; for the n. = for then ones; OE. pæm, anes. nott, v. noghte. nober, no n. = non ober, none other, 390; OE. ōger. now, 166; OE. nū. nowmbron, pr. 3 pl. number, 308; OF. nombrer. noyede, pt. 3 s. annoyed, 573; OF. (a)noier, (a)nuier, (?) †nuire, noire. nygromancye, necromancy. magic, 607; OF. nygromancie. nyne, 297; OE. nigon. [nynety], 308; OE. nigontig. of, 1; in, 313; for, 477; from, 313, 373; adv. off, 68, 79, 89,

212, 551; OE. of. ofte, often, 141; OE. oft..

oke, oak, 95; OE. āc.

OM. ald.

149; OE. an.

olde, 423; sup. aldeste, earliest,

one, one, 483; adv. alone, 117.

one, on, 7, 21, 149, 236; OE. on.

300; eldeste, 464; OE. eald;

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one[s], once, 180; OE. ānes. opynede, pp. opened, 535; OE. openian. or, 5; OE. opbe; early ME. over. oryent, east, 334; OF. orient. oper, others, 15, 299; othire, 109; othere, 139; OE. ōver. oure, pron. poss. 486; OE. ūre. ouper, either, 271; owthir, or, 472; OE. āhwæver. ouer, over, 185; OE. ofer. ownn, 177; OE. āgen. owte, out, 55, 79; OE. ūt.

paleys, palace, 319; OF. palais. pappis, breasts, 176; cp. ENorw. dial. pappe. paramours, amorously, 305; paramoures, 612; used as n. pl. paramours, lady-loves, 172, 176; OF. par amours. parfourme, inf. perform, 205; OF. parfourmer. parkes, 145; OE. pearruc. pase, pass, path, 296; OF. pas. passe, inf. 296; pt. 3 s. paste, 325; pp. passed, 296; pt. 3 pl. surpassed, 421; OF. passer. passyoun, 555; OF. passiun. pastures, 280; pastours, 146; OF. pasture. 82; pawnohe, paunch, paw[n]che, 84; ONF. panche. paynymes, pagans, 421; OF. painime. penn, feather, quill, 232; OF. penne. penyes, pennies, 187; OE. pening, penig. peple, 431; OF. peuple. perche, pierce, 82; ONF. perchier. pereles, peerless, 399; OF. per +-less. perilous, 470; AF. perillous. perles, pearls, 120; OF. perle. perry, precious stones, 129; OF. pierrie.

pervynke, periwinkle, 9; OE. peruince; ONF. pervenke. peteuosely, piteously, 172; OF. piteus + -ly. 587; cp. OF. philozophire, philosophe. liole, 'penny-royal', thyme, 9; OF. puliol. wild piliole, playstere, salve, 176; OE. plaster, OF. plastre. pleynede, pt. 3s. lamented, 172; OF, plaign-, stem of plaindre. ploughe-londes, ploughlands, 280; late OE. ploh + land. polayle, poultry, 144; OF. polaille. pompe, 187; OF. pompe. poo, peacock, 365; OE. pawa. portours, carriers, 241; OF. porteour. pouders, powders, 590; OF. poudre .powndes, 129; OE. pund. poynte, 82; for pat p., for that very thing, 380; OF. point. praye, booty, 341; OF. preie. prayed, pt. 3s. 430; prayede, 353; OF. preier. praysed, pp. 387, 449; OF. preisier. presenttes, pl. presents, 144; OF. present. presse, throng, 612; prese, 368; OF. presse. prestis, priests, 646; OE. preost. preued, v. prouen. price, v. pryce. pride, 187, 633; late OE. pryte; cp. ON. prydi; OF. prūt, prūd. primrose, 9; OF. primerose. prise, v. pryce. priste, prompt, keen, 421, 618; OF. prest. pristly, readily, 241; OF. prest +-ly. profers, pl. promises, 205; AF. profre; OF. poroffrir, vb.

perset, pierced, 380; OF. percer.

profettis, profits, 146; OF. profit. prophete, 449; OF. prophète. prouen, inf. prove, 205, 532; pp.

preued, 328; OF. pruev-, strong

stem of prover.

prowde, proud, 319; proude, 305; sup. prowdeste, 612; late OE. prūt, prūd; ON. prūðr; OF. prūd.

pryce, price, value, 192; pryse, 449; price, 129; used as adj. excellent, 628; prise, 328; pryce, 387; OF. pris.

prynce, 324; OF. prince.

pulle, inf. 319; pt. 1s. pullede, 84; OE. pullian.

purches, n. purchase, 145; OF. purchas. purches, inf. purchase, 192; pt.

1 s. purcheste, 280; OF. pur-

pu[r]filis, borders for robes, 144; OF. porfil.

purse, 146; OE. purs.

puttis, pr. 3 s. puts, 232; 3 pl. putten, 241; pt. 1 s. putt, 84; pp. put, 324; OE. putian.

puysonede, poisoned, 399; OF. poisonner, puisnier.

pyne, suffering, 555; OE. *pin; cp. OE. pīnian, vb. [pyth], marrow, 232; OE. pi8a.

quelled, pt. 3 pl. killed, 233; OE. cwellan.

quene, queen, 304; qwene, 626; OE. cwen.

querrye, quarry, 233; OF. cuirée. quo[p]es, pr. 3 s. whoops, 233; OF. houper; (?) cp. OE. hwopan, to threaten.

quotes, pr. 3 s. cries 'ho', hoots, 234; (?) = ME. hūten.

quyppeys, pr. 3s. whips, 234; cp. MDan. hvippe.

quysses, pr. 3 s. makes a whizzing

or whirring noise, 234; ON. hvissa.

qwene, v. quene.

radde, afraid; for r., by reason of being afraid, 429; ON. hræddr. rakill, hasty, rash, 481; etym. unknown.

ranne, pt. 3 pl. ran, 429; OE. rinnan.

rase, at a r., at one rush, 73; ON. rās; OE. ræs.

raughte, pt. 1 s. reached, caught hold of, 75; 3 pl. raughten, extended, 29; OE. ræcan.

rawnsone, inf. ransom, 634; pt. 3s. rawns[on]ede, 414; rawnnsunte, 514; OF. ransonner.

raylede, pp. arranged in a row, adorned, 119, 128; OF. reiller. raynes, reins, 131; OF. rene, rainne.

reche, pr. 3 s. subj. may reck, care, 447; OE, reccan.

reches, riches, 141, 282, 634; OF. richesse.

rede, red, 119, 429; OE. read. rede, inf. read, 250, 425; OE. rædan.

redely, readily, 107, 166; redily, 208; OE. $(ge)r\bar{e}de + -ig + -ly$. refte, pp. bereft of, 563; OE.

reāfian.

reghte, v. righte. Regum, the book of Kings, 425;

L. regum, gen. pl.

reken, inf. recount, 107; pt. 3s. rekened, 141; pp. rekkende, 166; OE. (ge)recenian.

releues, relieves, 377; OF. relever. relikes, relics, 556; OF. relique. renke, man, 137; pl. renkes, 253, 346, 425; OE. rinc.

rent, pt. 1s. tore away, 87; OE. rendan.

rent, revenue, 634; pl. renttis, 186; renttes, 141, 282; OF. rente.

rere, inf. raise, cause to fly up, 217; pp. rerede, set going, 453; OE. ræran.

rescowe, inf. rescue, recover, 341; OE. rescoure.

resorte, pt. 3 s. betook itself, 58; OF. resortir.

reuelle, inf. revel, 253; OF. reveler.

reuere, river-bank, hawkingground, 208; OF. rivere, reviere.

rewed, pt. impers. caused regret, 562; OE. hrēowan.

rialeste, v. ryalle.

riche, rich, splendid, 9, 250; sup. richeste, 119; rycheste, 320; OE. rice.

richely, splendidly, 29; OE. rīce +-ly.

rigge, back, 78; OE. hrycg. righte, adj. 75; adv. straight, 339; reghte, 73; OE. reht, riht.

riste, rest, 572; OE. rest. ritt, pt. 1s. 75; ritte, 73; OE. *rittan = OHG. rizzan.

roddes, rods, 217; OE. rodd. rode, rood, cross, 555; OE. rod.

rode, v. ryde.

romance, romance, tales of chivalry, 250; OF. romans. rose, 119; OF. rose.

rosette, russet, 137; rosett, 261; OF. rosset, roset.

rothelede, rattled, spoke rapidly, 261; (?) cp. OE. hrætel-wyrt, rattlewort.

rowmly, largely, 137; OE. rūmlīce.

rownnde, round, 468; OF.

rubyes, 128; OF. rubi.

ryalle, royal, 186; sup. rialeste, 320; OF. rial.

ryalls, royal antlers, the second branch of a stag's horn, lying immediately above the browantler, 29; OF. rial, adj.; cp. surryals.

ryally, royally, 341; OF. rial +-ly.

rycheste, v. riche.

ryde, inf. 208; pt. 3s. rode, 341; overran, 514; OE. ridan.

ryfe, plentiful, 282; late OE. ryfe; ON. rifr.

rygalte, sovereignty, 598; OF. regal +-ty; cp. OF. rial.

ryngen, pr. 3 pl. ring, 214; OE. hringan.

ryotte, dissipation, 253; OF. riote.

sadde, solid, 333; OE. sæd. sadill, saddle, 130; OE. sadol.

sadly, firmly, 322; OE. sæd+-ly. sal-jeme, salt gem, a kind of crystal salt, 591; med. L. sal gemma.

sall, v. schall.

salpetir, saltpetre, 591; OF. salpetre.

same, 157; OE. same, adv.; ON.

samples, examples, 263; sampills, exempla, lessons, 602; aphetic form of OF. essample.

sanke, pt. 3 s. drowned, 437; OE. sincan.

saphirs, sapphires, 126; OF. safir; L. sapphīrus.

s[ar]rely (MS. sorely; B. surely), closely, 322; cp. OF. serré, in close order.

Sathanas, Satan, adversary, 438; L. (Vulgate) Satanās.

satte, v. sitt.

sattillede, settled, 437; OE. setlan.

saule, v. soule.

sauage, fierce, 616; OF. sauvage. sawe, v. see.

sawes, sayings, 602; OE. sagu. sawtries, psalteries, psalms, 162; OF. sauterie.

sayde, pt. 3 s. 161; sayd, 195; seyde, 173; OE. secgan.

sayled, sailed, 489; OE. seglan. saylen, pr. 3 pl. assail, 225; pt. 3 s. saylede, 534; 3 pl. sayled, 303; OF. asaillir.

sayn, adj. saint, 487; sayne, 557; pl. n. sayntes, 162; OF.

schadowe, image, 291; OE. sceadu, oblique case sceadwe.

schall, pr. 1s. 103; sall, 168; 2s. schalte, 257; pt. 3 s. scholde, 36; OE. sceal, sceolde.

schame, disgrace, 471; OE. sceamu.

schapen, pp. shaped, 114; schapyn, 137; OE. scieppan.

schawes, thickets, woods, 4, 661; OE. sceaga.

schelfe, shelf, seat, 661; OE. scilfe.

schepe, sheep, 443; OE. sceap. schewe, inf. show, appear, 115, 275 : OE. scēawian.

schewere, mirror, 291; OE. scea-

schirle, purely, 646; OE. scīr+

scho, she, 540; dat. acc. hir, 20; OE. seo, hire.

scholde, v. schall.

scholdire, shoulder, 54; pl. scholdirs, 79; OE. sculdor.

schote, inf. shoot, 43; OE. scēo-

schotte, n. shot, 4; OE. (ge)-

schryue, imp. pl. shrive, 646; OE. scrīfan.

schunte, imp. pl. avoid, 291; (?) cp. OE. scyndan; ON. skynda; OHG. scuntan, to hasten.

schurtted, amused, 661; OE. scyrtan, to shorten.

schutt, inf. shut, conclude, 585; OE. scyttan.

s[clis]te, (MS. sisilte = siliste),

sliced, 70; OF. esclicier, esclissier.

seche, inf. seek, 546; pr. 1 s. sek[e], 269; 3s. seches, 63; pt. 1 s. soughte, 83; 3 s. soghte, departed, 537; 3 pl. soughten, 434; OE. sēcan.

seconde, 136; OF. second.

see, sea, 333: OE. sæ.

see, inf. 70, 150; pr. 1 s. seghe, 263; pt. 1s. 25, 103; 3s. seghe, 509, 512; sawe, 512; pt. 3s. subj. see, 501; OE. seon.

sege, seat (used technically, 'to bring to s.', to bring to ground), 224; 's. perilous', 470; OF.

sege.

segge, man, 471; OE. secg.

seghe, v. see.

sekir, secure, 635; OE. sicor; L. sēcūrus.

sek[e], v. seche.

selcouthes, pl. wonders, 501; OE. seldan + cūb.

selfe, seluen, v. my-selfe, thiselfe, hym-seluen, seluen, thaym-seluen.

semblete, pt. 1 s. collected, 83; 3 pl.semble[d], assembled, 322; OF, sembler.

semely, handsome, 30,417; noble, 470; sup. semely[est], 135; ON. sæmiligr.

semyde, pt. 3 s. (it) seemed, 70; hym s., he seemed, 150; ON. sæma.

semys, seams, 126; OE. seam. sendys, pr. 3 s. 558; OE. sendan. sere, various, 162, 254, 489: separate, 574; ON. sēr.

serely, severally, particularly, 218, 225; ON. sērliga.

seruede, pp. deserved, 570; aphetic form of OF. deservir.

seruen, inf. serve, supply, 218; pt. 3s. seruet, 34; OF. servir. sesone, season, 2; OF. seson,

seison.

sesyn, pr. 3 pl. seize, 225; pt. 3 s. seside, 417; sessede, 419; OF. sete, seat, 136; sette, 100; ON. sæti. sett, pr. 1s. 269; pt. 1s. 98; 3s. 45, 173; pp. 126; s. of vi. and of fyve, adorned with horns of six and five tines, 31; OE. settan. sett. v. sitt. sette, v. sete. seuen, seven, 567; OE. seofon. sewet, the fat about the kidneys, 83: OF. seu + -et. sewet, v. suede. sewte, pursuit, 63; OF. suite. sexty, sixty, 150; OE. sextig. seyde, v. sayde. siche, such, 317; OE. swilc. sighte, 96; syghte, 286; OE. (ge)sihb. silke, 131; OE. sioloc. siluere, silver, 238; OE. siolfor. sir, 195; pl. sirres, 266; OF. sire. sire, father, 650: OF. sire. sitt, inf. 20, 179; pt. 1s. satte, 100; 3s. 136; satt, 130; sett vp, rose up, 432; OE. sittan. skaterede, pp. scattered, 383; cp. dial. scat, to scatter. skayled, pp. dispersed, 383; (?) 'OScand. *skeila (not found) related to ON. skilja'; N.E.D. skyftede, pp. moved, dispersed, 383; ON. skipta; Dan. skifte. slaughte, slaughter, 314; OE. *sleaht; cp. wælsleahta, gen. pl. slayne, v. sloughe. sleghe, clever, 36; ON. slægr. sleghely, cleverly, 81; cunningly, 314; ON. slægliga; v. Note. sleghte, sleight, 36, 511; ON.

slepe, sleep, 36; OE. slæp, slep.

slepeles, for s., by reason of

being sleepless, 101; OE. slæp-

slægð.

lēas.

sleues, sleeves, 125; OAngl. slefe. slitte, slit, 81; cp. OE. slītan; OHG. slizzan. sloghe, v. sloughe. slome, heavy with sleep, 101; cp. OE. slūma; MLG. slûmen, slomen, vb.; Dan. slumme, vb. slomerde, slumbered, 101; cp. MLG. slômeren; late MHG. slummern, slommern. sloughe, pt. 3s. slew, 445; sloghe, 533; pp. slayne, 314; OE. slēan. slynge, sling, 445; cp. MLG. slinge; OHG. slinga. slyppede, slipped, 81; cp. MLG. slippen; ON. sleppa. smale, small, 662; OE. smæl. smote, pt. 1 s. 53; OE. smītan. so, 76; OE. swā. socoure, n. help, 537; OF. socors; AF. succour. sodaynly, suddenly, 636; OF. sodain +-ly. softe, mild, 2; OE. softe. soghte, v. seche. some, 243; OE. sum. somere, summer, 2; OE. sumor. sonde, sand, 333; OE. sand, sond. sonde, message, 442; OE. sand, sond. sondere, in s., asunder, 383; sondire, 231; sondree, 90; OE. sundor. sone, son, 650; OE. sunu. sone, sun, 100; OE. sunne. sone, soon, 58; OE. sona. soppe, sop, 438; OE. sopp. sore, sorely, 194; OE. sare. sothe, truth, 103; OE. sob. sotted, pt. 3s. dulled, bleared, 286; aphetic form of OF. asoter. sottes, fools, 266; OE. sott. soughte, v. seche. soule, 195; saule, 103; OE. sāwel. sowdane, sultan, 533; OE. sou-

dan; Arab. sultān.

sowed, pt. impers. it made sore, 286; (?) cp. ON. svīða, Dan. svide, svie, to burn.

sownnde, sound, uninjured, 434;

OE. sund.

sowre, a fourth year buck, so called from its colour, 34; OF. sor, red.

sowssches, pr. 3 pl. stir, strike, 218; etym. unknown.

spanyells, spaniels, 244; OF. espagneul, a Spanish (dog).

sparede, pt. 2s. savedst, 260; OE. sparian.

speche, speech, 366; OE. spæc, later form of spræc.

spedd, pt. 3s. sped, 541; sped. prospered, 366; pr. 3s. subj. spede, 260; OE. spēdan.

spedely, speedily, 541; spedily, 244; OE. (ge)spēdiglīce.

speke, inf. speak, 265, 595; pp. spoken, 366; OE. specan, later form of sprecan.

spend, inf. 260; OE. spendan. spilles, pr. 2s. perishest, 193; OE. spillan.

spitte, pt. 3 s. 550; OE. spittan. spoken, v. speke.

spournede, kicked, 550; OE. spurnan.

spryngen, pr. 3 pl. leap, 244; OE. springan.

staffe, 289; OE. stæf.

stale, firmly, stalwartly, 289; OE. steall, a standing position.

stalkede, pt. 1 s. went softly, 41; 3s. stelkett, 51; OE. stealcian. stalkynge, stalking, 21; OE. stealcung.

stalles, stalls, 190; OE. steall. standerte, standard, 376; OF. estandart.

standes, v. stonde.

stang, pt. 3s. pierced, 446; OE. stingan.

starede, stared, 51; OE. starian. stede, place, 21; OE. stede.

stede, horse, 190; stede bake, horseback, 272; OE. stēda. stele, steel, 446; OE. style; OM.

stele-wede, armour, 200; OM. stēli: OE. wæde.

stelkett, v. stalkede.

sterapis, stirrups, 116; OE. stig-

stiewarde[s], stewards, 147; OE. stigweard.

stiffe, strong, 376; styffe, 272; OE. stif.

stikkes, sticks, small branches, fragments, 41, 376; OE. sticca. stillen, inf. pacify, 268; OE.

stillan. stilly, quietly, 41; OE. stille + -ly. stirkes, bullocks, 147; OE. stirc. stirre, inf. stir, 47; OE. styrian. stode, v. stonde.

stoken, pp. encased, 200; OE. *stecan; cp. OLG. stekan.

stonde, inf. stand, 47; stonden, 289; pr. 3s. standes, endures, 604; pt. 1s. stode, stood, 21; OE. standan, stondan.

stone, 446; OE. stan.

storrours, storers, 147; OF. estorer, vb.

storye, 306; AF. storie. stotayde, paused, hesitated, 51

cp. MLG. stutten. stourre, conflict, 272; OF. estour.

streighte, pt. 3s. stretched, 116; OE. streccan.

strenghte, strength, 532; pl. strengthes, 205; OE. strengou. strikes, pr. 3s. 228; 3pl. striken, 221; stryken, 219; OE. strican. stryffe, strife, 268; OF. estrif.

styffe, v. stiffe. stynte, inf. stop, 268;

styntan. suede, pt. 3 s. followed, 382, 567; sewet, 34; OF. suivir.

surryals, crown antlers, 30; OF. sur + rial; cp. ryalles.

GLOSSARY

swange, v. swynge. swapped, struck, 551; cp. ON. sveipa; OE. swāp, n. swete, sweet, 11; OE. swete. sweuynn, dream, 102; OE. swefen. swiftely, 500; OE. swiftlice. swith, (?) swift, 502; cp. swythe. swyne, swine, 99; OE. swīn. swynge, inf. hurl, 500; pt. 3s. swange, 502; OE. swingan. swythe, greatly, quickly, 369; OE. swife; (?) cp. swith. syde, side, 7; OE. sīde. syghede, sighed, 172; cp. OE. sīcan. syghte, v. sighte. sykamoure, sycamore, 130; L. sycomorus. syled, pp. glided, sunk, 658; cp. Norw. Sw. dial. sila. synn, sin, 665; OE. synn. synys, signs, 48; OF. sine. sythen, since, 335; OE. sibban.

table, 468; OE. tabule; OF. table. tachede, pt. 1 s. fastened, 67; OF. tache, n. tale, active, bold (of speech or argument), 105; OE. (ge)tæl. tale, reckoning, 308; OE. talu. tame, 342; OE. tam. tartaryne, silk of Tartary (probably Tharsia, adjoining Cathay, i.e. China), 132; OF. tartarin. tary, inf. detain, hinder, 613; pr. 3 pl. taryen, wait, 242; pt. 1s. tariede, 23; 3s. taried, 361; (?) cp. OE. tergan. tayle, tail, 73; OE. tægel. taysede, stretched the bow-string, 44; OF. teis-, strong stem of

tayttely, joyously, nimbly, 219; ON. teitr+-ly. teches, pr. 3 s. teaches, 601; OE. tæcan. techynges, teachings, 604; OE. tæcing. telle, inf. 103; pr. 1s. tell, 159; 3 s. telles, 306; OE. tellan. telys, pl. teals, 219; cp. Du. teling. tenefull, peevish, 159; OE. teonfull. tentid, gave heed, 313; aphetic form of OF. attenter. tentis, tents, 361; OF. tente. tenyn, pr. 3 pl. tease, 242; pt. pl. teneden, grieved, suffered vexation, 321; OE. teonian. tercelettes, male falcons, 219; tercelettis, 242; AF. tercelet. Testament, 423; L. testāmentum. thaire, pron. poss. their, 107; theire, 237; ON. beirra. than, thane, v. then. that, the, 601; OE. &æt. that, adj. dem. 21: OE. Set. that, pron. rel. 35; pat. 49: what, 204; him who, 447; OE. Næt. that, conj. 16; OE. čæt. thay, they, 367; pay, 13; they, 215; dat. acc. thaym, 67; bam, 226; ON. beir. thaym-seluen, themselves, 498; OE. čæm selfum. the, def. art. 1; be, 4; be, 54; late OE. &e. the, v. thoue. thedir, thither, 19; OE. Sider. theire, v. thaire. theis, v. this. then, 43; than, 38, 286; thane, 405; then, when, 393; OE. Sanne, Sænne. ther-aftir, afterwards, 94; beraftir, 75; OE. &ær æfter. there, there, 23; pare, 400; there, where, 8, 64, 471, 506;

ther, 335; OE. 8ær.

ON. frā.

there-fro, thence, 97; OE. &er;

there-to, in addition, 134; per-to, 32; OE. þærtō. ther-vndere, underneath, OE. & Frunder. there-with, 259; OE. bær-wib. thes, v. this. they, v. thay. thi, thy, 27, 181; thyn, 177; OE. thikke, thickly, 124; OE. picce. thirde, 152; OE. pridda, pirdda. thirtene, 262; OE. prēotēne; v. Note. this, 182; pl. thes, 220; theis, 173; thies, 109; OE. Sis, pl. Ses. thi-selfe, thyself, 651; OE, $\delta \bar{\imath}(n)$ + selfum. thoghte, v. thynkes. thynke, pr. impers. seems, 637; OE. byncan. thynkes, pr. 3s. 484; pt. 1s. thoghte, 21; OE. bencan. tholede, suffered, 403; OE. polian. thorowe, v. thurgh. thoue, thou, 206, 207; bou, 175; dat. acc. the, 178, 192; OE. &ū. thre, three, 104; OE. preo. threpe, altercation, 268; OE. brēapian, vb. threpen, pr. 3 pl. contend in song, 14; pt. 3 pl. threpden, argued 104; pp. threpid, 262; OE. þrēapian. threuen, grown up, 133; ON. prifinn, pp. of prifa. thritty, thirty, 133; OE. prītig, prittig. thro, bold, 104; ON. þrār. throly, boldly, eagerly, excellently, 14, 133; ON. praliga. throstills, throstles, 14; OE. brostle. thryfte, thrift, 262; ON. brift. thrynges, presses, 368; OE. bringan. thurgh, through, 91; thurghe, 442; thorowe, 238; OE. Surh. thyn, v. thi.

thynges, 606; OE. ping. tighte, pt. 1 s. drew (from the sheath), 79; t. vp, drew up, tightened, 44; OE. tyhtan. tighte vp, pt. 3 s. set up, 361; (?) OE. tyhtan. till, until, 180; to, 52; ON. til. titly, quickly, 613; ON. tītt, adv. +-lv. to, prep. to, 3; too, 367; adv. to. 53; till, 336, 496; OE. tō. to-gedire, together, 230; togedre, 83; OE. togædere. to-gedirs, together, 600; OE. togædere + -s. toke, pt. 1 s. took, 79; 3 s. tuke, 313, 569; ON. taka. tonge, tongue, 68; OE. tunge. totheles, toothless, 159; OE. toptoper, the t. = thet oper, the other, 602; OE. bæt öger. toure, tower, 408; OF. tour. to-warde, 360; OE. toweard. to-wardes, 23; OE. toweardes. townn, town, 659; OE. tun. towre, n. turn, wheel, flight, 213. OF. tour. [t]r[a]poure, saddle-cloth, 132; OF. *trapeüre; med.L. trappātūra. trayfoyles, trefoils, 120; AF. trifoil. traylede, trailed, 132; OF. trailler. tree, 23; OE. trēow. trenchore, carving-knife, 79; OF. tranchoire. trewe, true, reliable, 326, 408; OE. treowe. trewloues, true lovers' knots, 120; OE. trēowlufu. tried, pp. chosen, 301; triede, choice, excellent, 120; tryed, 525; OF. trier. triste, trusty, 565, 624; cp. Dan. tröstig. tristyly, firmly, confidently, boldly, 326.

GLOSSARY

troches, small times, 67; OF. troche. trouthe, troth, 290; OE. treowb. trowde, pp. believed, 604; OE. trūwian. tryed, v. tried. tuke, v. toke. tulke, man, 313; ON. tülkr. turnede, pt. 1 s. 23; turned, 67; late OE. turnian; OF. tourner. twayne, both, 30, 432; OE. twegen. twelve, twelve, 402; OE. twelf, twelfe. two, 71; OE. twa. tyde, inf., befall, 471; pr. 3s. subj. 37; pt. 3 pl. tydde, 660; OE. tīdan. tylere, handle of a cross-bow, 44; OF. telier. tymes, 162; OE. tīma.

pam, v. thay.
pan, than, 15; OE. Sanne.
pare, v. there.
pat, v. that.
pay, v. thay.
pe, pe, v. the.
per-aftir, v. ther-aftir.
per-fore, therefore, 151; OE.
Sær+fore.
per-to, v. there-to.
poghe, though, 243; ON. *pōh,
earlier form of pō.
pou, v. thoue.

vmbe, about, 657; OE. ymbe, umbe.
vmbycaste, inf. cast about, 61; OE. umbe + ON. kasta.
vnburneschede, unburnished ('deer are said to burnish their heads when rubbing off the dead velvet or skin from the horns'), 26; un + OF. burniss-

lengthened stem of burnir.
vncertayne, 636; un+OF. certain.

vnclosede, pp. unclosed, open, 336; un + OF. clos- stem of clore. vndide, ruined, 311; OE. undon. vndire-3ode, undermined, 283; OE. undergan. vnpereschede, undestroyed, 431: un + OF. periss-, lengthened stem of perir. vnsele, misfortune, 438; OE. unsæl. vn-to, 386; cp. OSax. unto: Goth. und = OE. ob. vp, up, 43, 68; vpe, 240; OE. up. vppon, v. appon. vp-rightes, upright, 116; OE. uprihte + -s. VS, v. We. vttire, out, 66, 381; OE. uttor.

vanyte, vanity, 640; pl. vanytes, 640; OF. vanité.
vayne[st], 640; OF. vain.
ver[r]ayle, verily, 594; OF. verai
+-ly.
vertus, powers, 594; OF. vertu.
vertwells, small ringson a hawk's
furniture, 238; OF. vertueil.

waggynge, moving, 40; cp. MSw. wagga.
waitted, v. wayte.
wake, inf. keep awake, watch, 257; pt. 3s. woke, 35; OE. wacan.
wakkened, awoke, 657; OE. wæcnan.
walle, 433; pl. walles, 318; OE. weall.
wandrynge = wandreth, misery, 257; ON. vandræði.
wane, wanne, v. wynne.
warme, 100; OE. wearm.

warned, pt. 3 s. 35; OE. wearnian. warnestorede, pt. 3 s. furnished, 412; OF. warnesture, n. waryed, accursed, 536; OE. wergan.

was, v. bene. watirs, waters, 589; OE. wæter. wayes, paths, 37; OE. weg. wayte, inf. guard, 99; pt. 1s. waitted, watched, 40; waytted, 657; 3s. wayttede, 46; pp. 49; OF. waiter. we, pron. pers. 422; dat. acc. vs. 664: OE. we. weddis, pr. 3s. weds, 386; OE. weddian. wedres, airs, breezes, 2; OE. weder. wele, wealth, 149, 637; OE. wela. wele-neghe, well-nigh, 193; OE. wel neah. welthe, wealth, 252; OE. wela wende, inf. turn, 653; go, 632; pr. 3s. wendes, 505; pt. 1s. went, 3; 3s. 37; wente, 404; OE. wendan. werdes, destiny, chances, luck, 3; OE. wyrd. were, man, 581; OE. wer. were, war, 313, 544; OF. werre; OHG. werra. were, v. bene, where. werkes, pl. works, 311; OE. weorc. werlde, world, 149, 298; worlde, 332; OE. weorld. whare, v. where. whatt, pron. rel. 501; whate, 103; whatte, 294; OE. hwæt. whedir-wardes, whither, 294; OE. hwider + weardes. -when, 1; OE. hwænne. where, adv. rel. 507; were, 611; whare, 294; OE. hwær. where, adv. interr. 185; where, 626; OE. hwær. while, n. time, 23, 101; OE. hwīl. while, conj. while, 270; till, 398, 535, 575; OE. hwil, n. whills, whilst, 641; whils, till, 490; OE. hwīl + -es. worthieste, 404; OE. weordig. whitte, white, 156; OE. hwit. wot, pr. 1s. know, 293; pt. 1s.

who, whoever, 33; OE. hwa. wiche, which, 293; OE. hwile. wielde, inf. possess, 609; OE. (ge)wieldan. wiesly, prudently, 40; wiesely, 412; OE. wīslīce. will, n. 352, 406; OE. willa. will, pr. 2 pl. 106; 3 pl. willen, 209; pt. 3s. wolde, 191, 327; OE. willan. wilnede, pt. 3 pl. desired to come, 386; OE. wilnian. wirchip, worship, honour, 175, 276; wirchipe, 252, 312, 519; OE. weorbscipe. wisdome, 601; OE. wisdom. wiste, v. wot. with, 8; among, 458, 605; OE. wip. witnesses, pr. 3s. 412; OE. witnes, n. witt, mind, intelligence, 149, 193; OE. witt. wittyly, cautiously, 46; witig +-ly. wodde, wood, 3; OE. wudu. woke, v. wake. wolde, v. will. woman, 315; OE. wifmann. wondes, pr. 3s. hesitates, 611; OE. wandian. wondirfully, 601; OE. wundorfull + -ly. wondres, pr. 3s. wonders, 505; OE. wundrian. wonne, imp. s. dwell, remain, 193; pt. 3s. wonnede, 603; OE. wunian. wonnen, v. wynne. woo, woe, 257; OE. wa. wordes, 173; OE. word. worlde, v. werlde. worthe, adj. worth, 129; OE. weorb. worthes, pr. 3s. becomes, 637; pp. worthen, 461, 485, 648; OE. weorčan.

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wiste, 283; 3s. 298, 581; OE. witan. wothe, danger, 37; ON. vāði. woundede, pt. 3s. 312; pp. 571; OE. wundian. wroghte, pt. 3s. wrought, 487; pp. 315, 648; OE. wyrcan, worhte. wronge, 648; ON. rangr; late OE. wrang. wryghede, pp. discovered, 97; (?) = wreighede; OE. wrēgan. wrythen, pr. 3 pl. twist, 230; OE. wridan. wy, person, 193, 298, 386, 609; OE. wiga.

wylde, 99; OE. wilde.
wyles, tricks, 312; OE. wil.
wynde, 35; OE. wind.
wyndide, pt. 3 s. scented, 46;
OE. wind, n.
wynges, 230; ON. vængr.
wynne, inf. win, 609; pr. 3 pl.
wynnen, attain, 230; pt. 1 s.
wane, won, 276; 3 s. 338;
wanne, 332; 3 pl. 252; wonnen, 463; OE. winnan.
wynter, winters, years, 262; OE.
wintru, pl.
wyse, wise, 99; OE. wīs.
wysede, directed, sent away,
451; OE. wīsian.

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TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES', ETC.

'The nine, crowned, be very exemplair Of all honour longing to chivalry, And those, certain, be called the nine worthy;'

The Flower and the Leaf, 502-4.

I. LATIN HYMN

(Attributed to the XIth century.)1

Audi, tellus, audi, magni maris limbus, Audi omne, quod vivit sub sole, Huius mundi decus et gloria Quam sint falsa et transitoria, Ut testantur haec temporalia. Non in uno statu manentia. Nulli valet regalis dignitas, Nulli valet corporis quantitas. Nulli artium valet profunditas, Nulli magnae valent divitiae, Nullum salvat genus aut species, Nulli prodest auri congeries. Transierunt rerum materies, Ut a sole liquescit glacies. Ubi Plato, ubi Porphyrius? Ubi Tullius aut Virgilius? Ubi Thales, ubi Empedocles, Aut egregius Aristoteles? Alexander ubi, rex maximus? Ubi Hector, Troiae fortissimus? Ubi David, rex doctissimus? Ubi Salomon, prudentissimus? Ubi Helena Parisque roseus? Ceciderunt in profundum ut lapides: Quis scit, an detur eis requies? Sed tu, Deus, rector fidelium, Fac te nobis semper propitium, Quum de malis fiet iudicium!

II. From DE MUNDI VANITATE, attributed to Walter Map

(Probably XIIth century.) 2

Die ubi Salamon, olim tam nobilis?

Vel Samson ubi est, dux invincibilis?

Vel pulcher Absolon, vultu mirabilis?

Vel dulcis Jonathas, multum amabilis?

1 From Moll's Hymnarium, p. 138; translated by J. A. Symonds, in Wine, Women, and Song ('King's Classics', 1907, p. 181).
2 Thomas Wright: Latin Poems attributed to Watter Mapes, Camden

Society, 1841, p. 149.

Quo Caesar abiit, celsus imperio?

Vel Dives splendidus totus in prandio?

Dic ubi Tullius clarus eloquio?

Vel Aristoteles, summus ingenio?

III. From A LUVE RUN, by THOMAS DE HAILES

(Probably before 1240.)

Hwer is Paris and Heleyne,

pat weren so bryht and feyre on bleo?

Amadas and Ideyne;

Tristram, Yseude, and alle peo?

Ector, wip his scharpe meyne;

And Cæsar, riche of wor[1]des feo?

Heo beop iglyden vt of pe reyne,

So pe schef[t] is of pe cleo.²

(Old English Miscellany, E. E. T. S.)

IV. CURSOR MUNDI (early XIVth century)

[PROLOGUE.]

(MS. R 38, Trinity College, Cambridge.)

Men 3ernen iestes for to here,
And romaunce rede in dyuerse manere;
Of Alisaunder be conqueroure,
Of Julius Cesar be emperoure,
Of Greke & Troye the longe strif,
bere mony mon lost his lif:
Of Bruyt bat baron bold of honde,
Furste conqueroure of Engelonde;
Of King Arthour bat was so riche
Was noon in his tyme him liche;
Of wondres bat his knystes felle
And auntres duden men herde telle,
As Wawayn, Kay, & obere ful abul,
For to kepe be Rounde Tabul:

¹ So I rearrange the text; Morris reads 'Amadas, Tristram, and Dideyne'; MS. 'Amadas and Dideyne. tristram'.

² Probably = As the arrow from the string. [(?) 'Corn from the hill-side,' Camb. Eng. Lit., vol. i, p. 233].

How Kyng Charles & Rouland fau;t, With Sarazines nolde bei neuer be sau;t, Of Tristram & of Isoude be swete, How bei wib loue firste gan mete; Of kyng Ion & of Isombras; Of Idoyne & of Amadas; Storyes of dyuerse binges Of princes, prelates, & of kynges Mony songes of dyuerse ryme, As Englisshe, Frensshe, & Latyne.

V. From PHILIPPE MOUSKES' 'CHRONIQUE'

(XIIIth century.)

Des .iij. lois vous sai je bien dire Les .iij. mellors, tot sans desdire. OGIERS, au dit des anciens, Si fu li mieudres crestiens. Li mieudres paiens fu ETOR: Cil ot le cuer plus gros d'un tor; Ja, s'il n'eüist la vie outrée, Troie ne fust si desiertée; Etor trençoit os, car et niers, Vers lui ne duroit fus ne fiers. Li mieudres juïs, li plus preus Fu, pour voir, JUDAS MACABEUS. Des iij. lois vous ai je nommés Les .iij. c'on a mellors clamés, Et pour Ogier et pour Rollant Vous ai remis Ector avant Et Judas Macabeu le fort Dont sainte glise fait recort. (11.7672-89.)

VI. EXTRACT FROM 'LES VŒUX DU PAON'

By Jacques de Longuyon, circa 1312.

(From MS. Bibl. Nat. 1590, fol. 141, etc.)

Car puis que Diex ot fait Adam a son plaisir Ne nasqui chevalier, qui en faiz maintenir D'une seule jornée peüst autant soffrir.

1 MS. fait.

Voirs est qu'Ector fu large desmesuréement, Car, si com les poetes nous vont ramentevant, Quant li rois Menelaus a son efforcement Vint assegier en Troie le riche roi Priant Pour Elayne sa fame qu'il amoit durement Que Paris ot ravie ainz cel assamblement, Hector¹ de la cité prist le gouvernement, Es issues c'on fist par son enortement Tua · XIX rois sus son cors deffendant, Et amiraus et contes, ce croi je, plus de .c. Puis l'occist Acillez mout traîteusement.

ALIXANDRE le large, dont je vois ci parlant, Qui vainqui Nicholas et Daire le persant Et occist la vermine des desers d'Oriant Et saisi Babyloine la fort cité plaisant Ou il morut aprés par enpoisonnement, Reconquist en 2 xij. anz trés viguereusement Quanque l'en puet trouver dessouz le firmament; N'encor ne li plut mie, ainz dist apertement A ses barons .j. jor qu'il tenoit parlement Qu'il avoit poi de terre en son gouvernement.

CESAR prist Engleterre qui tot conmunement Iert nommée Bretaingne, il ala longuement Et soumist as Roumainz le roi Casibillant. Pompée son serouge qui l'aloit guerroiant Desconfist il en Grece et tel plenté de gent Qu'il n'est home qui onques en veïst autretant. Puis prist Alexandrie la riche et la manant, Aufrique, Arrabe, Egypte et Surie ensement, Et les illes de mer dessi en Occident. Paien furent cil .iij. dont je puis dire tant Que meilleurs ne nasqui aprez eus ne devant.

Escrit truis en la Bible et el Viel Testament Les nons des .iij. juïs qui anciennement Firent tant c'on les loe partout communement Et loera, je croi, si qu'a definement. Josué vous devons nonmer premierement. Par sa sainte priere, par son souhaidement, Parti le flun Jordain a travers droitement, Et passerent a sec sans nul enconbrement Les Juïs qu'il avoit en son gouvernement.

MS. Hestor.
 MS. ex.
 Allusion à deux passages du roman d'Alexandre, éd. Michelant, p. 13, v. 16 et p. 249, v. 8.

Vers midi guerroia cil preudons longuement, Ou .xij. rois conquist assés parfaitement, Lesquels il destruist toz assés honteusement, Et ne lor lessa terre, cité ne casement Qu'il ne feïst torner a son conmandement.

DAVID remist a mort Golias le jaiant Qui de lonc ot .vij. coutez ou plus, mien esciant, Et maint felon paien fist venir a noient, Et fut en grans batailles partout si bien cheant C'onques hons nel pot rendre vaincu ne recreant. De cestui puet chascuns dire certainement Qu'il fu .j. sains pechierre de hardi convenant.

JUDAS MACABEÜS restoit de tel talent Que se tout ceuz del siecle li fussent au devant Armez com por bataille felenesse et nuisant, Ja tant comme il eüst o soi de remanant .I. home contre .x. nel veïst on fuiant. Cil Judas Macabée dont je vois rimoiant Mist Apolonius a mort en conbatant, S'occist Anthiocus qu'il aloit guerroiant Et Nicanor aussi et maint autre tirant.

III. crestienz resai tiex c'onques hons vivant
Ne vit a meillor d'eus porter hiaume luisant.
D'ARTUS qui tint Bretaingne va le bruit tesmoingnant
Que il mata Ruston, .j. jaiant, en plain champ,
Qui tant par estoit fort, fier et outrecuidant
Que de barbes de rois fist fere .j. vestement,
Liquel roi li estoient par force obeïssant;
Si vost avoir l'Artus, mais il i fu faillant.¹
Sus le mont saint Michiel en roccist .j. si grant
Que tuit cil del païs en furent merveillant.
En plusors autrez lieus, se l'estoire ne ment,
Vainqui cil rois Artus maint prince outrequidant.

CHARLEMAINE qui France ot toute a son commant Suspedita Espaingne dont morut Agoulant. Desiier de Pavie toli son tenement Et sormonta les Saisnes si trés parfaitement Par mainte grant bataille, par maint toueillement, Qu'il furent, maugré eus, a son commandement. El lieu ou Diex morut pour nostre sauvement Remist il le baptesme et le saint sacrement.

¹ See Note, 1. 481.

Bien redoit on nomer haut et apertement Godefroi de Buillont qui par son hardement Es plains de Roumenie desconfit Solimant, Et devant Anthioche l'amirant Courberant Le jor que l'en occist le fil a roi Soudant. De Jerusalem ot puis le couronnement Et en fu rois clamez j. an tant seulement.

Or ai je devisé tout ordenéement Les .IX. meillors qui fussent puis le conmandement Que Diex ot fait le ciel et la terre et le vent. Il se maintindrent bien et assés longuement; Mais onques en lor vies, en .j. jor seulement, Ne souffrirent tel paine ne tel encombrement Com Porrus qui ains ot voué i si hautement Souffri en la jornée dont je tieng parlement.

VII. From THE SCOTTISH VERSION OF THE PRE-CEDING, 'THE BUIK OF THE MOST NOBLE AND VAILZEAND CONQUEROUR ALEXAUNDER', or, 'THE AVOWIS OF ALEXANDER'

Composed 1438.

Thocht sum men say his vndertaking May nocht fulfillit be in all thing, At the last for the best doere Men suld him hald baith far and neir. For sen that God first Adame wrocht, In all this warld ane knycht was nocht, That anerly at ane I owne, aucht sa anansit for to be. Suith it is gude Hector was wicht, and out of mesure mekill of mycht, For at the poynt beris witnessing, Quhen Menelayus the mychty King assegit in Troy the King Priant, For Elene that was sa plesant, That Parys forrow that semble, Reuisit for hir fyne beaute, Hector on him the gouerning, tuke of the town and the leding, Into the half thrid zeir all anerly, that he loued throw cheualry.

^{1 &#}x27;Allusion aux Vœux prononcés par Porus'; P.M.

Of crouned Kingis he slew nynetene, But dukes and erlis as I wene, That was sa fell it is ferly, Syne Achilles slew him tressonabilly. Gude Alexander that sa large was, That wan Daurus and Nicholas, And slew in Inde the great vermyne. Babylon he conquered syne, Quhare he deit throw poysoning, Rang seuin zeir as nobill King, Wan all this warld vnder the firmament, That on ane day in plane parliament, He said he had in allkin thing, Our lytill land to his leuing. Cesar alsua that Ingland wan, All that was callit Bertane than, To thame of Rome maid vnder lout, Cassabylon the King sa stout. In Grece alsua discumfit he, Pompeyus his mauch is sic plenty Of men that neuer zit quhare, War sene sa mony as thay ware. Syne Alexander the great Citte, Affrik and Asia als wan he, Egypt alsua and Syrie And mony vther fare countre, And the yles of the sey all hale, that war sa mony withouttin fale. Thir war Paganes that I of tald, And I dar suere and for suith hald that better than thay war neuer borne, Efter that tyme na zit beforne.

Of thir thre Iowes we find it writ, the auld Testament witnesis it, thay did sa mekle that commonly All men thame lufis generally; And as I trow sall lufe thame ay, Euermare quhill domisday. Iusua suld first named be, That was ane man of great pouste, the flum Iordane partit he euin in tua, throw his wisdome and prayers alsua, And stude on ilk syde as ane wall, Quhill his men our passed all; towart the south he taryed lang, Quhare tuelf Kingis wan he styth and strang,

And destroyit thame velanusly, And reft thame there landis halely: they turned to his commandement, And to him war thay obedient. Dauid slew Golyath with strenth, That seuin halfe ellis had of lenth, And mony ane fell pagan he brocht Maugre thairis all to nocht, And was ouer all sa wele doand, That he was neuer recryand, Bot in battell stout and hardy, Men may say of him tantingly. Iudas Machabeus I hecht, Was of sik vertew and sik micht, that thoch thay all that lyfe micht lede Come shorand him as for the dede. Armit all for cruell battale, He wald not fle forouttin faill, Quhill he with him of alkin men Micht be ay ane agenes ten. That Iudas that I heirof tell Slew Antiochus the fell, And Appollonius alsua, Nicanor als and mony ma. Of thir thre christin men I can tell heir. That neuer na better in warld weir, Arthur, that held Britane the grant, Slew Rostrik that stark gyant, That was sa stark and stout in deid, that of Kingis beirdis he maid ane weid, The quhilk Kingis alluterly War obeysant to his will all halely. He wald have had Arthouris beird, And failzeit for he it richt weill weird; On mount Michaell slew he ane. that sik ane freik was neuer nane, and ma gyantis in vther places sua, Bot gif the story gabbing ma. Charles of France slew Agoment, and wan Spane to his commandement, and slew the duke of Pauy, and wan the Saxones halely, Throw great battell and hard fechting, that thay war all at his bidding; and quhair God deit for our sauetie, He put the haill christintie; Men aucht to lufe him commonly, Baith in peirt and privaty.

Gaudefere the Bullony throw cheualry, Into the plane of Romany,
Wincust the michty Salamant,
And before Anthioche Corborant,
Quhen the King Sardanus was slane,
Than was he king himself allane,
Of Ierusalem ane zeir and mare.
Thir ar the nyne best that armes bare;
I haue deuysit zow ordourly,
that leuit weill and cheualrusly,
Bot neuer thair lyfetyme on ane day,
tholit thay sik pyne and sik affray,
As Porrus that sa haltanly
Avowit had throw cheualry,
Amang the ladeis that war fre,
Quhen the poun to deid brocht he.

(pp. 402-6.)

VIII. From HUCHOWNE'S 'MORTE ARTHURE', c. 1380

(The Interpretation of Arthur's Dream.)

Take kepe litte of other kynges, and kaste in thyne herte, That were conquerours kydde, and crownnede in erthe; The eldeste was Alexandere, that alle the erthe lowttede; The tother Ector of Troye, the cheualrous gume; The thirde Iulyus Cesare, that geant was holdene, In iche jorné jentille, a juggede with lordes; The ferthe was sir Iudas, a justere fulle nobille, The maysterfulle Makabee, the myghttyeste of strenghes; The fyfte was Iosue, that joly mane of armes, That in Ierusalem oste fulle myche joye lymppede; The sexte was Dauid the dere, demyd with kynges One of the doughtyeste that dubbede was euer, ffor he slewe with a slynge, be slevghte of his handis, Golyas the grette gome, grymmeste in erthe; Syne endittede in his dayes alle the dere psalmes, That in the sawtire ere sette with selcouthe wordes. The two clymbande kynges, I knawe it for-sothe, Salle Karolus be callide, the kyng sone of Fraunce; He salle be crowelle and kene, and conquerour holdene, Couere be conqueste contres ynewe; He salle encroche the crowne that Crist bare hym selfene, And that lifeliche launce, that lepe to his herte, When he was crucyfiede one crose, and alle the kene naylis, Knyghtly he salle conquere to Cristyne men hondes.

The tother salle be Godfraye, that Gode schalle revenge One the Gud Frydaye with galyarde knyghtes; He salle of Lorrayne be lorde, be leefe of his fadire, And syne in Ierusalem myche joye happyne, ffor he salle couer the crosse be craftes of armes, And synne be corownde kynge, with krysome enounttede; Salle no duke in his dayes siche destanye happyne, Ne siche myschefe dreghe, whene trewthe salle be tryede! ffore-thy ffortune the fetches to fulfille the nowmbyre, Atts nynne of the nobileste namede in erthe; This salle in romance be redde with ryalle knyghttes, Rekkenede and renownde with ryotous kynges, And demyd one domesdaye, for dedis of armes, ffor the doughtyeste that euer was duelland in erthe: So many clerkis and kynges salle karpe of zoure dedis, And kepe zoure conquestez in cronycle for euer!

11. 3406-46.

IX. THIS WARLD IS VERRA VANITÉ'

(Prob. end of XIVth century.)

T.

Man, haue mynd and be amend Of all thi mys quhill at bou may; think wele that all thing has ane end, for erd til erd is ordanit ay: think wele, man, bat bou mon wend out of bis warld a wilsome way, for with na kynrike bou beis kend fra bat bi cors be cled in clay. bi son will seildin for be say be salter; seldin bat we see; ban freindeschip failzeis & gude fay: this warld is verra vanité.

II.

Veraly may nane divyne
The vanité pat now avowis:
yneuch per-of, I heir of nyne
pe nobillist, quhilk nane now is;
Arthour/ Charlis/ Gothra syne,
Dauid/ Judas/ Josue/ Jowis,

¹ From the Graye MS. First printed by the Editor in the Athenaeum, No. 3883, March 29, 1902.

Julius Cesar the Sar[z]in,¹ Ector pat all Troy in trowis, Alexander pat all to bowis To tak tribut of town & tre; per lif is gane/and nocht ane now is: pis warld is verra vanité.

TIT.

For Dauid [schawis], in-samplis seir; sindrie we see of Salamo[u]n, quhom of pe welth is went but weir; and fors is fail; of Sampsoun; [The] fairhede at had neuer feyr Is fadit fast of Absoloun; The rioll rynkis ar all in weyr At rass with rioll Jedeoun; and mony vthir gay ar gone: now to bis sampill haue gude E, oute of bis countre sen we mon; this warld is verray vanité.

IV.

Mony pape ar passit by, patriarkis, prelatis, and preist, kingis & knichtis in company, uncountit curiously vp I kest: women and mony wilsom wy, as wynd or wattir ar gane west: fish, & foule, & froit of tree on feild is nane formit na fest. Riches adew; sen all is drest pat pai may nocht pis dule in dre, sen nocht has life pat heir ma lest, this warld is bot a vanité.

V.

Quhar is Plato bat clerc of price, bat of all poetis had no peir? or jit Catoun with his clergiss? or Aristotill bat clerc so cleir? Tulliouss bat wele wauld tiss? to tell his trety[s] wer full teyr! or Virgil bat wes war & wise, and wist all wardly werk but we[i]r?

¹ MS. sergin.

² Not in MS.

⁴ The scribe first wrote 'indure'.

³ MS. Of.

is nane sa dowtit na sa dere, pan but redeming all mon dee: perfor I hauld, quha euir it heir— This warld is verray vanité.

VI.

Ane vthir exsampill suth to say,—
in summeris day full oft is sene
thir emotis in ane hillok ay
rinnand oute befor pin ene;
with litill weit pai wit away,
sa worthis of ws all I wene;
may nane indur our his enday;
bot all our drivis as dew bedene,
pat on the bery bidis bene,
and with a blast away wil be;
quhile girss ar gray, quhile ar pai grene;
this warld is verray vanité.

VII.

To tell of [C]rec[u]ss¹ war full teyr; I have na tyme to tell be teynd: all gais hyne but euer wes heir, to hevin or hell is be last ende: let neuer be feynd, bat fellon feyr, be fang, bot fra him be defend: beseke God & our lady deir, quhilk sall be sone to sucur send, and with baim be bi lugin lend, & low God quhill bou liffis in lee: now, man, have mynd and be amend,—bis warld is verray vanité.

X. ANE BALLET OF THE NINE NOBLES

(c. 1440: from Fordun's Chronicle, Univ. Lib., Edin.; vide Laing's Select Remains.)²

DE NOUEM NOBILIBUS.

Hectour of Troy throu hard feichthyngis, In half thrid zeris slew xix kyngis, And ammirallis a hundred and mare, Wyth small folk at vnrackynnit war; He slew sa fell, at wes ferly, Qwham Achilez slew tresnabli.

¹ MS. tretiss.

² Cp. Dr. Craigie's article, Anglia, xxi, to which I am indebted for the emendations in brackets.

Alexander als nobil a kyng, In xij zeris wan throw hard feichtyng, Al landis vnder the formament. Eqwhethir adai in till parlement, He said, he had but variance, Our litill in till his gouernance.

Julius Cesar wan hailily
The ilis of Grece, and all Surry;
Affrick, Arab, Bretan wan he,
And discumfit his mawche Pompe:
Throw hard batell, and stalward stour,
He was the first was emperour.

The gentill Jew Schir Josue,
[Ane &] xxx kyngis throw weir wan he;
And conquirit the landis also,
The flum Jordan pertit in two
Throw Goddis grace, and strang power;
Men suld hym loff on gret maner.

Dauid slew mychthy Golias, And Philistens at felon was; He wes so wycht, et weill feich[t]and, That he wes neuer sene recriand; Thairfor men call him, loud and still, A trew prophet of hardy will.

Michty Judas Machabeus
In bathell slew Antiochus,
Appolonius and Nichanore,
At in his dais wald neuer shor,
No multitud be adred of men,
Thoft he war ane eganes ten.

Arthur wan Dace, Spanze, and France, And hand for hand slew tua giantis; Lucius the publik procuratour Of Rome, wytht milleonis in stalwar stour; And in till Pariss Schir Frollo¹ In lystis slew wyth [other] mo.

^{&#}x27;This personage, who is introduced to exemplify the prowess of Arthur, according to the Chronicles, was a Roman knight, governor of Gaul. His name and that of 'Lucyus the emperour of Rome' are frequently alluded to.

Charles of France slew Aygoland, And wan Spanze fra hethoun [h]and; He slew the sowden of Pavi, And wan the Saxonis halily; And quhar God deid for our safté, He put haly the Christanté.

Godefrey Bolzone slew Solimant, Before Antioche, and Cormorant, Quham he throu ful strak had ourtane, Throu cop and har[n]ez his glave is gane; Sere hethownis he slew throu hard feychtyng, And of Jerusalem a zeir was Kyng.

Robert the Brois throu hard feich[t]yng With few venkust the mychtthy Kyng Off Ingland, Edward, twyse in fycht, At occupit his realme but rycht; [And] sum tyme wes set so hard, At hat nocht sax till hym toward.

3e gude men that thir balletis redis, Deme quha dochtyast was in dedis.

XI. WOURLDLY MUTABILITE

Attributed to Lydgate.

(From Harl. 2255, fol. 128b-31a.)1

So as I lay this othir nyght In my bed, tourning vp-so-doun, Whan Phebus with his beemys bryght Entryd the signe of the lyoun, I gan remembre with-inne my resoun Vpon wourldly mutabilite, And to reccorde wel this lessoun: Timor mortis conturbat me.

I thoughte pleynly in my devise, And gan considre in myn entent How Adam whyloom in paradise Desceyved was of a fals serpent

¹ Koeppel printed stanzas 7, 8, 10, 11, in Anz. f. deutsches Alterthum, 24; Koelbing quoted these stanzas in Englische Studien, xxv; the whole poem has not yet been printed off.

To breke Goddys comaundement, Wheer-thorugh al his posteryte Lernyd by short avisement: Tymor mortis conturbat me.

For etyng of an appyl smal He was exyled froom that place; Sathan maade hym to haue a fall, To lese his fortune and his grace, And froom that gardeyn hym enchace Fulle ferre froom his felicite; And thanne this song gan hym manace: Timor mortis conturbat me.

And had nought been his greet offence, And this greet transgressioun, And also his inobedience Of malice and of presumpcioun, Gyf credence ageyn al resoun To the develys iniquite, We had knowe no condicioun Of timor mortis conturbut me.

This lastyd forth al the age, Ther was noon othir remedye, The venym myght nevir aswage Whoos poysoun sprong out of envye Off pryde, veynglorye and surqued[r]ye,' And lastyng til tyme of Noye, And he stood eek in jupartye Of timor mortis conturbat me.

Froom our fore-fadir this venym cam, Fyndyng nevir noon obstacle, Melchisedech nor of Abraham, Ageyn this poysoun by noon pyacle; But of his seed ther sprang tryacle, Figure of Isaak, ye may rede and see, Restore to lyff by hih myracle Whan timor mortis conturbat me.

Moyses with his face bryght, Which cleer as ony sunne shoon; Josue, that was so good a knyght, That heng the kynges of Gabaoon; Nor the noble myghty Gedeoon Had no poweer nor no powste, For ther famous hih renoun, Ageyn timor mortis conturbat me.

¹ MS. surquedye.

Sampson that rent the lioun
On pecis smale, thus stood the caas;
Nor Dauid that slowh the champyoun,
I meene the myghty greet Golias;
Nor Machabeus the strong Judas,
Ther fatal ende whoo-so lyst see,
Both of Symon and Jonathas,
Was timor mortis conturbat me.

In the Apocalips of seyn John,
The chapitlys whoo-so can devyde,
The apostyl thoughte that he sawh oon
Vpon a paale hors did ryde,
That poweer hadde on euery syde;
His name was deth, thorugh cruelte;
His strook, whoo-so that durste abyde,
Was timor mortis conturbat me.

Rekne alle the wourthy nyne, And these olde conquerours; Deth them made echoon to fyne, And with his dedly mortal shours Abatyd hath ther fressh flours, And cast hem doun froom hih degree, And eek these myghty emperours, With timor mortis conturbat me.

These ladyes that were so fressh of face, And of bewte moost souereyn, Ester, Judith, and eek Candace, Alceste, Dido, and fayr Eleyne, And eek the goodly wy[v]es¹ tweyne, Mar[c]ya² and Penelope, Were enbracyd in the cheyne Of timor mortis conturbat me.

What may all wourldly good avaylle, Strengthe, konnyng and rychesse, Nor victorye in bataylle, Fame, conquest, nor hardynesse, Kyngdammys to wynne or oppresse, Youthe, helthe, nor prosperyte? All this hath here no sykirnesse Ageyn timor mortis conturbat me.

Whan youthe hath doon his passage, And lusty yeerys been agoon, Thanne folwith afftir crookyd age, Slak skyn and many a wery boon.

¹ MS. wywes.

² MS. Maroya, emended by Koeppel.

The sunne is dirk that whyloom shoon Of lusty youthe and fressh bewte, Whan othir socour is ther noon But timor mortis conturbat me.

In August whan the levys falle, Wyntir folwith afftir soone, The grene of somyr doth appalle, The wourld is changeable as the moone; Than is there no moore to doone But providence in ech degree, Of recure whan thar is no boone Saaff timor mortis conturbat me.

Ech man be war and wys beforn, Or sodeyn deth come hym to saylle; For there was nevir so myghty born, Armyd in platys nor in maylle, That, whan deth doth hym assaylle, Hath of diffence no liberte, To thynke afore what myght avaylle On timor mortis conturbat me.

Enpreente this mateer in your mynde, And remembre wel on this lessoun: Al wourldly good shal leve be-hynde, Tresour and greet pocessioun; So sodeyn transmutacioun, Ther may no bettir socour be Thanne ofte thynke on Cristes passioun, Whan timor mortis conturbat me.

XII. GOLAGROS AND GAWAYNE

(c. 1470.)

Hectour and Alexander, and Julius Cesar,
Dauid and Josue, and Judas the gent,
Sampsone and Salamon, that wise and wourthy war,
And that ringis on erd, richest of rent;
Quhen thai met at the merk, than might thai na mair,
To speid thame our the spere-feild enspringing thai sprent.¹
(Il. 1233-8.)

¹ Cp. VI. 'Is it out of respect for historical accuracy that our poet has substituted Sampsone and Salamon?' F. J. Amours, Scottish Allit. Poems in Riming Stanzas, p. 284; v. note on the passage.

TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES'

XIII. EARLY MUMMING-PLAY ON THE NINE WORTHIES (XVth century)

(Tanner MS. 407, temp. Edward IV; first printed by Ritson, in 'Remarks on last edition of Shakespeare', 1783.)

IX. WORTHY.

ECTOR DE TROYE. Thow Achylles in bataly me slow, Of my wurthynes men speken i-now.

> ALISANDER. And in romaunce often am I leyt 1, As conqueror gret thow I seyt 2.

JULIUS CÆSAR. Thow my cenatoures me slow in Constory 3, Fele londes byfore by conquest wan I.

Josue. In holy Chyrche ye mowen here and rede
Of my wurthynes and of my dede.

DAVIT. Aftyr that slayn was Golyas
By me the Sawter than made was.

JUDAS MACABEUS. Of my wurthynesse 3yf 3e wyll wete Seche the Byble, for ther it is wrete.

ARTHOUR. The Round Tabyll I sette with knyghtes strong, 3yt shall I come azen, thow it be long.

CHARLES. With me dwellyd Rouland Olyvere In all my conquest fer and nere.

GODEFREY DE And I was kyng of Jherusalem;
BOLEYN. The crowne of thorn I wan from them.

¹ i. e. esteemed, honoured.

² Ritson, = 'sey't, i.e. say it'; prob. = set (= sette) = declined, sank.

⁸ Ritson, Conllory. Conftory = Consistory.

APPENDIX

XIV. VERSES ON EARLIEST WOOD-BLOCK (1454-7.)

Preserved in Bibl. Nat. (Anciens Fonds Franç., No. 9653).

[The Nine Worthies are vividly depicted with their heraldic devices; these lines explain the several personages.]

HECTOR DE TROYE.

Je sui Hector de Troie ou li povoir fu grans. Je vis les Greciens qui moult furent puissans, Qu'assegier vinrent Troie ou il furent lonc tampz. Ja occis XXX rois come preus et vaillans. Archiles me tua, ja n'en soies doubtans, Devant que Dieu nasqui XIIIº et XXX ans.

LE ROI ALEXANDRE.

Par me force conquis les yles d'oultre mer, D'Orient, d'Occident me fis sire clamer; Roy Daire desconfis: Porus vols conquester, Et le grant Babilonne pris toutte à gouverner. Tout le monde conquis, mes par empuissonner VIII° ans devant Dieu me fist on afiner.

JULIUS CÉSAR.

Empe[re]ur fu de Romme et en maintins les drois. Englettere conquis, France et les Navarois. Pompée desconfis et tous ses grans conrois; Et Lombardie oussi fu mise à mes voloirs Et tous les Allemans. Puis fu occy tous frois Devant que Dieu nasqui VIIº¹ ans avoecq III.

Josué.

Des enfans d'Isràël fu ge forment amés. Dieu fist maintes vertus pour moi; c'est vérités. Le rouge mer parti. Puis fu par moi passés Le flum Jourdain. S'en fu maint paien affinez. XXII. rois conquis, puis moru, n'en doubtez, V° ans devant che que Jhesus Crist fu nés.

LE ROI DAVID.

Je trouvai son de harpe et de psalterion Je tuai Golias le grand gaiant felon: En bataille et ailleurs me tint on a preudom. Après le roi Saul maintins la region, Et je prophetizai de Dieu la nacion, Bien IIIc ans devant son incarnacion.

^{1 (?)} XL.

² Text reads se.

³ nacion = naissance.

TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES'

JUDAS MACHABEUS.

Je tins Ihérusalem et le loy de Moyse, Qui estoit quand je vins a perdicion mise. Les ydoles ostai, si mis la loy juise. Antiocus tuay dont le gent fu occise, Et Apolonion; puis moru, quand g'y vise, C ans avant que Dieus ot char h[um]aine prise.

LE ROY ARTUS.

Je fu roy de Bretaigne, d'Escoche et d'Engleterre; Maint roialme je vos par ma force conquerre; Le grant gaiant Rusto fis morir et deffaire. Sus le mont Saint Miciel un aultre en alai querre. Je vis le sang Greal; mes la mort me fist g[ue]rre, Qui m'ochit Vo ans puisque Dieus vint sus terre.

CHARLELEMAND.

Je fu roy des Rommains, d'Alemagne et de France, Je conquis toutte Espaigne et le mis en créance, Jaumont et Agoullant ochis par me puissance, Et les Sainnes oussi destruisi par vaillance. Pluseurs segneurs rebelles mis à obeissance, Puis moru VIIIº ans après Dieu le nessance.

GODFROY DE BUILLON.

Je fu duc de Buillon dont je maintins l'onnour. Por gerrier paiens je vendis ma tenour. Ens es plains de Surie je conquis l'Aumachour, Le roi Cornumarant ochis en un estour. Iherusalem conquis et le pais d'entour. Mors fu XI° ans après nostre Segnour.

XV. PROLOGUE TO PROSE 'ALEXANDER'

(From MS. belonging to the end of the XIVth or beginning of XVth century.)

Bruns's Altplattdeutsche Gedichte (1798).

KONING KARL. Wol mi, dat ek ju wart. Al Sasseslant han ik bekart.

ARTUS. An mynem hove mach me schawen ritter, spel, schon juncvrauwen.

APPENDIX

GOTFRIT. Cristus graf over mer dat wan ek mit minen her.

DAVID. Ek was en clene man: Golliat dan resen ek overwan.

JUDAS. To stride was ek unvorsaged. van dem velde wart ek nu gejaget.

Josue. Got let my de sunnen stan: dre un drittich koninge ek over-wan.

Julius. To Rome was ek en keiser grot; Pompeo dede eke grote not.

HECTOR. Ek hebbe vochten mennigen strit; Achillis sloch mi; dat was nyt.

ALEXANDER. Mir ist wol gelungen;
Al de werlt han ek bedwungen.

XVI. From HARVARD MS. OF LYDGATE'S 'GUY OF WARWICK'

 $(c. 1450.)^{1}$

Floruit Arthuro sub rege Britannia quondam, Gallia sub Carolo floruit illa suo,
Non minor his ibat magnus Godfridus in armis,
Quo sese iactat Belgica terra vetus.
Hector, Alexander, Romanae gloria gentis,
Iulius eximie nobilitate viri,
Et valida virtute pares dignissima turba,
Quam vehat arguta fama canora tuba.
Iosua, dux Israell, David, Macabeus Iudas,
Quos Iudae tellus protulit alma viros;
His domiti quondam reges pepere triumphos
Insignes et nunc fama perenna vehat.

¹ Cp. (Harvard) Studies and Notes in Philology and Literature, vol. v (Child Memorial Volume), 1896, on two MSS. of Lydgate's Guy of Warwick, by F. N. Robinson.

TEXTS ILLUSTRATIVE OF 'THE NINE WORTHIES'

XVII. HARL. MS. 200; XVth-century handwriting

.iij. Pagani.

.iij. Judei.

HECTOR, ALEX, JULIUS,

DAVID, JOSUE, MACHABEUS,

.iij. Christiani.

CAROLUS, ARTHURUS ET PRECELLENS GODEFRIDUS.

XVIII. LANSD. MS. 762; temp. Henry VII

Saraceni.

Judæi.

ECTOR, ALEX, JULIUS;

DAVID, JOSUE, MACHABEUS;

Cristiani.

ARTUR CUM CAROLO, GALFRIDUM LINQUERE VOLO:
ISTI SUNT TER TRES TRINI FIDEI MELIORES.¹

¹ To the beginning of the XVIth century belong the rather prosaic stanzas on the Nine Worthies at the end of Stephen Hawes's Passetyme of Pleasure. K. notes Barclay's references to Caesar, Alexander, Charlemagne, Godfrey, &c. in the Ship of Fools, where 'the ende of worldly honour and power' is treated of.

'SEE ALISANDRE, HECTOR, AND JULIUS,
SEE MACHABEUS, DAUID, AND JOSUE,
SEE CHARLEMAYNE, GODFRAY, AND ARTHUS,
FULFILD OF WERRE AND OF MORTALITEE:
HIR FAME ABIT, BUT AL IS VANITEE,
FOR DETH, WHICH HATH THE WERRES UNDER FOTE,
HATH MADE AN ENDE, OF WHICH THERE IS NO BOTE.'

Gower, Balade to King Henry the Fourth.









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