A Commentary on
the Haveloc Episode in
Geoffrei Gaimar's Estoire des Engleis,
an Anglo-Norman Poem, with an English
Translation

By Hideo Yamaguchi

Introductory

L'Estoire des Engleis is the earliest historical work in Anglo-Norman or
Anglo-French which has survived, but the opinion as to its date of
composition varies among different critics.

In his survey of the Anglo-Norman language and literature (1923, 1970),
Johan Vising enters Gaimar's work, under the caption Twelfth Century B.
Secular Literature §5. Chronicles, 61. Estori des Engleis, 6,552 ll. by
Geoffrey Gaimar, with the date c. 1150. R. M. Wilson (1951:67) simply
states that it was composed between 1138 and 1140. More recently, A. Bell
(1960: p. lii) concludes, after a brief consideration of the historical events
of the time, that the work was written earlier than c. 1150, towards the
close of the five year period 1135–40. It was written, he also suggests,
by "an author who had lived long enough in the country, even if not
actually born there, to acquire a considerable knowledge of the native
language" (ibid., p. li).

There are known four extant MSS. of L'Estoire des Engleis:

D = Durham Cathedral MS.C.iv.27; early 13th century.
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

L = Lincoln Cathedral, 104, formerly A.4.12 and still earlier H.18; later 13th century.
R = London, British Museum Royal 13 A xxi; late 13th century.
H = London, College of Arms, Arundel xiv; later 14th century.

MS. H fol. 125r–fol. 132r also contains Le Lai d'Haveloc by an unknown author, a rewriting in the form of a Breton lay, of which A. Bell says that its writer was "probably a recent immigrant from the Continent, who had come across Gaimar's version of the Haveloc story and recast it in the new fashionable form" (op. cit., p. lxxv).

Gaimar wrote for a patroness, Constance, who was the wife of Ralph FitzGilbert (here I follow A. Bell, instead of R. M. Wilson, who gives the name as Robert, on the basis of l. 6450 Raul de fiz Gilebert), a well-known figure in twelfth-century Lincolnshire.

Ceste estoire fist translater
Dame Custance la gentil. 6430–31,
as the author explicitly says.

The epilogue also makes a mention of the author by name in several passages.

Geffrei Gaimar cel livere escrit. 6453.
Ore dit Gaimar k'il tressalli, 6502.
The name also occurs in ll. 6432, 6477, 6522, etc. The authorship is thus thrust repeatedly upon our attention in Gaimar's own words.

It is generally known that after the Havelok tale in the earlier part, the main part of the extant section was translated directly, and not through a Latin intermediary, from the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles (A. Bell 1960: p. li). In ll. 6443–46 there is a reference to 'the gest of the British kings according to the books of Wales', which Robert the count of Gloucester made him translate:

Robert li quens de Gloucestre
Fist translater icle geste
Solum les liveres as Waleis
K'il aveient des bretons reis.
This is the lost section, the *Estoire des Bretuns*, most probably based, as A. Bell notes (op. cit.), on the recently completed *Historia Regum Britanniae* of Geoffrey of Monmouth. As to the cause of its loss, Wilson (op. cit.: 205) suggests that it has been replaced by a more popular Version of Wace’s from *Historia*, the *Geste des Bretons*, or more commonly the *Roman de Brut*, which formed in later years the basis of Lagamon’s *Brut*.

On Gaimar’s literary sources, we have some evidence in his own words in the *Estoire*. His patroness, Dame Constance, purchased for him many copies of English books and grammars in the popular language (‘romanz’) and in Latin on which he worked.

Il purcaça maint esamplaire,
Liveres engleis e par grammaire
E en romanz e en latin,

Ainz k’en pust traire a la fin. 6435-38.

A particular mention is made of the four books which he had used in writing his history:

(i) le livere Walter Espac (l. 6442);
(ii) le bon livere de Oxeford (l. 6458);
(iii) l’estoire de Wincestre (l. 6461);
(iv) de Wassingburc un livere engleis (l. 6465).

The details of these sources need not detain us here.

What concerns us here is the episode of Haveloc in Gaimar’s own version in the *Estoire* (we are following A. Bell’s edition based on MS. D). In this Danish story, there is a group of passages, which refer to the presence of the Danes in Britain long before the Anglo-Saxon settlement: the obscure Wasing episode (ll. 895—920), the Danish incursion of 787 (ll. 2071—91), and a passage about Cnut (ll. 4309—18). And among other suggested passages we find the story of Haveloc, of unknown origin, probably a purely local one in the opinion of A. Bell (op. cit.: p. lviii), localized in Grimsby, Lincolnshire (Wilson 1951:224).

Of the later versions of the same story two works are known. We have already mentioned a re-writing which an unknown author of the same
century made in the form of a Breton lay: *le lai d’Haveloc*. The other is
the Middle English version of c. A. D. 1280: *The Lay of Havelok the Dane*,
supposed to have been written from the legendary source in East England,
which Walter W. Skeat re-edited from the former edition by F. Madden in
1868.

We also have an earlier edition of the *Estoire* in: Sir T. Duffus Hardy and
1888 (in *Rerum Britannicarum Medii Aevi Scriptores*). (See A. Bell, op. cit., p. lxxxiii and L. E. Menger 1966: p. 18.)

We will now turn to the phonological features of the language of our
poem in a very brief note.

The history of French preceding the modern period has been subdivided
by M. K. Pope (1934, 1966: 9) into Period I and Period II each with its
further subdivisions:

Period I: (1) Gallo-Roman extending from the end of the fifth century
to the middle of the ninth, when the written vernacular Strassbourg Oaths
appears,

(2) Early Old French, extending roughly from the middle of the ninth
century to the end of the eleventh.

Period II: (1) Later Old French, extending roughly extending from the
end of the eleventh century to the beginning of the fourteenth,

(2) Middle French, from the fourteenth to the sixteenth century.

Gaimar’s French falls within Period II, Later Old French, written at a
time when Anglo-Norman was still regarded as a living dialect of French,
and we can observe it in a manuscript as transcribed in the early thirteenth
century, MS. *D*, which A. Bell’s edition takes for its basis.

In *L’Estoire des Engleis*, we find five simple vowels and their nasalized
variants: *À, È, Ì, Ò, Ù*.

A: altres, L. alterum; ami, L. amicum; anel, L. anulus; aportout
(aporter), L. apportare; arbres, L. arbre; bras, L. brachia; char,
L. caronem; chevalier (caValier), L. caballum; dame, L. dominam;
matin, L. matutinum; passad, passum (passer), L. passum; quartiers,
L. quartum; part, L. partem.

Ẽ: ambure, L. ambo; demandot, demander, L. demandare; dormant, L. dormantem; flamme, L. flammam; grant, L. grandem; jambes, LL gamba; mangier, L. manducare; quant, L. quantum; tant, L. tantum.

Here we find also some traces of the old Germanic substratum of Anglo-Norman reasserting themselves in its overt features: garçon, Francien wrakjo; hache, Francien happja.

E (1), Latin free A: chevalier, L. caballum; frere, L. fratrem; gelins, L gallinam; gré, L. gratum; mer, L. mare; kenard, cheneve, Gk kannabis.

Often written ie: chier, L. carum.

E (2), Latin checked E: bestes, L. bestiam; bel, bels, beles, L. bellum; despit, L. despectum; erité, L. hereditatem; femme, L. feminam; gent, L. gentem; gentil, L. gentilem; merci, L. mercedem; prestz (prester), L. Praestare; rei, L. regem; regné, L. regnum; tenud (tenir), L. tenere; terre, L. terram; veie, L. viam; veir, L. verum; vespre, L. vesperem; also fier, L. ferum; pieres, L. petrum, with the orthographic ie for e.

E (3), Latin I: fedeiltez, L. fidelitatem; merrai (mener), L. minare; metez (metre), L. mittere.

Ẽ: emfant, L. infantem; membrat (membrer), L. memorare; empire, L. imperium; bien, L. bene; entent, L. intendere; entred, L. intrare; envie, L. invidiam; mençonge, PL*mentionica; parente, L. parentem; prendre, L. praehendere; pensé, L. pensare; trente, L. triginta; volentiers, L. volentem.

I: criminel, L. crimen, criminalis; fille, L. filiam; gelines, L. gallinam; gisir (gésir), L. jacere; iloc, L. illo loco; justisier, L. justitiam (justise); lignage, L. linea; *lineaticum; lit, L. lectus; navire, navilie, L. *navilium for navigium (K. Urwin); nurrice, L. nutrire; pensifs, L. pensare; pitied, L. pietatem; princes, L. princeps; principem; tinels, L. *tignellum (tignum);
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

i for e: simenels, seminel, L. semen;
origin obscure: bricuns.

\( \tilde{\text{i}} \): matin, L. matutinum; quint, L. quintum; quinze, L. quindecim;
vindrent, vint (venir), L. venire; Germanic: Lindesie; Arabic: meschins.

O: here is no distinction between free and checked tonic o (Menger 1966: 66). In Anglo-Norman u is generally favoured for o: la persone rhymes with la corune in ll. 723–24, vos with nus in ll. 763–64, les leons with les pluns in ll. 283–84.

o is kept in: aporter, L. apportare; cor, corn, L. cornu; cors, L. corpus; corune, L. coronam; dormant, L. dormantem; fors, L. foris; morz, L. mortem; nostre, L. nostrum; ore, L. horam; ocistrent (ocire), L. occidere; porcs, L. porcum; trovot (trover), L. trovare; volentiers, L. voluntatem; vostre, L. vostrum; Germanic: floz (flot); origin obscure: encore.

u is favoured in: cumen9at (comencier), LL cominitiare; cuvenant, L. convenire; duner, L. donare; hume, L. homo; recunut (recooistre), L. reconoscere.

\( \tilde{\text{o}} \): the nasalized o, which later became more open than the close o, often occurs in rhyme with u here.

hom 679 (humes 731), L. homo; leons 283 (: pluns), L. leo; maison 111 (: ahateisun), L. mansio; mansionem; L. *mentionia; bon, L. bonum; u is favoured orthographically in many words, including cum- / cun- compounds: cumbatanz, LL combattuere; cumençat, LL cominitiare; cumpdgnun, cumpainz, PL companio; cungié, L. commeatum; cunseil, L. consilium; conquerre, L. conquirere; cunversad (cunverser), L. conversari; encuntrez (encuntrer), encuntre, adv., L. contra; muntot (monter), L. mons, montem; nun (non), L. nomen; purpens, por- (L. pro-) + L. pensare; quistrum (coôsron), L. coquistrnonem; regiuns, L. regionem; sulunc (selonc), L. *sublongum; also in: avisiiun 245 (: barun), L. ad + visionem; garçön 99 (: nun), ? Francien; geldons (gelde), Germanic gelda.
U: buche, L. bucca; cum, L. cum; curescôt, curecier, L. curare; escutad (escouter), L. auscultare; ruast (ruer), LL rutare; turnai (turner), L. tornare. Also: Artur, prop. n., of Celtic origin. U here tends to become ū in Old French, but u remained in bouche, écouter, tourner, etc.

Ū: dunc, LL dunc; dunt, L. de unde; un, L. unum; unc, unques (onques), L. unquam; Guntier, prop. n., of Germanic origin.

Of diphthongs we come across seven, besides one triphthong:

AI (ĀI), EI (ĒI), IE (ĪE), EU, IEU, OI, OU, UI.

AI has the value of ei or e (open) and frequently interchanges orthographically with ei and e: amai (amer), L. amavi; araithun, L. ad- + L. rationare; asaillient (assaillir), L. ad- + L. salire; bailliez (baillier), L. bajulare; bataille, L. battalia; feit (faire), L. fecit; laissai (laissier), L. lazare; mais, mes, L. magis; menai (mener), PL minare; reparier, L. reparare; sai (savoir), L. sapere; sapio; (ne sai ke dait, L. debere).

Also in: gaitier (guetter), Germanic wahton (to watch).

ĀI: ainz, L. antius; cumpainz, PL compagnio; pain, L. panem; claim, L. clamare; remaindrad (remaindre), L. remanere; saint, L. sanctum. We may also add: mains (: plains), L. manum, though A. Bell calls the rhyme plain: main (11. 4027–28) doubtful. Maint, ‘much, many’: the origin is controversial.

EI: dreit, L. directum; espeir, L. sperare; meisun, moison, L. mensionem; pur quei, L. pro and the tonic form of quid; reis, L. regem; secrai, L. secretum; peissun, L. piscem; veir, L. verum; veneisuns, L. venationem; also in the verbal ending of the imperfect: aveit (avoir), L. habere; teneit (tener), L. tenere; veneit (venir), L. venire. EI is also found before a palatal ‘l’: cunsel for consel (:fel), L. consilium.

ĒI: demein, L. dominicum; l’endemein, L. mane (hence main, demain); etc.

EU is retained in Deus (168), Deu (1. 719), ModFr dieu, L. deum.

IE: -ië and -é are usually distinguished, but sometimes rhyme together in
Old French.

autrier, autre, L. alterum and -ier, L. heri; bachelier, LL *baccalarem; chevalier, PL. caballum; chier (orthographic for cher), L. carum; cungié, L. commeatum; justisier, L. justitia; lied, L. laetum; mangier, L. manducare; mielz, L. melius; muillier, L. mulierem; mustier, L. monasterium; peschier, L. piscatorem; quartiers, L. quartum; pitied, L. pietatem; volentiers, L. voluntas with -iers. Also in: haitié (haitier), Francien?; hebergier, Francien? Similarly: Algier, L. Algeria; piez, L. pedem; mestier, L. ministerium; niece, L. neptim.

IÈ: bien, L. bene; mien, L. meus, meum.

IEU: lieu (also lius), L. locum.

OÎ: estoire, L. historiam; goie (joie), L. gaudiam; oi (oi a nun), L. habere, habeo; poi, L. paucum; voit (voir dire), L. venire; baldor, from balde, Germanic bard; choisid (choisir), Germanic kausjan. In the twelfth and the thirteenth century, OFr oi went over to / we / or / e /.

OU: dous, L. duos.

UI: (1) u + j / i: s’agenuillad(genoux), L. genu. celui, L.illi. dui (dui frere), L. duos. muillier, L. mulierem; puignant, L. pungere; puindre, L. pungere. quidot (cuidier), L. *cugitare. quisines, L. coquistronem.

(2) ò + close or consonantal i: conuissant (conoistre), L. cognoscre; luiers, loer, L. laudare; luinz (loing), L. longe; nuit, L. noctem; suig (soigne), Francien?; tuit (tot), L. *tottum for totum.

In Gaimar, the following letters are employed to indicate the consonants:

b, c, ch, d, f, g, gn, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, (w), x, z.

c (1): / k / conuissant, cors, cunseil; c (2): / ts / ocise, cenz, icest, moncel;
c (3): / s / ço, hericôt, hericad.

ch: / tʃ / chaîr, atuchad, pescheûr, chevalier.

d: gabad: dunad, but entend: huntusement shows a weakened d, as also regard: part 3089–90.
According to Behrens (1903: §124,1), d, t postvocalic have been silent since the beginning of the eleventh century: ad (a), et (e), amat (aimet, ModFr aime), through the assumed intermediate consonants ð and þ. Gaimar 1968 still has amat.

- g (1): /g/ gupilz, grant, guarant, Grimesbi; g (2) /dʒ/gisir, salvage, corage, sungié; gn: palatal n’ as régné, seigné.
- j: juvente, jo, jurz.
- k: kenard, ke (que).
- l (1): clear /l/ leons, flamme, Haveloc; l (2) palatal /l’/ asaillir, merveillot, fille, esveillié, agenuillant; l (3) velar /l/ mult, malmise; ’l’ drops out in autre (de l’autre part) through vocalization, cf. altres 47.
- q: quant, que, qui, tresque, quistrun.
- r (1): /r/ bras, embracié, reis, sorur, terre; r (2) ‘r’ is weakened before and after a consonant: estre (:feste) 267.
- sc before i or e seems to have become /stʃ/ in words like escient (a escient 599) with its prothetic e- (H. Rheinfelder 1953: 184), but sc /s/ for s does not occur in Gaimar, though we witness it later in an Anglo-Norman rhymed Apocalypse: Sa volenté ki trop eiment terriene richeisce /E trop se delitent de vivere tut a eise. 2385–86;
- sc /sk/ is found in descovrom (descovrir).
- w: the letter w does not occur in Gaimar’s episode of Haveloc, though it often figures in the later passages of the Estoire. We find guerierent ‘warred or fought’ in l. 34, guarant ‘warrant’ in l. 117.
- x: uxor 368 is the only instance of the use of this letter in the Haveloc episode.
- z (1): /dz/ initially or medially does not occur in the episode; z (2)/ts/ is common finally throughout the poem: ainz, liez, piez, nez, perilz, parentez, volez, etc. Cf. M. K. Pope (1934, 1966), p. 276.

The weakening of z / ts/ seems to occur in: merrez (:voldres) 396.
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

z may be voiced in nuriz: descovrid 3629.

Gemination of consonants is unknown in AN, as we learn from the spelling like aler for aller.

REFERENCES

1. Text


2. Dictionaries


3. Studies


M. K. Pope, *From Latin to Modern French with Especial Consideration of Anglo-
The Episode of Haveloc in Gaimar's

*L'Estoire des Engleis*

The Beginnings of the Story

Our story goes back to the time of which Gildas, the British author speaks, when Constantine ruled Britain, the nephew of Arthur of the Excaliber fame.

Cil Constantins li niés Arthur
Ki ot l’espee Kalibur. 43–44

There were two kings then in Britain,

[Adelbrit] ot nun un des reis,
Riches hum fud, si ert Daneis.
Li altres ot nun Edelsi,
Sue [ert] Nincole e Lindesi. 45–48

(One of the kings was Adelbrit by name,
A mighty man he was, as was a Dane.
The other was called Edelsi,
Lincoln and Lindsey were his own.)

There existed friendly relationships between the two kings,* the one

*) In the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (the Parker MS) we find the name Aepelbryht (Adelbrit) recorded under the year 855 and under the year 836 we read Epelwulf . . . his suna Aepelstane, who has been identified by M. Deutschbein with OE Aepelsige (i.e. Edelsi).
a Dane and the other a Briton, such that the latter gave his sister in marriage to the former. She was called Orwain and very gentle and of good descent, as the tale tells us. Edelsi had been indeed a faithful friend to Adelbrit, so long as the Dane was powerful. But Adelbrit was now dead and his body was buried, so the queen and her daughter Argentille went to live in Lindsey, where Edelsi was king. The former kingdom was handed over to whomever might keep it, for the queen was infirm.

When at last the queen, too, went, her daughter was brought up at Lincoln and Lindsey. Seeing that she had no near relation on her father’s side, the wicked king Edelsi, in his covetousness for the heritage of the old kingdom, dispatched his niece in marriage unworthily to a young man called Cuaran (the Old Norse origin of this name has been pointed out by the critics), in order to humiliate her. Though this Cuaran was a servant of low rank in the kitchen (quistrun, ‘a kitchen boy’ l. 173, cf. HD 879–936), he was a fine young gentleman, free and noble and soon was able to make his influence felt in the household.

Meanwhile, Argentille, Edelsi’s niece, complained much of him, who had thus deserted her. One day she dreamed a strange dream in which a savage bear came and threatened to eat up Cuaran and how he fought fiercely with the bear and a pack of foxes following him. Brought back to herself out of fear for the vision, she happens to see a flame issuing from the mouth of her husband still deep in his sleep. Soon afterwards Cuaran learns of her terrible dream and of the mysterious sign of flame that issued out of his mouth while in sleep. He tries to pacify her fear with a favourable interpretation of the dream, but he can only say of the flame that it is his fault that he cannot control and that he never feels it himself.

Our story continues:

\[\text{Dist Argentille: ‘Ami, entend.} \]
\[\text{Nus sumes ci huntusement;}\]
\[\text{Mielz nus vendreit estre issiliez} \]
\[\text{Entre paiens e enperrez}\]
Amis, u est li tuen linage?"
(Said Argentille: 'Love, listen.
We are here in a shameful way;
We had better go into exile
Among the pagans and the banished
Than here lie in such dishonour.
Love, where is your family?)

Notes. 299 entend (entendre, 'être attentif'), 'attention!' 300 ci = ici. 301 mielz, 'mieux'. mielz nus vendreit (venir), 'it will be more fitting for us', an impersonal expression.

'Dame,' fait il, 'a Grimesbi;
D'iloc turnai, quant jo vinc ci.
Si la ne truis mun parenté,
Suz ciel ne sai dunt jo sui né.'

'Amis,' fait ele, 'kar i alum
Saveir si ja i troverum
Nul hum ki mei ne tei amast
U meilleur cunseil nus dunast.'

('Lady,' said he, 'at Grimsby;
I arrived from there, when I came here.
If I do not find my parents there,
I know not under heaven where I was born.'

'Love,' said she, 'therefore will we go there
To learn if ever we do not find there
Any man who would love me or thee
Or better counsel would give us."

Notes. 306 d'iloc = iluoc, 'de là', L. illo loco. turnai (torner), 'returned, arrived'. vinc, ving (venir), 'I come'. 307 truis (trover), 'find'. 308 suz ciel, 'under heaven'. 309 alum (aller), 'let us go'. alum saveir, 'go to
discover'. 311 nul hum, ‘none’, the negative should go with the verb *troverum* rather than the noun *hum*. 312 *u* = *ou*. 311–312 amast (amer), dunast (duner), subj. past, 3 sgl.

Dist Cuaran: ‘La meie amie,
U seit saveir u seit folie,
Jo f[e] rai ço que vus volez,

316
La vus merrai, si vus loez.’
La nuit jurent desqu’al cler jor.
L’endemain vunt a lur seignur,
Al rei vindrent querre congrigé.
(Said Cuaran: ‘My love,
Be it wisdom, be it folly,
I will do what you will,
I will lead you there, if you agree.’
He lay down the night till it was broad daylight.
On the morrow they went to their lord,
They went to take leave of the king.)

Notes. 314 u seit saveir u seit folie, ‘be it wisdom or be it folly; I care
not which’. 316 merrai (mener), ‘I will lead (you)’. loez: loër, louer,
‘approver’. 317 jurent, jorent, perf. 3 sgl. of gesir (Larousse). 317 desqu’al
cler jor, ‘till broad daylight’.
319 vindrent (venir) querre congrigé, ‘went to
bid farewell’.

320
Quant il ço ot, sin est haitié,
Tut en riant le lur dunad,
A tuz ses humes s’en gabad
E dit: ‘S’il unt un poi de faim,

324
U al tierz jor u al demein,
Tut se mettrunt el repaire,
Quant ne purrunt mielz espleiter.’
(When he heard this, he was so glad of it,
All smiling he gave them it,
To all his men he made broad jokes
And said: ‘If they have a little hunger,
Or on the third day or tomorrow,
They will all begin to return,
When they cannot better succeed.’

Notes. 320 oîr? sin = si + en: sin est haitié, ‘is so glad of it’. 321 le lur dunad: donner le congie, ‘allow to depart’. 322 s’en gabad: s’en gaber, ‘brag, make fun’. 323 un poi = un peu. 324 u...u...u..., similarly in archaic English: or...or...or..., ‘either...or...or...’. 325 se mettrunt (metre), ‘will commence to...’. 326 el for il? (plural), or el (n.). repairer for se repairer, ‘to return’?

Ore s’en vunt cil a Grimesbi.

328 La troverent un bon ami,
Peschëur ert, iloc maneit,
La fille Grim celui aveit.
Quant recunut les treis meschins,

332 Cuaran e les dous fîz Grims,
E il sot de la fille al rei
— — — — — [en la lei
Mult fu pensifs en son corage;

336 Dist a sa femme que mult ert sage:
‘Dame,’ fait il, ‘que ferom?
Si vus loez, descouverom
A Haveloc le fîz le rei]

340 Nostre conseil e le secrei.
Dîme[s] [li] tut overtament,
Dunt il est nez e de quel gent.’
(Now they went to Grimsby.
There they found a good friend,
A fisherman was he who lived there,
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

This man had the daughter of Grim.
When he recognized the three youths,
Cuaran and the two sons of Grim,
And he knew the daughter of the king
— — — — — /in the law
He was very thoughtful in his heart;
He said to his wife who was very wise:
‘Lady,’ said he, ‘what shall we do?
If you agree, we will disclose
To Haveloc the son of the king
Our opinion and the secret.
To him we will say everything openly,
Whence he was born and of what people.’

Notes. 329 Pescheûr ert, iloc maneit: a katab koinou construction. 330 La fille Grim: Grim as genitive. 332 fitz Grims: genitive. 330 la fille al rei: genitival for ‘the king’s daughter’. 334–35 A. Bell notes: As the result of a torn leaf in R, to which we must have recourse own to the absence of ll. 334–9 from DL, only the last three words of l. 334 are left. His suggested reading is: Qu’ele ert sa mullier en la lei, i.e. ‘his lawful wife’. The Middle English Havelock the Dane similarly says: Blessed be þat ilke þrawe, þat þou hire toke in godes lawe! 1215–16. 337 ferom: faire. 339 fitz le rei: genitive. A. Bell (op. cit.: p.xiv) also suggests that the longer episodes (among them our Haveloc) introduced by Gaimar into the Estoire he obtained from some largely unknown sources, including ‘almost certainly some material deriving from oral tradition’. As in our story, so in Havelok the Dane, Grim is dead when Haveloc (Cuaran) arrives in Grimsby: þanne he komen þere, þanne was grim ded,/ Of him ne haueden he no red: 1203–4.

Dist la dame: ‘S’il le saveit,
344 Jo qui que il le descuvereit
En itel lieu par sun folage
U tost li vendret grant damage.
Il nen est mie si savant
Qu'il saced cuvri sun talent
S'il saveit qu'il de reis fust nez,
Curtes ures [serreit] celez
E nepuroc ore l'apelum,

Dunt il est nez ore demandum
E si sa femme vient od lui,
Bien li poüm dire, ço qui,
Dunt il est nez e de quel terre,

Cum il eisillad par la guerre.'
(Said the lady: 'If he knew it,
Though he discovered it already,
In such a place by his folly
Soon thereof great damage would come to him.
He may never be so wise
That he would know how to obtain what he desires.
If he knew he was born of a king,
Our court would be kept secret,
And nonetheless we will now summon him,
We will now ask where he was born
And if his wife comes with him,
We could well tell him, the person
Of whom he was born and of what land,
When he was exiled by the war.')

Notes. 351 ore, 'maintenant'. apelum: apeler. 354 poüm: poir; perf. I pl. ço qui: 'that which, the person who(m)'. 356 eisillad: eissilier.

A tant apelent Aveloc—
E Argentele vint avoc—
E li pruedhueme e sa muillier

L'unt pris mult belairaismener.
'Amis,' funt il, 'dunt estes nez?
En quel lieu est tis parentez?
'Dame,’ fait il, ‘ici laissai

364 Mun parenté, quant m’en turnai.
Tu es ma suer, jo sui tis frere
Ambure de pere e de mere;
Grim fud mis pere un [pescheûr],

368 Ma mere ot nun Sebruc sa uxor.
Quant furent mort, d’ici turnai,
Mes dous freres od mei menai.
Ore eimes granz, revenuz sumes

372 Mes noz [parenz] ne coneûmes
Ne mes sul tei e tun seignur;
Bien sai, tu ies nostre sorur.’

(Thereupon they summon Haveloc—
And Argentille goes as well—
And the experienced man and his wife
Took to interpelling him very closely.
‘Friends,’ said they, ‘whence are you born?
In what place are thy parents?’
‘Lady,’ said he, ‘here I had left
My father, when I departed from here.
Thou art my sister, I am thy brother
Both of father and of mother;
Grim was my father, a fisherman,
My mother is called Sebruc, his wife.
When they were dead, I departed hence,
I led my two brothers with me.
Now we are grown, we are returned
But our parents we did not know
Except thou and thy lord alone;
Well I know thou art our sister.’)
Hideo Yamaguchi

Notes. 357 a tant, ‘thereupon’. avoc, avoec, ‘as well’. 359 pruedhueme, ‘prudhomme’. mult bel, ‘très bien, avec élégance’. 360 pris (prendre) araisuner: A. Bell (op. cit.: 209) supports the view that araisuner represents the fusion of a with araisuner and the expression prendre a + infinitive is a calque on the English expression; today we say ‘to take to drinking’ in English. 364 m’en turnai: torner, refl., ‘to depart’. 368 ot nun, aveir non, ‘to be called’. 371 Ore eimes granz: ‘The rare esmes is said to be found only in Norman and Anglo-Norman texts’ (L. E. Menger 1966: 127). eimes (estre) may be regarded as the weakened form of esmes, quoted in Meyer-Lüpke, Grammatik II, 290, §224. 372 coneimes, perf. of conoistre, ‘to know, to recognize’. 373 ne mes (ne mais), ‘si ce n’est que...’, (1) ‘no longer’, (2)‘except’ (+ que). sul, ‘seulement’.

Respunt Kelloc: ‘Tut i ad el.

376 Unc tis peres ne vendi sel
Ne ta mere ne fud salniere.
Grim vendi sel, si fud peschiere.
De mes freres grant gré te sai;

380 Ço que[s] nurris, t’en mercierai.
(Kelloc replies: ‘There is something else, quite.
Never did thy father sell salt
Nor thy mother was a salter.
I am very grateful to you about my brothers;
For what you bring up, I will thank thee.)


‘Yer arivad laïs al port
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

Un bon kenard e grant e fort,
Pain e char meine e vin e ble—

384 De tel unt il mult grant plenté.
Ultre la mer vuentent passer.
Si vus vulez od els aler,
[Jo quid k’il irrupt el pais,

388 U sunt vos parenz e amis.
Si vus volez od els aler,
Nus les vus purrum alüer];
Dras vus durrum a remuiers,

392 Sin porterez de noz deniers
E pain e char e bon cler vin
Pur prendre al vespre e al matin;
Cunrei avrez tant cum voldres,

396 Vos dous vadlez od vus merrez.
(Yesterday there arrived down at the port
A good ship large and strong,
Bread and large meat and wine and corn—
Of such they have more than plenty.
Beyond the sea they want to pass.
If you want to go with them,
I think that they will go to the country,
Where your parents and friends are.
If you want to go with them,
We could hire them for you;
We would give you cloth in exchange,
If you do not carry our money
And bread and meat and good bright wine
To take in the evening and in the morning;
You shall have an equippage, so long as you wish,
Your two youths you shall lead with you.)
`Mes celez bien vostre secrei:
Vus fustes fiz a un bon rei;
[Danemarche out par heritage, Si out son pere e son linage].
Li vostre pere ot nun Guntier, Si prist la fille al rei Gaifer.
[Alvive] ot nun, ele me nurrid,
Maint bien fist, tant cum [vesqui];
Ele me levad, ço dist ma mere.
Fille sui Grim un sun cumpere.
Mes ço avint en vostre terre:
Li reis Arthur la vint cunquerre.
(But keep close your secret:
You were son to a good king;
Denmark he had by heritage,
So had his father and his line.
Your father is called Guntier,
And took the daughter of King Gaifer.
Alvive is her name, she brought me up,
Much good she did (to me), so long as she lived;
She raised me, so said my mother.
Daughter am I to Grim a godfather of hers.
But that happened in your land:
King Arthur went there to conquer.)

Notes. 397 celez bien: celez (celer), L. celare. par heritage, ‘by heritage’.
402 prist (prendre), perf. 404 maint bien, ‘much good’. vesqui (vivre), perf.
levad: lever. Grim, dative. un sun cumpere: cumpere, 'godfather'; the indefinite article un is collocated with the pronominal adjective sun.

avint: avenir, 'to arrive, to happen'.

‘Pur sun treü que li detint
Od mult grant gent el país vint;
Al rei Guntier semblad [contraille],

Juste la mer li tint bataille;
Ocis i fud li rei Guntier
E d’ambes parz maint chevalier.
Qui Artur plot dunat la terre.

Mais la reïne pur la guerre
Ne pot [el] país remaneir,
Si s’en fuit od le dreit eir,
Ço este[s] vus, si cum jo crei,

Danz Avelocs le fiz le rei.
(Because of his tribute that he failed to pay
With many great people he came to the country;
To King Guntier it seemed adversity,
Near the sea the battle held him;
There was King Guntier killed
And on both sides many a knight.
To whom Arthur liked he gave the land.
But the queen because of the war
Could not stay in the land,
So she fled with the rightful heir,
That was you, as I believe,
Sir Haveloc the son of the king.)

remaneir: el païs, locative. 418 dreit, 'true, rightful'. 419 si cum jo crei, 'just as I believe': si cum, conj. of manner (instead of time), 'comme si'.

420 Danz, nominative of dant = dam, 'seigneur, sire', E. Don, Sir. le fiz le rei: le rei, genitival.

'Mis pere aveit mult bone nef.
La reîne amenot süef,
Vers cest païs l'en amenot,

424 Quant si avint cum [a] Deu plot:
De uthlages fumes encuentrez.
En mer furent trestuz rûez
Noz chevaliers e nostre gent

428 E la reîne ensement.
Unc n'i guarid hom fors mun pere
Ne nule femme fors ma mere.
Mis pere esteit lur conuissant;

432 Pur ço garirent li emfant,
E jo e vus e mi dui frere,
Par la preiere de mun pere.
En cest païs quant arivames,

436 Nostre grant nef parmi trenchames
Kar tute ert frainte e malmise,
Quant la reîne ert ocise.
(My father had many good ships,
The queen he conducted gently,
Towards this country he conducted her,
When it so happened as it pleased God:
We encountered outlaws.
Into the sea were they all thrown
Our knights and our people
And the queen likewise.
Never was there saved a man except my father
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

Nor any woman except my mother.
My father was their acquaintance;
Because of that they saved the infants,
And I and you and my brothers,
By the entreaty of my father.
In this country when we arrived,
Through the middle of our great ship we cut
For everything was broken and ruined,
When the queen was killed.)


'De nostre nef maison feïmes;
440 Par un batel bien garesimes,
Dunt nostre pere alad peschier.
Peissuns eïmes a mangier.
Turbuz, salmuns e muluëles,
444 Graspeis, porpeis e makerels;
A grant plenté e a fuisun
Oümes pain e bon peissun.
Del peissun cangium le pain
[Que] hom nus aportout a plain
E, cum nus eümes deniers,
Mis peres dunc devint salniers.
Tant cum vesqui il e ma mere,

Bien [vus] nurrit mielz que mi frere
E jo remis, si pris seignur.
(Of our ship we made our home;
By a part of the ship we were protected well,
Whence our father went fishing.
Fish we had to eat,
Turbot, salmon and mulwell,
Whale-grease porpois and mackerel;
In plenty and in abundance
We had bread and good fish.
For fish we exchanged bread
That men brought us plentifully.
And as we had money,
My father then became a salt merchant.
So long as he lived and my mother,
He brought you up well, better than my brothers
And I was left, so I took husband.)

Notes. 439 feimes: faire. 440 batel, 'partie d’un vaisseau’. 443 turbuz, salmuns, etc. In a passage of the Middle English version, where the author describes Grim’s good fishing, we also find the names of fishes in a list in like manner:

He tok be sturgiun, and be qual ('whale'),
And be turbut ('turbot'), and lax ('salmon') with-al,
He tok be sele ('seal'), and be hwel ('whale');
He spedde ofte swiwe wel:
Keling ('cod') he tok, and tumberel ('porpois', a tumbler),
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

Hering, and þe makerel ('mackerel'),
þe Butte ('a flounder, or plaice'), þe schulle ('plaice'), þe
þornebake ('skate'): 753–59

444 graspeis, graspois, craspois, 'graisse de baleine'. 445 a fuisun, a foison,
'profusely'. 447 de peissun, ?'with fish', or 'for fish'. cangium: cangier, 'to
exchange'. 448 hom, 'on'. a plain, pletifully. 451 il e ma mere: the first
subject goes with the verb that precedes, and the second subject is simply
appended, as it is still often the rule in the Authorised Version of the Bible.
453 remis: remanier, 'to remain, to be left'.

'Cil m'ad tenud a grant onur.
Marchéant ert, mer sot passer

456 E set bien vendre e achater.
En Danemarche fud le [autrer]
E a plusurs oíd preier,
Si hom vus trovot, que venissiez

460 E le païs chalengissiez
Bien [vus] loûm que la [turnez],
Voz douz vadlez od vus menez,
Pur vus servir seient od vos.

464 Si bien vus prent, mandez le nus;
Nus vus siuvrum, si vus volez,
Si Deu vus rent voz heretez.'
(He held me in great honour.
Merchant he was, he knew how to traverse the sea
And knows well how to sell and buy.
In Denmark he was the other day
And heard several people ask
If people found you, who came
And challenged the country.
Highly we praise you who return there,
Your two young nobles you lead with you,
Who are with you to serve you.

If it goes well with you, send to say it to us;

We will follow you, if you will,

If God returns you your possession.

Notes. 455–56 sot... set: this change of tense may denote, as A. Bell notes (p. 209), the past context and the present time of interview, but it may also be explained as a stylistic feature. 457 autrer, altrier, ‘d’autre jour’, ‘the other day’. 458 a plusurs, ? ‘de la part de plusieurs personnes’, or it may denote the accusative case relation. oïd: oïr. preier, proier, ‘to pray, to request; to ask’. 460 chalengissiez: chalongier, ‘réclamer en justice’.

462–63 Perhaps we have here two contact clauses without the relative particle. 461 loüm: loer, ‘louer, approuver’. 464 si bien vus prent, ‘if it goes well with you’: mal prent, ‘goes wrong’. mandez: mander, ‘to send to say, to announce’. 466 rent: rendre, ‘to return’.

Dist Aveloc e sa muillier:

468  ‘Nus vus rendrum mult bon luier,
[Plus] vus [ferum] que ne [querez],
Se Deus nus rent noz heritez,
E les vadlez od nus merrum.

472  Pur Deu pensez que nus passum.’
Respunt la dame: ‘Veirement
Ci remaindrez tant que aiez vent
[E] si jo puis, ainz que passez,

476  De meillurs dras vestuz serrez.’
Cil remistrent dunc a sujur,
Vestuz furent a grant enur.
Tant sujurnerent que vint l’ored

480  E puis si sunt en nef entred;
E danz Algiers li marchëant
Ad fait pur els le cvenant.
(Said Haveloc and his wife:
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

'We will repay you much good reward,
More we will do you than you ask,
If God returns us our possession,
And the young gentlemen we will lead with us.
For God's sake see to it that we make our way.'
Replied the lady: 'Truly
Here you will remain till you have the wind
And if I can, before you make your way,
You will be attired in the best dress.'
They remained then restfully,
They were dressed in great honour.
They sojourned till the wind came
And then they entered the ship.
And sir Algiers the merchant
Made the bargain for them.)

Notes. 468 luier, loier, 'récompense', 'reward'. 469 plus...que ne querez: pleonastic negation. 471 merrem (mener), fut. 472 pur Deu, ?'for God's sake'. pensez que ...'see to it that ...'. passum: paser, 'to traverse, to make one's way'. 474 tant que aiez vent, 'till you have the wind; wait for the fair wind'. 475 ainz que passez, 'before you make your way'. 477 a sujur, 'en repos'. 479 tant... que vint l'ored, 'till the wind came': ored, oré, ore, 'vent'.

'[Lur froc dona il e Kelloc
484 Pur la meisnee Haveloc
E] asez lur mist enz vitaille,
Tresqu'a un meis ne ferad faille;
Pain e vin e char e [peissun
488 Lur] mist es nefs a grant [fuisun]
E tresque unches la nef flotat,
Li esterman bien se drescat.
Dous nefs i ot tuit veirement,
(Their robe gave he and Kelloc
For the household of Haveloc
And dealt out for them sufficient in food supply,
As long as a month it would not lack;
Bread and wine and meat and fish
He put for them into the ship in great abundance
And as long as the ship floated,
The pilot was dressed well.
There were two ships quite truly,
Their sails rose against the wind.)

Notes. 483 froc, ‘robe, habit’, ‘garment’. 484 meisnee, ‘household’, ME.
maine, meinee. 485 enz vitaille, ‘in victuals’. 486 ne ferad faille, ‘did not
lack’: faire faille, ‘faillir, manquer’. 488 es nefs, ‘into the ship’. 491 tuit,

In contrast with only a brief reference to God’s help (ll. 470, 472) and
some practical preparations for the voyage in this story, HD is more expan-
sive with Havelok’s fervent prayers to Christ:

Sone it was day, sone he him cladde,
And sone to þe kirke yede,
Or he dide ani oþer dede,
And bifor þe rode bigan falle,
Croiz and crist bi[gan] to kalle,
And seyde, ‘louerd, bat al weldes,
Wind and water, wodes and feldes,
For the holi milce of you,
Haue merci of me, louerd, nou!
1354—62

He goes to the church,
falls before the cross,
calls upon it and Christ,
and cries for the mercy of the
Lord, who rules the world.

Tant unt nagied e governez
Qu’en Danemarche sunt arivez.
En la cuntree, u ariverent,

A une vile s’en alerent,
La quistrent sumiers e [carrei],
Mener i firent lur [cunrei],
Le marchéanz sunt tuz [remés]

500
Od lur hernais enz es dous nefs
E Aveloc e sa muillier
Vont a la vile herbergier.
(They sailed and steered so
Till they arrived in Denmark.
In the country where they arrived,
They went to a village,
There they sought for packhorses and carts,
There they ordered their retinue to be led,
The merchants all remained
With their baggage inside the two ships
And Haveloc and his wife
Went to the village inn.)

Notes. 493 unt nagied: nagier, 'naviguer'. gouvernez: gouverner, vi., 'se diriger', 'to steer'. 493–94 Tant . . . Qu' . . ., 'until'. 497 quistrent: querre, 'to seek'. sumiers e carrei, 'packhorses and carts'. 498 Mener i firent lur cunrei, 'They ordered their retinue ('cortège') to be led'; 'faire' in this construction requires its object and the infinitive in the active voice, in the sense, 'made their retinue be led, or made someone lead their retinue'. 500 herneis, harneis, 'harnais, baggage', 'equippage, baggage'.

Iloc maneit un[s] riches hom,

504
Sigar [Estalre] aveit a nun,
Seneschal iert al rei Guntier
E de sa terre justisier.
Mais ore est tels qu'en pais teneit

508
E icel rei forment haeit
Ki dunc ert rei e poëstis
Sur l'autre gent d'icel pais
[Pur] sun seignur qu'il aveit mort
Par [la vertu Artur le fort]
Qu'il ot par traison mandet
E cel paîs li ot dunet.
Pur ço qu'il ert traître e fel,
Plusurs unt tenud le cunseil
Que ja od lui ne se tendrunt
Ne de li terre ne prendrunt,
Deci qu'il sachent del dreit e ir
De sa vie u sa mort le veir.
(There lived a rich man,
Sigar Estalre was his name,
He was steward to King Guntier
And of his land the justice.
But now he was such that he remained in peace
And that king hated strongly
Who then was king and powerful
Over the people of this country,
On behalf of his lord whom he (the king) had killed
By the power of Arthur the strong,
Because he by treason commanded
And this country to him gave.
Because he was traitor and cruel,
Several people considered
That they never would take side of him
Nor of the land would ever hold,
Until they knew of the rightful heir,
Of his life or his death the truth.)

Notes. 503 maneit: maner, 'demeurer'. 505 seneschal, 'the major-domo of a great mediaeval household or steward of an estate'. 506 justisier, 'juge, justicier', 'justice'. 507 en pais teneit, 'remained in peace' (in pace);
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

513 Qu’il ot . . . mandet: que, ‘parceque, car, puisque’. 515 Pur ço qu’il . . . , ‘because (of this that) he . . . ’. 516 unt tenud le cunseil que: tenir
cunseil de, ‘to consider’. 517 od lui ne se tendrunt: se tendre, ‘to take side
of’ (A. Bell). 519 deci que, ‘until’. 529 le veir, voir, ‘the truth’, n.

Cist rei[s] ki dunc ert el païs
Il [esteit] frere al rei Aschis
Qui pur Arthur suffrîd la mort

524 La u Modret li fist tel tort;
Il ot a nun Odulf le reis.
Mult fud haïz de ses Daneis.
(This king who was then in the country
He was brother to King Aschis
Who at Arthur’s hand suffered death
There where Mordred did him such wrong;
He was called Odulf the king.
He was much hated by his Danish men.)

Notes. 521 el païs, locative. 522 frere al rei, ‘brother to the king, brother
of the king,’ genitival dative. 524 fist tel tort: tors, ‘wrong’. Modret:
Mordred, nephew of King Arthur.

Si cum Deu plut e aventure,
528 Deus mist en Aveloc sa cure
Pur sa muillier qui tant ert bele,
Fille le rei dam’ Argentele.
Sis bacheliers dunc l’assaillirent,

532 Pristrent s’amie, lui ferirent
E ses vadles mult ledengerent,
En plusurs lius lur chiefs briserent.
Si cum [il] s’en vont od s’amie,
As it pleased God and fortune,
God put his care in Haveloc
Because of his wife who was so beautiful,
Lady Argentille, daughter of the king.
His (Siar’s) young warriors then assailed him,
Took his love, and struck him
And his young men much abused,
In several places their head they broke.
Just as they were returning with his love,
Sir Haveloc plunged in,
Took a hatchet very keen,
That he found hanging in the house;
Those men he caught in the street
Who were leading Lady Argentille,
Three of them he killed, two made nul
And at the sixth he punched with pain;
He took his wife and went to the inn.)

Notes. 532 lui, acc. sgl. of il, Haveloc. ferirent: ferir, ‘to knock, to strike’.
ledengerent: ledir, laadir, ‘to insult, to dishonour’. 535 si cum, ‘just as, when’. s’en vont: en venir, ‘to return’. 536 en ot envie: envie, ‘action d’en-
vier, de plonger’. 537 une hache . . . trovad pendant: N + V + Part., the com-
mon type of syntactic arrangement still found in English today. 539 ateint:
‘to annul’; only the second of these synonyms has survived today. 542
le poin trenchad: cf. ModFr couper le poing à quelqu’un, ‘to use the fists’.

544  Es vus le cri mult criminel!
     Prist ses vadlez e sa muillier,
     Si s’en entrat en un mustier,
     Fermat les us pur poür,

548  Puis munterent sus en la tur.
     Iloc aveit tel defensail,
     Ja n’i fust pris senz grant travail
     Kar cil tres bien se defendirent,

552  [Blescerent] cels kis assailirent.
     Quant dan Sigar i vint puignant,
     Veit cum les pieres vait ruant
     Danz Avelocs qui mult ert fort;

556  Les cinc bricuns aveit il mort.
     Sigar le vit, si l’avisat,
     Del rei Guntier dunc li membrat.
     Tresqu’il unques l’ot choisid,

560  Unc pur ses humes nel haid.
     A sun seignur si resemblot
     Que quant le vit, tel pitied ot
     Qu’a mult grant paine pot parler.
(Here was much deadly cry!
He took his young men and his wife,
So he entered a church,
Closed the door because of fear,
Then mounted above into the tower.
There he made such resistance,
Nevermore would he be taken without great trouble,
For these defended themselves so well,
Those who assailed they wounded.
When Sir Sigar came there galloping
He sees how he goes flinging the stones
Sir Haveloc who was very strong;
Five scoundrels he had killed.
Sigar saw him, and recognized him,
Of King Guntier then was he reminded.
As soon as he ever recognized him,
He never hated him because of his men.
He resembled his lord so much
That when he saw him, he pitied him so
That he could hardly speak for great pain.)

Notes. 544 es vus, `voici': es, `voici', L. ecce, `here is, lo, behold'; cf. vois ci, vez ci, `here is', vœoir, `to see'. 546 mustier, `church', *monisterium, L. monasterium. 547 us, uis, `porte'. 548 sus, `en haut', PL susum, L. sursum. 550 travail, `tourment'. ja ne, `never, nevermore'. 553 vint puignant, `went galloping': poindre, `gallop, ride fast; hurry'. 554 veit: vœoir. vait: aller ruant: ruer, `to fling (stones)', cf. the Mod Fr phrase: rueur de pierres. Note the use of the present tense of verbs, here. 558 li membrat: se membrer, refl., `se rappeler, se souvenir de'. 559 tresqu'il unques, `as soon as he ever': is unques emphatic? choisid: choisir, `to catch sight of, to recognize'. 563 a . . . resemblot: ressembler à, `to resemble'. To avoid the confusion involved by the use of the pronoun `he' for two persons in the same context, I have marked Sigar as number one and Haveloc as number two (1 and 2). In the French original, Sigar goes unmarked pronominally in ll. 554, 560, 562, 563 and Haveloc is unmarked pronominally in ll. 554, 560. Elsewhere, the latter is pronominally marked as le or l', as in ll. 557, 559, 562.
E quant furent aseürez,  
Li riches hom ad demandez  
Qui il esteit e cum ad num

572  
[E] dunt erent si cumpaignun,  
E de la dame lui demandat  
Dunt ele vint, qui lui donat.  
(All the attack he made cease,  
Peace and truce he assured him  
And into the hall he led them  
Him and his wife and his companions,  
The two young men of whom I spoke before,  
And when they were seated,  
The rich man demanded  
Who he was and how he called himself  
And whence were come his companions,  
And of the lady he asked him  
When she came, who gave her him.)

Notes. 565 pais e triwes, OE. treow, ME. treowe, ‘peace and truce’.  
afiad: afier, ‘assurer’, ‘to assure, to promise’.  
568 dis, pret.: dire. des ainz:  
ainz, ‘avant’.  
569 aseürez: assire, ‘asseoir, établir’.  
571 cum ad num (non, nom, nun): how he was named.  
IN HD, the peacemaker is Ubbe, a great Danish earl, who promises protection for our hero and his wife (2082–85).

‘Sire,’ fait il, ‘ne sai qui sui,  
576  
En cest païs quid que nez fui.  
Uns mariniers qui Grim ot nun  
M’aménat petit vadletun.  
En Lindesie en volt aler;  
580  
Cum venimes en halte mer,  
D’uthlages fumes asailliz  
Par qui jo sui si malbailliz:  
Ma mere i ert, si fud ocise;
Jo guari, ne sai en quel guise,
E li prodom en eschapad
Qui me nurid e mult m’amad.
Il e sa femme me nurirent,
Mul t m’am erent e encherirent.
Quant furent mort, si m’en turnai,
Un rei servi, u jo alai,
E dous vadlez furent od mei,
Tant cum jo fui od [i]cel rei.
Tant fui od lui en ma juv en\-
E ceste dame iert sa parente—
Si cum lui plut, la me donad
E ensemble nus espusad.
Ci sui venud en cest païs,
Ne conuis nul de mes amis
Ne jo ne sai a escient,
Si jo ai ci un sul parent.
Mais par le los de un marchëant,
A Grimesbi est remanant,
Mult est prodom, nun ad Algier.
Il me load e sa muillier
Ci a venir mes amis querre
E mes parenz en ceste terre.
Mes jo ne sai un sul numer
[Ne] ne sai cum jos puis trover.’
(‘Sir,’ he said, ‘I know not who I am,
In this country I think I was born.
A mariner who was named Grim
Guided me as a little youth.
Unto Lindsey he wished to go;
When we came upon the high seas,
We were assaulted by outlaws,)
By whom I was so maltreated:
My mother was there, so was killed;
I was saved, I know not in what way,
And the man of experience escaped
Who brought me up and loved me well.
He and his wife educated me,
Loved me and cherished me much.
When they were dead, I departed thence,
Served a king where I went,
And with me were two youths,
So long as I was with this king.
So long I was with him in my youth—
And this lady was his lineage—
As it pleased him, he gave her me
And together we were espoused.
Here I am come in this country,
I know no one of my friends
Nor do I know for certain
If I have even one in this area.
But by the counsel of a merchant,
Who is a survivor at Grimsby,
Very prudent he is, Algier by name,
He advised me and his wife, too,
To come here to seek my friends
And my parents in this land.
But I cannot name even one only,
Nor do I know how I can find ont.’


Dist li prodon: ‘Cum as tu nun?’
‘[Sire], ne sai, ‘[cil li] respunt,
‘Mais cum jo fui en la curt grant,

612 Si me apeloent Cuarant
[E] tant cum jo fui vadletun,
Sai bien que Aveloc oï a nun;
A Grimesbi [quant] fui l’autrier,

616 Haveloc m’apelad Algier.
Or sui ici, quel que voldrez
De ces dous nuns m’apel[er] ez.’
(The man of experience said to him: ‘What is your name?’
‘Sir, I do not know,’ he replied to the man,
‘But when I was in the great court,
They called me Cuaran
And so long as I was a youth,
I know well that Aveloc was my name;
When I was at Grimsby the other day,
Algier called me Haveloc.
Now I am here, whichever you wish
Of these two names you may call me.’)

Notes. 609 li, weak form, dative of il, ‘to him’. 611 cum = L. cum,
quum, 'when'?; cum si in other contexts means 'as indeed' or 'as if, as though' (Stone = Rothwell). 615 l'autrier, l'altrier, 'avant-hier, autre jour'.

Sigar s'estut, si escutad,

620 Del fiz lu rei si li membrad
A icel nun dun[t] il [diseit],
Le fiz Guntier cel nun aveit,
Si li membrat d'un altre vice

624 Qu'il sot jadis par la nurrice,
De la flambe qui ert issant
De sa buche, quant ert dormant.
La nuit le fist tres bien gaitier

628 La u il jut od sa muillier.
Pur ço qu'il ert forment lassed
De la bataille e del pensar
Que aveit eüd le jur devant,

632 Si s'endormit, nul nel demant.
(Sigar stood still, and he understood,
Of the king's son so was he reminded
At this name of which the youth spoke,
The son of Guntier had this name,
So was he reminded of another device
That he knew formerly by the wet-nurse,
Of the flame that issued
From his mouth, when he was sleeping.
The night made him very wakeful
There where he lay with his wife.
As he was very weary
By the battle and care-worn by it
That he had the day before,
So he slept, asked nothing about it.)

Notes. 619 s'estut: s'ester, 'se tenir debout, être tranquille'. si escutad:

Eneslepas come dormid,
De sa buche la flambe issid
E li sergent qui l’unt gaited

636
A lur seignur l’unt tost [nuncié]
E li prodom levat del lit.
Quant il i vint, la flambe vit,
Dunc sot il bien que veirs esteit

640
Ço que de lui pensez aveit;
Mais tant li ert cel pensé chier,
Unc nel voit dire a sa muillier
Tresqu’al demain qu’il levad.
(Immediately as the youth slept,
From his mouth the flame issued
And the sergeants who had watched him
To their master told quickly
And the man of experience rose from his bed.
When he went there he saw the flame.
Then he knew well that it was true
What he had thought of him;
But to him this thought was so dear,
He never wished to say of it to his wife
Until the next day when he arose.

Notes. 633 eneslepas (in ipsum + le pas), ‘immediately’. 634 la flambe, cf. ll. 242, 247, 251, etc. in the poem. In HD, Ubbe witnesses the same flame coming out of Havelok’s mouth while he lies in sleep in the bower (ll. 2090–95):
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

The first line he lay per-inne,
Hise wif, and his serganz prinne,
Aboute the middel of the nith
Wok ubbe, and saw a mikel lith
In the bour pat havelok lay,
Also brith so it were day.

Ubbe sees a large light so bright as if it were day.

Also in ll. 2110–13, 2122 (So stod ut of his mouth a glem).

644 Dun[c] pur ses humes enveiad,
    Si mandat pur ses chevaliers,
    Pur geldons e pur peoniers;
    De tutes parz vienent asez.

648 Quant il en ot mult asemblez,
    Dunc vait a Haveloc parler;
    Bainer le fait e cunreier,
    De novels dras le fait vestir,

652 En la sale le fait venir.
    Cum en la sale est entrez,
    [U] vit tanz homes asemblez,
    Pöür ot grant que cele gent

656 Ne li facent mal jugement.
    Pur les cinc homes que ot tuez
    Quidat qu’il fussent asemblez.
    Pur une hache en volt aler

660 Que iloc teneit un bacheler;
    Saisir la volt pur sei defendre.
(Then for his men he sent,
    And ordered for his knights,
    For footsoldiers and for the pawns;
    From all parts many came,
    When he has assembled many,
    Then he goes to talk to Haveloc;
Made them bathe him and fit him out,
Made him dress in new clothes,
Into the hall made him come.
When he entered the hall,
Where he saw so many men assembled,
He greatly feared that these people
Might have made ill judgement of him.
For the five men that he killed
He thought that they were assembled.
For a hatchet he wants (wanted) to go
That there a squire held;
To seize it he wants to defend himself.)

Notes. 644 enveiad: envoyer, ‘to send’. 645 mandat: mander, ‘com-
mander’, ‘to order’. 646 geldons, ‘fantassins’, ‘footsoldiers’. peoniers, ‘foot-
soldiers, pawns’. 647 asez, ‘beaucoup’. 650 bainer, banier, ‘to bathe’. cunreire, conr"er, ‘equiper, préparer, vêtir’. 651 dras = ?ME. dres vestir, vêtir’, ‘to dress’. 655 Poür ot grant que cele gent ne li facent mal jugement, ‘he feared that they might have made ill judgement of him’: (1) facent, subjunctive present after ‘poür que’, (2) ne facent, pleonastic negation, (3) cele gent, f. sgl., ‘this folk; these people’. 660 bacheler, ‘a young nobleman who aspires to be a chevalier; escuyer’. 661 la, ‘it’: une hache.

Sigar [le vait, si l'ad fet prendre.
Com il le tindrent de tuz lez,

664 Sigar li dist: ‘Ne vus dotez],
N'aiez garde le mien ami.
Bien le vus jur, [sil vus] afi
Qu'ore vus aim plus que ne fis ier,

668 Quant vus asis a mun mangier.’
Puis si l'asiet delez sei,
Aporter fait le corn le rei;
Ço fud le corn le rei Guntier;
Suz ciel n’i aveit chevalier,  
[Que] ja cel cor peüst soner  
Ne venëor ne bacheler,  
Si que ja [nuls] corner l’oïst,  

Si rei [u] dreit eir nel feïst.  
(Sigar saw him, and made them seize him.  
When they held him from all sides,  
Sigar said to him: ‘Don’t you fear,  
You have no need to fear my friend.  
I swear it to you indeed, so he pledges you  
That now I love you more than I did yesterday,  
When you sat at my feast.’  
Then he placed him by his side,  
Made thenl bring the king’s horn;  
It was the horn of King Guntier;  
There was no knight under heaven  
Who could sound this horn  
Nor hunter nor bachelor,  
So that nobody ever heard it sound,  
Unless the king or the rightful heir made it.)  


De Danemarche le dreit eir  
Le poeit [bien] corner par veir
Mais autre hom ja nel cornast,
Nuls hom pur niënt s’en penast. 
Cel cor aveit Sigar guardé.
Li rei[s] Guntier lui ot livré.
Quant il le tint, nel pot suner;
Un chevalier le fait livrer,
Si lui ad dit tut en riant:
‘Quil [sunerad] , qu’il seït cornant,
Jo lui dorrai un bon anel
Qui a bosuin valt un chastel.
[Celui] qui en sun dei l’avrad,
Si chiet en mer, ne neierad
Ne fu [nel] pot rien damagier
Ne nul arme nel pot navrer.’
(The rightful heir of Denmark
Could make it sound well in truth,
But other men never yet sounded it.
No man did ever try hard for it.
This horn had Sigar kept.
King Guntier handed it over to him.
When he held it, he could not sound it;
A knight asked it to be handed over to him,
And he said to him all smiling:
‘He who sounded it, to prove that it was giving a sound,
To him I would give a good ring
Which at need is worth a castle.
He who will have it on his finger,
If he falls into the sea, he will not get drowned
Nor fire can harm him at all
Nor can any arm wound him.’


A gold ring drow he forth anon,
An hundred pund was worth pe ston,
And yaf it ubbe for to spede.

[Havelok presents the ring for Ubbe’s prosperity.]

[Tels com vus di est li anel,
Ore vont corner le meienel]
Li chevalier e li serjant;

[Ne volt] soner ne tant ne quant,
Unc pur nul d’els ne volt suner.
Dunc l’unt bailliez al bachelier
Qu’il apeloent le prisun

Qui Aveloc aveit a nun.
(Such, as I say to you, is the ring.
Now they go to sound the horn
The knights and the sergeants;
It will not sound in any way,
Never for any one of them will it sound.
Then they carried it to the young warrior
Whom they called prisoner
Who was Haveloc by name.)

Notes. 693 tels . . . est li anel, ‘the ring was of such power’. com vus di, ‘as I say to you’; di: dire. 694 meienel: an emended form, ‘horn’ of medium size. 696 ne volt soner: the trumpet will not sound, refuses to sound. ne

Quant cil le tint, si l’esgardat
E dist qu’il unches [ne cornad].
Al seignur dist: ‘Larrai ester.

704 Quant autre [home] nel pot corner,
Tut vus claim quite vostre anel,
[Ne rois pener le meienel].
Respunt Sigar: ‘Vus si ferez,

708 A vostre buche le metez.’
‘Sire,’ fait il, ‘cel [ne] vus vied,
Ja serrad de mei asaiéd.’
[Donc prist le corn, si l’ad seigné,

712 A sa buche l’ad asaié].
Tresque [sa] buche l’atuchad,
Le corn [tant] gentement sunad
Que unc ne fud ainz oïd [son per];

716 Nuls hom ne sot si bien corner.
(When he held it, so he examined it
And said that it never sounded.
He said to the lord: ‘Let be.
When other people cannot sound it,
You renounce all claim upon the ring,
Nor the king try hard on the horn.’
Replies Sigar: ‘You will do it,
To your mouth put it.’
‘Sir,’ he said, ‘this does not forbid you,
It will never be tried by me.’
Then he took the horn, and he crossed himself,
To his mouth he tried it.
As soon as his mouth touched it,
The horn sounded so nobly
That its like was never heard before;
No man knew how to sound it so well.)

Notes' 703 larrai: laissier; laissier + ester, 'let be'. 705 claim quite: clamer quite, 'renounce all claim upon'. 706 pener, refl., 'to exert oneself, to try hard for'. 707 ferez, fut.: faire. vied: veër,'interdire, empêcher', 'to forbid', L. veto. 711 si, 'and, so, thus'. 713 tresque, 'as soon as'. atuchad: atochier, 'toucher'. 715 son per, 'its peer, equal; its like'.

Sigar l'entent, salid en piez,
Entre ses braz l'ad enbraciez.
Puis [s'escriad] : 'Deu seit loed!

Or ai mun dreit seignur trovez,
Ore ai celui que desirai
Pur qui la guerre maintendrai.
Ço est [li dreiz eirs] e la persone

Qui deit porter d'or la corune.'
Tuz ses [homes] ad dunc mandez,
Lores li firent fedeiltez,
Il [meïsmes] s'agenuillad,

De fei tenir [l'aseürad].
(Sigar listened to it, jumped to his feet,
Between his arms he embraced him.
Then he cried: 'God be praised!
Now I have my rightful lord found,
Now I have him whom I have desired
For whom I would maintain the war.
This is the rightful heir and the person
Who should wear the crown of gold.'
All his men he then commanded,
That they should at that time make fealty to him,
He himself fell on his knees,
Assured him to keep faith.)


Bes of him glad and blîpe,
And cometh alle hider swîpe,
Manrede youre louerd fort to make,
Boîpe brune and þe blake.

Come all here to make fealty.

He falls on his knees to show fealty to Havelok.

O knes ful fayre he him sette,
Mouthe nôping him þer-fro lette,
And bi-cam is man Rith þare,
Þat alle sawen þat þere ware.


Puis [enveia] pur ses baruns
A qui cel rei aveit tençuns,
Si sunt ses humes devenuz

732 E a seignir l’unt [receûz].
Quant ço unt fait, assemblent gent,
[En] quatre jurz [en] unt maint cent
E el quint jur des chevaliers

736 Orent li bien trente milliers.
(Then he sent for his barons
To whom this king gave protection,
Who so became his men
And received it at the lord's hand.
When they have done this, the people assemble
In four days, there are many hundreds of them
And on the fifth day, of knights
There were thirty thousand at least.)

Notes. 730 aveit tençuns, 'had protection, gave protection': tençuns, tencon, tence, 'défense, protection'. 732 l'unt receûz: le, i.e. tençuns. 736 orent li, 'they had, there were': aveir. bien trente milliers: bien, 'au moins'. 735 quint, 'fifth', L. quintus. In l. 733 we have a sudden change in the tense.

Le rei Odulf dunc defierent
E en plain camp [s'entrecontrerent].
Asez i ot [granz] cops feruz,

740 Li reis Odulf[f] fud dunc vencuz
Car Aveloc si se cuntint,
Il sul en ocist plus de vint.
Dous princes [i ot] del pais

744 Qui ainz erent ses enemis
E od Odulf s'erent tenud;
Ore sunt a sa merci venud.
(King Odulf then defied him
And in open fields they opposed each other.
There were enough great blows struck,
King Odulf was then conquered
For Aveloc conducted himself so well,
That he alone killed more than twenty of them.
There were two princes of the land
Who before were his enemies
And held with Odulf;
Now they are come under his mercy.)

Notes. 737 defierent: defier, 'to defy' (feudal term). 738 plain camp,
plains chans, 'open field'. 739 cops, 'coup'; feruz: coup fèrir, 'to strike a blow'. 740 vencuz: vainquir, 'vaincre'. 741 se cuntint: se contenir, 'se conduire, se comporter'. 745 tenud: tenir, 'to be faithful to'. 746 a sa merci, cf. ModFr phrase être à la merci de quelqu'un, 'être à sa discrétion'.

Del pais la menue gent
748 Vindrent a merci ensement
E Aveloc lur fist parduns
Par le conseil de ses baruns.
Tuit lui jurèrent fedeilted
752 Li chevalier de cel regné
E li prodom e li burgeois
De lui firent seignur e reis.
Grant feste fist e gran baldoire,
756 Si cum nus dit la veire estoire.
(The unimportant people of the country
Courted mercy in the same way
And Haveloc forgave them
By the counsel of his barons.
Everyone swore him fidelity
The chevaliers of this kingdom
And the men of prudence and the citizens
Made of him lord and king.
Great feast he made and great joy
As the true history tells us.)

Notes. 747 menu(e), 'small, unimportant'. 749 fist parduns: faire parduns, 'to forgive'. 748 ensement, 'in the same way'. 751 fedeilted: fedeiltez (l. 726), shows the weakening of the consonants d and z in word-final. 752 regné, 'royaume'. 755 baldoire, baldor, baldés, 'allégresse', 'joy'.

Aprés sumunst tut son navire,
De sun réalme tuit l'empire,
Od sa grant ost la mer passad,

760 Rei Edelsi dunc defiad;
Celui [mandad] qu’il le defie,
Si lui ne rent le dreit s’amie,
E Edelsi [li remandad]

764 Qu’encunte lui se cumbatrad.
(After he summoned all his ships,
Of his kingdonl all the power,
With his great host of army he passed the sea,
Defied King Edelsi then;
This one (Aveloc) commanded that he (Edelsi)
should defy him,
If he did not return him the right of his love (Argentille),
And Edelsi made it known to him in reply
That against him he would put up a fight.)


Cumbatirent [sei] en un plain
[Des le matin tresk’al serain].
Mult i ot humes [afolez]

768 D’ambes [dous] parz [e mort ruez]
Quant neire nuit les desevrad
Tresqu’al demain qu’il ajurnad.
Mais par cunseil de la reïne

772 Qui enseignat une mescine
Remist le mal e la bataille,
Sun regné ot senz grant cuntraille.
Tute nuit fist enfichier pels
Plus gros e greignurs de tinels,
Les morz humes i enficherent
E tute nuit sus les drescerent;
Dous eschieles en firent granz,
[Que] veirement furent semblanz,
Cum fussent cumbatanz e vifs.
Le jur devant furent ocis.
(They battled in an open
From morning until evening.
There were many men wounded
On both sides and killed
When black night separated them
Until the morrow when it was day.
But by the counsel of the queen
Who taught medicine
He rejected the evil and the battle,
Won his kingdom without great adversity.
All the night he made the palisade be fixed
Larger and larger with bars,
The dead men were there fixed
And all the night they propped them up;
Two troops large they made of thelY
So that they truly appeared
As if they were fighting and alive.
The day before they were killed.)

769 neire nuit, ‘black night’: neire, ‘noire’, L. neger. 770 ajurnad:
ajurner, ‘to dawn’, Ital. aggiornare. 772 enseignat: enseignier, ‘to point
775 enfichier, ‘ficher; imprimer’. 776 tinels, ‘clubs, bars’. 778 drescerent:

(A man who looked at them from afar
His flesh all shuddered at it
Both from afar and from near
Hideous appeared the destroyed dead.
On the day following they were restored,
To battle they looked very indifferent
And the scouts went forward
To see the troop of Sir Cuarant.
When they saw what there was,
Their whole flesh creeped
Because against one man that they had
They saw seven on the other side.
They went back to tell the king
There was no need to fight,
Return to the lady the right
And make peace, before it was worse.
The king cannot pass by himself.)


800 Dunc li estuet [ço] graanter
Kar si barun lui unt loed.
Re[nду] li fu tuit le regned
Des Hoiland tresqu’en Colecestre.

804 Reis Havelocs la tint sa feste,
Les homages de ses baruns
Reçut par[tut] ses regiuns.
Pois après desque quinze dis

808 Ne vesquid li reis Edelsis.
Il ne ot nul eir si dreiturier
Cum Haveloc e sa muillier.
Il ot enfanz mais morz esteient.

812 Les barnages tres bien otreient
Que Haueloc e sa amie
Ait la terre rei Edelsie.
Ja si ot il, vint anz fud reis

816 E mult conquist par les Daneis.
(Then it was necessary for him to agree to it
Because his barons advised him so.
Returned to her was all the kingdom
From Holland to Colchester.
King Haveloc there held the feast,
The homages of his barons
He received throughout all his domains.
Then afterwards so long as fifteen days
King Edelsi did not live.
He had no rightful heir
As Haveloc and his wife.
He had children, but they were dead.
The assembly of barons authorized justly
That Haveloc and his love
Should have the land of King Edelsi.
Henceforward he had it, was king twenty years
And conquered much by the Danes.)

Notes. 800 estuet: estoveir, estovoir, impers., ‘falloor, convenir’, ‘to be necessary, to need’. graanter, gréanter, ‘accorder, agréer’. 801 si barun, ‘his barons’. 806 recut: receivre, reçoivre, ‘to receive, to welcome’. regiun, ‘domain’. 808 vesquid: vivre. 812 barnages, ‘assemblée de guerriers, de barons’. otreient: otréier, otréier, ‘autøriser’. 814 ait, subjunctive after otréier que: avoir, avœir. 815 ja, ‘henceforward’, or ‘thenceforward’ in this context. vint, ‘vingt’, L. viginti. vint anz, ‘vingt ans’: anz, an. Haveloc holds his feast when he was made king (l. 804) and similarly in *HD* his great joy-making on being made king by Ubbe is described in the following manner:

Hwan he was king, þer mouthe men se
þe most ioie þat mouthe be:
Buttinge with sharpe speres,
Skirming with teluaces, þat þen beres,
Wrastling with laddes, putting of ston,
Harping and piping, ful god won,
Leyk of mine, of hasard ok,
Romanz reding on pe bol; etc. 2320–27

Notes. skirming with teleuaces, ‘skirmishing with shields’. ful god won, ‘in great plenty’. leyk of mine, ‘a kind of game of chance’. These words are unknown in Gaimar.

A Short List of Anglo-Norman Words
with their Middle English Equivalents
(The figures refer to the verse-lines)

ACHATER, vb 456, of. ME achat, n.
ambes (d’ambes parz) 414, cf. ME ambesas, n.
ami, n.m. 665, amie, n.f. 532, 535, 762, 813, ME ami (L. amicus)
apeler, vb 349, 357, 612, 616, 618, 699, ME apèlin
araisuner, vb 360, ME aresonen
ariver, vb 381, 435, 494, 495, ME arrive
arere, adv. 795, ME arere
arme, n. 795, ME earme, arme, HD armes, n. pl. (L. arma)
asaier, vb 710, 712, ME assaien, HD asayen
asalt, n. 564, ME asaut, HD assaut
assaillir, vb 531, 552, 581, ME asailen, assaien, HD asayleden, pret.
assemble, vb 648, 654, 658, 733, ME assemble, cf. HD assembling, n.
aseürer, vb 569, 728, ME assure
atuchier, vb 713, cf. ME touchen
aventure, n. 527, ME aventure
avisier, vb 557, ME avise

BACHELIERS, n. 531, 660, 674, 698, ME bacheler
baldoire, n. 755, ME bauderie
barnage(s), n. 812, ME baronage, HD barnage
baruns, n.pl. 729, 750, 801, 805, ME baroun, baron, barun (MED), HD baroun
bataille, n. 412, 630, 773, ME bataile, HD batail, ‘army’
bele, adj. 529, ME bel, beu
bien, adv. 452, 456, 461, 490, 551, 614, 627, 666, 678, 716, 736, 716, 736, ME bene (L. bene)
bon, adj. 393, 398, 421, 446, 687, ME bon (L. bonum)
brisier, vb 534, ME brusen, HD brisen
buche, n. 626, 634, 708, 712, 713, ME bouche
burseis, n. 753, ME burgeis, HD burgeys

camp, n. 738, ME camp (L. campus)
carrei, n. 497, ME carre
cent, num. 734, ME cent (L. centum)
cesser, vb 564, ME cessen, cesen
chalengier, vb 460, ME chalengen
changer, vb 447, ME changen
chevalier, n. 414, 427, 645, 672, 684, 695, 735, 752, ME chevaler
char, n. 383, 393, 487, 784, 792, ME char, carre
chastel, n. 688, ME castel (L. castellum)
chief, n. 534, ME chef (in a transferred sense of chief)
chier, adj. 641, ME cher (L. carus)
choisir, vb 559, ME cheosen, OE ceosan, Germ. kausjan, HD chesen
cinc, num. 556, 657, ME cink (L. quinque)
claim, n. 705, ME claim
cler, adj. 317, 393, ME cler (L. clarus)
congie, n. 319. ME congie
contraille, n. 411, cuntraille, n. 774, cf. ME contrariete
cops, n. pl. 739 (colp), ME coupe (MED)
corage, n. 335, ME corage
corn, n. 670, 671, 711, 714, cor, n. 673, 681, cf. ME corne, adj. (MED) in ‘trumpe corne’
corner, vb 675, 678, 679, 694, 704, 716; 686 (cornant), ME cornen (MED)
corune, n. 724, ME corune, crune, HD corune
creire, vb 419, cf. ME crede, n.
cri, n. 544, ME cri

crimel, adj. 544, ME criminal (MED)
cumbatre, vb 764, 765, 788, 796, cumbatanz, pres. part. 781, ME combatant, adj. (MED)
campaignun, n. 572, ME compainoun
cumpere, n. 406, ME comper
cunrei, n. 395, 498 (cunreier, vb 650), ME conrai
cunquerre, vb 408, 816, ME conquère
cunseil, n. 312, 340, 516, 750, 771, ME conseil, HD conseyl
cuntenir, vb (se cuntenir, refl.) 741, ME conteini
cuntre, n. 492, 495, ME contre
cure, n. 528, ME cure (L. cura)
curt, n. 350, 611, ME curt, HD curt
cuvenant, n. 482, ME covenant, convenant
cuvrir, vb 348, ME coveren, HD coveren, ‘to recover’

DAMAGE, n. 346, ME damage
damagier, vb 691, ME damagen (MED)
dame, n. 305, 337, 343, 363, 473, 530, 540, 573, 594, 797, ME dame,
   HD dame (L. domina)
Daneis, n. 526, 816, ME Danish, danis, etc. (MED)
danz, dan, n. 420, 481, 536, 555, 790 ME dam (L. dominus), HD dam
defendre, vb 551, 661, ME defende
defensail, n. 549, cf. ME defense
defier, vb 739, 760, 761, ME defien, defie
demander, vb 352, 570, 573, 633, ME demaunden (MED)
descovrir, vb 338, 344, ME discoveren
descomfire, vb 786, ME discomfiten (MED)
desirer, vb 721, ME desiren
Deu, n. 466, 472, Deus, n. 528, 719, ME deus, HD Deus, voc.
dire, vb 341, 354, 405, 568, 609, 621, 642, 664, 685, 693, 703, 756,
   cf. ME dite (L. dictum)
dormir, vb 633, dormant, pres. part. 626, cf. ME dormant
drecht, adj. 418, 419, 676, 677, 720, 723, 762, 797, ME directe (L. directum)
dresser, vb 490, 492, 778, ME dressen

EIR, n. 418, 419, 676, 677, 723, ME heir, HD eir
demfent, n. 432, 811, ME inhaunt(e) (MED)
dempire, n. 758, ME empire (MED)
dercacier, vb 718, ME enbracen
deremis, n. pl. 744, ME enemi
dencunte, vb 425, 764, 793, ME encontre
denfichier, vb 775, 777, ME inficchen
denpeirier (?), vb 302 (enperrez), ME empeiren (MED)
denseignier, vb 772 (enseignat, pret.), cf. ME ensigne, n. (MED)
densemble, adv. 596, ME ensemble (MED)
dentent, n. 717, ME entente
denter, vb 480, 546, 653, ME entrepen (MED)
dereveier, vb 644, 729, ME envoie, n. (MED)
derenvie, n. 536, ME envie
deschaper, vb 585, ME escapen
deschieles, n. pl. 779, ME eschele
dest cient, n. 599, cf. ME science
dercier, vb 719 (s'escriad, refl. pret.), ME escrien
despleiter, vb 325, ME espleit, n., expelen, vb (MED)
despuser, vb 596, ME spusen, HD spuse, spusen
desterman, n. 490, ME steor-mon, OE steormann (Anglicism)
derstoire, n. 756, ME storie

FAILLE, n. 486, ME faile
faim, n. 323, ME fame (L. fames)
feudeilted, n. 751 (a classic form of fealté, L. fidelitatem), ME fealtye,
fei, n. 728, ME fei, HD fei
fel, adj. 515, ME fel
femme, n. 336, 353, 430, 543, 567, 587, ME feme, femme (MED), cf. femine, adj., feminal, adj. (MED)
ferir, vb 532, 739, unrecorded in Middle English perhaps because it came into homonymous clash with ME ferien, ‘to carry’
fermer, vb 547, ME fermen
feste, n. 755, 804, ME feste (L. festum), cf. HD festen, vb
fille, n. 330, 333, 402, 406, 530, ME file (in a pejorative sense) (MED)
fiz, n. 332, 339, 398, 420, 620, 622, ME fitz (ben fitz) (MED)
floter, vb 489, ME floten, flotien (MED)
flambe, n. 625, 634, 638, ME flamme (L. flamma)
folage, n. 345, cf. ME fol, adj.
fort, adj. 382, 512, 555, ME fort (MED)
frere, n. 365, 370, 379, 433, 452, 522, ME frere (in a religious use)
froc, N. 483, ME frok
fuisun, n. 445, 488, ME foison
fuir, vb 418, cf. ME fugitif, adj. (L. fugire)
GABER, vb 322, ME gabben, cf. ModE gab, n.
gaitier, vb 627, 635, Germ. wahton, ‘veiller’
garde, n. 665, 681, ME gard (e, guard (e, n. (MED)
garir, guarir, vb 429, 432, 440, 584, ME garissen, warrisse
gent, n. 342, 409, 427, 510, 655, 733, 747, 759, 790, ME gent
gentement, adv. 714, cf. ME gent, adj., HD gent, adj.
governer, vb 493, ME governen
grant, adj, 346, 379, 384, 410, 435, 445, 478, 488, 550, 563, 611, 655, 755, 774, 779, grantz, adj. 371, 739, ME grand
graanter, vb 800, ME granten
gré, n. 371, ME gre (L. gratum)
graspeis, n. 444, ME graspeis (MED)
gros, adj. 776, ME gros
guerre, n. 356, 416, ME guer, guerre, Germ. werra, cf. Mod E war, HD werre guise, n. 584, ME guise, gise (MED), Germ wisä, cf. ModE (other)-wise
HACHE, n. 537, 659, ME hache, cf. hachet, ModE hatchet
hair, vb 508, 526, 560, Francis Henry Stratmann (A Middle English Dictionary) quotes *hainen* (?hate) from Wycliffe, which, however, MED omits
haitié, adj. 320, ME hait
halte, adj. 580, ME haut, halt (MED), explained as a blend of L. altum and
Francien*hoh* (K. Urwin)
herbergier, vb 502, ME herebergen, HD herborwen (Icel. herbergja)
heritage, n. 399, ME heritage
herité, heritez, n. 470, cf. ME heritage
herneis, n. 500, ME harneis
homages, n. pl. 805, ME homage
hysdeus (hydeus, hideus), adj. 786, ME hidous
ISSIR, vb 301, 356, 634, issant, pres. part. 625, ME issen
JOR, n. 324, jur, n. 631, 735, 782, jurz 734, cf. ME jornee
jugement, n. 656, ME jugement
jurer, vb 666, 751, cf. ME jure, n.
juvente, n. 593, ME juvent(e), juvente (MED)
LANGUIR, vb 629, ME languissen
lei, n. 334, ME lei, ModFr loi (L. lex)
linage, n. 304, 400, ME linage
lieu, lius, n. 362, 534, cf. ME lieu-tenaunt (L. locus, locum)
livrer, vb 682, 684, ME liveren
loer, vb 338, 461, 604, 719, 801, ME louen, ‘Often hard to distinguish from
loven v., ‘to praise’ and loven v., ‘to love’, from L. laudo and OE lufian
respectively’ (cf. MED, p. 1263 and p. 1293)
luinz, adv. 783, 785 (L. longe, related to L. longum, OFr lonc) related to
but different from ME & ModE long (OE gelang)
MAISON, n. 439 (L. mansionem), maisun, n. 538 cf. ME mansioun, mansion
makerels, n. pl. 444, ME makerel, HD makerel
mal, adj. 656, mal, n. 773, cf. ME malade, adj.
mander, vb 464, 513, 645, 725, 761, ME manden
mangier, vb 442, mangier, n, 668, ME mangerie, n.
marchéant, n. 455, 481, 499, 501, ME marchant
mariniers, n. pl, 577, ME marinere
matin, n. 394, 766, ME matin, matines (pl.) (MED)
meine, adj. 383, ME main, adj. (MED)
meisnee, n. 484, MR meine, HD menie (meine)
membrier, vb 558, 620, 623, ME membres (MED)
mer, n. 385, 412, 426, 455, 580, 690, 759, ME mere
merci, n. 746, 748, ME merci (the AN verb mercier is not represented in ME), HD merci
mener, vb 316, 370, 396, 471, 498, 520, ME menen (MED)
mescine, n. (medecine) 772, ME medicine
mestier, n. 796, ME mester, mister (e, etc.), HD mester
mort, adj. 369, 511, 589, 777, 786, 811, ME mort (MED)
mort, n. 520, 523, 556, 405, 430, 451, 583, 604, ME mort (MED)
muillier, mullier, n. 359, 501, 529, 545, 628, 810, ME mulier (L. mulier)
muluëles, n. pl. 443, ME mulwel (MED)
munter, vb 548, ME munten
mustier, n. 546, ME munster (L. monasterium)

NAVIRE, n. 757, ME navir (e (MED)
nef, n. 421, 436, 439, 480, 488, 489, 491, 500 (L. navem), cf. ME navei, navee, ‘navy’
niès, n. 43, ME neveu
niënt, n. 680, ME nient, ‘a cipher’ (MED)
novels, adj. 651, ME novel (MED)
num, n. 571, 577, 603, 609, 614, 618, 621, 622, 700, nun, n. 45, 504, 525, L. nomen; ME name is related, but from a different source (OE nama)
numer, n. 607, ME nombre (L. numerus)
nuncier, vb 636, 795, cf. ME (an)nunciacion, n. (MED)
nurrir, vb 380, 403, 452, 586, 587, 624, ME nurissen
A Commentary on the Haveloc Episode

OCIR, vb 413, 438, 541, 583, 742, 782, cf. ME occisoune (L. occido, occisio)
onur, n. 454, enur, n. 478, ME honour (L. honor)
ostel, n. 543, ME hostel
otroier, otreier, vb 812, cf. ME autorite, n.
overtement, adv. 341, cf. ME overt, adj.

PAIENS, n. pl. 302, ME païen, adj. & n.
pain, n. 383, 393, 446, 447, 487 (L. panis), ME pain, 'bread'
paine, peine, n. 563, ME pain
(LL page(n)sem), unrecorded in Middle English, and to be distinguished from the following word
pais, n. 507, 565, 798 (L. pacem), ME pais
part, n., parz (pl.) 414, 647, 794 ME part
passer, vb 385, 455, 472, 475, 759, 799, ME passen
parduns, n. pl. 749, ME pardon
parler, vb 563, 649, ME parle
pels, n. 775, ME pel
pendant, adj. 538, cf. ME pendaunt, n.
pener, vb (se pener, refl.) 680, (active) 706, ME peinin (L. poena, n.)
pensifs, adj. 335, ME pensif
per, n. 715, ME peir, peer (L. par)
persone, n. 723, ME persone (L. persona)
petit, adj. 578, ME petit
pitied, n. 562, ME pite
plain, n. (a plain) 448, (en un plain) 765, ME plain (in both senses): plain, adj. 738, ME plain
plaire (plaisir), vb 415, 424, 527, 595, ME plesen
plente, n. 384, 445, ME plente
poëstis, adj. 509, ME pouste, n. (L. potestatem), HD pouste, n.
port, n. 381, ME port
porter, vb 392, 724, cf. ME portatif, adj.
preier, vb 458, ME preien
preiere, n. 434, ME preiere
prisun, n. 699, ME prison
puignant, adj. 553, ME poniant, poinant

QUANT, adj. 694, cf. ME quantite, n.
querre, vb 319, 497, 605, ME queren, ModE inquire (L. inquiroy)
quistrun, n. 103, 152, 173, ME quistron, HD quistron
RÉALME, n. 758, ME realme
receivre, vb 732, 806, ME receive
recunoistre, vb 331 (L. recognoscere), ME reconissance, n.
regiuns, n. 806, ME regioun
regné, n. 752, 774, regned, n. 802, ME regne, HD regne
rei, reis, rois (L. rex, regem) of so frequent occurrence in Gaimar has not
    replaced the Anglo-Saxon word king in ME
remanant, n. 602, ME remanant, n.
remetre, vb 453, 477, 773, cf. ME remission, n.
rendre, vb 470, 762, 797, 802, ME rendren
resembler, vb 561, ME resemble
respondre, vb 375, 473, 610, 707, ME respounen
riches, adj. 46, 503, 570, ME riche, cf. HD richelike, adv.

SAGE, adj. 336, ME sage
salmuns, n. 443, ME salmon
sale, n. 566, 652, 653, ME sale (OE sala); Anglicism
secrei, n. 340, 396, ME secre, n. & adj.
seignur, n. 318, 373, 453, 511, 561, 636, 703, 720, 732, 754, ME seignor
sembler, vb 411, 786, ME semblen, also cf. ME resemble from OFr re-
semblancer
semblanz, n. 780, ME semblant, n.
sergant, n. 635, serjant, n. 695, ME sergant, HD serganz, n. pl.
servir, vb 463, 590, ME serven, HD seruen
simenel, n. 128, 135, ME simnel, HD simenel
sire, n. 575, ME sire, HD sire
sist, n. 542, cf. ME sis, n., ‘six of dice’
siuverer (sivre), vb 465, ME sewen
soner, vb 673, 696, 697, 714, suner, vb 683, 686, ME sounen
suffr, vb 523, ME suffren
sujur, n. 477, cf. ME sojournen, vb
sujurner, vb 479, ME sojournen
sumundre (semondre), vb 757, ME somonen

TALENT, n. 348, ME talent, n., ‘desire’
tenir, vb 412, 454, 507, 516, 517, 660, 663, 683, 728, 745, 804, cf. ME
tenaunt, n.
traison, n. 513, ME traion, HD traion (traisoun)
traître, n. 515, ME traître, HD traitour (-tur)
travail, n. 550, cf. ME travail, vb
trei, n. 409, (L. tributum), ME tribut
treis, num. (L. tres), ME treie	
trenchier, vb 436, 542, trenchant, adj. 537, ME trenchaunt, adj., ME
	trenchur, n. ‘carving knife’
trover, vb 307, 310, 459, 538, 608, 720, not found in ME, cf. ModE trou-
	badour
triwes, n. 565, ME treowes, ‘truce’
tur, n. 548, ME tur
turbuz, n. 443, ME turbot, HD turbut
turner, vb 306, 364, 369, 461, 589, ME turnen (OE tyrnan, turnian; OFr
torner)

UTHLAGES, n. 425, 581, ME utlage (OE utlaga), HD utlawes; Anglicism
uxor, n. 368, (L. uxor), not found in ME like other native kinship terms:

cf. pere, mere, frere, suer.
VALOÎR, vb 688, ME vaile
veilz, n. 492, ME veile
veintre, vb 740 (L. vincere), ME vencuse
veir, adj. 639, 756, n. 520, 678, (le veir; par veir), ME verai, adj. & adv.
veirement, adv. 473, 491, 780, cf. ME veraili (English and French hybrid)
venëor, n. 674, (L. venatorem), cf. venorie, n., ‘hunting’
vertu, n. 512, ME vertu
vestir, vb 476, 478, 651, cf. ME vesture, n. •
vie, n. 520, ME vie
vile, n. 496, 502, cf. ME village
vin, n. 383, 393, 487 (L. vinum), cf. ME vine, ‘vine’
vitaille, n. 486, ME vitaille

P.S. The Middle English words in the above list are generally given in the forms adopted by F. H. Stratmann, unless otherwise indicated. —H. Y.

Additional Bibliography

3. Studies