Occleve, "De Regimine Principum," 299, 621

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Prince's division—for Edward had divided his great army into three columns, commanded by himself, the Black Prince, and Henry Duke of Lancaster, which effected a junction at Reims. Interesting details of the route of Chaucer's division, and the fighting by the way, are given by Gray a few lines above this passage.

G. G. COULTON.

EASTBOURNE.

'PIERCE THE PLOWMANS CREDE,' 372.

Leeue it well, lef man·	and men ryzt-lokede,
þer is more pryue pride·	in Prechours hertes
þan þer lefte in Lucyfer·	er he were lowe fallen.

Both in his *Specimens of English Literature*, 1394–1579, and in his recent edition of the *Crede* (1906), Professor Skeat explains 'ryzt-lokede' as 'righteous, just,' from A.-S. 'rihtlic,' with which it seems difficult to connect it phonetically. Is it possible that the hyphen is wrong, and that the phrase means 'if one looked (i.e. observed) aright'? 'Men' would then be the phonetic weakening of 'man,' as in Chaucer, *C. T.*, *Prologue*, 149, 'Or if men smoot it with a yerde smerte.' Stratmann gives four instances of the form 'lokede' in M.E.

W. H. WILLIAMS.

HOBART, TASMANIA.

OCCLEVE, 'DE REGIMINE PRINCIPUM,' 299, 621.

Also who was hyer in filosofye
To Aristotle in our tunge but thow?

Professor Skeat in the glossary to his *Specimens* explains 'hyer' as 'higher.' But should not the right reading be 'heyr' = 'heir'? Can one say 'higher to' for 'higher than'? Besides, if this were possible, the context is against it. Occleve in his *Lament for Chaucer*, says of the poet, 'to Tullius was neuer man *so like* amonges vs,' and 'The steppes of Virgile in poysye thou *folwedest* eke.' Is it likely, considering the estimation of Aristotle in the middle ages, that Occleve would make Chaucer his superior in philosophy, after making him only equal to Cicero in rhetoric and inferior to Virgil in poetry? Whereas to make him his 'heir' would be perfectly consistent.

But or they twynned thens they pekked moode.

Professor Skeat explains 'pekked moode' as 'pecked mud; or, as we should now say, ate dirt.' But, apart from the improbability of 'mud' being spelt 'moode,' the phrase occurs in Skelton, *Against the Scottes* (Dyce, I, p. 189), 'Who so therat pyketh mood, The tokens are not good To be true Englysh blood,' where Dyce explains it as 'grows angry, picks a quarrel,' and this meaning suits both passages.

W. H. WILLIAMS.

HOBART, TASMANIA.

FRAGMENT OF AN UNKNOWN MIDDLE ENGLISH POEM.

The following poem is found in a manuscript copy of a late thirteenth century law treatise at Lincoln's Inn, Hale 135. What are now the fly-leaves were originally the covers of this manuscript. Two of these leaves contain a mass of memoranda relating to one Alan de Thornton and extending in chronological order from 1297 to 1311. The poem is written at the top of a page and immediately before a memorandum for 31 Edward I. Although written in a hand different to that of any of the other entries it is clearly of the same period, and there is no reason for doubting that it was inserted before the memoranda which follow it. We may therefore date it at least as early as 1303. Unfortunately that part of the poem which was written near the outer edge of the page has become so rubbed and worn that some of the words are obliterated.

No(w)spri(nke)s the sprai. al for loue icche am so seeke that slepen
ine mai. this endre dai als()i me rode o mi.....s...h()i hwar a litel mai
bigan to singge. the clot him clingges wai es him i louue l(on)g(in)ge
sal libben ai. Nou sprinkes, etc. Son icche herde that mirie note yider
i drogh i fonde hire...an herber swot under a bogh. With ioie inogh.
son i asked thou mirie mai hwi sinkes tou ai? Nou sprinkes the sprai,
etc. than answerde that maiden swote midde wordes fewe. mi lemman
me haues bi hot of louue trewe. he chaunges a newe. thiif i mai it shal
him rewe. bi this dai. Now sprinkes.

GEORGE E. WOODBINE.

LONDON.