VERBAL FORMS IN MIDDLE SCOTCH.

The verbal forms in Middle Scotch present a few interesting features, which become characteristic for the dialect.

1. One of the most remarkable is the dialectal tendency of using *one*-forms of verbs, derived from Latin *pōnere*; in Standard English we find the corresponding verbs in the *ose*-form, supported by the French verb *poser* (on Eng. *pose*, derived from Latin *pausāre*, which is confused with Latin *pōnere*, see N. E. D.).

Examples of Sc. *one*-verbs are:

depone, Bell. II 159, *dispone* ibidem I 104, both verbs are preserved in the dialect.

expone, Compl. Sc. 183, C. Venus 48, 58. The current Eng. form is *expose*, but the *one*-form may be found in the Standard language.

opponne, Hume 105.

propone W. Tract. I 67, this form is preserved f. i. Burns I 218.

reponne, Bell. I 81 rasing the ornament and reponying it.

seponne is rarely used, N. E. D. gives an example from 1619.

suppone, Stew. P. 69.

2. In some cases we find, that the Sc. verbal form is suggested by a Latin infinitive, whereas the prevalent form in Standard Eng. originates from the Latin participle. In the following verbs the Sc. form is moreover supported by the Fr. infinitive form:

expreme, Sat. P. R. I 170, Eng. *express* (the verb *pressāre* also appears in Latin and is a frequentative verbal form of *premere*); *repreme*, Sat. P. R. I 255, these forms are not preserved in the dialect.

Fr.-Lat. infinitive has created the Sc. forms to *posseid*, Dunbar II 63 Of so hie price sall nane his place *posseid*; the English form possess originates from the Latin participle. To *prevene* is found f. i. Pitsc. II 234 to prevein the quenis lordis; and to *promit* C. Venus 22 I the promit guerdon Cesareane, p. 107.

Latin infinitive form is preserved in the M. Sc. verb *promove*, Bell. II 204 promovit to the hie and souerane honouris of thare ciete, Sat. P. R. I 202 the form that prevails in Standard Eng. originates from the Latin participle.

A verbal form *disperne* is used by Dunbar II 269 our tern *inferne* for to *disperne*; it corresponds to the Eng. verb *disperse* (from the Lat. participle *dispersus*); to *disperne* is a rare verb, it is employed in this case for the sake of the rhyme. The Latin infinitive form is *dispernere*.

The verb *remord*, to cause *remorse*, is also based upon the Lat. infinitive, this is found in Sc., f. i. G. G. Ball. 120, 181, and may be used by English writers.

The Standard English form to *describe* is based upon the Latin infinitive, in Sc. we have a form *descrive*, influenced by Fr. f. i. Bell. I 129; this verb is preserved, an example is found Burns I 171 let me fair Nature's face *descrive*.

3. On the other hand three Sc. verbal forms have been influenced by the Latin participial form, whereas the Standard Eng. form originates from the Lat. infinitive. These verbs are : *conclude*, C. Mundi II 843, *includ*, Bell. I 23, *intruse* ibidem I 104.

4. Latin infinitive has produced the English verbal form *conquer*; in Sc. we find a form, suggested by the French participle, to *conqueis* is used f. i. Henrys. II 92 to *conqueis* worldlie, gude, golde and rent.

The Engl. form *salute* is produced by Lat. *salutäre*; in Sc. we have the verb to *salus*, Bruce I 100, C. Venus 48 he *saluist* thame on his best wayis anone, Douglas IV 173; according to N. E. D. this verb originates from the O. Fr. substantive *salus*.

5. In other cases the French infinitive form influences the verbal form in Sc., whereas the current form in Standard Eng. is influenced by the Latin infinitive, f. i. to *uny*, Eng.

unite, Fr. *unir*, W. Tract. II 41 bayth the twa naturis *unitt* in ane persoun, to *vome*, Eng. *vomit*, Fr. *vomir*, Compl. Sc. 67 to *vome* ald feume.

6. Sc. infinitive *visy* corresponds to the Eng. form *visit*, and these verbs respectively to Latin *visere* and the frequentative form *visitāre*, the Fr. form is *visiter*. To *visy* is found in Sc. f. i. Bell. I 28, A. Scott 6, Compl. Sc. 13, 38, Wall. 152 his father then was *visyed* with sykness.

7. The addition of an excrescent *t* after consonants like *k*, *n*, *p*, *s* is very common in Sc. wordforms, perhaps this phenomenon is even more frequently found in the dialect than in the Standard language; the *t*-form of Sc. verbs ending in these consonants is also found. A few examples are:

to sackt, W. Tract. II 5 *to sackt* it or subdew it.

to summont, Pitsc. II 138 thay causit quein moder *to summond* paul Mephine.

to escapt, Compl. Sc. 17 in hope to eschaip the detractione.

to myxt, Compl. Sc. 17 therfor it is necessair at sum tyme til *myxt* oure langage witht part of termis dreuyn fra lateen. W. Tract. II 60 gif we sal begin *to mixt* noueltie with antiquitie.

The abbreviations are the same as are used in my article on "The prepositions in Lowland Scotch", see Vol. XLI p. 444.

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