

## PROLEGOMENA AND SIDE-NOTES OF THE CHAUCER DICTIONARY.

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Stanford University  
May 1. 1910.

Dear Dr. Furnivall,<sup>1)</sup>

I have often wondered what you thought about the slow progress of the Chaucer Dictionary which you would have called your Schmerzenskind, your child of sorrow, if the English Language were rich enough for such a compound in just such a sense. You may even have wondered (although you were kind enough never to express such a thought), whether there was any progress at all, or whether the 'slips' were possibly still in the same worse than chaotic condition, in the same state of incompleteness in which they were found when I volunteered to roll this stone of Sisyphus in 18 . ., I blush to say in 1890. Now, dear Dr. Furnivall, letting years rest in their great time-grave, occasionally whole years during which I literally could not do more with the Dictionary than sigh that I had the responsibility for it, years during which my whole working-energy went in such different and often so much less congenial directions, I must state that since my University granted me a long furlough (1904—1907) and the Carnegie Institution enabled me to keep a corps of fine assistants (1904—1907) a daily progress has been made,

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<sup>1)</sup> Ich ziehe vor, diesen einleitungsbrief unverändert zu lassen, wie er an den verehrten nestor unserer wissenschaft im Mai, wenige wochen vor seinem tode, geschrieben wurde.

and now I would be ready to publish a heavy tome containing the letter A and part of B, if I could make satisfactory printing arrangements.

But even during these last years of daily and marked progress there have been moments of standstill and even of change in method of work.

At the beginning I had forgotten Chaucers' wise old warning that

Of all this worlde / the [wyde] compace  
Yt wol not / in myne Armes tweyne  
Who so mochel wol embrace  
Litel therof / he shal distreyne.

I had disregarded this golden saying when I naively planned to work out the Chaucer Dictionary on the basis of newly to be written Old French and Middle English Dictionaries! I repudiated the repetition of the always insufficient and often erroneous statements as to such a word "being" so and so in OF. or in ME. I thought, and I still think, that the more general these statements are the safer to be sure, but the less sufficient. I found that a mere statement of a word being found in OF. or ME. would not answer the necessary questions as to its exact meaning, its frequency &c in OF. or ME., as to the history of a word before it reached Chaucer. I found, and still am finding, that a mere general reference to a word's existence in OF. or ME. would not mean anything to one who would save time by consulting the Chaucer Dictionary, who would save the trouble of consulting, besides, Godefroy, Mätzner, Stratmann, Murray, to one who would be justified in the expectation of finding at least the best current information about the words he wishes to look up.

I started with collections of my own which were as you observed kindly, not at all despicable and I tried at every new word to fight the old fight over again as to its exact earlier history in ME., often in OF. and OE. But, after struggling through A and part of B and after attempting to write a concise Dictionary of OF. and ME. in the headings of each article I have come to the conclusion that this might be done to real advantage by an Academy, but is not a thing which can be done by a single man in a single life-time.

In consequence, and according to Chaucer's own advice I am now endeavoring not to embrace too much and to hold the little the more firmly.

This means that the headings to the individual articles will be much briefer than originally planned, will be the mere outline of either my own 'findings' or of what others have found, differing from what is customary only by I. giving as to OF. not only the earliest quotation found so far — as after Littré's example in Darmesteter-Hatzfeld — but also the several principal meanings, generally as quoted in Godefroy &c with here and there a supplementary statement where needed to explain a Chaucerian usage;

II. by giving for ME. similarly 1. the earliest quotation; 2. the meaning(s) if at all different from Chaucer's use; and 3. a frank statement whether the word has been found by others or by myself in Chaucer's immediate predecessors and contemporaries like Langland, Wycliffe, Gower, Trevisa — a statement which, if accompanied with the proper quotations will often cast a flood of light on Chaucer's use of the word. (NB. I can vouch for these statements as to Gower and Langland, having made a concordance to Gower and almost one to Langland, but as to Wycliffe's 'world of words' I must be more careful, and as to Trevisa — we are still waiting for your edition of his Bartholomew!)

By adopting this method of abbreviation, I shall keep the Chaucer Dictionary within bounds and I shall keep out of a book which will be bulky in any case, a great deal of raw material which would become antiquated, I must hope, in a short time.

But in order to show what this 'raw material' is like, and in order to let it go in the direction of stimulating questions in the field of ME. lexicography, I intend publishing from time to time parts of this raw-material under the title 'Side-notes to the Chaucer-Dictionary'. I avoid the word 'Analecta', following your good example.

As to the 'Prolegomena' mentioned in the title to this paper, I must say, that they are not 'Forewords': they do not contain 1. a history of the book; 2. a full explanation of its plan; 3. a List of all the Abbreviations &c. They are to give merely a table of the sigilla used for the different

texts of the Mss., which you have made accessible in the course of laborious years, and which alone make my own work possible.

Yours always in gratitude<sup>1)</sup>

Ewald Flügel.

### Table of Abbreviations used for the different Mss.

NB. The quotations under the different articles are arranged according to the following order

ABC Pite Duch[esse] Mars Boece HF[ame] Tr[oilus]  
PF[oules] Anelida Rest of the Minor Poems LGW[omen]  
CT Astr[olabe] RR[ose]<sup>2)</sup> Spurious Poems

### I. Abbreviations for the Mss. of the Minor Poems.

Oxford Mss.	Cambridge Mss.
$\alpha$ . . . Fairfax 16	$\iota$ . . . Ff. 1. 6
$\beta$ . . . Bodl. 638	$\kappa$ . . . Ff. 5. 30
$\gamma$ . . . Tanner 346	$\lambda$ . . . Gg. 4. 27
$\delta$ . . . Ashmole 59	$\mu$ . . . Trin. R. 3. 19
$\epsilon$ . . . Arch. Seld. B. 24	$\nu$ . . . Trin. R. 3. 20
$\zeta$ . . . Arch. Seld. B. 10	$\xi$ . . . Trin. R. 14. 51
$\eta$ . . . Hatton 73	$\omicron$ . . . Pepys 2006 [A. B.]
$\theta$ . . . Laud 416	$\pi$ . . . Pepys 2006 [E]
$\alpha\alpha$ . . . Laud 740	$\rho$ . . . li 3. 21
$\beta\beta$ . . . Rawlins. C. 86	$\mu$ . . . Hh 4. 12
$\gamma\gamma$ . . . Rawlins. P. 163	$\kappa\kappa$ . . . Kk 1. 5
$\delta\delta$ . . . Digby 181	$\lambda\lambda$ . . . St. Johns G. 21
$\epsilon\epsilon$ . . . Corp. Christi Coll. 203	
$\zeta\zeta$ . . . St. John's Coll. 57	

### Brit. Mus. Mss.

$\sigma$ . . . . .	Harl. 2251
$\tau$ . . . . .	Harl. 7333
$v$ . . . . .	Add. 16165

<sup>1)</sup> Now, Sep. 1. 1910, in gratitude beyond the grave!

<sup>2)</sup> A 1—1705 in ordinary type; B C 1706—7698 in smaller type, as are also the spurious poems.

φ . . . . .	Harl. 78
χ . . . . .	Harl. 372
ψ . . . . .	Harl. 7578
ω . . . . .	Cott. Cleop. D VII
μμ . . . . .	Lansd. 699
ττ . . . . .	Add. 9832
νν . . . . .	Add. 12524
φφ . . . . .	Add. 10340
χχ . . . . .	Add. 22139
ψψ . . . . .	Add. 28617
ωω . . . . .	Add. 34360

## Other Mss.:

ηη . . .	Advoc. Lib. 1828
θθ . . .	Bannatyne Ms.
νν . . .	Bedford Ms.
ξξ . . .	Ellesmere Ms. Fly-leaf.
οο . . .	Hunterian Mus.
ππ . . .	Longleat 258
ρρ . . .	Phillipps Ms. 8299
σσ . . .	Sion Coll. Ms. 2. 23
[ωω . . .	Phillipps Ms. 9053 = Add. Ms. 34360]

## Early Editions:

ααα . . .	Caxton's ed. PF. &c
βββ . . .	" " Anel. Purse &c
γγγ . . .	" " HF
δδδ . . .	Jul. Notary's ed. MP
τττ . . .	Thynne's ed. Works
σσσ . . .	Stowes' ed. Works
σσσσ . . .	Speght's ed. Works

## II. Abbreviations for the Mss. of Troilus (Tr.)

Campsall Ms. . . . .	I
Harl. 2280 . . . . .	II
Cambr. Gg 4. 27 . . . . .	III
Cambr. St. Johns L. 1 . . . . .	IV
Cambr. Corp. Christi 61 . . . . .	V
Harl. 1239 . . . . .	VI

Add. Ms. 12044 . . . . .	VII
Harl. 3948 . . . . .	VIII
Harl. 2392 . . . . .	IX

[other Mss. occ. used quoted in full citation]

### III. Abbreviations for the Mss. of the Canterbury Tales (CT).

NB. Quoted according to lines of the individual Tales and the consecutive lines of the "Groups" (A. B. C. &c) in the Six-Text Edition. In the Parson's Tale (Pers.) the letter of group (I) is omitted for brevity's sake. — Mss. 9 to 43 as quoted in the various volumes of the Chauc. Soc. published by Dr. Furnivall.

1 Ellesmere.	2 Hengwrt 154.	3 Cambr. Gg 4. 27.
4 Corpus Christi Coll. Oxf.	5 Petworth	6 Lansdowne 851
7 Harleian 7334	8 Paris Ms. (according to Halfmann's Collation)	9 Sloane 1685
10 Arch. Seld. B. 14		
11 Cambr. Dd 4. 24	26 Harl. 1239	
12 Reg. 17. D. XV	27 Lichfield	
13 Cambr. Ii 3. 26	28 Christ Church	
14 Harleian 1758	29 Harleian 7333	
15 Laud 600	30 Sion College	
16 Reg. 18. C. 2	31 Rawlins. Poet. 141	
17 Addit. 5140	32 Ashburnham App. 126	
18 Cambr. Mm 2. 5	(McCormick Ms.)	
19 Egerton 2726 (= Haistwell)	33 Naples (Bibl. Reale XIII B. 29)	
20 Harl. 7335	34 Holkham 667	
21 Hatton 1	35 Addit. 35286	
22 Barlow 20	36 Phillipps 8299	
23 Rawlins. Misc. 1133	37 Longleat 25	
24 Rawlins. Poet. 149	38 Hodson 39	
25 Laud 739	39 Sloan 1686	
	40 Addit. 25718	
	41 Trin. Coll. R. 3. 15	
	42 Bodl. 686	
	43 New Coll.	

## IV. Abbreviations for the Mss. of the Prose Works:

## Boece.

1	Cambr. Univ. Libr. Ii 3. 21 . . . . .	C <sup>1</sup>
2	" " " " Ii 1. 38 . . . . .	C <sup>2</sup>
3	Add. Ms. 10340 . . . . .	A <sup>1</sup>

NB. The quotations from 1. 2 given after a new collation. The OF. texts quoted are a) Bibl. Nat. Ms. Fr. 1097 throughout; b) variants fr. Bibl. Nat. Lat. 18424; c) Bern Ms. 365; d) The standard Latin Text; e) Ps. Aqu. = the Commentary of the Latin Text attributed wrongly to Tho Aquin., as printed in ed. Argent. ?1498.

## Astrolabe.

Mss. as in Skeat's edition: A to Q. Ms. E according to a new collation.

V. Distribution of Mss. for the individual Minor Poems, LGW according to the Parallel Texts (PT), the Supplementary Parallel Texts (SPT), the Odd Texts (OT), the More Odd Texts (MOT).

NB. The Arabic numerals are arranged generally in the sequence in which they appear in these editions.

NB. As to the Chronology of these Mss. see Anglia 22, 510 and Miss Hammond's Bibliography.

## A B C

1	Ff. 5. 30 (PT) . . . . .	α
2	St. John's G. 21 (PT) . . . . .	λλ
3	Hunter. Mus. Q 2. 25 (PT) . . . . .	οο
4	Laud 740 (PT) . . . . .	αα
5	Gg 4. 27 (PT) . . . . .	λ
6	Fairfax 16 (PT) . . . . .	α
7	Harl. 2251 (SPT) . . . . .	σ
8	Bedford (SPT) . . . . .	νν
9	Speght (SPT) . . . . .	σσσσ
10	Pepys 2006 I (SPT) . . . . .	ο
11	" " II (SPT) . . . . .	π
12	Harl. 7578 (SPT) . . . . .	ψ
13	Sion Coll. (OT) . . . . .	σσ
14	Bodl. 638 (OT) . . . . .	β

## Pite.

1	Fairf. 16 (PT)	$\alpha$
2	Tanner 346 (PT)	$\gamma$
3	Bodl. 638 (PT)	$\beta$
4	Harl. 78 (PT)	$\varphi$
5	Ff. 1. 6 (PT)	$\iota$
6	Trin. R 3. 19 (PT)	$\mu$
7	Harl. 7578 (OT)	$\psi$
8	Longleat 258 (OT)	$\pi\pi$
9	Phillipps 9053 (= Add. Ms. 34360) (MOT)	$\omega\omega$

## Duch[esse]

1	Fairf. 16 (PT)	$\alpha$
2	Tanner 346 (PT)	$\gamma$
3	Bodl. 638 (OT)	$\beta$
4	Thynne's ed. (PT)	$\tau\tau\tau$
5	Stowe's ed. (PT)	$\sigma\sigma\sigma$

## Mars

1	Tanner 346 (PT)	$\gamma$
2	Fairf. 16 (PT)	$\alpha$
3	Pepys 2006 I (SPT)	$o$
4	Harl. 7333 (PT)	$\tau$
5	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (PT)	$\nu$
6	Arch. Seld. B. 24 (PT)	$\epsilon$
7	Longleat 258 (SPT)	$\pi\pi$
8	Pepys 2006 II (SPT)	$\pi$
9	Jul. Notary (1499—1501) (PT)	$\delta\delta\delta$
10	Speght's ed.	$\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma$

## House of Fame (HF)

1	Fairf. 16 (PT)	$\alpha$
2	Bodl. 638 (PT)	$\beta$
3	Pepys 2006 (OT)	$o$
4	Caxt. (PT)	$\alpha\alpha\alpha$
5	Thynne (PT)	$\tau\tau\tau$

## Parlement of Foules (PF)

1	Gg 4. 27 (PT)	$\lambda$
	NB. the later 15th c. hand which inserted the Roundel v. 680 ff.	$\lambda^1$
2	Tanner 346 (SPT)	$\gamma$



3	Pepys 2006 (OT)	o
4	Fairfax 16 (SPT)	a
5	Harl. 7333 (PT)	τ
6	Digby 181 (SPT)	δδ
7	Bodl. 638 (SPT)	β
8	St. John's Coll. LVII (PT)	ζζ
9	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 19 (PT)	μ
10	Hh 4. 12 (OT)	u
11	Laud 416 (OT)	θ
12	Longleat 258 (SPT)	ππ
13	Caxton (PT)	ααα
14	Ff 1. 6 (PT)	ι
15	Arch. Seld. B. 24 (SPT)	ε

## Anelida

1	Harl. 7333 (PT)	τ
2	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α
3	Tanner 346 (PT)	γ
4	Harl. 372 (PT)	χ
5	Digby 181 (PT)	δδ
6	Caxton (PT)	ααα
7	Add. 16165 (SPT)	v
8	Bodl. 638 (SPT)	β
9	Longleat 258 (SPT)	ππ
10	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (SPT)	ν
11	Ff 1. 6 (SPT)	ι
12	Pepys 2006 (SPT)	o
13	Phillipps 8299 (MOT)	ρρ

## Former Age

1	Ii 3. 21 (PT)	ρ
3	Hh 4. 12 (PT)	u

## Adam Scriveyn

1	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (PT)	ν
2	Stowe's ed. (PT)	σσσ

## Compleynt of Venus

1	Tanner 346 (PT)	γ
2	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α
3	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (PT)	ν
4	Ashmole 59 (PT)	δ
5	Ff 1. 6 (PT)	ι

6	Arch. Seld. B. 24 (PT)	ε
7	Jul. Notary (SPT)	δδδ
8	Pepys 2006 (hand B) (SPT)	ο
9	Pepys 2006 (hand E) (SPT)	π

## Scogan

1	Gg 4. 27 (PT)	λ
2	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α
3	Pepys 2006 (PT)	ο
4	Caxton (OT)	ααα

## Bukton

1	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α
2	Jul. Notary (PT)	δδδ
3	Thynne (PT)	τττ

## Fortune

1	Ii 3. 21 (PT)	ρ
2	Ashm. 59 (PT)	δ
3	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (PT)	ν
4	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α
5	Bod. 638 (PT)	β
6	Harl. 2251 (PT)	σ
7	Lansdowne 699 (SPT)	μμ
8	Pepys 2006 (hand B) (SPT)	ο
9	Caxton (SPT)	ααα
10	Arch. Seld. B. 10 (MOT)	ζ

## Gentilesse

1	Cleop. D. VII (PT)	ω
2	Harl. 7578 (PT)	ψ
3	Add. 22139 (PT)	χχ
4	Ashmole 59 (PT)	δ
5	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (PT)	ν
6	Harl. 7333 (PT)	τ
7	Harl. 2251 (SPT)	σ
8	Trin. Coll. R. 14. 51 (SPT)	ξ
9	Caxton (SPT)	ααα
10	Thynne	τττ

## Stedfastnesse

1	Cleop. D. VII (PT)	ω
2	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α

3	Add. 22139 (PT)	xx
4	Harl. 7333 (PT)	τ
5	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 (PT)	ν
6	Harl. 7578 (PT)	ψ
7	Hatton 73 (MOT)	η
8	Trin. Coll. R. 14. 51 (SPT)	ξ
9	Thynne (SPT)	τττ
10	Bannatyne (SPT)	θθ

## Prouerbes

1	Fairfax 16 (PT)	α
2	Add. 16165 (PT)	υ
3	Harl. 7578 (PT)	ψ

## Purse

1	Fairf. 16 (PT)	α
2	Harl. 7333 (PT)	τ
3	Ff 1. 6 (PT)	ι
4	Pepys 2006 (PT)	ο
5	Add. 22139 (PT)	xx
6	Harl. 2251 (PT)	σ
7	Phillipps 9053 = Add. 34360 (MOT)	ωω
8	Caxton (OT)	ααα

## Truth

1	Add. 10340 (PT)	φφ
2	Gg 4. 27 (PT)	λ
3	Ellesmere fly-leaf (PT)	ξξ
4	Cleop. D. VII (PT)	ω
5	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 20 I (PT)	ν <sup>1</sup>
6	" " " II (PT)	ν <sup>2</sup>
7	Arch. Seld. B. 24 (OT)	ε
8	Kk 1. 5 (OT)	κκ
9	Corpus Christi Coll. 203 (OT)	εε
10	Phillipps 8299 (MOT)	ρρ
11	Hatton 73 (MOT)	η
12	Arch. Seld. B. 10 (MOT)	ζ
13	Harl. 7333 (SPT)	τ
14	Fairfax 16 I (SPT)	α <sup>1</sup>
15	" " II (SPT)	α <sup>2</sup>
16	Lansdowne 699 (SPT)	μμ
17	Add. 22139 (SPT)	xx
18	Caxton (SPT)	ααα

## Legend of Good Women (LGW)

1	Gg 4. 27 (PT) (in lines of Prol. referred to as G)	λ
2	Fairfax 16 (PT) (in lines of Prol. referred to as F)	α
3	Tanner 346 (PT)	γ
4	Trin. Coll. R. 3. 19 (PT)	μ
5	Arch. Seld. B. 24 (PT)	ε
6	Thynne (PT)	τττ
7	Bodl. 638 (SPT)	β
8	Add. 9832 (SPT)	ττ
9	Pepys 2006 (SPT)	ο
10	Add. 28617 (OT)	ψψ
11	Ff 1. 6 (OT)	ι
12	Rawlins. C. 86 (OT)	ββ
13	Add. 12524 (beg. with l. 1640; SPT)	vv

## Doubtful Poems

## Rosemounde

1	Rawl. Poet. 163 (Own Collation)	γγ
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## Newfangelnesse (Against Women Unconstant)

1	Cleop. D. VII (Own Collation)	ω
2	Fairf. 16 (Own Coll.)	α
3	Harl. 7578 (Own Coll.)	ψ

## Merciless Beaute

1	Pepys 2006 (MOT)	π
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## Spurious Poems

## Compleint Damours

1	Harl. 7333 (Own Collation)	τ
2	Fairfax 16 (Own coll.)	ω
3	Bodl. 638 (Own coll.)	β

## Balade of Compleint

1	Add. Ms. 16165 (own Collation)	v
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## Balade ('Womanly Noblesse')

1	Phillipps 9053 = Ad. 34360	ωω
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## Balade of Pite

1	Harl. 78 (OT)	φ
2	Phillipps 9053 = Add. 34360 (MOT)	ωω

## Romaunt of the Rose (RR)

Text fr. Hunterian Mus. Ms. as edited by Kaluza, collated with Thynne (τττ).

**Arm s.**

**ME.** common. **OE.** *WS.* *earm.* **North.** *arm* (e. g. *Lind. Gosp.* 3 ×).

**Spell.** in most *Mss* *arm* *arme* *s.*, *armes* *pl.*, exc. *armys* 3 36 × III 19 × 2 6 × β 5 × γ 9 VIII 8; *armows* ττ (*LGW* 1302); *Armese* vv; *Armyse* vv 2 ×. *Mss.* IV VI 5 6 substitute 'harm': *harm* IV Tr 2, 156; *harme* VI Tr 3, 1128. 1574. 6 A 156 E 1103. 5 J 871; *harmes* *pl.* VI Tr 3, 606. 1187. ι PF 38. 6 J 690.

*r* (*Mars*) *armes* *pl.*: *armes* *pl.* 'arma'; (Tr) *arm* *sg.*: *harm* *s.* (CT) *arm* *sg.*: *harm* *s.* 3 ×: *warm* *adj.* *armes* *pl.*: *Armes* *pl.* 'arma' 2 ×: *charmes* *pl.*

**Prosody.** *sg.* 25 × monosyllabic; dissyllabic A 2726 (all *Mss.*, read: *arm* and); Ms 6 B 3638 (for 'armes' R).

*pl.* dissyllabic: *Duch* 1 × *Prov.* 1 × Tr 25 × *LGW* 6 × CT 27 × (+ *Mss* 456 B 1891 + *Mss* 3456 F 1391 + Ms 4 F 1393) RR 3 ×.

Monosyllabic: err. Ms 3 A 3406, *Mss* 5. 34. 36 E 1103 — for 'arm'.

1. *sg.* and *pl.* a) the arm (upper limb):

*Ryght' faire shuldres / and body longe*

*She / had / and armes / euery lyth*

*Fattyssh flesshy*

*Duch* 953

*This worthi Mars ...*

*The floure of fayrenes / [l]appeth in his Armes*

*Mars* 76

*Troylus gan ... Pandare yn his armes hent[e] faste*

Tr 1, 1045

*yn his arm he hath a litel wounde*

[*harm* IV]

Tr 2, 156

*Eleyne ... gan here arm right ouer his sholder leye*

Tr 2, 1671

*she ... hym in armes toke and gan hym kysse*

Tr 3, 182

*Here Em a-noon in armes hath here nome*

[*harmes* VI]

Tr 3, 606

*And per-with-al here arm ouer hym she leyde*

[*harme* VI]

Tr 3, 1128

He here in armes faste to hym hente [harmes VI; in hise armes VIII]	Tr 3, 1187
Criseyde ... gan to quake whan she hym felte here in armes folde	Tr 3, 1201
This Troylus in armes gan here streyne	Tr 3, 1205
Gan eche of hem in armes oper wynde	Tr 3, 1232
Here armes smale he[r] streyght[e] bak and softe ... He gan to stroke	Tr 3, 1247
Thise ilke two þat ben in armes laft ... loth to hem a-sond[er] go-ne [it] were [arme VI]	Tr 3, 1338
Therwith he gan hire faste in armes take	Tr 3, 1359
Troylus ... Gan .. Criseyde .. In armes streyne and seyde in þis manere	Tr 3, 1449
Criseyde ... hym in armes toke and ofte keste	Tr 3, 1519
Troylus ... in his armes tok his lady fre with that his arm al sodeynly he priste Vnder here nekke [armes II harme VI]	Tr 3, 1522
with his chere and loking al to-torn For sorwe of þis and with his armes folden He stod þis woful Troylus byforn	Tr 4, 359
she gan // Here tery face / a-twixe here armes hyde [handes VIII]	Tr 4, 821
This wordes seyde / she on here armes two Fil gruf	Tr 4, 911
neyper of hem oper myght[e] grete But hem in armes tok and after kyste	Tr 4, 1131
he by-gan to glade here as he myghte Tok here in armes two and kyst here ofte	Tr 4, 1219
she ... gan hym in here armes faste folde	Tr 4, 1230
Whanne þey were in here bed in armes folde Nought was yt lyk þe nyghtes	Tr 4, 1247
after þat þey longe y-pleyned hadde And ofte I-kyst and streyght in armes folde The day gan ryse	Tr 4, 1689

- Here fader hath here in his armes nome  
 ['his' om. VIII; Arme VI] Tr 5, 190
- where ben here armes an[d] here eyen clere Tr 5, 220
- And by pis bor faste in his armes folde  
 Lay kyssyng ay his lady bryght criseyde Tr 5, 1240
- Fyrst tellith it whan scipion was come  
 In Affrik how he mety[t]h massynisse  
 That hym for Ioie in armys hath I-nome  
 [harmes ι; complexus me senex, Cic.] PF 38
- Of all this worlde / the large compace  
 Yt wil not / in my[n] Armes tweyne Proverbs 6
- Therwith hise false terys out they sterte  
 And takith hire with-Inne hise armys two  
 [Armows ττ] LGW 1302
- in a swo she lay & wex so ded  
 Men myghte smyte[n] of hire arm or hed LGW 1817
- [Thesyus] in hise armys hat this adryane LGW 2158
- philomene ... Gan of hire fadyr grace to beseke  
 And hem embrasyth with hire armys two LGW 2287
- This tereus / Is to his wif I-come  
 And in his armys hath his wif I-nome  
 [arme γ] LGW 2343
- In armys euerych of hem othir takyth LGW 2381
- She ... In hyre armys gan hym to enbrace LGW 2707
- Vp on his arm / he baar a gay bracer Prol A 111
- Of smal coral / aboute hire Arm she bar  
 A peire of bedes [harme 6; necke 8] Prol A 158
- A daggere / hangynge on a laas hadde he  
 Aboute his nekke / vnder his Arm adoun Prol A 393
- This gentil duc' doun from his courser sterte  
 And in his Armes / he hem alle vp hente  
 And hem conforteth [viz. the mourning ladies]  
 Kn 99 A 957
- Blak was his berd ...
- Hise shuldres brode / his armes rounde and longe  
 Kn 1278 A 2136
- I recche nat ...
- So that I haue / my lady in myne Armes  
 Kn 1389 A 2247

[Mars] Whan þat thow vsedest the beautee // Of ...

Venus ... And haddest hire / in armes at thy wille

Kn 1529 A 2387

To othere woundes / and to broken armes

Somme hadden salues / and somme hadden charmes

Kn 1853 A 2711

with twenty knyghtes take // O persone allone ...

And haryed forth / by Arm[e] foot' and too

Kn 1868 A 2726

ffare wel / my swete foo / myn Emelye

And softe taak me / in youre Armes tweye

Kn 1923 A 2781

in hise Armes two // The vital strengthe is lost

Kn 1943 A 2801

She sholde slepen / in his arm al nyght'

[armys 3]

Mill 298 A 3406

with the fal / he brosten hadde his Arm Mill 721 A 3829

He has / the Milleris doghter / in his Arm

Reue 350 A 4204

vp he roos and softely he went'

Vnto þe Cradel and in his arme hit' hent'

[5; hand \* R]

Reue 358 A 4212

Hir litel child / lay wepyng' in hir arm Mo L B 834

And in hir Arm / she lulleth it ful faste Mo L B 839

for thise hundred frankes / he sholde al nyght'

Haue hire in hise armes / bolt upright Ship 316 B 1506

This were a popet' in an Arm tenbrace

[in armes to 456]

Thop 11 B 1891

she is / byg in Armes by my feith Monk 33 B 3111

she [viz. Cenobia] wolde kille // Leofns ... and Beres ..

And in hir Armes / weelde hem at hir wille

Monk 374 B 3452

[Cenobia] koude eke // Wrastlen ... With any yong man ...

Ther myghte no thyng' in hir Armes stonde

Monk 380 B 3458

ffor wo / hise Armes two / he gan to byte

[arme tuo 6]

Monk 556 B 3634

Hise children wende / that it for hunger was

That he hise Armes gnow / and nat for wo

[arme 6]

Monk 560 B 3638



- he in a bath / made hym to blede  
 On bothe hise Armes / til he moste dye  
 Monk 622 B 3700
- with that word / she both hir Armes layde  
 About his nekke Doc C 232
- Thou seyst' that som folk / desiren vs / for richesse  
 Som for hir handes / and hir Armes smale  
 Wyf Prol D 261
- I wolde no lenger in the bed abyde  
 If that I felte his Arm ouer my syde Wyf Prol D 410  
 ffor ioye / he hente hire / in hise armes two  
 Wyf Tale 396 D 1252
- The frere ariseth vp ...  
 And hire embraceth / in his Armes narwe  
 Som 139 D 1803
- Though I ... on hym leye my leg' outhur myn Arm  
 Som 164 D 1828
- And on hir arm þis litel child sche leyde  
 [7 \* 8 11 30 31 36 38; barm \* R] Clerk E 551  
 he ... hire in armes took / and gan hire kesse  
 Clerk E 1057
- She bothe hire yonge children / vn-to hire calleth  
 And in hire Armes / pitously wepyng  
 Embraceth hem Clerk E 1082
- The children / from hire arm they gonne arace  
 [harme 6; armes 5 34 \* 36] Clerk E 1103
- Hir myddel smal / hire armes longe and sklendre  
 March 390 E 1602
- he gan hire to manace  
 That he that nyght' in Armes wolde hire streyne  
 Harder / than euere Parys dide Eleyne  
 March 541 E 1753
- And Ianuarie / hath faste in Armes take  
 His fresshe May March 609 E 1821  
 wolde ye vouche sauf' ...
- The pyrie / inwith youre armes for to take  
 March 1130 E 2342
- O blisful / artow now / thou Dorigen  
 That hast' thy lusty housbonde in thyne Armes  
 Frank 383 F 1091

- On to dyane temple goth sche ryzt  
 And hente the emage in hire armys two  
 [3 \* 4 5 6; handes 1 2 11 \* 7] Frank 683 F 1391
- No wight' might' of' hit hir armes race  
 [4; hir hande(s) of it arace \* R] Frank 685 F 1393
- Right as a swerd / forkutteth and forkerueth  
 An Arm atwo / my deere sone right so  
 A tonge / kutteth freendshipe al atwo Manc H 341
- vsage of labour ... maketh ... the laborer / to haue stronge  
 armes / and harde synwes [harmes 6] Pers 690
- namoore may maydenhede be restoores than an Arm that is  
 smyten fro the body may retourne agayn to wexe  
 [harme 5] Pers 871
- euerich of thise 12 Signes hath respecte to a certeine  
 parcelle of the body ... as aries hath thin heued [in  
 gouernance] gemyni thyn armholes & thin armes  
 Astr 1, 21, 51
- she wolde .. In armes goodly thee haue take RR 2500  
 Thine armys shalt thou sprede abroad RR 2563  
 thou hast hir ... Nakid bitwene thyne armes there RR 2571  
 The deth I wolde me shulde sloo  
 While I lye in hir armes twoo RR 2594

b) ref. to the oath 'by Christ's arms':

- in Pilates voys / he gan to crie  
 And swear by Armes / and by blood / *and* bones  
 Mill 17 A 3125
- By goddes Armes / if thou falsly pleye Pard 368 C 654  
 Ye goddes Armes / quod this Riotour Pard 406 C 692  
 Lo quod the Somonour / goddes Armes two  
 [bi goddys 3\* 6; for goddes 7. 11]  
 Wyf Prol. D. 833

c) phr. arm in arm:

- This gardeyn was large and ... sonde alle þe weyes  
 In which she walketh arm yn arm by-twene Tr 2, 823  
 with þat þey wente arm in arm y fere  
 In to þe gardeyn Tr 2, 1116  
 arm in arm Inward with hym she wente Tr 2, 1725  
 24\*

d) phr. the 'bette arm' = the right arm (in r: harm s. obl. : warm adj.) cf. Better adj. 2; see heading to 'Armes' s. pl.:

I wole haue no wyte  
To bryng yn pres þat myghte don [hym] harm  
Or hym dishesen for my bettre arm Tr 2, 1650

2. transf. of a branch of a tree, of the sea:

Eurippe is an arm of the see that ebbbyth *and* floweth  
[Eurupus escoulanz: c'est un naturex cours marins;  
aestuantis more .. Euripi; Ps. Aqu. .i. maris estuantis]  
Bo 2 M 1, 2

Heigh labour ... Was at ... the fyr makinge  
That with his grene tope / the heuen [raughte]  
And twenty fadme of brede / the armes straughte  
That is to seyn / the bowes weren so brode  
[tharme 7; Essa toccava con le cime il cielo // E'bracci  
sparti e le sue chiome liete // Aveva molto Tes. 11, 19]  
Kn 2058 A 2916

### Armes s. pl.

**ME.** common in Chaucer's time 1. in the double sense of a) weapons, b) armour; 2. a) war, fighting; b) feats of arms; 3. Herald. armorial bearings; qu. fr. Wycl. [transl. Vulg. arma; in W<sup>2</sup> armer s., armeris \* pl. often taking the place of 'aarmys' in W<sup>1</sup>, possibly in order to distinguish 'armour' fr. 'weapons'; e. g. Gen. 27, 3; Deut. 1, 41; Jud. 18, 11; 1 Reg. 8, 12. 17, 54. 20, 40. 21, 8. 31, 9. 10; Luc. 11, 22; Joh. 18, 3 etc.; at other places the Mss of W<sup>1</sup> differ as to the use of 'armes' and 'armer(ys)', e. g. Joh. 18, 3; Gal. 6, 11 cf. Armour s.], Langl. [1. weapons; 2. coat of arms], Gow. [1. rare, 3 < weapons; 2. a) 14 < feats of arms; b) 8 < fighting, war; c) phr. 5 < man of arms; 3. Herald. 1 < coat of arms] etc.

First qu. c. 1225 Ancr. R. 60 (Str.) transf. Eien beoð ... te ereste armes of lecheries pricches = weapons; ib. 240 alle gode þeawes beoð armes ipisse vihte; in lit. sense first qu. c. 1280 Havel. (Mätz.) = sword, or = armour?; bef. 1300 RGl. (ib.) = 1. armour; 2. weapons; bef. 1300 KHorn (M.) = weapons. NB. a sg. is first qu. fr. 1762 Gibbon (M.); the sg. qu. in NED.

s. v. III, 12 fr. Chauc. Tr 2, 1650 'for my better arm' is due to an erroneous interpret. cf. Arm s. 1, d; Better adj. 2. —

**OF.** *armes* pl. (with and without article; qu. first fr. Ch Rol.; frequ. in phr. *faire les armes*, *faire armes*, *faire des armes* [Froiss. 3, 100] = to fight; 1. weapons; 2. a) feats of arms; b) fighting, war etc.; 3. coat of arms.

**L.** *arma* n. pl. cf. ThLL 1. *instrumenta cuiuslibet rei*; 2. *instrumenta bellorum*; 3. *pro bellis*; 4. *exercitus vel armati*; 5. transf. = the means, instruments &c.

**Spelling.** 'armes' in all Mss, with exc. armys 3 16 × III 11 × β 5 × VIII 4 × λ 2 × ττ ψψ II; *aremes* 6; *Arnes* μ (LGW 1274); v. r. *harmes* VI (Tr 5, 989) *harmys* III (Tr 5, 1556).

**r:** (Mars): *armes* (= *bracchia*); (CT): *armes* (= *bracchia*) 2 ×

**Prosody:** 'armes' dissyllabic Tr 15 × CT 13 × HF 4 × LGW 3 × Anel. 1 × RR 3 ×; monosyllabic: due to cler. error, in Mss 1 2 3 CT G 1347 (correct in 4—7. 19); due to err. ins. of 'daun' in 1—7. 11. CT A 2891. —

1. a) weapons to fight with, as well as warlike equipment, weapons and armour:

whych wodnesse of enemys wolde fyrst moeuen armes /  
whan they say crwel woundes [*armes esmouvoir*; *arma*  
*movere*, cf. Aen. 12, 6 = *ad pugnam se parare*]

Bo 2 M 5, 8

The shoures sharpe f[e]lle of armes preue

That Ector and hise opere breperen didnen

Ne made hym onoly per-fore ones meue Tr 1, 470

In alle nedes for þe townes werre

He was and ay þe firste in armes dight Tr 3, 1773

thus ... Lete I this noble duc / to Atthenes ryde

And al his hoost' in Armes hym bisyde Kn 16 A 874

in thy temple [viz. Mars] / I wol my baner honge

And alle the Armes of my compaignye

Kn 1553 A 2411

if a man wol vndirtake

Ony emprise forto make ..

In the Rescous of oure lay  
 And it defenden as he may  
 Be it with armes or lettrure  
 [d'armes]

RR 6751

But up it stert and armes toke  
 Ayens this fals horrible boke  
 [Ains s'arma por aler encontre]

RR 7131

b) armour (cf. above as to Wycl's use of the word  
 and s. v. Armour s.):

Two yonge knyghtes / liggyng by and by  
 Bothe in oon Armes / wrought ful richely

Kn 154 A 1012

And armyth zou in armys / of brightnesse

[3 \* 11; Armure \* R; Rom. 13, 12; Vulg. arma lucis:  
 Wycl<sup>1</sup> with (v. l. 'in') the armeris (Ms O: armes) of  
 lizt, Wycl<sup>2</sup> in the armeris]

Sec Nonne G 385

c) phr. (cf. OF. homme d'armes, gens d'armes) man  
 of armes = a) warrior; b) noble Knight:

holdest þou thanne hym a myhty man þat hath enuyrowne  
 hyse sydes with men of armes or seriauntz / and  
 dredith more hem þat he maketh agast than they  
 dredyn hym [celui qui a ses costez avironné de multi-  
 tude de serjans; satellite latus ambit; Ps. Aquin. .i.  
 multitudine]

Bo 3 Pr 5, 12

So lyk a man of armes and a knyght // He was

Tr 2, 631

how ... sholde I dwelle pere

A-mong þo men of armes euere in fere

[diff. VI: In hoste amonge the grekys]

Tr 4, 1363

I trowe / som men of Armes been ther Inne

Squier F 23

O blisful / artow now / thou Dorigen

That hast' thy lusty housbonde in thyne Armes

The fresshe knyght' the worthy man of Armes

Frank 384 F 1092

2. a) transf. gen. what arms are made for =  
 fighting, war; a) esp. in ref. to Mars as 'God of  
 arms' (cf. god of bataylle HF 1411 etc.):

pallyaunce ... bytwene ... Mars. þe god' of armes / and Venus [un.  
 title in v]

Mars

And Venus kysseth Mars the gode of armes Mars 77

Yow fiers[e] god of armes Mars the rede

[Tes. 1, 3 nelle tue armi]

Anel. 1

This god of Armes / was arrayed thus Kn 1188 A 2046

ridynge / lyk' the god of Armes Mars [armed 5]

Kn 1301 A 2159

though so be / that Mars is god of Armes

Youre [sc. Venus] vertu is so greet' in heuene aboue

Kn 1390 A 2248

¶ The orisoñ of Arcite ¶ To Mars god of Armes

[un. marg. gloss in 1]

Kn 1515 A 2373

β) warlike matters, affairs, or? = feats of arms  
(see c):

O stronge god [viz. Mars] / that ... hast in euery regne ...

Of Armes / al the brydel in thyn hond'

Kn 1518 A 2376

b) phr. in armes (cf. OF. en armes Froiss. 3, 465.  
5, 451; It. in arme, nell' armi etc.) = orig. with the  
weapons and in the armour, 'sword in hand'; fighting,  
in battle, in fight, in war:

the Grekes stronge

In armes with a þousand shippes went[e]

To Troye wardes [Nell' armi forti, Filostr. 1, 7] Tr 1, 58

yet was he wher so men wente or riden

Founde oon þe best and ... dide eke such trauayl

In armes pat to þenke it was meruayle

[Mirabilmente nell' armi operare, Filostr. 1, 45]

Tr 1, 476

for none hate he to þe Grekes hadde

Ne also for þe rescous of þe town

Ne made him þus yn armes for to madde

[not in Filostr.]

Tr 1, 479

Fro day to day yn armes so he spedde

That þe Grekes as þe deth hym dredde

[Divenne in arme sì feroce e forte, Fil. 1, 46]

Tr 1, 482

I hold it gret deynte  
A kynges sone yn armes wel to do Tr 2, 165  
he doth  
In armes day by day so worpily Tr 2, 186  
By day he was in martes highe seruyse  
This is to seyn . in armes as a knyght  
[Dando ... 'l di .. al faticoso marte Filostr. 3, 20]  
Tr 3, 438  
Myn herte is now yn tribulacion  
And ye in armes be[si] day by day  
[harmes VI; ben I; bysi \* II III IV V VI; bene besy  
VIII; voi siete nell' armi Filostr. 6, 31] Tr 5, 989  
Myn owene deth yn armes wol I seche  
[A morir co' nemici miei coll' armi, Fil. 8, 20]  
Tr 5, 1718  
Hym [sc. Antonius] roughte nat in armys for to sterve  
LGW 665  
they schal haue wel betere loue & chere  
Than he that hath abought his loue [fu]l dere  
Or hadde in armys manye a blodi box LGW 1388  
he was hardy / wys and riche ...  
Yong' fressh / strong' and in Armes desirous  
Squier F 23  
the knyght'  
Shoope hym to goon / and dwelle a yer or tweyne  
In Engelond' ... To seke in Armes / worshiþe and honour  
Frank 103 F 811  
Cenobia ... So worthy was in Armes / and so keene  
Monk 361 B 3439  
Sawe wyn and wymmen / no man mighte aswage  
His hye entente in Armes and labour Monk 757 B 3835  
Nas neuere man / that luste bet to synge ...  
No knyght in Armes / to doon an hardy dede  
To stonden in grace / of his lady deere  
Than hadde this preest' this soory craft to leere  
['to' before 'doon' erroneously inserted in 1 2 3; om.  
4—7. 19] Chan Yem 794 G 1347  
In armes also if thou konne  
Pursue to thou a name hast wone BR 2315

c) (in the first quot. a Latinism; cf. OF. *armes* = in the same sense) feats of arms, martial deeds:

I wol now say ...

The Armes / and also the man)

That first came ... of Troy Contree // In Itayle

[Arma virumque cano, Aen. 1, 1] HF 1, 144

euery manere wight

That haunteth armes oughte to by-waylle

The deth of hym [harmys III] Tr 5, 1556

yf I hadde y-taken for to wryten

The armes of þis ilke worthi man

Than wold I of hise battayles endite[n] Tr 5, 1766

songis wolde he make

Iustyn & don of Armys manye thyngis

[Arnes  $\mu$ ]

LGW 1274

I kepe noght of Armes for to yelp

Ne I ne axe nat' tomorwe to haue victorie

Ne renoun in this cas / ne veyne glorie

Of pris of Armes / blowen vp and doun

But I wolde haue / fully possessioun

Of Emelye Kn 1380. 83 A 2238. 41

3. Herald. the heraldic bearings (originally on the shield):

noght' nyl I ... Ben aboute / to dyscryve

Al these armes / that ther weren/ HF 1331. 3, 241

who so koude I-knowe

Myght' ther alle / the armes seen)

Of famouse folke / that han) y-been)

In auffrike HF 1337. 3, 247

thys ylke / noble quene

On her shuldres / gan sustene

Bothe armes / and the name

Of thoo that hadde / large fame HF 1411. 3, 321

thre steedes ... That trapped were in steel al gliterynge

And couered with the armes of daun Arcite

['daun' err. ins. 1—7. 11; 'with' om. 3; 'the' om. 7]

Kn 2033 A 2891



## III. errors.

arme un. sp. 6 for harm \* R    MoL B 829  
armes un. sp. 5 for harmes \* R    Kn 1371 A 2229.

**Barbre adj.** [barbarian, esp. Saracen].

**Barbarie s.** [the county of Barbarians].

**ME.** [members of this word-group first (12<sup>th</sup> c.) introduced fr. Vulg., later (14<sup>th</sup> c.) fr. OF.]. I. Barbar Barbre 1. adj. = foreign (ref. to Egypt): c. 1150 Eadwine Cant. Ps. 113, 1 of folc bærbæron (Vulg. de populo barbaro; Surtees Ps. of folce elreordum; Junius Ps. of folce elreordegum; Paris Ps. of gramum folce þa elreordige ealle wæron OF. [Oxf. Ps. etc] del pople estrange). — 2. s. a) Barbre, the region of barbarous people in Africa (not = Mauretania, but = Egypt) c. 1370 Alis. Fragg. 533 Of Barbre þe bryght god ... þe gaye god of egypt; ib. 536 þe god þat heried was in Barbre; — b) Barbarys pl. = the Saracens of the African coast: c. 1400 Secreta 41, 10 aȝ men þat now er on any syde þe see as wel Barbarys as Latyns; — c) Barbres pl. = the not-Hellenic people against whom Alexander fought [in every case transl. of barbarus &c in Historia de Proeliis]: bef. 1425 Wars Alex. 2488 þe regions of barbres; ib. 2534 þe barbres; ib. 2606 aȝ þe barbres (Dubl. Ms: barbrems); ib. 2650 of cruell kind comen of barbres; ib. 3499 þe proud barbres; ib. 3611 þe grekes & barbres; cf. barbaryn adj. sub. II. — d) Barbaris \* pl. Bibl. Vulg. barbari = foreigners talking a different language: c 1380 Wycl. 2 Mac. 10, 4 taken to barbaris or heithen and blasfeme men (W<sup>2</sup> barbaries and blasfeme men, v. l. barbares or hethene; Vulg. barbaris et blasphemis hominibus); Acts 28, 1 barbaris or hethene men [the last three words = the gloss, om. Ms. X] (W<sup>2</sup> hethene men; Vulg. barbari); ib. 4 as barbares sygen (W<sup>2</sup> the hethene men; Vulg. barbari); 1 Cor. 14, 11 if I schal not knowe the vertu of vois I schal be to him to whom I schal speke a barbar [Ms V: barbarik] or not vndirstonden [the last three words om. in Mss O X] and he that spekith to me a barbar [Ms V: schal be a barbarik] (W<sup>2</sup>: a barbarik, glossed in Ms K 'that is not vndurstonden', in Ms R 'either straunge'); Coloss. 3, 11 wher is not male and female hethen man and Iew ... barbar and Scita [Mss P Q T Y: barbara;

Ms V: barbarus] (W<sup>2</sup> barbarus and Scita, glossed in Ms R: barbarus either straunge man, Scita either knowen man); NB. 2 Mac. 15, 2 W<sup>1</sup> W<sup>2</sup> transl. Vulg. 'barbare' adv. by 'heithenly' \*; Ps. 113, 1 W<sup>1</sup>: fro the straunge puple, W<sup>2</sup>: the hethene puple; 2 Mac. 2, 22 W<sup>1</sup> W<sup>2</sup> an heithen multitude. — e) Barbre s. = barbarous country, foreign country with different language & manners, transl. in Hl Ms Higden's barbarus &c, which Trevisa translates always with 'straunge': c. 1435—50 Hl Ms Transl. Higd. 1, 323 peple of barbre worschippenge ydoles [ref. to inhabitants of Wyntlandia 'by West Denmark'; Higd. gens barbara; Trev. men mysbeleued; Caxt. oute of beleue]; ib. 2, 159 the speche of barbre [Flandrenses .. dimissa iam barbarie Saxonice satis proloquuntur; Trev. her straunge speche]; ib. 163 the nye langage of men of barbre [ref. to the Celtic Scots; propter viciniam barbarorum; Trev. straunge men ... pat spekeþ straungeliche]; ib. 5, 23 peple of barbre [Barbarorum ... nationes, qu. by Higd. fr. Hieron., ref. to non-Romans; Trev. men of straunge naciouns]; ib. 97 the consuetude of men of barbre [moribus barbarus = wild, rude (of a Persian); Trev. straunge maneres]; ib. 99 men of barbre [a barbaris = inhabitants of Gaul; Trev. men ... of straunge naciouns]; ib. 127 men of barbre [barbaros = non Romans; Trev. straunge men]; ib. 203 nacions of barbre [barbaras nationes = Picts & Huns; Trev. straunge landes]; ib. 251 men of barbre [barbari ... ad barbaros = Celts; Trev. straunge naciouns, twice; this whole pass. taken fr. Bede H. Eccl. 1, 13].

II. Barbaryn s. and adj. 1. = Saracen: c. 1330 R Brunne Chron. 16060 Seint Bede blames Cadwalyn // Of wille he calles hym barbaryn // Barbaryn ys a Sarazyn straunge // To mercy pat wil nere turne ne chaunge; ib. 16663 pat pey ne lese pat er was myn // peyr fredam for no Barbaryn // A barbaryn as seyp seint Bede // Ne had neuere merci for no nede [Bed HEccl. 2, 20 animo ac moribus barbarus; WS vers. elreordig, twice]; — 2. foreigners, of different speech: c. 1380 Wycl. Rom. 1, 14 Grekis and barbaryns or hethene men [the last three words, as gloss, om. by Mss O X] (W<sup>2</sup> adds the note fr. Lyra: hethen men of vnknownen language; — 3. ref. to non-Hellenic people against whom Alexander fought, transl. in every case 'barbarus' of Hist. de Proeliis: bef. 1425 Wars Alex. 991 aȝ þe barberon blode; ib. 2418 aȝ þe barbarine

blude; ib. 2606 *Dubl. Ms* aȝ þe barbrems; ib. 2626 þe barbaryne blod; ib. 2919 þis ilke bar-baryn berne; ib. 3051 þe barbrýne blode; ib. 3586 a barbrene prince; ib. 5311 þe barbrins folke; — 4. Barbaryenes pl. = inhabitants of 'Barbarie', Mauretania: c. 1400 *Maundev. Tr.* c 5 at Marrok ... duelte the Calyffe of Barbaryenes and of Affrycanes; ib. c 7 Sarazines Barbaryenes Turkes Tartaryenes.

III. *Barbarie* s. and *Geogr. n.* 1. = foreign country, ref. to Egypt: c. 1320 *Cott. Ps.* 113, 1 (ed. Stevens. 2, 61) In outegate of israele // Oute of egipt' ... Iacob hous was glad for þie // Of the folk' of barberie [v. l. barbari, see Horstm. ed. *R. Rolle* 2, 248; *Prose Ps.* ed. Bülbr. 140 fram þe straunge folk']; — 2. = country of the Saracens in Asia (= Chaucer's *Surrye*): 1390 *Gow. CA* 1, 179 the greteste of Barbarie [*Trivet. marchauntz paens hors de la graunde sarazine* = a country which includes 'les seintz luz del sepulcre & del mount de Caluarie & de Bethелеem & de Nazareth']; ib. 180 Thei gon to Barbarie ayein; ib. 199 he cam fro Barbarie // To Romeward; ib. In Barbarie; 3) = country of the Saracens in Africa, Marocco: no qu. fr. ME., but see Barbaryenes, above II, 4.

IV. NB. 'barbre' does not occur in *Gow. & Langl.* and was rare in Chaucer's time, which is shown by the fact that W<sup>1</sup> in all cases but one glosses the word; in *Wycl., Wars Alex.*, Hl *Ms Transl. Higd.* it merely translates the Latin; *Barbarie* in *Chauc.* and *Gow.* seems to be taken over fr. OF.

OE. translates 'barbarus' always with el(l)reord(ig) [*Bede Hist. Eccl.* 1, 5 = indomitis; 1, 13. 2, 5. 2, 20. 4, 2], a transl. which proves that 1 *Cor.* 14, 11 furnished the original explanation of the Latin word.

OF. I. barbarins 1. adj. = Saracen in gen., c. 1170 *Ms O Rol.* 886 Reis Corsablis ... Barbarins est e mult de males arz; ib. 1236 Barbarins est d'un estrange país [see below]; — 2. s. pl. frequ. in OF. romances = 'Berbères, Sarrasins', *Langlois Table NPr* s. v.; cf. *Froiss.* 14, 152 &c; — 3. barbaran adj. & s. (G) c. 1250 *Ms O Horn* (Stengel) 288 ces barbaranz (*Ms C* barbaranz); ib. 3218 (Michel) rei barbaran.

II. barbares s. pl. (bef. 1382 *Oresme* in *Littre*) 'tous ceulz qui sont de estrange langue'.

III. *Barbarie* *Geogr. n.* 1. gen. a Saracen country: 1250—1300 *Ms D Beuve H.* 1521 a l'arbre sek e en Barberie;

14<sup>th</sup> c. Ms C Rol. (and Ms P 13<sup>th</sup> c. Ms L 14<sup>th</sup> c. Ms T 15<sup>th</sup> c.) 1236 De Barbarie doit la gent maintenir (diff. in Ms O, see above I, 1); frequ. in other 13<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> c. Mss of OF. romances (cf. Langlois Table s. v.); — 2. = Mauretania Tingitania, frequ. in Froiss. e. g. 14, 151 ou royaume de B. &c.

**ML.** barbarus &c 1. used in the classical senses to the effect that the non-Roman 'barbarians' called themselves 'barbari' &c, cf. Du C.; 2. Christian senses: a) from the Old Test. Ps. 113, 1. 2 Mac. 2, 22 = foreign, i. e. non-Jewish; b) = gentile, pagan cf. Du C. s. v. Th LL; c) August. (ib.) 'barbarus mundi' = diabolus. — NB. The passage 1 Cor. 14, 11 influenced the development of the meaning = one who talks an unknown tongue, cf. above. — Joh. de Janua defines the word Barbarus: crudelis, incultus, austerus, stolidus' and quotes Papias' definition and derivation 'incultus vulgaris imperitus extraneus a barba et rure; Barbaria dicta est quedam terra iuxta greciam propter excellentiam crudelitatis (Cath.); he etymologizes ib. s. v. barbarismus: componitur a barbarus et mos quasi consuetudo et mos barbarorum ... vel componitur a barba et rure et more quasi mos et consuetudo barbe rudis durioris et ruris Quia ruricole vtpote inculti et duri rudes et incultas solent habere barbas.

**L.** I. barbarus barbar adj. (also: barbaricus) & s. taken over fr. Gk βάρβαρος see Th LL: 1. adj. Plaut., s. Varro Cato &c = Latinus; 2. a Romanis omnes nationes dicuntur barbarae praeter Graecos Romanosque; 3. transf. 'incultus, ferus' (of manners and language (cf. Barbarismus ib.); 4. conn. with 2 a = talking an unknown tongue (Ovid.); 5. Barbari 3d c. Itin. Anton., August. &c = 'populus Mauretaniae Tingitanae'.

II. barbaria barbaries s. 1. 'barbarorum regio'; a) (Plaut.) = Italia; b) 'apud Romanos de omnibus externis regionibus praeter Graeciam et Italiam'; c) Christ. (Prudent., Salvian. &c) = the pagan world, non-Christian people in general; 2. transf. = 'rusticitas, duritia, saevitia' (esp. of speech).

**Etym.** (see Walde 61, Vaníček 176 &c) rel. w OInd. barbara-s. 'stammering', pl. 'name of non-Aryan people', balbū-thás s. or. 'stammerer', rel. w OIr. balbalā-kar v. 'to stammer', L. balbus babulus &c, onom. \* bal bal-bal &c; on possible later connections (with 'bravo' &c) cf. Kört. 1226.

**NB.** As to the independent pass. from CT F 1452 the gloss in the Ellesm. Ms points to the ultimate source of Chaucer: 'Vidi et omnes pene Barbares cap. xxvj ° primi', referring to the passage which follows after the Artemisia paragraph, although it has or. nothing to do with it; Artemisia quoque uxor Mausoli insignis pudicitiae fuisse perhibetur. Quae ... defunctum maritum sic semper amavit ut vivum ... Indi ut omnes pene barbari uxores plurimas habent[!], Hieron. Contra Jovin. I c. 43 § 310; cf. ib. c. 41 § 306 percurram breviter Graecas Latinas Barbarasque historias; ib. c. 42 § 309 Nec hoc mirum de Barbaris [viz. Budda's birth].

**Spell.** I. Barbre 1 2 3 7 11; — II. Barbarie 1 4 6 7; Barbarye 2 3 5 11; barberye 5 6; Barbary 4.

r (CT): Arthemisie n. pr.

I. Barbre adj. (fr. OF.) Saracen, ref. to Syria (cf. B 134 In Surrye; ib. 153 &c):

Allas / vn to the Barbre nacioñ

I moste goon / syn that it is youre wille

[1 2 3 7 11; Barbarie 4 6 \* 5; corr. to Trivet's: entre estranges barbaryns, Orig. & Anal. 9; at other places called 'sarazins']  
MoL B 281

II. Barbarie 1. like an adj., ref. to Syria:

Allas vnto pe Barbarie nacioñ

I moste anon sippen it' is your wille

[4 6 \* 5; Barbre R]

MoL B 281

2. s. (see NB. above) = the pagan world, Heathendom:

The parfit wyfhod of Arthemisie

Honored is / thurgh al the Barbarie Frank 744 F 1452

### Barbour s.

**ME.** common in Ch.'s time, also as proper name; qu. fr. Wycl. barbour (transl. Vulg. tonsor), not qu. fr. Langl. Gow.; first qu. c. 1320 Auch. Ms Sev Sages 1874 (Str.) barbour (r: neyghebour).

**AF.** barbier barbour Stat. qu. in Lib. Albus 270. 714.

**OF.** 1. barbeor Doc. 1242 (Littré); 2. barbier Doc. 1251 (G.) = barber, barber-surgeon?; bef. 1317 Joinv. (La C) =

surgeon; barboire (r: noire) 1260 Mousket (Du C. = masquerade?); barber Doc. 1394 (G.) = pr. n.; barbieur beg. 14th c. Jean de Condé &c (G., who gives also the form 'barbieor' without quot. 3. barbier adj. bac(h)ins barbiers Doc. 1332. 88. 93 (G.).

**ML.** 1. barbator, not qu. bef. c. 1200 Petr. Bles. (Du C.) where it more probably means 'mimas vel scurras qui larvati in theatris ludunt'; cf. barbatorias celebrare, Greg. Tur. Hist. 10, 6, an adaptation fr. Class. L. barbatorium facere = barbitondium facere, to celebrate the first shaving, cf. Th LL; 2. barbarius, French doc. A. D. 1222 &c (Du C.), barberius (ib.) = a) barbitonsor, b) chirurgus.

**Spell.** barbour 2 4 7 11; barboure 5 6.

The barber who exercised the 'mystery' of surgery (cf. 1540 Stat. 32 Hen. 8 c. 42, ref. to the Lett. Pat. 1461 Edw. 4):

Ther wer also / of Martes deuysioun

The Barbour / and the Bochie / and the Smyth

[2 4 7 11 \* 5 6; laborer 1 labourer 3 labour 8]

Kn 1167 A 2025

### Barefoot adj.

**ME.** common, but not in Gow. and not qu. fr. Wycl. [who avoids the word 2 Reg. 15, 30 nudis pedibus W<sup>1</sup> the feet nakid goynge, W<sup>2</sup> goynge with nakid feet, v. l. Ms J: with bare feet passynge forth; Deut. 25, 10 discalceatus vnshod (OE. Hept. nemne hine ... unsceoda); Is. 20, 2. 4 vnshod]. — In the majority of instances 'going barefoot' is not a sign of poverty but of utmost humility, it is used by him who goes on a pilgrimage, as a sign of penitence, as a punishment &c: c. 1205 Lag.<sup>1</sup> 1, 377 (8843) Androgeus wes swa god // sone he dude hine bar fot // & alle his bezste cnihtes? .. & eoden to pon kaisere ... & feollen to his foten; c. 1225 Ancr. R. 420 (Str.) Ine sumer to ... sitten baruot; c. 1280 Havel. 862 Hauede neyþer hosen ne shon // Ne none Kinnes oper wede // To Lincolne barfot he yede; bef. 1300 RGl 3689 þe bissops & oper prelates ... Com wiþ gret processiou. wiþ gret anguisse & fere // Wepinde biuore þe kinge ... bareuot echon // Hii velle alle adoun akne . biuore þe kinge; ib. 6893 (in the ordeal)

to steppe vp echon [viz. of 'four yrene ssaes'] // After oper barenot; ib. 8953 he [viz. Mold 'bona regina'] ... werede harde here // & barenot eode alle lente; c. 1300 C Mundi 6072 Lok þat þai be scod ilkan // þis lamb sal ete and barfote nan (C; barfot F Tr; barfott G.); 1387 Trev. Higd. 7, 460 Molde queene of Engeland ... werede þe heyre vnder þe real array and zede barefoot (barvoot  $\gamma$ ) to cherche in þe Lenten tyme (nudipes); 1392 PPl c. 10, 121 Barfot and bredles · beggeþ þei; ib. 21, 9 Barfot on an asse bak · bootles cam prykye // Withoute spores oper spere; beg. 15th c. (Hl Ms 1900) Transl. Higd. 7, 513 he went a pilgremage barfot to Jerusalem.

**OE.** 959—75 Edgar Canons: Be mihtigum mannum (Thorpe Laws 414) Ðus mæg mihtig man ... his dædbote ... micelum ȝelihtan ... Alecge þonne his wæpna & idele rænca & nime stæf him on hand & ga bærfot zeorne & do wyllen to lice oððe hæran; 962—1011 Aethelred Bath. Pen. § 2 (Lieberm. 1, 262) [in order to receive God's favor and mercy] cume manna gehwile bærfot to circan buton golde & glæncgum & ga man to scrifte; c. 1000<sup>1)</sup> Peccat. Med. (Bosw.) bærfot nudipes.

**NB.** cf. Grimm's Rechts Alt. 713 (Symbolische Procession; barfuss umb die kirchen geen &c), Du C. s. v. Harmiscara, Forcell. s. v. nudipes [ $\gamma\nu\nu\acute{\nu}\pi\omicron\nu\varsigma$ ].

**Et.** bær adj. 'bare' + fot s. 'foot', formed like ON. ber-fœttr barfœtr MHG barfuoz [no qu. fr. OHG].

**Spell.** barefoot  $\psi\psi$  aaa 1; barefoot' 2; bare foot' 1 4; barefot  $\lambda$  3; bare fote o 19; barfote 6 2  $\times$   $\gamma$ ; barfot  $\mu$  11; barfoot 2 3; barfoot' 4; barfot' 7; bare foot  $\varepsilon$ ; barefoote vv.

**Prosody** b. counts always two sill., with acc. on the first.

barefooted:

a) as one in bed:

who so ... Mysdeme hyt [viz. Chaucer's 'sweuene'] / pray  
I. Jhesus god

That dreame he barefote / dreame he shod

That euery harme ... Befalle hym HF 1, 98

<sup>1)</sup> the earliest qu. in M.

b) hastily rising from bed:

Allas *quod* she ... I am betrayed ...

And to the stronðe barefot faste she went

And cryede Thesius myn herte swete LGW 2189

c) like a petitioner, or a pilgrim (transferred in F 1077 from Christian usage to supposed pagan custom):

Thy Temple in Delphos / wol I barefoot seke

Lord Phebus ... of my peyne / haue som compassioun

Frank 369 E 1077

Commune penaunce is / that preestes enioynen men in certeyn

caas / as for to goon *peraenture* / naked in pilgrim-

ages / or bare foot' [bare pe feet' 5, cf. Bare adj. 1]

Pers 105

### Bastard adj.

ME. qu. first (without article) as cognomen of William the Conqueror, later as a s. (ab 1300); c. 1100 Worc. Chron. s. a. 1066 him wæs gecyðd þæt Wyllelm bastard wolde hider 7 ðis land gewinnan; bef. 1300 RGl (generally with the accent on the first syll.) 5970 þoru pulke blode suppe . willam bastard com; ib. 7060 þeruore þis willam bastard . engeland he bi het; ib. 7063 Hou willam bastard was bigite . icholle telle þat cas ... uor he was so ibore // Out of spoushod me clupede him . willam bastard þeruore; ib. 7248 willam bastard; ib. 7272 To willames bioffe bastard duc of normandie; ib. 7322 willam bastard (r: ssreward); ib. 7332 willam bastard; ib. 8524 (M.) He was willames sone bastard<sup>1</sup>); bef. 1300 Curs. M. 3027 sarra ... sceud abraham yon bastard [viz. the son of Hagar] // Do him a-wai þat he ne has partd // Wit mi sun of our heritage (cf. Gen. 21, 10 filius ancillae; Wycl. this hand mayden and the sone of hir); ib. 24765 A king was hight willam bastard (Mss C G Ed.; r: hard; Ms F: bastarde); c. 1308 Hl Ms 913 (Rel. Ant. 2, 174; Mätz. n.) Seint Mari bastard the Maudleinis sone; c. 1330 Arthur & Merl. 7691 (ib.) Ywain bastard; 1330 R Brunne Tr. Langt. 51 (ib.) a bastard no kyngdom suld hald; ib. 52 William ... þat we calle pe bastard;

<sup>1</sup>) ref. to Robert Curthose 1054—1134 the legitimate child of Will. and Matilda, wrongly understood by M. and expl. as 'adj.'



1362 PPl A 8, 76 Barnes þat Bastardes beon holden; 1392 PPl C 3, 24 mede þe mayde ... is a bastarde; ib. 6, 25 Bondmen and bastardes . and beggers children; ib. 7133 dame Johane was a bastarde; as adj. ib. 6, 71 barnes bastardes han ben archidekenes; c. 1380 Wycl. Serm. 36 (Wks 1, 100 Mätzn.) as adj.: þes laborers have nede to delve aboute þes rotis lest yvel eerbis growen þere and bastard braunchis = suckers; 1387 Trev. Higd. 1, 251 (ib.) Carbilius a bastard [Higd. = C. spurius]; 1398 Trev. Barth. (M.) as adj. that bastarde generation = mongrel, hybrid; ib. that bastarde plante = a sucker, undesirable shoot; c. 1400 Maundev. 19 here children ben bastardis and geten in synne; ib. 54 here children ben bastardis; c. 1400 Househ. Ordin. 473 oseye or bastard = a sweet wine; c. 1430 Cook. Books 37 lye it with bastard = wine; 1436 Libel Engl. Pol. 53 adj. wyne bastarde and dates (as two 'commoditytes of Spayne'); c. 1450 Th Erceld. 609 (Brandl) = a hawk &c.

NB. The word was common in Ch.'s time, but is not in Gow., and Wycl. seems to avoid it [he misunderstands the adj. Hebr. 12, 8 adulteri et non fili estis, and translates 'auowtreris' (v. l. auouteres); see Anon. Transl. ed. Paues 107: spousebrekeres & noȝt sones!]

AF. Bastard c. 1290 Britton.

AN. & OF. bastart, bastard s. & adj. all early quotations referring to William; 1170 Wace R Rou 2, 168 (3444) Normendie a grand tort tencit / Bastard esteit n'i aueit dreit; ib. 3452 El rei de France se fia / E le bastard cuntrialia; ib. 2, 180 (3739) Se il a ueu le bastart (NB. Wace never calls William 'b.' as king of England); bef. 1174 Benoit Chron. des Ducs 3, 8 (also in G.) Si de neient nos sosmeton / A un neentel bastardon; ib. 3, 43 (33051) De quel Guillaume dites vos? Del fel bastart del orgoillos; ib. 3, 236 (38111) La vint Raol frere bastart / Si cum je vos di au duc Richart; 12th or 13th c. Serm. S. Bernard (Paris Ms, G.) Li baistairs; 13th c. Contin. du Brut (Michel Chron. Anglo-Norm.) 1, 67 A li Bastard purrez dire; ib. 70; ib. 72 Willam Bastard de Normondie; ib. 73 a Willam Bastard se maria; ib. 77 Willam Bastard ki rois estoit; 13th c. Seint Aedward le Roi (Chron. Anglo Norm.) 1, 120 Guillaume Bastard de Normandie Ducs; 1283 Beauman. 18, 3 (1, 278) La mere n'est pas creue en aucun cas contre ses

enfans, por ce se elle dist qu'il sont bastart ... que li aucuns de ses enfans seroient bastart por les autres aheriter; ib. 4 li enfant en cel cas ne sont pas tenu por bastart; ib. 45, 16 (2, 223) quant il dit et il veut prover qu'il est bastars, e cele proeve fete il est hors de servitude. Et le maniere de prover le bastardie s'est quant il fu nés avant que se mere espousast baron; ib. 63, 2 (2, 419) se cil qui apele est bastars et li apelés est frans hons .. il ne loist pas à franc home entrer en bataille contre bastart. Mais se li apeleres et li apelés sunt bastart li apiax tient; 1305 Doc. (G.) batarz; 1317 Doc. (ib.) des bestars et des bestardes; bef. 1317 Joinv. (ib.) Estoit fiz bertars a mon signour Ami; 1373 Doc. (ib.) nostre baistards; 1427 Doc. (ib.) le bestard d'Orleans.

**Prov.** bastart & c s. & adj. 1205 Stat. Montp. (Rayn.) bastart o bastarda; bef. 1215 Peir d'Auv. (ib.) Ab motz amaribotz bastartz & c.

**ML.** bastardus; first qu. in reference to Will. Conqu. NB. The charter of William's quoted in Du C., beginning 'Ego Willelmus cognomento Bastardus' is a spurious doc. which is dated in Selden's Titles of Honor 534 'of the time of Edw. III', see also Freem. Norm. Conqu. 2, 627; it mislead J. Grimm to state that William called himself 'B.' 'in seinen Briefen'! Grimm gives the earliest ML. qu. fr. bef. 1075 Adam Brem. Gesta Pont. Hamm. (ed. Pertz Mon. Germ. Hist.) 7, 325 iste Willelmus quem Franci Bastardum vocant; ib. 356 ecce Willelmus cui pro oblico sanguine cognomen est bastardus ... Bastardus victor in ultionem Dei quem ipsi offenderant Angli; for other quot. fr. continental sources see Grimm WB s. v., Freeman Norm. Conqu. 2, 626 ff. NB. Order. Vital. Hist. Eccl. 1, 179 speaks of him as Guillelmus nothus filius eius, octennis puer (= adj.), but he does not call him 'B.' in his History; the word is not used by Will. Malmesb., and Henry Huntingd. when speaking of Will.

In England the first qu. of 'b.' are; bef. 1118 Flor Worcester MXXXV Willelmus Bastard filius eius = as cognomen; 1114—18 Leg. Hen. I (Lieberm. 78, 5) de bastardis [Ms beldstotis; Thorpe ed. 255 bledstodiis] quos parentes sui diuites ac domini multa sinunt in progenies egestate mendicos; 1140—59 Leg. Edw. Conf. Retr. 35, 2 (Lieberm. 666) Eadwardus ... adoptauit Willelmum ducem Normannorum in regnum, Willel-

mum dico nothum, id est bastardum: 1187—9 Glanvilla Tract. 7, 1 nunquid filio suo Bastardo potest quis filium et heredem habens de hereditate sua donare? Quod si verum est, tunc melioris condicionis est in hoc bastardus filius quam mulieratus post natus; ib. 13 Haeres autem legitimus nullus Bastardus nec aliquis qui ex legitimo matrimonio non est procreatus esse potest ... (c. 14) W. dictus quod ipse Bastardus sit natus ante matrimonium matris ... (c. 15) et quidem licet secundum canones et leges Romanas talis filius sit legitimus heres, tamen secundum ius & consuetudinem regni nullo modo tanquam heres in hereditate sustinetur vel hereditatem de iure regni petere potest; c. 1210 Ms Edw. Conf. Rubr. (Lieberm. 670) Willelmus bastard; c. 1210 Guildhall Ms Will. Art. (ib. 489) Decreta domini regis Willelmi bastardi; 13th c. Peterb. Ms (ib. 486) Decreta Willelmi bastardi; 13th c. Annales Cambriae (Mon. Hist. Brit. 860) Willelmus Bastard Normannorum dux; 1256—9 Bracton De Leg. 1, 162 terra data bastardo ... si heredes habuerit de bastardo; ib. 6, 255 quod bastardus legare possit &c; c. 1290 Fleta 6, 38 si petens servus fuerit ipsius tenentis vel si fuerit bastardus; ib. 39 (De Bastardiis) eo quod nihil iuris habeat cum sit bastardus quicunque nati sunt ante matrimonium dum tamen matrimonium consequatur inter patrem et matrem quoad gradus promotionis ad Ecclesiasticam dignitatem secundum canonem legitimi reputantur [cf. PPl above], quoad successionem vero in bona paterna secundum consuetudinem Angliae illegitimi & bastardi (Seld. 1. c. 538).

Et. fr. OF. *bast m.* the saddle, packsaddle (rel. w. OHG *past m.* MHG *bast m.* ON *bast n.* OE *bæst* ML *basta bastum* = 1. the inner bark of a [linden-] tree of which ropes were made and saddles, cf. Grimm RA 261 n; 2. transf. in MHG = 'wie stroh, halm &c etwas wertloses, geringes', Grimm WB s. v.) + ... ard OF OHG ending (or. = OHG ... *hart*) used in denominative substantives 'zu benennungen für mannsleute in bösem sinne' Grimm Gr. 2, 340 cf. MHG *bankhart neidhart* &c NL *dronkârd* OF. *couard gaillard* &c ME. *trichard* &c. Since OF *filz de bast* (changed by pop. etym. into 'filz de bas', 1260 Ph. Mousk. in LaC.) is synon. with 'bastard', the connection of OF. 'bastard' with OF. *bast* = packsaddle, seems evident and was first suggested by Mahn and accepted by Diez s. v. (with appropriate reference to Don Quix. 1, 16). This would

point to a southern French origin of the word, which later as by-word of the great Norman Duke and English king spread over Europe and became an ordinary sb. This 'packsaddle-child' finds a parallel in G. bankhart bankert bänkling ME. bantling 'the child begotten on a bench' ON. hornüngr 'der im Horn [= angelus] erzeugte'; G Paris compares 'fils de char' Rom. 8, 610; cf. also G. winkelehe = concubinate, Grimm RA 475 ff.

OF. fils de bast [c. 1200 Auberi (G.) fille de bast, bef. 1315 Joinv. (ib.) filz de baat] is imitated in ME. 1. in 'sone a bast', 'bigeten o bast' see quot. fr. RGl. &c in Mätz. = in bastardy cf. 1440 PrP Baast [Winch. Ms, Baaste Harl. Ms] not wedloke: Bastardia; 2. in 'bast' used like bastard adj. 1387 Trev. Higd. 7, 27 (M.) the erle his bast sone (v. l. baste; nothus comitis filius); ib. 8, 187 John mariede his baast dougter to Lewelyn (filiam suam notham).

**Spell.** bastard 4 6 7 bastard' 5. —

illegitimate:

O noble o worþy petre glorie of Spayne ...

Thy bastard broþer made þe to fle

[4 6 7 \* 5; diff. 1 2 3 11]

Monk 490 B 3568

### Beau-sir OF. phr.

ME. common, but not qu. fr. Langl. Wycl. Gow. I. first qu. fr. 1280—90 Laud Ms Leg. St. Thom. Bek. (ed. Horstm.) 469 beav sire .. þov seist wel i-novz [the king courteously to Beket]; ib. 479 bev sir zwi seist þou so? [the king disappointed to B.]; ib. 517 Bev sire [the king angry to B., as ib. 816: bel ami]; ib. 774 beau sire þov spext ase a fol [king angry to B.]; c. 1300 Harl. Ms Leg. Thom. Bek. (ed. Mätz. Sprachproben) 2005 Beau sire [Beket politely to knight; 'bev frere' in same pass. in Laud Ms 2027]! ib. 2039 Beau sire quath Seint Thomas hit nis mi dede nozt [Bek. to knight, politely; 'bev frere' in Laud Ms 2005]; c. 1360 Sir Gaw. 1222 Nay for soþe beau sir sayd þat swete // ȝe shal not rise of your bedde [polite, but slightly ironical]; c. 1430—40 York Pl. 48, 76 Messenger come nere / And bewcher wele ye be [Herod to Nuncius]; ib. 146, 1 Powre bewsheris aboute [Herod haughtily to his council]; c. 1450 Leg. St. Cuthb. (Surt. Soc.) 1188 When þe bewschirs þat paim

blamed / Saw þis pai were a schamed = the heathen scoffers of St. Cuthbert, = 'fellows'?; c. 1440 Destr. Troy 1863 (M.) Beu-sir [King Telamon angry to Antenor]; c. 1450 Town. Pl. (ed. Poll.) 78, 1 Be styȝ beshers I commawnd yow [Imperator haughtily to council]; ib. 82, 142 Welcom bewshere, say what tythyng? [Imperator condescendingly to Nuncius; spelt 'bawshere' in ed. Surt. Soc.]; ib. 174, 273 Bewshere I the byd [Herod to Nuncius]; ib. 227, 747 bewshere [Miles rudely to Christ]; ib. 288, 281 Bewshers [Pilate to Torturers]; ib. 289, 303 Bewshers [Tercius Tortor to the other two]; ib. 290, 340 bewshere [Pilate to Torturer]; 1513 G. Dougl. Virg. Prol. 1, 21 I protest beaw Schiris [addressed politely to the readers]; ib. Epil. 4, 231 bew schirris haue guid day [the same]; **II.** rare? = 'belle chose', q. v., of a man's parts: c. 1440 M Arture 1047 His bakke and his bewschers and his brode lendez.

**AF.** 1376—9 Gow. Mirr. 436 Ly deble commence a parler ... Bealsire ... Au fin que soiez moun servant [= politely]; c. 1483 Caxt. Dial. 18, 3 Biau sire [said by the flattering cloth-seller to customer, transl. into Engl. 'Fair sire'].

**OF.** I. in polite address a) from inferiors to superiors, viz. to kings, lords, husbands, fathers &c; but also used b) from superiors to inferiors, or c) among equals; c. 1150 St. Alex. 22d (109) Amis, bels sire, si pou vos ai oût! [bride to absent husband]; ib. 44 a (216) Eufemüens bels sire riches om / Quer me herberge [Alex. to his father]; [ib. 57 a (281) Alex. to 'son serjant': bels fredre; ib. 88 b (437) mother to son: bels filz; ib. 41 a (201) in prayer: Deus bels reis qui tot governes]; c. 1170 Rol. 387 Tenez bels sire dist Rollanz a sun uncle [Rol. to Emperor]; ib. 622 par amistiet bels sire la vous duins [Valdebrun to Gueneloun = equal to equal]; very frequ. as an appellative: ib. 265 Bels sire reis [Turpin to Emperor]; 863. 76 Bels sire niés [king to nephew]; ib. 331 Bels sire Guenes dist Carles; ib. 512. 563. 580 &c; after 1189 Marie Fabl. 44, 7 (147) Que veez vus beals sire, amis? [wife with bad conscience to husband; she uses 'sire' when she is angry 149; cf. ib. 345 'bele mere' used by young crab to mother-crab; bels fiz 295; bele amie 14 &c]; 1277 RR see below. 14th c.? La Manière de langage (ed. P. Meyer Revue Crit. 1870—1, p. 399, qu. in R. Diepenbeck Beiträge zur Kenntnis der afrz. Umgangssprache, Kiel 1900, p. 19) as cœurers et labourers vous direz ainsi: Dieux

vous ait mon ami, vel sic: Dieux vous avance mon compaignon. Bien soiez venu biau sire; see other examples in W. A. Stowell's *OF. Titles of Respect in direct Address*, Balt. 1908, p. 213 ff.; ib. 215 quotations which show anger and 'a distinctly sarcastic shading'; ib. 214 quotations fr. 12th — 14th c. of the word used by 'servants, friends &c as a title for bourgeois and by women of the bourgeoisie as a title for their lovers and husbands'; II. = cuckwold, 'contutumelie quoque vox fuit .. apud Picardos 'Sires homs' quippe et 'Beau Sire' virum cuius uxor moechatur significavit', Du C. s. v. *Siriaticus Turgor*; ib. 'Sires homs' from a *Litt. Remiss.* A. D. 1388, and fr. a *Litt. Rem.* A. D. 1450: Le suppliant dist à cellui Martin par doulceur: Beau Sire vous avez tort ... le dist Martin respondit ... qu'il n'estoit Sire et qu'il ne savoit se ledit suppliant l'estoit: laquelle parole de Sire lui fut à moult grant desplaisance ... pour ce que en laditte ville (de Ham) qui appelle ung Beau sire, est autant comme de l'appeler coulx.

**Et.** *OF.* beau bel &c adj. < *L.* bellus fair, beautiful, good &c [see *Bel* adj., *Beautee* s.] an adj. which early lost its emphasis in this combination + *OF.* sire 'sir' [q. v.] used in polite address; cf. beau-frere beau-pere beau-mere beau-fiz &c which were taken over into the *ME.* vocabulary, and treated like regular compounds, e. g. bel ami [q. v.], bev pere [c. 1280—90 *Laud Ms. Leg. Thom. Bek.* 1281: *Bek.* to Pope], beu frere [ib. 1348 *Pope* to *Bek.*], Beav seignours [ib. 443 king to 'clerkes'], bev freres [ib. 1869 *Bek.* to murderous knights], Bev frere [ib. 1993. 2015. 2016 *Bek.* to single knight], Beu fiz [*PPI* A 8, 148 *Jacob* to his son *Joseph*; ib. B. 7, 162 beau filtz, ib. C 10, 311 beau fitz &c], beupere [or. the way of addressing the father confessor, and transf. to an ecclesiastic in general, ib. B 18, 229 = C 21, 241; ib. C 10, 248 'beau pere' ref. to a lollard preacher; cf. c. 1380 *Wycl. Sermon*, 1, 299 alle pe beuperis = 'pes freris'; ib. 2, 381 freris .. worse pan her bew peris; 1440 *Hl Ms Pr. Parv.* Bepyr or bewpyr = *Pulcher pater*, *Winch. Ms* beper or bewper, see *Mayhew's* n. 125; c. 1453 *Pol. Songs* 2, 229 (qu. *Cath. Angl.*) byshoppe ... biddeth yowre beawperes ... The beelesire ye be, the more is youre blame = fellow bishops ... archbishop of York]. — Special senses developed occ.: Belsyre or belfa[d]er faders or moders fader, *Avus*, [*Pr. P.*], a Bellsyre Auus [*Cath. Angl.*], Beldam

moderys modyr Bellona [Pr. P.], Beldam faders and moders modyr bothe [ib.], Beldame Auia [Cath. Angl.], belsyre = ancestor in general PPl C 21, 284. B 9, 142 (= C 11, 233).

NB. The first half of the comp. beau bel takes the place of OE. leof which is preserved in 'leoue sire' Ancr. R. 54 &c.

Spell. beau sir  $\alpha$ ; beau syr  $\beta$ ; beaw sir  $o$ ; beau sire  $aaa$ ; beausyre  $\tau\tau\tau$ ; beausire RR; Beau *ser* ib.

r (RR): Ire s.

fair sir, used in courteous address a) by the eagle to Chaucer (possibly with a slight admixture of familiarity); b) by Lady Courtesy to the Lover; c) by the 'baronage', the noble companions, to the God of Love:

Ioues halt hyt / gret humblesse  
And vertue eke / that thou wolt make  
A nyghte ful ofte / thyn) hede to ake  
Iupiter' / considereth this  
And also beau sir / other thynges H F 643. 2, 135

A lady gan me forto espie ...  
Ful curteisly she callede me  
What do ye there Beau *ser* quod she  
[*Biaus amis que faites vous la?*] RR 800

Wherefore we pray you alle beausire  
That ye forgyue hym now your Ire  
[*vous prions trestuit biau sire*] RR 6053

### Bedes s. pl.

ME. bede s. I. prayer; common in early ME. and in the phrase 'to bid one's bedes' to the end of the 16th c. (Camden qu. in Blount Gloss.), retained as archaism after the 17th c.; first qu. fr. 1150—1200 Hatt. Gosp. (Str.) Mk. 9, 29 purh bede & on fæstene (Corp. purh zebedu; Lind. on zebeadum; Rushw. on gibeodum); c. 1200 St. Jul. 205 (Mätz.) as heo bed hire beden; bedes pl. qu. 7  $\times$  fr. PPl (5  $\times$  with 'bidden'; 2  $\times$  = rosary, see below); bede sg. & bedes pl. 15  $\times$  in Gow. (9  $\times$  = gen. prayer, 2  $\times$  with 'biddin' and 1  $\times$  with preien, 3  $\times$  = rosary); rare in Wycl. (Works 2, 420) bidde here bedes, qu. by M.; W<sup>1</sup> transl. Vulg. 'preces' 'oratio' generally by preieris' pl. 'preiere' sg. also by 'preiynge' v. s. (W<sup>2</sup> changes

the pl. occ. into the sg. 'preiere', e. g. 3 Reg. 8, 28 2 Par. 6, 21), orisoun sg., orysouns pl. (which is avoided by W<sup>2</sup>, e. g. 3 Reg. 8, 28. 45. 49. 54. 9, 3. 2 Par. 6, 40 &c;<sup>1</sup>) II. pl. = balls of the rosary; first qu. fr. 1362 PPl A 5, 8 (B 5, 8) I blaberde on my Beodes; 1377 PPl B 15, 119 A peyre bedes (Ms W: peire of); not qu. fr. Wycl. (who alludes to the senseless repetition of the pater noster Works 3, 228); qu. fr. Gower C A 3, 372. 374. 378; frequ. in testaments: Fifty E. E. Wills 1422 (50) I pare bedes of coraþ; 1434 (102) a peyre of bedes of siluer ... also a payre bedes of blak' gaudys of siluer & gilt' &c.

**OE.** beodo beado n. pl. frequ. qu. fr. Rit. Dun: (Lindelöf) bedu n. acc. pl. Wulfst. in Toll. Suppl., Bl. Hom. ib.; bedu f. sg. Lib. Scint., (Past. ib.<sup>2</sup>); also found in comp. bedræden beddagas bed hus (Bosw.); more common: zebed n. (1. prayer; petition; 2. (rare) ordinance) and its compounds, > e ME. ibed.

**NB.** The transferring of the or. abstract sense to the concrete finds its parallel in ML. *precula* (s. Du C: duo paria preclarum, unum par preclarum) which is qu. only fr. England and may be a transl. of the ME. word. OF. uses pate(r)-noster chapelet rosaire; c. 1277 J. de Meung, Test. A. D. 1307 (unes patrenostres) in G.; A F 1399 Test. El. Bohun (Wills 1780 p. 180) une paire de pater nostres de corall de cynqaunt graunts ove V gaudes d'or; ML. Paternoster qu. fr. 1333 (Du C.), 1402 (ib.) &c; of 'Rosarium' no early qu. in Du C., first doubtful qu. fr. end of 13th c. from Tho Cantipratanus. The ML. *beltis* gen. pl. *beltidum* = 'rosarium' qu. by Spelman Gl. Arch. s. v. from the decrees of an Engl. Synod 816 A. D. is not satisfactorily explained; 'beltis' cannot mean = rosary, because the latter belongs to the later M. Ages (13th c.), possibly introduced by S. Dominicus † 1221, see Herzog Real Enc. s. v.,

<sup>1</sup>) This seems to mean that old-fashioned Gower retained the word, whereas even in PPl it occurs only a) in the phrase 'to bid one's bedes' and b) = rosary, the then new-fashioned meaning of the word which it was to retain ultimately to the exclusion of the other. Wycl. may have refrained from the use of the word in order to avoid misunderstandings (between serious prayers and 'bede byddyng' = 'blabberyng').

<sup>2</sup>) bedu fr. Ms Ca (written after 1066) Alfr. Bede 1, 7 (Mill. 36, 32) is a mere clerical error for 'beldu' (c. 1030 Ms B: byldo): he mid swinglan sceolde þa be[l]du & þa anrednesse his heortan anescian = cordis eius emollire constantiam.



Wetzer & Welte Kirchen Lex. s. v. (The earliest pictures of a rosary mentioned in France are supposed to date back to 13th c., but lost cf. Wetzer-Welte 10, 1277, earliest continental pictures in existence fr. 14th c. (ib.); earliest in Engl. Mss fr. 14th c. and early 15th c., see W. de Gray Birch Early Drawings in Brit. Mus. p. 260.

**Spell.** bedes 1 2 4 6 7 19 RR; bedis RR 2  $\times$  3; bedys 5.  
[r (RR) supplied by Thynne]: nedes pl.]

1. prayer:

Telle me ... how a man may lyuen	
That al his good to pore hath yiuen	
And wole but oonly bidde his bedis	RR 6687
A peire of bedis eke she bere	
Vpon a lace of white threde	
On which that she hir bedes bede	RR 7372

2. phr. a peire of bedes = a rosary:

Of smal coral / aboute hire Arm she bar  
A peire of bedes / gauded al with grene Prol. A 159

A peire of bedis &c, see sub 1.  
[Unes patenostres i a] RR 7370

**Bee s.**

**ME.** common, but not qu. fr. PPl [found in PPl Crede 727 been pl.] Gow. — Wycl. frequ. pl. been and beese bes [sg.: Eccl. 11, 3 W<sup>1</sup> Short in foules is a bee, W<sup>2</sup> A bee is lital among briddis]. — OE. beo wf., pl. beon; North. bia pl. bian rel. to OHG bia f. bīni n. bīna f., MHG bīne bin f., MdG dial. beie f. biene f., ON bý-fluga (= Fr. mouche-abeille).

**NB.** The Gallicism of calling the bee = 'flye' (see below Bo 3 M 7, 2 PF 353; and s. v. Flye s.), is found also in 1340 D. Mich. Ayenb. 136 He is ase pe smale uleze pet makep pet hony, cf. OF. mosche, mouche a miel = e ee he (G.). c. 1260—66 B Lat. Tresor 206 Besainnes sont les mosches qui font le miel ..., ces mosches portent grant diligence à lor miel faire [v. l. moiches mouches; Ms K: ces moissses]; c. 1270 Etabl. S. Louis 2, 316 ff. (ch CLXXII) Se aucuns hom a hés v. l. hées ées de mouches à miel, mouches d'éés cf. Viollet's Préf. 1, 224; see also 'les nouvelles moschetes' Trésor 207, 'moschete' RR 2, 264 (19948). 304 (21254), and G. s. v. mouchete = abeille.

**Spell.** sg. bee A<sup>1</sup> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 11; be C<sup>2</sup>; pl. ben I 2 × III 2 × IV 2 × C<sup>1</sup>; been II 2 × V 2 × 5 2 × o 1 2 3 4 7 11; been' VI 2 × α; beñ β; bene VIII 6; bees 1 4 × 2 4 × 7 4 × 5 3 × 6 3 × 11 3 × 14 2 × aaa τττ 4 9. 10. 17. 19 20; beis 3 10.

r (Tr) ben pl.: flen 3 pl. pres. (C T) Been pl.: been 3 pl. pres. (C T) bees pl.: trees pl.: subtiltees pl.

the bee (*Apis mellifica*, L):

Every delit hath this / þat it Anguisseth hem with prikkes  
 þat vsen it / it resembleth to thise flyenge flyes þat we  
 clepyn ben / þat after he hath shad hyse agreable  
 honyes / he fleth away / and styngeth the hertes of  
 hem þat ben ysmyte with bytynge ouerlonge holdyng  
 [v. l. A<sup>1</sup>: aftre þat þe bee hap shed hys agreable honies,  
 C<sup>2</sup> be; Paris Ms: il ressemble les ees volans la ou la  
 mouche a espandu son miel elle s'en fuit; Bern Ms:  
 pareilles ... aus oeilles (= abeilles); Vérard's ed.: com  
 la mousche fait; Or. voluptas ... apiumque par vo-  
 lantum] Bo 3 M 7, 2

I herd a noyse / aprochen blyve  
 That ferd as ben' don' / in an) hive  
 Ayen her tyme / of oute fleyng  
 Ryghte suche a maner / murmuryng  
 For al the world / hyt semed me H F, 1522 3, 432  
 neuere yet so pikke a swarm of ben  
 Ne fleygh as Grekes gonne fro hym flen Tr 2, 193  
 men mos[t] ... to and fro ek ryde and gon as blyue  
 Alday as pikke as ben flen from an hyue Tr 4, 1356  
 The gees for feere / flowen ouer the trees  
 Out of the hyve / cam the swarm of bees  
 So hydous was the noyse / a benedicitee

N Preest 626 B 4582

Right so as bees / out swarmen from an hyue  
 Out of the deueles ers / ther gonne dryue  
 Twentry thousand freres Som 29 D 1693  
 Lo whiche sleightes / and subtil[i]tees  
 In wommen been / for ay as bisy as bees  
 Been they / vs sely men for to deceyue

Prol Squier E 2422

As many heddes / as manye wittes ther been  
 They murmureden / as dooth a swarm of Been

Squier F 204

Lo / lyk a bisy bee / with-outen gile  
 Thee serueth ay / thyn owene thral Cecile

[Cecilia .. quasi apis tibi argumentosa deseruit, Leg. Aur.  
 ed. 1492, 159 b] Sec Nonne G 195

thise flies<sup>1)</sup> / that men clepeth bees / whan they maken  
 hir kyng'. they chesen oon that hath no prikke wherwith  
 he may stynghe Pers 468

### Beest s.

**ME.** From the earliest times the word takes the functions of L. *bestia* and L. *animal* (which was not introduced into English as a s. before the 16th c. and, although quoted from OF, is not common in F until about the same time, see *Animal adj.* and *Creature s.*), and means, in consequence, with and without specifying adjectives: 1. animal in general, as opposed to man (OE *nyten*); 2. wild animal (OE *deor*); 3. domestic four-footed animal, cattle (OE *feoh* & *nyten*); 4. deer; 5. as term of reproach applied to man; 6. in Christ. langu. a) the devil; b) Infidels in general.

**NB.** New in Chaucer is the gen. meaning = animal including man, as 'living being' in opposition to inanimate nature, a meaning in Chaucer taken over fr. OF *Boece*, and found again in Gower (if literally interpreted), Trevisa (1398; but see qu. fr. Trev. s. a. 1387, below), Secrees (after 1400), [Tho Yonge (1422)?], Lydg. c. 1450 and Boorde (1547, qu. in M.). — c. 1200—20 St. Kath. 2038 þu bittre balefule beast [o crudelis bestia, said of the heathen king; cf. 2013 þe heaðene hundes] = as a term of reproach; c. 1200—20 St. Marh. (Mätz.) pat bittre best = the devil; c. 1210 Wohunge (E. E. Hom. 1, 277) in a beastes cribbe = cattle; c. 1225 Owl & N. 99 pat ilke best pat fuleþ his owe nest = animal in gen.; c. 1230 H. Maiden. 25 (Mätz.) Beastes pat dumbe neb habbeð = dumb animal in gen.; c. 1230 Ancr. R. 58 (Mätz.) gif eni unwrie put were & best feolle perinne ... Heo is gulti of þe

<sup>1)</sup> This points to a French source.

bestes deaðe = cattle; *ib.* Best is þe bestliche mon þat ne þencheð nout of god; *ib.* 59 þu schalt zelden þat best; *ib.* 416 Ge ... ne schulen habben no best bute kat ane = domestic animal; *c.* 1230 St. Jul. (Mätz.) 84. 111. 114. 123 þis foule best = a devil (called 'helle bule' 54); *ib.* 68 þat balefule beast, = viz. the wicked reeve; *c.* 1250 Gen. & Ex. 194 Hadde [Adam] wel loked him wið skil // Ilc beste sulde don his wil [*ib.* 187 der and wrim] = animal in general; *c.* 1280 Laud Ms SE. Leg. Brend. 375 swch a best = a whale; *ib.* 677 so gret best = a whale: *ib.* Edm. Conf. 480 is beste best to heriet men brougte him ase it was lawe = melius catallum (G. best-haupt); *ib.* 484 bote þat o best luyte guod heo hadde more; *ib.* 486 þat best a-gein hire giue; *ib.* 492 to leose þare aftur ire beste best; 13th c. Douce Ms XI Pains Hell. (OE. Misc. 212, 54) deuēlis bestis = devils; bef. 1300 Curs. M. 547 wit bestes dounb man has his fele [Tr Ms: beestes] = dumb animals; *ib.* 677 [In paradise] þe bestes bond him all aboute [Tr: beestes]; *ib.* 683 þe bestes self war samer tale / Wit-outhen hurt þar herd ai hale [Tr: beestis]; *ib.* 692 Nan best [Tr: beest] wald til oper dere // þe scorpion for bare is stang // Fra bestes [Tr: beestis] þar he lai among = animal in general; *ib.* 699 [F] þe nedder ... of alle bestes ... mast he coude of craft [G: was mast wis of ani best; Tr: was more wise þen any beest] = animal in general; *ib.* 1694 þe meke beistes sal haue þair stand ... And vnder þam sal stand þe wild [F bestes G bestis Tr beestis] = animals, tame and wild; *ib.* 1788 na beist = animal in general; *ib.* 6000 besteis [F bestes G bestis Tr beestes] = cattle; *ib.* 6039 (M.) a litel beist ... Locust it hatt; *ib.* 6711 beist = ox; *ib.* 14963 (M.) an ass beist = asinam Mt. 21, 2.5; *ib.* 27885 his manikhed ... Es turnd al into best state (of a drunken man); bef. 1300 RGl 7698 wilde best (r: forest) = deer; *ib.* 7702 astorede wel mid bestes = deer; *ib.* 7704 þe bestes = deer; *ib.* 7714 wilde best = deer; *c.* 1310 Hl Ms 2253 (Bödd.) Dial. 138 Eueruch best þat lyues ys toward heuene ys hed halt = animal in general; *c.* 1310 Havel. 279 Al Engeland was of him adrad // So is þe beste fro þe gad = cattle; *ib.* 574 Leoun or wulf ... Or oper best = wild animal; *ib.* 944 Wolde he neuere hauen rest // More þan he were a best = a work animal [= bestia trahens, Chart. A. D. 1240 in Du C., animal de labore *ib.*]; *ib.* 2691 also leun fares

pat neuere kines [= nones kinnes] best ne spares = animal in general; c. 1320 W. Shoreh. 128 (Mätz.) a best = animal in general; c. 1320 Surtees Ps. 8, 8 beestes of þe felde [Vulg. pecora campi; OE. Vesp. & Junius Ps. netenu feldes. Eadwine's Ps. neat feldes; Paris Ps. eorðan nytenu; Prose Ps. (Bülbr.) þe bestes of þe felde; Wycl. <sup>1 2</sup> the bestis of the feeld]; ib. 67, 11 pine bestes [Vulg. animalia; Vesp. Ps. netenu &c; Prose Ps. þyn bestes; Wycl. <sup>1 2</sup> bestis]; ib. 134, 8 Fra man to beste [Vulg. usque ad pecus; Vesp. Ps. oð neat &c; Prose Ps., Wycl. <sup>1 2</sup> vn to beste \*]; ib. 148, 10 Bestes and alle erfes ma // Neddres fogheles fepered als swa [Vulg. Bestiae et universa pecora: Vesp. Ps. wild deor & all netenu; Paris Ps. Deor and neat; Eadw. Ps. wildeora 7 ealle nietenu; Prose Ps. (Bülbr.) Bestes & al maner of bestes; W<sup>1</sup> Bestes and alle ysable bestis; W<sup>2</sup> Wielde beestis and alle tame beestis]; c. 1325 Rich. Coerdel. 1748 (Mätz.) He bought him beasts = cattle; after 1333 Minot (Halid. Hill) 1, 6 bestes and fowles grete and smale = animals; 1338 R Brunne Story (sg. r: est s., pl.: gestes s. pl.) 464 knyghtes scholden kepe bestes; ib. 475 He kepte bestes in þe feld; ib. 479 Paris bestes = cattle; ib. 12100 a Bere ... An hugely gret a lothly best = wild animal; 1340 D. Michel Ayenb. 82 hi libbeþ ase bestes uor hare wyt is al myswent and corrupt = unreasonable animals; ib. 270 Nammore ne is be-tuene ane manne / and ane beste: bote ine onderstondynge ... man is more betere / þanne a best; ib. 2 þe heaueden of beste = the 'beast' of the Apocalypse; ib. 15 þe beste of helle; ib. 50 þe kueade beste &c; bef. 1349 R. Rolle Pricke 166 man ... lyves als an vnskylwys best [r: lest adj.]; ib. 469 than has a man les myght þan a beste [r: leste adv.] ... a best when it is born may ga = animal in general; c. 1350 W. Pal. 3113 (Str.) þat best slepeth [= 'an huge hinde']; c. 1360 Clann. 288 Fro þe burne to þe best fro bryddeȝ to fyscheȝ // Al schal down & be ded; ib. 351 Besteȝ = the animals in Noah's ark; ib. 1446 wyth bestene blod busily anynted // In þe solempne sacrefyce = sacrifice animals; c. 1360 Sir Gaw. 1436 þe best þat þer breued watȝ wyth þe blod houndeȝ = game animal; — 1362 PPI A 3, 256 (C 4, 424) Bernes and Beestes = farm animals (called 'catel' C 4, 429); ib. 4, 143 stareden for studiing and stooden as Bestes = dumb, unreasonable animals; ib. 6, 4 (C 8, 159) bustelyng forþ as bestes ouer valeyes and hulles =

straying cattle; ib. 8, 75 as wilde Beestes = animals in general; ib. 10, 165 (B 9, 136) Beestes þat now ben mouwen banne þe tyme þat euere þat cursede Caym Com vppon eorþe = animals in general; ib. 168, 169 = animals in general; 1377 PPI B 6, 32 (Ms O) wilde] bestis [to kille, for 'foules' M; ib. 6, 142 þe corne fro þe bestes = cattle; ib. 10, 402 briddes and bestes & þe blissed Noe = four footed animals; 1392 PPI C 4, 430 huse beste bestes = cattle; ib. 10, 271 þy lord lokeþ to haue a louance for hus bestes = farm animals, cattle; ib. 22, 263 a teome of foure gret oxen. That on was luc a large beest ... Marc and Mathen þe þirde . myghty beestes bope = plough animals; 1399 Rich. Redel. 2, 130 a beest = deer in the woods; bef. 1380 Wycl. Of Prel. (Math.) 58 to brynge þe beste of his enemye in to þe ryȝtte weie = cattle; c. 1380—88 Wycl. — I. in the Wycliffite versions 'beest' \* with or without epithet (the latter preferred by W<sup>2</sup>) translates Vulg. animal *bestia pecus iumentum armentum quadrupes*, and means in consequence 1. animal in general; in W<sup>2</sup> often 'vnresonable beest'; 2. four-footed animal; 3. a) cattle; b) draught animal &c, in W<sup>2</sup> often as a comp. 'werk-beest'; 4. wild animal; 5. the Beast of the Apoc.; 6. as a term of abuse = *man*. — II. Selected quotations; a) transl. of Vulg. *bestia*: Gen. 1, 24 *Producat terra animam viventem in genere suo iumenta et reptilia et bestias terrae secundum species suas*: W<sup>1</sup> soule lyuyng in his kynde, iumentis and crepyng thingis and beestis of the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> a lyuyng soul in his kynde, werk beestis, and crepyng beestis and vnresonable beestis of erthe; Gen. 1, 25 *bestias terrae .. et iumenta et omne reptile terrae*: W<sup>1</sup> beestis of the erthe ... iumentis and al the crepyng thing of the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> vnresonable beestis of erthe ... and werk beestis and ech crepyng beeste of erthe; ib. 1, 26 *Faciamus hominem .. et praesit piscibus maris et volatilibus caeli et bestiis*: W<sup>1</sup> the beestis of the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> to vnresonable beestis of erthe [OE. ofer ða deor]; ib. 2, 20 *omnes bestias terrae*: W<sup>1</sup> alle beestis of the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> alle vnresonable beestis of erthe; ib. 3, 14, 8, 17. 9, 5 W<sup>1</sup> beestis, W<sup>2</sup> vnresonable beestis; ib. 9, 10 *tam in volucris quam in iumentis et pecudibus terrae ... et universis bestiis terrae*: W<sup>1</sup> as in iumentis and in beestis of the erthe ... and in alle beestis of the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> as in werk beestis and smale beestis of erthe

... and to alle vnresonable beestis of erthe &c. — 2. transl. Vulg. animal: Gen. 7, 14 omne animal secundum genus suum universaque iumenta et omne quod movetur super terram: W<sup>1</sup> al beest after her kynde and alle iumentis in her kynde and al that moueth vpon the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> eche beeste bi his kynde and alle werk beestis in her kynde and ech beeste which is moued on erthe in his kynde; ib. 9, 2 super cuncta animalia terrae (OE. ofer ealle nitenu): W<sup>1</sup> alle the .beestis of erthe, W<sup>2</sup> alle vnresonable beestis of erthe; Ex. 9, 6 omnia animantia ... de animalibus: W<sup>1</sup> alle the beestis of Egipcians ... of the beestis, W<sup>2</sup> alle the lyuyng beestis ... of the beestis; Lev. 7, 24 eius animalis quod a bestia captum est: W<sup>1</sup> of that beeste that is taken of a wilde beeste, W<sup>2</sup> beeste ... of a ravenous beeste; ib. 27, 9 W<sup>1.2</sup> a beeste; ib. 11 W<sup>1.2</sup> the vnclene beeste; do. 27. 28; Sap. 7, 20 Naturas animalium et iras bestiarum: W<sup>1</sup> the kindis of bestis [v. l. helpely bestis] and the wrathis of nogous bestis, W<sup>2</sup> beestis ... and wielde beestis; Eccli 13, 19 omne animal: W<sup>1.2</sup> eche beste; c) transl. Vulg. iumentum: Gen. 6, 20 ex cunctis animantibus ... de iumentis &c: W<sup>1</sup> of alle thingis hauynge sowle ... and of iumentis ... and of alle crepyng beest [NB. sg. collect.] of the erthe, W<sup>2</sup> of alle lyuyng beestis ... of werk beestis; ib. 7, 14 see under b; ib. 8, 1 W<sup>1</sup> of alle hauynge soulis [= animantium] and of alle iumentis [v. l. bestaylis], W<sup>2</sup> alle lyuyng beestis and of alle werk beestis; ib. 19 omnia animantia iumenta et reptilia: W<sup>1</sup> alle hauynge soules, iumentis and crepyng, W<sup>2</sup> alle lyuyng beestis and werk beestis and reptils; ib. 42, 27 ut daret iumento pabulum in diversorio: W<sup>1</sup> to his beest, W<sup>2</sup> werk beeste; ib. 45, 17 chargyng the beestis, W<sup>2</sup> zoure beestis; Dent. 5, 14 bos et asinus et omne iumentum: W<sup>1</sup> al thi beest, W<sup>2</sup> werk beeste (v. l. ech helping beeste); ib. 11, 15 W<sup>1.2</sup> beestis; ib. 28, 11. 30, 9 W<sup>1.2</sup> beestys; 2 Paral. 32, 28 praesepia omnium iumentorum caulasque pecorum ... greges ovium et armentorum: W<sup>1</sup> cratches of alle bestis and foldes to feild bestis ... flockis of scheep and of droues vnnumbreable ... ful mych substaunce, W<sup>2</sup> cratches of alle beestis and foldes to scheep ... flockis of scheep and of grete beestis ... ful myche catel; Job 18, 3 W<sup>1.2</sup> Whi be wee holden as beestis; Prov. 12, 10 iumentorum suorum animas: W<sup>1</sup> The rigtwis knewz the liues of his helpeli bestis, W<sup>2</sup> the

soulis of hise werk beestis [to which is added a note fr. 'Lire': 'werk beestis that is of his seruautis'!]; Eccl. 3, 19 *Unus interitus est hominis et iumentorum*: W<sup>1</sup> [the sonus of men .. shewen to ben lic to bestis ...] oon is the dyng of men and of bestis ... no thing hath a man more than a beste, W<sup>2</sup> [thei ben lijk vnresonable beestis ...] oon is the perisching of man and of beestis .. as a man dieth so and tho beestis dien. Alle beestis brethen in lijk maner and a man hath no thing more than a beeste; Isai. 46, 1 *bestiis et iumentis*: W<sup>1</sup> with feeld bestes and hous bestes, W<sup>2</sup> wielde beestis and werk beestis; Ps. 72, 22 W<sup>1</sup> as a beeste I am made anent thee, W<sup>2</sup> as a werk beeste; Lk. 10, 34 *imponens illum in iumentum suum*: W<sup>1</sup> puttinge on his hors [v. l. iument or hors (in 10 Mss); iument (in Ms X)], W<sup>2</sup> (Tyndale, A. V.) leide hym on his beest; Apoc. 18, 13 *iumentorum et ovium et equorum*: W<sup>1</sup> of iumentis or werk beestis, W<sup>2</sup> of werk beestis & d) transl. Vulg. *pecus*: Gen. 7, 23 *ab homine ad pecus*: W<sup>1</sup> fro man vnto beest as wel crepyng as fowlis of heuene, W<sup>2</sup> to beeste as wel a crepyng beeste as the briddis; ib. 8, 20 *de cunctis pecoribus et volucris*: W<sup>1,2</sup> alle clene beestis and fowlis & e) transl. Vulg. *armentum*: Gen. 18, 7 W<sup>2</sup> the droue of beestis, W<sup>1</sup> droue; ib. 26, 14, 45, 10 *scheep and grete beestis* & Joel 1, 18 W<sup>1</sup> flockis of grete beestis lowiden W<sup>2</sup> flockis of oxun and kien; f) transl. Vulg. *quadrupedia*: Acts 10, 12 W<sup>1,2</sup> alle four footide beestis; ib. 11, 6 *quadr. terrae et bestias et reptilia*: W<sup>1</sup> four footide thingis of erthe and beestis and crepyng thingis, W<sup>2</sup> four footid beestis of the erthe and beestis and crepyng beestis; g) transl. Vulg. *agrestia*: Sap. 19, 18 W<sup>1</sup> feeldi wilde thinges, W<sup>2</sup> beestis of the feeld weren turned in to beestis of watir [with a marg. note: that is beestis dwellinge in feeldis, as oxis and werk beestis] & h) ref. to the men of Crete Tit. 1, 12 *malae bestiae*: W<sup>1,2</sup> yuel beestis (v. l. W<sup>1</sup> beestis thristyng blood); i. ref. to Apoc. 11, 7 *bestia quae ascendit de abyssu ...* 13, 1 *bestiam habentem capita septem et cornua decem*; W<sup>1,2</sup> the beest &c. — 1387 Trev. Higd. Pol. 2, 181 (Mätz.) oistres and schelle fische pat beep as it were lowest in bestene kynde [in genere animalium; transl. Hl Ms (c. 1432—50) in the kynde of bestes] = animals in the widest sense; ib. 2, 201 in a man beep many dyuersitees ... In oper bestes wit is &c [in ceteris animantibus]; ib. 3, 367 (M.)



Alisaundre brende in covetise of knowleche of þe kynde of bestes [A. inflammatus cupidine noscendi naturas animalium] and sente to Aristotel meny powsandes of men of Grees of Asia and of Tracia þat fedde bestes and foules wilde and tame and al þat beep i-take wip haukynges oper wip hontynges and hadde alle maner bestes in kepyng in hyves, in layes, in fische weres . . . . . Aristotle examined hem al besiliche and made aboute an fifty volyms of þe kynde of bestes . . . Trevisa Here take hede þat here al þing þat hap lif and felyng is i-cleped a beste = animal in the widest sense, but not (as M. states) including man; ib. 3, 405 þe elementes þat bep comoun to alle men and bestes (Higd. quae cunctis sunt communia) = animal as opposed to man; cf. sub a. 1398; — c. 1390 Gow. C. A. [beste r: Alma-geste : honeste adj. 6 < : feste s. 2 < : heste s. 3 < : bebeste s. : tempeste s. : areste inf. 2 < : ate leste; bestes pl. : hestes pl. : festes pl.] 1 = animal in general; a) not including man, and occas. distinctly as below man: 1, 35 a man . . . Is to an Angel resemblable / And lich to beste he hath felinge; 1, 74 I am non other than a beste / Now I defouled am of tuo = degenerated from man to animal; 1, 84 Noght as a man bot as a beste / Which goth upon his lustes wilde; 1, 137 the kinde of alle bestes; 1, 144. 152 euery man and bridd and beste = four footed animal; 1, 246 the Leoun in his rage / Fro whom that alle bestes fle; 1, 292 more is a man than such a beste; cf. 1, 326. 366. 2, 79. 102. 154. 171. 194. 292 A beste is glad of a good dede / And loveth thilke creature / Which doth him ese; 3, 3. 206. 209. 272 the bestes wolde binde / Only to lawes of nature; 343 taketh lust as doth a beste; b) including man: 1, 34 That ilke ymage bar liknesse / Of man and of non other beste; 3, 136 speche . . . is noghwhere elles sene / Of kinde with non other beste; 1, 362 a man / Ne scholde thurgh no tirannie / Lich to these othre bestes die; 2. a) wild animal, often with adj. wilde, angri, wode &c: 1, 39 the bestes wilde; 1, 280 an angri beste; 1, 290 som beste him mai devoure; 1, 308 the wilde beste; 1, 316. 335. 2, 68 a cruel beste; 2, 263. 339. 3, 50. 137; b) game animals: 2, 169 bestes whiche ben chacable; c) of a specified animal, e. g. an ape 2, 297. 299; 3. cattle 1, 140. 143. 161. 340; 4. as term of reproach for man: 1, 100 he nedes moste / This beste wedde to his wif = a hag; 202 O beste of helle; 2, 337 thou foule

beste; 5. Astr. of an animal of the Zodiac: 3, 117 sterres twelve upon this beste [viz. Aries] // Ben set; 1389 Trev. Barth. 18, 1 (qu. by M. s. v. Animal s.) All that is comprehendyd of flesshe and of spyryte of lyfe ... is called Animal, a beest; c. 1400 Maundev. 17 may no best lyve there = animal in general; 41 venymouse bestes; 49 bestes in the market = cattle; 58 for drede of wylde bestes; 63 tentes .. of skynnes of bestes as of camaylles and othre bestes that thei eten; 64 chacen aftre bestes to eten hem; 122 Camaylles mules hors dromedaries and other bestes; 129 Hors dong and cow dong and of other bestes; 159 no wylde best; 165. 170 the ... ox is the most holy best that is in Erthe &c; after 1400 Lamb. Ms Secrees ch. 57 (p. 79) watirs ben profitable as wel to bestys as to man; ib. ch. 103 (p. 104) pou shaft fynde yn no beste costom ne maner pat pou ne shaft fynde yn him [sc. man]; 1422 Th. Yonge Gouvern. Prynces ch. 20 (p. 147) Heading: That a man sholde surmounte al bestis in vertues; ib. lyke as a man of al bestis that euer god makyd surmountyth in nobelesse of kynde, so he sholde ham surmounte in vertues [if 'of' is a cler. mistake then beste = animal excl. of man, if it is correct = animal including man!] ib. ch. 32 (p. 181) the bee is a Passynge wrathfull beste; ib. ch. 49 (p. 211) god ... maket noght noone creature bodely more visyr than man. And a man may not fynde in no beste custume ne thegh wyche is noght in a man = animal excl. of man; ib. ch. 54 (p. 216) Dromydaries and othyr swyfte bestis; ib. ch. 69 (p. 246) Many bestes ham hydyt in caues of montayns ... bestis that no recepte haue tremblyth; c. 1450 Lydg. Secrees 1858 watir is profitable / here in herthe to ech Creature // To man woman and beeste vnresonable; ib. 2296 man .. moost souereyn creature // Namyd beeste resonable = animal in gen. including man; c. 1460 Roy. Ms Secrees ch. 17 (p. 14) aftir the lijf of vnresonable bestis; ib. ch. 58 (p. 35) God made man .. creature resonable, and he made neuyr in beste opir than is founden in man &c.

AF. beste s. bestes pl. = 'stock', cattle incl. sheep, goats and occ. horses; bef. 1292 Seneschaucie 94 ausint de bof e de vaches e de totes autres bestes = stock not including horses; ib. 100 de bestes e des berbiz = draft beasts including horses?; ib. tote les bestes soient bin forages e gardez si com estre

deinent e ke il eient asez de pasture sanz surcarke de autre bestes e il deit enquire ke les gardeins de tote maniere de bestes ne aillent a feres ... par ont ke les bestes auant diz augment estraez sanz garde = cattle in general; 14th c. Hosebonderie 64 si ili eit nul cheual ou beste morte en la cort &c = cattle incl. sheep, goats &c.

**AN. & OF.** beste I. 'toute animal excepté l'homme G., = a) animals in general (not incl. man); b) wild and domestic animals; 1. wild animal: c. 1170 Ms O Rol. 2436 Que n'i adeist ne beste ne lion; c. 1277 RR 2, 163 of a boar; of deer and other animals of the forest, ib. 2, 173. 243. 299; NB. of a serpent ib. 2, 199; of an eel ib. 1, 328; 2. of horses, cattle and other domestic animals (= bestail bestial; bestaulx pl.): Ms O Rol. 1555 Beste nen est qui poisset curre a lui = ref. to a swift horse; RR 2, 15 Qui comande au pastour honeste / Cognoistre la vois de sa beste; ib. 173. 223; ib. 1, 278 robes de laines ... Si cum el venoient des bestes = of sheep; ib. 2, 292 Bestes débonaires el franchises = 'berbietes'; ib. 2, 301 prinse es blanches bestes &c. 3. animal in general but not incl. man: RR 1, 193 A ceste amor sunt près et prestes / Ausinc li home cum les bestes; ib. 1, 232 as bestes mues ... quant les mues bestes meurent / Les formes as autres demeurent; cf. ib. 2, 109. 226. 302. 304. — II. = L. creatura, 'animal' including man: the foll. quotations all go back to the passages in Boetius in which L. animal is transl. not by 'animal' (rare in OF.), but by 'beste', see quot. fr. Boece 1 Pr. 6, 21. 2 Pr. 5, 38 below; c. 1200 Simund de Freine (ed. Matzke) Rom. de Phil. 638 Hom ... En haut porte e tient la teste / Ceo ne fet pas autre beste; c. 1277 RR 2, 264 (Nature speaks): Ne ne me plaing des autres bestes / Cui ge fais enclines les testes; — III. transf. as a term of reproach; used a) of man RR 2, 29; b) of women, ib. 1, 154. 2, 182. 190; Guill. de Degulev., see quot. from Ch. ABC 45, sub 6 a; c) of 'Atropos', RR 2, 287; d) of the devil (cf. the Beast of the Apoc.), e. g. Sim. de Freine St. Georges 1021 la beste: &c.

**ML.** bestia, in the classical senses and, besides, with certain adj. in some new senses, e. g. magna bestia (as hunting term) = hart, boar (Du C.), bestia trahens (ib.) = draught animal 'iumentum', bestia blanca (ib.) = sheep (see RR above); bestia = equus (ib.), cf. the dial. use of beast sg. (M.).

L. *bēstia* (see (ThLL)) = dumb four footed animal, esp. wild animal; rarely appl. to birds (Cic. ib.) and amphibious reptiles, e. g. like the crocodile, but frequ. used of serpents lizzards; also ref. to stars like *Leo Canis Lepus*; as term of reproach used of men like *bellua*. Et. (see Walde) fr. root \* *dheṽs* = 'to breathe': (sim. 'animal' fr. root \* *an* = 'to breathe'); Goth. *dius* OE. *deor* OHG *tior* &c.

**Spell.** *beest*  $\tau\tau\tau$  15  $\times$  11 11  $\times$  1 10  $\times$  C<sup>1</sup> 7  $\times$  2 7  $\times$  A<sup>1</sup> 6  $\times$   $\gamma$  3  $\times$  o 3  $\times$  RR 2  $\times$   $\eta$   $\nu^1$   $\nu^2$   $\chi$   $\psi$   $\omega$  *aaa* 3 7 19; *beeste* 4 10  $\times$   $\psi\psi$  9  $\times$  RR 2  $\times$   $\alpha$   $\gamma$  *aa* 3 5 6 7; *beest'* 5 21  $\times$  2 13  $\times$  1 10  $\times$  4 3  $\times$   $\gamma$   $\nu$   $\nu$   $\sigma\sigma$  C<sup>1</sup> 7 11; *beste* 3 19  $\times$  6 19  $\times$   $\beta$  16  $\times$  2 15  $\times$   $\lambda$  12  $\times$   $\alpha$  9  $\times$   $\gamma$  7  $\times$   $\tau\tau$  6  $\times$  *vv* 6  $\times$  7 5  $\times$  4 4  $\times$   $\tau\tau$  2  $\times$  10 2  $\times$   $\zeta$   $\mu$  o  $\pi$   $\tau$   $\tau\tau$   $\beta\beta$   $\delta\delta$  *vv*  $\xi\xi$   $\rho\rho$   $\phi\phi$   $\chi\chi$  A<sup>1</sup> I V 5 11 19; *best*  $\mu$  12  $\times$   $\alpha$  9  $\times$  11 8  $\times$   $\lambda$  3  $\times$  o 3  $\times$  6 3  $\times$  3 3  $\times$   $\beta$  2  $\times$   $\alpha^2$   $\gamma$   $\iota$   $\beta\beta$   $\varepsilon\varepsilon$   $\kappa\kappa$   $\mu\mu$   $\sigma\sigma$   $\pi\pi$   $\rho\rho$  *aaa* A<sup>1</sup> C<sup>1</sup> II IV VI VIII 1 7; *best'* 7 9  $\times$  4 4  $\times$  2 3  $\times$   $\gamma$  2  $\times$  1 2  $\times$  6; [*beast*  $\sigma\sigma\sigma\sigma$ ]. — gen. sg. *beestes*  $\psi\psi$   $\tau\tau\tau$ ; *bestes*  $\gamma$ ; *bestes*  $\mu$ ; *bestis*  $\varepsilon$   $\lambda$ ; *bestys*  $\beta$  *vv*; *beste*  $\alpha$ . — pl. *beestes* 1 18  $\times$  5 14  $\times$   $\tau\tau\tau$  10  $\times$  A<sup>1</sup> 8  $\times$  2 4  $\times$  11 4  $\times$   $\psi\psi$  3  $\times$  IV 2  $\times$  4 2  $\times$  28 2  $\times$   $\alpha$   $\nu$  o *aaa* C<sup>1</sup> 7 9 RR; *beestys* C<sup>1</sup>  $\rho$ ; *beestis* C<sup>1</sup> 4  $\times$   $\delta$   $\mu\mu$  VIII 3 5 RR; *beistis*  $\varepsilon$ ; *beestees* 5; *bestes* 6 14  $\times$  A<sup>1</sup> 13  $\times$  2 11  $\times$   $\alpha$  10  $\times$  o 9  $\times$  4 8  $\times$  7 8  $\times$  19 8  $\times$  A 7  $\times$  *aaa* 6  $\times$  10 6  $\times$  11 5  $\times$  II 4  $\times$  V 4  $\times$   $\gamma$  3  $\times$  I 3  $\times$  VI 3  $\times$   $\mu$  2  $\times$  IV 2  $\times$  3 2  $\times$   $\zeta$   $\sigma$   $\beta\beta$   $\sigma\sigma$  9 28; *bestis* 3 13  $\times$  7 7  $\times$   $\lambda$  4  $\times$  III 4  $\times$   $\gamma$  3  $\times$   $\varepsilon$  3  $\times$  C<sup>1</sup> 3  $\times$  *aaa* 3  $\times$   $\alpha$  2  $\times$   $\beta$  2  $\times$   $\delta\delta$  2  $\times$   $\xi\xi$  2  $\times$  VIII 2  $\times$   $\alpha$   $\theta$  8; *bestys*  $\beta$  11  $\times$  C<sup>1</sup> 10  $\times$   $\mu$  5  $\times$  *vv* 3  $\times$   $\lambda$  2  $\times$   $\tau\tau$  2  $\times$   $\alpha$   $\iota$  *u* 7; *bestez* I; *bestes*  $\tau$  VIII; *bestis*  $\varepsilon$  2  $\times$   $\pi\pi$  2  $\times$   $\iota$   $\tau$  *u*; *beestes* 6.

**r** (Duch): *feste* s. (LGW): *areste* \* s. 3  $\times$ : *forest* s. (CT): *arreest'* 3  $\times$  (*arrest'* in spur. l. D 2048 b, Ms 7): *forest'* 3  $\times$ : *best'* adv.: *Eest* s. (RR): *feeste* s.: *honeste* adj.: *leest* adj. *bestys* pl. (Duch): *festys* pl. *bestes* pl. (HF): *forestes* pl.: *tempestes* pl. 2  $\times$ .

**Pros.** sg. counts always one syll., pl. two syll. (exc. LGW 2165 where 'ful' is err. inserted into the line).

1. animal in general, including birds and fishes but distinguished from man (occ. where it transl. *belua* = wild animal, see below; NB. followed once by masc. pron.)

Ther neuer yet / grew corne ne gras

Ne tre ne noght' / that oughte was

Beste ne mañ / ne noght' elles

Duch 159

the frutes of the Erthe owen to ben to the norryssynge of

bestys [aux norrissemens des bestes; animantium ...

alimentis, Ps. Aqu. .i.e. animalibus pro alimentis]

Bo 2 Pr 5, 21

swyche is the condysyon of alle man-kynd / þat oonly whan

yt hath knowynge of it selue / than passeth it in noblesse

alle oother thinges / And whan yt for-leteth þe knowynge

of it self / than is it browht by-nethen alle beestys

[au dessouz des bestez; infra bestias] Bo 2 Pr 5, 43

of the whyche litel / region of this worlde / the ferthe

partye ys enhabited with lyuyng bestys þat we knowen

[par les bestes cogneues a nous; a nobis cognitis ani-

mantibus = ? incl. of man]

B 2 Pr 7, 7

yif thylke delices mowen makyn folk blysfyl / than by þe

same cause moten thyse bestys ben clepyd blysfyl of

whyche bestys al the entencyon hasteth to fulfylle

hyr bodyly Iolyte [les bestes mueç; pecudes]

Bo 3 Pr 7, 5

ryht as in bestys quod she whan the sowle and the body

ben conioigne in oon and dwellyn togydere / it is clepyd

a beest [Si comme es bestes ... ce est apelé beste; in

animalibus ... animal]

Bo 3 Pr. 11, 16

... and whan hyr vnite is destroyed / by the desseueraunce

þat oon from þat oother / thanne shewith it wel / þat

it is a ded thing / and þat it nis no lengere no beest

[que ce n'est mais beste; nec iam esse animal liquet]

Bo 3 Pr 11, 17

yif .I. consydere quod I the beestes þat han any manere

nature / of wyllynge and of nyllynge // .I. ne fynde

no beest ... þat forletith or despiseth the entensyon

to lyuen [beestes ... þing A<sup>1</sup>; les bestes qui ont aucune

nature de vouloir et de non vouloir, je n'en treuve nulles

se elles ne sont constraintes &c; Si animalia considerem]

Bo 3 Pr 11, 23

euery beest / traunaylith hym to deffende *and* kepe the  
sauacion) of hys lyf [chascune beste se travaille a deffendre;  
Omne .. animal] Bo 3 Pr 11, 24

herbes or trees / pat ne han no feelynge sowles / ne no  
naturel wyrkynges seruyng to appetites / as bestis  
han [sicut animalibus] Bo 3 Pr 11, 25

cir[c]les the enchaunteresse / pat chaungeth the bodies of  
folkys in to bestys [not in OF., nor in L.]

Bo 4 M 3, 7

he pat forletith bownte *and* prowesse / he forletith to ben  
a man / syn he may nat passen in to the condicion) of  
god he is torned in to a best [que li ne soit muez en  
beste; vertatur in beluam] Bo 4 Pr 3, 34

ne I ne se nat / pat men may sayn as by ryht pat shrewes  
ne ben chaunged in to bestis by the qualyte of hyr  
sowles / al be it so pat they kepin yit the forme of  
the body of mankynde [ne soient muez es bestez; in  
beluas mutari] Bo 4 Pr 4, 1

shal we thanne aprochen vs to hem pat I haue shewyd pat  
they ben lyk to bestys [ilz sont semblables aus bestez;  
beluis similes] Bo 4 Pr 4, 49

The beestis passen bi the Erthes bi ful diuerse figuris for  
som of hem han hir bodies strawght & crepin in the  
dust ... as nadris or snakis [Par maintes diversez figurez  
trespassent les bestes par les terre; animalia]

Bo 5 M 5, 1

oother beestis by the wandrynge lyhtnesse of hir wyngis  
betyn the wyndes / *and* ouer-swymmyn the spaces of  
the longe eyr by moyst fleeynge [Les autres bestes;  
Sunt quibus &c, "animalia" not repeated]

Bo 5 M 5, 2

oother bestis gladen hem self to diggen hir traas or hir  
steppis in the Erthe with hir goynges or with hir feet  
[Les autres ..; Haec ...] ib. 3

the wit of the body ... comth to beestis / pat ne mowe  
nat moeuen hem self her *and* ther / as oystrys and  
musculis *and* other swiche shelle fyssh of the see / pat  
clyuen and ben norysshed to Rochis [bestez non mouv-  
able; immobilibus animantibus] Bo 5 Pr 5, 6

the ymaginacion) comth to Remuable beestis þat semyn to  
han talent to fleen or to desiren any thing [l'ymagina-  
cion vint aus besteꝝ mouvableꝝ; mobilibus beluis]

Bo 5 Pr 5, 7

the derke nygt

That revith bestis from her besynesse

Berafte me myn bok for lak of lyght

[l'aer bruno / toglieva gli animai che sono in terra /  
dalle fatiche loro Inf. 2, 1] PF 86

y ... behelde ... Now valeys / [and] now forestes

And now vnnethes / grete bestes HF 900. 2, 392

that place ... Ys ful of rovnynges ...

Of qwalme of folke / and eke of bestes

HF 1968. 3, 878

O blake nyght ...

wel oughte bestes pleyne and folk þe chide Tr 3, 1433

a wilde lyones ...

With bloddy mouth of strangelynge of a best LGW 807

man is bounden ... to letten of his wille

Ther as a beest / may al his lust fulfille

And whan a beest is deed / he hath no peyne

['he' 1 3 4 5 7 11; 'it' 2 6] Kn 460. 1 A 1318. 9

ffirst on the wal / was peynted a forest'

In which ther dwelleth / neither man ne best'

Kn 1118 A 1976

The pride / of man and beest / he [viz. Alisaundre] leyde adoun

Wher so he cam / vn-to the worldes ende [bost' 7]

Monk 749 B 3827

ffor natureelly / a beest' desireth flee

ffro his contrarie [bestis 8] NPreest 513 B 4469

no man fynden shal

Noon in this world / that trotteth hool in al

Ne man ne beest / which as men koude deuyse

March 327 E 1539

2. four-footed animal, as expressly distinguished  
from bird and fish; a)

when) thou redest / poetrie

How goddes gonne / stellifye

Briddes ffshe best / or him or here HF 1003. 2, 495

she // Had also fele / vpstondyng eres  
And tonges / as on) bestes heres

[ $\alpha$  \*  $\beta$ ; a best o \*  $\alpha\alpha\alpha$ ; beest  $\tau\tau\tau$ ] HF 1390. 3, 300

Plesaunce of loue ...

In heuene and helle in erthe and salte se

Is felt þi myght of þat I wol descerne

As man / bryd / beste / fissh / herbe and grene tre

Tr 3, 10

How they [viz. the trees] weren fild' / shal nat be toold for me

Ne hou the beestes / and the briddes alle

fledden for fere / whan the wode was falle

Kn 2071 A 2929

thilke tyme / as I haue vnderstonde

Beestes and briddes / koude speke and synge

NPreest 115 B 4071

thise bacheloris ... lyue / but as a bryd / or as a beest'

In libertee / and vnder noon arreest' March 69 E 1281

elles / longe may he nat endure

This is to seyn / no lyues creature

Be it of fyssh or bryd / or beest' or man

March 653 E 1865

Ne saugh I neuere er now / no bryd ne beest'

That ferde with hym self / so pitously Squier F 460

by this werk / South / North / ne West' ne Eest'

Ther nys yfostred' / man / ne bryd' ne beest'

Frank 166 F 874

What seye we of hem / that bileeuen in diuynales / as by

flight' or by noyse of briddes / or of beestes

Pers 605

b) (= 3 a) ref. to wild animals:

Burieth this litel body / in som place

That beestes ne no briddes / it to-race

Clerk E 572

Hir litel sone / he wolde in erthe graue

ffro foweles and fro beestes for to saue

Clerk E 683

nought clad in silk was he

But aȝ in floures ..

[Ypaynted al with amorettes]

With briddes lybardes and lyouns

And other beestis wrought ful welȝ

[autres bestes]

RR 895



3. a) fierce, wild animal, like the lion &c (see prec. 2. b); NB. followed once by fem. pron.):

yif þat hyr horyble mowthes ben by-bled þat is to seyn of  
bestys deuowred / hyr corage of tyme passed þat hath  
ben ydel *and* rested repeyreth ayein [ensanglantées des  
bestes deuourees; Si cruor horrida tinxerit ora]

Bo 3 M 2, 3

Now what lyoun that be in this forest  
Myn body mote he renten or what best  
That wilde is gnawe mote he now myn herte LGW 843

Why nyl the lioun comyn or the bere ...  
Thus sey these zonge folk & vp they kylle  
These bestys wilde & han hem at here wille

[λ; wilde bestis ε \* μ ο ββ ττ; wilde hertes α γ \* β τττ]  
LGW 1217

And as she wok hire bed she felte presse  
What beste [is that] quod she [that] weyeth thus  
LGW 1788

Ther as there dwellede cryatur[e] non  
Saue wilde bestis & that [ ] many on LGW 2165

Where be ge that I may nat with zow mete  
And myghte thus with bestys ben I-slayn LGW 2192

rygh[t] thus seyde she  
Mekere than ge fynde I the bestis wilde LGW 2198

He priketh / thurgh a fair forest'  
Ther Inne / is many a wilde best' Thop 65 B 1945

She [viz. Cenobia] dorste / wilde beestes dennes seke  
Monk 375 B 3453

With Inne our yeerd' / wheer as I saugh a beest'  
Was lyk an hound / and wolde han maad areest'  
Vpon my body NPreest 133 B 4089

Youre rede Colera ... causeth folk / to dreden in hir dremes  
Of grete beestes / that they wol hem byte  
['grete' u. r. 1, rede \* R] NPreest 165 B 4121

An Irous man is lik' a frentik' best'  
In which per is of wisdom noon arrest'  
[u. l. 7; not in R] Som 384 b D 2048 b

ther nys Tygre / ne noon so crueel beest'  
 That dwelleth / outhur in wode or in fforest'  
 That nolde han wept' if þat she wepe koude

Squier F 419

seint Ierome ... in desert' / where as he hadde no com-  
 paignye / but of wilde beestes

Pers 345

b) of smaller wild animals of the forest:

Of fovnes / sowres / bukkes / does  
 Was ful the woode / and many Roes ...  
 Shortly hyt was / so ful of bestys

Duch 434

I gan aspye ...

Squyrelis & bestis smale of gentil kynde

PF 196

Is þat a tame beste þat is ay fayne  
 To fleen) awaye when he is leste agaste

Anel 315

In tyme of trewe on haukyng wolde [he] ryde

Or elles hunten bore . beere . or lyoun

The smalle bestes leet he gon by syde

Tr 3, 1781

an hunter can abyde

The beest / tyl he seeth his tyde

To shoten [la beste]

RR 1452 (Thynne)

c) ref. to a specified animal; α) ref. to a lynx:

arystotle telleth / þat yif þat men hadden eyen of a beest  
 þat hyhte lynx / so þat the lokyng of foolk myhte  
 percen thorw the thynges þat with-stondyn yt &c [se  
 hommes eussent yeulz de lins; si ... linceis oculis ho-  
 mines uterentur]

Bo 3 Pr 8, 15

β) ref. to a scorpion:

I lykne her [viz. Fortune] / to the Scorpoun

That ys a fals / flate[ry]ngeste

Duch 637

γ) in ref. to the serpent:

the serpent' that' was moost wily of alle othere beestes

Pers 326

δ) ref. to the four animals of the throne in Revel.:

as feeles yen / had[de] she

As fetheres / vpon foules be

Or weren) / on the bestes foure  
 That goddis trone / gunne honoure  
 [Wycl.<sup>1</sup> Apoc. 4, 6 foure beestes ful of igen bifore and  
 bihynde] HF 1383. 3, 293

ε) ref. to a monster, viz. the Minotaur:

This Mynos hadde a monstre a wekede best  
 LGW 1928

And of his child he muste present make  
 To Theseus to saue hym or to spylle  
 Or lete his beste deuoure hym at his wille LGW 1937  
 Ȝe wete wel that the beste is in a place  
 That nys nat derk LGW 1998

In to the bestis throte he shal hem caste  
 [viz. ballis of wex & tow; beste α] LGW 2005

And right a-non wha[n] that Thesyus seth  
 The beste Achokid he shal [on] hym lepe LGW 2008

And whan that he this beste hathe ouercome  
 Thanne may he fien a-wey [monstre vv; diff. constr. αβγ  
 τττ: And wha[n] this best / ys ouercome \*]

LGW 2019

He ouercom this beste & was his ban LGW 2147

And out he comyth ...  
 fful priuily whan he this beste hath slayn LGW 2149

And in hise armys hat[h] this adryane  
 That of the beste hat[h] kept hym from his bane  
 LGW 2159

d) an animal of a low, fierce disposition:

Hym [viz. the lyoun] deynyth nat to wreke hym on a flye  
 As doth a curre or ellis a-nothir beste

LGW G 382 F 396

4. a) cattle, domestic animals (occ. including horses and sheep; D 1842 incl. fowl, unless this ref. is more general = any kind of animal):

thise lytel / herde gromes

That kepen bestis / in the bromes HF 1226. 3, 136

The wardeyn .. bad h[e]m dryuen In here bestes alle  
 Tr 5, 1179

Sche manye a beste to the shippis sente LGW 1094

Wery and weet' as beest is in the reyn

[beestis 5 \* 7]

Reue 253 A 4107

I wolde prey yow / for to lene me

An hundred frankes / for a wyke or tweye

ffor certein beestes / pat I moste beye

Ship 272 B 1462

yet to nyght' thise beestes moot I beye

[1 2 3 11; diff. l. 7: For for þe bestis þis nyght' most'

I pay; diff. 4 5; l. om. 6]

Ship 278 B 1468

Nabugodonosor ... sodeynly / he loste his dignytee

And lyk a beest / hym semed for to bee

Monk 283 B 3361

He ... eet hey as a beest' in weet and drye

Monk 329 B 3407

Of pokkes ... Shal euery sheepe be hool ...

If that the goode man / that the beestes oweth

Wol euery wyke / er that the Cok hym croweth

ffastyng drynke / of this welle a draughte

Hise beestes and his stoor shal multiplie

[beest' ... beestees 5 \* 7] Pard Prol 75. 78 C 361. 64

This knyght' ne stood nat stille / as doth a best

But to his questioun / anon answerde

With manly voys

Wyf Tale 178 D 1034

Haue I nat of a capon / but the lyuere ...

And after that' a rosted pigges heed

But that I nolde / no beest for me were deed

Som 178 D 1842

a throope ... In which / that poure folk / of that village

Hadden hir beestes / and hir herbergage Clerk E 201

ye be roten in youre synne / as a beest in his dong'

Pers 139

whan he rood vp on the Asse .. ne hadde he noon oother

harneys ... ne / we ne rede nat' that euere he rood on

oother beest'

Pers 435

malignitee / thurgh which a man anoyeth his neighebor

pruely / if he may . and if he noght may / algates his

wikked wil ne shal nat wante / as for to brennen his

hous pruely / or empoysone / or sleen hise beestes

Pers 514

Charmes for woundes or maladie of men / or of beestes

Pers 607

alle damages that beestes don in the feeld' Pers 870

holy scripture .. biddith enery heerde honeste

Haue verry knowing of his beeste

[sa beste; W<sup>1</sup> Prov. 27, 23 Bisili knowe thou the chere of thi beeste] RR 6454

I wole haue the fat sheepe

Lat parish prestis haue the lene ...

And if that prelates grucche it

That oughten w[r]oth be in her witt

To leese her fat beestes so

I shal yeve hem a stroke or two

[lor grasses bestes]

RR 6467

b) cattle, farm animals called 'wilde', which is not 'fierce', but 'unrestrained', 'at large':

he [viz. Nabugodonosor] eet hey as an Oxe / and lay ther oute

In reyn / with wilde beestes walked hee

Monk 285 B 3363

5. ref. to constellations called with names of animals, then transf. = the animals and signs of the Zodiac:

in this Region) ...

Duelleth many / a Citezeyn)

Of which that s[p]leketh / Daun) Plato

These ben) eyryssh / bestes lo

[the eyrish aaa \* rrr]

HF 932. 2, 424

y... behelde the / ayerissh bestes

Cloudes mystes / and tempestes

HF 965. 2, 457

the sonne ... That in the brest was / of the beste that day

That a-genores doghtre / ladde away [viz. *Taurus*]

LGW F 113

And yet ascendynge / was the beest roial

The gentil leon)

Squier F 264

this ... heunenissh zodiak is cleped the cercle of the signes

or the cercle of the bestes for zodia in langage of

grek sownyth bestes in latyn tonge

Astr. 1, 21, 36. 37

in the zodiak ben the 12 signes pat han names of bestes

ib. 1, 21, 38

whan the sonne entrith in any of the signes he taketh the  
proprete of swich bestes ib. 1, 21, 39

the sterres ... ben disposed in signes of bestes or shape  
like bestes ib. 1, 21, 41

whan the planetes ben vnder thilke signes þei causen vs  
by hir influence operaciouns & effectes lik to the  
operaciouns of bestes ib. 1, 21, 43

6. fig. and transf. ref. to man, a) when the thought  
of his unreasonable animal nature is stressed, esp. his  
sensuality (cf. E 1281, above sub 2, a):

Al have j ben a beste in wil and deede

Yit ladi þou me cloþe with þi grace

[long temps j'ay esté beste]

ABC 45

b) as a strong term of reproach (taken over fr.  
the OF. RR):

For certeynly no such beeste

To be loued is not worthy

[nule tel beste, viz. a woman]

RR 5062

His paroch prest nis but a beest

Ayens me and my companye

[lor prestres curez sunt bestes]

RR 6874

c) without any stronger blame but that of being  
blind and unreasonable; the first passages refer to  
cattle on the pasture, the pass. fr. Truth to an animal  
used for riding (cf. Anglia 23, 218):

O / ye ertheliche bestys considere ye nat ouer which thinge

þat it semeth þat ye han power [O vous bestes terriennes;

O terrena animalia]

Bo 2 Pr 6, 7

that same thinge fortune clepyn ye

Ye blynde beestys ful of lewednesse

Fortune 68

wywerdes ye ben oure hierdes

Though to vs besteȝ ben the causes wrie

[best in VI]

Tr 3, 620

Who so / that troweth nat this / a beest he is

[Qui ita non credit pecus est, Leg. Aur. ed. 1492 fol. 160 a]

Nonne G 288

Forþe pylgryme forþe forþe beste out' of þi stal Truth 18

7. creature, animal in general, including man who is distinguished from other animals by the gift of reason, who is thus called 'a divine beast'; occ. preceded by the adj. 'another'; the word in this sense is taken over fr. OF. Boece, where 'beste' translates 'animal', 'animantia' pl. in L. or.:

Axestow me nat *quod* .I. wheither þat .I. be A resonable mortal beest / I. woot wel *and* .I. confesse wel þat .I. am it [resonable best mortel A'; je sui beste raisonnable et mortel; rationale animal atque mortale]

Bo 1 Pr 6, 21

a man þat is a deuine beest' by meryte of his resoun / thinketh þat hym self nis neyther fayre ne noble / but yif yt be thorw possessyon) of ostelmentȝ þat ne han no sowles [homme qui est beste divine par la merite de raison; divinum merito rationis animal]

Bo 2 Pr 5, 38

for why al oother leuyng bestys han of kynde to knowe nat' hem-self / but whan men letyn the knowynge of hem-self yt comth hem of vice [a ces autres bestes; ceteris animantibus sese ignorare natura est]

Bo 2 Pr 5, 44

ye men þat ben Erthelyche beestes dremen alwey yowre bygynnyng / Al thowgh it be *with* a thynne Imagynacyon) [vous hommes que esteȝ besteȝ terriennes; o terrena animalia]

Bo 9 Pr 3, 1

Man is a resonable two foted beest [homme est beste a .ij. pieȝ raisonnable; homo est animal bipes rationale]

Bo 5 Pr 4, 44

What is mankynde / moore vn to you holde  
Than is the sheepe / þat rouketh in the folde  
ffor slayn is man / right as another beest'  
[cf Eccl. 3, 19]

Kn 451 A 1309

8. errors. a) 'bestes' err. o *aaa* for: 'lestes'  $\alpha * \beta$ ;  
questes  $\tau\tau\tau$ :

we may have so god a fame ...  
As they that have don noble gestes  
And eshued' alle her bestes  
As wel of love as oper thyng

HF 1738. 3, 648

b) err. VIII for: Alceste \* R

As wel þou mightest lien) on a beste

Tr 5, 1527

c) err. 3 for lest' \* R

This Markis caughte zet a-nothir best

Clerk E 619

### Benedicitee interj.

ME. common, qu. fr. Langl. Gow., not fr. Wycl. — Latin phrase, in its superstitious uses influenced by the song of praise of the three children protected in the fiery oven, Dan. 3, 57 *Benedicite omnia opera Domini Domino, laudate et superexaltate eum in saecula* (cf. Ps. 102, 22 *Benedicite Domino omnia opera eius*; occurring after the Mass, cf. *Missale Rom. Gratiarum actio post missam*, sung also on the Dom. ad Laudes Brev. Rom. Hor. Diurn. 3; &c), used from early times I. 1. as a blessing, especially in greeting and at meals, and 2. superstitiously, and accompanied by the sign of the cross, as a formula of incantation to protect against evil, esp. evil spirits, ghosts, the devil (a formula necessary in the times of Antichrist, Myrrour Ladye 124, poss. connected with Dan. 3, 57, or rather with Dan. 3, 86 *Benedicite spiritibus et animae iustorum Domino: laudate &c* = the Germ. phr.: *alle guten Geister loben Gott den Herrn*); see also Ps. 133, 2 *benedicite Dominum omnes servi Domini*; Wycl. in his interpret. of Dan. 3, 57 ff. Works 3, 62) says expressly: þus alle þingis blessen god but oonli yvele men and feendis.

I. 1. In England first found in the Charm against bewitched land (Grein-Wülk. Bibl. 1, 314): *Wende þe þonne iii sunganges, astrece þe þonne on andlang and arim þær letanias and cweð þonne: Sanctus sanctus sanctus op ende. Sing þonne Benedicite apenedon earmon and Magnificat and Paternoster iii and bebeod hit Criste.* 2. Next qu. fr. c. 1205 Lay.<sup>1</sup> 2, 123 *Heo [viz. monks] comen to heore abbode? & hine gretten þurh gode Lauerd benedicite; c. 1225 Ancr. R. 64 goð forð ... to preoste on erest siggeð confiteor? & þerefter benedicite* = as greeting; ib. 44 *bitweone mete hwo se drinken wule sigge benedicite: potum nostrum filius dei benedicat* = blessing at meals, cf. EE Meals & Mann. ed. Furn. 366 ff. 3. The next quotations from Engl. show the word a) mainly as an ex-



clamation of surprise, horror, fright at the appearances of a ghost, at a sudden terrible vision &c: York Pl. 449 On goddis name benedicite! (at the apparition of Jesus); Town. Pl. 24 A benedicite! (Noe hearing the voice of God); cf. Kaufmann Trentalle S. Greg. 52 and note, Childe of Bristowe 239 (ib.), York Pl. 449, 33 (ib.); b) milder: as an exclam. of mere astonishment: Town. Pl. 99 Benste and Dominus! What may this mene! Freiris of Berw. 379 (Schipper's Dunb. 421) Haly benedicite! Quat may this mene! [= benste, or: Ha Béntistee? the sign of the cross accompanies the words]; less emphatic still, on recalling some omission: Lydg. Ass. Gods 1594 A benedycyte noofi ere cowde I aduert / To thynke on Andrew the Apostyll! (This seems to be the sense in Calisto's words: What amiss woman, Christ benedicite, Cal. & Mel. in Dodsley 1, 54). 4. As exclam. of strong remonstrance, with the additional thought of averting evil influences: c. 1300 Interl. de Cler. & Puella (Rel. Ant. 1, 146; ed. Heuser Anglia 30, 308) A son vat saystu! benedicite! // Lift hup yi hand and blis ye! // ffor it es boyt syn and scam // Yat yu on me hafs layt thys blam.

II. The exclamation appears substantively used: 1. bef. 1300 Dame Siriz 193 (Mätz. Spr. Pr. 1, 146 with exc. note) Benedicite be herinne! c. 1450 Town. Pl. (Mätz.) Benste be here in! (said by the shepherd who awakes from a dream), ib. 85 Benste Benste be us among = used against evil influences; — 2. c. 1325 (Auchinl. Ms) Guy 5744 (M.) Gij ... zaf him swiche benedicite / þat he brak his nek ato = such a blessing.

III. As part of the beginning of confession it is used in PPI B 5, 397 (Accidia confessing:) He bygan benedicite with a bolke and his brest knocked // And roxed and rored and rutte atte laste; Gow. C A 1, 48 The selve Prest ... Was redy there ... To hiere my confessioun. This worthi Prest ... To me spekende thus began / And seide Benedicite / My sone ... Thou schalt thee schrive [scarcely = a simple ecclesiastical salutation].

IV. Except in the qu. fr. Laz., Ancr. R. the word seems not used in ME. as 'vox salutationis apud monachos praesertim qua inferior superiorem salutatur et adit', Du C. (quoting Vita Walth., Rein. Vulp. and adding 'et apud laicos in usu fuit haec formula, hinc rebenir pro "salutem reddere", qu. fr. 1270. But

Shakespeare makes his friars use the word *Meas.* 2, 3, 39 at parting, *Romeo* 2, 3, 31 at greeting (but partly here with the addition of the element of fright and surprise at the early hour at which *Romeo* comes — as the blacksmith in Chaucer).

**NB. OF.** The only quotations given by G. fr. OF. are 1. = 'prière en général', qu. fr. *Li Romans de Carite* 1, 75. 140, 11 *Bons cloistriers sans grande grieté / Onkes silenche ne navra: Ne doit nis en necessité / Parler sans 'Benedicite';* 2. = 'exclamation, comme "Grand Dieu"', qu. fr. *G. Chastellain* † 1474.

**Prosody. NB.** In ME. generally used trisyllabic, riming on words in ... ee: ben'distee'; occ. quadrisyllabic (? *Dame Siriz: Ben'edi'ste*); also dissyllabic, as the spelling shows: *Benste* (*Town. Pl.*) or the metre (*Freir. Berw.*); rarely quinesyllabic with three accents, as in *Child. Brist.* (*The child seid ben'edi'cite'*, or ? trisyllabic: *The childē seidē bendistee*). In Ch. the spell. of *Mss II III IV V 3* proves that the word had two accents and was pronounced Ben'distee' (still further contracted to \* *Bendstee*, *Benste*); the contraction \* *Bencite* \* *Bendcite* suggested by *ten Br.* 263, was first given by *Child* 1862 *Observations* p. 492 § 96, and is also accepted by *Sk.* 5, 166 ("we must sey ben'cite"), without reasons given; cf. also *Kittredge Obs.* 381. In Ch. the word is 1. trisyllabic, with two accents: Ben'distee' *Tr* 3 < *CT* 11 < [counting *D* 280]; 2. quadrisyllabic, with two accents: benedic'itee' *CT B* 1974. *D* 1584(?); 3. dissyllabic: ben'ste *CT D* 1456 *benstee'* *D* 2170 [and *Mss* 1 2 4 11: *D* 280; and *Ms* 5 A 2115]; 4. quinesyllabic, with three accents: *CT A* 1785.

**r** (*Tr*) : he pron. : be inf. (*CT*) : dignete s. : meynee s. : tree s. : see subj. 3. sg. : flee inf. : be inf. : see inf. : me pron. 2 < : thee pron. : he pron. : ye pron.

**Spell.** benedicitee 1 8 < 2 5 < 11; benedicitee 2; benedicite 6 13 < 7 8 < 11 8 < 5 7 < 2 6 < 4 6 < 1 5 < I 3 < VI 3 < 3 3 < II 2 < V 2 < 8 9 10 14 16 17 19 27; benedicite 4 8 < 5 6 < 3 5 < 7 4 < III 2 < VIII 2 < 1 6 11; benedicyte 3; benedicice 3; bendicite 7; bendiste IV 3 < V; bendistee II; benediste III; benedyste 3; benediste 3.

Bless you! Bless us!  
Bless me!

1. as exclamation of astonishment, surprise, (mixed with fear) at sudden sight of someone (orig. used as imprecation against evil spirits):

His Nece a-wook and asked who goth þere.  
 My dere Nece quod he it am I ...  
 What which weye be ye comen benedicite.  
 Quod she and how [þus] vnwyst of vs alle?  
 Here at þis secre trappe dore quod he  
 [bendiste IV]

Tr 3, 757

What Absolon / for Cristes swete tree  
 Why rise ye so rathe / ey benedicitee

Mill 660 A 3768

I am a feend / my dwellyng' is in helle ...  
 A quod this Somonour / benedicite what sey ye?  
 I wende / ye were a yeman trewely  
 Ye han a mannes shape / as wel as I Frere 192 D 1456  
 This Somonour / clappeth at the wydwes gate ...  
 Who clappeth seyde this wyf' benedicitee  
 God saue you sire / what is youre sweete wille

Frere 286 D 1584

This frere cam / as he were in a rage  
 Where as this lord / sat etyng' at his bord'  
 Vnnethes / myghte the frere / speke a word  
 Til atte laste / he seyde / god yow see  
 ¶ This lord bigan to looke / and seide benedicitee  
 What frere Iohñ ... Ye looken / as the wode / were ful of theuys

Som 506 D 2170

2. exclamation in which the superstitious desire of warding off some unknown evil, some danger &c is, at least originally, prevailing:

Quod Pandarus allas what may þis be  
 That þow desepered art þus causeles  
 What lyueth not þi lady benedicite  
 [benedistee II benediste III bendiste IV V]

Tr 1, 780

whan a chaumber a-fyr is or an halle  
 More nede is it sodeynly to rescowe  
 Than to dispute and axe ...  
 A benedicite for al among pat fare  
 The harm is don . and fare wel feld[e] fare Tr. 3, 860

whan his Ire / is thus agoon  
 He gan to looken vp / with eyen lighte  
 And spak thise same wordes / al on highte  
 The god of loue / A benedicite  
 How myghty / and how greet a lord is he  
 Ayeins his myght' ther gayneth none obstacles  
 Kn 927 A 1785

I hadde almoost goon / to the clerkes bed  
 Ey benedicite / thanne hadde I foule y-sped  
 [benedyste 3] Reue 366 A 4220

the parsoñ him answerde benedicite  
 What eyleþ þe man so synfully to swere  
 Shipm. Prol. 8 B 1170

O seinte Marie benedicite  
 What eyleth / this loue at me  
 To bynde me so soore Thopas 94 B 1974

Out of the hyve / cam the swarm of bees  
 So hydous was the noyse / a benedicitee  
 Certes / he Iakke Straw ...  
 Ne made neuere / shoutes half so shille  
 NPreest 627 B 4583

What dostow / at my neighebores hous  
 Is she so fair / artow so amorous  
 What rowne ye with oure mayde benedicite  
 Sire olde lecchour / lat thy Iapes be  
 Wyf Prol D 241

chidyng' wyues / maken men to flee  
 Out of hir owene house[] / a benedicitee  
 What eyleth / swich an old man for to chide  
 [Mss 1 2 4 11: houses; Mss 3 7: hous Mss 5 6: house;  
 Ms 8: house with b.]  
 Wyf Prol D 280

His olde wyf / lay smyllynge eueremo  
 And seyde / o deere housbonde benedicitee  
 ffareth euery knyght / thus with his wyf / as ye?  
 Wyf Tale 231 D 1087

And whan this yeman / hadde this tale ytold'  
 vn-to oure hoost / he seyde benedicitee  
 This thyngs is wonder merueillous to me  
 Chan Yem 75 G 628

3. exclamation mainly of joy (the idea of superstitious warding-off of evil scarcely even in the background):

euery lusty knyght' ...  
 They wolde hir thankes / wilnen to be there  
 To fighte for a lady / benedicitee  
 It were a lusty sighte / for to see  
 [To fight' for a lady O benedicite 5]  
 Kn 1257 A 2115

STANFORD UNIVERSITY PALO ALTO, Sept. 1910.

EWALD FLÜGEL.