THE FRENCH TEXT OF THE MEDIEVAL

ROTULI PARLIAMENTORUM:
SOME CORRECTIONS

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Although much has been written about the institution of Parliament in medieval England, its origins, growth and role in society over the centuries,¹ it would appear, to judge from the perhaps rather superficial criterion of the number of references made to it, that the mass of first-hand documentary evidence collected in the great folio volumes of the Rotuli Parliamentorum² has not been fully exploited. The reasons for this could well be attributable to linguists rather than to historians. In the first three volumes of this detailed record of the early Parliaments, covering the years 1278-1411, by far the greater part of the 1500 pages or so of the double-columned text is written in the French of later medieval England. This in itself is sufficient to create problems not only for the medieval historian, usually more at home in Medieval Latin than in the vernacular, but also for the majority of the philologists who specialize in Medieval French, accustomed as they are to dealing in the main with the more accessible forms of the language found in imaginative works of literature, and often ill at ease with the wayward, idiosyncratic versions of French that characterize later administrative documents written in England. These understandable difficulties, however, are greatly increased by the fact that the Rotuli Parliamentorum was published (1767-76) before the French Revolution and has not been re-edited since that time. Consequently, it is only to be expected that the printed text will contain errors of transcription, since the serious study of Romance philology may be said to go back no further than the middle of the nineteenth century. Until the basic patterns of the phonological and morphological development of French from Latin had been worked out by the Neo-Grammarians in the

² Record Commission, London, 1767-76.
second half of the nineteenth century, there were no reliable criteria for the transcription of medieval French texts to which the eighteenth-century editors could have turned for guidance. To help them in a truly formidable task of transcription they had at their disposal neither an adequate grammar nor an adequate dictionary. What is surprising about the text of the Rotuli Parliamentorum as we now have it in this venerable edition is not that it contains errors and difficulties, but that virtually all of it is intelligible as it stands, or can readily be made so without too much effort.

The problems presented by the Anglo-Norman text as printed include unusual forms of individual words better known to modern scholars in their continental, standard form, a number of other words not found in continental French at all, and thirdly, cases of aberrant syntax. Such difficulties may arise from the vagaries of the original compilers or scribes who were using a foreign language to the best of their varying ability, or else, in the cases of strange spelling or syntax, could well have been introduced when the rolls were transcribed for publication in the eighteenth century. The present paper makes no attempt to separate scribal errors from those of the transcriber or printer (e.g. le vii* jour pe feverer, iii. 524), the aim being quite simply to make the printed text more intelligible to the modern reader. Nor, for the same reason, will any effort be made to 'correct' or to 'normalise' either spelling or syntax when the sense of a passage is clear. By the later thirteenth century, when the French text begins, administrative Anglo-Norman contained many features that marked it off sharply from continental French, so that any process of regularization, making the text conform to standard norms, would involve alterations on a large scale, with no guarantee of authenticity. This means, in practice, that wrong agreements of all kinds, outlandish verb-forms, unexpected prefixes produced by the Anglo-Norman confusion of a(d)-, en/-em- and es- (the reflexes of the Latin prefixes ad-, in- and ex-) will all be left untouched unless they constitute an impediment to the correct understanding of the text. Similarly, to introduce the modern


4 E.g. la monoie tundue & autrement appeirez, iii. 102, where appeirez = empeirez "made worse", hence "reduced in value"; enstable (l. establer), iii. 91.
editorial distinction between final -e and -é, although a great help to intelligibility, would involve correcting literally hundreds of words all through the text and cannot be attempted in the space of an article. In the interests of clarity, however, the acute accent and the cedilla are added where necessary in the examples discussed in the paper. For instance, the words meinel/meines in the following phrases may not be immediately recognizable: (a chessboard) ove treis peirs meines de cristall; tables de ivoir, ove la meine de ivoir & d'eban (both in iii. 363). When read as meiné/meinés, however, they are seen to be the Anglo-Norman form of the continental mesné, "household, retinue", etc., hence in the present contexts "set of chessmen" and "set of draughtsmen".

In order to enable the reader to understand the way in which the text reveals a number of types of mistake that keep recurring and so to make it possible to spot cases of such errors that may have escaped notice in the present article, an attempt has been made to group them into various categories. Often an apparent difficulty will become readily understandable simply by virtue of the frequency of its occurrences. For instance, the normal substantival ending -ance is repeatedly found as -a(u)ns, -a(u)nz, etc. as in grevauns (= grevances) a eux faites, ii. 443, conusans (= connus-sance) de la verité, iii. 519, ... ount sentuz graundz grevans (= grevances), iii. 499. It has not been felt necessary to list all the many cases of this type of scribal quirk. An index is provided at the end of the paper to facilitate the tracing of individual words to the sections in which they are discussed.

1. MISREADING OF MINIMS

A DE SENIT: ii. 393. malades en le dit hospital a de senit (l. adPs enz) demorauns, "sick people permanently dwelling in the said hospital". The scribe perhaps, but more probably the transcriber, has failed to recognize the semantic and formal unity of adés, "always", "now", and has misread the minims of enz/einz, "therein".

AMGERA: iii. 69. touz les discensions ... aňgera (l. aiugera = ajugera) & finalment determinera, "he will adjudge and settle definitively all the dissensions". The correctness of the reading ajugera is confirmed by the presence of ajuggerent on the same page.

AMISOURS: ii. 387. la feut le dit priour endité par ses amisours (l. aveirsours) dé ditz biens a la vaillaunce de cessaunte & ditz
liveres, “there the said prior was indicted by his adversaries of the said goods to the value of seventy pounds”. Although the outline of amisours and aveirsours is not absolutely identical, the closeness of the resemblance and the overriding requirement of the sense make the suggested emendation highly probable.

APPAROUR: iii. 514. ... de venir ou apparour (l. apparoir) devaunt justices.

ARCINES: iii. 62. ... font diverses felonies, roberies & arcines (l. arçuns), “they commit various felonies, robberies and acts of arson” (N.B. arçunes, iii. 81).

ARRIENT: ii. 167. ... ce qe sovent arrient (l. avient), “... what often happens”.

AUYNE: i. 127. coment qe auyne (l. avyne) nos irroms, “whatever may happen, we shall go”.

BEGAMS: ii. 177. ... lesser lur messeuns & aler begams (l. begauns) a tousjours, “... to leave their homes and go begging for evermore”. The obviously English verb beg(g)er is not confined to this text (see also beogaunt, i. 466), but is also found in the Camden Society text of the Rotuli⁵ and in Britton.⁶

CHEIR: ii. 389. les ministres ... lessont les mesons cheir (l. cheu) & descovertz, “... collapsed and roofless”. The sense demands a past participle-adjective here rather than an infinitive.

COMOGNENUES: ii. 46. q'il ne comognenues (l. coinogneuues?) q'il voise mendinant (l. mendivant), “that he does not recognize/admit? that he should go begging”. This emendation is no more than conjectural.

DESAVOWM: ii. 11. Et si nul autre bille soit boté avaunt ... nous le desavowm (l. desavouum), “And if any other bill should be put forward ... we disavow it”.

DHERITISONUZ: ii. 191. ordeiner remedie de ceux torcenousez desheritisonuz (l. desheritisounz), “to order a remedy for those wrongful disinheritances”.

DEVIENT: i. 290. jamés n'est faite restoraunce a ceux qi les devient (l. deivent), “restitution is never made to those to whom they are owed”.

... come estre devient (l. deivent) par lei, i. 285, "... as they lawfully ought to do". This confusion of the forms of deveir and devenir through misreading of the minims is also found in i. 291 and 292.

DIZEME: ii. 177. chescun hundred & dizeme (l. dizeine), "each hundred and tithing". Cf. dizeime on the same page.

EIER: iii. 255. Qe pleise a lour dit Sir eier (l. aver) compassion.

EIN: ii. 350. l'ein (l. l'em) ne pont (l. pout) passer sur le dit pount, "one cannot cross the said bridge". An Anglo-Norman form of the standard Old French om, em is again misread in ii. 352 with a plural verb this time: l'ein (l. l'em) font ... file de layn, "wool thread is made" and also in ii. 353: l'ein (l. l'em) cariont le dit zern en tonelz, "the said yarn is carried in barrels". (See iii. 329, etc. for further examples of this error).

EINFANTZ: ii. 446. ... les hostielx le Roi, la Roine & de lour einfantz (l. enfantz).

FEUSSENT: ii. 394. comaunda ... q'iz lui feussent (l. feissent) dewe allowance, "he commanded that they should make due allowance to him".

FIUST: ii. 155. les bastouns de fiust (l. fuist), "the wooden staves". Fuist is one of several Anglo-Norman forms of the standard Old French fust "wood".

GAIGEZ: ii. 290. qe les vins ... soient mys a la terre & gaigez (l. gaugez), "the wines are to be set on the ground and gauged".

INISE: i. 409. le dist Henry qe ad suffert inise (l. juise) pur diverses felonyes, "the said Henry who has suffered judgement for various felonies". The outlines of inise and juise would be identical in the manuscript, but inise does not exist.

ISSIWE: i. 1. issiwe (l. issint) il sunt voydez la ville de Londres pur dette, "and so they have been thrown out of the city of London for debt".

LOUETEIGNS: ii. 205. gentz loueteigns (l. lointeigns) nient eiant conisaunce de la renancie, "people from distant parts having no knowledge of the tenancy".

MATURE: iii. 9. par mature (l. nature) toute chose legerement si retouerne a sa droite mature (l. nature).

MAUNTENANT: iii. 341. mauntenant (l. maintenant) après ...

MAUNTZ: i. 414. Par quei marchaunz ... mauntz (l. veauntz) celes durestes (l. duresces) e grevances estre feetes ne osent ... venir, "whereby merchants, seeing that those constraints and hardships are being applied, do not dare to come".
MEINES: i. 300. Et meines (l. memes) ... il desportent de acuser les felons, “And they even refrain from accusing the felons”.

MEIREIENT: ii. 385. marchauntz de totes nacions le plus volunters la vendreient & lour biens & vitailles meireient (l. menreient), “merchants of all nations would come there most willingly and would bring their goods and victuals”.

MEREMENT: iii. 81. ceux queux sont Galeis, & lour auncestres ont esté merement (l. meiement) Galeis, “those who are Welsh and whose ancestors were likewise Welsh”. Anglo-Norman has several forms such as me(e)ment, meiment, mayement representing the standard Old French meismement “similarly”, etc. (See Tobler-Lommatzsch, V. 1351).

MITAUNDRE: i. 294. ... sont venuz mitaundre (l. nutaundre) & unt pris leur vins, “came by night and took their wines”. See also nuyt aundre, untauntre.

MOUNEMENTS: ii. 413. taun qe eux avoient susrendu a luy lours chartres & autres monuments (l. moniments) qeux avoient du frank tenement. In the context of charters it is clear that muniments or title-deeds and not monuments are being handed over.

MOUNEYNE: i. 438. seur mouneyne (l. nouneyne), “nun”.

MULTZ: ii. 352. qe les ditz citees & borghs puissent le multz (l. mieltz) estre governez, “so that the said cities and towns may be governed the better”. Similarly, muelx (l. mielx), iii. 663.

NIESMENT: ii. 350. ... avisetz & correctz par vostre sage counseil & niesment (l. mesment) par l’evesqe, “... advised and corrected by your wise counsel and especially by the bishop”. This is basically the same Old French meismement as seen above under merement, but this time with its other meaning of “especially”, “above all”. Forms such as mesment are well attested in Anglo-Norman with this sense.

NON: ii. 231. ... a saver i non (l. mon) s’il (sc. cloth) soit d’assise, “namely whether it (i.e. the cloth) is of the right size”. Savoir mon is a standard Old French locution, literally “to know whether” (see Tobler-Lommatzsch, VI. 196).

NONEYME: ii. 382. (giving to a poor widow) une mesone a la droite de une Noneyme (l. noneyne) pour la sustinaunce de lui, “... a house in the possession of a nun for her maintenance”.

NULES: iii. 19. (evil-doers) soy retreiont & tapisont en la ville de Suthwerk, ou les ministres de la citee nules (l. ne les) poont arester ne punir, “(evil-doers) withdraw and hide in the town
of Southwark, where the officials of the city cannot arrest or
punish them”.

OIM: ii. 10. *q'oim (l. om) mette covenables gents,* “that one should
install suitable men”.

RESTNTNEM: ii. 392. *ordeiner remedi & restiînem (l. restitucio?)*.
Although the suggested emendation may appear to alter the
text considerably, only minor misreadings of the constituent
minims are involved and *restitucio* is the only term that fits
naturally into the semantic context.

REUMEZ: i. 461. *reumez (l. remuez) e oustez,* “removed and taken
away”. Similarly, on the same page: *onques en son service ne
fut ateynt de malveist, mes fut reume (l. remue), “... but he
was removed”.

UNE: ii. 224. *tiengnent les ditz manoires en pure & perpetual
almoigne, & ne une (l. mie) par baronie,* “they hold the said
manors for pure and perpetual alms and not at all by
barony”.

UNIRE: iii. 45. ... *q'îls puissent en pees unire (l. vivre), “that they
might live in peace”.

VEUGNENT: i. 290. *veugnent (l. viegnent).*

YVERIE: iii. 330. *la Fest de Seint Martyn en yverie (l. yvern), “... in
winter”.

2. CONFUSION OF THE N/M GROUP WITH U/V/W

This confusion, of course, is merely another aspect of the
misinterpretation of minims, but so many cases occur in the *Rotuli*
that it warrants a section to itself.

AMENTINEEZ: ii. 36. *qe son bon conseil voille ... estre amentineez (l.
amentiveez) dé paroles de la grand chartre,* “that his good
council should kindly be mindful of the words of the Great
Charter”. The past participle *amentiveiz* is regularly formed
from the well-attested verb *amentiver,* an Anglo-Norman first
conjugation form of the continental *amentevoir*.

AMEZ: i. 438. *Sire, ... les amez (l. avez) promis qe ...*

AUGREVEMENT: ii. 34. *la diite Olive raverent & augrevement (l.
angreverent) & la detient uncore,* “they carried off the said
Olive and harmed her and still hold her”. Sense and syntax
demand that there should be three verbs here, not two verbs
separated by an adverb. The Old French *engrever* is well
attested, as is the variant *an-* for *en-*. Clearly, *detient* must be
understood as a third person plural form, in spite of its apparent singular ending.

**BANDURE:** i. 400. *par bandure* (l. *baudure*) *de sa graunt seynorye*, “through the arrogance of his great nobility”. Also, *meunt homme prent bandoure* (l. *baudoure*) *de murder*, i. 291, “many a man is bold enough to murder”. The form *baud(o)ure* is a noun formed on the adjective *balt/baud*, “bold”.

**BRAULE:** i. 400. *braule* (l. *branle*) *contre la pees*, “disturbance against the peace”. Although *branle* in this sense is not attested in the standard dictionaries of Old French (and was missed from the first fascicle of the *Anglo-Norman Dictionary*), it ties in with the attested *branler* and *branlissement*.

**CHAVOYNES:** ii. 44. *au prior & a les chavoynes* (l. *chanoynes*) *de Kardoyl*, “to the prior and the canons of Carlisle”.

**CHIVACHAUCES:** iii. 518. *grauntz perdes par hostes & chivachauces* (l. *chivachances*?), “great losses through armies and raids”. Neither the printed form nor the suggested emendation is recorded, but the substantival ending *-ance* is a common one; alternatively, the printed *chivachauces* could be read as *chivachaucés*, an error (?) for *chevauchee*.

**CONTRARIONS:** iii. 41. ... *grantemont* (l. *grantement*) *contrarions* (l. *contrarious*), “very troublesome”. Only the adjective *contrarious* makes good sense here.

**CONUZ CEILERONT:** ii. 346. *les meistres des* (l. *de*) *les suis ditz niefs ensemblement conuz ceileront* (l. *counzceileront*) *qe lours serront* (l. *serroit*) *meux a faire*, “the masters of the aforesaid ships will take counsel together what would be best for them to do”. The transcriber has apparently misread the minims and also split the verb into two unintelligible parts.

**CUSTNMES:** iii. 177. This is obviously for *custumes*.

**DEVANTEMENT:** ii. 70. *qe les moignes ... puissent le plus devante- ment* (l. *devoutement*) ... *prier*, “so that the monks might pray as devoutly as possible”.

**DEVAUUT:** iii. 642. This is obviously for *devaunt*.

**ELOVIAUNCE:** i. 6. *par eloviaunce* (l. *eloinaunce*) *de* (l. *de*) *leurs*, “by distance/separation from the places”. The usual continental form of this word is *esloignance*.

**ENNOYASTES:** i. 466. *vous ennoyastes* (l. *envoyastes*) *une lettre*. Although well attested in other contexts, the verb *ennoier* “to harm”, “trouble”, “annoy” makes no sense here.
ENRONDLEMÈT: i. 155. sulunc lenrondlemèt (l. l'enroudlement),
“according to the enrolment/record”.

ENST: ii. 80. le dit abbé enst (l. eust) portee bref. A form of the
auxiliary ave(i)r is called for here to make acceptable syntax.

ESCHANT: i. 422. ne le eschant (l. eschaut) de quaunt q'il fait, “he
does not care about anything he might do”. The usual
continental form of the verb used here would have no
prefix—chaleir, “to matter”. Anglo-Norman uses both the
simple and the prefixed form eschale(i)r in this sense.

ESPOROUS: ii. 217. un payr des esporous (l. esporons) dorrez, “a
pair of golden spurs”.

ESVOIES: ii. 252. les grantz travaux & esvoies (l. esnoies) qe lui & ses
genz avoient endurez, “the great hardships and difficulties
that...”. The error here may be attributable to the confusion
of prefixes in Anglo-Norman, the perhaps unfamiliar esnoi
being an insular form of the more usual continental
ennoi/ennui.

FLUUES: ii. 303. tantz de galeyes, fluues (l. flunes), lynes & autres
niefs. The flouin or fluin is listed by Godefroy (IV. 39a) as a
light vessel, but he has no example as early as this, his first
attestation coming from the middle of the sixteenth century.
If the emendation suggested is correct, it means that this type
of ship must have been in use by the fourteenth century, a
supposition supported by the MLWL which gives forms such
as flenium, flunea, flunis, flunus from the mid-thirteenth
century onwards.

GRAUVMENTZ: ii. 25. ... empeirent grauvmentz (l. graunmenti) de
jour en jour, “... they daily grow much worse”. Graunmentz
is an Anglo-Norman form of the standard continental gran-
ment, “greatly”.

GREIEVUR: i. 275. pur greievur (l. greienur) securiri, “for greater
security”. It is possible that the original manuscript has a
more normal form such as greniur, but what is certain is that
we are dealing with a reflex of grandiorem.

LAUERS: i. 127. le plus lauers (l. laners) e le plus laches chyvaler de
sun reauame, “the most craven and cowardly knight in his
kingdom”. The error occurs again in i. 132. The term laner
is taken from the sport of hawking. See Dafydd Evans, Lanier:
Histoire d’un Mot (Genève, 1967).

LEN: ii. 35. qe les freres (sc. Carmelites) pussent estre edefiez &
mieutz en lour len (l. leu) Deu server, “... in a better position
(i.e. better able) to serve God”. Leu is very frequently found in Anglo-Norman for the standard continental lieu, “place”.

LIEUS: ii. 8. ove touz les biens & chateux lieus (l. liens), “with all the goods and chattels therein”.

MANDMENT: i. 1. luy enfamis mandment (l. mandivent) luy pain, “the starving beg their bread”. See next entry but one.

MAVAUNTISES: i. 300. ... solonc lor mavauntises (l. manauntises), “according to their wealth”. See Tobler-Lommatzsch, V. 1015, manandise.

MENDINANTZ: iii. 319. doner lour almoignes as poveres mendinantz (l. mendivantz), “to give their alms to the poor beggars”. This error occurs elsewhere in the text, e.g. ... ont lessez lour femmes & lour enfantz ... mendinantz, “have left their wives and children in beggary”. See also iii. 341, 342, 633. Godefroy (V. 234a) gives this verb as mendiener, apparently misled by two quotations from an ancient edition of The Statutes of the Realm. Tobler-Lommatzsch, whose coverage of Old French does not extend beyond about 1350, do not list the verb at all, but the correctness of the readings with v rather than with n is confirmed by the thirteenth-century La Petite Philosophie (ed. W.T. Trethewey, ANTS I), where mendive rhymes with vive (v. 121). The infinitive is therefore to be read as mendiver/mandiver.

MENTINER: i. 7. luy vocha bien sauf la rauncon de ceo kaunt (l. kaunt) il luy fest la seysine liverer, tot feist sa chartre mentiner (l. mentiver). Mentiver is an Anglo-Norman form of the continental mentevoir, “to mention” (Tobler-Lommatzsch, V. 1443).

MENTZ: i. 466. ... fere lour mentz (l. meutz), “to do their best”.

MESCHENONS: iii. 293. ... a les poveres & meschenons (l. meschevous), “... to the poor and disadvantaged”. The noun meschief in Anglo-Norman can mean either “mischief”, “wrong” or “misfortune”, “hardship”, so it is natural that the adjective formed from it should similarly carry the two senses of “troublesome”, “harmful” and also “unfortunate”, “disadvantaged”.

MOMSZ: i. 471. Escoce dela les momsz (l. mounsz), “Scotland beyond the mountains”.

ON: iii. 645. (some clergy) soy aloygnent de lour cure par ascune colour on (l. ou) feynte cause, “... leave their parish on some pretext or specious excuse”.
ONT: i. 2. R.B. ke ont (I. out) vivi, "R.B. who had lived". Similarly, T. ont (I. out) un fiz, ibid., and also, il ne poaiz pees avoir tan qe il ont (I. out) fait fyn au dit counte, ii. 380.
PONT: ii. 350. l'ein (I. l'em) ne pont (I. pout) passer sur le dit pount, "one cannot cross the said bridge".
PLEINTINOUSE: i. 339. la navie ... estoit ... si noble & si pleintinouse (I. pleintivouse) qe touz les pays ... appelloient nostre ... Sire le Roi de la mier, "the fleet was so numerous (literally, "plenti-ful") that ...". See also ii. 311 and iii. 5. The correct form with v rather than n is found in ii. 369: bone & plenteuouse (I. plentevouse) pecherie.
PREN: i. 468. il ne peut aver pren (I. preu) de ses terres, "he cannot get any profit from his lands". Similarly in i. 7: coment il eyt les amendes e le pron (I. prou) qa a luy apente, "... the compensation and the profit that belongs to him".
PURROIEUT: ii. 290. Et les prelatz requeroient au Roi q'ils se purroieut (I. purroient) sur ce par eux soul aviser.
RETEINENT: i. 284. qe desormes reteinent (I. receivent) attournez aussi bien pur les defendantz come ..., "that from now on they should accept attorneys for the defendants as ...". The correctness of the reading receivent is confirmed by the clause ... ne voillent receivre attournez only two lines above our quotation. In addition to the misreading of v as n, reteinent also shows the common confusion oft for c. Examples of this are given below in Section 4.
RONDLES: i. 155. les rondles (I. roudles) des ditz seneschauz, "the rolls of the said senechals".
SCIEN: ii. 240. par brief d'appell ... homme est en exigende sanz scien (I. scieu) ou garnissement, "without knowledge or warning".
SEN: iii. 370. furmage, mele, felparie & sen (I. seu), "cheese, meal, rags and tallow". Sen, "sense" or "direction", is totally out of place in such a list.
SONE: ii. 419. Laquele requeste nostre dit Seignur la sone (I. soue) mercie la ottroia, "Which request our said Lord by his mercy granted".
SOTINETES: ii. 53. par ses fausses et mauveyse (sic) sotinetes (I. sotivett), "by his deceitful and evil craftiness". For sotiveté, see Tobler-Lommatzsch, IX. 992.
UNTAUNTRE: i. 460. les avantditz Johan e Davy de untauntre (I. nutauntre) occyrent les avantditz Roger e ..., "the aforesaid J.
and D. killed by night ...”. See also mitaundre, i. 294, another misreading of the same word.

VAUX: iii. 66. trois des meillours & plus vaux (l. vanx for vanis) & loial ..., “three of the best and most noble and loyal ...”. On the same page is found vanis in a similar context and elsewhere in the text vanez occurs regularly. See Godefroy, VIII. 144c under vané.

VIEGUE: iii. 41. sanz avoir regard de quele contee ou viegue (l. viegné) les gentz furent, “without paying attention to which county or neighbourhood the people came from”. Anglo-Norman has vigné/vingné as attested forms of the usual continental visné. See Godefroy, VIII. 267a.

VOLUNTRINEMENT: ii. 78. le avauntdist commandement de court a dist Henri fait voluntrinemenr (l. voluntrivement), “the said Henry has carried out willingly the aforesaid command of the court”.

WENER: ii. 44. pur wener (l. mener) & amesner les peschours & autres en havene, “to lead and bring the fishermen and others into harbour”.

WEYNA: i. 477. quant le dit Mons Joh’ avoyt fet sa volunte du chastel & des beyns leinz trovez, weyna (l. weyva) le chastel & le iessa sauntz garde, “... he abandoned the castle and left it without protection”. Similarly in i. 298: puys l’Ascencion encea la dite mesone ad esté com weyne (l. weyvé), “since Ascension the said house has been virtually abandoned”. The Anglo-Norman weiver (in various spellings) is at the root of the modern English “to waive”, “let go”.

In the above section no mention has been made of numerous simple cases of the confusion of n and u which seem to be self-evident, e.g. Connté (l. Counté) de Nichole, ii. 70, etc.

3. FAILURE TO SEPARATE U AND V

CHARVOZ: i. 435. trais charvoz (l. charuez) de terre, “three carucates of land”.

CONCIEVE: ii. 397. qe la dite lettre soit repelé come cele qe est concieve (l. concieue) encontre la tenour de la Grande Chartere, “that the said letter be repealed as being conceived against the tenor of Magna Carta”. It is, of course, possible to read concievé, but this would involve both a hitherto unattested form and an incorrect agreement. Neither of these possibilities, however, can be ruled out in Anglo-Norman.
EVE: i. 294. ... de avoir eve (l. eue) sa terre. The past participle of ave(i)r is clearly intended here.

JOUEN: iii. 499. le jouen (l. joven) pesson destruitz, "the young fish destroyed".

PLENTEUOUSE: ii. 369. bone & plenteouse (l. plentevouse) pecherie, "good and plentiful fishing".

POUR(S): ii. 173. un pours (l. povres) homme, "a poor man". Similarly, le dit pour (l. povre), ibid.

REUYENT: ii. 37. il reuyent (l. revyent = revient) en Engleterre.

VEDUES: ii. 333. bachillers ... sont mariez as vedues (l. vedves), "widows".

4. CONFUSION OF C AND T

AFFORTEMENT: ii. 44. ordiner tiele remedie & tiel affortement (l. afforcement) a la ville, "to order such remedy and reinforcement/strengthening ...".

ANECTA: iii. 526. terres & tenementz ... anecta (l. anecca = annexa) & unist ...

ANGUITES: ii. 186. pur ceo qe ne devereit estre oi en ces (l. ses) anguites (l. anguices), "... in his torture". Anguices is, of course, the root of the modern English "anguish".

ARCEZ: iii. 201. qe null homme d'armes ... soit arcez (l. artez) d'aler armez ..., "that no man-at-arms be compelled to go about armed".

CHARGEAUNCE: ii. 107. si la manere d'aider qe autre foitz fu monstrez & touchez a eux par les grauntz en chargeaunce (l. chargeaunte) manere ne leur pleust, "... in an onerous manner". Similarly, in ii. 41: Lesqueux damages & meschiefs de taunt li souti plus chargeaunces, "... are all the more onerous/hard to bear". The contexts call for the present participle/adjectival ending -ant, not the substantival ending -ance.

COLLET: ii. 41. de quele office il feust hostez au temps quant le dit manoir li feust collet (l. tollet), "from which office he was removed at the time when the manor was taken away from him". Tollet is an Anglo-Norman form of the past participle of the standard tolir, toudre, whose past participle is normally tolu. Anglo-Norman often creates regular first conjugation verbs (with infinitives in -er) where continental usage keeps more irregular traditional forms. In this case, for example, the first conjugation form toller is attested in Anglo-Norman.
CONTENANCES: ii. 103. lettres ... entre autres choses contenances (l. contenantes) q'il fu en Fraunce. The sense and the form required to express that sense are not in doubt.

CRECYN: ii. 91. crecyn (l. cretyn) de eawe, "flood of water"; cf. outrageous cretin de eawe, ii. 169.

DECEIVANANCES: i. 283. mal faire en diverses maneres & deceivaunces (l. deceivauntes). The sense clearly requires the adjectival ending -a(u)nt here, not the substantival -a(u)nce.

DEMURANCE: ii. 339. aliens & denszeins demurance (l. demurante) en la dicte courte de Rome. See deceivaunces above.

DEVANTIERS: ii. 195. come ascuns franchises soient granteez par vous & vos devantiers (l. devanciers), "... by your predecessors".

DURESTES: i. 414. A quefes durestes (l. duresces) & grevances il prient ... q'il voyle ordeyner tele remedie qe ..., "To which harshness and damage ..."; also durestes e grevances, ibid. The close similarity of the written outlines of the synonymous durete and durece sometimes makes it impossible to state categorically which is intended. E.g. tantz de durete (l. durete or durece?) procurerent estre fait, iii. 366. The form duresce found above this last quotation, also par force & durece in the next column of the text, would perhaps point to durece as being the more likely.

MOÛTANCE: iii. 472. les bordures & boundes de mesme le counté ... moûtance (l. mountante) en laeure deux lieues & en longure dys lieues, "... amounting to two leagues in breadth and ten leagues in length".

MUSTER: ii. 120. qe nu1 face retrere ou muster (l. muscer) ses leynes sur peyne de forfaiture, "that no one shall cause his wools to be withdrawn or concealed on pain of forfeiture".

NATURESTE: ii. 237. la bone volunteee & natureste (l. naturesce) q'il ad totes voies trové en ses communes, "the good will and affection that he has always found in his Commons".

PUISSANCE: ii. 366. Qe please a vostre tres hautesce puissance (l. puissante) ..., "May it please your most mighty lordship ...".

REBUCA: iii. 519. le dit lieutenant despitousement rebuca (l. rebuta) & ousta le dit John, "the said lieutenant shamefully pushed out and ousted the said John". The verb reboter/reb(o)uter literally means "to push back" and is used very much like o(u)ster, "to drive out".

RETEINENT: i. 284. This word contains two misreadings, t for c
and also \( n \) for \( v \), hence receivent. It has already been dealt with under Section 2.

SECTES: iii. 643. arkes & sectes (l. settes), “bows and arrows”.

SUFFICEANTEE: iii. 280. ... queux n'ont sufficeantee (l. sufficeancee) de terre.

SUFFICIANCIE: ii. 261. (land) quele n'est pas sufficiant (l. sufficiante) pur eux dount vivre, “land which is not adequate for them to live off”.

SUFFISAUNCE: ii. 105. certeynes messages soient envoiez a lui par suffisaunce (l. suffisaunte) credence.

TORTEOUSEMENT: iii. 514. les biens de lui torteousement (l. tortenousement) prises, “his goods wrongfully seized”. It would appear that two errors are present here—the reading of \( t \) for \( c \) and also the omission (by scribe or transcriber) of the nasal bar to indicate a missing \( m \) or \( n \).

5. RANDOM CONFUSIONS


CEYNOTOISE: ii. 23. souf droit fut par tieu ceyntoise (l. feyntoise) & soubtileti delaié, “his right was withheld by such deceit and trickery”.

DEL: ii. 189. ... par enchaison del (l. des) collectes de la quinsisme, “on account of the collection of the fifteenth”. This confusion of final \( s \) with final \( l \) arises from the similarity of the characters and is found again in iii. 75, del (l. des) dites leynes; iii. 293, cure del (l. des) almes; iii. 284, lendemayn de l'Almes (l. des Almes).

FORISFIAUNCE: iii. 543. En forisfiaunce (l. fortisfiaunce) & relevement ..., “As strengthening and improvement ...”.

FUENT: iii. 51. ceux qi fuent (l. suent) a Westm' pour debte, “those who sue ...”.

GISANEZ: ii. 347. ... des terres gisanez (l. gisantz) ovesqe les ditz seignurs, “lands adjacent to the said lords”.

SALEMCHNEYS: ii. 215. si veignent ... les dites XI. s. par somonce ycel, & salemyns (l. jalemeyns) il (sc. the Prior) est destreint, “the said forty shillings are forthcoming as a result of that summons, but nevertheless he (sc. the Prior) is distrained”.

SONT: ii. 337. il y sont plusieurs qa qant ils averont purchaç un benefice ... lour (l. lower) sont (l. font) ils mettent lour benefices a ferme, “there are many who, when they have purchased a benefice, make a hiring charge and farm out their benefices”.
6. OMISSION OF NASAL BAR

CRASCETE: ii. 369. (a new form of close-meshed drag-net) *destruit la slym crascete* (l. *crascente* = *crescente*) & *flurs de la terre desouz la eawe*, "... destroys the growing slime (i.e. fertile mud on the river-bed) and the flowers on the earth beneath the water".

DEFAILLEZ: ii. 352. *grandes perdes ... si bien de moryne des bestes come defaillez* (l. *defailenz* = *defaillence*) de *cressaunce des bledz*, "great losses ... both from cattle disease and from the failure of the crops to grow".

EJOURNEMENT: iii. 356. "... assemblez en parlement solonc l'ejournement (l. *enjournement*) d'icell.

FIRMENT: iii. 496. *qe nlesme lbrdinance soitfirnzent* (l. *firmement*) *tenuz*. *Firment* occurs again in iii. 501, where the full form *firmement* is also found.

MAYS: iii. 532. *tenementz queux deviendrent en voz mays* (l. *mayns*), "tenements which fall into your hands".

MAYTIGNE: ii. 340. *qe nu! ... ne receyve, retigne, ne maytigne* (l. *mayntigne*) *nul tiele servant*, "that no one shall harbour, keep or maintain any such servant".

MEINTEMENT: ii. 407. "... par faus jurours procurez par le mainte-ment (l. *meintenement*) un J. de T., "... by the wrongful interference of a certain J. de T.".

NOEMENT: ii. 338. "... acordant a nostre desert pur noz pecchez, & noement (l. *nomément*) pur les pecchez sus ditz, "... and in particular for the aforesaid sins". A similar omission of the nasal bar is evident in the following passage from ii. 273, but this time it is complicated by a misreading of the initial minim: ... *coment Dieu lui avoit be1 visitee en pluseurs maneres & moement* (l. *nomément*) *d'engendrure des filz*, "... in many ways and especially by the birth of his sons".

REDDANTZ: ii. 48. *reddantz* (l. *renddantz*) *au dit roi xx. s.*, "giving back to the said king twenty shillings".

SOVERAIGMENT: iii. 329. *q'il honora soveraignement* (l. *soveraignement*) *Dieu*.

TORCEOUSEMENT: iii. 514. *ove toutes les biens torceousement* (l. *torcenousement*) *q'il pris* ..., "with all the goods he wrongfully took"; similarly, on the same page: *les biens de lui torceousement* (l. *torcenousement*) *prises*. In this latter case the error is compounded by the misreading of *t* for *c*. 
7. INCORRECT DIVISION OF WORDS

A DES: i. 300. *les prisons movent a des* (l. adés), "the prisoners are dying all the time".

AFFAIRE: ii. 176. *... serche fait auxint ou il serra affaire* (l. a (f)faire), "... search also made where necessary".

A GEYT: ii. 60. *qe nul autre feit a geyt* (l. ageyt) *de mal*, "that no one else lies in wait to do evil".

ANIENT: ii. 338. *ensi va clergie ... en declyn & anient* (l. a nient), "and so learning declines and perishes".

ATIEUX: i. 3. *si il ne soit atieux* (l. a tieux) *qe demurront deinz vostre die roialme*, "unless it be to those who dwell inside your said kingdom"; similarly, in ii. 367.

AUNT AN: ii. 104. *pur ceo qe pur defaute d'une navie sur mere aunt an* (l. (h)auntan(t)) *a cest seison ... la navie de Fraunce ad fait moult des maux*, "because for lack of a fleet patrolling the sea at that time the French fleet has done great damage". The verb *hanter* was in common use on both sides of the Channel in medieval times in the sense of "to dwell", "frequent", etc.

AU TEL: i. 477. *parfere un au tel* (l. autel) *mur*, "to finish a similar wall".

CONUZ CEILERONT: ii. 346. *touz les meistres des* (l. de) *les suis ditz niefs ensemblement conuz ceileront* (l. counzceileront) *qe lours serront* (l. serroit) *meux a faire*, "all the masters of the said ships shall take counsel together what would be best for them to do". The misreading of the minims here has been dealt with under Section 2.

DAREIM: i. 239. *de or & d'argent & dareim* (l. d'areim), "of gold, silver and brass".

DE GERPIR: iii. 657. *... ont voullu du tout de gerpir* (l. degerpir), "leave, abandon".

DENTRE FOURME: i. 285. *... par bref dentre fourme* (l. d'entrefourme).

DE PEYNTE: ii. 225. *la Chaumbre de Peynte* (l. Depeynte), "the Painted Room". This is frequently found in the *Rotuli* to denote the meeting-place of Parliament.

D'ESCLAUNDRE: ii. 188. *a tres graunt d'esclaundre* (l. desclaundre) *de nostre dit Seignour le Roi*, "to the very great discredit of our said lord the King". Anglo-Norman has *desclandre* as well as *esclandre* in the sense of "scandal", "shame", "discredit". See *Anglo-Norman Dictionary*. 
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DE TRENCHIER: iii. 665. eux firent de trenchier (l. detrenchier) en pecės le dit flote, “they had the said float chopped into pieces”.

EMPELL: iii. 164. nule somme qe l’empell (l. l’em pell) Quene-gold serroit levé, “no sum that is called Queen-gold would be raised”. The aphetic pel(1)er is attested in Anglo-Norman for the standard appeler.

EMPRISONN: i. 409. Arnald ... qe est emprisonn (l. em prisoun) por ceo q’il avoit achaté ... vint toneux de vin.

EN CHARGEANTZ: iii. 362. ... en chargeantz (l. enchargeantz) eux ... q’il se avisassent ..., “charging them ... to consider ...”. Medieval scribes often separated the prefix em-len- from the rest of the verb in cases like this, and editors have long hesitated between regarding the result as a gerund or as a prefixed verb. In a number of cases, however, only a prefixed verb is possible if good syntax is to be achieved. See the examples below.

EN CHIMINANT: iii. 360. ... en chiminant (l. enchiminant) entre Braynford & Londres, “travelling between B. and L.”.

EN DAMMAGEZ: iii. 347. sanz tort faire a la partie en dammagez (l. endammagez), “without wronging the injured party”. The gerund construction is unacceptable in this case.

ENDENAUNT: i. 283. endenaunt (l. en donaunt) hardement a mesfœurs, “giving encouragement ...”.

EN FEFFE: iii. 435. ... en feffe (l. enfeffe?) ... ove touz ses biens & chateux. Only the past participle of enfeffer, “to enfeoff”, makes sense here.

EN FIEN: ii. 242. après ceo q’il l’auront pure (l. pure?) en fien (l. enfien), “after they have finally purified it (sc. silver)”.

EN PRIANTZ: iii. 362. ... & ceo aperceurent, en priantz (l. enpriantz) pardon a nostre sire. This could be interpreted either as a gerund of the simple verb prier or as the present participle of the prefixed verb enprier.

ESTATES: iii. 352. l’assent de toutz l’estates (l. lé states) du Parlement. The form l’estates occurs again in iii. 355, 358, 359. This would seem to be no more than a case of aphesis, a phenomenon very common in Anglo-Norman that has produced so many of our modern English words (e.g. “squire”, “chess”, etc).

EYNDE GREE: iii. 287. les ditz achatours de lour eynde gree (l. eyndegree) firent mercher certains arbres, “the said purchasers of their own free will had certain trees marked”.

JA LE MEYNS: ii. 380. Read jalemeyns, "nevertheless".

LATEYNT: i. 6. al quel jour lateynt (l. l'ateynt) vint, "on which day the charge came up". The difficulty arises here because, in addition to agglutinating the definite article, the text prints an apparently masculine form ateynt for the usual feminine atteinte (found immediately above this quotation as ateynte).

LEMPLEDE: i. 7. qe lemplede (l. l'emplede) en eyre des justices, "let him bring his action against him in the circuit court".

LIUSSUNT: i. 3. tant qe il liussunt (l. li ussunt) porveu de benefice, "until they had provided him with a benefice".

LOORDE: iii. 541. n'ount de qoi vivre par loorde (l. l'oorde = orde) gayne d'icell, "they have no livelihood as a result of the filthy profit from it (sc. usury)". I.e. usury has destroyed their living.

MAYNE Ovre: ii. 354. pris ove mayne ovre (l. maynovre), "caught red-handed".

MÑEY LOUSEMENT: ii. 77. dequel (l. lequel?) assise passa countre forme de lei, mñey lousement (l. merveylousemeni) solom le purporte de mesme le record q'est prest a monstrer, "which assize went against the letter of the law, most remarkably, according to the contents of the record, which he is ready to show". The transcriber has misread n for v, been unable to recognize the unity of the word and so has divided it incorrectly and unintelligibly.

NEMIE: ii. 170. la charter est repellable eant regard a les services, ou nemie (l. ne mie), "the charter may be repealed having regard to the services, but not otherwise". Ne (...) mie is a very common form of separable negative in Old French (literally "not a crumb"). It is found frequently in the Rotuli written as one word.

NUYT AUNDRE: i. 468. Sire Reynaud ... vint encountre la pees, nuyt aundre (l. nuytaundre) ov seon poer & ses blees defolerent, "Sir R. ... came in breach of the peace, by night, with his men and trampled down his corn". The transcriber was obviously baffled by this word: he renders it elsewhere as mitaundre (i. 284) and untaundre (i. 460).

OUCHES: ii. 281. anel, gartere, n'ouches (l. nouches), "ring, garter, clasps". The transcriber has recognized the now obsolete English word "ouch" here, but has not realized that the Old French form was nouche (cf. English "apron" from Old French nap(p)eron). His introduction of the abbreviated negative n’ destroys the sense.
PAIERA: iii. 216. de paiera annuelement (l. paier annuelement).
PI CEA: ii. 613. les deniers sont paiez pi cea (l. pieça), “the money has been paid long ago”.
PIE CE: ii. 170. come esté usee ore grante pie ce (l. piece), “as has now been the custom for a long time”.
PONT: iii. 256. ... pont (l. p ont = par ont) que les ditz povres liges sont grevously reintez, “whereby the said poor lieges are grievously afflicted”.
POSTOILLE: i. 4. ... en la meine la postoille (l. l’apostoille), “... in the hands of the pope”.
PROMPT': ii. 337. ... a prompt’ (l. apprompter) de ses amys, “... to borrow from his friends”. The Anglo-Norman apprompter is frequently used in insular texts for the usual continental emprunter/emprunter, etc., this kind of change of prefix being characteristic of the French used in England.
QUIDERIE: iii. 149. par presumption ou sur quiderie (l. surquiderie), “overweening pride”.
RYVAYLE: i. 477. ses genz serrount savez e la ryvayle (l. aryvayle) des nefs mout amendé, “his people will be saved and the berthing of the ships much improved”. Arivail etc. is used in Anglo-Norman not only for the action of arriving, but also for the place of arrival, hence “berth”, “port”. The context in this passage deals with measures destined to prevent further disastrous flooding of the city of York by the Ouse.
SA PAIA: iii. 327. ... William vendast a Madame de N. pur Ilm. marcz, quele sa paia (l. s’apaia) bien & lealment a dit Sir William, “... William had sold for two thousand marks to Lady de N., who settled in good faith with the said Sir William”.
SEURÉS: ii. 76. come covent par (l. pur) la seurens (l. aseurens = asseurance) du castle, “as is fitting for the security of the castle”.

8. CHARACTERS OMITTED

APPELL: ii. 348. la dite courte appell (l. appelé) Shire-court. The transcriber probably failed to notice the apostrophe often used at the end of a word to mark an omission.
CATHERALL: iii. 274. le chapitile de l’eglise catherall (l. cathedrall).
COPE: ii. 187. la cope (l. copie) d’un brief; also, la cope (l. copie) est cusé a ceste petition, ii. 408.
DEITURE: ii. 443. grevauns (= grevances) a eux faiets countre deiture (l. dreiture) & les leies, "... against right and the laws".

DEZ: ii. 394. contenuz est en les dez (l. deuz) brefs, "... in the two briefs".

EST: ii. 348. yeux que ont est (l. esté) viscountz.

ESTE: ii. 166. la dite levee ne deveroit este (l. estre) tenue.

FEOZ: i. 273. ele fust americy ... pur une nonsute de un plee ... a feoz (l. feorz/ferz = fuer) de baronesse, la e (l. u) ele ne tient riens per baronie, "she was amerced for a nonsuit of a plea after the manner of a baroness, when she had nothing through barony". The continental fuer is frequently confused in the Rotuli with the infinitive faire, e.g. ... en forcible manere, a faire (l. fuer) de guerre, "... in a warlike manner", iii. 350, etc.

FER: i. 9. ne tent le avaundit maner de Folkestan fer (l. fors) par le ley de Engleterre, "... except by the law of England".

FORCELTS: iii. 234. touz autres chasteaux & forcelets (l. forcelets) en le marche de Picardie, "all other castles and forts ...".

GAIGIER: ii. 105. pur quere marchandises & pur coveitise degaigier (l. gaignierlgageir), "to seek merchandise and out of greed for gain".

MOEMENTZ: ii. 108. une grosse soumme de deniers & moementz (l. emolumentz) pur faire une flote, "a great sum of money and title-deeds to build a fleet".

MULIER: iii. 490. si trové soit ... le dit Thomas pier le dit Nichol estre mulier (l. muliere?), "if the said Thomas ... is found to have been born in wedlock". The same page gives: ... bastard ou mulieré.

ONT: ii. 348. ils ont (l. sont) artez ... par duresses ... de venir devant eux, "they are compelled ...".

PAIE: ii. 387. lesqueux deners sunt unker (l. unkor) a paie (l. paier).

PAINTZ: iii. 643. ... paintz (l. paiantz) ent les custumes, "paying custom on them".

SEREMENTZ: iii. 7. qe les ditz conseillers ... soient serementz (l. serementez) en presence du Roi, "that the said counsellors ... shall be sworn in ..."; similarly, in ii. 340, s'il soit sermentz (l. sermentez) & estroitement chargez a ceo faire, "if he is sworn in and strictly charged to do that".

TRACTIE: ii. 362. ... ad condescenduz a tractie (l. tractier/traiter) de paix, "... has condescended to treat for peace".

UL: ii. 64. qe ul (l. nul) enfaunt ... ne jue en nul lieu.

VAILOURS: iii. 211. les sermentz de les plus vaillours (l. vaillourus) chivalers ...
9. CHARACTERS WRONGLY ADDED

ABAUNDISSEMENT: iii. 62. en grant confort & abaundissemant (l. abaundissement) des tielx malfaisors, “to the great comfort and encouragement of such evil-doers”.

ASPTIETZ: iii. 363. tielz asptietz (l. asperités) & dureses ...

CONTRALZ: ii. 45. il fut contralz (l. contre?) la dit prohibicion.

DESCARGER: ii. 215. q’il soit deschargé (l. deschargé) de les xl. s.

FAIRES: ii. 352. des purveances a faires (l. faire) pur l’ostiel le Roi.

This error occurs up and down the text.

ORDEIGNENT: ii. 352. Qe ples e dite tres noble conseil de ent ordeignent (l. ordeigner) remedie.

PRENDREZ: ii. 371. ... a prendrez (l. prendre) por les mains le viscont; similarly, in iii. 534, ... a prendrez (l. prendre) ...

RELIGIOUS: i. 299. auxi bien a religious (l. religious) & a clerces come a lais.

SEXECUTOURS: iii. 67. autres sexecutours (l. executours) du dite Alice.

10. TRANPOSITION OF CHARACTERS

ALEM: ii. 391. ... pour l’alem (l. alme) son pier, “for the soul of his father”.

ARMUERS: iii. 82. qe les ditz persones & vikers n’aient ... mortuaria d’armure, einz qe les armuers (l. armures) demoerget a les heirs, “that the said parsons and vicars should not have mortuary of arms, but rather that the arms should remain with the heirs (sc. of the deceased)’’.

CONVENSEIT: ii. 371. il convenseit (l. convenist) d’enquere ..., “it would be appropriate to enquire ...’’.

ERRORNE: i. 308. quelle estente est erronre (l. erroner = erroné) & torcinouse, “which extent (= valuation of land) is erroneous and wrongful”.

ESCLAUNDERS: iii. 516. ... matiers & esclaunders (l. esclaudres), “scandals”.

PRECEOUSE: ii. 233. la malice des servauntz queux furent preceouse (l. pereceouses), “the malice of the servants who were idle”. This is one of the medieval forms of the modern French paresseux.

YVRE: iii. 434. il est ore yvre (l. yver), “it is now winter”.

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11. MISSPELLINGS OF VARIOUS KINDS

AD: i. 2. sun droit ad (l. al) maner de P.
AGLISE: ii. 395, iii. 633 = eglise.
ANKES: iii. 370. issint qe ankes (l. onkes) ascun merchandi ose aventurer sa monoiie, “so that no merchant ever dares risk his money”.
AORDAUNCE: i. 410. plusours maufesours, jadis de la compaigne & de l’aordaunce (l. aerdaunce) Sire Johan, “... formerly of the band and faction of Sir John”.
APPOSEZ: iii. 469. sommes ... dount ascuns des viscountz ... serront severalment apposez (l. opposez), “sums for which some of the sheriffs will be called to account individually”. Cf. le viscount qe de ascuns des parcialx ou totalx suis dit serra opposé, ibid.
ASSAINT: ii. 414. pristerent ... une assait (l. assart) en la foreste ...

On the same page is found esset for essart, both assart and essart being good Anglo-Norman forms.
ASTATE: iii. 433. ascun seignur dbstate (l. estate).
AUNCIONES: ii. 237. continuer les aunciortes (l. aunciiones) alliances.
COILLOR: ii. 175. ... a coillor (l. coiller) les ditz deners, “to collect the said money”.
CONONIZEZ: iii. 129. le martyr ... qi en vostre maison gist cononizez (l. canonizez).

DESGORRIE: ii. 46. Par qei il covenoit q’il /a (sc. church) resignast, ... issint est il desgorrie (l. desgari) & chapelein sanz title, “As a result of which he was obliged to resign from his church, ... and thus he is destitute and a chaplain without title”.
EN: iii. 100. grant tresor en (l. est) continuelment grantez & levez.
ERREIGNE: iii. 435. le dit erreigne (l. erroigne) jugement, “the said wrong judgement”.
ERROYSEMENT: iii. 435. erroysement (l. erroynement) sur la malice avant concertez, fuist ajuggé a mort, “wrongly and as a result of the premeditated malice he was condemned to death”.
FORSCLIST: i. 426. le havene par tempest de la meer issi enefbl q’il forsclist (l. forsclost) chescun an un foitz ou deus, “the harbour so weakened by storms from the sea that it is closed once or twice a year”.
L’AD: iii. 41. A comencement l’ad (l. i ad) error.
LAVE: ii. 159. le service d’arrere-ban lave (l. levé).
LEVANT: iii. 342. ... dire pur quoi levant (l. l’avant) dit jugement ... ne sera reversé.
LIGEUANCE: iii. 527. hommage & ligewance (l. ligeaunce).

LON: ii. 87. Le Roy est tenuz a rendre as heires lon (l. lor) heritages.

LORSMES: ii. 353. pur redresser nos injuries & lorsmes (l. lesions).

MOEMENT: iii. 9. Et moement (l. meement) quant tiel susrendre se fist a la persone du Roi mesmes, “And especially when such a surrender was made to the person of the King himself”. 

Moement occurs again in iii. 339. Forms such as me(e)nient, meiment, maiement are common in Anglo-Norman for the continental maismement, etc., but are also found outside Britain (see Tobler-Lommatzsch, V. 881-2).

MONU: iii. 211. xi d. ob. des monu (l. menu) fermes, “... for the small farms”.

REBETE: i. 378. il ne poet aver nul part grace des ministres le Roi, mes partot est rebete (l. reboté), “... but is everywhere rebuffed”.

RECEINTZ: iii. 308. ... lour seignurs propres as queux il sont tenantz ou receintz (l. receaintz), “... their own masters to whom they are tenants or residents”.

REFS: iii. 328. lour franche pecherie, ove petitz bateix & lour refs (l. rets) & altre (sic) engyns pour poissons prendre, “... with little boats and their nets and other devices for catching fish”.

SACHAUND: iii. 52. si illes sachaund (l. sachount) rein dire, “if they have anything to say”.

SOURMENTRA: ii. 78. ... a ces outrages respondeur & a autres qe home luy sourmentra (l. sourmettra), “... to reply to these outrages and to others that will be laid at his door”.

VOLENTRISEMENT: ii. 47. volentrisme (l. volentrifement), “willingly”.

VONDONT: ii. 259. quant ils vondront (l. vendront) en Gales, “when they come to Wales”.

12. SYNTACTICAL SEMANTICS

SOIT: ii. 217. l’eide granté au soit (l. feut? = feu) Edward, ael le dit nostre Seignour le Roi, “the aid granted to the late Edward, grandfather of our said lord the King”. The sense here is not in doubt, only the reason for the totally aberrant present subjunctive soit. It would seem that the compiler knew feut both as the imperfect subjunctive of estre and also as the adjective “dead”, “deceased”; knowing also that soit and feut were often used the one for the other as parts of estre, he used soit for the adjectival feut also.
Having dealt with a wide variety of individual corruptions in the text of the *Rotuli Parliamentorum*, it may now be appropriate to attempt to make sense of one of the most corrupt passages in the whole work, purely by the application of the principles used above. Doubtless a fresh examination of the manuscript would enable even further progress to be made. The passage as printed (i. 7) runs thus:

*Ce vos muster Reynaud le Schot & Herbert de Wyke, verderers nostre Seignur le Roy en la forest de Slopshire, cum li ne ad vers passez viegne Sire Roger de Clifford ... pur tenir les enquestes, & mes fet sumonder p bref emoines, et mis vennier devaunt luy, & mit a serment a dire choses si nostre serment, & il mis en payne par nostre serment, qe nos deveyums dire qe Thomas de Grete Seignur de Wodeton avetf son parc debrisez, et sa haie hars, p enchesun a fere les bestes le Roy entreur en sun parc miseymes a cohennement qe le Parc seli Thomas fut lune leue de vay p plus hors de bundes de forest, e deycuns suz nostre serment, qe celi Thorii fu guiltez de tieus trepas dunt mis fumes carkes a dire suz ley, et il demanda la veu de nos roules, et mis deymus qe mis ne fuimes par la tuz, et qe mis humes mis la nos roules & les priamus qe il mis donast quel jur cum il vodera, et il les avera prest, et pur ce qe nus ne volums mie dire ausi cum il mie en (gap in MS.) del Parc avant nome, ne mustrel nous roules ausi cum est avaut nomes, mis fit il prendre et launsel au funez de la gelolf dunt mes ne porumes estre replevire ne mainpes, saunz greve raunsum; dont mis priomes nostre Seignur le Roy qe il mis face remedye e mis en veu en le enquest du pais qe (gap in MS.) ... et le enquest soit pris par qui le Roi vodera fortpris Sire Roger de Clifford et Sire Roger de Mortimer, qe mis hum mis a ceste grevance.*

Without claiming to restore this nonsensical piece to perfect sense and syntax, we can make most of it intelligible as follows:

*Ce vos mustre Reynaud le Schot & Herbert de Wyke, verderers nostre Seignur le Roy en la forest de Slopshire, cum il ne ad vers (= gueres) passé veigt (= attested past definite of venir) Sire Roger de Clifford ... pur tenir les enquestes & nus fit summonder par bref erroinen et nus veiner (attested form of venir) devaunt luy, & mit a serment a dire choses sur nostre serment & il nus enpayra par nostre serment qe nos deveyums dire qe Thomas de Grete, Seignur de Wodeton, avetf son parc debrisez et sa haie harse (an attested Anglo-Norman past participle feminine of *ardre* "to burn"), par enchesun a fere les bestes le Roy entreur en sun parc miseymes a*
commencement que le Parc seli Thomas fut (l)une leue de vay e plus hors dé bundes de forest e deyçuns sus nostre serment que celi Thomas fu guiltez de tieus trespas dunt sus fumes carkés (= Anglo-Norman form of chargés) a dire sus ley et il demanda la veue de nos roules et nus deymus que nus ne fuimes par la tuz, et que nus humes (humis is attested as past definite 4 of aver) mis la nos roules & le(s) priamus que il nus donast quel jur cum il vodera et il les avera prest, et pur ce que nus ne volums mie dire ausi cum il ... del parc avant nomé, ne mustre li nos roules ausi cum est avaunt nomé(s), nus fit il prendre et launser au funz de la gehole dunt mes ne porumes estre repleviré ne mainpris, saunz greve raunsun; dont nus priomes nostre Seignur le Roy que il nus face remedye e nus enveit en le enquest du pais que ... et le enquest soit pris par qui le Roi vodera forspris Sire Roger de Clifford et Sire Roger de Mortimer, que nus hunt mis a ceste grevance.

This petition as reconstituted above might be roughly translated as follows:

"Reynaud le Schot and Herbert de Wyke, verderers of our Lord the King in the forest of Sloppeschire, bring this before you, since not long ago Sir Roger de Clifford came to hold inquests and had us summoned by a wrongful writ and had us come before him and made us swear to say things on oath and he compelled us on our oath to say that Thomas de Grete, Lord of Wodeton, had broken his pound and burned his hedge in order to make the King's beasts enter his own pound firstly (?) because the pound of the said Thomas was more than a league away outside the bounds of the forest and we were to say on our oath that Thomas was guilty of that misdemeanour that we were charged to say by law and he asked to see our rolls and we said that we were not all over there and that we had put our rolls there and we begged him to set any day that he pleased and he would find them ready, and because we were not prepared to say also that ... about the aforesaid pound nor show him our rolls as is set down above, he had us seized and thrown into the depths of the gaol, from which we shall never be able to be bailed or mainprized without a heavy ransom; wherefo we beg our lord the King that he will provide a remedy for us and send us before a jury of inquest that ... and that the inquest shall be called by anyone the King wishes except by Sir Roger de Clifford and Sir Roger de Mortimer who have brought us to this sorry state".
It would be presumptuous to pretend that all the many difficulties present in the *Rotuli Parliamentorum* can be removed at a stroke, as it were, by just one article, but it may legitimately be hoped that the solutions proposed above for some of the textual problems posed by this key work may stimulate further study and so lead to a better understanding of one of our primary sources of evidence for the history of Parliament.

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