OLD FRENCH SERIES · VOLUME 41

Aliscans

Aliscans

Part Two: Rainouart

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



CANES NOBILES · MMXXVI

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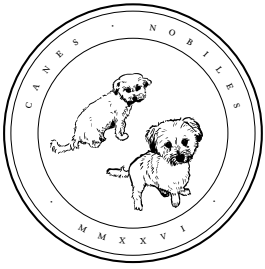

Volume 41 of the Canes Nobiles Old French interlinear texts

The Old French text follows F. Guessard and A. de Montaiglon's text,
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Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
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Aliscans is printed from the Arsenal manuscript, with the editors' conjectures and their supplements from other manuscripts in square brackets; the longer passages they supply from other manuscripts stand in the verse as they print them. The edition prints no laisse numerals: a laisse opens on a row of air. This second part runs from the relief army's arrival at Orange, through Rainouart's battle, to his wedding.

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Rainouart in the Kitchen

I

As the French make camp, Guibert of Andernas arrives, and then Aïmer the captive with booty and captives freed. At supper Rainouart, whom King Louis gave William, comes in with his cudgel. Seated by Aïmer, he is made drunk, and when the squires pelt him he splits a marble. That night the master cook singes his mustache, and Rainouart throws him into the fire, boasting he is Desramé's son, with fifteen royal brothers. The cooks complain, and William sends Guibourc for him.

Quoiqe François tendent leur trés à las,
While French pitch their tents with laces
li quens Guillames a regardé en bas
the count William has looked down below
de Gloriete, son palais principas,
from Gloriette his palace principal
de la montaigne delà Constantinas,
from the mountain beyond Constantinas
et voit Guibert ki rois ert d'Andernas.
and sees Guibert who king was of-Andernas
De cevaliers amenoit .I. grant tas;
Of knights he-led a great heap
.V. mile furent as armes et à dras,
five thousand they-were with arms and with clothes
as confanons et à bons cevaus cras.
with gonfanons and with good horses fat
Guillames tient Guiborc entre ses bras:
William holds Guibourc between his arms
«Dame, dist il, cest os n'est mie à gas;
Lady said he this host not-is at-all for jest

«mais, par le cors au baron saint Tomas,
but by the body of-the baron saint Thomas
«mar i entrerent li baron de Baudas,
ill there entered the barons of Baghdad
«rois Desramés, li oncles Ferabras,
king Desramé the uncle (of-)Fierabras
«et Haucebiers, et li rois Golias,
and Haucebier and the king Goliath
«Baudus li fel, Aqin et Atenas,
Baudus the felon Aquin and Atenas
«Butor d'Averse, ki samble Satanas.»
Butor of-Averse who seems Satan
Li quens devise, mais il ne savoit pas
The count speaks but he not knew at-all
ke tant i ot dou linage Judas
that so-many there were of-the lineage (of-)Judas
ke tot li val et li mont en sont ras.
that all the valleys and the mounts thereof are full
N'i ot François ne s'en tenist por las,
Not-there was Frenchman not himself-thereof would-hold for weary
se ce ne fust le tinel Rainouart
if this not had-been the cudgel (of-)Rainouart
ki ert en la quisine.
who was in the kitchen

Li quens Guillames se prist à regarder
The count William himself took to look
et voit venir le caitif Aïmer.
and sees come the captive Aïmer

N'ot qe .VII^{c}., à tant les puis nombrer,
Not-be-had but seven-hundred at so-much them I-can number
de cevaliers ki tot sont baceler.
of knights who all are young-men
Desconfis ot paiens devers la mer,
Defeated he-had pagans toward the sea
une grant route ki venoit de préer;
a great troop which came from plundering
ainc n'i laissierent .I. seul à decoper.
ever not-there they-left one alone to cut-down
Molt grant eschec en faisoit amener,
Very great booty thereof he-made lead
cevaux et armes ki molt font à loer,
horses and arms which much make to praise
et de vitaille .CC. somiers trossés,
and of victuals two-hundred packhorses loaded
et .C. caitis ke fist desprisoner.
and a-hundred captives whom-he made unprison
Li quens Guillames le prent à aviser,
The count William him takes to perceive
dame Guiborc le commence à mostrer:
to-lady Guibourc him he-begins to show
«Gentix comtesse, dist Guillames li ber,
Noble countess said William the baron
«vés là venir le caitif Aïmer,
see there come the captive Aïmer
«l'omme del mont, por voir le puis conter,
the-man of-the world for truth it I-can tell
«ke Sarrasin puent plus redouter;
whom Saracens can most dread

«contre celui me convient il aler
toward him me it-behooves it to-go
«et deseur tos servir et honorer,
and above all serve and honor
«car ainc paien ne laissa reposer.»
for ever pagans not he-let rest
Sor Folatise va Guillames monter,
On Folatise goes William to-mount
contre Aïmer pense d'esperoner;
toward Aïmer he-thinks of-spurring
brace levée le courut acoler.
arm raised him he-ran to-embrace
Dedens Orenge le va ot lui mener
Within Orange him he-goes with him to-lead
en Gloriete, son palais principel;
into Gloriette his palace principal
mais Aïmers ne li vaut créanter,
but Aïmer not him wished to-grant
defors les autres fist sa gent osteler.
outside the others he-made his folk lodge
Quens Aimeris fist sa gent ajoster;
Count Aimeri made his folk join
grant joie i ot quant vint à l'asambler.
great joy there was when it-came to the-gathering
Et dist Guillames: «Un don vos voiel rover,
And said William A gift you I-wish to-ask
«à moi prengiés cest prumerain souper.»
with me take this first supper
Il li otroient, ne li vuelent véer,
They him grant not him they-wish to-refuse

mais à grant force i mainent Aïmer.
but by great force there they-lead Aïmer
En Gloriete fist on l'aige corner;
In Gloriette made one the-water sound
li cevalier vont ensamble laver.
the knights go together to-wash
Dame Guibors ne se vaut oublier,
Lady Guibourc not herself wished to-forget
Aimeri va la touaile porter
To-Aimeri she-goes the towel to-carry
et à ses fiex por leurs mains essuer.
and to his sons for their hands wipe
De hautes vespres s'asient au souper.
At high vespers they-sit at-the supper
De la cuisine ist Rainoars li ber;
From the kitchen goes-out Rainouart the baron
son tinel porte, nel vaut pas oublier,
his cudgel he-carries not-it he-wished at-all to-forget
a .I. piler s'est alés adoser
against a pillar himself-is gone to-lean
por le barnage véoir et esgarder.
for the baronage to-see and look-at
Aïmers prist Guillame à demander.
Aïmer took William to ask
«Sire, dist il, ne me devés celer
Lord said he not me you-must hide
«qés hom est ciex ke je voi là ester
what man is this-one whom I see there stand
«en cele sale, dejoste ce piler.
in that hall beside that pillar

«Un grant mairin li voi au col lever,
A great timber him I-see at-the neck lift
«bien i auroient .V. vilain ke porter;
well there would-have five peasants what to-carry
«est ce diables ki nos voielle tuer?
is this devil who us wish to-kill
«Je quit Guibors nos veut tos encanter.»
I think Guibourc us wishes all to-enchant
Et dist Guillames: «Ains est .I. baceler,
And said William Rather he-is a young-man
«à moi le fist rois Loéis douner.
to me him made king Louis give
«Ainc de sa force ne vit nus hom son per,
Ever of his force not saw any man his peer
«mais trop desire en quisine à caufer,
but too-much he-desires in kitchen to warm-himself
«le fu à faire [et] la car escumer;
the fire to make and the meat skim
«forment m'en poise quant tant li voi amer.
greatly me-thereof weighs when so-much him I-see love
«Cil keu le gabent, tot le font asoter.»
Those cooks him mock wholly him they-make besot
Aïmers l'ot, si l'a fait apeler,
Aïmer it-hears so him-he-has made call
et Rainoars ne se fist pas bouter;
and Rainouart not himself made at-all push
dejoste lui l'a assis au souper.
beside him him-he-has seated at-the supper
Derir son dos mist son tinel poser;
Behind his back he-put his cudgel set

cil damoisel s'asamblent por [l'] enbler.
those young-men gather for it to-steal
Dist Rainoars: «Laisiés mon fust ester;
Said Rainouart Let my wood stand
«car, par la foi ke je doi Dieu porter,
for by the faith that I must to-God bear
«n'i a si cointe, se l'i voi adeser,
not-there is so bold if it-there I-see touch
«ke ne li face chierement comperer,
that not him I-make dearly pay-for
«et de la teste ans .II. les iex voler.»
and from the head both two the eyes fly
Cil cevalier l'acuellent à gaber
Those knights him-take-up to mock
et de fort vin sovent à abuevrer;
and with strong wine often to make-drink
il le font [dou] tout ivre.
they him make of-the all drunk

Joste Aïmer va Rainouars séir;
Beside Aïmer goes Rainouart to-sit
derir son dos mist son tinel gesir.
behind his back he-put his cudgel lie
Mangier li fist Aïmers à loisir
Eat him made Aïmer at leisure
et à grans trais le fort vin englotir;
and with great drafts the strong wine gulp
tant l'en donerent tout l'ont fait estordir.
so-much him-thereof they-gave wholly him-they-have made stun

Après mangier font les napes cuellier,
After eating they-make the cloths gather
Rainouart prisent entr'aus à escarnir;
Rainouart they-took among-them to mock
cil escui[e]r li prendent à laidir,
those squires him take to insult
de grans torcas et jeter et ferir.
with great torches both throw and strike
Et Rainouars cort son tinel saisir.
And Rainouart runs his cudgel to-seize
«Gloton, dist il, trop vos puis consentir.»
Gluttons said he too-much you I-can allow
Le tinel lieve à .II. mains par aïr.
The cudgel he-lifts with two hands with fury
Quant cil le voient, s'acuellent à fuïr.
When those it see they-take-up to flee
Et Rainoars n'en pot nul consievir;
And Rainouart not-thereof could any overtake
se fiert .I. marbre, par mi l'a fait croissir
so he-strikes a marble through half it-he-has made crack
k'aval la sale fist les pieches saillir.
that-down the hall he-made the pieces leap
Dist Aïmers: «Cis vos fera fuïr.
Said Aïmer This-one you will-make flee
«Frere Guillames, molt le devés chirir;
Brother William much him you-ought to-cherish
«faites le nos en Aliscans venir.
make him us into Aliscans come
«Se as paiens se pooit asentir,
If to-the pagans himself he-could set

«à cel tinel en feroit .M. morir.»
with that cudgel thereof he-would-make a-thousand die
Dist Rainouars: «Par foi molt le desir;
Said Rainouart By faith much it I-desire
«et moi et aus laissiés moi convenir,
and me and them let me deal
«mais ke mon tinel aie.»
provided that my cudgel I-have

Grans fu la noise el palais demenés.
Great was the noise in-the palace raised
Quant mangié ont et béu à plentés,
When eaten they-have and drunk in plenty
les napes traient, cascuns en est tornés.
the cloths they-draw-off each thence is turned
Et Rainoars fu forment enivrés;
And Rainouart was greatly drunk
des escuiers fu enpains et botés
by-the squires he-was pushed and shoved
et de torcas et ferus et rués.
and with torches both struck and pelted
Et Rainoars en est molt aïrés;
And Rainouart thereby is very angered
par maltalent fu ses tinés levés.
with rage was his cudgel raised
Ains nus nel vit n'en soit espauontés;
Ever any not-it saw not-thereof be terrified
li plus hardis est en fuies tornés.
the most bold is into flights turned

Et li cos est dou tinel avalés,
And the blow is from-the cudgel descended
si fiert .I. marbre, ke par mi est froués,
so it-strikes a marble that through half it-is shattered
en .II. moitiés rous et esquartelés.
in two halves broken and quartered
Dist Rainouars: «Signer, car atendés;
Said Rainouart Lords so wait
«se vos éust ataint cis fus quarrés,
if you had reached this wood square
«il vos éust malement confessés.»
it you would-have badly confessed
Dist Aïmers, li preus, li alosés:
Said Aïmer the worthy the praised
«Sire Guillames, por Dieu car le gardés,
Lord William for God so him guard
«à vo pooir, biaus frere, l'onourés,
to your power fair brother him-honor
«de quanqe il veut faites ses volentés;
of whatever he wishes do his wills
«car n'a tel homme en .XIIII. cités.
for not-is-there such man in fourteen cities
«En Aliscans en soit ot vos menés;
Into Aliscans thence he-be with you led
«se as paiens pooit estre ajostés,
if to-the pagans he-could be joined
«à cel tinel en verriés .M. tués.»
with that cudgel thereof you-would-see a-thousand killed
Dist Rainoars: «Se je sui assamblés,
Said Rainouart If I am engaged

«mort sont paien, si ke vos le venrés.»
dead are pagans so that you it will-see
Aimeris l'ot, si en a ris assés,
Aimeri it-hears so thereat he-has laughed enough
et li marchis Guillames au cort nés;
and the marquis William with-the short nose
mais, ainc k'il voient les .IIII. [jors] passés,
but before that-they see the four days passed
ne tenront mie Rainoart en vieltés,
not they-will-hold at-all Rainouart in vileness
ains ert sor tos prisiés et honorés.
rather he-will-be above all prized and honored
Cil cevalier avalent les degrés,
Those knights descend the steps
la cors depart; François vont à leur trés
the court departs French go to their tents
et li auquant ou borc à leur ostés.
and the some in-the borough to their lodgings
Quens Aimeris est ses lis aprestés
Count Aimeri is his bed prepared
en une cambre où molt avoit biautés;
in a chamber where much was-there beauty
toute nuit fu de Guiborc tastonnés.
all night he-was by Guibourc tended
En la quisine est Rainoars entrés,
In the kitchen is Rainouart entered
joste le fu s'est couchiés tos lassés.
beside the fire himself-is lain all weary
Dejoste lui fu ses tineus posés,
Beside him was his cudgel set

son cief mist seure quant basié l'ot assés;
his head he-put upon-it when kissed it-he-had enough
tost s'endormi, car tos ert enivrés,
soon he-fell-asleep for all he-was drunk
pance levée, se gist tos enversés.
belly raised himself lies all backward
Li maistres keus i fist com faus provés,
The master cook there did as false proved
ki ses gernons li a au fu ullés,
who his mustache him has in-the fire singed
à .I. tison espris et alumés.
with a brand lit and kindled
Quant Rainouars se senti escaudés,
When Rainouart himself felt scalded
grant angoise ot, si saut sus esfraés;
great anguish he-had so he-leaps up frightened
sachiés de voir molt par fu aïrés.
know for truth very greatly he-was angered
Le keu saisist très parmi les costés,
The cook he-seizes right through the sides
ausi le lieve com il fust noviaus nés,
just him he-lifts as he were newly born
el fu le gete ki est grans enbrasés,
into-the fire him he-throws which is greatly ablaze
ke de carbons fu tos acovetés;
so-that with coals he-was all covered
en petit d'eure fu tos ars et brulés.
in little of-hour he-was all burned and consumed
Dist Rainoars: «Chi endroit vos séés.
Said Rainouart Here right you sit

«Mar m'i avés mes gernons alumés,
Ill me-there you-have my mustache kindled
«fiex à putain, mavais garçons provés!
son of whore wicked boy proved
«Qidiés vos dont ne fuise tant osés
Thought you then not I-would-be so-much daring
«ne vos touchasse por Guillame au cort nés?
not you I-would-touch for William with-the short nose
«Voir, si fesise, si fusiés amirés.
Truly so I-would-do so you-were emir
«En est mes peres li fors rois Desramés,
Thereof is my father the strong king Desramé
«ki desous lui en a .XX. corounés
who beneath him thereof has twenty crowned
«et .C. milliers qe Persans qe Esclers.
and a-hundred thousands whether Persians or Slavs
«Si est mes niés Tiebaus, li biaus armés,
So is my nephew Thibaut the fair armed
«li mieudres Turs ki puist estre trovés.
the best Turk who could be found
«Et s'est mes freres Iembus et Persaugués,
And so-is my brother Iembus and Persaugué
«et Clariaus, et Quarriaus, et Outrés,
and Clariau and Quarriau and Outré
«et Malatrous, et Malars, et Maurés,
and Malatrou and Malar and Mauré
«et Miraidiaus et Morgans li faés,
and Miraidiau and Morgan the fay
«ki plus est noirs ke aremens triblés.
who more is black than ink ground

«Mi .XV. frere tot sont roi coronés;
My fifteen brothers all are kings crowned
«n'i a celui n'ait .IIII. roiautés,
not-there is that-one not-has four kingdoms
«fors seul ke moi ki en sui li mains nés.
except only but me who of-them am the least born
«Ce poise moi ke je sui asotés;
That weighs me that I am besotted
«à fol me tienent, je ferai k'asotés.
for fool me they-hold I shall-do as-a-besotted
«Par saint Denis, trop fus desmesurés
By saint Denis too-much thou-wert immoderate
«quant à ma barbe touchastes n'à mon nés.»
when to my beard you-touched nor-to my nose
Adont s'en cort, s'est au bon fu caufés,
Then himself-thence he-runs so-he-is to-the good fire warmed
se grans mustiaus et rostis et tostés.
his great calves both roasted and toasted
Il et ses fus si jurent lés à lés,
He and his wood so lay side by side
car tant fort l'aimme, c'est fine verités,
for so-much greatly it-he-loves it-is pure truth
k'il nel dounast por .IIII. roiautés.
that-he not-it would-give for four kingdoms
[Ains que del jor aparust la clartés,
Before that of-the day appeared the brightness
li autre keus dont laiens ot asés]
the other cooks of-whom in-there there-were enough
voient le maistre ki est ou fu jetés;
see the master who is into-the fire thrown

en fuies tornent, n'en i est nus remés,
into flights they-turn not-thence there is any remained
droit à Guillame es les vos tos alés.
straight to William behold them you all gone
«Sire Guillames, font il, or entendés:
Lord William say they now hear
«Rainouars a vostre keu escaudés.
Rainouart has your cook scalded
«Dedens le fu est très ersoir rués,
Within the fire he-is right last-night thrown
«et char et os tout en cendre brulés;
both flesh and bones all into ash burned
«ja vos mangiers n'ert par nos conraés.
ever your food not-will-be by us prepared
«As vis déables soit ses cors commandés!
To-the living devils be his body commended
«Ne gardons l'eure k'i nous ait afrontés
Not we-await the-hour that-he us have bruised
«à cel tinel ki est grans et quarrés.
with that cudgel which is great and square
«Tos en seroit .I. cevaus encombrés;
Wholly thereby would-be a horse burdened
«pléust à Dieu k'i fust tos decopés,
would-it-please to God that-he were all cut-to-pieces
«et il méismes en la mer afondrés.
and he himself in the sea sunk
«Se il vit longes, il fera mal assés,
If he lives long he will-do ill enough
«car teus déables ne fu onqes mais nés;
for such devil not was ever more born

«Diex nos en gart, ki en crois fu penés!»
God us thereof keep who on cross was tormented
Li quens Guillames s'en est ris et gabés,
The count William himself-thereof is laughed and mocked
et dist as keus: «Dès or mais vos gardés
and said to-the cooks From now more you guard
«ke il n'i soit escarnis ne gabés;
that he not-there be scorned nor mocked
«mien ensientre, [bien tost] le comperrés.
to-my knowing very soon it you-will-pay-for
«Comment diable! je ne sui si osés
How devil I not am so daring
«ke jel desdie, et vos le ramprosnés!»
that I-it refuse and you him mock
Dist à Guiborc: «Dame, car i alés;
He-said to Guibourc Lady so there go
«en cele cambre ot vos le m'amenés.»
into that chamber with you him to-me-bring
Dist la comtesse: «Si com vos commandés.»
Said the countess So as you command
Par le palais en est li cris levés
Through the palace thereof is the cry raised
ke Rainouars, ki tant est forsenés,
that Rainouart who so-much is mad
a ars le keu ki tant ert bien senés.
has burned the cook who so-much was well wise
Quant François l'oent, es les vos esfréés;
When French it-hear behold them you frightened
trestot s'en espauentent.
all themselves-thereof are-terrified

Guibourc Arms Rainouart

II

Guibourc brings Rainouart to her chamber and asks about his kin; he names a king and a fair sister and falls silent, and her heart tells her he is her brother. She arms him in her uncle Tornefier's hauberk and girds on him Corsuble's sword, which he scorns. At dinner he comes from the kitchen with a stuffed swan's neck; the knights cannot move his cudgel, which he lifts, and he boasts he will beat the Saracens.

Dame Guibors s'en va en la quisine;
Lady Guibourc herself-thence goes into the kitchen
Rainouart trueve gisant, barbe sovine.
Rainouart she-finds lying beard upturned
Son tinel ot couchié desous s'eschine,
His cudgel he-had laid beneath his-spine
ke il amoit plus ke vallés meschine.
that he loved more than youth maiden
Dame Guibors fu molt de france orine;
Lady Guibourc was very of noble origin
s'asiet lés lui, belement le doctrine:
she-sits beside him gently him she-instructs
«Venés ent, frere, en ma cambre perine;
Come away brother into my chamber of-stone
«je vos donrai mon pelichon ermine,
I you shall-give my cloak of-ermine
«et si arés mantel de sebeline,
and so you-will-have mantle of sable
«puis me dirés auqes de vo covine.
then me you-will-tell somewhat of your condition
— Volentiers voir, comtesse palasine.
Willingly truly countess palatine

«Cil pautonier sont de molt pute orine;
Those knaves are of very base origin
«je ne gart l'eure k'en face desepline.»
I not await the-hour that-of-them I-make punishment
Dedens sa cambre l'en maine la roïne,
Within her chamber him leads the queen
et Rainouars son tinel en traïne.
and Rainouart his cudgel thereof drags
Franchois l'esgardent de la sale perine;
French him-watch from the hall of-stone
dist l'uns à l'autre: «Véés, por sainte Eline,
said the-one to the-other See by saint Helen
«com Rainouars samble male racine;
how Rainouart seems bad root
«ja mangeroit .II. paons et .I. cinne.»
soon he-would-eat two peacocks and one swan
Rainouars tient son tinel de sapine,
Rainouart holds his cudgel of fir
en la cambre entre ensamble la roïne;
into the chamber he-enters together-with the queen
andoi s'asisent par deseur la cortine.
both themselves-sat up on the curtain
Riche est la cambre et bien painte marbrine;
Rich is the chamber and well painted of-marble
li solaus luist par dedens la verrine.
the sun shines through within the glass
Guibors fu sage de la loi sarrasine.
Guibourc was wise in the law Saracen

«Rainouars, frere, dist ele, or adevine
Rainouart brother said she now guess
«s'onqes éus suer, frere ne cosine.»
if-ever you-had sister brother or cousin
Dist Rainouars: «Oïl, vers la marine
Said Rainouart Yes toward the sea
«si ai .I. roi et une suer cosine;
so I-have one king and a sister cousin
«ainc n'ot si sage dusqe as pors de Cambrine,
ever not-was-there so wise as-far-as to-the passes of Cambrine
«et s'est plus bele ke fée ne serine.»
and so-she-is more fair than fay or siren
Adont se taist et tient la chiere encline.
Then himself he-falls-silent and holds the face bowed
Et Guibors ouevre son mantel de porprine,
And Guibourc opens her mantle of purple
se l'afubla, car ses cuers li destine,
so him-she-wrapped for her heart her foretells
car chou estoit ses freres.
for this was her brother

Li quens Guillames fait haster son mangier,
The count William makes hasten his meal
car en l'Archant se vaurra repairier.
for into the-Archamp himself he-will-wish to-return
Li jors est biaus, si prist à esclairier.
The day is fair so it-took to brighten
Dont se leverent par l'ost li cevallier;
Then themselves rose through the-host the knights

la messe oïrent li pluseur au mostier,
the mass heard the most at-the minster
puis s'en monterent haut el palais plenier.
then themselves-thence they-mounted high into-the palace full
Li quens Guillames a fait par l'ost nonchier
The count William has made through the-host announce
après disner pensent de l'esploitier,
after dinner they-think of the-pressing-on
en Alischans s'en vaurra repairier.
into Aliscans himself-thence he-will-wish to-return
Dont véissiés Franchois apareillier,
Then you-would-have-seen French make-ready
les seles metre et torser maint somier.
the saddles put and pack many-a sumpter
En Gloriete fu Guibors au vis fier,
In Gloriette was Guibourc with-the face proud
en une cambre ki molt fait à prisier.
in a chamber which much makes to praise
Rainouart prist forment à losengier,
Rainouart she-took greatly to flatter
samblant li fist com sel vausist baisier,
semblance him she-made as if-him she-wished to-kiss
molt belement le prist à asraisnier:
very gently him she-took to address
«Amis, d'ont estes? [nel] me devés noier.
Friend from-where you-are not-it me you-must deny

— Dame, dist il, nel vos voiel acointier
Lady said he not-it you I-wish to-make-known
«dusqe à cel'eure ke [j'ere] au reparier
until to that-hour that I-shall-be at-the return
«de la bataille et de l'estor plenier;
from the battle and from the-battle full
«car, [se] Dieu plaist, [le verai] justicier,
for if God pleases him I-shall-see brought-to-justice
«je [i] vaurrai Guillame molt aidier.»
I there shall-wish William much to-help
Dame Guibors nel vaut plus araisnier;
Lady Guibourc not-him wished more to-address
un escrin va molt tost deverillier,
a chest she-goes very soon to-unlock
si en traist fors .I. blanc hauberc doublier
so thereof she-draws out a white hauberk double-meshed
ki fu son oncle l'amirant Tornefier.
which was (of-)her uncle the-emir Tornefier
D'or et d'argent estoient li quartier;
Of-gold and of-silver were the quarters
par tel maniere fu serrés au forgier
in such manner it-was closed at-the forging
ne crient cop d'arme vaillisant .I. denier;
not it-fears blow of-weapon worth a penny
ki l'a vestu ne doute meshaignier.
who it-has put-on not fears to-be-maimed
Puis en ataint .I. dur capel d'acier;
Then thereof she-reaches a hard cap of-steel
n'a sous [c]iel arme ki le peust enpirier.
not-there-is under heaven weapon which it could harm

Puis prist .I. branc dont li poins est d'acier;
Then she-took a blade of-which the pommel is of-steel
une grant toise i puet on enbrachier,
a great fathom there can one embrace
s'ot plaine pame de lé à .I. bouier.
so-it-had full palm of width at a boss
Plus trence fer ke faus ne fait erbier;
More it-cuts iron than scythe — does meadow
encontre lui n'a nule arme mestier.
against it not-has any weapon use
El fu Corsuble, le neveu Haucebier;
It was (of-)Corsuble the nephew (of-)Haucebier
puis le douna à Guiborc la moillier
then it he-gave to Guibourc the wife
por une plaie, n'en vaut autre loier.
for a wound not-thereof he-wished other reward
Or l'aura ciex qui ele aimme et tient chier,
Now it-will-have he whom she loves and holds dear
c'est Rainouars au vrai corage entier.
it-is Rainouart with-the true courage whole
Dame Guibors fait forment à prosier;
Lady Guibourc makes greatly to praise
à Rainouart est revenue arier,
to Rainouart she-is returned back
cortoisement le prist à asraisnier.
courteously him she-took to address
«Amis, dist ele, saurés armes baillier?
Friend said she will-you-know arms to-handle
«Caint ceste espée à ton flanc senestrier;
Gird this sword at thy flank left

«mestier t'aura, se tu t'en sés aidier.»
use it-will-have-for-thee if thou thyself-thereof knowest help
Rainoars prist le branc forbi d'acier,
Rainouart took the blade furbished of-steel
trait l'a dou fuerre, si le senti legier
drawn it-he-has from-the sheath so it he-felt light
[jeta le à] terre, si le rueve estoier.
he-threw it to earth so it he-bids sheathe
«Dame, dist il, ceste ne m'a mestier;
Lady said he this not to-me-has use
«de teus .XL. ne donroie .I. denier.
of such forty not I-would-give a penny
«Par saint Denis à qui je doi proier,
By saint Denis to whom I must pray
«puis ke tenrai as .II. mains mon levi[e]r,
after that I-shall-hold in-the two hands my lever
«n'i a paien [tant se doie] prisier,
not-there is pagan so-much himself may prize
«se jo l'ataing parmi l'elme vergier,
if I him-reach through the-helmet gemmed
«k'à .I. seul cop ne l'estuet trebuchier;
that-at one single blow not him-behooves to-tumble
«se je n'oci et lui et le destrier,
if I not-kill both him and the charger
«jamais Guillames ne me doinst à mangier.»
ever William not me may-give to eat
Ot le Guibors, si le cort enbrachier;
Hears it Guibourc so him she-runs to-embrace
molt par [en] a grant joie.
very greatly thereof she-has great joy

Dame Guibors fait forment à loer.
Lady Guibourc makes greatly to praise
Rainouart voit de devant lui ester,
Rainouart she-sees from before her stand
molt le voit grant, molt fu biaus baceler,
very him she-sees great very he-was fair youth
car il n'avoit en tot le mont son per.
for he not-had in all the world his peer
Li cuers li dist, si le prist à penser
The heart her tells so it she-took to think
ke c'est ses freres, mais nel vaut demander;
that it-is her brother but not-it she-wished to-ask
pitiés l'en prist, si commence à plorer.
pity her-thereof took so she-begins to weep
Dist Rainouars: «Dame, laissiés ester;
Said Rainouart Lady let be
«car, par la foi ke je vos doi porter,
for by the faith that I you must bear
«ne vos convient de Guillame douter
not you behooves for William to-fear
«tant com entiers puist mes tinés durer.
so-long as whole may my cudgel last
— Amis, dist ele, Jesus te puist saver!
Friend said she Jesus thee may save
«Hom nus sans armes puet molt petit durer;
Man naked without arms can very little last
«puis ke ce vient en estor au capler,
after that this comes in battle at-the hewing
«de molt peu d'armes le puet on mort jeter.
with very little of-arms him can one dead cast

«Mais or vos voiel encor[e] demander
But now you I-wish again to-ask
«ke tu me sueffres ton cors à adouber;
that thou me allowest thy body to arm
«à tosjors mais te vaurrai plus amer.»
for always more thee I-shall-wish more to-love
Dist Rainouars: «Ne le te quir véer.»
Said Rainouart Not it thee I-seek to-refuse
Guibors li va le hauberc endoser.
Guibourc him goes the hauberk to-put-on
Molt par fu grans, en l'ost n'avoit son per,
Very greatly it-was great in the-host not-it-had its peer
en la largece puet .II. hommes entrer,
in the width can two men enter
quarriaus ne lance n'en puet maaille fauser.
bolt nor lance not-thereof can mail pierce
Desos sa cote le fist si enforrer
Beneath his coat him she-made so line
ke on n'i puet de jor maaille mirer.
that one not-there can by day mail see
La coife lace, puis mist le capeler;
The coif she-laces then she-put the cap
à .XV. las li va Guibors fremer;
with fifteen laces him goes Guibourc to-fasten
après le fist si bien envoleper
afterward him she-made so well wrap
com .I. capel de feutre acoveter;
as a cap of felt to-cover
mais la ventaille ne li vaut pas noer,
but the ventail not him she-wished at-all to-tie

s'il a mestier, por le miex essoufler,
if-he has need for the better to-breathe
et ke delivres en puist li ber aler.
and that free thereof may the baron go
Chaint li l'espée ke molt fait à loer;
She-girds him the-sword which much makes to praise
fers ne aciers ne li puet contrester.
iron nor steel not it can withstand
D'un las de soie fait le fuerre fermer
With-a lace of silk she-makes the sheath fasten
à l'espauliere, por le branc fors jeter.
at the-shoulder-piece for the blade out to-throw
Puis li commence belement à mostrer
Then him she-begins gently to show
ke, se il voit le sien tinel quasser,
that if he sees the his cudgel break
au branc d'acier porroit il recovrer;
to-the blade of-steel could he recover
mais ce gart bien nel mece en oublier.
but this he-keep well not-it he-put in forgetting
Dist Rainouars: «Bien m'en saurai garder.»
Said Rainouart Well myself-thereof I-shall-know guard
Quant Rainouars se senti si armer,
When Rainouart himself felt so armed
plus se fait fier ke lions ne sangler;
more himself he-makes proud than lion or boar
son tinel prist, n'i vaut plus demorer:
his cudgel he-took not-there he-wished more to-stay
«Dame, dist il, or me laissiés aler.
Lady said he now me let go

— Voir, dist Guibors, bien le voiel créanter.»
Truly said Guibourc well it I-wish to-grant
Ele li cort la cambre desfermer.
She for-him runs the chamber to-unlock
Et Rainouars n'i vaut plus arester,
And Rainouart not-there wished more to-stop
parmi la sale commencha à aler.
through the hall he-began to go
De son [mestier] ne se vaut oublier,
Of his trade not himself he-wished to-forget
vers la quisine commencha à aler,
toward the kitchen he-began to go
l'espée chainte, va le haste torner.
the-sword girded he-goes the spit to-turn
Son tinel drece tot droit à .I. piler.
His cudgel he-raises all straight at a pillar
Ernaus le mostre à son frere Aïmer:
Ernaut him shows to his brother Aïmer
«A grans mervelles fait cis hom à douter;
At great marvels makes this man to fear
«qués [vis] diables porroit à lui durer?
what living devil could against him last
«Mal resamble hom ki car doive escumer;
Ill resembles man who flesh must skim
«bien li avient cis tinés à porter.
well him suits this cudgel to carry
— Voir, dist Guillames, on se vient hui clamer
Truly said William one himself comes today to-complain
«k'il arst ersoir le keu après souper.
that-he burned last-night the cook after supper

— Dehait qui chaut, ce a dit Aïmer.
Ill-luck who cares this has said Aïmer
«Gardent soi mais li autre de gaber,
Let-guard themselves now the others from mocking
«k'il i porront molt tost amescever.»
that-they there could very soon come-to-harm
En Gloriete fist on l'aige soner;
In Gloriette made one the-water sound
cil cevalier s'en alerent laver,
those knights themselves-thence went to-wash
aval ces tables asient au disner;
down these tables they-sit at-the dinner
bien sont servi, n'en estuet [nus] parler.
well they-are served not-thereof behooves any to-speak
Et Rainoars s'en va au fu caufer
And Rainouart himself-thence goes at-the fire to-warm
en la quisine, chaint le branc d'acier cler,
in the kitchen girded the blade of-steel bright
l'auberc vestu, el cief le capeler.
the-hauberk donned on-the head the cap
Son tinel drece par dalés .I. piler;
His cudgel he-raises right beside a pillar
bien resambloit forestier por enbler
well he-resembled forester for to-steal
ki ait sa bice prise por acorer.
who may-have his hind taken for to-slaughter
Quant li keu voient venir le baceler,
When the cooks see come the youth
en fuies tornent, n'i osent demorer,
into flights they-turn not-there they-dare stay

tout le foier li ont fait delivrer,
all the hearth him they-have made to-clear
tant forment le douterent.
so-much greatly him they-feared

En la quisine s'en entra Rainouars;
In the kitchen himself-thence entered Rainouart
assés i trueve [et] grues et mallars,
enough there he-finds both cranes and mallards
et venison, poison, saumons et bars.
and venison fish salmons and basses
Il en a pris à mangier des plus cras,
He thereof has taken to eat of-the most fat
et si huma de saveur plain .I. vas;
and so he-gulped of sauce full a vessel
le col d'un cinne a pris, ki estoit fars
the neck of-a swan he-has taken which was stuffed
d'ues et de poivre et de pieches de cars.
with-eggs and with pepper and with pieces of meats
Son tinel prist desous son destre bras,
His cudgel he-took beneath his right arm
de la quisine en ist plus qe le pas;
from the kitchen thence he-goes-out more than the pace
por la saveur se lece comme chas.
for the sauce himself he-licks like cat
Plus se fait fier ke lions ne lupars,
More himself he-makes proud than lion or leopard
vient à la table, ne fu mie couars,
he-comes to the table not he-was at-all coward

devant Guillame asist le mes eu bas.
before William he-set the dish down low
Franchois le voient, s'en demainent leur gas;
French him see so-thereof they-carry-on their jests
de .XV. pars li tendent leur hanas,
from fifteen sides him they-hold-out their goblets
boire li font à fuison et à tas.
drink him they-make in plenty and in heaps
En mi leur sale, ki fu faite à compas,
In amid their hall which was made by compass
mist son tinel, ke de boire fu las.
he-put his cudgel for of drinking he-was weary
De la table ist Aïmers et Bernars,
From the table goes-out Aïmer and Bernard
Ernaus li rous, et Guibers d'Andernas;
Ernaut the red and Guibert of-Andernas
au tinel vienent, s'i asaient leur bras,
to-the cudgel they-come so-there they-try their arms
mais [nel méussent] por tot l'or de Baudas,
but not-it they-would-have-moved for all the-gold of Baghdad
et ciex le lieve ki paiens n'ama pas.
and he it lifts who pagans not-loved at-all
Dient François: «Tu es .I. Satanas;
Say French Thou art a Satan
«se tu bien veus, tot le mont conquerras.
if thou well wishest all the world thou-wilt-conquer
— Par saint Denis, signeur, dist Rainouars,
By saint Denis lords said Rainouart

«(ne sai se estes de Paris ou d'Arras)
not I-know if you-are of Paris or of-Arras
«se Diex me save mon tinel et mes bras,
if God me save my cudgel and my arms
«les Sarrasins quit jo faire tos mas,
the Saracens think I to-make all checkmated
«et morir à grant honte.» 4645
and to-die at great shame

The Forgotten Cudgel

III

Rainouart twirls the cudgel William can barely lift. The army sets out; he forgets it; William sends Guy back, and seven sergeants load it on a cart. He pulls it off, killing the shaft-horse. At camp he sleeps in the kitchen, wakes after the host has gone to find the lodge burning, and runs back for the cudgel. Before Aliscans William sends the cowards home; Rainouart meets them at a bridge, kills many, and leads them back.

Li quens Guillames se leva dou mangier;
The count William himself rose from-the eating
l'ost commanda molt tost apareillier.
the-host he-commanded very soon to-make-ready
Au tinel corent cil baron cevalier,
To-the cudgel run those barons knights
mais nel levaissent por la terre trencier.
but not-it they-would-have-lifted for the land to-cut
Li quens Guillames s'i ala asaier, 4650
The count William himself-there went to-try
mais ains nel peut ke plai[n] pié sus haucier,
but ever not-it he-could but full foot up raise

et se li fist d'ahan le front moillier.
and so him it-made with-toil the brow wet
Dist Rainoars: «Je vos irai aidier.»
Said Rainouart I you shall-go to-help
Il passe avant, çaint ot le brant d'acier,
He passes forward girded he-had the blade of-steel
ki le véist le tinel tost drecier,
who him had-seen the cudgel soon raise
entor sa teste jeter et tornoier,
around his head throw and twirl
de l'une main en l'autre paumoier
from the-one hand into the-other handle
et contremont lever et abasier!
and upward lift and lower
Si le manoie com aloe esprevier;
So it he-handles as lark sparrowhawk
ne li pesoit le rain d'un olivier.
not him weighed the branch of-an olive-tree
A .I. piler s'est alés apoier.
On a pillar himself-is gone to-lean
«Voir, dist Guillames, molt devés bien mangier
Truly said William very you-must well eat
«bien ait li bras ki porte tel levier.»
well have the arm which carries such lever
Dist Rainoars: «Trop poons delaier;
Said Rainouart Too-much we-can delay
«paien s'en fuient, or tost dou cevauchier!
pagans themselves-thence flee now quick to-the riding
«Forment me criem ne les puisse acointier.
Greatly myself I-fear not them I-may encounter

«Se je pooie mon tinel apoier
If I could my cudgel lean
«et à la cirre ma grant force essaier,
and at the onrush my great strength test
«je n'en donroie por .V^{m}. .I. denier,
I not-thereof would-give for five-thousand a penny
«en petit d'eure ferai le canp vuidier.» 4670
in little of-hour I-shall-make the field empty
Guillames l'ot, si le cort enbracier;
William him-hears so him he-runs to-embrace
lors ses cors fait souner et grailoier.
then his horns he-makes sound and blow
Li os s'atorne sans plus de detrier;
The host itself-makes-ready without more of delay
tot sont carchié et ronchi et somier;
all are loaded both nags and sumpters
à la campaigne les véissiés rengier. 4675
on the plain them you-would-have-seen range
Li quens Guillames va monter el destrier,
The count William goes to-mount on-the charger
et Rainoars li corut à l'estrier.
and Rainouart to-him ran at the-stirrup
Toutes ses armes portent si escuier.
All his arms carry his squires
Au departir ala Guiborc baisier;
At-the parting he-went Guibourc to-kiss
atant s'en torne li marcis au vis fier, 4680
then himself-thence turns the marquis with-the face proud
et Rainoars, ki tant fait à prisier.
and Rainouart who so-much makes to praise

Dame Guibors s'est alée apoier
Lady Guibourc herself-is gone to-lean
en Gloriete, le palais droiturier;
in Gloriette the palace rightful
à le campaigne voit les conrois rengier,
on the plain she-sees the troops range
tante baniere onder et baloier,
so-many-a banner wave and flutter
et tant vert elme reluire et flamboier,
and so-many-a green helmet shine and blaze
et tante targe, tant escu à ormier,
and so-many-a targe so-many-a shield with pure-gold
tant auferrant et tant corant destrier,
so-many-a war-horse and so-many-a running charger
s'ot ces cevaus henir et braidonier;
so-she-heard these horses neigh and whinny
de Dieu de gloire les commence à sengnier.
by God of glory them she-begins to bless
Mais Rainoars fu molt mal engingnié;
But Rainouart was very ill beguiled
por la grant haste oublia son levier.
for the great haste he-forgot his lever
Ainc de Guillame ne se vaut eslongier;
Ever from William not himself he-wished to-go-far
si com ce vient à .I. tertre puier,
so as this comes to a hill to-climb
li quens Guillames le prist à asraisnier:
the count William him took to address
«Rainoars frere, ù'st vos fus de sapier?
Rainouart brother where-is your shaft of fir

«Volés vos dont vostre tinel laissier?»
Wish you then your cudgel to-leave
Rainoars l'ot, n'ot en lui k'aïrier.
Rainouart it-hears not-was in him but-to-grow-angry
Ki le véist ses ceveus esrachier,
Who him had-seen his hairs tear-out
por son tinel plorer et larmoier, 4700
for his cudgel weep and shed-tears
l'un poing en l'autre et ferir et maillier!
the-one fist into the-other both strike and hammer
Dist à Guillame: «Ne m'avés gaires chier
Said to William Not me-you-have much dear
«quant mon tinel me laisiés oublier.
when my cudgel me you-let forget
«Par saint Denis à qui je doi proier,
By saint Denis to whom I must pray
«s'il i remaint, ne le vos quir noier, 4705
if-it there remains not it you I-seek to-deny
«ja vos espées ne vos aront mestier,
ever your swords not you will-have use
«ne ces lancetes, ne cil espiel d'acier.
nor these little-lances nor these spears of-steel
«Bien veus ta gent traïr et enginier
Well thou-wishest thy people to-betray and deceive
«quant mon tinel veus arire laissier.»
when my cudgel thou-wishest behind to-leave
Et dist Guillames: «Ne vos chaut larmoier; 4710
And said William Not you matters weep

«jel manderai par cest mien escuier
I-it shall-send by this my squire
«c'on le vos face après vos charoier;
that-one it you make after you cart
«ja por ichou mar tornerés arier.»
ever for this ill you-will-turn back
[Il i] envoie Guion, le fil Fouchier.
He there sends Guy the son (of-)Fouchier
Guiborc trova, la comtesse au vis fier
Guibourc he-found the countess with-the face proud
ki dou tinel faisoit .I. duel entier.
who for-the cudgel made a grief whole
«Dame, dist Guis, on me fait repairier
Lady said Guy one me makes return
«por cel tinel qui Diex puist pechoier.
for that cudgel which God may break-to-pieces
— Non face, frere, dist Guibors au vis fier;
Not may-be-do brother said Guibourc with-the face proud
«del retorner auras molt bon loier.»
for-the returning thou-wilt-have very good reward
Ele li done .I. auferrant corsier.
She him gives a war-horse swift
«Dame, dist Guis, che fait à merchier.»
Lady said Guy this makes to thank
Au tinel vint, qui gist ens el foier,
To-the cudgel he-came which lies in in-the hearth
joste le fu, ens en .I. grant brasier.
beside the fire in in a great blaze
Et dist Guibors: «Je vous irai aidier.»
And said Guibourc I you shall-go to-help

Vient au tinel, prist soi à rebrachier;
She-comes to-the cudgel she-took herself to tuck-up-her-sleeves
mais entre aus .II. nel porent manoier.
but between them two not-it they-could handle
.VII. sergans fait apeler et huchier,
Seven sergeants she-makes call and summon
ki trestot furent au tinel encharcier.
who all were at-the cudgel to-load
D'un auferrant a fait Guis limonier,
Of-a war-horse has made Guy shaft-horse
et .II. ronchis i ot et .I. somier
and two nags there were and a sumpter
por tost aler et por miex esploitier;
for soon to-go and for better to-press-on
après Guillame l'en ont fait charoier.
after William it-thence they-have made cart
On avoit fait toute l'ost atargier;
One had made all the-host wait
en Rainoart nen ot k'esléechier
in Rainouart not-was-there but to-rejoice
quant son tinel voit retorner arier.
when his cudgel he-sees return back
Encontre va le trait d'un arc manier,
To-meet-it he-goes the shot of-a bow hand
de la charete le corut esracier
from the cart it he-ran to-tear-away
si roidement ke tout fist trebuchier,
so stiffly that all he-made tumble
au limounier fist le col [pechoier].
to-the shaft-horse he-made the neck break

Après Guillame s'en cort tout .I. sentier;
After William himself-thence he-runs all a path
ne li pesoit le rain d'un olivier;
not him weighed the branch of-an olive-tree
tant par va tost ne se tenist levrier.
so-much greatly he-goes fast not himself would-keep greyhound
Nus piés estoit, n'ot cauce ne cauchier.
Bare feet he-was not-he-had hose nor shoe
Tout cil kel voient se prendent à saignier.
All those who-him see themselves take to cross
De molt haut'eure fist on l'ost herbergier;
At very high-hour made one the-host lodge
joste .I. larris, par dalés .I. rochier,
beside a heath right beside a rock
isnelement font pavillons fichier.
swiftly they-make pavilions pitch
Quant ont soupé, près fu de l'anuitier;
When they-have supped near it-was to the-nightfall
en la quisine va Rainouars couchier
into the kitchen goes Rainouart to-lie
joste le fu, dalés .I. grant brasier.
beside the fire beside a great blaze
De son tinel a fait son oreillier;
Of his cudgel he-has made his pillow
adont [s'en]dort à aise.
then himself-thence-sleeps at ease

Les .I. vergier fu li os atravée,
Beside an orchard was the host encamped
joste .I. larris, en une grant valée.
beside a heath in a great valley
Li quens Ernaus l'a cele nuit gardée
The count Ernaut it-has that night guarded
et sa compaigne dusqe à la matinée.
and his company until to the morning
Devant le jor font corner la menée;
Before the day they-make horn the march
Franchois s'aprestent de la terre savée.
French themselves-make-ready from the land saved
La véissiés tante broingne endosée,
There you-would-have-seen so-many-a byrnie donned
lacier tant elme et çaindre tante espée.
lace so-many-a helmet and gird so-many-a sword
Tant bon destrier, à la crupe tieulée,
So-many-a good charger with the rump tiled
serré cevaucent quant l'aube fu crevée.
close-packed they-ride when the-dawn was broken
Sonent chil graille par molt grant alenée.
Sound those bugles by very great breath
Biaus fu li jors, bele est la matinée,
Fair was the day fair is the morning
des armes est la terre estincelée.
with-the arms is the land sparkling
Rainoars dort au fu, pance levée;
Rainouart sleeps at-the fire belly raised

ains fu li os demie lieue alée
before was the host half league gone
k'il s'esvillast dalés la ceminée,
that-he himself-awoke beside the hearth
et s'iert la loge desous lui enbrasée.
and so-was the lodge beneath him ablaze
Il saili sus quant senti la fumée,
He leapt up when he-felt the smoke
quant voit sa loge esprise et embrasée,
when he-sees his lodge caught and ablaze
après l'ost cort, ki s'en estoit alée;
after the-host he-runs which itself-thence was gone
ains k'i l'ataigne aura sa chars suée.
before that-he it-reach will-have his flesh sweated
Ja est alés bien près d'une lieuée
Already he-is gone well near of-a league
quant ses tineus li revient en pensée;
when his cudgel to-him comes-back in thought
por chou racort de molt grant randonée,
for this he-runs-back with very great rush
dou fu le trait; n'i a coste enarsée,
from-the fire it he-draws not-there is side burned
fors un petit fu cascune brulée;
except a little was each burned
or est plus dure qe englume temprée.
now it-is more hard than anvil tempered
Après l'ost cort à molt grant randonée.
After the-host he-runs with very great rush
Un val avale, s'a un tertre montée,
A valley he-descends so-he-has a hill climbed

Aliscans voient et toute la contrée,
Aliscans they-see and all the country
et de paiens si grant ost assamblée
and of pagans so great host assembled
qe grans .V. lieues est la terre peuplée.
that great five leagues is the land peopled
De nostre gent i ot molt esfréé[e].
Of our people there were very frightened
Li quens Guillames voit l'ost espaontée,
The count William sees the-host terrified
des couars set le cuer et le pensée,
of-the cowards he-knows the heart and the thought
fiere raison leur a dite et mostrée:
proud speech them he-has said and shown
«Signer, vos estes molt près de la mellée
Lords you are very near to the melee
«de tel bataille ki molt est redoutée;
of such battle which very is dreaded
«onqes ne fu plus orible esgardée.
ever not was more horrible beheld
«Bien convenra maintenier à jornée;
Well it-will-behoove to-hold-out at day's-work
«ki couardise a en son cuer pensée
who cowardice has in his heart thought
«voist s'ent arire sans point de demorée:
let-him-go himself-thence back without any of delay
«Congié li doins k'il voist en sa contrée.»
Leave him I-give that-he go into his country
Cele parole as couars molt agrée;
That word to-the cowards very pleases

des hardis ont la compaigne sevrée,
from-the bold they-have the company severed
plus de .Xᵐ. ont fait la retornée.
more than ten-thousand have made the return
Mal soit de l'eure ke itel gent fu née!
Ill be of the-hour that such folk was born
Molt s'en vont tost à grant esperonée;
Very themselves-thence they-go fast at great spurring
mais il aront anqui male saudée.
but they will-have today bad pay
Rainoars a cele gent encontrée
Rainouart has that folk met
à .I. destroit d'une roche cavée,
at a narrow-pass of-a rock hollowed
devant une aige, à .I. poncel de clée.
before a water at a little-bridge of hurdles
Quida ke fuisent de la gent desfaée
He-thought that they-were of the folk faithless
ki de l'estor soit fuie et enblée.
who from the-battle may-be fled and stolen-away
Dont quida bien avoir borse trovée;
Then he-thought well to-have purse found
en son cuer en ot joie.
in his heart thereof he-had joy

Rainouars a les couars encontrés
Rainouart has the cowards met
en mi .I. val, à .I. poncel passer.
in amid a valley at a little-bridge to-cross

Quant Rainouars les voit tous arouter,
When Rainouart them sees all in-a-rout
quida ke fussent Sarrasin ou Escler;
he-thought that they-were Saracens or Slavs
ne fust si liés por .I. mui d'or comblé.
not he-was so glad for a measure of-gold heaped
Il commencha leur armes à mirer;
He began their arms to look-at
adont seut bien Rainouars sans douter
then knew well Rainouart without doubt
crestien sont ki n'osent demorer
Christians they-are who not-dare stay
et k'il de l'ost se vausisent enbler.
and that-they from the-host themselves wished to-steal-away
Le tinel lieve, devant aus va ester;
The cudgel he-raises before them he-goes to-stand
miex leur venist le déable encontrer.
better them would-have-come the devil to-meet
Dist Rainouars: «Où devés vos aler?»
Said Rainouart Where must you go
Et cil li dient: «En France sejorner;
And those him say In France to-dwell
«tous nos a fait li quens congié doner.
all us has made the count leave give
«S'en no paiis nos poons retorner,
If-to our country we can return
«là nos ferons baignier et ventoser;
there us we-shall-make bathe and cup

«bons vins avons et bons poisons de mer
good wines we-have and good fishes of sea
«et bons castiaus por nos cors deporter.
and good castles for our bodies to-divert
«Onqes Guillames ne fist fors gent pener,
Ever William not made except folk suffer
«maint homme a fait à grant dolor finer.
many-a man has made at great grief end
«Vin t'ent ot nos, molt par feras ke ber;
Come thee-thence with us much greatly thou-wilt-do as baron
«nos te ferons cel grant tinel porter.»
we thee shall-make that great cudgel carry
Dist Rainouars: «D'el vos convient parler.
Said Rainouart Of-else you behooves to-speak
«Li quens Guillames m'a fait l'ost commander,
The count William me-has made the-host command
«et je li doi à mon pooir garder;
and I him must to my power guard
«il vos convient le passage doner.
it you behooves the passage to-give
«Quidé me vos comme lievre escaper?
Thought me you like hare to-escape
«Par saint Denis, vos n'en poés aler;
By saint Denis you not-thence can go
«ains en ferai .[X]IIII^{xx}. pasmer
rather thereof I-shall-make fourteen-score swoon
«et par les bouces fors les armes jeter.
and through the mouths out the souls throw
«Fil à putain, vos n'osés demorer!»
Son of whore you not-dare stay

Le tinel lieve, devant aus vint ester
The cudgel he-raises before them he-came to-stand
hardiement, nes daigna redouter;
boldly not-them he-deigned fear
parmi les testes leur va grans cos doner.
through the heads them he-goes great blows to-give
Au prumier cop en fist .V. craventer,
At-the first blow thereof he-made five crash-down
et après .VI. trestout escerveler.
and after six utterly brain
Sou siel n'a home c'à ses cos puit durer;
Under heaven not-is-there man who-at his blows can last
plus de .L. en fist mors reverser.
more than fifty thereof he-made dead overturn
Li couart fuient, ne l'osent abiter,
The cowards flee not him-they-dare approach
plus le redoutent ke lion ne sangler.
more him they-dread than lion or boar
Le miex vaillant fait devant lui tranler.
The most valiant he-makes before him tremble
A haute vois commencent à crier:
At high voice they-begin to cry
«Rainoars, sire, o toi irons capler
Rainouart lord with thee we-shall-go to-hew
«en la bataille, en Alischans sor mer;
in the battle in Aliscans upon sea
«ne te faurons por les menbres coper,
not thee we-shall-fail for the limbs to-cut
«à ton plaisier nos pues partout mener.»
at thy pleasure us thou-canst everywhere lead

Dist Rainouars: «Or vos oi [ge] parler;
Said Rainouart Now you hear I speak
«fiex de roi sui, si doi bien commander
son of king I-am so I-must well command
«et grant orguel et fierté demener.»
and great pride and fierceness display
Dont commencha son tinel à branler.
Then he-began his cudgel to brandish
Tos les mavais a fait acheminer,
All the bad-ones he-has made set-out
par droite force les fist tos retorner,
by right force them he-made all return
desci k'à l'ost ne se vaut arester.
until that-to the-host not himself he-wished to-stop
Vient à Guillame, .I. don li va rouver,
He-comes to William a gift him he-goes to-ask
ke les couars li lait ot lui guier:
that the cowards him he-let with him lead
«Cascun ferai hardi comme sengler,
Each I-shall-make bold like boar
«et sa proece, ou voielle ou non, mostrer.
and his prowess whether he-wish or not show
— Voir, dist Guillames, bien le voiel créanter;
Truly said William well it I-wish to-grant
«Rainoars sire, ne t'os rien refuser.»
Rainouart lord not thee-I-dare anything refuse
François commencent les couars à gaber.
French begin the cowards to mock
Dist Rainoars: «Ma gent laissiés ester;
Said Rainouart My people let be

«car, par la foi ke doi [Guiborc] porter,
for by the faith that I-owe Guibourc to-bear
«[la fame] el mont qui je doi plus amer,
the woman in-the world whom I must most love
«ki en sa cambre me chainst [ier] cest branc cler,
who in her chamber me girded yesterday this blade bright
«se vos me faites envers vos aïrer,
if you me make toward you grow-angry
«je vos irai de cest tinel doner; 4875
I you shall-go with this cudgel to-give
«tout le plus haut ke j'oi ensi vanter
all the most high that I-heard thus boast
«ne li prendra [ja] talens de chanter.
not him will-take ever desire of singing
«Fiex de roi sui, si doi firté mener,
Son of king I-am so I-must fierceness show
«or mais vaurai ma force demostrer;
now more I-shall-wish my strength to-show
«trop longement m'ai laissié asoter. 4880
too long me-I-have let play-the-fool
«Dehait ait fruis qui ne veut méurer
Ill-luck have fruit which not wishes to-ripen
«et honis soit ki n'a soing d'amender.
and shamed be who not-has care to-amend
«Nés sui de rois, bien m'en doit ramembrer;
Born I-am of kings well me-thereof must remember
«li bons se prueve, sovent l'oï conter.»
the good-man himself proves often it-I-heard tell
Quant François oent Rainoart si parler, 4885
When French hear Rainouart so speak

n'i ot si cointe qi osast mot soner;
not-there was so bold who dared word sound
li uns à l'autre le commence à conter:
the one to the-other it begins to tell
«Os [cel] déable, com il set sermouner!»
Hear that devil how he knows-how preach
Li quens Guillames fist sa gent ordener
The count William made his people order
et ses batailles rengier et deviser;
and his battalions range and array
molt belement fist son conroi joster.
very handsomely he-made his troop join
Autresi fisent Sarrasin et Escler,
Likewise did Saracens and Slavs
car bien se peurent d'ans .II. pars remirer.
for well themselves they-could from-both two sides behold
Là véissiés maint ceval reçaingler
There you-would-have-seen many-a horse re-girth
et l'un por l'autre henir et braidoner,
and the-one for the-other neigh and whinny
et tant ensengne vers le ciel venteler
and so-many-a ensign toward the sky flutter
l'une sor l'autre baloier et venter,
the-one upon the-other wave and blow
indes, vermelles contremont venteler,
blue red upward flutter
et ces busines, ces olifans corner,
and these trumpets these oliphants sound
paiene gent et glatir et usler,
pagan folk both yelp and howl

par la marine ces Beduïns huer;
along the shore these Bedouins hoot
molt demainent grant noise.
much they-raise great noise

The Battle Lines

IV

William orders his battalions under Aimeri and his sons, with Rainouart leading the cowards, now brave. Desramé sees the French host and arms; messengers warn him of William's kin and a young man with a cudgel. The pagan kings array their companies: Haucebier, Hector of Salorie, Sinagon, Maudus of Rames, Baudus, Aiquin, Borel and his fourteen sons, and Desramé's host under Margot. The armies meet with their war-cries, and Baudus turns back Aiquin's routed men.

Sa gent ordene Guillames li marchis
His people orders William the marquis
et ses batailles fist totes par devis.
and his battalions he-made all by array
Rainouars ot les couars, les faillis,
Rainouart had the cowards the failed-ones
mais n'i ot puis si preus ne si hardis.
but not-there was after so worthy nor so bold
.X. mile furent, tant en i ot d'eslis;
Ten thousand they-were so-many thereof there were of-chosen
n'i ot .I. seul ne soit d'armes garnis.
not-there was one alone not be with-arms furnished
Aveuc Guillame fu ses pere Aimeris;
With William was his father Aimeri
en sa compaigne ot X^{m}. fervestis.
in his company were ten-thousand iron-clad

La tierce [guie] Bueves de Commarchis;
The third leads Beuve of Commarchis
.VII. mile furent à blans haubers trelis,
seven thousand they-were with white hauberks trellised
à nueves targes, as destriers arrabis.
with new targes with-the chargers Arabian
La quarte guie Aïmers li caitis;
The fourth leads Aïmer the captive
.CCCC. furent, tout baceler de pris,
four-hundred they-were all youths of worth
mais n'ont escu ne soit rous et croisis.
but not-they-have shield not be broken and cracked
Leur hauberc [sont] de sueur tous noircis,
Their hauberks are with sweat all blackened
leur elmes quas: n'eurent pas brans forbis.
their helmets broken not-they-had at-all blades furbished
Par maintes fois ont paiens asentis
By many times they-have pagans assailed
dedens Espaigne, à Saint Marc de Venis.
within Spain at Saint Mark of Venice
La quinte esciele ot Bernars li floris,
The fifth company had Bernard the hoary
cil de Brubant, ki tant fu segnoris;
he of Brabant who so-much was lordly
pere ert Bertran, si com dist li escris,
father he-was (of-)Bertrand so as said the writing
ke [paien] tienent [ens] en leur calant pris
whom pagans hold in in their barge captive
aveuc les autres dont il i avoit .VI.
with the others of-whom it there were six

Mais, se Diex save Rainoart le marchis
But if God save Rainouart the marquis
et son tinel, ki est grans et massis,
and his cudgel which is great and massive
nos les aurons ains ke jors soit fenis.
we them shall-have before that day be ended
Aveuc Bernart sont cil de son paiis,
With Bernard are those of his country
.X. mile furent, n'en i ot .I. faintis; 4930
ten thousand they-were not-thereof there was one sluggard
li tomoniers les guie.
the steersman them leads

La siste eskiele Guillames commanda
The sixth company William commanded-to
Ernaut son frere ki bien le guiera,
Ernaut his brother who well it will-lead
ciex de Geronde qui il forment ama.
he of Gironde whom he greatly loved
.X. mile furent ciaus ke li quens mena; 4935
Ten thousand were those that the count led
mainte baniere sus au vent baloia;
many-a banner up in-the wind waved
cascuns s'afice por paiens ne fuira.
each himself-pledges for pagans not he-will-flee
La sesme esciele Guillames baillié a
The seventh company William given has
Guibert sen frere c'Aimeris engendra;
Guibert his brother whom-Aimeri begot

ciex estoit rois et coroune porta.
he was king and crown bore
A .XII. mile li quens sa gent esma.
At twelve thousand the count his people reckoned
Hé Diex! qés freres! Com cascuns [se] prova!
Ah God what brothers How each himself proved
Biaus fu li jors et li tans esclaira;
Fair was the day and the weather brightened
contre le rai maint elme flamboia,
against the ray many-a helmet blazed
li uns cevaus por l'autre henit a,
the one horse for the-other neighed has
sonent cil cor et de chà et de là,
sound those horns both from here and from there
plus de II. lieues l'oïe en ala.
more than two leagues the-hearing thereof went
Li quens Guillames prumerains cevaucha
The count William first rode
sor Folatise, dont li paiens versa.
upon Folatise from-which the pagan tumbled
Dist à ses homnes: «Segneur, or i parra
Said to his men Lords now there will-appear
«ki Vivien hui cest jor vengera
who Vivien today this day will-avenge
«et sor paiens hardiement ferra.
and upon pagans boldly will-strike
«Liés porra estre ki le pris en aura;
Glad may be who the prize thereof will-have

«mais je quit bien Rainouars l'avera
but I think well Rainouart it-will-have
«deseur trestous les autres.»
above all the others

Biaus fu li jors et li solaus levés;
Fair was the day and the sun risen
fors de son trés est issus Desramés,
out of his tent is gone-out Desramé
ensamble od lui XV. rois coronés.
together with him fifteen kings crowned
Droit vers Orenge s'est li rois regardés
Straight toward Orange himself-is the king looked
et voit François rengiés et ajostés.
and sees French ranged and joined
Luisent cil elme et cil cercle doré
Shine those helmets and those circlets gilded
et ces ensengnes de paile et de cendés;
and these ensigns of silk and of sendal
voit ces banieres et ces escus bouclés,
he-sees these banners and these shields bossed
et ces espiex et ces haubers safrés;
and these spears and these hauberks gilded
de l'or des armes esclarcist li regnés.
with the-gold of-the arms brightens the realm
Mervelle en a, tos en est trespensés:
Marvel thereof he-has all thereof he-is pensive
qés gens puent estre quant nes a avisés?
what folk can be when not-them he-has perceived

Uns mes li vient poignant, tos abrivés;
A messenger to-him comes spurring all in-haste
parmi le cors fu plaiés et navrés.
through the body he-was wounded and hurt
Tant ot couru li destriers sejornés
So-much had run the charger rested
le sanc li ot trait d'an .II. les costés;
the blood him it-had drawn from-both two the sides
à plain eslais venoit molt esfréés.
at full gallop he-came very frightened
Devant le roi s'est en haut escriés:
Before the king himself-is on high cried-out
«Desramés sire, por quoi ne vos armés?
Desramé lord for why not you arm
«Par Mahoumet, trop es aséurés.
By Mahomet too-much thou-art secure
«Vés la Guillame, le marchis au cort nés,
See there William the marquis with-the short nose
«ki a son pere et ses hommes mandés.
who has his father and his men summoned
«Aveuc lui est ses riches parentés;
With him is his rich kindred
«de ciaus de France i a tant assamblés
of those of France there has so-many assembled
«ja n'en aroie les milliers acontés.»
ever not-thereof I-would-have the thousands counted
Desramés l'ot, molt en est aïrés,
Desramé it-hears very thereof he-is angered
de maltalent est tains et enbrasés,
with ill-will he-is flushed and inflamed

les ieis roueille, s'a les sorciex levés,
the eyes he-rolls so-he-has the brows raised
estraint les dens, s'a la teste crollés.
he-clenches the teeth so-he-has the head shaken
Nus ne puet dire com est grans sa firtés,
Any not can say how is great his fierceness
nus ne l'esgarde n'en soit espaentés.
any not him-beholds not-thereof be terrified
Dont fu li cors à l'estandart sounés;
Then was the horn at the-standard sounded
paiens ne l'ot n'en soit tos esfréés.
pagan not it-hears not-thereof be all frightened
En petit d'eure en i ot tant d'armés
In little of-hour thereof there were so-many of-armed
nel porroit dire nus clers, tant fust letrés.
not-it could say any clerk so-much he-were lettered
Bien vous puis dire, et si est verités,
Well you I-can say and so it-is truth
tant de paiens ne vit hom ki soit nés
so-many of pagans not saw man who be born
com en cel camp ot le jor assamblés.
as in that field were the day assembled
D'aus est estrais Rainouars l'adurés,
From-them is sprung Rainouart the-hardy
cil au tinel, ki tant est redoutés;
he with-the cudgel who so-much is dreaded
puis leur fist maint damage.
after them he-did many-a harm

Desramés s'arme, qui mautalens engraigne;
Desramé himself-arms whom ill-will enrages
ses cauces furent de mervelleuse ovraigne,
his hose were of marvelous work
la maille en est dou plus fin or d'Espaigne.
the mail thereof is of-the most fine gold of-Spain
Ses esperons li caucha Puteçaingne,
His spurs him put-on Puteçaingne
c'est .I. paiens qui Damediex soufraingne.
it-is a pagan whom Lord-God confound
Puis vest l'auberc ki fu au roi Grifaingne
Then he-dons the-hauberk which was of-the king Grifaingne
à .XXX. las, n'i a cel ki n'estraingne.
with thirty laces not-there is that-one which not-he-tightens
L'espée aporte Maradés d'Aquitaingne;
The-sword brings Maradés of-Aquitaine
li rois le chaint ki nul homme n'adaigne,
the king it girds who any man not-deigns
puis est montés en l'aufage brahaigne;
then he-is mounted on the-steed barren
n'ot tel ceval en France n'Alemaingne,
not-was-there such horse in France nor-Germany
ne requerroit à pui ne à montaigne.
not it-would-seek-rest at hill nor at mountain
[L'escu li tent] li rois de Gorcacaigne;
The-shield him holds-out the king of Gorcacaigne
espil ot fort et grant et large ensengne,
spear he-had strong and great and broad ensign
voiant paiens, s'eslaissa en la plaigne.
seeing pagans himself-he-launched into the plain

«Avois! s'escrie, cevauciés, ma compaigne!
Avois he-cries ride my company
«Se truis Guillame delivre en la campaigne,
If I-find William free in the field
«recréans sui s'à .I. cop nel meshaigne;
craven I-am if-at one blow not-him I-maim
«ainc n'acointa si mavaise bargaigne.»
ever not-he-met so bad bargain
Lieve sa main, de Mahoumet se saigne,
He-raises his hand by Mahomet himself he-signs
puis commanda à monter sa compaigne.
then he-commanded to mount his company
De l'esploitier se painent.
At the-pressing-on themselves they-strive

Quant paien oent le commant Desramé,
When pagans hear the command (of-)Desramé
communaument se sont tot adoubé;
together themselves they-are all armed
grans fu la noise ains k'il fuisent armé.
great was the noise before that-they were armed
Es vos venu .I. Turc tout esfréé;
Behold you come a Turk all frightened
à vois hautaine a le fel escrié:
with voice high has the villain cried
«Desramé sire, mal sommes engané;
Desramé lord ill we-are deceived
«François nos vienent de ferir apresté.
French us come for striking ready

«Guillames a .I. vasal amené
William has a vassal brought
«n'a si fort home en la crestienté.
not-is-there so strong man in the Christendom
«A son col porte .I grant marien quarré,
On his neck he-carries a great beam square
«nel porteroient .II. ronci enselé.
not-it would-carry two nags saddled
«Le bout d'acier a devant virolé
The end of-steel he-has in-front ringed
«et as grans bendes molt maistrement ferré;
and with-the great bands very masterfully shod
«qui en ferra tout l'aura afronté.
whom thereof he-will-strike all him-he-will-have smashed
«Tant se fait fier ke ne doute homme né;
So-much himself he-makes proud that not he-fears man born
«bien ai oï son non et escouté,
well I-have heard his name and listened
«moi est avis Rainouars est nomé.
to-me it-is opinion Rainouart he-is named
«Tout li couart sont od lui ajosté.
All the cowards are with him joined
«Ainc ne vi homme de si grant cruauté;
Ever not I-saw man of so great cruelty
«par Mahoumet, bien resamble dervé.
by Mahomet well he-resembles madman
«Encor n'a mie .XXV. ans passé.
Yet not-has at-all twenty-five years passed
«Li cuers me dist, ainsi l'ai enpensé,
The heart me tells thus it-I-have thought

«par lui serons mort et desbareté.»
by him we-shall-be dead and routed
Desramés l'ot, le sens quide dervé.
Desramé him-hears the sense he-thinks maddened
«Fui, glous, fait il, trop i ai demoré;
Flee glutton says he too-much there I-have stayed
«se il estoi[en]t tés .V^{c}. assamblé,
if they were such five-hundred assembled
«par Mahoumet, ki est mon avoé,
by Mahomet who is my protector
«je n'en dorroie .I. denier mounéé.»
I not-thereof would-give a penny coined
Devant lui a apelé Murgalé.
Before him he-has called Murgalé
«Or tost, fait il, soient mi cor soné.»
Now quick says he be my horns sounded
Dont oïsiés d'olifans tel plenté
Then you-would-have-heard of-oliphants such plenty
plus de .V. lieues en sont li son alé.
more than five leagues thereof are the sounds gone
Li aumachour sont parti et sevré,
The almanzors are parted and divided
et Desramés a sa gent ordené.
and Desramé has his people ordered
Un conroi out Haucebir commandé;
A troop had Haucebier commanded
.XX^{m}. sont quant il sont ajosté.
twenty-thousand they-are when they are joined

Ciex Haucebier avoit si grant fierté
This Haucebier had so great fierceness
et si grant force et si grant poesté
and so great strength and so great power
k'il ne feri homme de mere né
that-he not struck man of mother born
k'il [ne l]'éust à .I. seul cop tué.
that-he not him-would-have at one single blow killed
A grant mervelle ot bien son cors armé;
At great marvel he-had well his body armed
en son dos ot .II. blans haubers safré,
on his back he-had two white hauberks gilded
et en son cief .II. vers elmes gemmés,
and on his head two green helmets jeweled
et .II. espées pendant à son costé;
and two swords hanging at his side
et si portoit .I. tel espil quarré
and so he-carried a such spear square
dont la lemele avoit .I. pié de lé.
of-which the blade had a foot of width
Le jor éust molt des nos lapidé;
The day he-would-have much of-the ours stoned
mais Rainouars l'ot molt tost afronté,
but Rainouart him-had very soon smashed
à son tinel [amié] et froué.
with his cudgel crushed and shattered
Paien s'en esmaierent.
Pagans themselves-thereof dismayed

L'autre bataille a Desramés rengie
The-other battalion has Desramé ranged
de .XX^{m}. hommes, de ciaus de paienie.
of twenty-thousand men of those of heathendom
Si les conduit Extor de Salorie;
So them leads Hector of Salorie
n'ot si felon dusqe à l'aige de lie.
not-was-there so wicked as-far-as to the-water of lees
De nostre gent féist grant derverie;
Of our people he-would-have-done great madness
mais Rainouars, ki les paiens chastie,
but Rainouart who the pagans chastises
li depecha le cief dusqe en l'oïe.
him broke the head as-far-as into the-ear
La tierce esciele à Sinagon carchie.
The third company to Sinagon entrusted
[Cil] ot Guillame maint jor en sa baillie
He had William many-a day in his keeping
dedens Palerne, en sa tor segnorie;
within Palermo in his tower lordly
.XX^{m}. paiens ot en connestablie.
twenty-thousand pagans he-had in constableship
Maudus de Rames la quinte eschile guie;
Maudus of Rames the fifth company leads
cil ot .XX^{m}. de ciaus devers Persie.
he had twenty-thousand of those toward Persia
Un flael porte dont la mance est furnie,
A flail he-carries of-which the handle is furnished
toute ert de cuevre, et longe .I. brachie.
all it-was of copper and long a fathom

De nostre gent éust molt damagie;
Of our people he-would-have much damaged
mais Rainouars, ki les couars castie,
but Rainouart who the cowards chastises
li pechoia le cief dusqe en l'oïe.
him broke the head as-far-as into the-ear
La sisme esciele fist Baudus d'Aumarie
The sixth company made Baudus of-Almeria
.XX^{m}. ot de ciaus de paienie.
twenty-thousand he-had of those of heathendom
Aiquins, ses peres, à l'uitisme adrechie;
Aiquin his father to the-eighth set-out
il ot .XX^{m}. de ciaus de vers Surie.
he had twenty-thousand of those of toward Syria
La nuesme fist Boraus ot sa maisnie;
The ninth made Borel with his household
.XIIII. fiex ot de grant barounie,
fourteen sons he-had of great baronage
tout chevalier plain de chevalerie.
all knights full of chivalry
Les cars ont noires plus ke n'est pois bolie;
The flesh they-have black more than is pitch boiled
.XX^{m}. paiens ont en leur cevauchie
twenty-thousand pagans they-have in their riding
de pute gent averse.
of base folk hostile

Quant Desramés a sa gent ordenée,
When Desramé has his people ordered
la soie esciele a molt bien devisée.
the his company he-has very well arrayed
.C. mile furent, cascuns ot teste armée,
A-hundred thousand they-were each had head armed
et .XXX. mile de noire gent barbée.
and thirty thousand of black folk bearded
Uns rois les guie, Margos de Valfondée,
A king them leads Margot of Valfondée
et porte .I. mail, (n'ot lance ne espée)
and he-carries a mallet not-he-had lance nor sword
de fer i ot plus d'une caretée.
of iron there was more than-a cartload
Mais Rainouars à la perce quarrée
But Rainouart with the bar square
l'esmia tout desci en la corée.
him-crushed all right into the entrails
Un aumacor i ot de Valfondée,
An almanzor there was of Valfondée
n'ot en l'ost roi de si grant renomée;
not-was-there in the-host king of so great renown
Baudus ot non, molt fu de grant posnée,
Baudus he-had name very he-was of great might
niés Rainouart, fiex de s'antain l'aisnée
nephew (of-)Rainouart son of his-aunt the-eldest
ki d'Oriende est roïne clamée.
who of-Oriende is queen called
Grans fu la noise de la gent desfaée;
Great was the noise of the folk faithless

tant i sonerent de cors à la menée
so-much there they-sounded of horns at the march
de grant .V. lieues en est la vois alée.
from great five leagues thereof is the voice gone
Paien cevaucent sans nule demorée;
Pagans ride without any delay
grans fu la frainte et la poure ventée.
great was the crashing and the dust blown
Là ont la nostre gent paiene encontrée.
There have the our folk pagan met
N'i ot parole dite ne devisée;
Not-there was word said nor devised
tant com il porent, le regne abandonée,
as-much as they could the rein abandoned
s'en vont ferir sans nule demorée.
themselves-thence they-go to-strike without any delay
A l'encontrer fu molt grans la crié[e],
At the-meeting was very great the cry
del froiséis est la terre crollée.
from-the crashing is the earth shaken
Là véissés tante lance frouée,
There you-would-have-seen so-many-a lance shattered
tant elme frait, tante broigne fausée
so-many-a helmet broken so-many-a byrnie pierced
et tante targe perchie et estrouée,
and so-many-a targe pierced and holed
tant pié, tant poing, tante teste copée,
so-many-a foot so-many-a fist so-many-a head cut-off
tant Sarrasin gesir, geule baée,
so-many-a Saracen lie mouth gaping

ke par le cors saut hors la bouelée;
that through the body leaps out the bowels
en Aliscans est l'erbe ensanglentée.
in Aliscans is the-grass bloodied
Quens Aimeris a «Nerbone» escriée,
Count Aimeri has Narbonne cried
ses fiex Guillames «Orenge la doutée», 5130
his son William Orange the dreaded
Ernaus «Geronde», .I. ensegne loée,
Ernaut Gironde an ensign praised
Bernas «Brubant», à molt grant alenée;
Bernard Brabant with very great breath
et «Andeurnas» a Guibert reclamée,
and Andernas has Guibert called
Bueves «Barbastre» ki siet sor mer salée.
Beuve Barbastre which sits upon sea salt
Là ot maint ame fors del cors desevrée; 5135
There was many-a soul out of-the body severed
la gent Aquin i fu desbaretée;
the folk (of-)Aquin there was routed
ferant les mainent plus d'une a[r]balestée.
striking them they-drive more than-a crossbow-shot
Ja n'éust mais cele esciele durée
Ever not-would-have more that company lasted
ne fust ses fiex, [Baudus] de Valfondée;
not it-were his son Baudus of Valfondée
ciex a son pere et sa gent retornée. 5140
he has his father and his folk turned-back
Dont recommence li cris et la huée,
Then begins-again the cry and the hue

espessement fierent en la mellée,
thickly they-strike in the melee
del sanc des cors est la terre betée.
with-the blood of-the bodies is the earth soaked
Huimais orrés chançon enluminée
From-today you-will-hear song illumined
et chançon fiere, s'ele vos est contée;
and song proud if-it to-you is told
par gougléor ne fu mieudre chantée
by jongleur not it-was better sung
ne de bouce mais dite.
nor by mouth ever said

Aïmer and the Ships

V

Baudus, Aiquin's son, charges the French, kills Guy of Auvergne and others, and loses his arm and head to Aïmer, who is unhorsed among ten thousand Arabs. His father and brothers come at the cry of Narbonne, and William brings him a horse. Rainouart rallies the cowards, kills a thousand with them, and vows to avenge Vivien. Another Baudus swears to take him. Rainouart drives the pagans to their ships, smashes the fleet, and finds Bertrand chained in a barge.

En la bataille ot merveilleus hustin.
In the battle was marvelous tumult
Es vos poignant Baudus le fil Aquin;
Behold you spurring Baudus the son-of Aquin
en sa compaigne sont .XX^{m}. Sarrasin,
in his company are twenty-thousand Saracens
bien fu armés et sist sor [Ampatin].
well he-was armed and sat upon Ampatin

Hante ot de fraisne à .I. fer poitevin;
Shaft he-had of ash with an iron Poitevin
l'ensengne porte au roi Alipantin.
the-ensign he-carries of-the king Alipantin
Il laisse corre tot le cemin porrin,
He lets run all the road stony
Guion d'Auvergne encontra el cemin,
Guy of-Auvergne he-met on-the road
grant cop li done sor l'escu biauveisin,
great blow him he-gives upon the-shield of-Beauvais
desous la boucle li pechoie à or fin,
beneath the boss him he-breaks with gold fine
tout li desront son hauberc doublentin,
all him he-breaks-open his hauberk double
parmi le cors li mist le fust fraisnin,
through the body him he-put the wood of-ash
l'espil traist fors od l'ensengne sanguin.
the-spear he-drew out with the-ensign bloody
Un chevalier a mort de Biauvoisin,
A knight he-has killed of Beauvaisis
Milon ocist ki tint Roimorentin.
Milon he-killed who held Romorantin
Ains ke li espiex féist faille ne fin,
Before that the spear made fault or end
en ocist .V. li cuivers de put lin.
thereof killed five the villain of base lineage
Quant Aïmers a choisi le mastin,
When Aïmer has spied the mastiff

des esperons a brochié Florentin;
with-the spurs he-has pricked Florentin
il li saut de ravine.
he him leaps from rush

Quant Aïmer a choisi l'aversier
When Aïmer has spied the-adversary
ki [à] no gent fait si grant destorbier,
who to our people makes so great havoc
point Florentin des esperons d'ormier,
he-pricks Florentin with-the spurs of-gold-trim
par [moult] grant ire a trait le branc d'acier.
with very great wrath he-has drawn the blade of-steel
Baudus le voit, ki le corage ot fier;
Baudus him sees who the courage had proud
vers lui trestorne son auferrant destrier.
toward him he-turns his war-horse charger
L'uns ne vaut l'autre de noient esparnier;
The-one not wishes the-other in nothing to-spare
as brans d'acier se vont entrecoitier,
with-the blades of-steel themselves they-go to-press
tous les escus font faindre et detrencier.
all the shields they-make bend and hack-apart
En Aïmer ot vaillant chevalier;
In Aïmer was-there valiant knight
del branc forbi se sot molt bien aidier,
with-the blade furbished himself he-knew very well help
Baudu feri parmi l'elme vergier,
Baudus he-struck through the-helmet gemmed

pieres et flors en fist just trebuchier.
stones and flowers thereof he-made down tumble
Ne fust la coife dou blanc hauberc doblier,
Not it-were the coif of-the white hauberk double
jamais Baudun n'éust home mestier.
ever Baudus not-would-have man use
L'espée avale par l'escu de quartier,
The-sword goes-down through the-shield of quarter
la guige trence ki fu de paile chier,
the strap he-cuts which was of silk dear
à tout le bras l'envoia en l'erbier.
with all the arm it-he-sent into the-grass
Quant li paiens se voit si damagier
When the pagan himself sees so damaged
ke de son bras ne se puet mais aidier,
that from his arm not himself he-can more help
à tout le poig le voit desos l'erbier,
with all the fist it he-sees beneath the-grass
en fuies torne, n'ot en lui k'aïrier,
into flights he-turns not-was in him but-to-grow-angry
en la grant presse de Turs se va plongier.
in the great press of Turks himself he-goes to-plunge
Ainc Aïmers ne fina de cachier
Ever Aïmer not ceased of chasing
dusqe l'ataint devant le tref Gohier;
until him-he-reaches before the tent-of Gohier
le cief li trence à tout le hanepier.
the head him he-cuts with all the skull
Del bon ceval n'ot soing de manoier,
Of-the good horse not-he-had care of handling

car paiens voit entor lui aprochier;
for pagans he-sees around him approach
mien ensient, plus sont de .X. millier.
to-my knowing more they-are than ten thousand
Diex penst dou conte, ki tot a à baillier;
God think of-the count who all has to govern
il est en aventure.
he is in hazard

Quant Aïmers a le paien ochis,
When Aïmer has the pagan killed
l'espée traite est arire guencis,
the-sword drawn he-is back turned
mais enclos est de .Xᵐ. Arrabis
but enclosed he-is by ten-thousand Arabs
ki desous lui ont Florentin ochis.
who beneath him have Florentin killed
Quant Aïmers se sent à terre mis,
When Aïmer himself feels on ground put
l'espée traite, est en piés resaillis,
the-sword drawn he-is on feet leapt-up-again
l'escu enbrace com cevaliers gentis,
the-shield he-grasps like knight noble
au branc d'acier leur detrence les vis
with-the blade of-steel them he-hacks the faces
et les corailles et les bras et les pis.
and the entrails and the arms and the breasts
Bien [se] desfent Aïmers li caitis;
Well himself defends Aïmer the captive

mais je ne voi comment il soit garis
but I not see how he may-be saved
se Diex n'en pense, ki en la crois fu mis.
if God not-thereof think who on the cross was put
Ne fust «Nerbone», qu'il cria à haus cris,
Not it-were Narbonne which-he cried with high cries
mors fust li quens, ja n'en escapast vis;
dead were the count ever not-thence he-would-escape alive
mais l'ensegne ot ses peres Aimeris;
but the-ensign heard his father Aimeri
«Nerbone» escrie, de ses fiex fu oïs.
Narbonne he-cries by his sons he-was heard
Es vos les .IIII. poignant tos ademis,
Behold you the four spurring all at-full-tilt
chou est Ernaus, et Bernars li floris;
this is Ernaut and Bernard the hoary
Guibers i fu, Bueves de Coumarchis.
Guibert there was Beuve of Commarchis
Mien ensientre, ja fust Aïmers pris,
To-my knowing already were Aïmer taken
quant cil [i] vienent, sachiés les brans forbis.
when those there come drawn the blades furbished
Sor Aïmer fu si grans fouléis
Upon Aïmer was so great trampling
et des espées fu grans li capléis.
and of-the swords was great the hewing
Or fu li quens ensamble od ses .V. fis;
Now was the count together with his five sons

de Sarrasins ont fait si grant labis
of Saracens they-have made so great havoc
com fait li leus famílleus es berbis.
as does the wolf famished among-the sheep
Mais trop i a des cuivers maléis;
But too-many there are of-the wretches accursed
contre un des nos en i ot .XXXVI.
against one of-the ours thereof there were thirty-six
A grant mescief i estoit Aimeris;
At great mischief there was Aimeri
es vos Guillames au cort nés le marcis
behold you William with-the short nose the marquis
sor Folatise, le destrier arabis;
upon Folatise the charger Arabian
en la grant presse a ses freres coisis
in the great press he-has his brothers spied
et Aïmers ki estoit molt laidis.
and Aïmer who was very ill-treated
Li quens Guillames fu cevaliers eslis,
The count William was knight chosen
fors et delivres, corageus et hardis;
strong and nimble courageous and bold
de son lignage avoit sor tous le pris,
of his lineage he-had above all the prize
qui il ataint bien est de la mort fis.
whom he reaches well is of the death sure

Au branc d'acier a si Turs departis
With-the blade of-steel he-has so Turks parted
tous li plus cointes est arire guenchis
all the most bold is back turned
desci k'au tref Gohir, à l'aupatris.
until to-the tent-of Gobier of the-aupatris
[Vaucrant i trueve .I.] destrier ademis;
Roaming there he-finds a charger at-full-tilt
li quens Guillames l'a par le regne pris,
the count William it-has by the rein taken
ainc ne li fu de paien contredis,
ever not him it-was by pagan refused
celui [le livre] ki molt ert ses amis,
to-him it he-delivers who very was his friend
et Aïmers est ens archons saillis.
and Aïmer is into saddle-bows leapt
Ciex de Palerne ont les espiex brandis,
Those of Palermo have the spears brandished
rois Sinagons et Escaimans li gris;
king Sinagon and Escaiman the gray
.XX. mile furent à vers elmes burnis,
twenty thousand they-were with green helmets burnished
devers l'Archant es les vos aquillis.
from-toward the-Archamp behold them you rushed
Là commencha molt grans li ferréis;
There began very great the iron-clash
tant bons escus i véissiés croisis
so-many good shields there you-would-have-seen cracked
et tant haubers derous et desartis.
and so-many hauberks burst and torn

Dist Rainouars: «Or sui je mal baillis,
Said Rainouart Now am I ill treated
«trop ai souffert, je criem estre honis;
too-much I-have suffered I fear to-be shamed
«mien ensientre, ja [est l']estor faillis.
to-my knowing already is the-battle failed
«Sainte Marie, [roïne] genitris,
Saint Mary queen mother
«tenés l'estor k'il ne soit departis
hold the-battle that-it not be broken-off
«tant com je aie Sarasins asentis
so-long as I may-have Saracens assailed
«à mon tinel ke jo tant aim et pris.
with my cudgel which I so-much love and prize
«Se jo n'oci ces paiens .X. et .X.,
If I not-kill these pagans ten and ten
«bien doit mes fus et jo estre honis.
well must my shaft and I be shamed
«Monjoie! escrie, or me sui trop tapis;
Monjoie he-cries now me I-am too-much hidden
«se je ne venge Guillame le marcis,
if I not avenge William the marquis
«si m'aït Diex, jo esragerai vis.»
so me-help God I shall-go-mad alive
Li tinel lieve, si leur vient ademis.
The cudgel he-raises so them he-comes at-full-tilt
Et li couart ne se sont alentis,
And the cowards not themselves are slackened
huimais se garde la gent à l'aupatris;
from-now itself guard the folk of the-aupatris

car, se cascuns estoit de fer massis,
for if each were of iron massive
se Rainouars les avoit acuellis,
if Rainouart them had caught
tout morroient à honte.
all would-die at shame

En Alischans fu molt grans la bataille;
In Aliscans was very great the battle
rois Sinagons forment no gent travaille.
king Sinagon greatly our people torments
Traite à l'espée ki clere est et bien taille;
Drawn he-has the-sword which bright is and well cuts
qui il consieut nel puet garandir maaille
whom he overtakes not-him can protect mail
ke nel porfende desci k'en la coraille.
that not-him he-cleave right into the entrails
[Rainouars voit la chose s'anoaille];
Rainouart sees the thing itself-grows-worse
il ne se prise le vaillant une maille
he not himself prizes the worth-of a farthing
s'à son tinel la presse ne frapaille
if-with his cudgel the press not he-batter
ke paien ne s'en fuient.
that pagans not themselves-thence flee

Grans fu l'estors et fors et adurés;
Great was the-fight and strong and hardened
en .CC. lieus i véissiés capler.
in two-hundred places there you-would-have-seen hew
Rainouars a les couars apelés.
Rainouart has the cowards called
«Baron, dist il, à moi en entendés:
Barons said he to me thereof attend
«Il n'i a cel ne soit à moi remés;
It not-there has that-one not be with me remained
«or sachiés bien, et si est verités,
now know well and so it-is truth
«par cel Signer ki en crois fu penés,
by that Lord who on cross was tormented
«li prumerains k'iert en fuies tornés,
the first who-will-be into flights turned
«de cest tinel ke vos ichi vées
with this cudgel which you here see
«li briserai les bras et les costés.
him I-shall-break the arms and the sides
— Sire, font il, ja mar en douterés,
Lord say they ever ill thereof you-will-fear
«car nos irons qel part ke vos vaurés
for we shall-go whatever side that you will-wish
«et si ferrons des espiex nouelés.»
and so we-shall-strike with-the spears nielloed
Dist Rainouars: «Com bon vasal ferés.»
Said Rainouart Like good vassals you-will-do
Atant s'en torne, s'a paiens escriés,
Then himself-thence he-turns so-he-has pagans challenged

od le[s] couars s'est à aus asamblés;
with the cowards himself-is with them joined
le tinel lieve, ki est gros et quarrés,
the cudgel he-raises which is big and square
à .I. seul cop en a .X. afrontés
at one single blow thereof he-has ten smashed
et à un autre autant escervelés;
and at an other as-many brained
si les abat comme faus fait les prés.
so them he-fells as scythe does the meadows
Paiens nel voit n'en soit espoontés.
Pagan not-him sees not-thereof be terrified
Et li coart cascuns s'est escriés,
And the cowards each himself-is cried-out
à bons espiex en ont .M. mors jetés,
with good spears thereof they-have a-thousand dead cast
et Rainouars les a devant guiés.
and Rainouart them has in-front guided
Si com il va as paiens craventés,
So as he goes at-the pagans crushed
des abatus est li chans aroutés.
with-the felled is the field strewn
Dist Rainouars: «Baron, or i ferés!
Said Rainouart Barons now there strike
«Par saint Denis, mar les esparnerés.
By saint Denis ill them you-will-spare
«Hui ert vengiés Viviens l'alosés.
Today will-be avenged Vivien the-renowned
«Mar i entra li fors rois Desramés;
Ill there entered the strong king Desramé

«se jo le ting, à sa fin est alés.»
if I him hold to his end he-is gone
Quant paien l'oent, s'ont les cevaus tornés.
When pagans it-hear so-they-have the horses turned
A Desramé en est .I. mes alés;
To Desramé thereof is a messenger gone
à sa vois clere s'est molt haut escriés:
with his voice clear himself-is very loud cried-out
«Desramé sire, où estes vos alés?
Desramé lord where are you gone
«Un vasal a Guillames amenés,
A vassal has William brought
«ainc si fors hom ne fu de mere nés;
ever so strong man not was of mother born
«Rainouars au tinel fu apelés.
Rainouart with-the cudgel he-was called
«Un tel fust porte, ja mar le mesqerrés,
A such shaft he-carries ever ill it you-will-misbelieve
«tout en seroit .I. cevaus encombrés.
all thereby would-be a horse burdened
«.XX^{m}. paiens nos a desbaretés
Twenty-thousand pagans us he-has routed
«à son tinel ki devant est ferrés;
with his cudgel which in-front is shod
«au cop ocist .X. Sarrasins armés.
at-the blow he-killed ten Saracens armed
«Par Mahoumet, sire, or vos en gardés;
By Mahomet lord now you thereof guard
«fuiés vos ent ke vos ne l'encontrés.»
flee you away that you not him-meet

Et dist Baudus: «Tais, cuivers desfaés!
And said Baudus Hush wretch faithless
«Par Mahomet à qui je sui voués,
By Mahomet to whom I am vowed
«se jo le tieng et Guillame au cort nés,
if I him hold and William with-the short nose
«ou mors ou pris le rendrai Desramés,
either dead or taken him I-shall-yield (to-)Desramé
«puis si en face toutes ses volentés.
then so thereof may-be-do all his wishes
«Se teus .XIIII. i avoit assamblés,
If such fourteen there were assembled
«par Mahoumet à qui me sui voués,
by Mahomet to whom me I-am vowed
«jo n'en donroie .II. deniers mounéés;
I not-thereof would-give two pennies coined
«ses puis ataindre à mon branc acerés,
if-them I-can reach with my blade steeled
«à .I. seul cop les aroie tués.»
at one single blow them I-would-have killed
Or puet Bauduns dire ses volentés;
Now can Baudus say his wishes
mais, ains le vespres ke li jors soit finés,
but before the evening that the day be ended
ert Rainouars envers lui esprovés:
will-be Rainouart against him tested
estours en ert jamais melleur n'orrés.
fight thereof will-be ever better not-you-will-hear
Rainouars est de la presse sevrés,
Rainouart is from the press separated

desconfis ot Sarrasins et Esclers;
discomfited he-had Saracens and Slavs
ainc ne fina tant k'il vint à leur nés.
ever not he-ceased until that-he came to their ships
Là fu l'estors et fors et adurés;
There was the-fight both strong and hardened
mais Rainouars ne s'est mie oubliés:
but Rainouart not himself-is at-all forgotten
leur nés pechoie et leur mas a quassés
their ships he-breaks and their masts he-has shattered
et leur calans a frains et esfrondés.
and their barges he-has broken and stove-in
Mais en la mer apoia son tinés;
But in the sea he-leaned his cudgel
Rainouars fu legiers et abrievés,
Rainouart was light and quick
.XXV. piés sailli tous mesurés.
twenty-five feet he-leapt all measured
[Ens] ou calant dont li mas est quassés
Into the barge of-which the mast is shattered
estoit Bertrans li quens enprisonés,
was Bertrand the count imprisoned
et Guielins, et Guichars l'alosés,
and Guielin and Guichard the-renowned
Gaudins li bruns et Hunaus l'adurés,
Gaudin the brown and Hunaut the-hardy
Gautiers de Termes, li preus et li senés,
Walter of Termes the worthy and the wise
de Commarcis Gerars li biaus armés.
of Commarchis Gerard the fair armed

En cel calant est Rainouars entrés,
Into that barge is Rainouart entered
.L. Turs a là dedens trovés,
fifty Turks he-has there within found
à son tinel les a si confessés
with his cudgel them he-has so confessed
li plus haitiés est si mal conréés
the most hale is so ill dressed
tout a le cors et ses menbres froués.
all he-has the body and his limbs shattered
Sor .I. cloier est Rainouars montés,
Upon a deck is Rainouart climbed
Bertran i trueve ki ert enprisonés
Bertrand there he-finds who was imprisoned
et d'unes buies par les piés enfremés.
and with-a-pair-of fetters by the feet shut-in
Estroitement avoit les poins noués,
Tightly he-had the fists bound
et si avoit ans .II. les iex bendés.
and so he-had both two the eyes bandaged
Devant lui vint Rainouars entesés;
Before him came Rainouart intent
ja l'éust mort, mais il s'est porpensés
already him-he-would-have killed but he himself-is bethought
ke ja prisons n'ert par lui adesés.
that ever prisoner not-would-be by him touched
Devant Bertran s'est li ber arestés,
Before Bertrand himself-is the baron stopped
se li demande: «Amis, d'ont estes nés?»
so him he-asks Friend whence you-are born

Bertrans respont, ki ert tos esfréés:
Bertrand answers who was all frightened
«Sire, de France, niés Guillame au cort nés;
Lord of France nephew-of William with-the short nose
«paien m'ont pris .IIII. mois a passés.
pagans me-have taken four months has passed
«A grant mesaise sui destrains et serrés,
At great distress I-am constrained and bound
«tant ai juné ke de fain sui enflés;
so-much I-have fasted that from hunger I-am swollen
«or en doi estre en Arrabe menés.
now thereof I-must be into Arabia led
«Las, si jo i sui menés n'enprisonés,
Alas if I there am led or-imprisoned
«n'en istrai mais nul jor de mon aés;
not-thence I-shall-go-out ever any day of my age
«secors n'aurai por home ki soit nés,
help not-I-shall-have from man who be born
«ains i morrai à duel et à viextés.
rather there I-shall-die in grief and in vileness
«Diex penst de l'ame, car li cors est alés.
God think of the-soul for the body is gone
— Gentix hom sire, ja serés delivrés
Noble man lord now you-will-be delivered
«por l'amour de Guillaume.»
for the-love of William

The Prisoners Freed

VI

Rainouart frees Bertrand, who arms; he cudgels the fifty Nubians guarding the other cousins and frees them, but every horse he wins for them is crushed with its rider by his cudgel. Bertrand teaches him to thrust, and he wins seven horses. The cousins thank him and ride to find William. Bertrand tells him who freed them, and William bids them fight on, as pagans fill Aliscans. Desramé sounds his horns; the slaughter goes on.

Quant Rainouars oï parler Bertrant
When Rainouart heard speak Bertrand
k'il estoit niés Guillaume le vaillant,
that-he was nephew-of William the valiant
isnelement en est passés avant,
swiftly thence he-is passed forward
fors de son col li oste le carcant;
off of his neck him he-takes the iron-collar
à ses .II. poins li aida liement
at his two fists him he-helped gladly
et les .II. iex li ala desbendant.
and the two eyes him he-went unbandaging
Li palasins est saillis en estant;
The palatine is leapt on standing
devant lui voit armes à son talent,
before him he-sees arms to his desire
isnelement vesti .I. jaserant,
swiftly he-donned a jazerant
puis a lachié .I. vert elme luisant,
then he-has laced a green helmet shining

isnelement a saisi .I. bon brant
swiftly he-has seized a good blade
k'à une estace voit devant lui pendant.
which-on a post he-sees before him hanging
Dist Rainouars: «Bien est aparissant
Said Rainouart Well it-is apparent
«ke estrais estes dou lignage vaillant.»
that sprung you-are from-the lineage valiant
Dist Bertrans: «Sire, s'or éusse auferrant,
Said Bertrand Lord if-now I-had war-horse
«d'aidier mon oncle seroie desirant.
of-helping my uncle I-would-be desirous
«Vostre merchi, fait m'avés amor grant;
Your mercy made me-you-have love great
«se or estoient delivré li enfant,
if now were delivered the youths
«ke paien tienent, li felon mescréant,
whom pagans hold the villains miscreant
«ne vos harroie jamais en mon vivant.»
not you I-would-hate ever in my living
Rainouars l'ot, s'i courut maintenant.
Rainouart it-hears so-there he-ran at-once
Les enfans trueve molt tenrement plorant;
The youths he-finds very tenderly weeping
li uns à l'autre s'aloit molt dementant.
the one to the-other himself-went much lamenting
Là les gardoient .L. Nubiant;
There them guarded fifty Nubians
Diex les maudie, li peres k'est poisant!
God them curse the father who-is mighty

A grans corgies les aloient batant
With great whips them they-went beating
ke de leur car li va li sans colant.
that from their flesh to-them goes the blood flowing
Ainc Rainouars nes ala raisonant;
Ever Rainouart not-them went addressing
à son tinel les va tous afrontant,
with his cudgel them he-goes all smashing
ens en la mer les va tous fondeflant.
in in the sea them he-goes all hurling
Dist Rainouars: «Baing avés avenant;
Said Rainouart Bath you-have fitting
«si fusent ore tout li oir Tervagant.»
so were now all the heirs-of Tervagant
Les enfants va [moult] tost desprisonant;
The youths he-goes very soon unimprisoning
trestos ensamble les mist fors del calant.
all together them he-put out of-the barge
Devers la rive trueve de paiens tant
Toward the shore he-finds of pagans so-many
d'aus sont couvert li pui et li pendant,
with-them are covered the hills and the slopes
et la marine, et trestout li Archant.
and the shore and all the Archamp
Seure li keurent Sarrasin et Persant;
Upon him run Saracens and Persians

et Rainouars en va tant ochiant
and Rainouart thereof goes so-many killing
à son tinel ki la mace a pesant
with his cudgel which the mace has heavy
ke nel puet dire nus jogleres ki chant.
that not-it can say any jongleur who sing
Des abatus en i a tant gisant
Of-the felled thereof there has so-many lying
ke parmi aus ne puet aler avant.
that through them not he-can go forward
Dist Rainouars: «Armês vos, bel enfant;
Said Rainouart Arm you fair youths
«vesci des armes, prendés à vo talent.»
see-here of-the arms take at your desire
Gerars s'arma et tout li autre enfant.
Gerard himself-armed and all the other youths
«Diex, dist Bertrans, s'or avoie auferrant,
God said Bertrand if-now I-had war-horse
«d'aisdier mon oncle seroie desirant.»
of-helping my uncle I-would-be desirous
Dist Rainouars: «Or vos alés soufrant;
Said Rainouart Now you go enduring
«mien encient, ja n'arés .I. corant,
to-my knowing ever not-you-will-have a runner
«et tout cist autre, cascun sor .I. bauchant.»
and all these others each upon a piebald
Par devers lui vient .I. paiens corant;
From toward him comes a pagan running
bien fu armés d'un hauberc jaserant,
well he-was armed with-a hauberk jazerant

en son cief ot .I. vert elme luisant
on his head he-had a green helmet shining
et à son col .I. fort escu pesant;
and at his neck a strong shield heavy
en sa main porte .I. fort espil trencant.
in his hand he-carries a strong spear cutting
Il laisse courre si va ferir Elmant;
He lets run so he-goes to-strike Elmant
toutes ses armes ne li valent .I. gant;
all his arms not him avail a glove
mort l'abati dou destrier auferrant.
dead him-he-felled from-the charger war-horse
Rainouars hauce le haut tinel pesant,
Rainouart raises the high cudgel heavy
parmi son elme le fiert en trespassant;
through his helmet him he-strikes in passing
ainc [de] nule arme ne pot avoir garant;
ever from any weapon not he-could have protection
dusqe en la sele le va tot esmiant,
down into the saddle him he-goes all crushing
toute l'eschine dou ceval derompant;
all the-spine of-the horse breaking
ens en .I. mont va tout acraventant.
in in a heap he-goes all crashing-down
A l'autre cop ra ocis Malquidant
At the-other blow again-he-has killed Malquidant
et Samuel, Samul et Salmuant;
and Samuel Samul and Salmuant
ainc li ceval n'orent de mort garant.
ever the horses not-had from death protection

«Voir, dist Bertrans, s'ensi alés ferant,
Truly said Bertrand if-thus you-go striking
«n'arons ceval nul jor en no vivant.»
not-we-shall-have horse any day in our living
Dist Rainouars: «Trop vous alés hastant;
Said Rainouart Too-much you go hastening
«je n'en puis mais, par foi, sire Bertrant;
I not-thereof can more by faith lord Bertrand
«cis tinés poise, s'en sont li cop plus grant.
this cudgel weighs so-thereof are the blows more great
«Ja en aurés, or vous alés souffrant:
Soon thereof you-will-have now you go enduring
«Chi en vient .I. deseur .I. [noir] bauchant;
Here thereof comes one upon a black piebald
«molt par cort tost, veés com il vient bruiant.»
very greatly he-runs fast see how he comes roaring
Atant es vous le Turc esperounant;
Then behold you the Turk spurring
Milon ocist à son espiel trenchant.
Milon he-killed with his spear cutting
Dist Rainouars: «Trop as alé avant;
Said Rainouart Too-far thou-hast gone forward
«mort m'as mon homme, dont j'ai le cuer dolant.»
dead me-thou-hast my man whence I-have the heart grieving
Le tinel lieve par molt grant maltalent;
The cudgel he-raises with very great ill-will
ains li paiens ne fu si tost tornant
ever the pagan not was so soon turning
ke del tinel nel feri en passant.
that with-the cudgel not-him he-struck in passing

Ainc de nule arme ne pot avoir garant.
Ever from any weapon not he-could have protection
Ausi com foudres va ses tinés bruiant,
Just as thunderbolt goes his cudgel roaring
desci k'en terre va li cols descendant,
right into earth goes the blow descending
ens en .I. mont va tout acraventant.
in in a heap he-goes all crashing-down
«Diex, dist Bertrans, trop me vois delaiant.»
God said Bertrand too-much me I-go delaying
Dist Rainoars: «Trop me va anoiant
Said Rainouart Too-much me it-goes vexing
«ke plus me vont paien adamagant.
that more me go pagans damaging
«Sire Bertran, ne te vas mervillant;
Lord Bertrand not thee go marveling
«grans est li fus, si poise par devant.
great is the shaft so it-weighs at front
«Quant j'ai mon cop entesé en hauchant,
When I-have my blow aimed in raising
«de grant vertu vient aval descendant;
with great force it-comes down descending
«jou ne le puis tenir ne tant ne quant.»
I not it can hold neither much nor little
Dist Bertrans: «Sire, si f[e]rés en boutant;
Said Bertrand Lord so strike in thrusting
«ensi iront vo cop amenusant.»
thus will-go your blows lessening

Dist Rainouars: «Or vois jou aprendant;
Said Rainouart Now go I learning
«jou irai à l'escole!»
I shall-go to the-school

Dist Bertrans: «Sire, quant nous as delivré,
Said Bertrand Lord since us thou-hast delivered
«[or nos aidiés] tant ke soiens monté;
now us help until that we-be mounted
«li quens Guillames vous en saura bon gré.»
the count William you thereof will-know good thanks
Dist Rainouars: «Volentiers, en [n]on Dé;
Said Rainouart Willingly in name-of God
«ja n'aurés un tout à vo volenté,
ever not-you-will-have one all at your will
«et tout cist autre, ja n'en ert trestorné.»
and all these others ever not-thence will-be turned-away
Par mautalent a le tinel levé,
With ill-will he-has the cudgel raised
en contremont à .II. mains entesé,
in upward with two hands aimed
parmi son elme a .I. roi asené;
through his helmet he-has a king struck
non ot Morindes, plains fu de grant firté,
name had Morinde full he-was of great fierceness
à grant mervelle ot bien son cors armé.
at great marvel he-had well his body armed

Et Rainouars l'a si dou fust frapé
And Rainouart him-has so with-the shaft struck
parmi son elme, k'il ot à or gemé,
through his helmet which-he had with gold jeweled
toutes ses armes li ont petit duré.
all his arms him have little lasted
Dusqe en la sele l'a tout esquartelé,
Down into the saddle him-he-has all quartered
et le ceval ra par mi tronchouné.
and the horse again-he-has through middle cut-in-two
Si bruit li cos com foudres encontre oré;
So roars the blow as thunderbolt against storm
ens en .I. mont a tout acraventé.
in in a heap he-has all crashed-down
Au resachier a .II. Turs encontré;
At-the drawing-back he-has two Turks met
de .VII^{c}. colt ne fuissent miex tué
of seven-hundred blows not they-would-have-been better killed
et li ceval desous aus asomé:
and the horses beneath them stunned
tout craventa devant lui ens el pré.
all he-crashed before him in in-the meadow
«Voir, dist Bertrans, ce sont cop de malfé;
Truly said Bertrand these are blows of devil
«Rainouars sire, vous avoie rové
Rainouart lord you I-had asked
«ke dou tinel fuissent paien bouté.»
that with-the cudgel were pagans thrust
Dist Rainouars: «Jou l'avoie oublié;
Said Rainouart I it-had forgotten

«or le ferai si com as devisé.»
now it I-shall-do so as thou-hast devised
Atant es vous apoignant Balufré,
Then behold you spurring Balufré
un roi paien de molt grant cruauté;
a king pagan of very great cruelty
à grant mervelle ot son cors bien armé,
at great marvel he-had his body well armed
de doubles armes garni et apresté.
with double arms furnished and readied
Tient .I. espil trenchant et afilé;
He-holds a spear cutting and sharpened
il laisse coure le destrier abrievé,
he lets run the charger swift
devant Bertran a .I. Franc mort jeté,
before Bertrand he-has a Frank dead cast
ki couars ert en l'estor apelé.
who coward was in the-battle called
Dist Rainouars: «Or avés mal esré;
Said Rainouart Now you-have ill fared
«mort as mon homme, molt m'en as fait iré.»
dead thou-hast my man very me-thereof thou-hast made angry
Par maltalent a le tinel levé;
With ill-will he-has the cudgel raised
ains ke li rois eust son frainc retiré,
before that the king had his bridle drawn-back
l'a Rainouars si dou tinel frapé,
him-has Rainouart so with-the cudgel struck

parmi son elme l'a si bien asené
through his helmet him-he-has so well struck
toutes ses armes li ont petit duré.
all his arms him have little lasted
Jusqe en la sele l'a tout esquartelé
Down into the saddle him-he-has all quartered
et le ceval ra par mi tronchouné;
and the horse again-he-has through middle cut-in-two
ens en .I. mont a tout acraventé.
in in a heap he-has all crashed-down
«Voir, dist Bertrans, or sai de verité,
Truly said Bertrand now I-know of truth
«Rainouars sire, bien nous as oublié;
Rainouart lord well us thou-hast forgotten
«par toi nen ermes garandi ne tensé.»
by thee not-thereof we-shall-be protected nor defended
Dist Rainouars: «Jou nel fas pas de gré,
Said Rainouart I not-it do at-all of will
«Sire Bertran, car le me ramenbrés.
Lord Bertrand so it me remind
«Le boutement n'ai pas acoustumé;
The thrusting not-I-have at-all accustomed
«ki chou oublie k'il n'a fait et usé
who this forgets that-he not-has done and used
«par droit esgart doit estre pardoné.
by right judgment must be pardoned
«Or bouterai, puis qu'il vos vient en gré.»
Now I-shall-thrust since that-it to-you comes in liking
Son tinel prist, estraint l'a et branlé;
His cudgel he-took gripped it-he-has and brandished

desous s'asaile a le graille serré
beneath his-armpit he-has the slender-end gripped
et par devant le plus gros bout torné.
and at front the most thick end turned
Es vos atant l'amirant Estiflé;
Behold you then the-emir Estiflé
n'ot si felon ne si mal desfaé,
not-was-there so wicked nor so ill faithless
bien fu armés sor .I. noir estelé.
well he-was armed upon a black starred
Un cevalier nous avoit mort rué;
A knight us he-had dead thrown
ciex estoit hom Rainouart l'aduré,
he was man-of Rainouart the-hardy
de ciaus ki erent par droit couart noumé.
of those who were by right cowards named
Ains k'il éust son auferrant torné,
Before that-he had his war-horse turned
l'a Rainouars si dou tinel bouté
him-has Rainouart so with-the cudgel thrust
l'escu li a brisié et estroué
the-shield him he-has broken and holed
et son hauberc ronpu et despané.
and his hauberk burst and torn
Ront li les costes, le cuer li a crevé,
He-breaks him the ribs the heart him he-has burst
dou bon ceval l'a mort acraventé,
from-the good horse him-he-has dead crashed-down
le frain a pris, Bertran l'a presenté.
the bridle he-has taken (to-)Bertrand it-he-has presented

Dist Rainouars: «Vous vient [point] cis en gré?
Said Rainouart To-you comes at-all this in liking
— Oïl voir, sire, miex vaut d'une cité.»
Yes truly lord more it-is-worth than-a city
Bertrans monta, ki molt l'a desiré,
Bertrand mounted who much it-has desired
puis prist l'escu au Sarrasin bouclé
then he-took the-shield of-the Saracen bossed
et son espil ki le fer ot quarré;
and his spear which the iron had square
à .I. paien a maintenant josté.
with a pagan he-has at-once jousted
L'escu li brise, l'auberc li a fausé,
The-shield him he-breaks the-hauberk him he-has pierced
mort le trebuce, s'a le ceval coubré,
dead him he-tumbles so-he-has the horse seized
à son cousin Gerart l'a presenté.
to his cousin Gerard it-he-has presented
Et ciex i monte par l'estrier noelé;
And he there mounts by the-stirrup nielloed
tost ot escu et espil recovré.
soon he-had shield and spear recovered
Et Rainouars a tant paiens hasté
And Rainouart has so-many pagans pressed
k'à .I. bout a .III. cevaus conquesté.
that-at one end he-has three horses won
Troi des enfans i sont molt tost monté;
Three of-the youths there are very soon mounted
encor en sont à pié li .II. remé.
yet thereof are on foot the two remained

Rainouars n'en a mais nul oublié:
Rainouart not-thereof has more any forgotten
un paien boute si k'il l'a esfrondré;
a pagan he-thrusts so that-he him-has stove-in
à l'autre bout en a .III. aterré,
at the-other end thereof he-has three felled
les cevaus prent ki furent pumelé.
the horses he-takes which were dappled
Or en auront li enfant à plenté.
Now thereof will-have the youths in plenty
Ciaus les bailla k'il a desprisouné,
(To-)those them he-gave whom-he has unimprisoned
et cil monterent baut et aséuré.
and they mounted bold and assured
Or sont tout .VII. li cousin ajosté;
Now are all seven the cousins joined
molt forment ont Rainouart merchié,
very greatly they-have Rainouart thanked
car par lui sont de prison escapé.
for by him they-are from prison escaped
Dès or saront Sarrasin et Esclé
From now will-know Saracens and Slavs
s'il ont en aus ne force ne bonté.
if-they have in them either strength or goodness
Lors laissent courre, s'ont paiens escrié;
Then they-let run so-they-have pagans challenged
assés en detrencierent.
enough thereof they-hacked-to-pieces

En Alischans out fiere caplison;
In Aliscans was-there fierce hewing
paien glatisent et uslent com gaignon.
pagans yelp and howl like mastiffs
Et Rainouars s'escria à haut ton:
And Rainouart himself-cried at high tone
«Or de bien faire, franc chevalier baron!
Now to well doing noble knights barons
«Je vos ai mis tous .VII. fors de prison;
I you have put all seven out of prison
«querés Guillaume et Bernart et Buevon.
seek William and Bernard and Beuve
«S[e] il m'avoient près d'aus à compaignon,
If they me-had near them as companion
«mar douteroient paien ne Esclavon.»
ill would-fear pagans or Slavs
A cel cop lieve le tinel contremont,
At that blow he-raises the cudgel upward
en la grant presse va ferir à bandon,
in the great press he-goes to-strike at abandon
de Sarrasin fait tele ochision
of Saracens he-makes such slaughter
de san des cors vont dusqes au talon.
in blood of-the bodies they-go up-to the heel
Si les ochist et abat à fuison
So them he-kills and fells in plenty
com carpentiers fait petit boskillon;
as carpenter does little thicket

à cascun cop en fait vuidier l'archon
at each blow thereof he-makes empty the-saddle-bow
o .VII. ou .VIII. de la geste Mahon;
or seven or eight of the race-of Mahomet
tant en ocist n'est se mervelle non.
so-many thereof he-kills not-is it marvel not
Paien le fuient com aloe faucon.
Pagans him flee as lark falcon
«Avois! s'escrient, aidiés, sire Mahon!»
Avois they-cry help lord Mahomet
Dist Rainouars: «Si fait cop sont molt bon;
Said Rainouart So made blows are very good
«ja li bouters ne m'i auroit fuison.
ever the thrusting not me-there would-have plenty
«S[e] à .I. cop ochi .I. Turc felon,
If at one blow I-killed one Turk wicked
«ne priseroie mon tinel .I. bouton,
not I-would-prize my cudgel a button
«mais .VI. ou .VII. ou .VIII., tant est raison.»
but six or seven or eight so-much is reason
Bertrans l'oï, si a dit à Guion:
Bertrand him-heard so he-has said to Guy
«Avés oï Rainouart le baron?
Have-you heard Rainouart the baron
«Ains si grans mos n'oï dire nus hom.
Ever so great words not-heard say any man
— Par foi, dist Guis, molt a cuer de lion;
By faith said Guy much he-has heart of lion
«Diex le garisse si ke ne le perdon.
God him protect so that not him we-lose

«Qerons Guillaume et si le secoron;
Let-us-seek William and so him let-us-succor
«se il i muert, molt grant perte i auron.»
if he there dies very great loss there we-shall-have
Atant s'en tornent brochant à esperon.
Then themselves-thence they-turn pricking with spur
Qui il ataignent n'en ruevent raenchon,
Whom they reach not-thereof they-ask ransom
le cief li trencent par deseur le menton.
the head him they-cut up above the chin
Paiens ochient sans nule esparnison;
Pagans they-kill without any sparing
devant leur brans n'a arme garison.
before their blades not-is-there arm protection
Grans fu l'estor et li caples felon;
Great was the-battle and the hewing fierce
sounent cil graille, molt en sont grant li ton,
sound those bugles very thereof are great the tones
Turc et Persant glatisent com gaignon,
Turks and Persians yelp like mastiffs
tel noise mainent et si fort huïson
such noise they-raise and so loud hooting
et li ceval si fiere braidison
and the horses so fierce whinnying
tous li Archans en tentist environ;
all the Archamp thereof resounds around
on les ot de .V. lieues.
one them hears from five leagues

Biaus fu li jors et li solaus luist clers,
Fair was the day and the sun shines bright
et la bataille fist molt à redouter.
and the battle made much to fear
En .CC. lieus i véissiés capler,
In two-hundred places there you-would-have-seen hew
cors et busines et olifans souner,
horns and trumpets and oliphants sound
molt hautement ensegnes escrier,
very loudly war-cries cry
païne gent et glatir et huper
pagan folk both yelp and whoop
et sor François guencier et trestorner.
and upon French swerve and turn-about
Et cil vers aus nes vuelent deporter.
And those toward them not-them wish to-spare
Dont véissiés maint riche cop doner,
Then you-would-have-seen many-a rich blow give
au branc d'acier et ferir et capler,
with-the blade of-steel both strike and hew
testes et bras, et piés et poins voler,
heads and arms and feet and fists fly
et ces entrailles les boiaus traïner,
and these entrails the bowels drag
l'un mort sor l'autre trebuchier et verser,
the-one dead upon the-other tumble and overturn
cevaus fuïr et regnes traïner,
horses flee and reins drag
deseur la terre le sanc des cors beter.
upon the earth the blood of-the bodies soak

Ki là chaï, il ne pot relever,
Who there fell he not could rise-again
por tant k'il fust, Sarrasins ne Esclers.
for so-much that-he were Saracen or Slav
[Li quens Bertrans leit le cheval aler],
The count Bertrand lets the horse go
tant com il pot le ceval randoner,
as-much as he could the horse urge
brandist l'espié od le fer d'outremer
he-brandishes the-spear with the iron from-overseas
et va ferir Aiglin à l'encontrer.
and he-goes to-strike Aiglin at the-meeting
L'escu li perce, l'auberc li fist fauser,
The-shield him he-pierces the-hauberk him he-made give-way
parmi le cors fist fer et fust [passer],
through the body he-made iron and wood pass
mort le trebuce, ains ne li leut parler.
dead him he-tumbles before not him it-was-allowed speak
Li .VI. cousin resont alé joster;
The six cousins again-are gone to-joust
.VI. rois paiens fisent mort craventer.
six kings pagan they-made dead crash-down
Bien se contienent à guise de sangler,
Well themselves they-bear in manner of boar
au branc d'acier font paiens remuer;
with-the blade of-steel they-make pagans shift
devant leur col ne puet arme durer,
before their blow not can arm last
toute la presse font partir et sevrer.
all the press they-make part and sever

Tant vont Guillame qerre li baceler
So-much go William to-seek the youths
k'i le troverent amont devers la mer.
that-they him found up toward the sea
Bien le connurent à ruistes cos doner
Well him they-knew by rough blows giving
et au grant cors et au fier regarder;
and by-the great body and by-the fierce look
devant s'espée ne puet arme durer.
before his-sword not can arm last
«Diex, dist Bertrans, or voi mon desirer.
God said Bertrand now I-see my desire
«Oncles Guillames, chi vous vient revider
Uncle William here you comes to-see-again
«ki ne pot onqes de vos servir lasser:
who not could ever of you serve weary
«Chou est Bertrans ki or se veut pener
This is Bertrand who now himself wishes to-strive
«por vostre amor de Sarrasins grever.
for your love of Saracens to-harm
«Tous nous a fait, sire, desprisoner
All us has made lord unimprison
«ciex au tinel ki tant fait à loer;
he with-the cudgel who so-much makes to praise
«jou l'oï, sire, Rainouart apeler.
I him-heard lord Rainouart call
«Ainc de sa force n'oï nus hom parler;
Ever of his strength not-heard any man speak
«ne l'ose ataindre Sarrasin ne Escler,
not him-dares reach Saracen nor Slav

«Turc ne Persant d'une lance abiter.»
Turk nor Persian with-a lance approach
Et dist Guillames: «Jhesus le puist saver!
And said William Jesus him may save
«Biaus niés Bertrans, or n'est lieu de parler;
Fair nephew Bertrand now not-is place for speaking
«jou ne vous puis basier ne acoler,
I not you can kiss nor embrace
«car n'avons mie bien lieu de reposer.
for not-we-have at-all well place of rest
«Veés de paiens tous Alischans peupler
See of pagans all Aliscans people
«et ces valées et ces tertres raser;
and these valleys and these hills fill-level
«li vif diable les ont fait assambler.
the living devils them have made assemble
«Se Diex n'en pense, ja n'i porrons durer.
If God not-thereof think ever not-there we-shall-be-able last
A icest mot vont ensamble capler.
At this word they-go together to-hew
Mestier leur est, n'ont jor de sejorner,
Need to-them it-is not-they-have day of resting
car Sarrasin ne finent d'aüner.
for Saracens not cease of-gathering
Desramés fait .XXX. grailles soner
Desramé makes thirty bugles sound
et .M. trompes, .M. tabors taburer.
and a-thousand trumpets a-thousand drums drum
Tout font [la mer en] Alischans trambler,
All they-make the sea in Aliscans tremble

en la marine barges et nés voler.
in the shore barges and ships fly
Puis ke de terre vaut Diex Adan former,
Since that from earth wished God Adam to-form
ne vit on canp tant fesist à douter.
not saw one field so-much made to fear
Se ciex n'en pense ki se laissa pener
If he not-thereof think who himself let torment
ens en la crois por son pule sauver,
in on the cross for his people to-save
mar François virent ainc cel jor ajorner.
ill French saw ever that day dawn
Mien ensientre, n'en peust .I. escaper
To-my knowing not-thence could one escape
se Diex ne fust et Rainouars li ber,
if God not it-were and Rainouart the baron
ki en fist grant machacle.
who thereof made great slaughter

Margot and Desramé

VII

Margot of Bocident, riding a mare and armed with a flail, nearly kills William; Rainouart kills him. Wounded by javelins as he rests on his cudgel, he kills Enorré from behind and swears to spare none of his brothers. Desramé strikes down Gaudin and calls on William to fight; William fells him, but twenty thousand Persians rescue him, and the battle grows fiercer.

Grans fu la noise de la paiene gent.
Great was the noise of the pagan folk
Li quens Guillames i fiert hardiement,
The count William there strikes boldly
et Aimeris et si fil ensement;
and Aimeri and his sons likewise
paiens requirent et menu et sovent,
pagans they-attack both thick and often
leur brans d'acier leur tienent en present,
their blades of-steel them they-hold in present
d'aus detrencier furent forment sanglent.
from-them hacking they-were greatly bloody
Mais Sarrasin vienent aparisant;
But Saracens come appearing
contre .I. des nos en i a des leur cent;
against one of-the ours thereof there has of-the theirs hundred
n'adont ne puis ne vit on si grant gent.
nor-then nor after not saw one so great folk
Es vous le rois Margot de Bocident;
Behold you the king Margot of Bocident
n'ot si felon desci k'en Orient.
not-was-there so wicked right into Orient

Les tors d'Arcaise tenoit en casement,
The towers of-Arcaise he-held in fief
desous l'abisme où desoivre li vent.
beneath the-abyss where part the winds
Illuec dist on ke Lucifer descent;
There said one that Lucifer descends
outre cest regne n'a hom abitement,
beyond this realm not-has man dwelling
fors Sajetaire et Noirons ensement.
except Sagittary and Nero likewise
Onqes n'i ot .I. seul grain de forment;
Ever not-there was a single grain of wheat
d'espises vivent et d'odour de pieument.
on-spices they-live and on-scent of spiced-wine
Par dechà est li grans arbres ki fent
On this-side is the great tree which splits
.II. fois en l'an par rajonisement.
two times in the-year by rejuvenation
Margos venoit molt aïréement;
Margot came very angrily
n'ot pas destrier, ains cevauce .I. jument.
not-be-had at-all charger rather be-rides a mare
Ne le dounast por .M. mars d'argent,
Not it he-would-give for a-thousand marks of-silver
et l'uns et l'autre est noirs com airement.
and the-one and the-other is black as ink
Plus tost [coert l'ewe] ke quarraus ne destent,
More fast runs the-mare than bolt — shoots
toute ert coverte de paile d'Orient,
all it-was covered with silk of-Orient

blanc comme noif, trechié menuement.
white as snow braided finely
Parmi le blanc pert li noirs ensement;
Through the white shows the black likewise
tous ses esclos en ralume et esprent.
all her tracks thereof she-relights and kindles
Un flaiel porte, la mace ert d'orpument,
A flail he-carries the mace was of-orpiment
et tout li mances en estoit ensement;
and all the handle thereof was likewise
et la chaïne dont la batiere pent
and the chain from-which the striker hangs
plain poig ert grosse, close estoit fierement
full fist it-was thick closed it-was fiercely
ki ert molt dure, d'une pel de serpent,
which was very hard of-a skin of serpent
ki ne crient arme d'acier ne ferrement.
which not fears weapon of-steel nor iron-tool
Rainouart kiert, mais nel trueve noient;
Rainouart he-seeks but not-him he-finds at-all
forment l'en poise, s'en a le cuer dolent.
greatly him-thereof weighs so-thereof he-has the heart grieving
Entre François se fiert iréement,
Among French himself he-strikes angrily
tant en ocist com lui vient à talent.
so-many thereof he-kills as to-him comes to desire
«Diex, dist li quens, peres omnipotent,
God said the count father omnipotent
«com cis diables nous maine malement!
how this devil us treats badly

«Se il vit longes, de nos ert finement.»
If he lives long of us will-be end
Le destrier broce, se li vient esraument,
The charger he-pricks so him he-comes at-once
del branc d'acier le feri durement
with-the blade of-steel him he-struck hard
parmi son elme; mais ne li vaut noient,
through his helmet but not him it-avails at-all
car ne dote arme plus ke trespas de vent.
for not he-fears weapon more than passing of wind
«Glous, dist Margos, ta mors est en present;
Glutton said Margot thy death is in present
«ja de ton Dieu n'aras desfendement.»
ever from thy God not-thou-wilt-have defense
Le flaiel lieve, en contremont le tent.
The flail he-raises in upward it he-stretches
Li quens le fuit de terre plain arpent;
The count him flees of land full acre
n'est pas mervelle se à cop ne l'atent,
not-is at-all marvel if at blow not him-he-awaits
car li flaiaus poise molt durement
for the flail weighs very hard
à la mesure bien d'un mui de forment.
at the measure well of-a bushel of wheat
Li rois Margos, ki nel sot mie lent,
The king Margot who not-him knew at-all slow
d'ire et de duel tout alume et esprent.
with-wrath and with grief all lights-up and kindles
Guillame alast, je quit, molt malement,
William would-have-gone I think very badly

quant Rainouars i vient iréement.
when Rainouart there comes angrily
Le conte voit, molt ot le cuer dolent,
The count he-sees very he-had the heart grieving
ke ciex diables demaine si vieument;
that this devil treats so vilely
de duel morra si n'en prent vengement.
from grief he-will-die if not-thereof he-takes vengeance
«Avois! s'escrie, fel traïtre pullent,
Avois he-cries villain traitor stinking
«mar le chaçastes, par le cor saint Vincent!»
ill him you-chased by the body (of-)saint Vincent
Le tinel lieve par molt grant maltalent,
The cudgel he-raises with very great ill-will
de l'enteser ot tout sen cors suant;
from the-aiming he-had all his body sweating
Margot feri isi très durement
Margot he-struck so very hard
l'elme li froisse, k'ert de quir d'olifant,
the-helmet him he-crushes which-was of hide of-elephant
et la cervele trestoute li espant.
and the brain all him he-spills
Li cos fu grans, par grant vertu descent;
The blow was great with great force it-descends
tout craventa [et] lui et sa jument.
all he-crashed both him and his mare
Dist Rainouars: «Or te va malement;
Said Rainouart Now thee it-goes badly
«molt fait ke fous ki contre moi se prent.
much he-does as fool who against me himself takes

— Voir, dist Guillames, si fait cop sont molt gent.
Truly said William such made blows are very fine
«Rainouars sire, .C. merchis vos en rent,
Rainouart lord a-hundred thanks you thereof I-render
«car mort m'éust par le mien ensient;
for dead me-he-would-have by the my knowing
«mais Diex et vos m'en a fait vengement.»
but God and you me-thereof has made vengeance
Dist Rainouars: «Venés séurement;
Said Rainouart Come securely
«mort sont paien et livré à torment.
dead are pagans and delivered to torment
«N'esparnerai ne frere ne parent:
Not-I-shall-spare neither brother nor kinsman
«Mes cousins ert Margos de Bocident.»
My cousin was Margot of Bocident
Lors s'abaissa au flaiel, si le prent.
Then himself-he-bent to-the flail so it he-takes
Ne li conteke; jeté l'a .I. arpent,
Not him he-contends thrown it-he-has an acre
.II. Turs a mors à .I. trespassement,
two Turks he-has killed at one passing
car li flaiaus poise molt durement.
for the flail weighs very hard
Paien le voient, si s'escrient forment:
Pagans it see so themselves-they-cry greatly
«Mahomet, sire, secorés vostre gent
Mahomet lord succor your folk
«k'i n'i muirent à honte.»
that-they not-there die at shame

Quant Sarrasin voient morir Margot,
When Saracens see die Margot
plus de .X. mile vienent plus ke le trot.
more than ten thousand come more than the trot
Cascuns portoit ou lance ou gaverlot,
Each carried either lance or javelin
hace d'acier ou grant mace portoit;
ax of-steel or great mace he-carried
entor Guillame veissiés grant asout.
around William you-would-have-seen great assault
Mais Rainouars au tinel les desclot,
But Rainouart with-the cudgel them breaks-open
molt a ocis de Turs de putain trot;
very-many he-has killed of Turks of whore's breed
nel doivent mais François tenir por sot,
not-him must more French hold for fool
car grant mestier leur ot à son maillot.
for great need them was-there to his mallet
Bien leur aida au miex k'il onqes pot.
Well them he-helped at-the best that-he ever could
Mar virent onqes Sarrasin son complot:
Ill saw ever Saracens his company
plus de .X. mile cel jor en jeta mort.
more than ten thousand that day thereof he-cast dead
Mal resamble home ki onqes torchast pot
Ill resembles man who ever scoured pot
as grans cos ke il done.
by-the great blows that he gives

Grans fu la noise, longement a duré.
Great was the noise long it-has lasted
Molt ont paien nos François agrevé.
Very have pagans our French oppressed
Tant en ont mort ne pot estre nombré;
So-many thereof they-have killed not could be numbered
contre .I. des nos sont .XXX. bien nombré.
against one of-the ours are thirty well numbered
Ja fuissent tout no gent desbareté
Already were all our folk routed
quant Rainouars i vient tout entesé.
when Rainouart there comes all intent
En la grant presse a maint grant cop doné,
In the great press he-has many-a great blow given
qui il consieut, molt l'a tost afiné.
whom he overtakes very him-he-has soon finished
— A .IIII. cos en a .XX. craventé,
With four blows thereof he-has twenty crashed-down
et à .X. autres .XL. escervelé.
and with ten others forty brained
Si les abat com li faus fait le pré;
So them he-fells as the scythe does the meadow
plus d'un arpent a paiens reculé.
more than-an acre he-has pagans pushed-back
Rainouars est seur aus molt aïré,
Rainouart is upon them very angered
des cos ferir travellié et lassé.
from-the blows striking wearied and tired
Plus de .VIII^{c}. paiens avoit tué.
More than eight-hundred pagans he-had killed

De la presse ist com hom de grant firté,
From the press he-goes-out as man of great fierceness
son tinel lieve, l'a à terre bouté,
his cudgel he-raises it-he-has to ground thrust
deseur s'apoie, s[i] a son cief crollé;
upon himself-he-leans so he-has his head shaken
un petitet a deseur reposé.
a little-while he-has upon-it rested
Paien le voient, grant joie en ont mené; 5810
Pagans him see great joy thereof they-have shown
ne quident mais ke il ait poesté.
not they-think more that he may-have power
Il se ralient, si l'ont avirouné
They themselves rally so him-they-have surrounded
plus de .X. mile, ke tout furent armé.
more than ten thousand who all were armed
De loig li lancent, si l'ont point et hersé
From far him they-hurl so him-they-have pricked and harrowed
en .XXX. lieus li ont le cors navré. 5815
in thirty places him they-have the body wounded
Ne fust l'auberc k'il avoit endossé
Not it-were the-hauberk which-he had donned
et li capiaus k'il ot ou cief fermé,
and the cap which-he had on-the head fastened
ce l'a de mort garandi et tensé;
this him-has from death protected and defended
bien soit [de l'ame qui si l'ot adoubé].
well be of the-soul who so him-had armed
Mais des couars i ot .C. mort iré. 5820
But of-the cowards there were a-hundred dead stricken

Atant es vos .I. paien, Enorré;
Then behold you a pagan Enorré
n'ot si felon desci k'en Duresté,
not-was-there so wicked right into Dureste
ainc ne fu hom de si grant cruauté:
ever not was man of so great cruelty
maint François a mangié et estranglé.
many-a Frenchman he-has eaten and strangled
.I. mail d'acier porte grant enhanté;
A mallet of-steel he-carries great hafted
de nostre gent a forment lapidé,
of our people he-has greatly stoned
plus de .L. en a au mail tué.
more than fifty thereof he-has with-the mallet killed
Dist Renoars: «Or ai trop enduré;
Said Rainouart Now I-have too-much endured
«se plus i sofre dont aie je dahé.»
if more there I-suffer then may-have I ill-luck
Parmi la presse vient, le tinel levé,
Through the press he-comes the cudgel raised
tant a coru qu'il ataint le maufé.
so-much he-has run that-he reaches the devil
Sachiez de voir ne l'a pas salué;
Know for truth not him-he-has at-all greeted
par de deriere li a grant cop doné,
by from behind him he-has great blow given
el haterel l'a molt bien assené,
in-the nape him-he-has very well struck
devant ses piez l'a mort acraventé.
before his feet him-he-has dead crashed-down

Dist Renoars «Or avant, Aenré!
Said Rainouart Now forward Enorré
«Tu me véis ja de petit aé;
Thou me sawest once of little age
«en tel maniere vous ai ci ravisé
in such manner you I-have here recognized
«mar me véistes onques de mere né.
ill me you-saw ever of mother born
«Monjoie! escrie Guillaume, i'ai iosté
Monjoie he-cries William I-have jousted
«alons as autres, cestui ai afiné.
let-us-go to-the others this-one I-have finished
«Mi cosins iert et de mon parenté;
My cousin he-was and of my kindred
«encor ai gie .I. frere, Tenebré,
yet have I a brother Tenebré
«Esclariax, Jambus et Persagué,
Esclariau Jambus and Persagué
«et Valegrape, ce cuit, c'est li ainzné,
and Valegrape this I-think it-is the eldest
«et .VII. avec que je n'ai pas nomé;
and seven besides that I not-have at-all named
«mès, par la foi que j'ai Guiborc porté,
but by the faith that I-have (to-)Guibourc borne
«ja n'i aura garde fraternité.
ever not-there will-have heed brotherhood
«Avoiz! s'escrie, je sui filz Desramé;
Avois he-cries I am son-of Desramé
«mès, s'il ne croit Jhesu de majesté,
but if-he not believes Jesus of majesty

«je l'ocirré de cest tinel quarré.
I him-shall-kill with this cudgel square
— Dex, dist Guillaumes, par ta seinte bonté,
God said William by thy holy goodness
«garissiez le et lui et son tinel;
protect him both him and his cudgel
«li quex que faille, à mort somes torné.»
the which that fail to death we-are turned
Paien s'escrient: «Véez là le maufé;
Pagans themselves-cry See there the devil
«qui l'atendra, ja l'aura devoré.
who him-will-await already him-will-have devoured
«Desramé sire, tel perte as recovré
Desramé lord such loss thou-hast received
«que mort i sont .XV. roi coroné,
that dead there are fifteen kings crowned
«et .XXX^{m}., que Persant, que Esclé.
and thirty-thousand whether Persians or Slavs
«Mar acointierent Guillaume et son barné
Ill they-met William and his baronage
«et le déable qu'il nos a amené,
and the devil whom-he to-us has brought
«qui a le cors issi enfantosmé
who has the body so bewitched
«ne crient cop d'arme .I. denier monéez.
not it-fears blow of-weapon a penny coined
«Par lui serons morz et desbaretez;
By him we-shall-be dead and routed
«qui l'agarra moult aura bien erré.»
who him-will-await very will-have well fared

Por Renoart sont si espoonté
For Rainouart they-are so terrified
par pou ne sont tuit en fuie torné.
by little not they-are all into flight turned

Renoart est de la grant presse issuz;
Rainouart is from the great press gone-out
molt longuement s'i estoit combatus,
very long himself-there he-was fought
et son tinel en a .M. estenduz.
and his cudgel thereof he-has a-thousand stretched-out
.I. petitet s'apuia sor son fust;
A little-while himself-he-leaned upon his shaft
paien cuidierent que il fust recréuz,
pagans thought that he were exhausted
sore li corent, si est levés li huz.
upon him they-run so is raised the hue
Plus de [X]^{m} des cuverz mescréuz
More than ten-thousand of-the wretches miscreant
lancent li lances et javeloz aguz.
hurl him lances and javelins sharp
Dex le gari et la soe vertuz,
God him protected and the his power
et li hauberz dont il estoit vestuz.
and the hauberk with-which he was clad
Dist Renouars: «Je sui trop atenduz;
Said Rainouart I am too-much waited
«par saint Denis, n'i seré huimès muz,
by saint Denis not-there I-shall-be from-today mute

«s'iert la bataille et li estors veincuz.»
so-will-be the battle and the battle won
Le tinel lieve, sore lor est coruz,
The cudgel he-raises upon them he-is run
plus de .L. en avoit abatuz;
more than fifty thereof he-had felled
cui il ateint mort est et confonduz.
whom he reaches dead is and confounded
Paien reclament Mahomet et Cahuz.
Pagans invoke Mahomet and Cahu
A ces paroles est Desramés venuz,
At these words is Desramé come
en sa compaigne .IIII. rois mescréuz;
in his company four kings miscreant
tant i avoit des paiens malostruz
so-many there were of-the pagans ill-bred
sos ciel n'a home qui prisast les escuz.
under heaven not-is-there man who could-count the shields
Là veissiez tant bons destriers crenuz,
There you-would-have-seen so-many good chargers maned
tant blanc haubert, meint vert elme aguz,
so-many white hauberk many-a green helmet pointed
tantes enseignes, de poile, de bofuz!
so-many ensigns of silk of fine-silk
Dex pent des noz qui el ciel fet vertuz.
God think of-the ours who in-the heaven makes miracles
Paien s'eslessent, Frans les ont reçéuz,
Pagans themselves-launch Franks them have received
a l'encontrer les ont molt bien feruz,
at the-meeting them they-have very well struck

es cors lor baignent et les fers et les fuz.
in-the bodies them they-bathe both the irons and the shafts
Après ont tret les brans d'acier moluz,
After they-have drawn the blades of-steel ground
copent ces hiames et fendent ces escuz;
they-cut these helmets and split these shields
del sanc des cors fu molt grant la paluz.
of-the blood of-the bodies was very great the marsh
Desramés vient poignant toz irascuz,
Desramé comes spurring all angered
sor la brehaigne qui fet les sauz menus;
upon the barren-mare which makes the leaps small
brandist l'espié qui devant fu aguz
he-brandishes the-spear which in-front was sharp
et fier[t] Gaudin qui à Guillaume iert druz.
and strikes Gaudin who to William was dear
Parmi le cors li est l'espié coruz;
Through the body to-him is the-spear run
n'est mie mort, mès à terre est chéuz;
not-be-is at-all dead but to ground be-is fallen
dient François: «Gaudins, tant mar i fus!»
say French Gaudin so-much ill there you-were
Desramez fu fort et grant et corssuz,
Desramé was strong and great and big
lonc ot le col, noirs ert et toz chenuz;
long he-had the neck black he-was and all hoary
en tote Espaigne n'ot paien si membruz.
in all Spain not-was-there pagan so big-limbed
Gaudin lessa, et qu'en féist il plus?
Gaudin he-left and what-thereof would-do he more

Isnelement fu sachiez li brans nuz;
Swiftly was drawn the blade naked
ja mosterra li rois ses granz vertuz.
soon will-show the king his great strength
A .V. des noz a lues les chiés toluz.
To five of-the ours he-has at-once the heads taken
«Avoiz! s'escrie, Guillaumes est repuz
Avois he-cries William is hidden
«cil au cort nez, li cuvert malostruz,
he with-the short nose the wretch ill-bred
«qui m'a mes homes ocis et confonduz,
who me-has my men killed and confounded
«et en bataille mes rois morz et vaincuz,
and in battle my kings dead and vanquished
«et mon neveu a ses regnes toluz.
and my nephew he-has his realms taken
«Hui est li jorz que l'en rendré saluz:
Today is the day that him-thereof I-shall-render greeting
«N'i garira mès juenes ne chenuz;
Not-there will-be-saved more young nor hoary
«ja de ses homes n'en eschapera nus,
ever of his men not-thence will-escape any
«et il méismes iert as forches pendus.»
and he himself will-be on-the gallows hanged

Desramez vet parmi l'estor poignant
Desramé goes through the-battle spurring
sor la brehaigne qui soz lui vet bruiant;
upon the barren-mare which under him goes roaring

au brant d'acier vet les noz ociant.
with-the blade of-steel he-goes the ours killing
Contre son cop n'a nule arme garant;
Against his blow not-has any armor protection
tant en ocist com lui vient à talant.
so-many thereof he-kills as to-him comes to desire
Par la bataille vet Guillaume querant:
Through the battle he-goes William seeking
«Ahi! Guillaumes, por quoi alez fuiant
Ah William for why go-you fleeing
«que jamais vis nen istrez de l'Archant?
that ever alive not you-will-go-out from the-Archamp
«Hui te feré veincu et recréant.
Today thee I-shall-make vanquished and craven
«Perdu avez Vivien le vaillant;
Lost you-have Vivien the valiant
«desoz cel arbre gist mort sor .I. estant
beneath that tree he-lies dead by a pool
«à la fontaine dont li doit sont bruiant.
at the fountain of-which the streams are roaring
«Cuvert, traïtres! ja l'amiez vous tant;
Wretch traitor once him-loved you so-much
«vien, si le venge à ton acerin brant!
come so him avenge with thy steel blade
«Je sé de voir tu te vas defuiant;
I know of truth thou thee goest fleeing
«fel soit li cuers puis qu'il va coardant.»
base be the heart since that-it goes playing-coward
Li quens l'oï qui venoit apoignant,
The count it-heard who came spurring

si a parlé hautement en oiant:
so he-has spoken loudly in hearing
«Voir, dist Guillaumes, molt m'avez fet dolant;
Truly said William very me-you-have made grieving
«mort m'as mes homes, or me vas menachant;
dead me-thou-hast my men now me thou-goest threatening
«mar le pensas, fel cuvert mescréant!
ill it thou-thoughtest villain wretch miscreant
«Je sui Guillaumes, mar le querras avânt;
I am William ill it thou-wilt-seek further
«se velz bataille, vez moi aparillant;
if thou-wishest battle see me making-ready
«[se ge te fail, tien moi por recréant.»
if I thee fail hold me for craven
Desramés l'ot, d'ire vait enprendant];
Desramé it-hears with-wrath he-goes kindling
le destrier broche, si entoise le brant,
the charger he-pricks so he-aims the blade
et fiert Guillaume parmi l'elme luisant.
and strikes William through the-helmet shining
Pierres et flors en vet jus abatant,
Stones and flowers thereof he-goes down striking
quanqu'il consuist vet contreval razant;
whatever-he overtakes he-goes downward shaving
mès enz el chief nel toucha tant ne quant,
but in in-the head not-him touched much nor little
car il avoit Jhesu Crist à garant.
for he had Jesus Christ as protector
L'espée torne el poig au mescréant;
The-sword turns in-the fist to-the miscreant

tot son escut li vet eschantelant;
all his shield him he-goes chipping
ce fu vertu de Deu, le roi amant,
this was miracle of God the king loving
qu'il ne toucha le col de l'auferrant.
that-he not touched the neck of the-war-horse
«Voir, dist Guillaumes, cist cop n'est pas d'enfant;
Truly said William this blow not-is at-all of-child
«or sui je fox se plus te vois sofrant.»
now am I fool if more thee I-go enduring
Il tint Joieuse au pont d'or flamboiant,
He held Joyeuse with-the hilt of-gold blazing
parmi son elme li reva doner grant
through his helmet him again-goes to-give great
que flors et pierres en vet jus abatant,
that flowers and stones thereof he-goes down striking
tranche la coife de la broigne tenant,
he-cuts the coif of the byrnie holding
grant pleine paume de la teste li fant;
great full palm of the head him he-splits
desor l'oreille vet la piece pendant.
over the-ear goes the piece hanging
L'espée torne, si vet escobaiant,
The-sword turns so it-goes glancing
et nequedant si [l'estordi] del brant
and nevertheless so him-he-stunned with-the blade
qu'il l'abati del [destrier auferrent].
that-he him-felled from-the charger war-horse
Prist le au nasel del vert elme luisant,
He-took him by-the nasal of-the green helmet shining

ja li tranchast la teste maintenant;
soon him he-would-have-cut the head at-once
mès au rescorre poignent .XX^{m}. Persant.
but to-the rescue spur twenty-thousand Persians
Et d'autre part Françoiz li combatant,
And from-other side French the fighting
et Aymeris et toz ses .VI. enfanz,
and Aimeri and all his six sons
et si neveu, et si apartenant
and his nephews and his kinsmen
au brant d'acier vont la presse rompant.
with-the blade of-steel go the press breaking
Sanc et cervele vont à terre espandant,
Blood and brain they-go on ground spilling
mais tant i ot de la gent mescréant
but so-many there were of the folk miscreant
que nel puet dire nul juglerre qui chant.
that not-it can say any jongleur who sing
Desramé font monter en l'auferrant;
Desramé they-make mount on the-war-horse
lors commencierent le chaple moult pesant.
then they-began the hewing very heavy
Cors et boisines vont tel noise fesant
Horns and trumpets go such noise making
que la marine en vet tote crollant,
that the shore thereof goes all shaking
et nés et barges, et trestoz li Archant.
and ships and barges and all the Archamp
Molt ot bon cuer qui ne vet trebuchant;
Very had good heart who not goes tumbling

mais Renoars ne vet pas coardant;
but Rainouart not goes at-all playing-coward
de l'estor crient que il ne voist faillant
for the-battle he-fears that it — go failing
et que paien ne s'en tornent fuiant.
and that pagans not themselves-thence turn fleeing

Borel and His Sons

VIII

Borel, with a steel hammer, cuts down the French; Rainouart kills him with a blow to the nape, then his fourteen sons and their copper flails. Agrapart, a king three feet tall, bites him and is killed. He fells Crucados, mounts his horse facing the tail, is thrown, and fells it with his fist, then runs back for his cudgel.

Par la bataille ez voz poignant Borrel;
Through the battle behold you spurring Borel
o lui estoient si .XIIII. chael,
with him were his fourteen whelps
tuit chevalier adoubé de novel,
all knights dubbed of new
noirs comme more, merveilles furent bel.
black as mulberry marvels they-were fair
N'i a celui ne portast .I. flael;
Not-there is that-one not carried a flail
toz sont de coivre, bien ovré à cisel.
all are of copper well worked with chisel
Onques n'i orent lance ne panoncel.
Ever not-there they-had lance nor pennon

Borrels lor pere portoit .I. grant martel
Borel their father carried a great hammer
de fin acier bien ovré à néel.
of fine steel well worked with niello
N'a vestu broigne, ne haubert à clavel;
Not-he-has donned byrnie nor hauberk with nail
d'une lutime ot envolsé la pel
with-a sea-calf he-had wrapped the skin
et si avoit en son chief .I. chapel
and so he-had on his head a cap
[qui estoit fais de cuir de luitonel];
which was made of hide of goblin
ne crient cop d'arme vaillant .I. penoncel.
not he-fears blow of-weapon worth a pennon
De nostre gent fesoit molt grant maissel;
Of our people he-made very great slaughter
contre son cop ne valt arme .I. mantel.
against his blow not avails armor a mantle
Ocis nos a Guion de Montabel,
Killed for-us he-has Guy of Montauban
Renier del Perche et Girart de Bordel.
Rainier of-the Perche and Girart of Bordeaux
Par Aleschans feit de sanc tel ruissel,
Through Aliscans he-makes of blood such stream
se Dex n'en pense, qui forma Daniel,
if God not-thereof think who formed Daniel
encui perdra Guillaumes son revel.
today will-lose William his revelry
Mès Renoars vient corant .I. vaucel;
But Rainouart comes running a little-valley

tint son tinel qui mal sambloit fusel.
he-held his cudgel which ill seemed spindle
Tel li dona [derrier] el haterel
Such him he-gave behind on-the nape
que de la teste espandi le cervel;
that from the head he-spilled the brain
tot derompi et vousure et chapel,
all he-shattered both vault and cap
mort le trebuche delez .I. jardinel.
dead him he-tumbles beside a little-garden
Dist Renoars: «Alés avant, Borrel!
Said Rainouart Go forward Borel
«Vous me véistes ja molt petit tosel;
You me saw once very little lad
«conut vos ai con li leus fet l'aignel.
known you I-have as the wolf does the-lamb
«De mon tinel vos ai fait tel bendel,
Of my cudgel you I-have made such bandage
«que fis ferrer au fevre Lionel,
which I-made shoe by-the smith Lionel
«je nel dorroie por l'or de Mirabel;
I not-it would-give for the-gold of Mirabel
«einz en auré espandu maint boel
rather thereof I-shall-have spilled many-a bowel
«de cele gent qui n'aiment Israel.
of that folk who not-love Israel
«Avoiz! s'escrie, si fet cop sont molt bel.»
Avois he-cries so made blows are very fair

Quant Renoars ot Borrel abatu,
When Rainouart had Borel felled
prent son martel, à son ceint l'a pendu;
he-takes his hammer at his belt it-he-has hung
quar, s'il avoit son grant tinel perdu,
for if-he had his great cudgel lost
à cel martel mosterroit sa vertu.
with that hammer he-would-show his strength
Li fiz Borel ont lor pere véu,
The sons (of-)Borel have their father seen
vers Renoart vienent tuit irascu;
toward Rainouart they-come all angered
de lor fléax ont Renoart feru;
with their flails they-have Rainouart struck
demené ont et grant noise et grant hu.
raised they-have both great noise and great hue

Li filz Borel firent moult à douter;
The sons (of-)Borel made much to fear
.XIIII. furent, tuit juene bacheler.
fourteen they-were all young youths
Vers Renoart acourent com sengler,
Toward Rainouart they-run like boars
de lor fléax li vont granz cox doner,
with their flails him they-go great blows to-give
de son chapel font les cretes voler.
from his cap they-make the crests fly
Dist Renoars: «Or puis trop demorer.»
Said Rainouart Now I-can too-much stay

Le tinel lieve qu'il ot fet viroler,
The cudgel he-raises which-he had made ring-bound
parmi les testes lor va granz cox doner.
through the heads them he-goes great blows to-give
Au premier cop en fist .V. craventer
At-the first blow thereof he-made five crash-down
on[c] Renoars ne fina de chapler
ever Rainouart not ceased from hewing
si les ot fet touz à lor fin aler.
until them he-had made all to their end go
Les fléax prent, ses en voloit porter.
The flails he-takes so-them thence he-wished to-carry
L'un en a pris, sel fist amont briller;
The-one thereof he-has taken so-it he-made up whirl
dist Renoars: «Or puet l'en [bien] prover
said Rainouart Now can one well prove
«ceste arme est fete pour les moches oster.»
this weapon is made for the flies to-remove
Puis les commence par l'estor à geter
Then them he-begins through the-battle to throw
que il nes puet véoir ne esgarder.
that he not-them can see nor behold

Quant Renoars ot les fléax gitez,
When Rainouart had the flails thrown
prent son tinel, si s'en est retornez.
he-takes his cudgel so himself-thence is turned-back

Voit .I. conroi de Sarrasin armé
He-sees a troop of Saracens armed
qui donc à primes estoit issu des nez,
who then at first was gone-out from-the ships
si les conduit Agrapart li barbez.
so them leads Agrapart the bearded
N'avoit de grant que .III. piez mesurez,
Not-he-had of great but three feet measured
mès gros estoit et par espaules lez;
but big he-was and in shoulders broad
trop laidement fu le Turc figurés.
too foully was the Turk shaped

Rois Agrapart fu de lede façon:
King Agrapart was of ugly fashion
lons a les crins desi que au menton,
long he-has the hairs right to the chin
les elz ot rouges ausi comme charbon,
the eyes he-had red just like coal
ongles aguz ausi comme grifon.
nails sharp just like griffin
Cil qu'il ataint a moult mal compaignon.
He whom-he reaches has very bad companion
«Avoiz!» s'escrie Guillaume en sa raison,
Avois cries William in his speech
«encui seras à grant destruction!»
today thou-wilt-be at great destruction

Agrapart vient poignant toz eslessiez;
Agrapart comes spurring all at-full-gallop
de nostre gent a forment mehaigniez.
of our people he-has greatly maimed
Renoars fu sor .I. arbre foilliez;
Rainouart was upon a tree leafy
molt ot grant chaut, son elme a deslaciez.
very he-had great heat his helmet he-has unlaced
Atant ez vos Agrapart eslessiez;
Then behold you Agrapart at-full-gallop
il saut avant, si l'a si chapigniez
he leaps forward so him-he-has so mauled
jusqu'à la char n'i a cheveul laissiez;
down-to the flesh not-there has hair left
li sans vermeil li est aval glaciez.
the blood red to-him is down slid
Quant Renoars se sent si mehaigniez,
When Rainouart himself feels so maimed
dist: «Agrapars, vos m'avez chapigniez;
he-said Agrapart you me-have mauled
«de mes cheveus fetes trop grant marchié.
of my hairs you-make too-much great bargain
«Par saint Denis, mar i sont esrachiez;
By saint Denis ill there they-are torn-out
«se ne m'en venge, plain sui de malvestiez.»
if not me-thereof I-avenge full I-am of baseness

Renouart fu dolent, ne set que face;
Rainouart was grieving not he-knows what he-may-do
taste à son chief: «Ci a molt laide trace.»
he-feels at his head Here is-there very ugly track
Son tinel prent, à ses .II. mains l'embrace,
His cudgel he-takes in his two hands it-he-grasps
quida ferir le paien en la face;
he-thought to-strike the pagan in the face
mais il saut haut comme beste sauvage,
but he leaps high like beast wild
au rechaoir la cuisse li esrache.
at-the falling-again the thigh him he-tears
Dist Renoars: «Paiens, festes eschace;
Said Rainouart Pagan you-make stilt
«de mon tinel avez sentu la mace.»
of my cudgel you-have felt the mace
Agrapart saut, parmi les flans l'embrace,
Agrapart leaps through the flanks him-he-grasps
par tel aïr les ongles li enlace
with such fury the nails him he-entwines
que .C. des mailes de l'hauberc li deslace.
that a-hundred of-the mails of the-hauberk him he-unlaces
Au retorner si l'a mors en la face
At-the turning so him-he-has bitten in the face
que li clers sans tot contreval li glace.
that the bright blood all downward him slides
Et Renoars le sesi par la brace,
And Rainouart him seized by the arm
vousist ou non le giete en mi la place:
he-would or not him he-throws in middle-of the place

«Va tu, dist il, ja Dex bien ne te face.
Go thou said he ever God good not thee may-do
«Sainte Marie, com or me cuist la nache!»
Saint Mary how now me burns the buttock

Renouart fu dolent, qui se combat
Rainouart was grieving who himself fights
que de sa plaie le sanc vermeil li bat.
so-that from his wound the blood red him beats
Dist Renoars: «Moult ai or le cors mat
Said Rainouart Very I-have now the body weak
«por seulement la morsure d'un chat.»
for only the bite of-a cat
Cil li revient à guise de liepart;
He him comes-back in manner of leopard
par mi les flans enbraça Renouart,
through amid the flanks he-grasped Rainouart
la char li perce ausi com d'un fausart.
the flesh him he-pierces just as with-a scythe-blade
Et Renoars à ses poinz le depart.
And Rainouart with his fists him parts

Li [Sarrasins] fu moult de pute orine.
The Saracen was very of base origin
Dist Renoars: «Moult es pute racine;
Said Rainouart Very thou-art base root
«très bien resembles de lignage de signe.»
very well thou-resemblest of lineage of ape

Li Sarrasins vint corant de ravine;
The Saracen came running at rush
Renoars lieve le tinel de sapine;
Rainouart raises the cudgel of fir
grant cop li done amont desus l'eschine;
great blow him he-gives up above the-spine
mort l'abati delez une aube espine.
dead him-he-felled beside a white thorn
Dist Renoars: «Tien, ore a bone estriene;
Said Rainouart Take now thou-hast good handsel
«tu commenças premerains l'aatine.»
thou beganst first the-quarrel
A tant s'en va, son tinel en traïne.
At that himself-thence he-goes his cudgel thereof he-drags

Quant Renoars ot mort le mescréant,
When Rainouart had killed the miscreant
lors se retorne son tinel traïnant,
then himself he-turns-back his cudgel dragging
son elme lace moult bel et avenant.
his helmet he-laces very fair and seemly
A l'estandart sonent li olifant.
At the-standard sound the oliphants
François escrient: «Monjoie la vaillant»,
French cry Monjoie the valiant
et Sarrasin: «Mahon et Tervagant.»
and Saracens Mahomet and Tervagant
De tel bataille n'iert mès nus qui vos chant.
Of such battle not-will-be ever any who you sing

A tant ez vos Crucados apoignant,
At that behold you Crucados spurring
.I. Sarrasins; molt ert de bel semblant,
a Saracen very he-was of fair semblance
et chevalchoit .I. destrier Aufricant.
and he-rode a charger African
N'a si grant home, desi qu'en Oriant,
Not-is-there so great man as-far-as into Orient
qui avenist à son arçon devant.
who might-reach to his saddle-bow front
Tint une [mace] moult merveilleuse et grant,
He-held a mace very marvelous and great
de nostre gent aloit trop damagant.
of our people he-went too-much damaging
Mès Renoars li corut au devant:
But Rainouart to-him ran to-the front
«Estez, vassal, dist il, n'irez avant,
Stand vassal said he not-you-shall-go forward
«quar me rendrez cele mace pesant;
for me you-will-render that mace heavy
«c'est le tréu que je gart de l'Archant.»
it-is the toll that I guard of the-Archamp
Dist Crucados: «Ribaut, alez avant;
Said Crucados Ribald go forward
«garçon me sembles qui en fours va jesant.
scullion me thou-seemest who in ovens goes lying
«Fui toi de ci, ne me va ramponant;
Flee thee from here not me go mocking
«ja te dorré el visage devant.»
soon thee I-shall-give in-the face before

Dist Renoars: «Et je mielz ne demant,
Said Rainouart And I better not ask
«mès tant i a que te ferrai avant.»
but so-much there has that thee I-shall-strike before
Son tinel lieve contremont en hauchant,
His cudgel he-raises upward in raising
fiert le paien sor son elme luisant,
he-strikes the pagan upon his helmet shining
jusc'an la sele le va tot esmiant.
right-into the saddle him he-goes all crushing
Ocis éust le destrier auferrant,
Killed he-would-have the charger war-horse
mès le tinel ala escolorgant.
but the cudgel went sliding
Prist le cheval por ce qu'i le vit grant.
He-took the horse for this that-he it saw great
Dist Renoars: «Moult ai le cuer dolent
Said Rainouart Very I-have the heart grieving
«que cil gloton me vont si ramponant:
that those gluttons me go so mocking
«Garçon me claiment, ribaut à pié trotant.
Scullion me they-call ribald on foot trotting
«Or monteré desus cest auferrant;
Now I-shall-mount upon this war-horse
«[chevaliers iere] dès or mès en avant.»
knight I-shall-be from now more in forward

Renouart tint le destrier à grant joie
Rainouart held the charger with great joy
à une main par la resne de soie.
with one hand by the rein of silk
Le cheval fronche, durement se desroie;
The horse snorts hard itself bolts
dist Renoars: «Volentiers monteroie,
said Rainouart Willingly I-would-mount
«mès il me semble que le cuer m'afebloie.
but it me seems that the heart me-grows-faint
«Et mon tinel, comment le porteroie?
And my cudgel how it would-I-carry
«Mon escient, je cuit que je charroie.»
To-my knowing I think that I would-fall

Renouart fu enz en la sablonniere;
Rainouart was in in the sandy-place
tint le cheval par la rene doubliere.
he-held the horse by the rein double
Del chevaucher n'estoit pas costumiere,
To-the riding not-he-was at-all accustomed
de la cuisine connoist mielz la fumiere.
of the kitchen he-knows better the smoke
Quant du monter, ainz n'i quist estriere,
As to-the mounting ever not-there he-sought stirrup
saut en la sele tot ce devant deriere,
he-leaps into the saddle all this front behind
devers la queue a tornée sa chiere.
toward the tail he-has turned his face

Et li chevas s'en fuit comme levriere
And the horse itself-thence flees like greyhound
tot contreval, parmi une bruiere.
all downward through a heath
Dist Renoars: «Ceste jument est fiere;
Said Rainouart This mare is fierce
«se je quidasse qu'il fust de tel maniere,
if I had-thought that-it were of such manner
«je n'i montasse por tot l'or de Baiviere.
I not-there would-have-mounted for all the-gold of Bavaria
«Aïde, Dex, voir pere justisiere,
Help God true father justiciar
«que je ne chie aval ceste rochiere.»
that I not fall down this rocky-place
Issi faisoit Renoars sa proiere,
Thus made Rainouart his prayer
et chevauchoit et faisoit laide chiere.
and he-rode and made ugly face
On n'en sot mot, si chaï par derriere,
One not-thereof knew word so he-fell from behind
si li chaï sa grant perche pleniere.
so him fell his great pole full
Li bers se tint à la cue derriere.
The baron himself held to the tail behind
Et li chevaus le trait par la poudriere;
And the horse him drags through the dust
on[c] ne fina si qu'à une riviere,
ever not it-ceased until to a river
iluec lessa Renoart en l'ortiere.
there it-left Rainouart in the-nettle-bed

Quant Renoars fu à terre chaüz,
When Rainouart was to ground fallen
plus tost qu'il peut est en piéz resailluz.
more soon than-he could he-is on feet leapt-up-again
Le cheval prist, quar moult fu irascuz,
The horse he-took for very he-was angered
d'un de ses poinz l'a si .II. cox feruz
with-one of his fists it-he-has so two blows struck
que le chevaus est à terre chéuz.
that the horse is to ground fallen
Et Renoars est ariere coruz:
And Rainouart is back run
«Sainte Marie, dist il, où est mes fuz?
Saint Mary said he where is my shaft
«Se je le perc, Guillaumes est vaincuz.»
If I it lose William is vanquished

Valegrape

IX

Rainouart's brother Valegrape, clad in a serpent's hide, drags off the cudgel and sits by it. They fight and wrestle; Valegrape seizes the cudgel, and Rainouart beats him with Borel's hammer. Rainouart tells his lineage; Valegrape urges him to Mahomet and throws back the cudgel rather than kill him with it. Rainouart thrusts it, as Bertrand taught him, kills him, and repents; then, his bare feet bleeding, he lies as if dead before the pagans.

Le jor fu bel, la chalor est levée,
The day was fair the heat is risen
et la bataille fu grande et adurée;
and the battle was great and hardened
de toute parz fu molt grant la mellée.
from all sides was very great the melee
[Es Walegrape] le fonz d'une vallée;
Behold Valegrape the bottom of-a valley
n'ot si fort hom jusqu'à la mer Betée.
not-was-there so strong man as-far-as the sea Betée
Tote sa gent avoit ja trespassée.
All his folk he-had already passed
.I. croc portoit dont la pointe est dorée;
A hook he-carried of-which the point is gilded
par Aleschans nostre gent malmenée,
through Aliscans our folk mistreated
ne puet nus hom vers lui avoir durée.
not can any man against him have lasting
Cil a la perche Renoart encontrée;
He has the pole (of-)Rainouart met

ne pout porter, ainz l'en a traïnée
not he-could carry rather it-thence he-has dragged
trusqu'à .I. mont soz l'olive ramée;
up-to a mound under the-olive branched
là s'est asis, si l'a molt esgardée.
there himself-he-is seated so it-he-has much looked-at

Cil Valegrape ot le corage fier,
This Valegrape had the courage proud
et ot le cors parcréu et plenier.
and he-had the body full-grown and ample
Il n'avoit lance ne escu de quartier,
He not-had lance nor shield of quarter
mès en .I. cuir velu s'iert fet fichier
but in a hide hairy himself-he-was made fix
d'une serpent; ne prise arme .I. denier.
of-a serpent not he-prizes arm a penny
Qui li véist noz François desrengier
Who him had-seen our French disarray
bien péust dire: «Vez là .I. aversier.»
well could say See there an adversary
Desouz l'olive s'asist por refroidier.
Beneath the-olive himself-he-sat for to-cool
Renoars garde, s'a véu son levier.
Rainouart looks so-he-has seen his lever

Vers Valegrape vint Renoars li preuz.
Toward Valegrape came Rainouart the worthy
De son tinel avoir est covoiteus;
Of his cudgel having he-is covetous
il vint corant au paien com un leus,
he came running to-the pagan like a wolf
son fust li tout, ne fu pas poereus.
his shaft him he-takes not he-was at-all fearful
Et Valegrape [saut] en piés com ireus;
And Valegrape leaps on feet as angry
il prent son croc, si roïlle les eus.
he takes his hook so he-rolls the eyes
Dist Renoars: «[Molt] es ore hisdeus;
Said Rainouart Very thou-art now hideous
«car me dis ore se es homme morteus.
so me tell now if thou-art man mortal
«Tu ne sez mie qex gieus fet mes tineus.»
Thou not knowest at-all what games makes my cudgel
Dist Valegrapes: «Va t'en, fox envieus;
Said Valegrape Go thee-away fool envious
«tant par es povres et chaitis ennuieus,
so-much greatly thou-art poor and wretched tiresome
«en la cuisine as esté, ce cuit, queus.
in the kitchen thou-hast been this I-think cook
«Molt par es fox quant ci es venuz seus;
Very greatly thou-art fool when here thou-art come alone
«s'en ta compaigne en avoit .XX. et deus,
if-in thy company thereof there-were twenty and two
«ses occirroie ainz que tourt li soleus.»
so-them I-would-kill before that turn the sun

Dist Renoars: «Molt es ore orgueilleus;
Said Rainouart Very thou-art now proud
«ainz que m'eschapes te ferai tot honteus,
before that me-thou-escape thee I-shall-make all shamed
«et de ta teste ferai voler les eus.»
and from thy head I-shall-make fly the eyes

Li dui baron furent molt ahati
The two barons were very provoked
et de combatre furent bien arami.
and for fighting they-were well eager
Walegrape a Renoart envaï,
Valegrape has Rainouart assailed
de son hauberc l'a par le pan saisi,
by his hauberk him-he-has by the skirt seized
à lui le sache, forment le porfendi.
to him him he-pulls greatly him he-split
Lez le coté le croc le consui,
Beside the side the hook him reached
grant plaine paume du costé li rompi;
great full palm of-the side him it-broke
le sanc vermeil à la terre en chaï.
the blood red to the earth thereof fell
Quant Renoars se sent si mal bailli,
When Rainouart himself feels so ill treated
tel duel en a tot a le sens marri;
such grief thereof he-has all he-has the sense troubled
son tinel lieve, à .II. mains le seisi;
his cudgel he-raises with two hands it he-seized

fiert Valegrape là où le consui
he-strikes Valegrape there where him he-reached
desus le chief que tot l'a estordi.
upon the head so-that all him-he-has stunned
Fort fu la pel qui son chief garanti;
Strong was the hide which his head protected
ne l'empoira vaillissant .I. espi.
not it-it-damaged worth an ear-of-grain
Vousist on non, à terre l'abati.
Would-he or not to ground him-he-felled
Et Valegrapes moult tost en piez sailli;
And Valegrape very soon on feet leapt
à son grant croc si forment le sesi
with his great hook so greatly him he-seized
petit s'en faut que tot nel porfendi.
little thereof lacks that all not-him he-split

Renouart voit son sanc parmi sa plaie;
Rainouart sees his blood through his wound
il en jura la paterne veraie
he thereof swore the fatherhood true
mavès sera encor ne s'i essaie.
bad he-will-be yet unless himself-there he-test
De son tinel merveilleus cop li paie;
With his cudgel marvelous blow him he-pays
ne li fist mal .I. seul bouton de haie,
not him it-did hurt a single bud of hedge
dont fu dolent Renoars, moult s'esmaie.
whereof was grieving Rainouart much himself-he-dismays

Des .II. vassaus fu li estors pesans;
Of-the two vassals was the battle heavy
grans cox se donent es costez et es flans.
great blows themselves they-give in-the sides and in-the flanks
Et d'autre part contreval li Archans
And from-other part down the Archamp
se recombat Guillaumes li vaillans,
himself fights-again William the valiant
et Aymeris, et toz ses .VI. enfanz;
and Aimeri and all his six sons
tele entente ont envers les souduians
such intent they-have toward the wretches
ne lor remembre d'ome qui soit vivans.
not them remembers of-man who be living
Contre .I. des noz i a .C. mescréans,
Against one of-the ours there has a-hundred miscreants
si nos ocient et afolent noz Frans.
so us they-kill and maim our Franks
Et François crient, Jhesu lor soit aidans:
And French cry Jesus to-them be helping
«Et où est ore Renoars le vaillans?
And where is now Rainouart the valiant
«Au grant besoig nos est ore faillans.»
At-the great need us is now failing
Mès ne leur vaut le pris de .II. besans,
But not them avails the worth of two bezants
quar Valegrapes, li cuvers mescréans,
for Valegrape the wretch miscreant

en tel destroit le tient li souduians
in such strait him holds the wretch
que par la bouche li est volez li sans.
that through the mouth to-him is flown the blood

Desoz l'Archant, soz .I. arbre ramé,
Below the-Archamp under a tree branched
sont li vasal ambedui aresté;
are the vassals both stopped
de bien combatre sont moult entalenté.
for well fighting they-are very eager
Renoars a Valegrape avisé,
Rainouart has Valegrape aimed-at
el chief amont l'a moult bien assené.
on-the head above him-he-has very well struck
Fort fu la pel de vielle antiquité;
Strong was the hide of old antiquity
ne l'empoira .I. denier monéé.
not it-it-damaged a penny coined
Grant fu le cop, s'a le Turc estonné;
Great was the blow so-it-has the Turk stunned
vousist ou non, l'a deus piez reculé,
he-would or not him-it-has two feet pushed-back
et li paien en a .I. cri gité.
and the pagan thereof has a cry thrown
La terre en crolle environ de tou[t] lé.
The earth thereof shakes around of all width
Fierement a Renoart regardé,
Fiercely he-has Rainouart looked-at

à son croc a Renoart assené,
with his hook he-has Rainouart struck
si l'a saisi parmi l'iaume jemé
so him-he-has seized through the-helmet jeweled
qu'agenoillier le fist contre son gré.
that-kneel him he-made against his will
Renoars saut qui n'a point demoré.
Rainouart leaps who not-has at-all delayed

Quant Renoars a le paien véu
When Rainouart has the pagan seen
que à son croc l'a si fort porfendu,
that with his hook him-has so hard split
tel duel en a tot a le sanc méu.
such grief thereof he-has all he-has the blood stirred
Ja le ferist desus le cuir velu;
Soon him he-would-have-struck upon the hide hairy
mès Valegrapes leva le croc agu.
but Valegrape raised the hook sharp
Là est au Turc assez mesavenu,
There is to-the Turk enough mischanced
en .II. moitiez li a son croc rompu.
in two halves him he-has his hook broken

Renouart a véu la meschéance;
Rainouart has seen the mischance
dist au paien: «Tu es en la balance;
said to-the pagan Thou art in the balance

«Mahon renoie, et si t'en vien en France.»
Mahomet deny and so thee-thence come into France
Dist Valegrapes: «Or as tu dit enfance;
Said Valegrape Now hast thou said childishness
«tant com je tienge de mon grant croc le manche,
as-long as I hold of my great hook the handle
«ne redot je ton tinel une lance.
not fear I thy cudgel a lance
«Poi te vaudra tote ta grant poisance;
Little thee will-avail all thy great power
«encui morras à moult grande viltance.»
today thou-wilt-die at very great vileness

Renouart fu en mi le pré herbu,
Rainouart was in amid the meadow grassy
tint son tinel, onques mieudres ne fu,
he-held his cudgel ever better not was-there
dist au paien: «Or es tu confondu
said to-the pagan Now art thou confounded
«se tu ne croiz au digne nom Jhesu;
if thou not believest in-the worthy name (of-)Jesus
«se nel faz tost, jai t'aurai confondu.»
if not-it thou-do soon already thee-I-shall-have confounded
Dist Valegrapes: «Malvais ribaut tondu,
Said Valegrape Bad ribald shorn
«malvès segnor as ci amentéu
bad lord thou-hast here mentioned
«qui si t'a fet assez despris et nu.»
who so thee-has made enough despised and naked

A icez moz l'a saisi par le bu.
At these words him-he-has seized by the trunk
Et Renoart, qui l'a apercéu,
And Rainouart who it-has perceived
son tinel gete desus le pré herbu,
his cudgel throws upon the meadow grassy
et a molt bien à luiter entendu.
and he-has very well to wrestling attended
Tant ont entr'eus la luite maintenu
So-long they-have between-them the wrestling maintained
qu'à .I. fès sont à la terre chéu.
that-in one heap they-are to the earth fallen
Mès Valegrapes est en piez resaillu,
But Valegrape is on feet leapt-up-again
prent le tinel Renoart qu'a véu;
he-takes the cudgel (of-)Rainouart which-he-has seen
nel pot lever, ja l'en éust féru,
not-it he-could raise already him-thereof he-would-have struck
mon escient ja l'éust abatu;
to-my knowing already him-he-would-have felled
fuiant li vet entor l'arbre foillu.
fleeing him he-goes around the-tree leafy

Renouart fu tot seul enz el prael;
Rainouart was all alone in in-the meadow
de son tinel n'a joie ne revel,
from his cudgel not-he-has joy nor revelry
[de l'arbre fait contre le Turc castel.
of the-tree he-makes against the Turk castle

Cil le decache entor à son fuisel.]
He him chases around at his spindle
Le bers reclaime le baron saint Marcel.
The baron invokes the baron saint Marcel
Dist Valegrapes: «Or entent, ribaudel,
Said Valegrape Now hear little-ribald
«croiras tu point el roi Luciabel?
wilt-believe thou at-all in-the king Luciabel
«Voler ferai de ton cief le chapel.»
Fly I-shall-make from thy head the cap
Dist Renoars: «Or as bien ton revel;
Said Rainouart Now thou-hast well thy revelry
«mal dehé ait par le mien haterel,
ill curse have by the my nape
«de moie part, sire, qui en est bel.»
from my part lord who thereof is glad
Lors remembra Renouart del martel
Then remembered Rainouart of-the hammer
que il conquist quant il ocist Borel;
which he won when he killed Borel
de son çaint l'oste bien ovré à cisel,
from his belt it-he-takes well worked with chisel
fiert Valegrape deseur le haterel.
he-strikes Valegrape above the nape
Dessus l'espaule est rompue la pel,
Upon the-shoulder is broken the skin
en .II. moitiez est brisiez li martel;
in two halves is broken the hammer

mès neporquant li dona tel bendel
but nevertheless him he-gave such bandage
que à genoux l'abati el [ruisel].
that on knees him-he-felled in-the stream
Le grant tinel li chaï el prael,
The great cudgel him fell in-the meadow
et Renoars le saisi par l'anel.
and Rainouart it seized by the-ring
Si li dona .I. si grant natipel,
So him he-gave a so great buffet
que de son chief li chaï le chapel.
that from his head him fell the cap
Issi maintienent longement le cembel.
Thus they-keep-up long the combat

Dist Renoars: «Or entent, Valegrape;
Said Rainouart Now hear Valegrape
«j'ai mon tinel, ne quit que il m'eschape,
I-have my cudgel not I-think that it me-escape
«ains t'en aurai doné telle soupape
rather thee-thereof I-shall-have given such blow-on-the-chin
«mielz te vendroit tu fusses en Halape.
better thee would-come thou were in Aleppo
«La merci Deu, or es tu en la trape;
The mercy (of-)God now art thou in the trap
«or te convient remaintenir le chaple.
now thee behooves to-keep-up-again the hewing
«Se ne renoies Apollin et Sorape,
If not thou-deny Apollo and Sorape

«je te dorrai tel cop sor cele chape.»
I thee shall-give such blow upon that cape
Dist le paien: «Moult sembles voin et vape.»
Said the pagan Very thou-seemest empty and vapor
A icez moz Renouart le refrape.
At these words Rainouart him strikes-again
Et Valegrapes son tinel li rehape;
And Valegrape his cudgel him grabs-again
encor voudra remaintenir le chaple.
yet he-will-wish to-keep-up-again the hewing

Or est li Turs auques asséurez.
Now is the Turk somewhat assured
Le tinel tient Renoart qu'est quarrez;
The cudgel he-holds (of-)Rainouart which-is square
ne le puet pas bien tenir à ses lez
not it he-can at-all well hold at his sides
ne bien bouter; est moult entalentez.
nor well thrust he-is very eager
A Renouart a dit ses volentez:
To Rainouart he-has said his wishes
«Esta, dist il, ne soiez trespensez;
Stand said he not be troubled
«d'une grant chose me sui aporpensez:
of-a great thing me I-am bethought
«Comment as nom? Qui est tes parentez?
How hast-thou name Who is thy kindred
«Qui est tes peres et tes amis charnez?»
Who is thy father and thy kinsmen of-the-flesh

Dist Renoars: «A par main le saurez.
Said Rainouart At early morning it you-shall-know
«Renoars sui, et d'Espaigne sui nez;
Rainouart I-am and of-Spain I-am born
«mi peres est le fort roi Desramez,
my father is the strong king Desramé
«et est mis oncles Tiebauz li biaux armez;
and is my uncle Thibaut the fair armed
«et sont mi frere Jambuz et Perceguez,
and are my brothers Jambus and Persagué
«et Agolafre, Boreax et Maltriblez,
and Agolafre Boreau and Maltriblé
«et Caïstrus, et Carrel, et Aurez,
and Caïstrus and Carrel and Auré
«et Malatars, et Malars, et Malez,
and Malatars and Malars and Malé
«et Mirahel, Morriaus et Barnez,
and Mirahel Morriau and Barné
«et Valegrapes, ce cuit, est li ainz nez.
and Valegrape this I-think is the eldest born
«J'ai .XV. freres trestouz rois coronez,
I-have fifteen brothers all kings crowned
«fors moi tot seul qui en sui li puis nez.
except me all alone who of-them am the after born
«Ce m'est avis bien sui enparentez,
This to-me-is opinion well I-am kinned
«mais je nes pris .II. deniers monéez.
but I not-them prize two pennies coined
«A Monloon fui d'Espaigne amenez.
To Laon I-was from-Spain brought

«Rois Loéis ert à Saint Jaque alés;
King Louis was to Saint James gone
«là m'acheta .C. mars d'argent pesez.
there me-he-bought a-hundred marks of-silver weighed
«En la cuisine ai bien .VII. anz esté,
In the kitchen I-have well seven years been
«où ai esté sovent bien conréez;
where I-have been often well dressed
«d'un manger fere sui bien endoctrinez.
of-a dish to-make I-am well taught
«Là m'amena Guillaumes au cor nez.
There me-brought William with-the short nose
«En cest estor me fuisse bien provez,
In this battle me I-would-have well proved
«mès .I. petit sui vers toi vergondez:
but a little I-am toward thee ashamed
«Mon tinel tienz et je sui desarmez.
My cudgel thou-holdest and I am disarmed
«Ce m'est avis tu me tienz or les dez;
This to-me-is opinion thou me holdest now the dice
«mès, se m'en fusse hui matin porpensez,
but if me-thereof I-had this morning bethought
«de cest domage fusse bien trestornez
from this damage I-would-have-been well turned-aside
«que je l'éusse dedans mes poinz [gluez],
so-that I it-had within my fists glued
«mon bon tinel, que vos ore tenez.
my good cudgel which you now hold
«Si m'aïst Dex, molt sui maléurez;
So me-help God very I-am ill-starred

«se orendroit mon tinel me rendez,
if right-now my cudgel me you-render
«vers vos sera richement achatez,
from you it-will-be richly bought
«.C. mars d'argent en balance pesez.»
a-hundred marks of-silver in balance weighed
Li paiens l'ot, si est haut escriez:
The pagan it-hears so he-is aloud cried-out
«Mahomet sire, tu soies aorez!
Mahomet lord thou be adored
«Renoars frere, bien soiés vos trovez!
Rainouart brother well be you found
«Venez cà, frere, por Mahon m'acolez.»
Come here brother for Mahomet me-embrace
Dist Renoars: «Vassal, en sus estez;
Said Rainouart Vassal on up stand
«[si m'ëist Dex, n'iere de vos privés]
so me-help God not-I-shall-be with you intimate
«s'ançois nen estes bautiziez et levez;
if-before not you-are baptized and raised
«dont vous sera [mes coros] pardonnez.»
then to-you will-be my wrath pardoned

Dist Valegrapes: «Renoars, ne foloie;
Said Valegrape Rainouart not play-the-fool
«quar croi Mahon, si entre en bonne voie:
so believe Mahomet so enter into good way
«Coronés ieres encui à molt grant joie.»
Crowned thou-wilt-be today with very great joy

Dist Renoars: «Sarrasins, ne foloie
Said Rainouart Saracen not play-the-fool
«de ton Mahon, quar je ne le creroie,
with thy Mahomet for I not him would-believe
«por nule rien ma loi ne guerpiroie,
for any thing my law not I-would-abandon
«que Dex dona por aler droite voie.»
which God gave for to-go right way
Dist Valegrapes: «Fox est qui te chastoie;
Said Valegrape Fool is who thee chastises
«or te feré [c'à home] ne feroie:
now to-thee I-shall-do what-to man not I-would-do
«S'à cest tinel le tuen cors ocioie,
If-with this cudgel the thy body I-killed
«ce m'est avis que malvestié feroie.»
this to-me-is opinion that baseness I-would-do
Le tinel jete en sus hors de la voie.
The cudgel he-throws on up out of the way
Et Renouars i cort, qui a grant joie;
And Rainouart there runs who has great joy
prent son tinel, entor lui le tornoie.
he-takes his cudgel around him it he-twirls

Renouart prant la grant perche quarrée;
Rainouart takes the great pole square
il la paumoie, contremont l'a levée,
he it handles upward it-he-has raised

fiert Valegrape; tele li a donée
he-strikes Valegrape such him he-has given
que le cuirain n'i pot avoir durée:
that the hide not-there could have lasting
tout li descire desi qu'en l'eschinée.
all him it-tears right into the-spine
Dist Renouars: «Une en avez portée.
Said Rainouart One thereof you-have carried
«Tu es mis freres, c'est verité provée; 6420
Thou art my brother it-is truth proved
«quar croiz en Dieu, qui fist ciel et rousée,
so believe in God who made heaven and dew
«et en Marie, qui roïne est clamée;
and in Mary who queen is called
«se tu le fez, t'ame sera salvée.»
if thou it do thy-soul will-be saved
Le paiens l'ot, s'a la teste crollée:
The pagan it-hears so-he-has the head shaken
«Je n'i creroie por l'or d'une contrée.» 6425
I not-there would-believe for the-gold of-a country
Dist Renouart: «Tu as fole pensée;
Said Rainouart Thou hast foolish thought
«quant tu ne croiz [en] la Virge henorée,
since thou not believest in the Virgin honored
«je t'ocirai à ma perche quarrée.»
I thee-shall-kill with my pole square

Grant fu l'estor et longuement dura.
Great was the-battle and long it-lasted
Et Renouars le paien regarda;
And Rainouart the pagan looked-at
isnelement de Bertrant li membra
swiftly of Bertrand to-him it-remembered
qui del tinel bouter li commanda.
who with-the cudgel thrusting him commanded
Desouz l'essele le grelle chief bouta
Beneath the-armpit the slender end he-thrust
et par devant le greignor retorna;
and at front the greater he-turned
fiert Valegrape, en boutant le hurta
he-strikes Valegrape in thrusting him he-struck
par tel aïr que tot en tressua,
with such fury that all thereby he-sweated
et le fort cuir li rompi et faussa.
and the strong hide him he-broke and pierced
Soz le costé le tinel l'assena,
Under the side the cudgel him-struck
ront li les costes et le cuir li creva.
he-breaks him the ribs and the hide him he-burst
Le paien chiet et .I. grant bret jeta;
The pagan falls and a great cry threw
tot li Archant et la terre en crolla.
all the Archamp and the earth thereby shook
Et Renouars moult forment l'esgarda;
And Rainouart very greatly him-looked-at
or se repent forment que ocis l'a.
now himself he-repents greatly that killed him-he-has

Quant paien voient Valegrape est vaincuz,
When pagans see Valegrape is vanquished
de ses barons s'enfuient tuit li plus.
of his barons themselves-flee all the most
De ce fu moult Renouars irascuz.
Of this was very Rainouart angered
«Alas, dit il, com je sui malostruz!
Alas says he how I am ill-starred
«N'ai nul souler, ainz ai les piez toz nuz;
Not-I-have any shoe rather I-have the feet all bare
«parmi les plantes en est li sans issuz.»
through the soles thereof is the blood gone-out
Il se fist mort, à la terre est chéuz,
He himself made dead to the earth he-is fallen
.I. grant bret jete com fust à mort feru[z];
a great cry he-throws as he-were to death struck
mès toutes voies fu bien le fust tenuz.
but all ways was well the shaft held
.M. Sarrasin i vienent à escuz,
A-thousand Saracens there come with shields
qui tuit esgardent Renouart, qui gist jus.
who all look-at Rainouart who lies down
Paien s'escrient: «Ne s'en fuie mès nus;
Pagans themselves-cry Not himself-thence flee more any
«cil est tuez qui nos a confonduz.»
this-one is killed who us has confounded

Flohart

x

Pagans run at Rainouart, thinking him dead, but he leaps up and drives them off. Grishart wounds him with an ax and offers him his sister Florechaux, and Rainouart kills him. Flohart, a giant hag, fouls the host with her breath; Rainouart breaks her scythe, and she bites off his ventail before he kills her. Desramé begs his son to believe in Mahomet; Rainouart breaks three of his ribs, and William and his kin rescue Rainouart.

Sarrasin cuident que Renouars soit mors;
Saracens think that Rainouart be dead
plus de .XX^{m}. i vienent les galos,
more than twenty-thousand there come at-the gallop
Renouart boutent de lances et de cros.
Rainouart they-thrust with lances and with hooks
Il sailli sus, aussi bret com .I. tors.
He leapt up just roared as a bull
Paien le voient, si li tornent les dos.
Pagans him see so him they-turn the backs
Et Renouart les suit de moult grans tros,
And Rainouart them follows with very great trots
de son tinel brise as paiens les dos,
with his cudgel he-breaks to-the pagans the backs
puis lor escrie et lor dit à briés mos:
then them he-cries and them says in brief words
«Filz à putain, mar m'i avez enclos!
Sons of whore ill me-there you-have enclosed
«Ne puis avoir .I. seul jor de repos.»
Not I-can have a single day of rest

Renouart tint à .II. poinz sa maçue;
Rainouart held in two fists his club
cil qu'il ataint à .I. cop mort [le] rue.
he whom-he reaches at one blow dead him he-throws
Ez vos .I. Turc une voie batue;
Behold you a Turk a road beaten
Grishart ot nom, d'oltre l'Isle Perdue,
Grishart had name from-beyond the-Isle Lost
et fu sa fille Guinehart la boçue.
and was his daughter Guinehart the hunchback
Ja por mengier la char d'un home crue
Ever for eating the flesh of-a man raw
à lor de melse ne covenra aüe.
at their of mead not will-behoove aid
Grishart portoit une hache molue;
Grishart carried an ax ground
fiert Renouart, durement s'esvertue,
he-strikes Rainouart hard himself-he-exerts
l'iaume li trenche et la broine menue.
the-helmet him he-cuts and the byrnie fine
Jusqu'à la char est la hache corue,
Right-to the flesh is the ax run
li sans chéi desor l'erbe menue.
the blood fell upon the-grass fine
Dist Renoars: «Or en ai une éue;
Said Rainouart Now thereof I-have one had
«par tans vos iert molt richement rendue.»
in time to-you it-will-be very richly rendered

Grant fu l'estor, merveillos et mortax,
Great was the-battle marvelous and mortal
et Renoars fu legiers et isneaus.
and Rainouart was light and swift
Et dist Grishart: «Qui estes vos, ribax?
And said Grishart Who are you ribald
«Chetis, ressembles molt bien à tes drapiax;
Wretch thou-resemblest very well to thy rags
«en la cuisine as rosti des mustiax
in the kitchen thou-hast roasted of-the shanks
«et as torchiez les poz et les vessiax.
and hast scoured the pots and the vessels
«Mès solement por ce que tu es biax,
But only for this that thou art fair
«je te dorrai et citez et chastiax,
I thee shall-give both cities and castles
«et ma sereur qui a nom Florechaux.
and my sister who has name Florechaux
«C'est cele dame qui porte cele fax;
It-is that lady who carries that scythe
«rois en seras, ains que cout li solaus,
king thereof thou-wilt-be before that set the sun
«si lai tes Dex qui ne valent .II. ax.»
so leave thy gods who not are-worth two garlics
Dist Renoars: «Filz à putain, ribaux,
Said Rainouart Son of whore ribald
«mar i p[en]sastes, si m'aït Saint Thomax.»
ill there you-thought so me-help Saint Thomas
Il passe avant, ainz ne fu arestax,
He passes forward ever not he-was stopped

fiert le paien desor l'iaume à esmax;
he-strikes the pagan upon the-helmet with enamels
ne lui valut ne coife, ne chapiax,
not him availed neither coif nor cap
que à ses piez n'en pende li cervax.
that at his feet not-thence hang the brains
Dist Renoars: «Poise bien cest fuissax;
Said Rainouart Weighs well this shaft
«jamès n'irez à Treche ni à Bax.» 6500
ever not-you-will-go to Treche nor to Bax
A cez paroles i vient li rois Richax,
At these words there comes the king Richaut
et Desramés, et .XIIII. amirax,
and Desramé and fourteen emirs
et .XXX^{m}. de paien desloiax.
and thirty-thousand of pagans disloyal
Se Dex n'en pense, le pere esperitax,
If God not-thereof think the father spiritual
Renoars iert delivrez as vassax. 6505
Rainouart will-be delivered to-the vassals

Grant fu li criz, la noise et la mellée;
Great was the cry the noise and the melee
sonent boisines et cors à la menée.
sound trumpets and horns at the march
Li quens Guillames a la noise escoutée,
The count William has the noise heard
«Monjoie» escrie, sa gent a assemblée.
Monjoie he-cries his people he-has assembled

Se Dex n'en pense, qui fist ciel et rousée,
If God not-thereof think who made heaven and dew
cele compaigne sera desbaretée.
that company will-be routed
Et quant Flohart a oï la criée,
And when Flohart has heard the cry
et la parole oï et escoutée,
and the word heard and listened
que Renouars à la perche quarrée
that Rainouart with the pole square
a mort son frere qui gist gueule baée,
has killed her brother who lies mouth gaping
elle saut sus trestote escervelée.
she leaps up all out-of-her-wits
.XV. piez ot, tant l'ont François esmée,
Fifteen feet she-had so-much her-have French reckoned
d'un cuir de bugle estoit enveloppée;
with-a hide of buffalo she-was wrapped
o tot la fauz est en l'estor entrée.
with all the scythe she-is into the-battle entered
A Renouart l'a Guillaumes mostrée:
To Rainouart her-has William shown
«Dex, dist Guillaumes, sainte Virge henorée!
God said William holy Virgin honored
«Quel beste est ce que je voi là armée?
What beast is this that I see there armed
«S'ele vit longues, ja n'i aurons durée.»
If-she lives long ever not-there we-shall-have lasting
Dist Renoars: «Folie avez pensée;
Said Rainouart Folly you-have thought

«je l'ocirai à ma perche quarrée.»
I her-shall-kill with my pole square
Ez vos Flohart corant de randonée;
Behold you Flohart running at full-speed
de sa bouche ist une si grant fumée
from her mouth goes-out a so great smoke
trestote l'ost en fu empullentée.
all the-host thereby was made-stinking
Et Renoars i vint à l'encontrée,
And Rainouart there came at the-meeting
si li escrie: «Pute, vielle desvée,
so her he-cries Whore old mad
«quex vis déables vous ont d'enfer gitée?
what living devils you have from-hell thrown
«De quex maufez fustes vos engendrée?
Of what devils were you engendered
«Por quoi vous estes réine coronée?
For why you are queen crowned
«Déussiez estre en vo chambre pavée
You-ought be in your chamber paved
«à .I. malfé qui vous éust amée.
with a devil who you might-have loved
«Pour de besanz plaine mine comblée
For of bezants full bushel heaped
«ne vous voudroie avoir despucelée.»
not you I-would-wish to-have deflowered
Ot le Flohart, si en fu aïrée;
Hears it Flohart so thereof she-was angered
el li escrie: «Ribaut, soufle tostée,
she him cries Ribald puff toasted

«par Mahomet, mar m'avez ramponée!
by Mahomet ill me-you-have mocked
«De ceste fauz te dorrai tel colée
With this scythe thee I-shall-give such stroke
«jamès par toi n'iert paiele escurée,
ever by thee not-will-be pan scoured
«ne poz torchiez, ne chaudiere escumée.»
nor pots scrubbed nor cauldron skimmed
El passe avant, s'a la fauz entesée.
She passes forward so-she-has the scythe aimed
Et Renouars l'a forment redoutée;
And Rainouart her-has greatly feared
contre la fauz a la perche jetée.
against the scythe he-has the pole thrown
Tranche du fer dont elle estoit bendée
It-cuts of-the iron with-which it was banded
grant demi pié est en la perche entrée.
great half foot is into the pole entered
Renouars sache et la vielle a ruée,
Rainouart pulls and the old-woman he-has thrown
et sa fauz est en .II. moitiez froée;
and her scythe is in two halves shattered
c'est une chose que Renouars agrée.
it-is a thing that Rainouart likes

Renouart voit la grant fauz peçoïe,
Rainouart sees the great scythe broken
grant joie en ot; la vieille fu irie,
great joy thereof he-had the old-woman was angered

del poing le fiert par de joste l'oïe
with-the fist him she-strikes by from beside the-ear
que .II. des denz li peçoie et esmie.
that two of-the teeth him she-breaks and crumbles
Dist Renouars: «Bone m'avez paiée.»
Said Rainouart Good me-you-have paid
Il saut avant, la vielle a embracie,
He leaps forward the old-woman he-has embraced
et elle [lui], ne fu mie esbahie,
and she him not she-was at-all dismayed
par tel vertu, nel mescréez vos mie,
with such strength not-it misbelieve you at-all
qu'à Renoart a l'eschine ploïe.
that-to Rainouart she-has the-spine bent
Et Renoars a la vielle guenchie
And Rainouart has the old-woman dodged
qui plus puoit que charoigne porrie.
who more stank than carrion rotten
Et Flohart a la ventaille saisie,
And Flohart has the ventail seized
as denz li a del hauberc esrachie,
with-the teeth him she-has from-the hauberk torn-off
ausi [l'anglote] que ce fust formagie.
just it-she-gulps as-if it were cheese
Dist Renouars: «Dame Sainte Marie,
Said Rainouart Lady Holy Mary
«à vous commant et mon cors et ma vie!
to you I-commend both my body and my life
«Grant poor ai que ceste ne m'ocie.»
Great fear I-have that this-one — me-kill

Quant Renoars voit Flohart qui desroie,
When Rainouart sees Flohart who rages
moult la redoute, por quoi en mentiroie?
much her he-fears for why thereof would-I-lie
Jhesu reclaime et la paterne vraie:
Jesus he-invokes and the fatherhood true
«Saint Lienart, qui les prisons desloie,
Saint Leonard who the prisoners unbinds
«Saint Julien, mon tinel vous otroie!
Saint Julian my cudgel to-you I-grant
«Sor vostre autel de bon cuer le metroie
Upon your altar with good heart it I-would-put
«se de cest champ le pris porter povoie.»
if from this field the prize carry I-could
Fiert la paiene que le cors li peçoie;
He-strikes the pagan-woman so-that the body her he-breaks
elle chiet morte et s'estent et patoie.
she falls dead and herself-stretches and paws
Dist Renouars: «Jesez vous toute coie,
Said Rainouart Lie you all quiet
«vielle punese! gardez que ne vous oie!»
old-woman stinking take-care that not you I-hear
Son tinel prent, si le besse et paumoie.
His cudgel he-takes so it he-kisses and handles
Dist Renouars: «Certes, ne vos donroie,
Said Rainouart Surely not you I-would-give
«Sire tinel, por la cité de Troie;
Lord cudgel for the city of Troy
«mès li bon saint vous aura tote voie.»
but the good saint you will-have all way

Desramés vient poignant par le tornoi;
Desramé comes spurring through the tourney
son filz encontre Renoart devant soi.
his son he-meets Rainouart before himself
Nel connut mie, si vous dirai pour quoi,
Not-him he-knew at-all so you I-shall-tell for why
que malement resemble filz de roi:
for badly he-resembles son of king
tot est nuz piez, povre estoit son conroi.
all he-is bare foot poor was his array
Dist Desramés: «Quex hom es tu, di moi?»
Said Desramé What man art thou tell me
Dist Renoars: «Je le vos conterai;
Said Rainouart I it you shall-tell
«mal aie je se je por vos le lai.
ill may-have I if I for you it leave
«Renoars sui, engendré fui d'un roi;
Rainouart I-am begotten I-was of-a king
«hom sui Guillaume, si l'aim en bone foi;
man I-am (of-)William so him-I-love in good faith
«se mal li fez, je le ferai à toi.
if ill to-him thou-doest I it shall-do to thee
«Cil te deffie qui n'a soing de ta loi:
He thee defies who not-has care of thy law
«C'est mon tinel que je tieng et paumoi.»
It-is my cudgel which I hold and handle

Dist Desramés: «Renoars, biax amis,
Said Desramé Rainouart fair friend
«tu es mon filz, par foi le te plevis;
thou art my son by faith it thee I-pledge
«par tot le monde t'ai ge cerchié et quis.
through all the world thee-have I searched and sought
«Que croi Mahon, qui est poestéis,
Rather believe Mahomet who is mighty
«[car te renoies] ains que past li midis.
so thee deny before that pass the noon
«Se je t'oci, jel feré à envis;
If I thee-kill I-it shall-do at unwillingness
«pechié sera, si com dit li escris.»
sin it-will-be so as says the writing
Dist Renouars: «Ja n'en soiez maris;
Said Rainouart Ever not-thereof be grieved
«se je t'eschape, tu seras malbaillis.
if I thee-escape thou wilt-be ill-treated
«Ne te leré, jusqu'à port de Lutis,
Not thee I-shall-leave as-far-as-to port of Lutis
«borc ne chastel, cité ne plesséis,
town nor castle city nor enclosure
«que ne t'abate, tant soit forz ne garnis.»
that not thee-I-fell so-much it-be strong or furnished
Desramés l'ot, d'ire en est toz nercis;
Desramé it-hears with-wrath thereof he-is all darkened
il tret [l'espée], l'escu a avant mis,
he draws the-sword the-shield he-has before put
fiert Renoart sor le chapel voltis.
he-strikes Rainouart upon the cap vaulted

Bon fu li feutre qui n'est .I. point malmis.
Good was the felt which not-is a jot damaged
Dist Renouars: «Fol plet avez enpris;
Said Rainouart Foolish plea you-have undertaken
«je vos defi par le cors saint Denis.
I you defy by the body (of-)saint Denis
«Ne sui vo filz, certes, ne voz amis;
Not I-am your son surely nor your friend
«se je devoie en enfer estre mis,
if I must into hell be put
«ne cesseroie tant com tu soies vis.»
not I-would-cease so-long as thou be alive

«Fiuz Renoars, dist li rois Desramez,
Son Rainouart said the king Desramé
«quant te norri je fis que fol provez;
when thee nourished I I-did as fool proved
«mielz me venist tu fusses enflambez.»
better me would-have-come thou were burned
Dist Renoars: «Vos dites veritez.»
Said Rainouart You say truths
En contremont a le tinel levez.
In upward he-has the cudgel raised
A haute voiz a Renouars criez:
With high voice has Rainouart cried
«Par cel Seignor qui en croiz fu penez,
By that Lord who on cross was tormented
«je vous ferrai se vous ne vous gardez;
I you shall-strike if you not yourself guard

«mal aiez vous se vous ne m'en créez.»
ill may-have you if you not me-thereof believe
Li rois guenchi qu'il ne fu adesez;
The king swerved so-that-he not was touched
encontre terre est le tinel hurtez.
against earth is the cudgel struck
Et li rois s'est à Renouart meslez,
And the king himself-is with Rainouart grappled
du brant li done .II. cox desmesurez
with-the blade him he-gives two blows measureless
amont en l'elme qui fu bon et safrez.
up on the-helmet which was good and gilded
Ne l'enpoira .II. deniers monéez;
Not it-it-damaged two pennies coined
mès Renoars fu auques estonnez,
but Rainouart was somewhat stunned
quar li rois fu et forz et adurez.
for the king was both strong and hardened
Et Renoars fu forment aïrez;
And Rainouart was greatly angered
son pere fiert en boutant el costez
his father he-strikes in thrusting in-the sides
que .III. des costes li a el cors froez.
that three of-the ribs him he-has in-the body shattered
Desramés s'est de la dolor pasmez.
Desramé himself-is from the pain swooned
Paien quidierent que li rois fust tuez;
Pagans thought that the king were killed
Renoart boutent es flans et es costez,
Rainouart they-thrust in-the flanks and in-the sides

lancent li lances et fausarz empanez.
they-hurl him lances and scythe-blades feathered
Là fu forment Renoars encombrez.
There was greatly Rainouart hard-pressed

Sarrasin vont Renoart assaillant,
Saracens go Rainouart assailing
lancent li lances et fausart et lançant.
they-hurl him lances and scythe-blades and darts
Mort fust ileques, ja nen éust garant; 6645
Dead he-were there ever not he-would-have protection
mès au rescorre vint Guillaume poignant
but to-the rescue came William spurring
et Aymeris, et tuit li .V. enfant,
and Aimeri and all the five sons
et si neveu et si autre parent;
and his nephews and his other kin
a l'estandart les enmainent batant.
to the-standard them they-drive beating

The Broken Cudgel

XI

Rainouart sits under a tree and grieves that he has killed his kin. Haucebier, a giant from the ships, scorns his rags, and they fight; the cudgel loses its bands and breaks in two as Rainouart kills him. He fights with his fists until he hits on the sword Guibourc girded on him, and it cuts better. The pagans flee to their ships, which he has wrecked, and Desramé escapes by sea in the one left. The rest camp with Baudus in a bean field.

Grant fu l'estor et fort et adurez.
Great was the-battle and strong and hardened
Et Renoars est ariere tornez;
And Rainouart is back turned
il est asis souz .I. arbre ramez,
he is seated under a tree branched
son tinel prent, si l'esgarda assez.
his cudgel he-takes so it-he-looked-at enough
Amont el chief fu tot ensanglantez
Up on-the head it-was all bloodied
del sanc de cels que il avoit tuez.
with-the blood of those whom he had killed
De son lignage s'est .I. poi porpensez:
Of his lineage himself-he-is a little bethought
«A las! dist il, tant sui maléurez!
Ah wretched said he so-much I-am ill-starred
«Or ai ocis les miens amis charnez
Now I-have killed the my kinsmen of-the-flesh
«et à mon pere ai brisié les costez!
and to my father I-have broken the sides

«Icist pechié ne m'iert ja pardonnez.
This sin not to-me-will-be ever pardoned
«Et qu'ai je dit? Ce a fait mon tinez;
And what-have I said This has done my cudgel
«mal soit de l'eure que il fut charpentez!»
ill be of the-hour that it was carpentered
Son fust geta devant lui enz es prez;
His shaft he-threw before him in in-the meadows
li bouz en est en la terre coulez.
the end thereof is into the earth sunk
«Va, dit il, fust, mar fuses tu copez!
Go says he shaft ill wert thou cut
«Tu as esté de moi moult enourez;
Thou hast been by me very honored
«or m'en irai, et vous ci remendrez.
now me-thence I-shall-go and you here will-remain
«Jamès por moi avant n'ieres portez.»
Ever by me forward not-you-will-be carried
Adonques s'est Renoars regardez;
Then himself-is Rainouart looked-about
voit une gent qu'est issue des nez,
he-sees a folk which-is gone-out from-the ships
rois Aucebiers les a devant guiez.
king Haucebier them has in-front guided
Granz fu et forz .XV. piez mesurez;
Great he-was and strong fifteen feet measured
en son dos erent .III. bons haubers safrez,
on his back were three good hauberks gilded
et à son col .III. bons escuz bendez,
and at his neck three good shields banded

et .III. espées pendent à ses costez.
and three swords hang at his sides
Tint .I. espié, qui est grant et quarrez;
He-held a spear which is great and square
d'un [mal] serpent fu tot envenimez.
with-a bad serpent it-was all envenomed
Por sa grant force estoit moult redoutez.
For his great strength he-was very dreaded
Et Renoars le vit, s'est retornez,
And Rainouart him saw himself-he-is turned-back
à son tinel courut toz effréez.
to his cudgel he-ran all frightened
«Amis, dist il, nous somes acordez;
Friend said he we are reconciled
«ci vient tel hom qui n'est pas mes privez;
here comes such man who not-is at-all my intimate
«ne finerai s'aurai à lui jostez.
not I-shall-cease until-I-shall-have with him jousted
«Or i parra [comment] vous m'aiderez.»
Now there will-appear how you me-will-help
Lors se guenchi, vers lui s'est retornez;
Then himself he-swerved toward him himself-he-is turned
il li escrie: «Sarrasin, d'où venez?
he him cries Saracen whence come-you
«Voulez combatre à moi enmi ces prez?
Wish-you to-fight with me amid these meadows
«Ja por bataille mès vous remuerez.»
Soon for battle more you will-move
Dist Aucebiers: «T'es fol escervelez;
Said Haucebier Thou-art fool brainless

«ja hom à pié n'iert par moi adesez.
ever man on foot not-will-be by me touched
«Tes dras ne valent .II. deniers monéez;
Thy clothes not are-worth two pennies coined
«bien sembles fox, se tu estoies rez.»
well thou-seemest fool if thou were shaven
Dist Renoars: «Or ne me ramponez;
Said Rainouart Now not me mock
«à vous que monte se j'ai dras despanez?
to you what matters if I-have clothes torn
«Le cuer n'est mie en l'ermin engoulez,
The heart not-is at-all in the-ermine trimmed
«ainz est ou ventre là où Dex l'a plantez;
rather it-is in-the belly there where God it-has planted
«fols est por dras qui tient homme en viltez,
fool is for clothes who holds man in vileness
«quar tiex est riches cui chiet en povretez,
for such is rich who falls into poverty
«et tex est povres à cui Dex done assez.
and such is poor to whom God gives enough
«Riche malvès ne valt .II. auz pelez;
Rich bad-man not is-worth two garlics peeled
«qui que le prise ja par moi n'ert loez.
who that him prizes ever by me not-will-be praised
«Se je sui povres, encore aurai assez;
If I am poor yet I-shall-have enough
«encor serai riches roi coronez.»
yet I-shall-be rich king crowned
Dist Haucebiers: «Va ta voie, desvez.
Said Haucebier Go thy way madman

«S'à toi [jostoie], j'en seroie blasmez;
If-with thee I-jousted I-thereof would-be blamed
«mès monstre moi Guillaume au cor nez:
but show me William with-the short nose
«Por seue amor seras tu ja tuez.»
For his love wilt-be thou soon killed
Dist Renoars: «Se Dex plest, non ferez,
Said Rainouart If God pleases not you-will-do
«ne ferez pas si com avez pensez.
not you-will-do at-all so as you-have thought
«Il a en moi el que vos ne quidez;
It has in me other than you — think
«quar, se Dex plest, quant vous m'eschaperez,
for if God pleases when you me-will-escape
«ja à Guillaume mès rien ne forferez.
ever to William more anything not you-will-wrong
«Je vos desfi, des tinés vous gardez.»
I you defy from-the cudgels you guard
Lieve le fust et est avant passé,
He-raises the shaft and is forward passed
fiert Haucebier que tot l'a estonné,
he-strikes Haucebier so-that all him-be-has stunned
que le chief a de son fust tot quassé.
so-that the end he-has of his shaft all shattered
Une des bendes chéi en mi le pré.
One of-the bands fell in middle-of the meadow
Et Renoars s'est forment escrié:
And Rainouart himself-is greatly cried-out
«Sainte Marie, mon tinel me sauvez!»
Saint Mary my cudgel me save

Haucebiers voit Renoars l'a feru;
Haucebier sees Rainouart him-has struck
de mautalant a tot le sanc [méu].
with ill-will he-has all the blood stirred
Point le destrier qui randone menu,
He-pricks the charger which gallops short
fiert Renoart de son espié molu,
he-strikes Rainouart with his spear ground
lez le costé li mist le fer agu.
beside the side him he-put the iron sharp
Dex le gari qu'en char ne l'a feru.
God him protected so-that-in flesh not him-it-has struck
Dist Renoars: «Bien m'avez conséu.»
Said Rainouart Well me-you-have reached
Tint son tinel, Haucebier a feru
He-held his cudgel Haucebier he-has struck
amont en l'iaume par moult ruiste vertu;
up on the-helmet with very rough strength
ne l'empira vaillissant .I. festu.
not it-it-damaged worth a straw
A Renoart est moult mesavenu;
To Rainouart is very ill-befallen
l'une des bendes chéi el pré herbu,
the-one of-the bands fell in-the meadow grassy
dont reclama le glorieus Jhesu
whereupon he-invoked the glorious Jesus
que il li tiegne son tinel en vertu.
that he him keep his cudgel in strength

Rois Haucebiers [des puis de Grimolée]
King Haucebier of-the hills of Grimolée
point le cheval, si a traite l'epée.
pricks the horse so he-has drawn the-sword
Fiert Renoart par molt grant aïrée;
He-strikes Rainouart with very great wrath
de son chapel a la maille fauxée.
of his cap he-has the mail pierced
Ne fust la broigne de la coiffe forrée,
Not it-were the byrnie of the coif lined
fendu l'éust de si à l'eschinée.
split him-he-would-have from here to the-spine
Et Renoars li a tele donée
And Rainouart him has such given
la mestre bende del tinel est volée.
the master band of-the cudgel is flown
N'en i a c'une; icele estoit faée.
Not-thereof there has but-one that-one was enchanted
Dist Renoars: «Ci a forte jornée;
Said Rainouart Here has hard day
«se pert ma perche qui einsi est quassée,
itself loses my pole which thus is shattered
«de fort heure ai commencié la meslée.»
at hard hour I-have begun the melee

Renouart a son tinel regardé,
Rainouart has his cudgel looked-at
brisié le voit, et fendu et froé;
broken it he-sees and split and shattered

n'ot si grant duel en trestot son aé.
not-he-had so great grief in all his age
Son fust reprent et si l'a entensé;
His shaft he-takes-again and so it-he-has aimed
tant fierement l'a Renoars levé
so fiercely it-has Rainouart raised
autresi bruit com foldre contre oré.
just-so it-roars as thunder against storm
Fiert Haucebier sor son heaume gemé
He-strikes Haucebier upon his helmet jeweled
par tel vertu le cors a tressué.
with such force the body he-has sweated
Trusqu'en la sele l'a fendu et quassé,
Right-into the saddle him-he-has split and shattered
son tinel a par mileu tronçoné.
his cudgel he-has through middle cut-in-two
Icel damage n'aura l'en restoré.
That harm not-will-have one restored
Dist Renoars: «Or vos ai assené;
Said Rainouart Now you I-have struck
«mès, ce m'est vis, n'i ai rien conquesté,
but this to-me-is opinion not-there I-have anything won
«que mon tinel ai fendu et froé.»
for my cudgel I-have split and shattered

Quant li tinés Renoars fu froez,
When the cudgel (of-)Rainouart was shattered
paien l'accueillent environ et en lez,
pagans him-attack around and at side

de totes parz li ont granz cops donez.
from all sides him they-have great blows given
Ne li sovint de l'espée del lez
Not him it-remembered of the-sword at-the side
que li ot ceinte Guiborc à ses costez.
which him had girded Guibourc at his sides
Del poing qu'a gros les a forment frapez.
With-the fist which-he-has big them he-has greatly struck
Cil qu'il feroit est moult tost ostelez.
He whom-he struck is very soon lodged
Plus de .L. en a escervelez;
More than fifty thereof he-has brained
mès de paiens est si grant la plentez
but of pagans is so great the plenty
ja fust iluec Renoars tormentez,
already were there Rainouart tormented
quant li bers s'est à son brant ahurtez.
when the baron himself-is on his blade struck
Tret le del fuerre, si gita grant clartez;
He-draws it from-the sheath so it-threw great brightness
fiert Goulias qui tenoit Balesguez.
he-strikes Goliath who held Balesgué
Trusqu'el braier li est li brans colez.
Right-into-the breeches him is the blade slid
A l'autre cop en a .II. craventez.
At the-other blow thereof he-has two crashed-down
Dist Renoars: «Ceste arme entre souef;
Said Rainouart This weapon enters gently
«bien ait la dame qui la me ceint au lez.
well have the lady who it me girded at-the side

«Se ge cuidasse que costel furent tel,
If I had-thought that knives were such
«toz les éusse avec moi aportez.»
all them I-would-have with me brought

Grant fu l'estor, longuement a duré.
Great was the-battle long it-has lasted
Et Renoars tint le brant aceré,
And Rainouart held the blade steeled
qui plus tranchoit que raisoir afilé.
which more cut than razor sharpened
Devant lui garde, s'a véu Triboé,
Before him he-looks so-he-has seen Triboé
.I. fier paien de grant nobilité;
a proud pagan of great nobility
tout le porfent desqu'el neu del baudré.
all him he-splits right-to-the knot of-the baldric
Paien s'escrient: «Nous sommes fol prové
Pagans themselves-cry We are fools proved
«qui nous fesons ocire à cest maufé.»
who ourselves make kill by this devil
Dist Renoars: «Moult me merveil, par Dé,
Said Rainouart Much me I-marvel by God
«si petite arme qui a tel poesté;
so little weapon which has such power
«par moi seront paien desbareté.»
by me will-be pagans routed
Dient paien: «Ci avons trop esté.»
Say pagans Here we-have too-long been

A icest mot sont en fuie torné;
At this word they-are into flight turned
à lor nés vinrent trestuit desbareté.
to their ships they-came all routed
Mès Renoars i avoit ja esté
But Rainouart there had already been
qui lor avoit malement atorné:
who them had badly dealt-with
nés et dromons lor avoit effondré,
ships and dromonds them he-had stove-in
les maz brisiez et gouvernaus froez.
the masts broken and rudders shattered
N'en i a nul ne soient effondrez,
Not-thereof there has any not be stove-in
fors .I. tot seul qui en est eschapez.
except one all alone which thereof is escaped
En cel entra li forz rois Desramez;
Into that entered the strong king Desramé
li rois i entre entre lui et Huré,
the king there enters between him and Huré
drecent leur voiles; es les vos estupés,
they-raise their sails behold them you stopped-up
nagent et siglent, si les conduist malfés.
they-row and sail so them leads devil
Et Rainouars s'est en haut escriés:
And Rainouart himself-is on high cried-out
«Ralés vous ent, biaus pere Desramés;
Go-back you away fair father Desramé
«s'un seul petit fuisiés plus demorés,
if-a single little you-had more stayed

«jamais Guillames ne fust par vos grevés.
ever William not were by you harmed
«Laisiés nous as et pavillons et trés;
Leave us the both pavilions and tents
«de tous les homes ke aviés amenés
of all the men that you-had brought
«ce m'est avis petit en remenés:
this to-me-is opinion little thereof you-lead-back
«Quant vous plaira, biaus pere, revenés.» 6810
When you will-please fair father come-back
A ces paroles est arire tornés;
At these words he-is back turned
molt a au cuer grant joie.
much he-has in-the heart great joy

Paien s'en vont fuiant, desbareté.
Pagans themselves-thence go fleeing routed
Li vif dieable leur done tel oré
The living devils them give such wind
que leur cemin ont en la mer trové; 6815
that their road they-have in the sea found
de ci à Cordes ne se sont aresté.
from here to Córdoba not themselves they-are stopped
Cil qui remesent sont molt mal ostelé;
Those who remained are very ill lodged
par Aliscans fuient molt esfréé.
through Aliscans they-flee very frightened
Cil les ocient ki nes ont pas amé.
Those them kill who not-them have at-all loved

L'un après l'autre s'en fuient aroté
The-one after the-other themselves-thence flee in-a-rout
plus de .X^{m}., qui tout furent navré.
more than ten-thousand who all were wounded
En mi leur voie ont Baudus encontré,
In middle-of their way they-have Baudus met
ki à son col portoit .I. fust quarré;
who on his neck carried a shaft square
Rainouart quirt, mais ne l'a pas trové.
Rainouart he-seeks but not him-he-has at-all found
Paien le voient, se li ont escrié:
Pagans him see so him they-have cried
«Hé, Baudus sire, aiés de nous pité!
Ah Baudus lord have for us pity
«Tout sommes mort, ocis et afolé.
All we-are dead killed and maimed
«Li quens Guillames a le canp afiné,
The count William has the field ended
«ens en sa nef encacha Desramé;
in in his ship he-chased Desramé
«par mer s'en fuit, or est à saveté.
by sea himself-thence he-flees now he-is in safety
«Et nous fuions comme las, esgaré;
And we flee like weary-ones lost
«tout serons mors ains k'il soit avespré.»
all we-shall-be dead before that-it be evening
Baudus l'entent, près a le sens dervé;
Baudus it-hears near he-has the sense maddened
dist as paiens: «Soiés aséuré;
said to-the pagans Be assured

«ains la nuit erent un grant cop esprové.
before the night there-will-be a great blow tested
«Or voiel vengier mon oncle et mon barné.»
Now I-wish to-avenge my uncle and my baronage
Atant s'en torne, s'en a paiens mené.
Then himself-thence he-turns so-thence he-has pagans led
Une faviere a molt grande trové;
A bean-field he-has very great found
assés i ot feves à grant plenté.
enough there were beans in great plenty
Là sont paien communaument entré,
There are pagans together entered
icele nuit sont illuec ostelé.
that night they-are there lodged
De gens mangierent, de pain n[en] ont gosté.
Of folk they-ate of bread not they-have tasted
Mar le mangierent, cier sera comperé;
Ill it they-ate dear it-will-be paid-for
miex leur venist fuïr fors dou regné.
better them would-have-come to-flee out of-the realm
Li rois Baudus a paiens apelé.
The king Baudus has pagans called
«Baron, dist il, véés soliel cliné;
Barons said he see sun declined
«n'avés mais garde desci à l'ajorné.
not-you-have more care until to the-dawn
«Je m'en irai là val joste cel gué;
I me-thence shall-go there below beside that ford

«se jo véoie le marcis au cort né
if I saw the marquis with-the short nose
«et le vasal ke on m'a tant loé,
and the vassal whom one to-me-has so-much praised
«par Mahomet à qui j'ai créanté,
by Mahomet to whom I-have pledged
«ne mangerai ne de pain ne de blé
not I-shall-eat neither of bread nor of grain
«dusqe jes aie par mon cors amaté.»
until I-them may-have by my body overcome
Atant s'en torne, si tressaut .I. fossé
Then himself-thence he-turns so he-leaps-over a ditch
ki bien avoit .XXV. piés de lé.
which well had twenty-five feet of width
A Mahon le commandent.
To Mahomet him they-commend

Baudus

XII

Baudus, Rainouart's cousin, comes out of the bean field with a mast for a club, offers him his lands for Mahomet, and is refused. The mast breaks, and Rainouart takes a stump; a knight tells William, who rides out with his brothers. Rainouart fells Baudus and offers him Córdoba to convert; Baudus strips the skin off his heel, and Rainouart prays God to give him Baudus as a companion.

Li rois Baudus issi de la faviere.
The king Baudus went-out from the bean-field
Le cors ot grant et hideuse la ciere,
The body he-had great and hideous the face
et traist le mast dont la hante est pleniere.
and he-drew the mast whose the shaft is full
Ne le portaissent .V. paiens de Baiviere, 6860
Not it would-have-carried five pagans of Bavaria
mais ne li poise le rain d'une oliviere.
but not him weighs the branch of-an olive-tree
Molt par s'en va grant pas la sabloniere,
Very greatly himself-thence he-goes great pace the sandy-place
lés la marine, droit selonc la riviere.
beside the shore straight along the river
Ains k'il retort aura bataile fiere,
Before that-he return he-will-have battle fierce
car Rainouars s'en vient tot la charri[e]re. 6865
for Rainouart himself-thence comes all the road
Desconfit ot cele gent losengiere;
Discomfited he-had that folk lying
plus de .XX^{m}. en gist par la bruiere,
more than twenty-thousand thereof lie through the heath

k'il ot tos mors; ainc n'i ot faite biere.
whom-he had all killed ever not-there was made bier
Li rois Baudus li vient à l'encontriere.
The king Baudus to-him comes at the-meeting
«Avois! s'escrie, n'i garirés treciere.»
Avois he-cries not-there you-will-be-saved traitor
Dist Rainouars: «Vous mentés com leciere;
Said Rainouart You lie as lecher
«en Dieu me fi et el baron saint Pierre:
in God me I-trust and in-the baron saint Peter
«Por vous ne fuirai mie.»
For you not I-shall-flee at-all

Li rois Baudus fu molt desmesurés;
The king Baudus was very immoderate
il tint le mast ki grans fu et quarrés,
he held the mast which great was and square
Rainouart a .IIII. fois escriés:
Rainouart he-has four times cried
«Diva, vasal, comment es tu només?
Come vassal how art thou named
«Ki est tes peres? En qel païs fus nés?
Who is thy father In what country wert-thou born
«Ne me mentir, mais di moi verités.
Not me lie but tell me truths
«Se crois Mahon et ses saintes bontés,
If thou-believest Mahomet and his holy goodnesses
«n'i auras garde, tos es aséurés;
not-there thou-wilt-have care all thou-art assured

«à grant mervelle es fornis et mollés.
at great marvel thou-art built and molded
«Et, se tu crois Jhesum de maïstés
And if thou believest Jesus of majesty
«ki fu destruis od les larons provés
who was destroyed with the thieves proved
«en Jhrusalem et en la crois penés,
in Jerusalem and on the cross tormented
«tout l'or del mont, je te di verités,
all the-gold of-the world I thee tell truths
«ne te garroit ke ne fuisses tués.»
not thee would-protect that not thou-were killed
Dist Rainouars: «.I. petit vous souffrés,
Said Rainouart A little you endure
«si m'aïst Diex, jo dirai verités;
so me-help God I shall-tell truths
«ja por paour nen ert mes nons celés.
ever for fear not will-be my name hidden
«De François sui Rainouars apelés,
By French I-am Rainouart called
«si est mes peres li fors rois Desramés,
so is my father the strong king Desramé
«s'est mes serouges Guillames au cort nés.
so-is my brother-in-law William with-the short nose
«Or t'ai voir dit; ne t'est mes nons celés.»
Now thee-I-have true told not to-thee-is my name hidden
Et dist Baudus: «Or te conois assés;
And said Baudus Now thee I-know enough
«mes cousins es et de m'antain fus nés,
my cousin thou-art and of my-aunt thou-wert born

«et s'est mes oncles li fors rois Desramés.
and so-is my uncle the strong king Desramé
«Or croi Mahon, si seras acordés.»
Now believe Mahomet so thou-wilt-be reconciled
Dist Rainouars: «Ja n'i serai pensés.»
Said Rainouart Ever not-there I-shall-be thoughtful
Respont Baudus: «Chou est grans foletés.
Answers Baudus This is great folly
«Es tu dont chou ki tant nos as grevés,
Art thou then he who so-much us hast harmed
«ki Sarrasins as hui desbaretés?
who Saracens hast today routed
«Sor tos les autres es prisiés et doutés;
Above all the others thou-art prized and feared
«par cest estor t'ai jo hui qis assés.
through this battle thee-have I today sought enough
«Un tinel portes qui devant es ferrés;
A cudgel thou-carriest which in-front is shod
«nel puis trover, tant sui je plus irés.»
not-it I-can find so-much am I more angered
Dist Rainouars: «A vos iex le véés;
Said Rainouart With your eyes it see
«je sui iciex vassaus ke vos querés.»
I am that vassal whom you seek
Respont Baudus: «Chou me vient molt en grés;
Answers Baudus This me comes very in liking
«Rainouars frere, où vos tineus remés?
Rainouart brother where-is your cudgel remained
«Li quens Guillames vous tient en grant vieutés:
The count William you holds in great vileness

«Nus et descaus comme ribaus alés.
Naked and unshod like ribalds you-go
«Faites le bien, aveuc moi en venés;
Do it well with me thence come
«partirai vos toutes mes iretés;
I-shall-share-with you all my inheritances
«[des forz tors d'Acre] ferés vos volentés.
of-the strong towers of-Acre you-shall-do your wishes
«Et j'ocirrai le marcis au cort nés
And I-shall-kill the marquis with-the short nose
«et les Franchois que chi as amenés.
and the French whom here thou-hast brought
«Mahons sera essauchiés et levés,
Mahomet will-be exalted and raised
«et vostres Diex honis et vergondés.»
and your God shamed and disgraced
Dist Rainouars: «Onqes plus n'en parlés;
Said Rainouart Ever more not-thereof speak
«je nel feroie por estre desmenbrés.
I not-it would-do for to-be dismembered
«Je croi en Dieu et ses saintes bontés,
I believe in God and his holy goodnesses
«et en la Virge ke[l] porta en ses lés;
and in the Virgin who-him carried in her sides
«tant com jo vive n'en ert mes cuers tornés,
as-long as I live not-thence will-be my heart turned
«car Mahomet ne vaut .II. oes pelés,
for Mahomet not is-worth two eggs peeled
«fors [que por l'or qui i] est amassés,
except that for the-gold which there is heaped

«si le puet on ruer en ces fossés
so it can one throw into these ditches
«com un vil chien se il estoit tués.»
as a vile dog if it were killed
Et dist Baudus: «Or as dit com dervés.
And said Baudus Now thou-hast spoken as madman
«Puis que je voi ke Mahon mescréés
Since that I see that Mahomet you-misbelieve
«et que no loi despisiés et haés,
and that our law you-despise and hate
«je vous ferrai, se ne vos i gardés.»
I you shall-strike if not you there guard
Dist Rainouars: «Diex ert mes avoués;
Said Rainouart God will-be my protector
«li miens cors soit envers Dieu commandés.
the my body be to God commended
«Sire cousins Baudus, grant tort avés:
Lord cousin Baudus great wrong you-have
«Fiex m'antain estes, et tuer me volés!
Son (of-)my-aunt you-are and to-kill me you-wish
«[Auroit il ja mestier humelitez]
Would-have there ever use humility
«ne cousinages, amours ne parentés?»
nor cousinhood love nor kinship
— Oil, dist Baudus, s'en prison vous rendés,
Yes said Baudus if-into prison you you-render
«et Mahomet et ses vertus créés;
and Mahomet and his powers believe
«ja autrement ne serés acordés.»
ever otherwise not you-will-be reconciled

Dist Rainouars: «Tu eres vergondés
Said Rainouart Thou wilt-be disgraced
«de tous tes dis que tu as devisés;
of all thy sayings that thou hast devised
«te renc jo chi les trieves.»
thee render I here the truces

Li baron sont departi et sevré;
The barons are parted and separated
lors s'entrevienent quant se sont desfié,
then themselves-come-together when themselves they-are defied
hardiement se sont entrecontré.
boldly themselves they-are met
Rainouars tint le bon branc aceré,
Rainouart held the good blade steeled
et Baudus a le grant mast entesé;
and Baudus has the great mast aimed
à Rainouart a ruiste cop doné.
to Rainouart he-has rough blow given
Li bers guencist, car molt l'a redoté.
The baron swerved for much it-he-has feared
Si comme foudre a le mast avalé;
So as thunderbolt he-has the mast lowered
desci en terre est li cous avalé,
right into earth is the blow gone-down
plus de .V. piés est en terre colé.
more than five feet it-is into earth sunk

Rainouars saut, .I. tel li a douné
Rainouart leaps a such him he-has given
deseur son cief, parmi l'elme gemé
upon his head through the-helmet jeweled
pieres et flors en a jus craventé.
stones and flowers thereof he-has down crashed
Ne fust la coife del blanc hauberc saffré,
Not it-were the coif of-the white hauberk gilded
à icest cop fust li estors finé.
at this blow were the battle ended
«Voir, dist Baudus, molt avés mal erré.»
Truly said Baudus very you-have ill fared
Le mast rehauce ke il avoit quarré;
The mast he-raises-again which he had squared
par grant vertu l'a contremont levé.
with great force it-he-has upward raised
Or ait Jhesus de Rainouart pité,
Now have Jesus on Rainouart pity
que s'il l'ataint, tout l'aura afiné!
for if-he him-reaches all him-he-will-have finished
Rainouars fu plains de nobilité,
Rainouart was full of nobility
hardis et preus, s'ot le cuer aduré:
bold and worthy so-he-had the heart hardened
le cop guenci si a sailli el pré;
the blow he-swerved so he-has leapt in-the meadow
en .II. moitiés est li mas tronchoné,
in two halves is the mast cut-in-two
tout ausi droit com s'il fust mesuré.
all just-as straight as if-it were measured

Rainouars saut, s'a .I. tronchon cobré,
Rainouart leaps so-he-has a stump seized
une grant toise a de lonc par verté;
a great fathom it-has of length in truth
son branc d'acier a el fuerre jeté,
his blade of-steel he-has into-the sheath thrown
en sus se traist, s'a Baudon apelé:
on up himself he-draws so-he-has Baudus called
«Sire cousins, je vous ai molt amé
Lord cousin I you have much loved
«dès qe je fui jouenes de povre aé;
since that I was young of poor age
«je sai de fi, si le m'a on conté,
I know for sure so it me-has one told
«li plus hardis es de ton parenté.
the most bold thou-art of thy kindred
«Forment t'amaisse et tenisse en cierté
Greatly thee-I-would-love and I-would-hold in dearness
«se tu créisses le roi de majesté,
if thou believed the king of majesty
«et sa naissance et no crestienté.
and his birth and our Christendom
«De cel grant fust ke tu as aporté
Of that great shaft which thou hast brought
«ai la moitié, si ne t'en sai nul gré:
I-have the half so not thee-thereof I-know any thanks
«Guerpis Mahon, si serons accordé.
Abandon Mahomet so we-shall-be reconciled

— Quides moi tu avoir espoonté
Thinkest me thou to-have frightened
«se de mon fust as .I. poi conquesté?
if of my shaft thou-hast a little won
«[Se autre piece auras, ce m'en sai gré].
If other piece thou-wilt-have this me-thereof I-know thanks
«Par Mahomet où jo ai créanté,
By Mahomet whom-to I have pledged
«se je n'avoie fors mon seul poig quarré
if I not-had except my single fist square
«et vos fuisiés encor .IIII. assamblé,
and you were yet four assembled
«si vos aroie conquis à l'ajorné.»
so you I-would-have conquered at the-dawn
A icest mot se sont tot desfié;
At this word themselves they-are all defied
li uns vers l'autre a .IIII. pas passé,
the one toward the-other has four paces passed
de bien ferir sont molt entalenté.
for well striking they-are very eager
Es vos poignant .I. chevalier armé;
Behold you spurring a knight armed
de l'estor vint où il avoit esté:
from the-battle he-came where he had been
en .XV. lieus avoit le cors navré.
in fifteen places he-had the body wounded
Rainouart voit, si l'a bien avisé,
Rainouart he-sees so him-he-has well perceived
qui se combat au paien desfaé;
who himself fights with-the pagan faithless

poignant s'en torne, ne leur a mot soné,
spurring himself-thence he-turns not to-them he-has word sounded
dusqe à Guillame n'i a regne tiré.
until to William not-there he-has rein drawn
Molt a le cuer de Rainouart iré,
Very he-has the heart for Rainouart angered
dont il ne set novele ne verté.
of-whom he not knows news nor truth
Li cevaliers s'est molt haut escrié:
The knight himself-is very loud cried-out
«Sire Guillames, trop avés demoré;
Lord William too-long you-have stayed
«Rainouart vi desous cel pin ramé,
Rainouart I-saw beneath that pine branched
«de là cel tertre, aval desous cel gué,
from there that hill down below that ford
«où se combat à un si grant malfé,
where himself he-fights with a so great devil
«de lui est graindres .I. grant pié mesuré.»
than him he-is bigger a great foot measured
Od le Guillames, s'a «Monjoie» escrié.
Hears it William so-he-has Monjoie cried
Mangier devoient, mais il n'en ont gosté;
Eat they-were-to but they not-thereof have tasted
il et si frere sont maintenant monté.
he and his brothers are at-once mounted
François les sievent, après sont arouté.
French them follow after they-are ranked

N'i a celui ki n'a forment juré
Not-there is that-one who not-has greatly sworn
jusqe en Espaigne ne seront aresté
until into Spain not they-will-be stopped
anchois que il ne[l] raient.
before that they not-him have-again

Li quens Guillames cevauce à esperon,
The count William rides with spur
il et si frere et si autre baron.
he and his brothers and his other barons
Por Rainoart sont en molt grant friçon
For Rainouart they-are in very great shudder
et cascun jore: «Se nous ne le ravon,
and each swears If we not him have-again
«desci en Perse après lui en iron.»
right-up-to into Persia after him thence we-shall-go
Or vos dirai de Baudus l'Esclavon,
Now you I-shall-tell of Baudus the-Slav
de Rainouart ki cuer a de lion;
of Rainouart who heart has of lion
cousin estoient et d'une nastion.
cousins they-were and of-one nation
Rainouars fiert le paien à bandon
Rainouart strikes the pagan at abandon
parmi son elme ki fu au roi Chabron;
through his helmet which was of-the king Chabron
tant par est durs ne l'enpire .I. boton.
so-much greatly it-is hard not it-damages a button

Li cos fu grans ki descent de randon,
The blow was great which descends with rush
tout l'estona desci qu'ens el pomon.
all him-it-stunned right-down to into-the lung
Dou nés li vole li sans à grant randon,
From-the nose to-him flies the blood with great rush
toute li soille la bouce et le menton,
all him it-soils the mouth and the chin
et tout le cors, le hauberc fremillon.
and all the body the hauberk glittering
Li Sarrasins chaï à genillon
The Saracen fell on knees
en mi le pré, ou il voulsist ou non.
in middle-of the meadow whether he would or not
Dist Rainouars: «Si fait cop sont molt bon.
Said Rainouart Such made blows are very good
«Sire cousin, car renoie Mahon,
Lord cousin so deny Mahomet
«et Apoillin, et ton dieu Baratron,
and Apollo and thy god Baratron
«et croi en Dieu ki souffri passion.
and believe in God who suffered passion
«Par amistié en deviendrai tes hon,
By friendship thereof I-shall-become thy man
«puis en irons en France à Mont Laon;
then thence we-shall-go into France to Mont Laon
«serviront nos François et Borgenon,
will-serve us French and Burgundians
«et si prendrai Aelis, ce m'est bon,
and so I-shall-take Aelis this to-me-is good

«et tu tenras Cordes et Ledion,
and thou wilt-hold Córdoba and Ledion
«toutes les terres dusqe en Cafarnaon.
all the lands as-far-as into Capernaum
«Faites, cousin, ne ferés se bien non.»
Do-it cousin not you-will-do if good not
Ot le Baudus, tous tainst comme carbon,
Hears it Baudus all he-flushed as coal
se li respont par grant aïrison:
so him he-answers with great wrath
«Cuivers bastars, or te tig por bricon;
Wretch bastard now thee I-hold for knave
«tu m'as rompu, pres s'en va, le chaon,
thou me-hast broken near itself-thence goes the nape
«et or m'en offres à faire amendison!
and now me-thereof thou-offerest to make amends
«Mais, par la foi ke je doi à Mahon,
But by the faith that I owe to Mahomet
«[ja entre nos n'aura] acordison
ever between us not-will-have accord
«si t'en aurai rendu le guerredon.»
until thee-thereof I-shall-have rendered the reward
Lors saut avant à guise de baron,
Then he-leaps forward in manner of baron
à ses .II. mains entesa le tronchon,
with his two hands he-aimed the stump
fiert Rainouart très parmi le crepon.
he-strikes Rainouart right through the rump
Ne li valut li haubers .I. bouton:
Not him availed the hauberk a button

ensi le ront com fust .I. peliçon.
thus it he-breaks as-if it-were a pelisse
Rainouars ploie contre le cop felon
Rainouart bends against the blow cruel
si qu'il se met as paumes el sablon;
so that-he himself puts on-the palms in-the sand
por .I. petit ne chiet à genillon.
by a little not he-falls on knees
Trestot le quir li abat dou talon;
All the skin him he-strikes-off from-the heel
l'erbe est sanglente entor et environ.
the-grass is bloody around and about
Voit le Baudus, si li crie à haut ton:
Sees it Baudus so him he-cries at high tone
«Cousin, à poi ne vos ai fait moignon;
Cousin by little not you I-have made stump
«estaloné vos ai comme luiton.
hamstrung you I-have like goblin
«Anqui orrés une tele chançon
Today you-will-hear a such song
«dont molt malvais vous en seront li son:
of-which very bad to-you thereof will-be the sounds
«Ja de vo cors n'averés raenchon.»
Ever for your body not-you-will-have ransom
Dist Rainouars: «Or oi plait de bricon.
Said Rainouart Now I-hear plea of knave
«Quidiés me vous avoir pris au broion?
Think me you to-have taken at-the snare
«En la bataille sui ot toi à bandon,
In the battle I-am with thee at abandon

«jo n'i ai mie mains de toi, se plus non;
I not-there have at-all less than thee if more not
«en Dieu me fi et en saint Sym[é]on.»
in God me I-trust and in saint Simeon
A icest mot commence une orison
At this word he-begins a prayer
de v[e]rai cuer, de bone intencion:
from true heart from good intention
«Diex, fait il, peres, par vo saintisme non,
God says he father by your most-holy name
«ki fesis terre, mer par division,
who madest earth sea by division
«et le saint ciel en ta election,
and the holy heaven in thy election
«Adam fesis de terre de limon
Adam thou-madest from earth of slime
«et sa moillier, Evain l'apeloit on;
and his wife Eve her-called one
«.XXX. ans et plus, vrais Diex, fus[tes] el mont
thirty years and more true God you-were in-the world
«et herbergastes en l'ostel [chiés] Simon.
and you-lodged in the-house at Simon
«La Madelaine fesistes le pardon
The Magdalen you-made the pardon
«quant ele vint par deseur .I. leson;
when she came by above a bed
«deseur tes piés mist ses iex à bandon,
upon thy feet she-put her eyes at abandon

«illuec plora par bone entention
there she-wept with good intention
«et de ses larmes les lava environ;
and with her tears them she-washed around
«à ses ceveus en fist essuison,
with her hairs thereof she-made wiping
«après les oint de molt bon' oignisson
after them she-anoints with very good anointing
«d'un ongement presieus et molt bon
of-an ointment precious and very good
«qui te rendi saintisme flairison.
which thee rendered most-holy fragrance
«Judas parla à guise de felon;
Judas spoke in manner of villain
«tu respondis par molt douce raison:
thou answered with very sweet speech
«Chou k'ele fait me plaist et si m'est bon.
This that-she does me pleases and so to-me-is good
«Dont le dreças amont par le menton,
Then her thou-raised up by the chin
«de ses pechiés li fesis vrai pardon.
of her sins her thou-madest true pardon
«Et en la crois souffris la passion
And on the cross thou-suffered the passion
«et de la lance fus ferus à bandon.
and with the lance thou-wert struck at abandon
«Che fu Longis ki ot bon guerredon:
This was Longinus who had good reward
«Ainc n'ot véu, ke de fi le set on;
Ever not-he-had seen that for sure it knows one

«li sans en vint contreval le plançon,
the blood thereof came down the shaft
«ses iex en tert, si ot alumison.
his eyes thereof he-wipes so he-had lighting
«Et el sepucre fus couciés, ce savon,
And in-the sepulcher thou-wert laid this we-know
«et puis gaitiés à guise de larron
and then watched in manner of thief
«dusqe au tirc jor k'éus surrexion.
until to-the third day that-thou-hadst resurrection
«Infer brisas por la redemption,
Hell thou-broke for the redemption
«si en jetas Noë et Aaron;
so thence thou-threwest Noah and Aaron
«de mort à vie sussitas Lazaron,
from death to life thou-raised Lazarus
«[Sainte] Suzanne garis del faus tesmoig.
Saint Susanna thou-saved from-the false witness
«Et Daniel en la fosse au lion,
And Daniel in the pit of-the lion
«Jonas savas el ventre au poison.
Jonah thou-saved in-the belly of-the fish
«El ciel montas au jor d'Asension,
In-the heaven thou-mounted on-the day of-Ascension
«à tes amis fesis anontion
to thy friends thou-made announcement
«ke l'euvangile nonchaisent en ton non.
that the-gospel they-should-announce in thy name
«Si voirement com ensi le créon,
So truly as thus it we-believe

«garis moi, sire, de mort et de prison,
protect me lord from death and from prison
«et si m'otroie par ton saintisme non
and so me-grant by thy most-holy name
«ke jou aquire Baudus, cel Esclavon,
that I conquer Baudus that Slav
«ke à compaignon l'aie.»
that as companion him-I-may-have

The Cousins Reconciled

XIII

Rainouart wrestles Baudus and forbids the French to help. Baudus fells him and seizes his sword, but Rainouart fells Baudus with a shaft, wins the sword back, and nearly staves in his brow; Baudus begs mercy and baptism. They embrace and sit on the grass, and William rejoices. Baudus asks leave to go home to heal and swears to return; he sails away with Persagué. The French gather the booty.

Quant Rainouars ot s'orison finée,
When Rainouart had his-prayer ended
bais[s]a son cief, s'a sa coupe clamée.
he-lowered his head so-he-has his fault confessed
Le tronchon hauce de la perce quarrée,
The stump he-raises of the pole square
Baudus en done sor l'elme tel testée
Baudus thereof he-gives upon the-helmet such head-blow
la perce brise; fendue est et quassée,
the pole breaks split it-is and shattered
dusqes es poins li est toute escliée;
right-into the fists to-him it-is all splintered

mais neporquant tele li a donée
but nevertheless such him he-has given
tout a le cors et la teste estounée;
all he-has the body and the head stunned
por poi ne chiet envers enmi le prée.
by little not he-falls backward amid the meadow
Dist Rainouars: «Une en avés portée;
Said Rainouart One thereof you-have carried
«huimès vos ert ma proece mostrée.»
henceforth to-you will-be my prowess shown
Isnelement mist le main à l'espée;
Swiftly he-put the hand to the-sword
mais, ains k'i l'ait fors dou fuerre sachie,
but before that-he it-may-have out of-the sheath drawn
li fu Baudus devant à l'encontrée.
to-him was Baudus in-front at the-meeting
Il l'enbracha, la perche a jus jetée.
He him-grasped the pole he-has down thrown
Li Sarrasins fu de grant aïrée;
The Saracen was of great wrath
n'ot si grant home dusqe en la mer salée:
not-was-there so great man as-far-as into the sea salt
à Rainoart vint à grant alenée,
to Rainouart he-came at great breath
dou gros del poing li dona tel dentée
with-the big of-the fist him he-gave such tooth-blow
desous le nés est la bouce crevée.
beneath the nose is the mouth burst
Toute la levre li est ensanglentée;
All the lip to-him is bloodied

à poi la gorge ne li a esfrondée,
by little the throat not him he-has stove-in
toute la teste li a aval clinée,
all the head him he-has down bowed
la coiffe et l'elme li a jus avalée.
the coif and the-helmet him he-has down brought
Si l'a estraint très parmi l'eskinée
So him-he-has squeezed right through the-spine
à poi l'eskine ne li a desnoée.
by little the-spine not him he-has unknotted
Parmi la bouche li saut hors l'escumée.
Through the mouth to-him leaps out the-foam
Dist Rainouars: «Sainte Virge honourée,
Said Rainouart Holy Virgin honored
«secorés moi, roïne corounée.»
succor me queen crowned
A icest mot est sa vertus doublée.
At this word is his strength doubled
Es vous Guillame poignant de randonée
Behold you William spurring at full-speed
ot sa compaigne, ki molt fu redoutée;
with his company which very was dreaded
n'i a celui n'ait bien la teste armée
not-there is that-one not-has well the head armed
et cascuns porte tote nue s'espée.
and each carries all naked his-sword
Mors fust Baudus, la teste éust copée,
Dead were Baudus the head he-would-have cut-off
mais Rainouars a sa vois escriée:
but Rainouart has his voice cried

«Baron François, gardés n'i ait mellée;
Barons French take-care not-there be melee
«car, par celui qui j'ai m'ame vouée,
for by him to-whom I-have my-soul vowed
«se commenchiés ne orgueil ne posnée
if you-begin either pride or boasting
«par quoi sa chars fust par vos entamée,
by which his flesh were by you cut
7160 «ja en auriés dolereuse saldée.»
soon thereof you-would-have grievous pay
Quant François l'oent, s'ont leur regne tirée;
When French it-hear so-they-have their rein drawn
tout quoi s'esturent enmi une valée;
all quiet themselves-they-stood amid a valley
la bataille regardent.
the battle they-look-at

Or sont andoi li bon vassal à pié;
Now are both the good vassals on foot
7165 li uns tint l'autre par les flans enbracié.
the one held the-other by the flanks grasped
Par grant vertu ont torné et lutié,
With great strength they-have turned and wrestled
soventes fois se sont resoufaissié.
many times themselves they-are re-sustained
Le gros del poing a Rainouars hauchié;
The big of-the fist has Rainouart raised

Baudus en fiert parmi l'elme vergié
Baudus thereof he-strikes through the-helmet gemmed
ou hasterel, où bien l'a enploié.
on-the nape where well it-he-has employed
Por poi le col ne li a pechoié;
By little the neck not him he-has broken
an .II. li oiel se li sont menoié;
in two the eyes so to-him are shaken
.I. tor li fait [si l'a] agenoillié.
a turn him he-makes so him-he-has brought-to-his-knees
Li quens Guillames li a en haut hucié:
The count William to-him has on high called
«Rainouars frere, veés moi apareillié;
Rainouart brother see me ready
«je t'aurai tost de cel paien vengié;
I thee-shall-have soon on that pagan avenged
«se il te plaist, ja l'aurai detrencié.»
if it thee pleases soon him-I-shall-have hacked-to-pieces
Dist Rainouars: «Vos m'avés vergoignié;
Said Rainouart You me-have shamed
«ja por .I. homme n'i serai voir aidié:
ever for one man not-there I-shall-be truly helped
«Ce sambleroit hontages.»
This would-seem shame

Or sont ensamble li .II. vasal hardi.
Now are together the two vassals bold
Molt ot prodome en Baudus l'arabi;
Very was-there worthy-man in Baudus the-Arab

hauce le poig, Rainouart en feri
he-raises the fist Rainouart thereof he-struck
joste l'oreille ke trestout l'estordi;
beside the-ear so-that all him-he-stunned
vausist ou non, à terre l'abati.
he-would or not to ground him-he-felled
Par droite force l'espée li toli,
By right force the-sword him he-took
trait l'a dou fuerre, .IIII. cos l'en feri;
drawn it-he-has from-the sheath four blows him-thereby he-struck
contre l'auberc l'espée resorti.
against the-hauberk the-sword rebounded
Rainouars fu legiers, si se guenci.
Rainouart was nimble so himself he-swerved
Baudus li crie: «Or vos ai asenti;
Baudus to-him cries Now you I-have assailed
«maugré vos nés ai jo vo branc saisi.»
in-spite-of your nose have I your blade seized
Dist Rainouars: «Certes, ce poise mi.
Said Rainouart Surely this weighs-on me
«Baudus cousin, en toi a mal ami;
Baudus cousin in thee there-is bad friend
«car croi en Dieu, ki onqes ne menti;
so believe in God who ever not lied
«dolans en ere quant je t'aurai honi.»
grieving thereof I-shall-be when I thee-shall-have shamed
Lors a gardé enmi le pré flori,
Then he-has looked amid the meadow flowered
et voit le fust ke jeta l'Arabi.
and sees the shaft which threw the-Arab

Rainouars cort [porec], si l'a saisi.
Rainouart runs therefore so it-he-has seized
Quant il le tient, forment s'en esjoï;
When he it holds greatly himself-thereof he-rejoiced
ne le donnast por l'oneur Naimeri
not it he-would-give for the-honor (of-)Aimeri
ne por trestoute France.
nor for all France

Quant Rainouars ot le fust recovré,
When Rainouart had the shaft recovered
ne le donnast por l'or d'une cité.
not it he-would-give for the-gold of-a city
A ses .II. mains l'a contremont levé
With his two hands it-he-has upward raised
et court vers lui k'i ne l'a pas douté.
and runs toward him for-he not him-has at-all feared
Li Sarrasins tient le branc aceré
The Saracen holds the blade steeled
et Rainouars le grant tronchon quarré.
and Rainouart the great stump square
Li uns à l'autre a molt grant cop jeté;
The one to the-other has very great blow thrown
mais Rainouars a prumiers asené.
but Rainouart has first struck
Joste l'oïe li a tel cop doné
Beside the-ear him he-has such blow given
si que la joe et les os a froé.
so that the cheek and the bones he-has shattered

Li rais dou sanc li est del nés volé
The stream of-the blood to-him is from-the nose flown
et par la bouce tout contreval colé.
and through the mouth all downward run
Rainouars fu molt fors, si l'a hurté
Rainouart was very strong so him-he-has struck
tout estendu l'abati ens el pré.
all stretched him-he-felled in in-the meadow
Des poins li tout le bon brant aceré,
From-the fists him he-takes the good blade steeled
isnelement l'a el fuerre bouté.
swiftly it-he-has into-the sheath thrust
Mais le tronchon n'a il mie oublié;
But the stump not-has he at-all forgotten
Baudus enbrace, vers lui l'a soviné,
Baudus he-grasps toward him him-he-has upturned
et del debout dou grant tronchon quarré
and with-the butt of-the great stump square
l'a tant el front et es temples hurté
him-he-has so-much on-the brow and on-the temples struck
que por .I. poi qu'il ne l'a esfronté;
that by a little that-he not him-has stove-in-the-brow
mais Diex de gloire a le paien sauvé:
but God of glory has the pagan saved
ne veut ke muire ains c'ait crestienté.
not he-wishes that he-die before that-he-have Christendom
Baudus s'escrie par grant humelité:
Baudus himself-cries with great humility
«Rainouars sire, aiés de moi pité.
Rainouart lord have on me pity

«Sire cosins, ja m'avés vos tué;
Lord cousin already me-have you killed
«jo quit ke vos m'avés escervelé.
I think that you me-have brained
«Aiue moi, por Dieu de majesté,
Help me for God of majesty
«tant c'on m'éust en fons rengeneré,
until that-one me-had in font regenerated
«et jo t'afi, deseur ma loiauté,
and I thee-pledge upon my loyalty
«que à Orenge m'en irai la cité.
that to Orange me-thence I-shall-go the city
«Mais que on m'ait de mon cief respassé,
Provided that one me-have of my head healed
«par moi auras d'Espaigne le rengné.»
by me thou-wilt-have of-Spain the realm
Quant Rainouars ot le roi escouté
When Rainouart had the king heard
qui par amors li a merchi crié,
who for love to-him has mercy cried
et qu'il veut croire le roi de majesté,
and that-he wishes to-believe the king of majesty
ne fust si liés por plain val d'or comblé.
not he-were so glad for full valley of-gold heaped
Il ne s'en pot tenir k'i n'ait ploré;
He not himself-thence could hold that-he not-have wept
Baudus enbrace, estroit l'a acolé:
Baudus he-grasps tightly him-he-has embraced
«Cousin, dist il, vous ai jo molt navré?
Cousin said he you have I very wounded

— Oïl voir, sire; longement ai sainié.
Yes truly lord long I-have bled
«Ostes moi tost mon vert elme gemmé;
Remove-from me soon my green helmet jeweled
«tant m'as feru et au luitier grevé
so-much me-thou-hast struck and at-the wrestling harmed
7245 «à poi que n'ai le cuer el cors crevé.
by little that not-I-have the heart in-the body burst
«Se m'as ocis, tot te soit pardoné.»
If me-thou-hast killed all thee be pardoned
Rainouars l'ot, forment a souspiré;
Rainouart it-hears greatly he-has sighed
isnelement a Baudus desarmé.
swiftly he-has Baudus disarmed
Dou cief li oste son vert elme jemé:
From-the head him he-takes his green helmet jeweled
7250 jusqu'en la teste l'avoit tout enbaré,
right-into the head it-he-had all dented
en la cervele ot le cercle enserré.
in the brain he-had the circlet locked
Quant Rainouars ot Baudus desarmé,
When Rainouart had Baudus disarmed
andoi s'asisent sor l'erbe en mi le pré;
both themselves-sit upon the-grass in middle-of the meadow
doucement se regardent.
sweetly themselves they-look-at

La bataille est et li cans afinés.
The battle is and the field ended
Rainouars sist sor l'erbe enmi les prés;
Rainouart sat upon the-grass amid the meadows
li fiers Baudus est joste lui à lés.
the proud Baudus is beside him at side
Grant ot le cors et les menbres mollés,
Great he-had the body and the limbs molded
et gros les poins et par espaules lés;
and big the fists and in shoulders broad
d'un de ses poins fust bien .I. ors tués.
with-one of his fists were well a bear killed
Les iex ot rouges com carbons enbrasés,
The eyes he-had red as coals kindled
les caveus noirs com arremens triblés,
the hairs black as ink ground
les dens plus blans qu'ivoires reparés.
the teeth more white than-ivory polished
Grant ot la bouce, haut et corbe le nés,
Great he-had the mouth high and hooked the nose
ample viaire, les sorciex haus et lés;
broad face the brows high and broad
dedens enfer [n']a de plus biaus malfés.
within hell not-is-there of more fair devils
A Rainouart dist li rois desfaés:
To Rainouart said the king faithless
«Ber, conquis m'as par tes bones bontés;
Baron conquered me-thou-hast by thy good goodnesses
«ainc mais par home ne poi estre matés.»
ever more by man not I-could be overcome

Rainouars l'ot, vers le roi s'est tornés;
Rainouart it-hears toward the king himself-he-is turned
il l'enbracha et Baudus est pasmés.
he him-embraced and Baudus is swooned
Atant es vos dant Guillame au cort nés,
Then behold you lord William with-the short nose
od lui si frere et ses rices barnés.
with him his brothers and his rich baronage
Tout maintenant s'est en haut escriés:
All now himself-is on high cried-out
«Rainouars frere, comment vous contenés?
Rainouart brother how you fare
«S'avés besoig, aiue aurés assés.»
If-you-have need help you-will-have enough
Dist Rainouars: «Biaus sire, avant venés.
Said Rainouart Fair lord forward come
«Jo l'a[i] conquis; Diex en soit aorés!
I him-have conquered God thereof be adored
«Mes cousins est, car de m'antain fu nés;
My cousin he-is for of my-aunt he-was born
«il vauroit estre en fons rengenerés.»
he would-wish to-be in font regenerated
Et dist Guillames: «Jhesus en soit loés;
And said William Jesus thereof be praised
«bien avés fait, grant preu i averés.»
well you-have done great profit there you-will-have
De pamisons est Baudus relevés;
From swoons is Baudus raised
de son bliaut a .I. des pans ostez,
from his tunic he-has one of-the skirts removed

si en benda son cief et ses costés.
so thereof he-bound his head and his sides
Dist Rainouars: «Cousin, or en venés
Said Rainouart Cousin now thence come
«ensamble od moi; ja garde n'i aurés.»
together with me ever care not-there you-will-have
Et dit Baudus: «Si com vous commandés.»
And says Baudus So as you command
Atant s'en vont, es les vous aroutés;
Then themselves-thence they-go behold them you ranked
deschi c'à l'ost ne s'est nus arestés.
until that-to the-host not himself-is any stopped
Li Franc de France ont vuidies les nés
The Franks of France have emptied the ships
dou grant avoir [qui] i fu amassés;
of-the great wealth which there was heaped
bon soit de l'eure qu'il i fu amenés.
good be of the-hour that-it there was brought
Diex, quel eschec fu illuec conquestés!
God what booty was there won
Cascuns en ert manans et asasés.
Each thereby was rich and sated
En Alischans ont fait tendre leur trés.
In Aliscans they-have made pitch their tents
Nuis fu oscure, solaus fu esconsés;
Night was dark sun was set
François descendent, cascuns fu desarmés.
French dismount each was disarmed
Molt fu cascuns travelliés et penés,
Very was each wearied and pained

de la bataille dolereus et lassés.
from the battle grieving and tired
Li quens Ernaus les a la nuit gardés.
The count Ernaut them has the night guarded
Baudus se lieve quant il vit les clartés;
Baudus himself rises when he saw the brightness
Rainouart prie par molt grans amistés:
Rainouart he-begs with very great friendship
«Cousin, dist il, le congié me dounés
Cousin said he the leave me give
«tant com je soie en mon paiis alés.
so-long as I may-be into my country gone
«Se de mes plaies estoie respassés,
If of my wounds I-were healed
«droit à Orenge el palais segnorés
straight to Orange in-the palace lordly
«venrai à vos, ja mar en douterés,
I-shall-come to you ever ill thereof you-will-fear
«et si ferai toutes vos volentés.»
and so I-shall-do all your wishes
Dist Rainouars: «Volentiers et de grés,
Said Rainouart Willingly and of will
«mais gardés bien ke vos ne me mentés;
but guard well that you not me lie
«car, par celui ki en crois fu penés,
for by him who on cross was tormented
«ja ne seriés en cel paiis trouvés
ever not you-would-be in that country found
«que ne fusiés de traïson retés.»
that not you-were of treason accused

Et dist Guillames: «Ja mar en parlerés;
And said William Ever ill thereof you-will-speak
«il tenra bien, je quit, ses verités.»
he will-hold well I think his truths
— Voire, voir, sire, ja n'en serai fausés.»
Truly truly lord ever not-thereof I-shall-be false
Il li otroient, cis dis fu créantés.
They him grant this saying was pledged
Molt bien tin[t] il covent, c'est verités:
Very well kept he covenant it-is truth
par lui fu puis Rainouars amontés,
by him was afterward Rainouart raised-up
par mainte terre cremus et redoutés.
through many-a land feared and dreaded
Li Arrabis Baudus s'est aprestés;
The Arab Baudus himself-is made-ready
en .I. calant entra, quant fu disnés,
into a barge he-entered when he-was dined
et aveuc lui s'en ala Persagués
and with him himself-thence went Persagué
qui de la mer voirement sot assés.
who of the sea truly knew enough
Leur voile lievent quant il sont desancré,
Their sail they-raise when they are unanchored
à Damedieu ont François commandés,
to Lord-God they-have French commended
et Rainouart, et Guillaume au cort nés.
and Rainouart and William with-the short nose
En Alischans fu molt grans li barnés;
In Aliscans was very great the baronage

tous li avoirs fu ensamble amassés,
all the wealth was together heaped
après si l'ont et cargiés et trousés.
after so it-they-have both loaded and packed
Quant ont mangié, li solaus fu clinés.
When they-have eaten the sun was declined
Li quens Guillames est la nuit ostelés,
The count William is the night lodged
et Naimeris et li autres barnés;
and Aimeri and the other baronage
molt volentiers reposent.
very willingly they-rest

The Bean Field

XIV

Before midnight Rainouart rouses the host and threatens any who lag. William buries Vivien under the tree by the pool. A peasant complains that pagans have ravaged his beans; with William's leave Rainouart goes alone, kills them all, and gives the peasant their arms and horses. At the feast in Orange William forgets Rainouart, who laments outside the city.

François se couchent quant vint après souper;
French themselves lie-down when it-came after supper
li quens Guillames les fist la nuit garder.
the count William them made the night guard
Mais Rainouars ne pot ainc reposer:
But Rainouart not could ever rest

estordis fu de son tinel porter
dazed he-was from his cudgel carrying
et des grans cos et reçoivre et doner;
and from-the great blows both receiving and giving
ne reposast por les membres colper.
not he-would-have-rested for the limbs to-cut
Ains mienuit a fait l'ost sus lever;
Before midnight he-has made the-host up raise
l'espée traite, va par les rens crier:
the-sword drawn he-goes through the ranks to-cry
«Levés, levés, près est de l'ajorner!
Rise rise near it-is to the-dawning
«Or tost, François, pensés vos de haster.
Now quick French think you to hasten
«Par cele foi que doi Guiborc porter,
By that faith that I-owe Guibourc bear
«se orendroit ne vos voi conraer,
if right-now not you I-see make-ready
«jel vos ferai chierement comparer.
I-it you shall-make dearly pay
«Ja li plus cointes ne s'en porra gaber
Ever the most bold not himself-thence can boast
«ke ne li face le cief del bu voler.»
that not him I-make the head from-the trunk fly
Quant François oent Rainouart si parler,
When French hear Rainouart so speak
molt tost se lievent, n'i osent plus ester.
very soon themselves they-rise not-there they-dare more stand

Dist l'uns à l'autre: «Diex le puist craventer
Said the-one to the-other God him may crush
«qe ne nos laisse dormir ne reposer!
who not us lets sleep nor rest
«Maudis soit il qui or nous fait lever
Cursed be he who now us makes rise
«et à tele eure nostre harnois trosser!»
and at such hour our harness pack
Dist Rainouars: «Pensés vos del haster;
Said Rainouart Think you of-the hastening
«fiex de roi sui, si doi bien commander
son of king I-am so I-must well command
«et en bataille grant firté demener.»
and in battle great fierceness show
François se lievent, si font leur cors soner;
French themselves rise so they-make their horns sound
trés et aucubes font devant aus mener
tents and pavilions they-make before them lead
et leur cevaus belement conraer;
and their horses handsomely groom
isnelement vont ensamble monter.
swiftly they-go together to-mount
Li quens ala Vivien regarder
The count went Vivien to-look-at
desor l'estanc, là le porra trover.
upon the-pool there him he-will-be-able find
Li quens l'a fait en .II. escus serrer
The count him-has made in two shields close
et desous l'arbre belement enterrer.
and beneath the-tree handsomely bury

Au departir commencha à plourer;
At-the parting he-began to weep
maint chevalier i véissiés pasmer.
many-a knight there you-would-have-seen swoon
Dont fist Guillames son maistre cor soner.
Then made William his master horn sound
Le flaiel d'or ne vaut mie oublier;
The flail of-gold not he-wished at-all to-forget
ensamble od lui le fist li quens porter.
together with him it made the count carry
Et Rainouars le va devant guier,
And Rainouart him goes before to-lead
l'espée el poig; plus est fiers d'un sengler.
the-sword in-the fist more he-is fierce than-a boar
Uns povres hom li commence à crier:
A poor man to-him begins to cry
«Sire, merchi! je voiel à vos parler.
Lord mercy I wish to you to-speak
«Des Sarrasin me vig à vos clamer
Of-the Saracens me I-come to you to-complain
«ke en mes feves vi ir matin entrer.
whom into my beans I-saw yesterday morning enter
«Onqes por moi ne vaurrent remuer;
Ever for me not they-wished to-move
«toutes leur vi essillier et gaster:
all them I-saw ravage and lay-waste
«Tant les doutai ne les osai véer.
So-much them I-feared not them I-dared forbid

«Les quidai vendre et dou pain acater
Them I-thought to-sell and of-the bread to-buy
«por mes enfans et por moi conréer;
for my children and for me to-provide
«ne leur avoie autre chose à douner;
not them I-had other thing to give
«or les convient trestous de fain enfler.»
now them behooves all from hunger swell
Dist Rainouars: «Mar l'oserent penser.
Said Rainouart Ill it-they-dared think
«Par saint Denis, ferai leur comparer!
By saint Denis I-shall-make them pay
«Tout le damage leur ferai restorer,
All the harm them I-shall-make restore
«cascune escosse .I. denier achater.»
each pod a penny buy
Dist li vilains: «Jhesus vos puist saver!»
Said the peasant Jesus you may save
Atant es vos dant Guillame le ber.
Then behold you lord William the baron
Rainouars va de devant lui ester,
Rainouart goes from before him to-stand
par grant orguel le prist à apeler:
with great pride him he-took to address
«Sire Guillames, or poés escouter
Lord William now you-can hear
«des Sarrasins, qui vous vienent préer
of-the Saracens who you come to-plunder
«et as vos homes la vitaille rober.
and to your men the victuals to-rob

— Comment, por Dieu?», dist Guillames li ber.
How for God said William the baron
Dist Rainouars: «Bien le vous puis conter.
Said Rainouart Well it you I-can tell
«Plus de .X. mil Sarrasins et Esclers
More than ten thousand Saracens and Slavs
«ont cest vilain ses feves fait enbler;
have from-this peasant his beans made steal
«dedens s'alerent [ces] deux jors osteler.
within themselves-they-went these two days to-lodge
«Mais or vous proi que m'i laissiés aler,
But now you I-beg that me-there you-let go
«u, se che non, ja me venrés derver.»
or if this not soon me you-will-see go-mad
Et dist Guillames: «Amis, laissiés ester;
And said William Friend let be
«je me dout molt de vo cors afoler:
I me fear much of your body to-harm
«.M. chevaliers ferai od vos armer.
A-thousand knights I-shall-have with you arm
— Non ferés ja; ne vos covient douter.
Not you-will-do ever not you behooves to-fear
«Ja n'i menrai ne compaignon ne per;
Ever not-there I-shall-lead neither companion nor peer
«se je nes puis trestos desbareter
if I not-them can all rout
«et par mon cors desconfire et mater,
and by my body discomfit and overcome
«mar me donrés à mangier n'à disner.
ill me you-will-give to eat nor-to dine

— Lais l'i aler, frere, dist Aïmer;
Let him-there go brother said Aimer
«ja ne porront paien vers lui durer.»
ever not will-be-able pagans against him last
Et dist Guillames: «Bien le voiel créanter.
And said William Well it I-wish to-grant
«Je li commant les feves à garder;
I him commend the beans to guard
«justice en face del forfait amender.»
justice thereof may-he-do of-the misdeed amend
Dist Rainouars: «Che fait à merchier.
Said Rainouart This makes to thank
«Sire Guillames, fai mon escu porter
Lord William make my shield carry
«que jou toli Tornefier de Biaucler.»
which I took-from Tornefier of Biaucler
Li quens Guillames li ala aporter,
The count William to-him went to-bring
et Rainouars va la guige acoler.
and Rainouart goes the strap to-hang-at-the-neck
Ki le véist cele enarme croller,
Who him had-seen that arm-strap shake
entor son cief menuement torner,
around his head finely turn
bien le devroit et prisier et loer.
well him he-ought both prize and praise
Od le vilain s'en torne.
With the peasant himself-thence he-turns

Quant Rainouars ot le congié éu,
When Rainouart had the leave had
od lui enmaine le povre homme cenu.
with him he-leads the poor man hoary
Desci as feves ne sont arestéu.
Right-up-to to-the beans not they-are stopped
Rainouars monte sor .I. fossé erbu,
Rainouart climbs upon a ditch grassy
voit maint paien armé et fervestu;
he-sees many-a pagan armed and iron-clad
à sa vois clere leur escria: «Ahu!
with his voice clear them he-cried Ahu
«Fil à putain, Sarrasin mescréu,
Sons of whore Saracens miscreant
«mar i avés la faviere abatu!
ill there you-have the bean-field beaten-down
«Je gart les feves, mien en sont li tréu;
I guard the beans mine of-them are the tolls
«ja en donrés .M. mars d'or fin molu,
soon thereof you-will-give a-thousand marks of-gold fine ground
«ou ja serés par les geules pendu.
or soon you-will-be by the throats hanged
«Fil à putain, trop éustes béu
Sons of whore too-much you-had drunk
«quant au povre homme avés le sien tolu.
when to-the poor man you-have the his taken
«Mar i entrastes, tout serés confundu;
Ill there you-entered all you-will-be confounded
«ne vos garroit tos li ors ki ainc fu.»
not you would-protect all the gold which ever was

Quant paien l'oent, molt en sont irascu.
When pagans it-hear very thereof they-are angered
Bien recounoissent Rainouart à l'escu,
Well they-recognize Rainouart by the-shield
voient son cors k'il ot grant et corsu;
they-see his body which-he had great and big
dist l'uns à l'autre: «Mal nos est avenu;
said the-one to the-other Ill to-us it-is befallen
7445 «vés là celui à la fiere vertu.
see there him with the fierce strength
«C'est ciex qui a le fort estor vencu
It-is he who has the strong battle won
«en Aliscans ù la bataille fu.
in Aliscans where the battle was
«Li vif diable le nous ont aparu;
The living devils him to-us have shown
«tout sommes mort quant nous a percéu.»
all we-are dead since us he-has perceived
7450 Cascuns guerpist le bon destrier grenu;
Each abandons the good charger maned
en fuies tornent, n'i ont plus atendu.
into flights they-turn not-there they-have more waited
Sovent reclaiment Mahoumet et Cahu.
Often they-invoke Mahomet and Cahu
Mais li cortiex ert enclos de séu
But the garden was enclosed with elder
et de grant soif ù a grant pel agu:
and with great hedge where there-is great stake sharp
7455 tous ciaus detint qi ne sont pas issu.
all those it-held-back who not are at-all gone-out

Aval les feves sont paien descendu.
Down the beans are pagans descended
Et Rainouars leur est seure couru;
And Rainouart to-them is upon run
tant en detrence au branc d'acier molu
so-many thereof he-hacks with-the blade of-steel ground
trestot s'ecrient: «Baudus, sire, ù es tu?»
all themselves-cry Baudus lord where art thou
Dist Rainouars: «Ne vous vaut .I. festu;
Said Rainouart Not you avails a straw
«jo l'ai conquis, Dieu merchi, et vencu.
I him-have conquered God thanks and vanquished
«Mar i avés le faviere péu:
Ill there you-have the bean-field grazed
«Au vilain erent tout vo ceval rendu,
To-the peasant will-be all your horses rendered
«ki por les feves se siet ore tout mu,
who for the beans himself sits now all mute
«et trestoutes vos armes.»
and all your arms

En la faviere furent grans les huées;
In the bean-field were great the shouts
paien s'en fuient, s'ont les colors muées.
pagans themselves-thence flee so-they-have the colors changed
Et Rainouars les sieut de randounées,
And Rainouart them follows with rushes
si leur escrie à molt grant alenées:
so them he-cries with very great breaths

«Fil à putain, mar entrastes es feves;
Sons of whore ill you-entered into-the beans
«nes aviés errées ne semées.
not-them you-had tilled nor sown
«Li povres hom les avoit ahanées,
The poor man them had toiled-for
«ses devoit vendre à petites denrées.
them he-was-to sell at small pennyworths
«Par le cuer Dé, mar les avés gastées!
By the heart (of-)God ill them you-have wasted
«Ainc ne v[é]istes feves si achatées
Ever not you-saw beans so bought
«ne ki si fuisent chierement comparées.»
nor which so were dearly paid-for
Dient paien: «Trop menés grans ponnées;
Say pagans Too-much you-show great boasts
«Sire vasal, nes avons pas enblées;
Lord vassal not-them we-have at-all stolen
«ainc ne nos furent par nul homme v[é]ées.»
ever not to-us they-were by any man forbidden
Dist Rainouars: «Vos les avés robées,
Said Rainouart You them have robbed
«car ne vos erent de riens abandonées.»
for not to-you they-were in anything abandoned
Lors les aqet très parmi les favées,
Then them he-chases right through the bean-fields
si leur detrence les pis et les corées.
so them he-backs the breasts and the entrails
Tous les ocist, les ont chier comparées,
All them he-killed them they-have dear paid-for

les verdes feves qui ne furent frasées.
the green beans which not were crushed
Rainouars a ses largeces monstrées:
Rainouart has his largesses shown
au vilain a ses feves restorées,
to-the peasant he-has his beans restored
toutes les armes des Turs li a livrées
all the arms of-the Turks to-him he-has delivered
et les cevaus par les regnes donées.
and the horses by the reins given
Dist li vilains: «Chi a bones soudées;
Said the peasant Here there-is good pay
«or sont molt bien les feves achatées.
now are very well the beans bought
«Beni soit l'eure k'eles furent semées.»
Blessed be the-hour that-they were sown
Et no François n'i ont fait demorées;
And our French not-there have made delay
vers Orenge s'en tornent.
toward Orange themselves-thence they-turn

François s'en tornent, molt se vuelent haster;
French themselves-thence turn much themselves they-wish to-hasten
sonent ces grailles et ces cors font soner.
sound these bugles and these horns they-make sound
Li os s'aroute et pense de l'esrer
The host itself-ranks and thinks of the-journeying
à grant esploit; ne vuelent demorer,
at great speed not they-wish to-stay

dusqe à Orenge ne vaurent arester.
until to Orange not they-wished to-stop
Grans fu la presse à la porte passer;
Great was the press at the gate to-pass
plus de .L. i véissiés pasmer.
more than fifty there you-would-have-seen swoon
Ens el palais fu Guillames li ber.
In in-the palace was William the baron
En Gloriete fait on l'aige corner;
In Gloriette makes one the-water horn
cil chevalier vont ensamble laver.
those knights go together to-wash
Cel jor servirent tel .V^{c}. baceler,
That day served such five-hundred youths
n'i a celui n'ait castel à garder.
not-there is that-one not-has castle to guard
Li quens Guillames fist forment à blasmer
The count William made greatly to blame
que Rainouar[t] a mis en oublier;
that Rainouart he-has put into forgetting
ne l'en menbra si vient après souper.
not him-thereof remembered until it-came after supper
Defors Orenge fu Rainouars li ber;
Outside Orange was Rainouart the baron
de mautalent quide vis forsener,
with ill-will he-thinks alive to-go-mad
à lui méisme se prist à demente[r]:
to him self himself he-took to lament

«Li quens Guillames ne le déust penser
The count William not it ought think
«qu'il ne me daigne ensamble lui mener
that-he not me deigns together-with him lead
«ne à sa table à son mangier mander,
nor to his table to his meal summon
«et si a fait par moi l'estor finer
and so he-has made by me the-battle end
«et ses neveus tos .VII. desprisoner.
and his nephews all seven unimprison
«Par moi sont mort Sarrasin et Escler,
By me are dead Saracens and Slavs
«tous mes parens ai fait por lui finer;
all my kin I-have made for him end
«or me tint vil, forment me doi peser,
now me he-held vile greatly me I-must weigh
«et si fait il, par m'ame!»
and so does he by my-soul

Rainouart's Anger

XV

Rainouart turns back toward Aliscans, swearing to bring a hundred thousand pagans against Orange, Laon, and William. He routs the twenty knights William sends with a post from a hermit's hut. William rides out with Guibourc and finds him failing to sail a ship; at Guibourc's plea he pardons William and says he is her brother. The poet foretells his baptism, marriage, and fight with Loquifer, and William leads him back to Orange.

Defors Orenge est Rainouars remés;
Outside Orange is Rainouart remained
molt a grant duel, forment est dementés,
very he-has great grief greatly he-is distraught
et molt manace le marcis au cort nés.
and much he-threatens the marquis with-the short nose
Vers Aliscans est plourans retornés;
Toward Aliscans he-is weeping turned-back
des chevaliers a encontré assez,
of-the knights he-has met enough
qui tout li dient: «Rainouars, d'ont venés?
who all him say Rainouart whence come-you
«Corechiés estes, ne sai ke vous avés.
Angered you-are not I-know what you have
— Signer, dist il, bien puis estre dervés:
Lords said he well I-can be maddened
«Li quens Guillames me tient en grans vieltés
The count William me holds in great vileness
«ki m'a laissié comme fuisse trovés,
who me-has left as-if I-were a-foundling

«n'à son mangier ne fui par lui mandés.
nor-to his meal not I-was by him summoned
«Comme ribaut m'a laissié es fossés;
Like ribald me-he-has left in-the ditches
«n'i fui par lui huchiés ni apelés.
not-there I-was by him hailed nor called
«Si est mes peres li fors rois Desramés
So is my father the strong king Desramé
«qui sous lui a .XXX. rois corounés;
who under him has thirty kings crowned
«de haut parage sui tos estrais et nés:
of high parentage I-am all sprung and born
«Plus sui haus hom ke il ne soit d'asés.
More I-am high man than he — be by-much
«Par mon cors seul est li estours finés;
By my body alone is the fight ended
«ocis i ai mon riche parentés,
killed there I-have my rich kindred
«si ai mes freres et mes amis tués,
so I-have my brothers and my friends killed
«et ses neveus de la prison jetés
and his nephews from the prison cast
«ke Sarrasin eurent pris en leur nés.
whom Saracens had taken in their ships
«Rendu m'en a li quens males bontés:
Rendered me-thereof has the count bad goodnesses
«Or sui du tout arire deboutés.
Now I-am from all back thrust-out
«Oï l'ai dire, et si est verités:
Heard it-I-have say and so it-is truth

«[Puis que li leres est de forches ostez,
Since that the thief is from gallows taken
«ja puis ses sires nen iert de lui amez].
ever after his lord not will-be by him loved
«Por Dant Guillame l'ai jo dit au cort nés
For Lord William it-have I said with-the short nose
«qui j'ai aidié, or en ai grans maugrés.
whom I-have helped now thereof I-have great ill-will
«Ne crerai mais el roi de majestés,
Not I-shall-believe more in-the king of majesty
«mais en Mahon ki est d'or tresjetés;
but in Mahomet who is of-gold cast
«si le ferai dolans et aïrés.
so him I-shall-make grieving and angered
«Par Mahomet, mar i fui oubliés!
By Mahomet ill there I-was forgotten
«Se ne m'en venge, dont ai[e] mal dehés.
If not me-thereof I-avenge then may-I-have ill curse
«Or m'en irai el paiis dont sui nés,
Now me-thence I-shall-go into-the country whence I-am born
«si manderai Sarrasins et Esclers
so I-shall-summon Saracens and Slavs
«tant qu'en aurai .C. millier assanlés;
until that-of-them I-shall-have a-hundred thousand assembled
«si passerons as barges et as nés,
so we-shall-cross with-the barges and with-the ships
«ses amenrai outre en ces regnés.
them I-shall-lead over into these realms
«Se mes tineus est brisiés et froués,
If my cudgel is broken and shattered

«je ferai tel ki miex vaurra assés.
I shall-make such which better will-be-worth by-much
«Prise ert Orenges et li paiis gastés,
Taken will-be Orange and the country wasted
«et Gloriete li palais craventés,
and Gloriette the palace crashed-down
«et dans Guillames loiés et atrapés
and lord William bound and trapped
«dedans Aiete [en] la cartre jetés,
within Aiete into the prison thrown
«et tout si frere aront les chiés copés,
and all his brothers will-have the heads cut-off
«et [ja] en France ferai mes volentés;
and already in France I-shall-do my wishes
«car Loéis ert de France jetés,
for Louis will-be from France thrown
«sa terre prise et ses paiis gastés.
his land taken and his country wasted
«Et de sa fille ferai mes volentés:
And of his daughter I-shall-do my wishes
«Encor serai, jo quit, ses espousés;
Yet I-shall-be I think her spouse
«de toute Espaigne sera ses cors doués.
of all Spain will-be her body dowered
«Quant à Orenge, segnor, vos en venrés,
When to Orange lords you thence will-come
«dame Guiborc, ma suer, me salués,
lady Guibourc my sister me greet
«et le marcis de ma part desfiés,
and the marquis on my part defy

«et bien li dites, ja mar li celerés,
and well him tell ever ill to-him you-will-hide
«ke mais ne sui ses drus ne ses privés,
that more not I-am his friend nor his intimate
«ains porquerrai qu'il sera vergondés,
rather I-shall-contrive that-he will-be shamed
«se onqes puis, ains ke l'ans soit passés.»
if ever I-can before that the-year be passed
Uns chevaliers li a dit: «Tort avés;
A knight to-him has said Wrong you-have
«ne devés mie por itant estre irés.
not you-must at-all for so-much be angered
«Rainouars sire, car vous en revenés;
Rainouart lord so you thence come-back
«soiés haitiés, ne vous desconfortés.
be cheerful not yourselves discomfort
«Anqui serés à Guillame acordés,
Today you-will-be with William reconciled
«et à mangier à grant planté arés,
and to eat in great plenty you-will-have
«et molt serés ricement abuevrés
and very you-will-be richly given-drink
«de bons pimens, de vins et d'isopés.
of good spiced-wines of wines and of-hyssop-wines
«Chou ert folie se vos vous en ralés;
This will-be folly if you yourself thence go-back
«par saint Denis, vous en repentirés.»
by saint Denis you thereof will-repent
Dist Rainouars: «Gardés mais n'en parlés,
Said Rainouart Take-care more not-thereof speak

«car, par Mahon, molt tost le comperrés;
for by Mahomet very soon it you-will-pay-for
«je ne sui mie encor à vos remés.
I not am at-all yet to you remained
«Par cel apostle c'on quirt en Noirons prés,
By that apostle whom-one seeks in Nero's meadows
«ne fust por chou ke coupes n'i avés
not it-were for this that faults not-there you-have
«et por ichou ke vos ai salués,
and for this that you I-have greeted
«je vous ferroie cest branc ens es costés.
I you would-strike this blade in in-the sides
«Or tost, en voie! gardés n'i demorés.»
Now quick on way take-care not-there stay
Quant cil l'oïrent, s'ont les cevaus hurtés.
When those it-heard so-they-have the horses spurred
Li plus hardis est en fuies tornés;
The most bold is into flights turned
fuiant s'en vont le[s] frains abandonés.
fleeing themselves-thence they-go the bridles abandoned
Dist l'uns à l'autre: «Rainouars est dervés;
Said the-one to the-other Rainouart is mad
«c'est grant damages ke si est asotés,
it-is great pity that so he-is besotted
«car si fors hom n'ert jamais recovrés.
for so strong man not-will-be ever recovered
«Ja nous aura à cel branc decopés;
Already us he-will-have with that blade cut-up
«à .C. déables soit il hui commandés.»
to a-hundred devils be he today commended

Tant ont alé les frains abandonés
So-far they-have gone the bridles abandoned
dusqe à Orenge n'i fu regnes tirés;
until to Orange not-there was rein drawn
là descendirent as marberins degrés.
there they-dismounted at-the marble steps
Isnelement sont el palais montés
Swiftly they-are into-the palace mounted
et saluerent le marcis au cort nés;
and they-greeted the marquis with-the short nose
se li conterent, ains n'i fu mos celés,
so him they-told ever not-there was word hidden
que Rainouars les avoit esfréés
that Rainouart them had frightened
et maneciés, et si espoentés
and threatened and so terrified
ke por .I. poi nes avoit desmenbrés,
that by a little not-them he-had dismembered
et k[e] il ert arire retornés
and that he was back turned
por chou k'il ert au mangier oubliés.
for this that-he was at-the meal forgotten
«Si vos manace et trestos vos barnés;
So you he-threatens and all your baronage
«par nos vos mande ke de lui vos gardés.
by us you he-sends-word that from him you guard
«Dame Guiborc a .C. salus mandés.
Lady Guibourc he-has a-hundred greetings sent
«Or s'en ira, ce dist, en ses regnés,
Now himself-thence he-will-go this said into his realms

«en cele terre où est ses parentés,
into that land where is his kindred
«tant qu'il aura .C. mil paiens armés;
until that-he will-have a-hundred thousand pagans armed
«si passera chà outre en ces regnés:
so he-will-cross here over into these realms
«Prise ert Orenge et cis palais gastés.» 7625
Taken will-be Orange and this palace wasted
Guillames l'ot, tous en est trespensés:
William it-hears all thereof he-is pensive
«Or ert bien sages, et je sui asotés.»
Now he-will-be well wise and I am besotted
.XX. cevaliers a li quens apelés,
Twenty knights has the count called
se [lor] a dit: «Baron, car m'i alés;
so them he-has said Barons so me-there go
«por Dieu vos pri k'en pais le m'amenés. 7630
for God you I-pray that-in peace him to-me-you-bring
«Que il ne soit laidis ne ranprosnés.»
That he not be insulted nor mocked
Et cil respondent: «Si com vos commandés
And those answer So as you command
«le ferons nous, biaus sire.»
it shall-do we fair lord

Li quens Guillames fist forment à prisi[e]r;
The count William made greatly to prize
por Rainouart n'ot en lui c'aïrier. 7635
for Rainouart not-was in him but-to-grow-angry

.XX. cevaliers a fait aparellier;
Twenty knights he-has made make-ready
par Rainouart les vaurra envoier.
for Rainouart them he-will-wish to-send
Par aus li mande: ne li doit anoier
By them him he-sends-word not him must vex
s'il ne l'avoit somons à son mangier;
if-he not him-had summoned to his meal
droit l'en fera, se il le veut baillier,
right him-thereof he-will-do if he it wishes to-accept
voiant François et voiant sa moillier.
seeing French and seeing his wife
Forment l'en poise kel laissa estrahi[e]r;
Greatly him-thereof weighs that-him he-let stray
il ne[l] vausist por .M. livres d'ormier.
he not-it would-wish for a-thousand pounds of-gold-trim
A ces paroles montent li chevalier.
At these words mount the knights
Tant esperoune cascuns son bon destrier
So-much spurs each his good charger
k'il l'ont ataint à .I. tertre puier.
that-they him-have reached at a hill to-climb
Dedens le fuerre ot mis son branc d'acier.
Within the sheath he-had put his blade of-steel
Cil li commencent hautement à huchier;
Those to-him begin loudly to call
loing s'aresterent, ne l'osent aprocier:
far they-stopped not him-dare approach

«Rainouars sire, nous te venons noncier
Rainouart lord we thee come to-announce
«de par Guillame, le marcis au vis fier,
from (on-behalf-of) William the marquis with-the face proud
«de tout [ice] ke sauras calengier
of all this that thou-wilt-know-how to-claim
«te fera droit en son palais plenier.»
thee he-will-do right in his palace full
Dist Rainouars: «Laissiés vostre plaidier;
Said Rainouart Leave your pleading
«car, par Mahom ki tout doit justicier,
for by Mahomet who all must judge
«ja amendise n'i avera mestier.
ever amends not-there will-have use
«Je n'ai que faire ne d'argent ne d'ormier
I not-have what to-do neither of-silver nor of-gold-trim
«se n'en faisoie mon tinel reloier.
if not-thereof I-had-made my cudgel rebound
«Fil à putain, mal glouton losengier,
Sons of whore bad gluttons flatterers
«ne vous pris tous vaillisant .I. denier.
not you I-prize all worth a penny
«Bien set Guillames la merde raplakier;
Well knows William the dung to-smooth-over
«trop a à faire s'il me veut rapaier:
too-much he-has to do if-he me wishes to-appease
«Jo ne sui mais de rien en son dangier.
I not am more in anything in his power
«Ja por message ne m'en irai arier,
Ever for message not me-thence I-shall-go back

«ains aurai fait Orenge trebucier,
rather I-shall-have made Orange tumble
«et Gloriete verser et [graïllier],
and Gloriette overturn and roast
«et son paiis ardoir et essillier,
and his country burn and ravage
«et le marcis la teste roegnier.»
and the marquis the head clip
Quant Rainouart oent si desraisnier
When Rainouart they-hear so declaim
et le marcis Guillame manecier,
and the marquis William threaten
et aus méismes blasmer et laidengier,
and them themselves blame and revile
si se commencent forment à vergoignier.
so themselves they-begin greatly to be-ashamed
Dist l'uns à l'autre: «Poi nos poons prisier
Said the-one to the-other Little ourselves we-can prize
«se n'en menons nous .XX. cest patounier.»
if not-thence lead we twenty this vagabond
Vers lui corurent, sel prendent à sachier,
Toward him they-ran so-him they-take to pull
mais aussi puent à une tor luitier.
but as-well they-can with a tower wrestle
Quant Rainouars se sent si manoier,
When Rainouart himself feels so handled
de maltalent quide vis esragier.
with ill-will he-thinks alive to-go-mad
Ne se menbra de l'espée d'acier;
Not himself he-remembered of the-sword of-steel

dalés lui garde par dalés .I. sentier,
beside him he-looks right beside a path
vit une loge c'on i ot fait drecier.
he-saw a hut which-one there had made raise
Uns sains ermites li ot fait estacier.
A holy hermit to-him had made build-with-posts
L'un postel court Rainouars esracier;
The-one post runs Rainouart to-tear-out
si tost le hape com .I. rain d'olivier.
as soon it he-grabs as a branch of-olive
Ki li véist ces cevaliers cacier
Who him had-seen these knights chase
par la campaigne contremont .I. rocier,
through the countryside up a rock
les .V. en fist contreval trebucier,
the five thereof he-made down tumble
si roidement l'un sor l'autre plaissier
so stiffly the-one upon the-other crush
que par les bras leur fist le sanc raier.
that through the arms them he-made the blood stream
«Fil à putain, dist il, garçon lanier,
Sons of whore said he scoundrels cowardly
«quidiés vos ore avoir trové bergier?
think you now to-have found shepherd
«Jo ne sui mie lievres à esmaier.»
I not am at-all hare to frighten
A la grant perce se prent à adrecier,
To the great pole himself he-takes to direct
après les .XV. se prent à eslaissier.
after the fifteen himself he-takes to launch

Et cil s'en fuient, n'ont cure de plaidier,
And those themselves-thence flee not-they-have care of pleading
car le fust doutent k'il voient paumoier.
for the shaft they-fear which-they see brandish
Et Rainouars les commence à hucier:
And Rainouart them begins to call
«Envoiés chà Guillame tornoier.»
Send here William to-tourney
Et cil s'en fuient, ne l'osent aprismier;
And those themselves-thence flee not him-dare approach
dusqe à Orenge ne finent de coitier.
until to Orange not they-cease of pressing
Rainouart quident à leurs talons derier,
Rainouart they-think at their heels behind
mais il n'i estoit mie.
but he not-there was at-all

Li mesagier descendent au degré,
The messengers dismount at-the step
en Gloriete sont ensamble monté.
in Gloriette they-are together mounted
De Rainouart sont si espaonté
Of Rainouart they-are so terrified
et de la perce n'ont il .I. mot soné.
and of the pole not-have they a word sounded
Li quens Guillames leur a tost demandé:
The count William them has soon asked
«Signer, dist il, comment avés esté?
Lords said he how you-have been

«Avés me vos Rainouart amené?
Have to-me you Rainouart brought
— Nenil voir, sire, ains l'avons achaté;
No truly lord rather it-we-have paid-for
«petit n'en faut ne somes affronté.
little not-thereof lacks not we-are smashed
«Quant nous li eumes ton mesage conté,
When we to-him had thy message told
«ne le prisa .I. denier mounéé,
not it he-prized a penny coined
«ains te manace et tient en grant vielté.
rather thee he-threatens and holds in great vileness
«Quant nos l'oïmes, molt en fumes iré;
When we it-heard very thereof we-were angered
«vers lui venimes trestot abandonné.
toward him we-came all with-abandon
«Bien l'éusimes arire amené
Well him-we-would-have back brought
«quant d'une loge vit la feste levé,
when of-a hut he-saw the roof-beam raised
«si l'esracha com .I. rosel pelé.
so it-he-tore-out as a reed peeled
«Les .V. des nos ot tost acraventé;
The five of-the ours he-had soon crashed-down
«à terre furent laidement reversé.
to ground they-were foully overturned
«Nous ne savons si sont à mort navré,
We not know if they-are to death wounded
«mais par aler avons tout conquesté.
but by going we-have all won

«Par nos vous a tornoiement mandé.»
By us you he-has tournament summoned
Guillames l'ot, s'en a .I. ris jeté.
William it-hears so-thereof he-has a laugh thrown
Isnelement a son ceval mandé;
Swiftly he-has his horse summoned
on li amaine, tost l'eurent enselé.
one to-him leads-it soon it-they-had saddled
.C. chevalier sont aveuc lui monté,
A-hundred knights are with him mounted
[et] Guiborc est de maintenant monté,
and Guibourc is from now mounted
car forment le desire.
for greatly him she-desires

Li quens Guillames fist forment à loer;
The count William made greatly to praise
por Rainouart est alés ramener.
for Rainouart he-is gone to-bring-back
.C. chevalier sont maintenant monté
A-hundred knights are at-once mounted
et tout si frere et Aimeris li ber.
and all his brothers and Aimeri the baron
Dame Guiborc i fait li quens aler
Lady Guibourc there makes the count go
qu'il n'i osa li quens sans li errer.
for-he not-there dared the count without her journey

Ainc ne finerent entr'aus d'esperoner
Ever not they-ceased among-them of-spurring
tant que il vinrent dant Rainouart ester
until that they came lord Rainouart standing
en une nef au rivage de mer.
in a ship at-the shore of sea
Mais ne savoit le voile amont lever,
But not he-knew the sail up to-raise
le mast drecier ne la toivre atemprer;
the mast to-set-up nor the rope to-adjust
le gouvernal ne savoit governer.
the rudder not he-knew to-steer
Dist Rainouars: «Bien me puis forsener
Said Rainouart Well myself I-can go-mad
«que je ne puis cest vaisel atorner.
that I not can this vessel fit-out
«Comment va chou que je voi chi aler?
How goes this that I see here go
«Ne sai comment jou ai véu sigler.»
Not I-know how I have seen sail
Prent une perce, si commence à bouter
He-takes a pole so he-begins to push
ke d'une part a fait la nef verser;
that on-one side he-has made the ship overturn
et la nés puce, si prent à affondrer.
and the ship ships-water so it-takes to sink
Se Rainouars ne séust si noer,
If Rainouart not had-known so to-swim
tost fust noiés, ne péust escaper.
soon he-were drowned not he-could escape

Quant il fu hors, si commence à jurer:
When he was out so he-begins to swear
«Diable font, fait il, homme meller
Devils make says he man embroil
«quant il ne set de chose achiver;
when he not knows of thing to-achieve
«par terre irai quant je ne puis par mer.»
by land I-shall-go since I not can by sea
Il tint sa perce, si prist à restorner;
He held his pole so he-took to turn-back
lés le rivage commencha à aler.
beside the shore he-began to go
Li quens Guillames le prist à apeler:
The count William him took to call
«Rainouars frere, laissiés m'à vos parler;
Rainouart brother let me-with you speak
«se de noient vous ai fait aïrer,
if in nothing you I-have made grow-angry
«à vo commant le ferai amender,
at your command it I-shall-make amend
«si hautement com sarés commander.»
as highly as you-will-know-how to-command
Dist Rainouars: «Laissiés vo sermoner;
Said Rainouart Leave your preaching
«si m'aït Diex, ne soig de vo gaber.
so me-help God not I-care for your mocking
«Ne finerai s'aurai passée mer;
Not I-shall-cease until-I-shall-have crossed sea
«si ferai tot mon lignage assambler,
so I-shall-make all my lineage assemble

«et Sarrasins et paiens aüner,
and Saracens and pagans gather
«et si ferai tos mes parens mander
and so I-shall-make all my kin summon
«qui gaiant sont. Bien les saurai nomer:
who giants are Well them I-shall-know to-name
«Urgant le noir, et Brulfant, et Brunier,
Urgant the black and Brulfant and Brunier
«et Rubestheuc, et Richart, et Rinier,
and Rubestheuc and Richart and Rinier
«Brun le velu, et Grandin et Grander,
Brun the hairy and Grandin and Grander
«le roi Bruhot, Tantolf et Tandoifler,
the king Bruhot Tantolf and Tandoifler
«lor .XXX. fr[ere] ki molt font à douter.
their thirty brothers who much make to fear
«Si sai la terre ù seulent converser,
So I-know the land where they-are-wont to-dwell
«puis les ferai de chà outre passer.
then them I-shall-make from here over cross
«Vaurrai Orenge tot de fi conquester,
I-shall-wish Orange all for sure to-conquer
«à Mon Laon me ferai corouner,
at Mont Laon me I-shall-make crown
«et toi ferai en grant Aire mener
and thee I-shall-make into great Aire lead
«et en ma cartre trebuchier et verser.
and into my prison tumble and overturn

«Là te ferai à honte demener
There thee I-shall-make at shame treat
«et ton lignage vaurrai desireter.
and thy lineage I-shall-wish to-disinherit
«Fui toi de chi, n'ai cure de parler.»
Flee thee from here not-I-have care of speaking
Dont prent sa perche, sel fait amont branler.
Then he-takes his pole so-it he-makes up shake
Li quens Guillames ne l'osa aproismer,
The count William not him-dared approach
car il le voit d'ire tot alumer;
for he him sees with-wrath all light-up
molt le redoute, ne l[e] vous quir celer.
much him he-fears not it you I-seek to-hide
Dame Guiborc rova avant aler;
Lady Guibourc he-asked forward to-go
et la comtesse s'est alée acliner
and the countess herself-is gone to-bow
devant son frere por la merchi crier:
before her brother for the mercy to-cry
«Rainouars frere, .I. don te voiel rover,
Rainouart brother a gift thee I-wish to-ask
«que tu me voielles ce mesfait pardoner
that thou me wish this misdeed to-pardon
«en guerredon que je te fis armer
in reward that I thee made arm
«dedens ma cambre et chaindre le branc cler.»
within my chamber and gird the blade bright
Rainouars cort, si le va acoler.
Rainouart runs so her he-goes to-embrace

«Dame, dist il, je vos doi molt amer;
Lady said he I you must much love
«jo sui vos frere, ne le vos quir celer,
I am your brother not it you I-seek to-hide
«cel Rainouars c'on fist au roi enbler,
that Rainouart whom-one made from-the king steal
«dont vous oïstes si grant duel demener.
of-whom you heard so great grief make
«Rien que vuelliés ne vos vuel devéer,
Nothing that you-wish not you I-wish to-refuse
«vostre plaisir doi jo bien créanter
your pleasure must I well grant
«et les mesfais Guillame pardouner:
and the misdeeds (of-)William pardon
«Ja en ma vie n'en orrés mais parler.»
Ever in my life not-thereof you-will-hear more speak
Li quens Guillames l'en ala merchier.
The count William him-thereof went to-thank
Dont véissiés Rainouart acoler;
Then you-would-have-seen Rainouart embrace
dès ore mais le vauront honerer.
from now more him they-will-wish to-honor
Mais Rainouars ne s'en pot ainc torner
But Rainouart not himself-thence could ever turn
de la quisine ke il n'i voist caufer.
from the kitchen that he not-there go to-warm-himself
Ne s'en voloit por nului consirer;
Not himself-thence he-wished for anyone to-forgo
apris l'avoit, nel pot entroublier.
learned it-he-had not-it he-could forget

Huimais orrés, sel volés escouter,
From-today you-will-hear if-it you-wish to-hear
com il se fist batisier et lever,
how he himself made baptize and raise
et com Guillames le fist puis marier,
and how William him made after marry
la soie niece Aelis espouser;
the his niece Aelis to-wed
com son enfant vinrent paien enbler,
how his child came pagans to-steal
et com le fist chevalier adouber,
and how him he-made knight dub
et com ala Loquiferne clamer
and how he-went Loquiferne to-claim
et le douaire sa mere aquiter.
and the dower (of-)his mother to-acquit
Vers Loquifer le vaurra conquester,
Toward Loquifer it he-will-wish to-conquer
le plus grant homme dont nus oïst parler.
the most great man of-whom any heard speak
Ne vous voiel ore sa faichon aconter;
Not you I-wish now his fashion to-tell
assés l'orrés chà avant au chanter.
enough it-you-will-hear here forward in-the singing
Com Rainouars se fist puis corouner,
How Rainouart himself made after crown
au mouniage où il vaut converser;
at-the monastery where he wished to-dwell
che fu à Bride où sen fust fist porter.
this was at Brioude where his shaft he-made carry

Qui la iroit bien le porroit trover.
Who there would-go well it could find
Encore i vont li pelerin garder
Yet there go the pilgrims to-see
qui en Galisse vont l'apostle ourer.
who into Galicia go the-apostle to-pray-to
Et puis l'ala quens Guillames rouver
And then him-went count William to-ask
por sa cité garandir et tenser.
for his city to-protect and defend
Adont convint Rainouart asener
Then it-behooved Rainouart to-strike
contre son fil à bataille capler
against his son in battle to-hew
que on faisoit Maillefer apeler.
whom one made Maillefer call
Se or vous plaist le canchon escouter,
If now you pleases the song to-hear
si faites pais, laissiés la noise ester.
so make peace leave the noise be
Li quens Guillames se prist à retorner;
The count William himself took to turn-back
Rainouart fait à Orenge mener.
Rainouart he-makes to Orange lead
Molt par fu liés quant il i vaut corner.
Very greatly he-was glad when he there wished to-horn
El grant palais fist Rainouart monter;
In-the great palace he-made Rainouart mount
molt tost font l'aigue as busines corner.
very soon they-make the-water by-the trumpets horn

Cil cevalier s'asirent au disner;
Those knights themselves-sat at-the dinner
joste Guillame siet Rainouars li ber.
beside William sits Rainouart the baron
Le premier mes li fait on aporter,
The first dish to-him makes one bring
por segnorie ke on li veut porter;
for lordship that one to-him wishes to-show
mais Rainouars ne s'i veut acorder.
but Rainouart not himself-there wishes to-agree
Ne li pleut mie en si fait lieu ester;
Not him it-pleased at-all in such made place to-be
en la quisine feroit milleur caufer.
in the kitchen it-would-make better to-warm-oneself
Quant li plairoit, bien s'i porroit grater,
When to-him it-would-please well himself-there he-could scratch
joste le fu et rostir et toster,
beside the fire both roast and toast
et le brouet des caudires humer,
and the broth of-the cauldrons gulp
les cras morsiaus en l'alile bouter
the fat morsels in the-spit thrust
et le fu faire, atisier et souffler.
and the fire make poke and blow
Si faite vie vausist il demener;
Such made life would-wish he to-lead
un autre fois le vaurra restorer.
an other time it he-will-wish to-restore
Mais puis fu sages: ains k'il déust finer,
But after he-was wise before that-he should end

ne péust on en nul paiis trover
not could one in any country find
qui miex séust .I. bon consel douner,
who better knew a good counsel to-give
et ama sainte glise.
and he-loved holy church

The Baptism

XVI

At Orange Rainouart would rather sit in the kitchen than at the high table, and mocks William as a monk. He is baptized in a great marble font, drinks from it, and is held by the barons. Made seneschal, he gives out the booty by full measures, and William has him knighted. At Guibourc's plea he breaks the quintain; Baudus returns and is baptized, and William resolves to give Rainouart Aelis.

Dedens Orenge ou palais delitable
Within Orange in-the palace delightful
siet li barnages à la plus maistre table.
sits the baronage at the most master table
Bien sont servi de viande mirable.
Well they-are served with food marvelous
Rainouars siet sor un paile de sable;
Rainouart sits upon a silk of sable
joste lui sist Guillames et Orable.
beside him sat William and Orable
Sa [bele] suer li dist parole amable:
His fair sister to-him said word lovable
«Frere, mangiés por Dieu l'esperitable.
Brother eat for God the-spiritual

«Quant je vous voi, molt sui lie et joiable;
When I you see very I-am glad and joyful
«de mon lignage n'ai fors vos à ma table,
of my lineage not-I-have except you at my table
«s'ai maint parent vaillant et ounerable.»
so-I-have many-a kinsman valiant and honorable
Rainouars l'ot, tout chou tenoit à fable;
Rainouart it-hears all this he-held for fable
il amast miex le deduit de l'estable
he would-have-loved better the delight of the-stable
u la quisine ki samble foisounable.
or the kitchen which seems abundant
Ne serra mais des mois, s'il puet, à table,
Not he-will-sit more for months if-he can at table
car forment li anoie.
for greatly him it-vexes

Quant par les tables ont mangié li baron,
When through the tables have eaten the barons
Guillaumes mist Rainouart à raison:
William put Rainouart to reason
«Dites, amis, che que vous demandon;
Tell friend this that you we-ask
«vous volés [vous] ja batisier ou non
you wish yourself now to-baptize or not
«et croire en Dieu par bone entencion,
and to-believe in God with good intention

«qui en la Virge prist incarnation
who in the Virgin took incarnation
«et sussita de mort saint Lasaron,
and raised from death saint Lazarus
«et, por nos ames faire redention,
and for our souls to-make redemption
«fu clauficés, et gaitiés à larron,
was crucified and watched as thief
«et au tierc jor fist resurrexion?
and on-the third day made resurrection
«S'ensi créés, nous vous batiseron.»
If-thus you-believe we you shall-baptize
Dist Rainouars: «Et nous bien le créon.
Said Rainouart And we well it believe
«Sire Guillames qui savés de sermon,
Lord William who know of sermon
«vous déusiés avoir un pelichon
you ought to-have a pelisse
«lonc traïnant desci k[e] au talon,
long trailing right-down to the heel
«et puis le froc, el cief le caperon,
and then the frock on-the head the hood
«les grandes botes forrées environ,
the great boots lined around
«et le cief rés [et] corouné en son,
and the head shaven and tonsured on top
«et sesisiés tous dis sor un leson,
and you-sat all days upon a bench
«en cel moustier fesisiés orison,
in that minster you-made prayer

«et éusiés à mangier à fuison
and you-had to eat in plenty
«blans pois au lart, formage de saison,
white peas with-the lard cheese of season
«à la foïe pitance de poison.»
at the time pittance of fish
Guillaumes l'ot, s'acola le baron;
William it-hears so-embraced the baron
dont oïsiés molt grande rision
then you-would-have-heard very great laughter
des cevaliers qui sont par la maison.
of-the knights who are through the house
Dist l'uns à l'autre coiement, à bas ton:
Said the-one to the-other quietly at low tone
«Avés oï Rainouart le baron
Have-you heard Rainouart the baron
«com il a dit à Guillame son bon?
how he has said to William his good
— Voire, dist il, il n'ert ja se sos non,
Truly said he he not-will-be ever if fool not
«ja ne dira se derverie non.
ever not he-will-say if madness not
«Si m'aït Diex, bon jogléor avon,
So me-help God good jongleur we-have
«passer nous fait à aise le saison;
pass us he-makes at ease the season
«Damediex le garise.»
Lord-God him protect

A une glise de canoines rieulés
At a church of canons regular
fu Rainouars conduis et amenés,
was Rainouart conducted and brought
environ lui Guillame et ses barnés.
around him William and his baronage
Isnelement fu li fons aprestés,
Swiftly was the font made-ready
c'est une cueve de vert marbre listés.
it-is a vat of green marble edged
Grans fu et lée, si fu parfonde assés,
Great it-was and broad so it-was deep enough
demie lance, et .XV. piés de lés.
half lance and fifteen feet of width
De l'aige froide fu li fons arasés,
With the-water cold was the font leveled
benéis fu d'evesqes et d'abés.
blessed it-was by-bishops and by-abbots
Rainouars s'est de ses dras desfublés;
Rainouart himself-is from his clothes stripped
puis fu d'un paiie ricement afublés,
then he-was with-a silk richly clad
quant il fu bien et sainiés et sacrés
when he was well both signed and consecrated
et puis es fons à grant paine levés,
and then in-the font with great pain raised
(il pesoit bien .I. fais de muis de blés).
he weighed well a load of measures of grain
Au lever fu Guillames au cort nés,
At-the raising was William with-the short nose

et Aimeris li cenus, li barbés,
and Aimeri the hoary the bearded
Bernars et Bueves et ses freres Aïmers.
Bernard and Beuve and his brother Aïmer
S'i fu Ernaus et Guibers li membrés,
So-there was Ernaut and Guibert the renowned
li quens Bertrans, et Guichars et Guiés,
the count Bertrand and Guichard and Guy
et l'arcevesqes qui ot non Guillemers.
and the-archbishop who had name Guillemer
Tout chil le tinrent que vos oï avés.
All those him held whom you heard have
Mais Rainouars pesa com desfaés:
But Rainouart weighed as faithless
n'en seurent mot quant leur est escapés.
not-thereof they-knew word when from-them he-is escaped
Deci as fons est Rainouars alés,
Right-to the font is Rainouart gone
si but de l'aige à fuison et assés.
so he-drank of the-water in plenty and enough
Quant il revint, si fu molt tost cobrés
When he came-back so he-was very soon seized
de toutes pars par bras et par costés,
from all sides by arms and by sides
dont s'en est molt Rainouars aïrés.
whereof himself-thereof is very Rainouart angered
«Signeur parin, dist Rainouars, ostés.
Lords godfathers said Rainouart off
«Vous faites mal ki ensi me menés;
You do ill who thus me lead

«que doit chou ore ke miex ne me tenés?
what must this now that better not me you-hold
«Ce m'est avis que vos or me gabés.
This to-me-is opinion that you now me mock
«Sire arcevesqes, je quit ke vos dormés;
Lord archbishop I think that you sleep
«si m'aït Diex, s'or estoie escapés,
so me-help God if-now I-were escaped
«jo ne seroie mais des mois atrapés.»
I not would-be more for months caught
Lors fu li bers batisiés et levés
Then was the baron baptized and raised
et dou saint cresme d'oile rengenerés;
and with-the holy chrism of-oil regenerated
puis le revestent de dras à or parés:
then him they-clothe-again with clothes with gold adorned
molt fu bele personne.
very he-was fair person

Rainouars fu batisiés et levés,
Rainouart was baptized and raised
richement fu vestus et conréés.
richly he-was clothed and arrayed
D'un vair mantel fu li ber afublés;
With-a vair mantle was the baron clad
sous le bliaut est l'ermins engoulés.
under the tunic is the-ermine trimmed
Bien fu furnis et de menbre mollés;
Well he-was built and of limb molded

n'a cevalier en trestot le barnés
not-is-there knight in all the baronage
ne samble à lui petis enfes assés.
not seems to him little child enough
Ains plus bel prince ne vit nus qui soit nés;
Ever more fair prince not saw any who be born
à grant mervelle fu de tous esgardés.
at great marvel he-was by all looked-at
Dont fu li ors et l'argent aprestés
Then was the gold and the-silver made-ready
et li avoirs, dont il i ot assés.
and the wealth of-which it there was enough
En l'Archant fu sor paiens conquestés;
In the-Archamp it-was upon pagans won
enmi la sale fu tos amoncelés.
amid the hall it-was all heaped
Lors se drecha Guillames au cort nés.
Then himself raised William with-the short nose
«Rainouars sire, dist il, avant venés;
Rainouart lord said he forward come
«mes senescaus, si vous plaist, si serés.
my seneschal if-it you pleases so you-will-be
«A chiaus de France que j'ai chi amenés
To those of France whom I-have here brought
«riches soudées vo pri que me donnés».
rich pay you I-beg that for-me you-give
Dist Rainouars: «Si com vous commandés.»
Said Rainouart So as you command
Il prist l'emine, au tresor est alés.
He took the-measure to-the treasure he-is gone

Hautement s'est Rainouars escriés:
Loudly himself-is Rainouart cried-out
«Or vigne avant ki veut estre lievés.»
Now let-come forward who wishes to-be raised-up
Don véissiés cevaliers aroutés
Then you-would-have-seen knights ranked
et escuiers, n'en i est uns remés.
and squires not-thereof there is one remained
Rainouars est sor le tresor montés,
Rainouart is upon the treasure climbed
dont il i ot cargié bien .IIII. nés.
of-which it there was loaded well four ships
Onques n'i ot mine ne sestier rés;
Ever not-there was measure nor bushel leveled
trestout à comble est cascuns mesurés.
all in heap is each measured
Cascun en doune tout à ses volentés;
To-each thereof he-gives all to his wishes
à tout jors mais en doit estre henourés.
for all days more thereby he-must be honored
Tos li plus povres est or riches clamés.
All the most poor is now rich called
Dist l'un à l'autre: «Molt nous a bien lievés;
Said the-one to the-other Very us he-has well raised-up
«bien soit de l'eure k'il vint en ces regnés.
well be of the-hour that-he came into these realms
«Si larges hom ne fu de mere nés;
So generous man not was of mother born
«bien devroit estre par droit rois corounés.
well he-ought be by right king crowned

— Rainouars sire, dist Guillame au court nés,
Rainouart lord said William with-the short nose
«dès or vauroie que fusiés adoubés
from now I-would-wish that you-were dubbed
«ains qu'en ralast mes riches parentés,
before that-thence went-back my rich kindred
«que vo barnages soit Loéy contés.»
that your baronage be (to-)Louis told
Dist Rainouars: «Sire, dont vous hastés.»
Said Rainouart Lord then you hasten
A ces paroles ont .II. grailles sounés,
At these words they-have two bugles sounded
Franchois apelent dou palais segnorés.
French they-call from-the palace lordly
Devant la sale es les vous arestés.
Before the hall behold them you stopped
Et Rainouars avala les degrés,
And Rainouart went-down the steps
od lui Guibors, de qui il est amés;
with him Guibourc by whom he is loved
s'i fu Guillames et li autres barnés.
so-there was William and the other baronage
Sous le palas eut .II. arbres plantés;
Under the palace were two trees planted
là fu .I. pailes à la terre jetés.
there was a silk on the ground thrown
Illuec s'asist Rainouars l'alosés.
There himself-sat Rainouart the-renowned
Guillames l'arme et Bueves li menbrés,
William him-arms and Beuve the renowned

et Aïmers et Guibers li senés.
and Aïmer and Guibert the wise
Cauches de fer blances com flor de prés
Hose of iron white as flower of meadows
li ont lacié; la maille [en] estoit tés
to-him they-have laced the mail thereof was such
ja por cop d'arme [ne la verez fauser].
ever for blow of-weapon not it you-will-see give-way
Bertrans li a les esperons fermés.
Bertrand to-him has the spurs fastened
Puis vest l'auberc, tout de fin or safrés;
Then he-dons the-hauberk all with fine gold gilded
à double maaille est laciés et trie[ulés],
with double mail it-is laced and triple-meshed
.X. ans i mist au faire Antiquités,
ten years there put at-the making Antiquités
chou fu .I. maistres qui [fu] des ars parés.
this was a master who was of-the arts adorned
N'a si grant homme de ci en Balesgués
Not-is-there so great man from here into Balesgué
[n'en traïnast .II. grans] piés mesurés,
not-thereof would-have-dragged two great feet measured
et une toise fu bien par les flans lés:
and a fathom it-was well by the flanks broad
à Rainouart estoit amesurés.
to Rainouart it-was measured
El cief li lacent .I. vert elme jemés
On-the head him they-lace a green helmet jeweled
qui fu Glotaire, sel fist Matusalés,
which was (of-)Glotaire so-it made Methuselah

cil qui vesqui .IX^c^. ans par aés.
he who lived nine-hundred years by ages
Par artimage fu fais et compassés:
By magic it-was made and devised
uns escarblonqes fu el coig enbrasés
a carbuncle was in-the corner kindled
et uns topasces el nasel seléés.
and a topaz in-the nasal sealed
De rices pieres fu [li] cercles ollés.
With rich stones was the circlet set
Bons ert li elmes et richement ovrés;
Good was the helmet and richly worked
ne crient cop d'arme .I. denier mounéés.
not it-fears blow of-weapon a penny coined
A .XXX. las li fu el cief fermés.
With thirty laces to-him it-was on-the head fastened
Li quens li chaint l'espée à ses costés;
The count him girds the-sword at his sides
el col le fiert si qu'il est enclinés:
on-the neck him he-strikes so that-he is bowed
«Tien, Rainouars, Diex te croisse bontés
Take Rainouart God thee increase goodness
«et vaselage et prouece et firtés!
and vassalage and prowess and fierceness
«De couardise ne soiés ja retés;
Of cowardice not you-be ever accused
«se mieudres n'estes, mes parens resamblés.
if better not-you-are my kin resemble
Dist Rainouars: «Si soit com dit avés.»
Said Rainouart So it-be as said you-have

Atant li est uns destriers amenés
Then to-him is a charger brought
noir comme meure, mais blans ot les costés,
black as mulberry but white it-had the sides
et par les piés fu devant virolés.
and on the feet it-was in-front ringed
Ample viaire et fu destre comés;
Broad face and it-was right maned
plate a le jambe, les piés vautis coupés;
flat it-has the leg the feet vaulted cut
large ot la crupe et fu haut encoués.
broad it-had the rump and it-was high tailed
Ainc por ahan n'ot les flans tressués;
Ever for toil not-it-had the flanks sweated
li Margaris, issi fu apelés.
the Margaris thus it-was called
Nés fu d'Arcage, d'un estrange regnés.
Born it-was of-Arcage of-a foreign realm
Sele ot d'ivoire dont il fu enselés;
Saddle it-had of-ivory with-which it was saddled
molt par fu bien li destriers acesmés,
very greatly was well the charger adorned
bien fu covers d'un vert elme fresés.
well it-was covered with-a green helmet embroidered
Par son estrier est Rainouars montés;
By his stirrup is Rainouart mounted
l'autre li tint Bertrans li alosés.
the-other to-him held Bertrand the renowned
A son col pent .I. fort escu bouclés;
At his neck hangs a strong shield bossed

puis li aportent .I. espiel nouelés,
then to-him they-bring a spear nielloed
gros ert, de fraisne, le fer trenchant quarrés.
big it-was of ash the iron cutting square
Onqes el siecle ne fu plus biaus armés;
Ever in-the world not was more fair armed-man
quant il s'afiche es destriers sororés,
when he himself-sets on-the charger sorrel
por .I. petit n'a les fers dessoldés.
by a little not-he-has the irons unsoldered
Li quens Guillames s'est molt haut escriés:
The count William himself-is very loud cried-out
«Rainouars sire, dist il, esperounés.
Rainouart lord said he spur
«Por moie amor vos pri ke vous jostés,
For my love you I-pray that you joust
«à la quintaine .I. tout seul cop ferés
at the quintain a all single blow strike
«savoir des armes comment vous conterés.»
to-know of-the arms how you will-bear-yourself
Dist Rainouars: «Ce seroit grans vieutés
Said Rainouart This would-be great vileness
«se en quintaine ert mes cos esprovés;
if in quintain were my blow tested
«se por .I. poi joste, c'ert laquistés.
if for a little I-joust it-will-be a-lackey's-trick
«Sire Guillames, s'un de mes cos perdés,
Lord William if-one of my blows you-lose
«par saint Denis, grant damage i arés;
by saint Denis great harm there you-will-have

«mais atendons Sarrasins et Esclers:
but let-us-await Saracens and Slavs
«Lors josterai si que vos le venrés.»
Then I-shall-joust so that you it will-see
François l'entendent, si en ont ris assés;
French it-hear so thereof they-have laughed enough
molt par en ont grant feste.
very greatly thereof they-have great feast

«Rainouars sire,» dist Guibors au vis fier,
Rainouart lord said Guibourc with-the face proud
«por vos ai fait la quintaine drecier
for you I-have made the quintain raise
«sor .V. estaches, sor .V. hauberc doublier
upon five posts upon five hauberks double
«et .V. escus ki tot sont de quartier.
and five shields which all are of quarter
«Or vous proi jou par amor et requier
Now you beg I by love and require
«car i ferés, tant vous arai plus chier.
so there strike so-much you I-shall-have more dear
«Verrai com sés tes armes manoier
I-shall-see how thou-knowest thy arms to-handle
«et ton ceval conduire et eslaissier
and thy horse to-guide and to-launch
«que vous véisse cest espil abaissier.»
that you I-might-see this spear lower
Dist Rainouars: «Ja m'estuet otroier;
Said Rainouart Now me-behooves to-grant

«mais ne quidoie pas ichi essaier:
but not I-thought at-all here to-test
«Molt miex l'amaisse sor la gent l'aversier.
Much better it-I-would-love upon the folk the-adversary
«Ja le péuse assez miex emploier.
Soon it I-could much better employ
«Ma bele suer, ne vous vuel corechier,
My fair sister not you I-wish to-anger
«or josterai por vous esléechier;
now I-shall-joust for you to-gladden
«si bien le fai, si m'averés plus chier.
if well it I-do so me-you-will-have more dear
François s'arengent, si se traient arier.
French themselves-range so themselves they-draw back
Et Rainouars a brochié le destrier;
And Rainouart has pricked the charger
l'escu enbrace à loi de bon guerrier,
the-shield he-grasps in manner of good warrior
brandist l'espié au fer trenchant d'acier,
he-brandishes the-spear with-the iron cutting of-steel
en la quintaine fiert grant cop et plenier.
in the quintain he-strikes great blow and full
Les .V. escus fist tos faindre et percier,
The five shields he-made all bend and pierce
les .V. haubers desrompre et desmaillier,
the five hauberks burst and unmail
les .V. estaces et froer et brisier;
the five posts both shatter and break
ens en .I. mont a fait tot trebuchier.
in in a heap he-has made all tumble

Outre l'enporte l'arabi montenier;
Beyond him-carries the-Arab mountain-bred
au tor françois est retornés arier,
at-the turn French he-is turned back
cortoisement a trait le brant d'acier.
courteously he-has drawn the blade of-steel
François s'escrient: «Chi a bon chevalier;
French themselves-cry Here there-is good knight
«ainc tel ne furent Rollant ne Olivier.
ever such not were Roland nor Oliver
«Encontre lui ne puet nus apuier;
Against him not can any lean
«cis pora bien Espaigne calengier:
this-one will-be-able well Spain to-claim
«Sou sil n'a homme qui s'ost vers lui drecier.»
Under heaven not-is-there man who himself-may-dare against him raise
Dame Guibors l'est alée enbrachier;
Lady Guibourc him-is gone to-embrace
trestout armé li véissiés baisier.
all armed him you-would-have-seen kiss
Grans fu la noise sous Orenge el gravier:
Great was the noise under Orange on-the strand
por Rainouart ounerer et prisier
for Rainouart to-honor and prize
ont bouhordé vallet et chevalier.
have jousted youths and knights
Là véissiés essaier maint destrier,
There you-would-have-seen test many-a charger
et trestorner et poindre et eslaissier.
and turn-about and spur and launch

Mainte fort lance i véissiés brisier
Many-a strong lance there you-would-have-seen break
sor les escus qui sont paint à ormier;
upon the shields which are painted with gold-trim
li solaus luist qui les fait flanboier.
the sun shines which them makes blaze
Li quens Guillames a feit le jeu laissier
The count William has had the game leave-off
qu'il ne se blecent as lances abaissier;
that-they not themselves wound at-the lances lowering
en la cité les a fait repairier.
into the city them he-has made return
Atant es vous d'Espaigne .I. mesagier,
Then behold you from-Spain a messenger
ki vint d'Espaigne le cemin droiturier;
who came from-Spain the road direct
vit Rainouart, dist lui sans latimier
he-saw Rainouart he-said to-him without interpreter
que Baudus vient od le corage fier
that Baudus comes with the courage proud
qu'en Alischans venqui à son levier.
whom-in Aliscans he-vanquished with his lever
Après li fist jurer et fianchier
After to-him he-made swear and pledge
qu'il revenroit à lui sans detriier
that-he would-come-back to him without delay
se il pooit sains et sauf repairier;
if he could safe and sound return
or vient à lui por la merchi proier.
now he-comes to him for the mercy to-pray

«Ne vous veut pas ne mentir ne bosier;
Not you he-wishes at-all neither to-lie nor deceive
«ensamble od lui a maint bon chevalier
together with him he-has many-a good knight
«ke li vauront et servir et aidier
who to-him will-wish both to-serve and to-help
«en grant bataille, se il en a mestier.»
in great battle if he thereof has need
A ces paroles, sans plus de delaier, 8120
At these words without more of delay
descent Baudus del bon corant destrier
dismounts Baudus from-the good running charger
jusqe au perron, par desous l'olivier;
right-to to-the block by beneath the-olive-tree
par les degrés monte el palais plenier.
by the steps he-mounts into-the palace full
Quant Rainouars l'a véu aproismier,
When Rainouart him-has seen approach
va s'ent encontre acoler et baisier. 8125
he-goes thence to-meet-him to-embrace and kiss
Grant joie font ensamble li guerrier.
Great joy make together the warriors
Et dist Baudus, où il n'ot qu'ensegnier:
And said Baudus in whom not-was but-teaching
«Rainouars sire, je me voiel batisier
Rainouart lord I me wish to-baptize
«et tout cil autre croire el vrai justicier;
and all these others to-believe in-the true judge
«jel fiancé, mentir ne vous en quier. 8130
I-it pledge to-lie not you thereof I-seek

«Ne vos fauroie por les membres trencier.»
Not you I-would-fail for the limbs to-cut
Dist Rainouars: «Che fait à merchier.»
Said Rainouart This makes to thank
Les fons à fait molt tost apareillier,
The font he-has made very soon make-ready
si les segna l'arcevesqe Fouchier;
so them signed the-archbishop Fouchier
Baudus ont fait et sa gent batisier.
Baudus they-have made and his folk baptize
Grans fu la noise ens el palais plenier,
Great was the noise in in-the palace full
car li barnages est créus d'un princier
for the baronage is increased by-a prince
ki aidera la marce à desraisnier
who will-help the march to defend
vers Desramé, l'orguilleus et le fier.
against Desramé the-proud and the fierce
Ici lairons de Baudus le guerrier,
Here we-shall-leave of Baudus the warrior
si vous dirons de Rainouart le fier.
so you we-shall-tell of Rainouart the proud
Li quens Guillames, ki molt l'aimme et tient chier,
The count William who much him-loves and holds dear
li veut doner Aelis à moillier,
to-him wishes to-give Aelis as wife
sa bele niece, ki molt fait à prisier,
his fair niece who much makes to prize
la fille au roi qui nous doit justicier.
the daughter to-the king who us must judge

Ne la porroit nul lieu miex enploier
Not her he-could any place better employ
qu'en Rainouart, se Diex li veut aidier;
than-in Rainouart if God him wishes to-help
car toute Espaigne vaurra il calengier,
for all Spain will-wish he to-claim
et Desramé destruire et essillier,
and Desramé destroy and ravage
lui et paiens fors dou regne chacier.
him and pagans out of-the realm to-chase
Ele ert roïne, bien le puis aficier;
She will-be queen well it I-can affirm
Diex li doinst bone vie!
God her give good life

The Wedding

XVII

William sends Ernaut and Bernard to Paris to ask Louis for his daughter Aelis for Rainouart, and the king grants her. The wedding is held with jongleurs, and William gives Rainouart Tortelose and Porpaillart. The poet foretells that Desramé will return with a great host and that Rainouart will fight Loquifer. The kin go home, Guibourc comforts William, who weeps for Vivien, and he rebuilds Orange; the poet promises the song of Loquifer.

Dedens Orenge fisent joie molt grant
Within Orange made joy very great
quens Aimeris et trestot si enfant,
count Aimeri and all his sons
et Rainouars au corage vaillant,
and Rainouart with-the courage valiant

et por Baudus le fier, le combatant.
and for Baudus the proud the fighting
Li quens Guillames se drecha en estant;
The count William himself rose on standing
Ernaut apele et Bernart de Brubant.
Ernaut he-calls and Bernard of Brabant
A aus parla, si leur dist en riant:
To them he-spoke so them he-said in laughing
«Frere, dist il, entendés mon samblant,
Brothers said he hear my mind
«si vous dirai .I. poi de mon commant.
so you I-shall-tell a little of my command
«Vous en irés en France le vaillant
You thence shall-go into France the valiant
«demain à l'aube, ains le soleil luisant.
tomorrow at the-dawn before the sun shining
«Tout droit au roi dites que jo li mant
All straight to-the king say that I to-him send-word
«que il m'envoit sa fille maintenant,
that he me-send his daughter now
«ma bele niece au gent cors avenant;
my fair niece with-the noble body seemly
«si la donrai Rainouart le vaillant,
so her I-shall-give-to Rainouart the valiant
«le mellor homme de cest siecle vivant.
the best man of this world living
«Dame sera d'une terre molt grant,
Lady she-will-be of-a land very great
«de toute Espaigne; n'e[n] voist mie doutant.
of all Spain not-thereof let-him-go at-all doubting

«Il est molt preus, ne sai si conquerant;
He is very worthy not I-know so conquering
«par lui venqimes l'estor en Alischans,
by him we-won the-battle in Aliscans
«et Desramé en chasames fuiant.
and Desramé thence we-chased fleeing
«Se Rainouars en vausist faire tant,
If Rainouart thereof had-wished to-do so-much
«il l'éust bien ocis à son perchant.
he him-would-have well killed with his pole
«Des autres Turs fesismes maint dolant;
Of-the other Turks we-made many-a grieving
«tout furent mort li glouton saudoiant.
all were dead the gluttons mercenary
«Quant l'orra dire, le cuer aura joiant.
When it-he-will-hear tell the heart he-will-have joyful
«Hastés vous bien d'aler, je vous commant.»
Hasten you well to-go I you command
Cascuns respont: «Sire, je le créant.»
Each answers Lord I it pledge
Reposer en alerent.
To-rest thence they-went

Li conte vont dormir et reposer
The counts go to-sleep and rest
dusqe au demain k'il voient ajorner.
until to-the morrow that-they see dawn
Isnelement firent leur gent lever,
Swiftly they-made their people rise

si leur commandent lor cevaus enseler.
so them they-command their horses to-saddle
Leur armes font ensamble [od] aus mener,
Their arms they-make together with them lead
car molt redoutent les paiens d'outre mer.
for much they-fear the pagans from-beyond sea
N'est pas merveille, car molt font à doter;
Not-is-it at-all marvel for much they-make to fear
molt les ont fait travellier et pener
much them they-have made labor and suffer
en grant batailles et leur amis navrer.
in great battles and their friends wound
De Vivien leur doit forment peser
For Vivien them it-must greatly weigh
que il ocirrent en l'Archant sor la mer;
whom they killed in the-Archamp upon the sea
mais neporquant bien se venga li ber:
but nevertheless well himself avenged the baron
maint Sarrasin leur ocist au capler.
many-a Saracen of-them he-killed at-the hewing
Montent li conte, si pensent de l'esrer.
Mount the counts so they-think of the-journeying
Li quens Guillames leur prie de haster
The count William them begs to hasten
et la besoigne furnir, et retorner.
and the business accomplish and return
«Sire, font il, ja n'en estuet douter;
Lord say they ever not-thereof it-behooves to-fear
«se Diex le veut otroier et graer,
if God it wishes to-grant and approve

«hastivement nous venrés retorner.»
hastily us you-will-see return
Atant departent, pensent d'esperoner.
Then they-part they-think of-spurring
Ne vos sai mie ne dire ne conter
Not you I-know at-all either say or tell
quantes jornées il mistrent à l'esrer
how-many days they put in the-journeying
ains k'il péussent roi Loéy trover.
before that-they could king Louis find
A Paris ert venus por sejorner,
At Paris he-was come for to-stay
et la roïne, et sa fille au vis cler.
and the queen and his daughter with-the face bright
Li messagier ne vaurent arester
The messengers not they-wished to-stop
tresc à Paris, le palais principer.
right to Paris the palace princely
Loéys prist aval à esgarder
Louis took down to look
et voit les contes qe il pot molt amer.
and sees the counts whom he could much love
Molt liement les courut acoler;
Very gladly them he-ran to-embrace
de leur noveles leur prist à demander,
of their news them he-took to ask
com il l'ont fait en Alischans sor mer.
how they it-have done in Aliscans upon sea
«Sire, font il, sel volés escouter,
Lord say they if-it you-wish to-hear

«bataille éumes qui molt fist à douter;
battle we-had which much made to fear
«mais Sarrasin nel peurent endurer:
but Saracens not-it could endure
«Maint en fesimes morir et afoler,
Many-a thereof we-made die and be-maimed
«et Desramé, il s'en fuï par mer.
and Desramé he himself-thence fled by sea
«Desconfi sont Sarrasin et Escler;
Discomfited are Saracens and Slavs
«jamais nul jor nes verrés retorner,
ever any day not-them you-will-see return
«car Rainouars, qui tant fait à douter,
for Rainouart who so-much makes to fear
«le miex vaillant dont nus oïst parler,
the most valiant of-whom any heard speak
«de la bataille les a fait desevrer.
from the battle them has made separate
«A son tinel, que il fist gros ferrer,
With his cudgel which he made big shoe
«tant en ocist nus hom nes pot esmer.
so-many thereof he-killed any man not-them could reckon
«Se il ne fust, bien l'os dire et conter,
If he not were well it-I-dare say and tell
«tous fuisiens mort en fin sans escaper.»
all we-would-have-been dead at end without escaping
Li rois l'entent, Dieu en prist à loer;
The king it-hears God thereof he-took to praise
molt par en a grant joie.
very greatly thereof he-has great joy

«Biaus sire rois, che dient li mesage,
Fair lord king this say the messengers
«salus vous mande Guillame au fier corage,
greeting to-you sends William with-the proud courage
«dame Guiborc, [la belle] au cler visage,
lady Guibourc the fair with-the bright face
«et Aimeris de Nerbone le large,
and Aimeri of Narbonne the generous
«et tout si fil qui Diex croisse barnage,
and all his sons to-whom God increase baronage
«que li envoies ta bele fille sage;
that him thou-send thy fair daughter wise
«porquis li a molt rice mariage.
sought for-her he-has very rich marriage
«Signor aura qui est de haut parage;
Lord she-will-have who is of high parentage
«onqes pucele n'ot tel en son éage:
ever maiden not-had such in her age
«C'est Rainouars ki tant a vaselage.
It-is Rainouart who so-much has vassalage
«Rois ert d'Espaigne, et roi Tiebaut l'aufage
King he-will-be of-Spain and king Thibaut the-caliph
«destruira il, s'il vit en son éage,
will-destroy he if-he lives in his age
«fors que ans .II. les testes.
except that both two the heads

«Biaus sire rois, dient li messagier,
Fair lord king say the messengers
«salus vous mande Guillames au vis fier,
greeting to-you sends William with-the face proud
«la fiere brace qui tant fait à proisier,
the fierce arm which so-much makes to praise
«et Aimeris qui forment vous a chier,
and Aimeri who greatly you has dear
«cil de Nerboune, qui ainc ne pot boisier
he of Narbonne who ever not could deceive
«à son signeur mentir ne losengier,
to his lord lie nor flatter
«que vostre fille, qui molt fait à prosier,
that your daughter who much makes to praise
«li envoiés liement, sans dangier,
to-him you-send gladly without hesitation
«k'il l'a dounée au mellor chevalier
for-he her-has given to-the best knight
«ki portast armes ne montast en destrier;
who carried arms or mounted on charger
«c'est Rainouars od le corage fier.»
it-is Rainouart with the courage proud
Li rois respont: «Bien fait à otroier.»
The king answers Well it-makes to grant
Molt richement li fait apareillier
Very richly her he-makes make-ready
de dras de soie tant com li ot mestier.
with clothes of silk as-much as to-her it-had need
Quant mangié ont, si alerent couchier;
When eaten they-have so they-went to-bed

la nuit dormirent li conte droiturier
the night slept the counts rightful
tresc'al demain qu'il virent esclairier.
until-the morrow that-they saw dawn
Et li solaus commencha à raier,
And the sun began to shine
et leur cevaus ont fait aharneskier
and their horses they-have made harness
e[t] leur font seles metre.
and for-them they-make saddles put

A Paris fu li rois od son barné
At Paris was the king with his baronage
et la roïne au gent cors oneré.
and the queen with-the noble body honored
Li chevalier sont prest et atorné.
The knights are ready and equipped
Devant la sale, au perron dou degré,
Before the hall at-the block of-the step
li rois amaine sa fille au cors mollé,
the king leads his daughter with-the body molded
si le leur livre par bone volenté.
so her to-them he-delivers with good will
Baissa sa fille si ot assés ploré;
He-kissed his daughter so he-had enough wept
puis ne le vit en trestot son aé.
after not her he-saw in all his age
Li messagier ont congié demandé;
The messengers have leave asked

li rois leur done de bone volenté.
the king to-them gives-it with good will
Vont s'ent li conte, à Dieu l'ont commandé;
Go themselves-thence the counts to God her-they-have commended
droit vers Orenge tot leur cemin ferré.
straight toward Orange all their road paved
Tant ont li conte esploitié et esré
So-much have the counts pressed-on and journeyed
que à Orenge vinrent à la cité.
that to Orange they-came to the city
Parmi la porte en sont laiens entré;
Through the gate thence they-are within entered
de mainte gent sont le jor esgardé.
by many-a folk they-are the day looked-at
Tant cevaucierent k'il vinrent au degré,
So-far they-rode that-they came to-the step
et li baron leur sont encontre alé.
and the barons to-them are to-meet gone
Li quens Guillames, ki molt ot de fierté,
The count William who much had of fierceness
descent sa niece dou palefroi feutré,
lifts-down his niece from-the palfrey caparisoned
puis en monterent el palais principé.
then thence they-mounted into-the palace princely
Dame Guiborc, qui molt avoit biauté,
Lady Guibourc who much had beauty
prist Aelis par le bliaut safré.
took Aelis by the tunic gilded

Molt ont les dames grant joie demené
Much have the ladies great joy shown
et Rainouart au corage aduré,
and Rainouart with-the courage hardened
li fait grant joie, car molt l'a desiré
to-her makes great joy for much it-be-has desired
k'il péust faire d'ele sa volenté.
that-he could do with-her his will
Tout icel jor ont grant joie mené,
All that day they-have great joy shown
puis vont couchier, quant il eurent soupé,
then they-go to-bed when they had supped
tresqe au matin k[e] il fu ajorné.
until to-the morning that it was dawned
Li baron lievent, ne l'ont pas oublié;
The barons rise not it-they-have at-all forgotten
Rainouart ont richement [conréé],
Rainouart they-have richly arrayed
de riche reube vestu et acesmé.
with rich robe clothed and adorned
Au mostier l'ont li baron amené,
To-the minster him-have the barons brought
et Aelis, au gent cors ouneré,
and Aelis with-the noble body honored
illuec porterent .II. sergant apresté,
there carried two sergeants ready
et ambedoi si furent espousé.
and both so were wedded

[Li] jogléor de par tout le regné
The jongleurs from by all the realm
il sont venu; dit leur fu et conté
they are come said to-them it-was and told
que li quens a Rainouart marié,
that the count has Rainouart married
molt i aura despendu et doné.
much there he-will-have spent and given
Grant joie firent quant furent assamblé;
Great joy they-made when they-were assembled
le jor i ot maint estrument souné
the day there was many-a instrument sounded
et maint sonet chanté et vielé.
and many-a tune sung and fiddled
Grant sont les noces el palais principé;
Great are the nuptials in-the palace princely
tant eurent mes ja ne sera conté.
so-many they-had dishes ever not it-will-be told
Quant ont mangié et béu à plenté,
When they-have eaten and drunk in plenty
li jogléor sont paié à leur gré.
the jongleurs are paid to their liking
Li quens Guillames leur a assés douné,
The count William to-them has enough given
or et argent assés et à plenté,
gold and silver enough and in plenty
dont furent lié, si l'en ont merchié;
whereof they-were glad so him-thereof they-have thanked
adont congié demandent.
then leave they-ask

Quant Rainouars ot sa feme espousée,
When Rainouart had his wife wedded
dame Aelis la sage, la menbrée,
lady Aelis the wise the renowned
li quens li a Torserose dounée
the count to-him has Tortelose given
et Porpaillart ki siet sor mer salée.
and Porpaillart which sits upon sea salt
Iluec si est mainte nés arrivée
There so is many-a ship arrived
qui les avoirs mainent par la contrée.
which the goods carry through the country
Bien ert la terre de cele part gardée;
Well will-be the land on that side guarded
mais, ains que isse de l'an la terminée,
but before that go-out of the-year the term
aura [Tiebaus] si Orenge atornée,
will-have Thibaut so Orange treated
le paiis ars et la terre gastée
the country burned and the land wasted
n'i aura tour, tant soit grans ne quarrée,
not-there will-have tower so-much it-be great or square
que à perire ne soit acraventée.
that to ruin not be crashed-down
Car Desramés à ja la mer passée,
For Desramé has already the sea crossed
de .XX. langages a la gent assamblée,
of twenty languages he-has the folk assembled
de chà venra ains qu'erbe soit fenée.
from here he-will-come before that-grass be mown

Rois Desramés a sa barbe jurée
King Desramé has his beard sworn
qu'il ne laira por noif ne por gelée,
that-he not will-leave-off for snow nor for frost
s'aura Guillame l'arme dou cors sevrée:
until-he-will-have William's the-soul from-the body severed
et Guibors ert à cevaus traïnée,
and Guibourc will-be by horses dragged
aprés sera en la mer affondrée,
after she-will-be in the sea sunk
une grant pierre entor le col noée.
a great stone around the neck knotted
Mais toute en ert sa barbe parjurée;
But all thereof will-be his beard forsworn
car Rainouars i fu à l'encontrée
for Rainouart there was at the-meeting
qui de paiens fist si grant lapidée
who of pagans made so great stoning
plus en ocist, tous seus, d'une navée.
more thereof he-killed all alone than-a shipload
Huimais orrés chançon enluminée;
From-today you-will-hear song illumined
por jogléor ne fu mieudre chantée,
by jongleur not was better sung
com Rainouars, à la ciere menbrée,
how Rainouart with the face renowned
se combati toute jor ajornée
himself fought all day long
vers Loquifer d'outre la mer salée,
against Loquifer from-beyond the sea salt

qui portoit bien de fer une carée;
who carried well of iron a cartload
là fu la force Rainouart esprovée
there was the strength (of-)Rainouart tested
et ses grans vaselages.
and his great vassalages

Dedens Orenge fu molt grans li barnés.
Within Orange was very great the baronage
Aimeris a ses enfans apelés:
Aimeri has his sons called
«Signor, mi fil, envers moi entendés.
Lords my sons to me hearken
«La merchi Dieu qui en crois fu penés,
The mercy (of-)God who on cross was tormented
«vencu avons Sarrasins et Esclers:
vanquished we-have Saracens and Slavs
«Par Rainouart est li cans afinés
By Rainouart is the field ended
«et Desramés s'en est fuiant tornés.
and Desramé himself-thence is fleeing turned
«Poi de ses hommes en a od lui menés;
Few of his men thence he-has with him led
«tout sont ocis, peu en a escapés.
all are killed few thereof he-has escaped
«Bien est Guillames del tout aséurés;
Well is William of-the all assured
«quant Rainouars est od lui ajostés,
since Rainouart is with him joined

«ne doute mais ne rois ne amirés:
not he-fears more either king or emir
«Car en alons arire en nos regnés.»
So thence let-us-go back into our realms
Si fil respondent: «Si com vous commandés.»
His sons answer So as you command
Congié demandent à Guillame au cort nés;
Leave they-ask of William with-the short nose
li quens leur done, ses a molt acolés
the count to-them gives-it so-them he-has much embraced
dame Guibors les a baisiés assés.
lady Guibourc them has kissed enough
Aval par l'ost ont leur grailles sonés;
Down through the-host they-have their bugles sounded
lors s'apresterent, s'ont leur harnas trossés.
then themselves-they-made-ready so-they-have their harness packed
Defors Orenge fu grans li deus menés;
Outside Orange was great the grief shown
mains chevaliers s'i pasme.
many-a knight himself-there swoons

Defors Orenge fu molt grans ploréis
Outside Orange was very great weeping
là où Guillames parti de ses amis;
there where William parted from his friends
sovent i ot jeté et brais et cris.
often there was thrown both shrieks and cries
François s'en tornent; es les vos departis,
French themselves-thence turn behold them you departed

si s'en alerent leur cemin vers Paris,
so themselves-thence they-went their road toward Paris
en cele terre que tient rois Loéis.
into that land which holds king Louis
Et à Nerboune va li quens Aimeris,
And to Narbonne goes the count Aimeri
et à Geronde va Ernaus li hardis.
and to Gironde goes Ernaut the bold
A Andernas est Guibers revertis,
To Andernas is Guibert returned
et en Barbastre Bueves de Commarcis,
and in Barbastro Beuve of Commarchis
et à Brubant dans Bernars li floris,
and to Brabant lord Bernard the hoary
et en Espaigne Aïmers li caitis.
and into Spain Aïmer the captive
Li quens Guillames au court nés, li marcis,
The count William with-the short nose the marquis
dedens Orenge remest molt escaris;
within Orange remained very bereft
od lui remest Bertrans, Gerars et Guis,
with him remained Bertrand Gerard and Guy
Gautiers de Termes et Hunaus li hardis,
Walter of Termes and Hunaut the bold
Gaudins li bruns, qui encor n'est garis
Gaudin the brown who yet not-is healed
de la grant plaie qu'il ot desous le pis.
of the great wound which-he had beneath the breast
N'ot en Orenge que .C. homes de pris.
Not-were-there in Orange but a-hundred men of worth

De Vivien est molt mus et pensis;
For Vivien he-is very mute and pensive
l'aige li coule aval parmi le vis.
the-water to-him flows down through the face
Lors le conforte Guibors la segnoris
Then him comforts Guibourc the lady
au miex qu'ele seut onqes.
at-the best that-she knew ever

Pleure Guillames; Guibors le conforta:
Weeps William Guibourc him comforted
«Gentiex quens sire, ne vos esmaiés ja;
Noble count lord not yourself dismay ever
«teus a perdu ki regaaignera,
such-one has lost who will-win-again
«et teus est povres qui riches devenra;
and such-one is poor who rich will-become
«teus rit au main au vespre ploerra:
such-one laughs in-the morning in-the evening will-weep
«Ne se doit plaindre li hom ki santé a.
Not himself must lament the man who health has
«Bone pieche a li siecles commencha;
Good while it-is the world began
«mors est Adans qui Diex primes forma
dead is Adam whom God first formed
«et si enfant quanques il engenra.
and his children whatever he begot
«Par le delouve tous li mondes noia,
By the flood all the world drowned

«fors qe Noë [ainz] plus n'en escapa.
except that Noah ever more not-thence escaped
«Ensi le vaut Diex; le mont restora;
Thus it willed God the world he-restored
«molt a duré et encor duerra;
much it-has lasted and yet will-last
«ja de la mort .I. seus n'escapera.
ever from the death one single not-will-escape
«Tant com au siecle cascuns demouerra,
As-long as in-the world each will-remain
«si se contigne au miex ke il porra;
so himself let-him-bear at-the best that he can
«se il sert Dieu, à bone fin venra.
if he serves God to good end he-will-come
«Molt doit liés estre hom qui bone feme a,
Very must glad be man who good wife has
«et, s'il est bons, de fin cuer l'amera;
and if-he is good with fine heart her-he-will-love
«le bon conseil que li done crera,
the good counsel which him she-gives he-will-believe
«et jo sui cele qui bon le vos donra.
and I am she who good it to-you will-give
«Refai Orenge, à grant pris tornera,
Rebuild Orange at great worth it-will-turn
«dou grant avoir qu'en l'Archant ariva.
with-the great wealth which-in the-Archamp arrived
«Mande sergans, assés en i venra;
Summon sergeants enough thereof there will-come
«tel le pues faire jamais garde n'aura,
such it thou-canst make ever fear not-it-will-have

«et jo sui cele qui molt s'en penera.
and I am she who much herself-thereof will-strive
— Diex, dist Guillames, quel comtesse chi a!
God said William what countess here there-is
«Jamais el siecle itele ne naistra.»
Ever in-the world such not will-be-born
Li quens Guillames mie ne se targa;
The count William at-all not himself delayed
isnelement por les machons manda
swiftly for the masons he-sent
et carpentiers, quanqes il en trova.
and carpenters whatever he of-them found
Au miex qu'il pot Orenge restora,
At-the best that-he could Orange he-restored
de grant fossés et de murs le ferma.
with great ditches and with walls it he-closed
Bone chançon qui oïr le vaurra
Good song who to-hear it will-wish
face moi pais et se traie en enchà.
let-him-make me peace and himself let-him-draw in hither
Ja en sa vie [nule] milleur n'orra:
Ever in his life any better not-he-will-hear
d'un grant estor que Rainouars fera
of-a great battle which Rainouart will-make
vers Loquifer où il se combatra;
against Loquifer where he himself will-fight
ainc si grant home nus encor n'esgarda.
ever so great man any yet not-beheld
.II. jors tous plains la bataille dura;
Two days all full the battle lasted

la merchi Dieu, Rainouars l'afina,
the mercy (of-)God Rainouart it-ended
au brant d'acier la teste li copa,
with-the blade of-steel the head him he-cut-off
de Loquiferne le paiis conquesta,
of Loquiferne the country he-conquered
et le roiame à son oes aquita, 8435
and the kingdom for his use acquitted
et i porta coroune.
and there wore crown