OLD FRENCH SERIES · VOLUME 52

The Romance of Troy

Benoît de Sainte-Maure

Le Roman de Troie

The Romance of Troy

Part Two: Hector, Troilus, and Briseida

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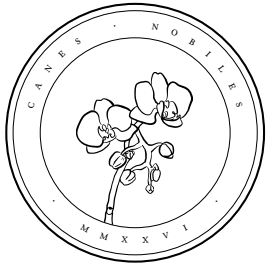
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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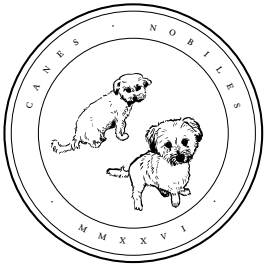

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The Old French text follows L. Constans's text, Le Roman de Troie par Benoît de Sainte-Maure, publié d'après tous les manuscrits connus (Société des anciens textes français, Paris, 1904–1906), t. I–II

Translated and composed with AI, edited by Christopher Hench
Artwork by Esther Steves

The Romance of Troy is printed as Constans establishes it from all the known manuscripts, in the spelling he gives the poem; his verse paragraphs open on an indent, and the verse numbers in the margin, every fifth verse, run on through the poem's four parts. His square brackets supply a letter or word the manuscripts lack. This second part runs from the second battle before Troy to Hector's wounding and the Chamber of Beauties.

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The Trojan Battalions

XXXIII

The Greeks lie weary while Troy hangs its walls with banners. Hector, constable of the town, orders his battalions by the temple of Diana and opens the Dardanian gate. He gives the first battalion to his cousin Glaucus of Lycia and his bastard brother Cicinalor, with Rhesus and Archilogus of Thrace. Troilus leads the second, with the kings of Phrygia, and Hector warns him not to plunge rashly among the enemy. Hupoz and Cupesus of Larissa form the third under the bastard Cadarz. Remus of Cisonia's fourth goes to Polydamas, who rejoices at the coming fight, and Deiphobus leads the Paeonian archers in the fifth.

Cil de Grece sont someillos
Those of Greece are sleepy
e de repos mout desiros;
and of rest very desirous
mais Troïens n'agree mie,
but Trojans not-it-pleases at-all
que mout heent lor compaignie.
for much they-hate their company
Li jorz e li matins fu beaus; 7645
The day and the morning was fair
mout oïst l'om corz e fresteaus,
much would-have-heard one horns and pipes
flageus, estives, meieneaus,
flutes bagpipes middle-pipes
sor murs en haut e sor toreaus.
upon walls on high and upon turrets

N'i a bataille ne crenel
Not-there is battlement nor crenel
ou n'ait enseigne o panoncel,
where not-may-be banner or pennoncel
confanons riches e banieres
pennons rich and banners
o entailles de mil manieres,
with cuttings of a-thousand manners
brosdees d'or, faites de seie:
embroidered with-gold made of silk
toz li païs en reflambeie.
all the country thereof blazes
Onc tel beauté ne fu miree
Ever such beauty not was gazed-at
ne tel richece porpensee.
nor such riches devised
Trop semble vile defensable.
Too-much it-seems town defensible
Cil qui de toz fu conestable
He who of all was constable
e duc e prince e sire e maistre, —
and duke and prince and lord and master
ço est Hector, quil deveit estre,
that is Hector who-it ought to-be
quar, se li mondes fust suens toz,
for if the world were his all
tant esteit il sages e proz,
so-much was he wise and valiant
si fust il dignes de l'aveir, —
so would-be he worthy of the-having

il nel mist mie en nonchaleir.
he not-it put at-all in neglect
Tres par matin sa gent ordane,
Very by morning his folk he-orders
assez près del temple Diane:
quite near to-the temple (of-)Diana
en unes places granz e lees,
in some places great and broad
la ont lor batailles nomees,
there they-have their battalions named
quanz reis avront e quant seront,
how-many kings they-will-have and how-many they-will-be
quant des portes de Troie istront.
when from-the gates of Troy they-will-go-out
Quant comandé ot son plaisir,
When commanded he-had his pleasure
si fist Dardanidès ovrir:
so he-made Dardanides open
ço fu une des sis entrees
that was one of-the six entrances
que ariere vos sont nomees.
which back to-you are named
Dardanidès la porte ot non:
Dardanides the gate had-as name
n'i ot bretesche ne donjon,
not-there was bretesche nor keep
mais tor de marbre grant e lee,
but tower of marble great and broad
set teises haute, bien terree,
seven fathoms high well banked

tot de gros marbre e de betun.
all of big marble and of mortar
Nen a home soz ciel nes un
Not has man under heaven not-even one
quin abatist sol dous quarreaus
who-thereof might-throw-down only two blocks
ne le menor des chapiteaus.
nor the least of-the capitals
Li baille i sont large e plenier,
The baileys there are wide and full
e li fossé e li terrier,
and the ditches and the earthworks
e les lices e les trenchiees,
and the palisades and the trenches
a set, a quinze, a vint archiees.
at seven at fifteen at twenty bowshots
Ainz qu'Ector eissist de la vile,
Before that-Hector went-out from the town
en a sevrez teus dous cenz mile
thereof he-has separated such two hundred thousand
volenteris e coveitos
eager and covetous
e sor tote rien desiros
and above all thing desirous
de destruire lor enemis.
of destroying their enemies
Hector a pris dous suens amis.
Hector has taken two his friends
Li uns fu fiz al rei de Lice;
The one was son to-the king of Lycia

Glaucon ot non Fierejostice:
Glaucus had-as name Fierce-Justice
cist fu mout beaus, cist fut mout sages;
this-one was very fair this-one was very wise
en cestui ot mout vasselages.
in this-one there-was much prowess
Parent li ert assez prochain,
Kinsman to-him he-was enough near
ensi come fiz de s'antain.
just as son of his-aunt
Mil chevaliers esliz e buens,
A-thousand knights chosen and good
que des son pere, que des suens,
what from his father what from-the his
a pris Glaucon a fereors,
has taken Glaucus as strikers
armez es chevaus milsoudors:
armed on-the horses thousand-shilling
heaumes laciez, haubers vestuz,
helmets laced hauberks put-on
pris par enarmes les escuz,
taken by straps the shields
s'en eissirent tuit premerain.
themselves-thence went-out all first
Uns fiz le rei les ot en main:
A son of-the king them had in hand
frere ert Hector, non pas de mere,
brother he-was (of-)Hector not at-all by mother
hardiz e proz e combatere.
bold and valiant and fighter

Cicinalor aveit a non;
Cicinalor he-had as name
gent ot le cors e la façon;
handsome he-had the body and the fashion
grant pris aveit, si ert bien dreiz:
great worth he-had so it-was well right
conquis l'aveit par maintes feiz.
won it-he-had by many-a time
Armez fu bien Cicinalor
Armed was well Cicinalor
sor un cheval d'Espaigne sor;
on a horse of-Spain sorrel
escu ot d'or bendé d'azur.
shield he-had of-gold banded with-azure
Cil s'en eissirent fors del mur
These themselves-thence went-out out of-the wall
jusqu'a la lice dereraine,
up-to the palisade last
fors as plains chans, en mi l'areine.
out to-the plain fields in the-midst the-sand
O cez fu jostez Heseüs,
With these was joined Rhesus
sis fiz o lui Archilogus:
his son with him Archilogus
cist erent seignor de Therace,
these were lords of Thrace
mais jo vueil bien que chascuns sace
but I wish well that each may-know
que, quant Hector les i eslut,
that when Hector them there chose

de grant proëce les conut.
of great prowess them he-knew
E entre le pere e le fil,
And between the father and the son
orent de chevaliers treis mil:
they-had of knights three thousand
ne parout hom ja de meillors.
not may-speak man ever of better
Heaumes, haubers, escuz a flors
Helmets hauberks shields with flowers
orent de tant mainte maniere:
they-had of so-many many-a manner
içe fu l'eschiele premiere,
this was the-battalion first
ou ot dou mile chevaliers
where there-were two thousand knights
hardiz e proz e forz e fiers.
bold and valiant and strong and fierce
Estreit serré, lances dreciees,
Tight close lances raised
s'aresterent fors des trenchiees,
themselves-stopped out of-the trenches
tant que les batailles venissent,
until that the battalions might-come
que ancore pas ne s'en issent.
which still at-all not themselves-thence go-out

Une autre en vendra ja après:
An other thence will-come now after
li reis de Frise Mercerès
the king of Phrygia Merceres
e Antipus e Thalamus, —
and Antipus and Thalamus
trei mile sont, ço cuit, e plus,
three thousand they-are that I-think and more
tuit d'une terre e d'un païs,
all of-one land and of-one country
armé sor bons chevaus de pris,
armed on good horses of worth
heaumes laciez, espees ceintes,
helmets laced swords girt
e ont armes que ne sont teintes
and they-have arms that not are dyed
de vert, de jaune ne d'azur,
with green with yellow nor with-azure
que de fin or vermeil e pur; —
but of fine gold vermilion and pure
cist s'en eissirent de bon gré,
these themselves-thence went-out of good will
dès que Hector l'ot comandé.
as soon-as Hector it-had commanded
D'icez fu princes Troïlus,
Of-these was prince Troilus
meillor de lui ne quiere nus:
better than him not may-seek any

ja par la defaute de lui
ever by the default of him
ne feront faille trei ne dui.
not will-make fail three nor two
Troïlus fu mout bien armez,
Troilus was very well armed
s'ert sis chevaus d'Espaigne nez,
so-was his horse of-Spain born
merveilles coranz e isneaus.
marvelously running and swift
Armes aveit a lionceaus
Arms he-had with lion-cubs
d'azur en or vermeil asis.
of-azure on gold vermilion set
Hector li a dit: «Beaus amis,
Hector to-him has said Fair friend
«guardez vos de trop grant desrei,
guard you from too great disorder
«quar, par la fei que jo vos dei,
for by the faith that I to-you owe
«jusqu'a dous anz, que jo n'i faille,
up-to two years that I not-there fail
«porreiz o eus trover bataille.
you-will-be-able with them find battle
«Ne vos perdez, ne faites mie
Not you lose not do at-all
«chose que puis tort a folie:
thing that after may-turn to folly

«Paor me fait li vasselages
Fear to-me makes the prowess
«e la proëce e li corages
and the valor and the heart
«que jo conois en vos si grant.
that I know in you so great
«Deus vos rameint sain e joiant!
God you may-bring-back sound and joyful
«Nos partez pas de vostre gent,
Not-you part at-all from your folk
«ne vos embatez folement
nor you plunge foolishly
«entre voz enemis mortaus:
between your enemies mortal
«Revenir poisseiz sains e saus!
To-return may-you sound and safe
— Sire,» ço respont Troïlus,
Lord that answers Troilus
«ne me comandereiz vos plus?
not to-me will-command you more
«Tot ço vueil faire e ço desir,
All that I-wish to-do and that I-desire
«qu'a gré vos vienge e a plaisir.
that-to liking to-you may-come and to pleasure
«Jo cuit, de rien que ja i face,
I think of anything that ever there I-may-do
«n'avrai vostre ire ne manace.»
not-I-shall-have your wrath nor threat

A tant s'en ist e li trei rei
At so-much himself-thence goes-out and the three kings
tot fors les lices, el gravei.
all out-of the palisades on-the gravel
Trei mile sont icist e mais,
Three thousand are these and more
qui mout i soferront grant fais:
who much there will-suffer great burden
ainz qu'il veient mais anuitier,
before that-they may-see ever nightfall
avront d'aïde grant mestier.
they-will-have of-help great need
Hector le tierz conrei devise:
Hector the third troop arranges
en icel sont cil de Larise.
in that are those of Larissa
Sire en esteit Hupoz li granz,
Lord thereof was Hupoz the big
li forz, li proz, li combatanz,
the strong the valiant the fighter
e Cupesus, qui mout ert maire;
and Cupesus who very was greater
mais ços sai bien de veir retraire,
but that-you I-know well for true to-recount
qu'en tote l'ost n'ot tel pareil.
that-in all the-host not-there-was such equal
Cist feront ancui sanc vermeil.
These will-make today blood vermilion
Trop erent fort, trop erent grant;
Too-much they-were strong too-much they-were big

assez sembloënt mieuz jaiant
enough they-seemed better giants
qu'il ne faiseient autre gent.
than-they not made other folk
Trei mile sont cist e set cent:
Three thousand are these and seven hundred
n'i a cel n'ait heaume lacié
not-there is that-one not-may-have helmet laced
e qui n'ait lance o bon espié.
and who not-may-have lance or good spear
Hector lor a baillié Cadarz:
Hector to-them has given Cadarz
c'ert uns de ses freres bastarz,
it-was one of his brothers bastard
cui mout amot e teneit chier,
whom much he-loved and held dear
quar mout i ot bon chevalier.
for very in-him there-was good knight
Beaus ert e proz e afaitiez.
Fair he-was and valiant and mannered
Serrez s'en issent e rengiez
Close themselves-thence they-go-out and ranked
tot fors des lices, es graviers,
all out of-the palisades on-the gravels
delez les dous conreiz premiers.
beside the two troops first
Remus, li reis de Cisonie,
Remus the king of Cisonia
la quarte eschiele ra fornie:
the fourth battalion again-has furnished

n'i ot mais hui nule si grant
not-there was ever today any so great
ne si fiere ne si dotant.
nor so fierce nor so fearsome
Richement fu armez li reis,
Richly was armed the king
mout par fu beaus li suens herneis;
very greatly was fair the his harness
mout ot cheval d'estrange pris:
very he-had horse of-strange worth
des meillors autres valeit dis.
than-the best others it-was-worth ten
D'or bruni ert sis escuz toz;
Of-gold burnished was his shield all
n'aveit nul autre teint desoz,
not-it-had any other tint beneath
mais de porpre ert coverz desus
but with purple it-was covered above
e entailliez par granz pertus.
and cut by great holes
La porpre ert neire a granz labeaus,
The purple was black with great labels
sin esteit li escuz plus beaus.
so-thereof was the shield more fair
Polidamas li segurains
Polydamas the steadfast
ot cez en baillie e en mains:
had these in keeping and in hands
Hector l'en ot fait conestable,
Hector him-thereof had made constable

quar pro le sot e bien aidable.
for valiant him he-knew and well helpful
Sor un cheval sist Aragon,
On a horse he-sat Aragonese
qui plus tost vait d'esmerillon,
which more quickly goes than-a-merlin
aaisiez e forz e isneaus;
easy and strong and swift
ses armes erent a aigleaus
his arms were with eaglets
d'or esmeré en vert asis.
of-gold refined on green set
Veant Hector, un poindre a pris:
Seeing Hector a charge he-has taken
«Sire,» fait il, «mout sui guariz
Lord says he very I-am healed
«e de grant joie repleniz
and with great joy refilled
«de ço qu'ancui nos combatrons
for that that-today us we-shall-fight
«envers la gent que nos haons
against the folk that we hate
«e qui si près nos ont requis.
and who so near us have attacked
«Or iert veü quin avra pris;
Now will-be seen who-thereof will-have worth
«or se tairont li vanteor
now themselves will-keep-silent the boasters
«e li coart encuseor,
and the cowardly accusers

«e li preisié avront lor lieus;
and the prized will-have their places
«or resera nostre li gieus.»
now will-be-again ours the game
Hector respont: «Beaus douz amis,
Hector answers Fair sweet friend
«qui qu'en seit mornes ne pensis,
who that-thereof may-be gloomy nor pensive
«vos en estes mout esbaudiz.
you thereof are very emboldened
«Li pris n'iert ja si departiz
The worth not-will-be ever so divided
«quos n'en aiez la vostre part:
that-you not-thereof may-have the your part
«De ço n'ai jo nes un reguart.
Of that not-have I not-even one regard
«Mieudre de vos, sage ne fol,
Better than you wise nor foolish
«ne pendra hui escu a col.
not will-hang today shield at neck
«Alez, sivez noz chevaliers.
Go follow our knights
— Sire,» fait il, «mout volentiers.»
Lord says he very willingly
Eissu s'en sont estreit serré
Gone themselves-thence they-are tight close
fors la tranchiee del fossé.
out-of the trench of-the ditch

Cil de Peoine s'en reissirent,
Those of Paeonia themselves-thence again-went-out
qui la quinte bataille firent:
who the fifth battalion made
d'icez fu reis Pretemesus
of-these was king Pyraechmes
e Steropeus, fiz Menalus.
and Steropeus son (of-)Menalus
Icist n'orent espiez ne lances
These not-had spears nor lances
ne enseignes ne conoissances;
nor banners nor devices
chevaus orent forz e isneaus,
horses they-had strong and swift
ars e saietes e quarreaus.
bows and arrows and bolts
Merveilles bien armé esteient
Marvelously well armed they-were
solonc l'usage qu'il teneient.
according-to the-usage that-they held
O cez s'en ist Deïphebus,
With these himself-thence goes-out Deiphobus
l'arc en la main, ne tarja plus, —
the-bow in the hand not delayed more
princes fu d'eus e governere
prince he-was of-them and governor
par le comandement son frere, —
by the command (of-)his brother

tot plein le cuivre de saietes
all full the quiver of arrows
de fin acier, a traire prestes;
of fine steel to shoot ready
e s'il les laisse a ceus de la,
and if-he them lets to those of there
trop chierement les lor vendra. 7870
too dearly them for-them he-will-sell
Onc nen orent si chier marchié
Ever not they-had so dear bargain
ne dont il fussent plus irié.
nor whereof they were more angered

The Battalions of the Allies

XXXIV

Edras and Fion lead the sixth battalion; Fion fights from an ivory and ebony chariot, armored like a tower and drawn by two dromedaries, beside Hector's bastard brother Pythagoras. Aeneas takes the seventh with the old emir Euphemes, urging Hector to hurry out before the Greeks seize the field. Paris and Xerxes lead the Persian archers in the eighth. Hector leads the ninth, the knights of Troy, with ten of Priam's bastard sons, and rides Galatea, sent him by the fairy Orva, who loved him and came to hate him when he would not lie with her. Priam is to hold the palisades with the foot-soldiers and his dragon standard, and the ladies watch from the walls.

Cil d'Agreste sont apelé,
Those of-Agreste are called
qui mout se furent gent armé.
who very themselves were handsomely armed
Chevaus orent a lor voleirs
Horses they-had at their wills
sors e baucenz, ferranz e neirs,
sorrel and piebald iron-gray and black
heaumes, haubers, escuz d'or fin,
helmets hauberks shields of-gold fine
de vert, d'azur e de charmin,
of green of-azure and of crimson
espiez trenchanz de fin acier
spears cutting of fine steel
o grosses hanstes de pomier.
with thick shafts of apple-wood

D'icez fu sire reis Edras
Of-these was lord king Edras
e reis Fion, li fiz Doglas,
and king Fion the son (of-)Doglas
cel qui conquist maint riche regne,
he who conquered many-a rich realm
mais puis l'empoisona sa femme.
but after him-poisoned his wife
Fion, icist un curre aveit
Fion this-one a chariot had
qui d'estrange richece esteit.
which of-strange richness was
En bataille ert armez desus;
In battle he-was armed upon-it
set cent mars d'or valeit e plus.
seven hundred marks of-gold it-was-worth and more
Les roës furent de benus,
The wheels were of ebony
d'or fin barrees par desus.
with-gold fine barred by above
D'ivoire esteient li limon
Of-ivory were the shafts
e li aissuel e li paisson,
and the axles and the pegs
ovré si tres menuëment
worked so very finely
e deboissié si soutiument
and carved so subtly
que trop esteit l'entaille bele.
that too-much was the-carving fair

Li tabernacles e la marzele
The canopy and the frame
ert de cuir d'olifant boilliz
was of hide of-elephant boiled
peinz a colors e a verniz.
painted with colors and with varnish
Tant i ot or e bones pierres
So-much there there-was gold and good stones
si precioses e si chieres,
so precious and so dear
merveille esguarde qui ço veit:
marvel looks who that sees
come torete faite esteit.
as little-tower made it-was
Deus ne fist arme qu'i entrast
God not made weapon that-there might-enter
ne qui a nul jor le fausast.
nor which at any day it might-pierce
Dui dromadaire le traeient,
Two dromedaries it drew
qui isnel e corant esteient.
which swift and running were
Li curres fu mout bien armez:
The chariot was very well armed
assez i ot darz empenez,
enough there there-were darts feathered
haches Danesches e espees,
axes Danish and swords
dont il ferra de granz colees.
with-which he will-strike of great blows

Tuit cil quil veient le remirent,
All those who-it see it gaze-at
quar onques mais tel rien ne virent.
for ever before such thing not they-saw
Al rei Fion, al rei Edras
To-the king Fion to-the king Edras
livra Hector Pitagoras,
delivered Hector Pythagoras
un de ses freres de soignant,
one of his brothers by concubine
hardi e pro e combatant,
bold and valiant and fighting
Pitagoras, mien esciënt,
Pythagoras to-my knowledge
aveit unes armes d'argent
had some arms of-silver
o une bende de besli.
with a band of slant
Sor un cheval sist Arabi
On a horse he-sat Arabian
isnel e fort e bien hardi.
swift and strong and well bold
Senz noise faire e senz escri,
Without noise to-make and without cry
s'en eissirent le petit pas.
themselves-thence they-went-out at-the little pace
Donc a pris Hector Eneas:
Then has taken Hector Aeneas
«Hui mais», fait il «vos en istreiz;
Today more says he you thence will-go-out

«la setme eschiele conduireiz,
the seventh battalion you-will-lead
«que forniront cil de Licoine:
which will-furnish those of Lycaonia
«Meillor gent n'a pas soz le troine.
Better folk not-is at-all under the firmament
«Guardez Eufeme l'amiraut.
Guard Euphemes the-emir
«Vieuz est e fraiz: se Deus me saut,
Old he-is and frail if God me may-save
«trop ferions grant perte en lui,
too-much we-would-make great loss in him
«quar plus sage home ne conui.»
for more wise man not I-knew
Fait Eneas: «Tot est en Dé;
Says Aeneas All is in God
«mais par la meie volenté
but by the my will
«ne li vendra ja destorbier.
not to-him will-come ever hindrance
«Pensez mais hui de l'espleitier,
Think more today of the-hastening
«qu'uns mes m'a dit que cil de la
for-a messenger me-has told that those of there
«se sont apareillié piece a,
themselves are made-ready a-while ago
«e s'or nos hastez de l'eissir,
and if-now us you-hasten of the-going-out

«si nos porront le champ tolir
so us they-will-be-able the field to-take-away
«si faitement, ja n'en istrons
so fashioned ever not-thence we-shall-go-out
«ne les lices ne passerons;
nor the palisades not we-shall-pass
«neienz iert hui mais del combatre,
nothing will-be today more of-the fighting
«s'il nos pueent ça enz embatre.»
if-they us can here within drive
Hector respont: «Vos dites veir,
Hector answers You say true
«mais ainz avront grant estoveir
but before will-have great necessity
«dis mile chevalier armé,
ten thousand knights armed
«qui ja sont outre le fossé,
who already are beyond the ditch
«qu'ui mais par force i seions mis.
that-today more by force there we-may-be put
«Or chevauchiez: jo vos plevis
Now ride I to-you pledge
«que jo vos sivrai ja mout tost.
that I you shall-follow now very soon
«N'assemblez pas o ceus de l'ost
Not-join at-all with those of the-host
«desci que jo m'en seie eissuz
until that I myself-thence may-be gone-out
«o ceus de Troie fervestuz,
with those of Troy iron-clad

«de la bataille conreez.
for the battle equipped
— Sire», fait il, «ne demorez.»
Lord says he not delay
Danz Eneas e sa compaigne
Lord Aeneas and his company
s'en eissirent fors en la plaigne.
themselves-thence went-out out on the plain
Paris s'en rist o le rei Serse:
Paris himself-thence again-goes-out with the king Xerxes
ço ert li sire a ceus de Perse,
that was the lord to those of Persia
qui mout plorot: grant duel faiseit
who much wept great grief he-made
por son nevo, qui morz esteit;
for his nephew who dead was
mais ço a bien en desirier,
but that he-has well in desire
qu'il le voudra, s'il puet, vengier.
that-he him will-wish if-he can to-avenge
Li cuivre sont guarni e plein,
The quivers are furnished and full
e chascuns d'eus porte en sa main,
and each of-them carries in his hand
dont il traira, son arc Turqueis:
with-which he will-shoot his bow Turkish
mout les pueent doter Grezeis,
much them can fear Greeks
quar mout en feront grant ocise.
for much thereof they-will-make great slaughter

Merveilles bien, d'estrange guise,
Marvelously well of-strange guise
s'esteit Paris li beaus armez,
himself-was Paris the fair armed
l'eaume lacié, l'espee al lez,
the-helmet laced the-sword at-the side
sor tel cheval qui vaut cent mars,
on such horse which is-worth a-hundred marks
né d'outre l'eve d'Eüfras.
born from-beyond the-water of-Euphrates
Içо est la bataille oitaine,
This is the battalion eighth
que des Grezeis n'iert pas lontaine,
which from-the Greeks not-will-be at-all far
ainz s'en trairont ancui bien près
rather themselves-thence will-draw today well near
e mout lor chargeront grant fais.
and much on-them will-load great burden
Hector a toz ceus assemblé
Hector has all those assembled
qui de la vile esteient né
who of the town were born
e chevalier armes portant.
and knights arms bearing
La nueme bataille fu grant
The ninth battalion was great
e defensable e redotee:
and defensible and dreaded
onc gent ne fu si bel armee.
ever folk not was so fairly armed

Icez mena ensemble o sei;
These he-led together with himself
o cez maintendra le tornei,
with these he-will-maintain the tourney
e sin fera a teus aïes
and so-thereof will-make to such aids
a cui en sauvera les vies.
to whom thereof he-will-save the lives
Dis de ses freres ot o sei
Ten of his brothers he-had with himself
qui fil erent Priant le rei
who sons were (of-)Priam the king
de dameiseles de parage,
by damsels of lineage
de gentis femmes de lignage:
by noble women of lineage
chevaliers i ot proz e beaus.
knights there there-were valiant and fair
Li uns en ot non Odeneaus;
The one thereof had-as name Odenel
Antonius fu li seconz,
Antonius was the second
li tierz Edron, li quarz Dolonz:
the third Edron the fourth Dolon
Dolonz fu granz e genz merveilles,
Dolon was big and noble marvelously
e si aveit armes vermeilles.
and so he-had arms vermilion

Li quinz ot non Siciliëns
The fifth had-as name Sicilien
e li sistes Quintiliëns:
and the sixth Quintilien
c'ert uns des plus amez de toz,
it-was one of-the most loved of all
quar mout esteit e beaus e proz.
for very he-was both fair and valiant
Rodomorus ot non li setmes,
Rodomorus had-as name the seventh
mais mout esteit hergnos e pesmes:
but very he-was surly and wicked
n'ert enveisiez ne deduios,
not-he-was playful nor merry
mais mout esteit chevaleros.
but very he-was knightly
Cassibilanz l'uitmes ot non,
Cassibilant the-eighth had-as name
e li nuemes Dinas d'Aron.
and the ninth Dinas of-Aron
Doroscaluz, li fiz Mahez
Doroscalus the son (of-)Mahez
esteit li dismes apelez:
was the tenth called
Mahez esteit une pucele
Mahez was a maiden
que d'estrange beauté fu bele;
who of-strange beauty was fair
mais morte fu de livreüre:
but dead she-was from childbirth

ço fu mout grant mesaventure.
that was very great misadventure
Icist seront o lor seignor
These will-be with their lord
e maintendront o lui l'estor:
and will-maintain with him the-fight
tant come il se porront aidier,
as-long as they themselves will-be-able to-help
ne le lairont ja damagier.
not him they-will-let ever harm
Ensi armé com fil de rei,
Thus armed as sons of king
s'en eissirent fors al tornei:
themselves-thence they-went-out out to-the tourney
plus porent estre de cinc mile,
more they-could be than five thousand
dont bons chevaliers ert li pire.
of-whom good knight was the worst
Hector monta sor Galatee,
Hector mounted upon Galatea
que li tramist Orva la fee,
which to-him sent Orva the fairy
que mout l'ama e mout l'ot chier
who much him-loved and much him-had dear
mais ne la voust o sei couchier:
but not her he-wished with himself to-lay
empor la honte qu'ele en ot,
for the shame that-she thereof had
l'en haï tant come el plus pot.
him-thence she-hated as-much as she most could

Ço fu li tres plus beaus chevaus
That was the very most fair horse
sor que montast nus hom charnaus,
on which might-mount any man fleshly
e li mieudre e li plus coranz,
and the best and the most running
li plus hardiz e li plus granz:
the most bold and the most big
si bele rien onc ne fu nee.
so fair thing ever not was born
Hector, tote sa teste armee,
Hector all his head armed
ala parler al rei Priant:
went to-speak to-the king Priam
«Jo m'en istrai,» fait il, «avant.
I myself-thence shall-go-out says he abead
«Vos vendreiz en conrei après
You will-come in troop after
«o chevaliers pro et adès
with knights valiant and withal
«e o tote la gent a pié.
and with all the folk on foot
«As lices seient tuit rengié:
At-the palisades let-them-be all ranked
«N'en isse nus, se nel comant;
Not-thence may-go-out any if not-it I-command
«ne vos ne venez en avant,
nor you not come in forward
«que que s'avienge ne que non.
whatever that may-happen nor what not

«O vos avreiz vostre dragon.
With you you-will-have your dragon
«Que por les geudes, que por vos,
What for the foot-soldiers what for you
«ne devons estre trop dotos
not we-ought to-be too fearful
«que il nos puissent rien tolir
that they us may anything take-away
«ne enz entrer ne nos laidir.
nor in enter nor us harm
«S'il tornent a desconfiture,
If-they turn to rout
«vos lor saudreiz bien a dreiture.
you on-them will-leap well at right
«Après nos vendreiz en bataille:
After us you-will-come in battle
«Or si guardez qu'il n'i ait faille.»
Now so guard that-there not-there may-be fail
Prianz respont: «Ensi puet estre.
Priam answers Thus it-can be
«Fiz, mout me fi en ta main destre:
Son much myself I-trust in thy hand right
«Que par li seit m'ire apaiee
That by it may-be my-wrath appeased
«e nostre deshonor vengiee!
and our dishonor avenged
«Guart que sovent revien a mei.
Take-care that often thou-return to me
«Li deu seient guarde de tei!»
The gods may-be guard of thee

Hector s'en ist l'eaume lacié:
Hector himself-thence goes-out the-helmet laced
cruël home semble e irié.
cruel man he-seems and angered
Contre Grezeis a le cuer gros:
Against Greeks he-has the heart big
ancui lor en doudront li os.
today to-them thereof will-ache the bones
Mostrera lor a cest bosoing
He-will-show to-them at this need
que, s'il les aime, c'est de loing.
that if-he them loves it-is from far
En son escu n'ot qu'un lion,
On his shield not-there-was but-a lion
mais vermeuz fu, d'or environ;
but vermilion it-was with-gold around
autreteus sont ses conoissances
likewise are his devices
e les enseignes de ses lances.
and the banners of his lances
Les conreiz a toz trespassez
The troops he-has all passed
tant que as premiers s'est jostez.
until that to-the first he-is joined
Tost lor a dit que chevauchassent,
Soon to-them he-has said that they-should-ride
envers les tentes s'aprochassent.
toward the tents themselves-should-approach
Les nuef batailles chevauchierent,
The nine battalions rode

que el ne vuelent ne ne quierent
for other not they-wish nor not they-seek
ne mais josté seient ensemble.
nor more joined they-may-be together
Tote la terre crolle e tremble.
All the land shakes and trembles
Tant i perent testes armees
So-many there appear heads armed
e tant enseignes orfresees
and so-many banners gold-embroidered
e tant escu d'or et d'argent
and so-many shield of-gold and of-silver
que toz li païs en resplent.
that all the country thereof shines
Les dames furent sor les murs,
The ladies were upon the walls
que de rien n'ont les cuers seürs,
who in anything not-have the hearts secure
e totes les filles le rei,
and all the daughters (of-)the king
por esguarder le grant tornei.
for to-look-at the great tourney
Heleine i fu mout paorose
Helen there was very fearful
et mout pensive e mout dotose.
and very pensive and very doubting
Mil puceles e mil borgeises
A-thousand maidens and a-thousand burgesses
i perent gentes e corteises:
there appear noble and courteous

n'i a celi ne seit dotanz.
not-there is that-one not may-be fearful
Tant a alé li reis Prianz
So-much has gone the king Priam
qu'il fu a la lice foraine,
that-he was at the palisade outer
que des autres ert plus lointaine.
which than-the others was more distant
Iluec a fait ses establies
There he-has made his stations
de ceus a pié e ses parties:
of those on foot and his divisions
n'en laissa onc nul fors eissir;
not-thence he-let ever any out to-go-out
bien lor a fait les pas guarnir.
well for-them he-has made the passes furnish

The Greek Battalions

XXXV

Priam keeps eighteen more of his bastard sons beside him, and several allied kings stay in the town so that fresh troops will be ready the next day. Agamemnon orders thirty Greek battalions. Patroclus leads Achilles' men, for Achilles is slightly wounded and does not arm; then come Merion, Menestheus of Athens, Ascalaphus, Archelaus and Prothenor, Menelaus with the Spartans, the kings of Phocis, Ajax with Teucer, Thoas, the other Ajax, Idomeneus, Nestor, Ulysses, the men of Protesilaus under Podarces, Machaon and Podalirius, Diomedes, Philoctetes, and others. Agamemnon comes last with the men of Mycenae, and the two armies advance until the earth shakes.

Trente fiz ot li reis Prianz,
Thirty sons had the king Priam
toz chevaliers, nez de soignanz, —
all knights born of concubines
doze vos en ai ja nomez,
twelve to-you thereof I-have already named
8100 les dis e uit oïr poëz; —
the ten and eight hear you-can
qu'il a avuec sei retenu,
whom-he has with himself retained
e sin sont il mout irascu.
and so-thereof are they very angered
Lor vuel fussent il premerain
Their wish would-be they first
plus volentiers que dererain:
more willingly than last

mais ço lor covient obeïr
but that to-them behooves to-obey
qu'a lor pere vient a plaisir.
which-to their father comes to pleasure
De ceus ot non l'uns Menelus,
Of those had-as name the-one Menelus
li autre Isdor, li tierz Chirrus;
the other Isdor the third Chirrus
li quarz fu Celidonias,
the fourth was Celidonias
li quinz ot non Hermagoras
the fifth had-as name Hermagoras
et li sistes Maudan Clarueil,
and the sixth Maudan Clarueil
li setmes Sardes de Vertfueil.
the seventh Sardes of Vertfueil
Margariton ot non li uitmes,
Margariton had-as name the eighth
e si fu Achillès mout pruismes
and so he-was (to-)Achilles very near
devers une soë parente,
on-the-side-of a his kinswoman
fille de rei, que mout fu gente.
daughter of king who very was noble
Li nuemes ot non Fanoeaus
The ninth had-as name Fanoel
e li dismes Bruns li Gemeaus;
and the tenth Brun the Twin
li onzimes ot non Mathan,
the eleventh had-as name Mathan

li dozimes Almadian;
the twelfth Almadian
Gilor d'Agluz fu li trezimes
Gilor of-Agluz was the thirteenth
e Godelès li quatorzimes.
and Godeles the fourteenth
Li quinzimes ot non Doglas:
The fifteenth had-as name Doglas
nus hom ne saveit plus d'eschas.
any man not knew more of-chess
Sezimes fu Cadorz de Liz:
Sixteenth was Cadorz of Liz
mais Ausalon, li fiz Daviz,
but Absalom the son (of-)David
n'ot plus bel chief que il aveit;
not-had more fair head than he had
proz e hardiz e forz esteit.
valiant and bold and strong he-was
Li autre dui furent nomé,
The other two were named
l'uns Nez d'Amors, l'autre Tharé.
the-one Born of-Love the-other Thare
Ceus voust Prianz aveir o sei,
Those wished Priam to-have with himself
quar il l'aiment par dreite fei:
for they him-love by right faith
seit a pié o seit a cheval,
be-it on foot or be-it on horse
cil li seront ami leial.
those to-him will-be friends loyal

Li reis Pandarus de Sezile,
The king Pandarus of Sicily
ne reis Ampon, o lor empire;
nor king Ampon with their empire
ne quatre rei d'autre contree
nor four kings of-other country
que Colophon fu apelee;
which Colophon was called
ne li trei rei qui sont de Frise,
nor the three kings who are of Phrygia
ou tant a or e manantise;
where so-much there-is gold and wealth
ne tote la gent de Boëce,
nor all the folk of Boeotia
la ou creist tante bone espece,
there where grows so-many good spice
ne cil del regne de Botine,
nor those of-the realm of Botine
de la grant terre outremarine;
of the great land overseas
ne tuit icil de Paflagoine,
nor all those of Paphlagonia
qui mout en ont pesant essoine
who very thereof have heavy trouble
por lor seignor, qui gist navrez,
for their lord who lies wounded
dont il sont mout desconfortez;
whereof they are very discomforted
ne cil qui sont d'Alizonie,
nor those who are of-Alizonia

ne s'en eissirent le jor mie:
not themselves-thence went-out the day at-all
n'alerent pas al grant tornei,
not-they-went at-all to-the great tourney
en la vile s'esturent quei.
in the town themselves-stayed quiet
Ço fu granz sens: ne voustrent mie
That was great sense not they-wished at-all
qu'ensemble fust lor gent laidie,
that-together were their folk ill-used
ne si travaillier en un jor
nor so worked in one day
que l'endemain n'i ait retor,
that the-next-day not-there may-have return
e qu'il n'en aient de toz freis
and that-they not-thereof may-have of all fresh
a combatre contre Grezeis;
to fight against Greeks
ne vuelent pas li chevetaigne
not wish at-all the captains
que la vile sole remaigne.
that the town alone may-remain
Que que s'avienge ne que non,
Whatever that may-happen nor what not
n'i a bretesche ne donjon
not-there is bretesche nor keep
qui bien d'armes guarniz ne seit:
which well with-arms furnished not may-be
n'ont nul reguart d'ome qui seit.
not-they-have any fear of-man who may-be

Agamennon pas ne sojorne:
Agamemnon at-all not stays
ses eschieles fait e atorne;
his battalions he-makes and arrays
ordene les come els seront
he-orders them how they will-be
e come eles se contendront.
and how they themselves will-bear
Patroclus guie la premiere,
Patroclus guides the first
que mout est grant e bele e fiere:
which very is great and fair and fierce
tote la gent Achillès meine,
all the folk (of-)Achilles he-leads
quar quant qu'il a est suen demeine;
for as-much as-he has is his own
li uns n'a rien que l'autre n'ait,
the one not-has anything that the-other not-may-have
senz conte rendre e senz nul plait.
without account to-render and without any plea
Onc chevalier plus ne s'amerent
Ever knights more not themselves-loved
ne greignor fei ne se porterent.
nor greater faith not themselves bore
Achillès fu un poi navrez,
Achilles was a little wounded
si ne s'est pas le jor armez.
so not himself-is at-all the day armed

Merion fu en la seconde:
Merion was in the second
jo ne cuit pas qu'en tot le monde
I not think at-all that-in all the world
eüst meillors chevaliers dis.
there-might-have-been better knights ten
Ipomenès o ses aidis,
Ipomenes with his helpers
dont il ot bien dou mile e mais,
of-whom he had well two thousand and more
e li dus d'Athenes après,
and the duke of-Athens after
li beaus, li proz Menesteüs,
the fair the valiant Menestheus
o chevaliers trei mile e plus,
with knights three thousand and more
la tierce eschiele ront fornie.
the third battalion again-have furnished
Cil qui furent d'Orcomenie —
Those who were of-Orchomenus
de ceus fu reis Ascalaphus,
of those was king Ascalaphus
il e sis beaus fiz Almenus —
he and his fair son Ialmenus
en la quarte sont o tel gent
in the fourth are with such folk
qui mout ont pris e hardement.
who much have worth and boldness
La quinte ont fait cil de Boëce:
The fifth have made those of Boeotia

tel gent n'aveit en tote Grece.
such folk not-there-was in all Greece
De celi fu reis Archelaus,
Of that-one was king Archelaus
e Prothenor li bons vassaus,
and Prothenor the good vassal
li forz, li proz, li segurains:
the strong the valiant the steadfast
cosins erent andui germains.
cousins they-were both german
Menelaus fu en la sisaine,
Menelaus was in the sixth
qui sire e mariz fu Heleine.
who lord and husband was (of-)Helen
Ceus de Parte ot a jostisier:
Those of Sparta he-had to govern
ço fu lor seignor dreiturier.
that was their lord rightful
Reis Epistroz, reis Scelidis,
King Epistrophus king Schedius
o lor grant gent de Phocidis,
with their great folk of Phocis
firent la setme des batailles,
made the seventh of-the battalions
senz gent a pié e senz ringailles,
without folk on foot and without rabble
de mout bons chevaliers esliz
of very good knights chosen
de grant proëce e de grant priz.
of great prowess and of great worth

Telamonius Aïaus
Telamonian Ajax
fu en l'oitime o ses vassaus:
was in the-eighth with his vassals
la gent conduist de Salemine,
the folk he-led of Salamis
que envers lui est tote acline.
which toward him is all bowed
Quatre amirauz ot cist o sei,
Four emirs had this-one with himself
e si ot Teücer, le rei:
and so he-had Teucer the king
des quatre fu l'uns Theseüs
of-the four was the-one Theseus
e li seconz Amphimacus;
and the second Amphimachus
li tierz Dorius aveit non
the third Dorius had-as name
e li autre Polixenon.
and the other Polyxenon
En la nueme refu nomez
In the ninth again-was named
Thoas li proz, li alosez.
Thoas the valiant the renowned
Cil de Logres font la disaine
Those of Locris make the tenth
o Aïaus le pro quis meine.
with Ajax the valiant who-them leads
L'onzime font Caledoneis:
The-eleventh make the-Calydonians

Philitoas en esteit reis.
Philitoas thereof was king
La dozime firent par non
The twelfth made by name
Idomeneus e Merion:
Idomeneus and Meriones
ceus de Crete meinent e guiënt,
those of Crete they-lead and guide
come la gent ou mout se fiënt.
as the folk where much themselves they-trust
Li reis Nestor, qui mout fu proz
The king Nestor who very was valiant
e uns des plus riches de toz,
and one of-the most rich of all
fist la trezime o ceus de Pile,
made the thirteenth with those of Pylos
dont bien i ot plus de trei mile:
of-whom well there there-were more than three thousand
si ne veïstes onques gent
so not you-saw ever folk
armez d'armes plus richement.
armed with-arms more richly
Après furent Essimiëis,
After were the-Essimieis
o saietes e ars Turqueis,
with arrows and bows Turkish
sor teus chevaus qui tost lor vont.
on such horses which quickly for-them go
Huniers li reis, li fiz Mahont,
Huniers the king the son (of-)Mahont

qui chevaliers esteit mout buens,
who knight was very good
les chadele come les suens:
them leads as the his
c'est la bataille quatorzime.
it-is the battalion fourteenth
Danz Ulixès fist la quinzime
Lord Ulysses made the fifteenth
o ceus d'Achaie, qu'il chadele:
with those of-Achaea whom-he leads
iceste eschiele fu mout bele.
this battalion was very fair
Seze furent o les Pigreis,
Sixteen they-were with the Pigreis
dont Emelins ert sire e reis.
of-whom Emelins was lord and king
Cil de Pilarche grant duel firent
Those of Phylace great grief made
de lor seignor que hier perdirent,
for their lord whom yesterday they-lost
del bon, del pro Proteselaus;
the good the valiant Protesilaus
mais Potarcus o ses vassaus,
but Podarces with his vassals
qui reis esteit e niés al mort,
who king was and nephew to-the dead
ne lairont, por nul desconfort
not will-let for any discomfort
ne por dolor ne por deshait,
nor for grief nor for dejection

qu'il ne seient li dis e set.
that-they not may-be the ten and seven
Conrei sevré, eslit par sei,
Troop separate chosen by itself
la grant amor e la grant fei
the great love and the great faith
qu'il aveient vers lor seignor
that-they had toward their lord
pareistra hui contre les lor:
will-appear today against the theirs
de rien ne sont celui amis,
in anything not they-are that-one's friends
qui lor seignor lor a ocis.
who their lord to-them has killed
En l'eschiele dis e huitaine
In the-battalion ten and eighth
furent la grant gent Triciaine:
were the great folk of-Tricca
Machaon, li fiz Labius
Machaon the son (of-)Labius
e li reis Polidarius
and the king Podalirius
aveient cez a chadeler
had these to lead
e a conduire et a guarder.
and to conduct and to guard
Cil de Rode firent la lor:
Those of Rhodes made the theirs
Telopolon ont a seignor,
Tlepolemus they-have as lord

qui mout sot de chevalerie.
who much knew of chivalry
Euripilus d'Orcomenie
Eurypylus of-Orchomenus
fist des batailles la vintaine,
made of-the battalions the twentieth
qui i sofri le jor grant peine.
who there suffered the day great pain
Cil d'Elide resont guarni
Those of-Elis again-are furnished
e ordené e establi:
and ordered and established
d'icez esteit sire Antipus,
of-these was lord Antipus
il e li reis Amphimacus.
he and the king Amphimachus
Autre en ont fait cil de Larise:
Another thereof have made those of Larissa
c'est une gent que mout se prise.
it-is a folk who much itself prizes
Polibetès li proz les guie
Polypoetes the valiant them guides
e Leontins de Valjoïe.
and Leonteus of Valjoie
Quant il en orent sevrez cez,
When they thereof had separated these
vint e dous conreiz orent prez.
twenty and two troops they-had ready

Diomedès e Sthelenus
Diomedes and Sthenelus
e li beaus Eürialus, —
and the fair Euryalus
rei furent riche e combatant, —
kings they-were rich and fighting
o ceus d'Arges, dont i ot tant,
with those of-Argos of-whom there there-were so-many
firent l'autre bataille après.
made the-other battalion after
Adonc ra pris Philotetès
Then again-has taken Philoctetes
tote la gent de Melibee,
all the folk of Meliboea
sin ra sa bataille sevree
so-thereof again-has his battalion separated
tel que n'i ot plus defensable
such that not-there was more defensible
ne plus sofrant ne plus aidable.
nor more enduring nor more helpful
Cil de Cipe resont monté
Those of Cyprus again-are mounted
prest de bataille e conreé.
ready for battle and equipped
Prince orent mout a lor voleir:
Prince they-had very to their will
ço est Cuneüs, lor dreit heir,
that is Cyneus their right heir
qui en toz lieus les guarde e tient,
who in all places them guards and holds

quant li graindre bosoinz lor vient.
when the greater need to-them comes
Cil de Manese se rassemblent:
Those of Magnesia themselves gather
noise n'i font ne ne contendent,
noise not-there they-make nor not they-contend
ainz s'armerent al plus isnel.
rather themselves-they-armed at-the most swift
E reis Prothoïlus, le bel,
And king Prothous the fair
les conduist dreit a la bataille:
them led straight to the battle
d'icez n'ai crieme qu'uns en faille.
of-these not-I-have fear that-one thereof may-fail
Agapenor de Capadie
Agapenor of Arcadia
rot merveillose compaignie,
again-had marvelous company
e de tel gent qui mout valeient
and of such folk who much were-worth
e qui tres bien armé esteient.
and who very well armed were
Danz Agamennon fu deriers,
Lord Agamemnon was behind
qui assez ot plus chevaliers
who enough had more knights
que nus des autres n'en aveit:
than any of-the others not-thereof had
ceus de Miceines conduiseit.
those of Mycenae he-led

Tuit cil en sa bataille aloënt,
All those in his battalion went
qui en l'ost senz seignor estoënt.
who in the-host without lord were
Trente batailles ont sevrees,
Thirty battalions they-have separated
que mout sont granz e redotees.
which very are great and dreaded
Tant i perent heaume d'acier,
So-many there appear helmet of-steel
tant bel escu, tant bon destrier
so-many fair shield so-many good charger
e tante enseigne despleiee,
and so-many banner unfurled
tante bele arme entreseigniee
so-many fair arm blazoned
e tante manche de bliauz
and so-many sleeve of tunics
d'orfreis, de paile e de cendauz!
of-gold-embroidery of silk and of sendals
Onques nus hom de mere nez
Ever any man of mother born
ne vit ensemble tanz armez.
not saw together so-many armed
Li cheval meinent tel freor,
The horses make such tumult
tote la terre crolle entor:
all the land shakes around

fremist li airs e li cieus tremble,
trembles the air and the heaven trembles
d'ambedous parz vienent ensemble.
from-both sides they-come together

The Death of Patroclus

XXXVI

Hector opens the second battle by killing Patroclus with a spear through the heart and begins to strip his splendid arms. Merion calls him a mad wolf and strikes him down, but Hector remounts at once. Glaucus, Rhesus, and Archilogus engage Achilles' men, and Idomeneus brings ten thousand Cretans. Back on foot at the body, Hector is beset by a hundred Greeks while Merion carries it off on his saddle, until his squire Dodaniez kills Carrut of Pierrelee with a thrown lance and calls for help; Cicinalor rescues him, and Hector, remounted, cuts through the battalion seeking Merion. Menestheus of Athens unhorses Troilus and seizes him by the ventail to drag him off, and Merceres and Thalamus turn back to save him.

Hector assembla toz premiers,
Hector joined-battle all first
8330 veant dis mile chevaliers.
seeing ten thousand knights
Tant come uns ars traisist e plus,
As-far as a bow would-shoot and more
li vint encontre Patroclus.
to-him came against Patroclus
Lor destrier furent plus isnel
Their chargers were more swift
qu'esmerillon ne qu'arondel,
than-merlin nor than-swallow

qui tost les ont faiz assembler,
which quickly them have made join
ne faillirent mie al joster:
not they-failed at-all at-the jousting
Patroclus le fiert en l'escu
Patroclus him strikes in the-shield
de tel aïr, de tel vertu
with such force with such strength
qu'outre en passe li fers bruniz
that-beyond thereof passes the iron burnished
e l'enseigne de vert samiz:
and the-pennon of green samite
sor le hauberc la lance archeie;
on the hauberk the lance bends
escliz en volent, si peceie.
splinters thence fly so it-breaks
Hector ne muet ne ne chancele:
Hector not moves nor not totters
tres par mi la targe novele
very through the-midst the shield new
e par l'auberc maillié menu,
and through the-hauberk mailed fine
que Patroclus aveit vestu,
which Patroclus had put-on
conduit le bon espié trenchant,
he-drives the good spear cutting
que tot le piz li vait fendant.
so-that all the chest to-him it-goes splitting
Le cuer li trenche en dous meitiez:
The heart to-him it-cuts in two halves

envers chaï morz a ses piez.
backward he-fell dead at his feet
Hector li dist: «Bien sai de fi
Hector to-him said Well I-know for sure
«que n'avez or si chier ami
that not-you-have now so dear friend
«qui por vos feïst cest eschange.
who for you would-make this exchange
«Bien conqueïsseiz terre estrange,
Well you-would-have-conquered land foreign
«qui en pais le vousist sofrir.
who in peace it would-have-wished to-suffer
«Por ço deit om desavancir
For that ought one to-thwart
«ses enemis, qui fairel puet.»
his enemies who to-do-it can
Cil n'entent mais ne ne se muet.
He not-hears more nor not himself moves
Dès que Deus voust le mont sauver,
Since that God wished the world to-save
n'oï onques nus hom parler
not-heard ever any man speak
que chevaliers eüst sor sei
that knight might-have-had upon himself
iteus armes ne tel conrei:
such arms nor such equipment
de grant richeise esteient faites.
of great riches they-were made
Hector li eüst ja fors traites,
Hector to-him them-would-have already out drawn

auques l'aveit ja desarmé,
somewhat him-he-had already disarmed
quant Merion vint abrivé:
when Merion came launched
devant trei mile chevaliers,
before three thousand knights
acort a lui trestoz premiers;
he-runs to him all first
puis li a dit: «Lous enragiez,
then to-him he-has said Wolf mad
«autre viande porchaciez;
other meat seek
«ja de cesti ne mangereiz:
ever of this-one not you-will-eat
«Ainz cuit que chier le comparreiz.
Rather I-think that dear it you-will-pay-for
«Tigres, lion, orse desvee,
Tigers lions she-bear crazed
«quant ont lor preie devoree,
when they-have their prey devoured
«si la vont il aillors porter:
so it go they elsewhere to-carry
«E tu t'en vueus ci saoler!
And thou thyself-thence wishest here to-sate
«En estrange lieu descendeies:
In strange place thou-dismountedst
«Dis mile chevaliers veeies,
Ten thousand knights thou-sawest

«n'i a un sol qui son poëir
not-there is a sole who his power
«ne face de ta teste aveir.»
not may-make of thy head to-have
A tant s'eslaisse, si le fiert;
At so-much he-launches so him strikes
felenessement le requiert
felonously him he-attacks
par mi l'escu, ou l'ors clareie.
through the-midst the-shield where the-gold shines
Hector chaï en mi la veie,
Hector fell in the-midst the way
mais son destrier pas ne guerpi:
but his charger at-all not he-let-go
par les resnes l'ot tost saisi,
by the reins him-he-had soon seized
tost remonta senz demoree,
soon he-remounted without delay
ainz que lor gent fust assemblee.
before that their folk were assembled
Dès or puet saveir Merion
From now can know Merion
qu'o sei porte sa raençon.
that-with himself he-carries his ransom
Ja, se Hector le puet ataindre,
Ever if Hector him can reach
ne li leira sa mort a plaindre:
not to-him he-will-let his death to bewail

a ço ne puet il pas faillir,
at that not can he at-all fail
se le tornei vueut maintenir.
if the tourney he-wishes to-maintain
Glaucon i vint o son conrei
Glaucus there came with his troop
e Heseüs, ambedui rei,
and Rhesus both kings
sis fiz o lui Archilogus
his son with him Archilogus
e chevalier trei mile e plus,
and knights three thousand and more
d'ire e de mautalent espris.
with-wrath and with ill-temper inflamed
Lances baissiees, escuz pris,
Lances lowered shields taken
vont encontre toz cez de Phice
they-go against all these of Phthia
loinz as plains chans, fors de la lice.
far on-the plain fields out of the palisade
Glaucon vint premiers en l'estor,
Glaucus came first into the-fight
puis vait joster a un des lor;
then he-goes to-joust with one of-the theirs
sa lance el cors li fait baignier,
his lance in-the body to-him he-makes bathe
mort le trebuche del destrier.
dead him he-tumbles from-the charger
D'ambedous parz sont assemblé:
From-both sides they-are assembled

la ot un fier estor meslé,
there there-was a fierce fight mingled
la veïsseiz escuz percier
there you-would-have-seen shields pierce
e les verz heaumes detrenchier,
and the green helmets cut
e tant bon hauberc desmaillier
and so-many good hauberk unmail
e abatre tant chevalier,
and throw-down so-many knight
tant mahaignier e tant ocire,
so-many maim and so-many kill
qu'om nel porreit conter ne dire.
that-one not-it could tell nor say
Li granz conreiz que Patroclus
The great troop that Patroclus
ot amené ne tarja plus;
had brought not delayed more
mais ço lor est granz desconforz,
but that to-them is great discomfort
que bien sevent que il est morz.
for well they-know that he is dead
Avenu sont a la bataille,
Come they-are to the battle
e si poëz creire senz faille
and so you-can believe without fail
que lors i ot grant fereïz
that then there there-was great striking
de lances e d'espiez forbiz:
of lances and of-spears furbished

maint chevalier i abatirent
many-a knight there they-threw-down
e maint des lor i reperdirent.
and many-a of-the theirs there again-lost
Idomeneus i est venuz
Idomeneus there is come
bien o dis mile fervestuz:
well with ten thousand iron-clad
ço sont Creteis li poigneor;
that are the-Cretans the spurrers
fierement vienent a l'estor.
fiercely they-come to the-fight
Merion est ensemble o eus,
Merion is together with them
por Patroclus cruëus e feus.
for Patroclus cruel and fierce
Icil de Crete e cil de Phice
These of Crete and those of Phthia
se combatent o ceus de Lice.
themselves fight with those of Lycia
La ot des Grezeis grant content
There there-was of-the Greeks great strife
e maint bon chevalier sanglent:
and many-a good knight bloody
mout se peinent d'eus damagier
much themselves they-pain them to-harm
e d'eus ocire e detrenchier.
and them to-kill and to-cut-down

Hector est sor le cors venuz,
Hector is upon the body come
espee traite est descenduz:
sword drawn he-is dismounted
ne laissera qu'il nel despout,
not he-will-leave that-he not-him may-despoil
qui qu'i guaaint ne cui qu'il cost;
who whoever-there may-gain nor whom that-it may-cost
ainz i perdra del sanc del cors
rather there he-will-lose of-the blood of-the body
que les armes n'en traie fors.
than the arms not-thence he-may-draw out
Aamees les a d'amors:
Loved them he-has with-love
dreit a, que soz ciel n'a meillors
right he-has for under heaven not-is better
ne plus riches ne plus preisiees.
nor more rich nor more prized
Ja li eüst del cors sachiees,
Already to-him he-would-have from-the body pulled-them
mais Merion le ra choisi,
but Merion him again-has caught-sight-of
qui mout en a son cuer marri.
who much thereof has his heart grieved
O bien cent chevaliers e mais
With well a-hundred knights and more
li chevauche de plain eslais.
on-him he-rides at plain gallop
Feru l'en ont bien plus de dis:
Struck him-thence they-have well more than ten

por un petit ne l'ont maumis.
for a little not him-they-have maimed
Mout ot sor lui un grant barat,
Very there-was upon him a great tumult
la volerent tros e esclat;
there flew shafts and splinters
mais ne l'ont pas en char navré.
but not him-they-have at-all in flesh wounded
Hector se tint a maumené,
Hector himself held for ill-treated
quant a pié fu entre les lor;
when on foot he-was among the theirs
mais o le vert brant de color
but with the green blade of color
lor done cous ruistes e fiers;
to-them he-gives blows rough and fierce
toz lor detrenche lor destriers,
all to-them he-cuts their chargers
trenche lor braz, cuisses e piez:
he-cuts their arms thighs and feet
ocis en a e mahaigniez
killed thereof he-has and maimed
plus de quinze, tot senz mentir.
more than fifteen all without lying
Onc por eus toz ne voust guerpir
Ever for them all not he-wished to-abandon
son bon destrier. Mais Merion
his good charger But Merion
a mis le cors sor son arçon:
has put the body on his saddle-bow

fors de la presse le voust traire.
out of the press it he-wished to-draw
Trop par en fait que de bon aire,
Too greatly thereof he-does what of good nature
mais mar l'a fait: ço dot e criem ge,
but ill it-he-has done that I-doubt and fear I
que meschaance ne l'en vienge.
that mischance not to-him-thence may-come
A tant s'en vait, Hector remaint.
At so-much himself-thence he-goes Hector remains
Grant merveille est s'il ne se plaint
Great marvel it-is if-he not himself complains
des colees dont tant a prises,
of-the blows whereof so-many he-has taken
mais mout seront bien en lieu mises
but very they-will-be well in place put
a ceus qui les li ont donees:
to those who them to-him have given
ancui seront chier comparees.
today they-will-be dearly paid-for
Mout se defent, mais trop le hastent
Much himself he-defends but too-much him press
icil qui o lui se combatent.
those who with him themselves fight
Perdre i poüst legierement,
To-lose there he-could lightly
quar nel veeit nus de sa gent,
for not-him saw any of his folk

n'il ne se poëit tant pener
nor-he not himself could so-much pain
qu'en son cheval poüst monter,
that-on his horse he-could mount
n'il ne li poëient tolir.
nor-they not from-him could take-away
Dodaniëz del Pui de Rir,
Dodaniez of-the Pui of Rir
uns suens vaslez qui mout l'amot,
a his squire who much him-loved
qui dous lances li aportot,
who two lances to-him brought
vit le meschief de son seignor:
saw the mischief of his lord
al cuer en ot mout grant dolor.
at-the heart thereof he-had very great grief
Une lance li voust geter,
A lance to-him he-wished to-throw
mais sempres ot autre penser.
but at-once he-had other thought
Trop ot grant ire e grant rancune:
Too-much he-had great wrath and great rancor
en la main destre en a mis une,
in the hand right thereof he-has put one
plus près se traist de la meslee
more near himself he-drew to the melee
e vit Carrut de Pierrelee,
and saw Carrut of Pierrelee
qui son seignor mout requereit.
who his lord much attacked

Lancié li a la lance dreit:
Hurled to-him he-has the lance straight
par mi l'escu, par mi le cors
through the-midst the-shield through the-midst the body
l'en fait saillir une aune fors.
him-thence he-makes leap an ell out
Cil chaï morz en es le pas.
He fell dead on the-very the step
Dodaniëz refiert el tas:
Dodaniez again-strikes into-the heap
l'autre lance lor a lanciee,
the-other lance at-them he-has hurled
mais bien la tient a empleiee,
but well it he-holds as employed
quar un d'eus en a mort geté.
for one of-them thereof he-has dead thrown
Puis a a haute voiz crïé:
Then he-has with high voice cried
«Quar retornez, franc chevalier.»
Come return noble knights
Cicinalor l'entent premier,
Cicinalor it-hears first
e dès qu'il sot que ço esteit,
and as soon-as-he knew what it was
cele part point a grant espleit;
that way he-spurs at great haste
entre eus s'embat fiers e hardiz,
between them himself-plunges fierce and bold
trenche lor braz e chiés e piz.
he-cuts their arms and heads and chests

A tant Troïen recovrerent,
At so-much Trojans recovered
e cil mout tost se remuërent:
and those very soon themselves moved-back
en lor bataille se sont mis,
in their battalion themselves they-are put
des cent en ont bien trente ocis.
of-the hundred thereof they-have well thirty killed
Hector monta, mais, ços di bien, 8515
Hector mounted but that-you I-say well
en lui nen ot qu'iraistre rien.
in him not there-was but-wrathful anything
Vers Grezeis s'est abandonez,
Toward Greeks himself-is abandoned
toz lor trenche braz e costez:
all to-them he-cuts arms and sides
n'en ataint nul qui ne s'en plaigne
not-thereof he-reaches any who not himself-thereof may-complain
ne qui en la sele remaigne. 8520
nor who in the saddle may-remain
La bataille a par mi fendue
The battalion he-has through the-midst split
o la trenchant espee nue:
with the cutting sword naked
se Merion puet encontrer,
if Merion he-can meet
ja li fera chier comparer
already to-him he-will-make dearly pay-for
la rescosse de Patroclus. 8525
the rescue of Patroclus

A tant i vint Menesteüs
At so-much there came Menestheus
bien o trei mile Atheniëns.
well with three thousand Athenians
Beaus fu li jorz e clers li tens:
Fair was the day and clear the weather
mout resplendissent fer de lances,
much shine irons of lances
or e verniz e conoissances.
gold and varnish and devices
Lez la bataille s'en passerent,
Beside the battalion themselves-thence they-passed
a ceus de Frise rassemblerent.
to those of Phrygia they-joined-again
Reis Antipus, reis Mercerès,
King Antipus king Merceres
Reis Thalamus de Valadès
King Thalamus of Valades
e Troïlus le bel, le gent,
and Troilus the fair the noble
conduiseient iceste gent.
led this folk
D'ambedous parz tant s'aproismierent
From-both sides so-much they-approached
que par mi les escuz se fierent.
that through the-midst the shields themselves they-strike
La rot de lances josteïz
There again-there-was of lances jousting
e estrange peceieïz:
and strange breaking

fierent d'espees comunal,
they-strike with-swords in-common
qu'en retentissent li costal;
so-that-thereof resound the sides
mort e navré chieent sovent.
dead and wounded fall often
La ot mortel torneiement.
There there-was mortal tourney
Li dus d'Athenes li preisiez,
The duke of-Athens the prized
li beaus, li proz, li enseigniez,
the fair the valiant the well-taught
joinst, senz mentir, a Troïlus,
joined without lying with Troilus
que del cheval le porta jus:
so-that from-the horse him he-carried down
trop chaï en lieu encombros,
too-much he-fell in place encumbered
a mout grant peine fu rescos.
with very great pain he-was rescued
Li dus le prist par la ventaille
The duke him took by the ventail
por traire[l] fors de la bataille:
for to-draw-him out of the battle
sor lui aveit trop grant trepei,
upon him there-was too great trampling
ne pot prendre de sei conrei.
not he-could take of himself order

Sovent le fierent e menu
Often him they-strike and thick
des espees sor l'eaume agu:
with-the swords upon the-helmet pointed
o morz o pris sera senz faille,
or dead or taken he-will-be without fail
se n'est rescos par teus cuin chaille.
if not-he-is rescued by such to-whom-it may-matter
Mercerès crie e plore e brait
Merceres cries and weeps and bawls
por ço que il ensi le lait.
for that that he thus him leaves
Quant ne pot sa gent arester,
When not he-could his folk stop
si lor començа a criër:
so to-them he-began to cry
«Va», fait lor il, «mauvaise gent,
Go says to-them he bad folk
«que Troïlus le bel, le gent,
that Troilus the fair the noble
«le frere Hector, le fil le rei,
the brother (of-)Hector the son (of-)the king
«laissiez ci prendre en cest tornei,
you-let here be-taken in this tourney
«qui sire e princes ert de nos!
who lord and prince was of us
«Or si l'avons si bien rescos,
Now so him-we-have so well rescued
«ja mais honor n'avrons sor terre.
ever more honor not-we-shall-have on earth

«Que venimes nos hui ci querre?
What came we today here to-seek
«Ancui serons mostré al dei.
Today we-shall-be shown with-the finger
«Quar s'en torgent sol cent o mei:
Come themselves-thence let-turn only a-hundred with me
«Entre eus l'irai ja ostagier
Among them him-I-shall-go now to-ransom
«a l'espee trenchant d'acier.
with the-sword cutting of-steel
«Reis Thalamus», fait il, «tornez,
King Thalamus says he turn
«quar laidement vos en alez.»
for foully you thence go
Cil se guenchist a une part,
He himself turned to one side
fiers e hardiz come liepart.
fierce and bold as leopard
Une grant lance ot recovree,
A great lance he-had recovered
qu'uns suens vaslez li ot portee:
which-a his squire to-him had carried
senz plus dire, senz mot soner,
without more to-say without word to-sound
les est alez toz encontrer;
them he-is gone all to-meet
un en fiert si par mi le cors
one thereof he-strikes so through the-midst the body
qu'une aune en saut la lance fors.
that-an ell thence leaps the lance out

S'enseigne a escrïé treis feiz:
His-war-cry he-has cried three times
jan i avra de mort destreiz.
ever-not there will-have of death escaping
Li suen li furent lues al dos,
The his to-him were at-once at-the back
qui d'entre Grezeis l'ont desclos.
who from-among Greeks him-have freed
La rot si faite chaplerece
There again-there-was so made hacking
e sor heaumes tel tinterece,
and upon helmets such ringing
si faite presse e si estrange,
so made press and so strange
mainz dueus por autre s'i eschange:
many griefs for other itself-there exchanges
teus i ocit qui rest ocis,
such there kills who again-is killed
e teus maumet qui rest maumis.
and such maims who again-is maimed

Troilus Rescued

XXXVII

Merceres strikes Menestheus and the Phrygians remount Troilus. Hector and Ascalaphus join the fight, and Hector does marvels watched from the walls. Menestheus unhorses Merceres. The men of Larissa meet the Boeotians, and Polydamas leads Remus's three thousand against Menelaus's battalion. Menelaus begs his men to fight for his shame, and he and Remus unhorse each other. Polydamas kills Helen's nephew Merel of Biez, and Menelaus, avenging him, fells Remus, whose men are about to flee until Polydamas, wounded in seven places, holds them. King Celidis, the beloved of the Amazon queen, wounds Polydamas, and Polydamas splits him to the teeth.

En dementres que Antipus,
Meanwhile while that Antipus
il e li bons reis Thalamus,
he and the good king Thalamus
contendeient o les Grezeis,
contended with the Greeks
Reis Mercerès o ses Friseis
King Merceres with his Phrygians
s'en passa outre la bataille.
himself-thence passed beyond the battle
Cez a choisiz por veir, senz faille,
These he-has caught-sight-of for true without fail
qui Troïlus aveient pris:
who Troilus had taken
la point de mautalent espris.
there he-spurs with ill-temper inflamed
D'ire desvez, cruëus e feus,
With-wrath maddened cruel and fierce

toz premerains s'embat entre eus;
all first himself-plunges among them
Menesteon fiert al travers:
Menestheus he-strikes at-the across
se ne fust si buens li haubers,
if not were so good the hauberk
del cors li fust l'ame sachiee.
from-the body to-him would-be the-soul pulled
A tant i revint sa maisniee.
At so-much there came-back his household
Dès que li monz fu estorez,
Since that the world was established
ne fu estors si esfreez,
not was fight so frightened
meins senz merci, plus aïros,
less without mercy more wrathful
n'a Troïens si encombros.
nor-to Trojans so encumbering
Dis mile Greus virent venir,
Ten thousand Greeks they-saw come
qui ja les feront despartir.
who now them will-make part
Li dus d'Athenes mout s'iraist,
The duke of-Athens much grows-angry
e sacheiz bien mout li desplaist
and know well much to-him displeases
de son prison, qu'il veit rescos:
of his prisoner whom-he sees rescued
onc mais ne fu si angoissos.
ever before not he-was so anguished

Mout lor defent, mais ne li vaut:
Much from-them he-defends but not to-him avails
par dreite force e par asaut
by right force and by assault
l'ont remonté, mais bien li peist.
him-they-have remounted but well to-him it-may-weigh
Tote lor force en doble e creist;
All their force thereby doubles and grows
e puis que il fu remontez,
and since that he was remounted
si lor fu dreite fermetez,
so to-them he-was right fortress
quar la presse ront e desfait:
for the press he-breaks and undoes
maint freit, maint pasmé en i lait.
many-a cold many-a swooned thereof there he-leaves
Hector esguarde près de sei
Hector looks near to himself
e veit le doloros tornei,
and sees the grievous tourney
ou tant cler heaume retentissent
where so-many bright helmet resound
e ou tant chevalier fenissent.
and where so-many knight end
Cele part point o mil des suens:
That way he-spurs with a-thousand of-the his
ja resera li torneiz buens.
now will-be-again the tourney good
Reis Ascaloz d'Orcomenie,
King Ascalaphus of-Orchomenus

il e tote sa compaignie,
he and all his company
faiseit socors Menesteüs:
made help (to-)Menestheus
ja lor remansist Troïlus,
now to-them would-have-remained Troilus
li autre fussent mort o pris,
the others would-be dead or taken
petit en eschapast de vis.
little thereof would-escape of alive
Hector e cil d'Orcomenie
Hector and those of-Orchomenus
sont la venu a l'escremie:
are there come to the-fencing
les forz escuz s'entrenfondrerent,
the strong shields broke-each-other-through
tant com les lances lor durerent;
as-long as the lances to-them lasted
après traistrent les branz d'acier.
after they-drew the blades of-steel
La rot ocis maint chevalier.
There again-there-were killed many-a knight
Hector fait merveilles de sei,
Hector does marvels of himself
hui vueut qu'il seit mostrez al dei:
today he-wishes that-be may-be shown with-the finger
si sera il le jor de mainz;
so will-be he the day by many
sovent fait geter criz e plainz.
often he-makes throw cries and laments

Grezeis diënt que mar le virent.
Greeks say that ill him they-saw
Des murs de Troie le remirent:
From-the walls of Troy him they-gaze-at
sovent le veient recovrer,
often him they-see recover
sovent chacier, sovent joster,
often chase often joust
sovent ferir, sovent ocire,
often strike often kill
sovent Grezeis metre a martire,
often Greeks put to martyrdom
sovent faire teus envaïes
often make such charges
dont maint des lor perdent les vies;
whereof many-a of-the theirs lose the lives
sovent rescot ses compaignons.
often he-rescues his companions
Por lui font li suen oreisons,
For him make the his prayers
que Deus son cors guart e defende
that God his body may-guard and defend
e que sain e sauf le lor rende.
and that sound and safe him to-them may-render
Menesteüs fu mout dolenz
Menestheus was very grieving
de son prison e de ses genz
for his prisoner and for his folk
qu'a perdu par mesaventure:
which-he-has lost by misadventure

la ou la bataille ert plus dure,
there where the battle was most hard
les est alez el tas ferir.
them he-is gone into-the heap to-strike
A tant vit Mercerès venir,
At so-much he-saw Merceres come
qui son prison li ot toleit:
who his prisoner from-him had taken-away
tres par mi l'eaume sus a dreit
very through the-midst the-helmet up at straight
l'a si feru que toz chancele
him-he-has so struck that all he-totters
e qu'il li fait voidier la sele.
and that-he to-him makes empty the saddle
Ne pot a lui plus recovrer,
Not he-could at him more recover
mais autre en a fait enverser:
but another thereof he-has made overturn
sovent les fiert, bien s'i aiuë
often them he-strikes well himself-there helps
o la trenchant espee nue,
with the cutting sword naked
cil de Larise chevauchierent,
those of Larissa rode
qui de rien plus ne se targierent.
who in anything more not themselves delayed
Dou mile sont icil e plus:
Two thousand are these and more

Hupoz li granz e Cupesus
Hupoz the big and Cupesus
les conduiënt serreement.
them lead closely
La ot maint riche guarnement,
There there-was many-a rich garment
tant bel heaume, tant bel escu
so-many fair helmet so-many fair shield
de vert, d'azur e d'or molu,
of green of-azure and of-gold ground
tante enseigne de bon orfreis
so-many banner of good gold-embroidery
e tant cheval Aragoneis.
and so-many horse Aragonese
Del pas se sont mis es galos.
From-the pace themselves they-are put into-the gallops
Reis Archelaus e Prothenors
King Archelaus and Prothenor
o Boëciëns les encontrent.
with Boeotians them meet
Autre parenté n'i acontent,
Other kinship not-there they-reckon
mais maintenant des fers aguz
but forthwith with-the irons pointed
se fierent par mi les escuz.
themselves strike through the-midst the shields
Grant fu la noise a l'assembler:
Great was the noise at the-joining

cil quin porra vis eschaper
he who-thereof will-be-able alive to-escape
porra dire que bien li vait.
will-be-able to-say that well to-him it-goes
Ha! tant en gist par le guarait,
Ah so-many thereof lie along the fallow
qui ja ne feront mais noisance
who ever not will-make more noise
ne mal ne noise ne pesance!
nor harm nor noise nor sorrow
Cil de Larise recovrerent,
Those of Larissa recovered
qui vassaument s'i aiderent.
who valiantly themselves-there helped
Chascuns i escrie s'enseigne.
Each there cries his-war-cry
La meslee dès or engraigne:
The melee from now grows
jas covendra d'el a parler.
now-them will-behoove of-other to speak
Senz plus targier ne demorer,
Without more to-delay nor to-tarry
vint al bosoing li reis Remus:
came to-the need the king Remus
trei mile chevaliers e plus
three thousand knights and more
ot en la soë compaignie,
he-had in the his company
Nez del regne de Cisonie.
Born of-the realm of Cisonia

Armé sont tuit jusqu'as arteiz;
Armed they-are all up-to-the toes
grant clarté done l'ors vermeiz
great brightness gives the-gold vermilion
qui sor lor armes resplendist.
which upon their arms shines
Polidamas li proz lor dist:
Polydamas the valiant to-them said
«Seignor, quar faisons une rien.
Lords come let-us-do one thing
«Se vos le m'atornez a bien,
If you it me-turn to good
«iceste bataille eschivons,
this battalion let-us-avoid
«de ça sor destre lor alons.
from here on right to-them let-us-go
«Si com m'est vis e com mei semble,
So as to-me-is opinion and as to-me it-seems
«trop vei cez noz conreiz ensemble:
too-much I-see these our troops together
«Meins en espleitent, meins en fierent,
Less thereby they-achieve less thereby they-strike
«lor enemis meins en requierent.
their enemies less thereby they-attack
«Alons joster a cel conrei
Let-us-go joust with that troop
«ou tante bele enseigne vei:
where so-many fair banner I-see
«Mout semblent estre bien armé.
Much they-seem to-be well armed

«Se durement sont encontré,
If harshly they-are met
«ja lor ferons le champ guerpir.»
already to-them we-shall-make the field abandon
Tuit respondent: «Vostre plaisir.
All answer Your pleasure
«A vostre buen nos avez prez:
At your good us you-have ready
«Ja mar eschiverons icez.»
Ever ill we-shall-avoid these
Adonc essamplerent lor pas:
Then they-widened their pace
ja les iront ferir el tas.
already them they-will-go strike into-the heap
Menelaus vit ses enemis
Menelaus saw his enemies
encontre lui, les escuz pris,
against him the shields taken
toz abrivez, toz desiros
all launched all desirous
de faire lor cors damajos.
of making to-their bodies harm
As suens parla, mais petit fu:
To-the his he-spoke but little it-was
«Seignor,» fait il, «or iert veü
Lords says he now will-be seen
«qui onc m'ama ne qui m'ot chier.
who ever me-loved nor who me-had dear
«Vez le bosoing e le mestier;» —
See the need and the necessity

onques plus merciablement
ever more mercifully
nus sire ne preia sa gent; —
any lord not begged his folk
«onques ne vos fis se bien non:
ever not to-you I-did if good not
«Ci m'en rendez le guerredon
Here to-me-thereof render the reward
«as branz d'acier sor ceus qui vienent.
with-the blades of-steel upon those who come
«Por enemis morteus nos tienent:
For enemies mortal us they-hold
«Ne sai mie que chascuns pense,
Not I-know at-all what each thinks
«mais guardez tel seit la defense
but guard such may-be the defense
«qu'il seient ja si conreé
that-they may-be ever so equipped
«que mil en i chieent pasmé.
that a-thousand thereof there may-fall swooned
«Por mei e por vengier ma honte
For me and for avenging my shame
«a or ci tant rei e tant conte
there-has now here so-many king and so-many count
«e tant prince ci ajostez,
and so-many prince here joined

«mieuz voudreie estre desmembrez
better I-would-wish to-be dismembered
«que uns sous de ma compaignie
than one alone of my company
«face semblant de coardie.
may-make semblance of cowardice
«Vers mei pent li afaires toz,
Toward me hangs the affair all
«si devons estre des plus proz
so we-ought to-be of-the most valiant
«e de la gent que mieuz le face.
and of the folk who best it may-do
«Içо vueil jo que chascuns sace,
This wish I that each may-know
«ja n'i reculerai plain pié
ever not-there I-shall-retreat full foot
«por estre mort e detrenchié.
for being dead and cut-down
«Vez en vint mil, cui rien n'ataint:
See thereof twenty thousand whom anything not-reaches
«N'i a celui qui ne se peint
Not-there is that-one who not himself pains
«d'onor aveir, d'eschiver honte.
of-honor to-have of-avoiding shame
«Ne vos i ferai plus lonc conte:
Not to-you there I-shall-make more long tale
«Poignons contre eus, quar mout sont près.»
Let-us-spur against them for very they-are near
A tant brochierent a eslais:
At so-much they-spurred at gallop

a meins del trait d'une arbaleste
at less than-the shot of-a crossbow
trova chascuns sa joste preste.
found each his joust ready
Mais qui abat son chevalier
But who throws-down his knight
ne s'en vait pas o le destrier;
not himself-thence goes at-all with the charger
ja de sa main n'iert adesez:
ever by his hand not-it-will-be touched
trop en sereit des suens blasmez.
too-much thereof he-would-be by-the his blamed
El i covient que cheval prendre:
Other there behooves than horse to-take
c'est d'autre ocire o sei defendre.
it-is other to-kill or oneself to-defend
N'estuet que nus plus i guaaint.
Not-it-behooves that any more there may-gain
Si durement se sont empeint,
So harshly themselves they-are struck
entre Remus e Menelaus,
between Remus and Menelaus
que jus s'abatent des chevaus:
that down themselves-they-throw from-the horses
n'i a un sol cui sans ne paire
not-there is a sole to-whom blood not may-appear
del gros del cors o del viaire.
from-the thick of-the body or from-the face

Polidamas s'est eslaissiez
Polydamas himself-is launched
e vait ferir Merel de Biez:
and goes to-strike Merel of Biez
niés fu Heleine e riches dus;
nephew he-was (of-)Helen and rich duke
vint anz aveit e neient plus;
twenty years he-had and nothing more
preisiez ert mout en son païs.
prized he-was much in his country
Tel li dona sor l'escu bis,
Such to-him he-gave upon the-shield gray
tot le li fent, l'auberc desmaille;
all it to-him he-splits the-hauberk he-unmails
tote l'enseigne de Thessaille
all the-pennon of Thessaly
li a el sanc del cors baigniee.
to-him he-has in-the blood of-the body bathed
A grant angoisse e a haschiee
With great anguish and with buffeting
est chaeiz morz: c'est granz damages,
he-is fallen dead it-is great harm
car mout ert beaus e proz e sages.
for very he-was fair and valiant and wise
Quant Menelaus vit Merel mort,
When Menelaus saw Merel dead
ne cuide pas aveir confort,
not he-thinks at-all to-have comfort
quar mout l'amot e teneit chier;
for much him-he-loved and held dear

mais mout le cuide bien vengier.
but much him he-thinks well to-avenge
Son escu pris, son bon brant trait,
His shield taken his good blade drawn
requiert Remus, dont mal estait.
he-attacks Remus whence ill it-stands
Un si grant coup li done e rent
One so great blow to-him he-gives and renders
a mont en l'eaume qui resplent
at height on the-helmet which shines
que jusqu'al test li aciers cole.
that up-to-the skull the steel slides
En la grant presse e en la fole
In the great press and in the throng
chaï pasmez: s'or n'en est traiz,
he-fell swooned if-now not-thence he-is drawn
achevez a toz ses mesfaiz.
achieved he-has all his misdeeds
Quant cel coup virent mil des suens,
When that blow saw a-thousand of-the his
n'orent donc guaires de lor buens:
not-they-had then much of their goods
cuident l'ame s'en seit alee.
they-think the-soul itself-thence may-be gone
Gent veïsseiz desconfortee,
Folk you-would-have-seen discomforted
deshaitié sont e angoissos:
dejected they-are and anguished
ja par nul d'eus ne fust rescos,
ever by any of-them not he-would-be rescued

ainz voleient le champ guerpir,
rather they-wished the field to-abandon
ja començoënt a foïr,
already they-began to flee
quant les retint Polidamas,
when them held-back Polydamas
qui s'est alez ferir el tas.
who himself-is gone to-strike into-the heap
En haut a escrïé s'enseigne;
On high he-has cried his-war-cry
maint en ocit, maint en mahaigne;
many-a thereof he-kills many-a thereof he-maims
e cil ront lui mout damagié
and those again-have him much harmed
e en set lieus son cors plaié.
and in seven places his body wounded
A grant peine a socors eü:
With great pain he-has help had
tant ont des branz d'acier feru
so-much they-have with-the blades of-steel struck
que trei cent d'eus e plus senz faille
that three hundreds of-them and more without fail
remestrent mort en la bataille.
remained dead in the battle
Li reis Remus jut toz pasmez:
The king Remus lay all swooned
tant fu des chevaus defolez
so-much he-was by-the horses trampled
que, quant li suen l'en orent trait,
that when the his him-thence had drawn

ne cuidoënt pas por nul plait
not they-thought at-all for any plea
que il fust vis desci qu'al seir.
that he were alive until to-the evening
Reis Menelaus par estoveir
King Menelaus by necessity
les a chaciez e remuëz:
them has chased and moved
par tant i perdirent assez.
by so-much there they-lost enough
Reis Celidis esteit mout beaus,
King Celidis was very fair
lons, grailes, dreiz, jovnes toseaus.
tall slender straight young youth
La reïne de Femenie
The queen of Amazons
aveit esté lonc tens s'amie:
had been long time his-beloved
por li esteit mout essauciez,
for her he-was much exalted
mout coneüz e mout preisiez.
much known and much prized
Ses armes e son milsoudor,
His arms and his thousand-shilling-horse
de chierté e de fine amor,
out-of dearness and of fine love
li ot tramis, s'en ert armez:
to-him she-had sent so-thereof he-was armed
por ço ert sovent remirez.
for that he-was often gazed-at

Nus qui seit vis, ço me dit Daire,
Any who may-be alive that to-me says Dares
n'en savreit la façon retraire:
not-thereof would-know the fashion to-recount
teus ne furent ne n'ierent mais.
such not were nor not-will-be more
Reis Celidis de plain eslais
King Celidis at plain gallop
ala ferir Polidamas
went to-strike Polydamas
sor son escu, qui toz ert quas
on his shield which all was broken
e estroëz e depeciez.
and pierced and shattered
Trenchanz fu e forz li espiez:
Cutting was and strong the spear
l'auberc deront e trenche e faut;
the-hauberk it-breaks and cuts and fails
entre le cors e le bliaut
between the body and the tunic
passe une aune del fust fraisnin.
passes an ell of-the shaft ashen
Mout a esté près de sa fin.
Very he-has been near to his end
Bien l'a empeint, mais ne chiet pas.
Well him-he-has struck but not he-falls at-all
Mout fu iriez Polidamas:
Very was angered Polydamas
le sanc mua e la color,
the blood he-changed and the color

vers Celidis ot grant iror.
toward Celidis he-had great wrath
O le brant d'acier esmolu,
With the blade of-steel ground
l'a tot jusqu'es denz porfendu;
him-he-has all up-to-the teeth split
puis li a dit: «Ceste meslee
then to-him he-has said This melee
«avez chierement comparee.
you-have dearly paid-for
«Sos m'aviëz en hé coilli,
If-me you-had in hate taken
«bien vos en ai rendu merci.
well to-you thereof I-have rendered thanks
«Ço peise mei por vostre amie,
That weighs-on me for your beloved
«que en sera vers mei marrie,
who thereof will-be toward me grieved
«que mout est proz e riche e bele:
for very she-is valiant and rich and fair
«Ore en orra freide novele.»
Now thereof she-will-hear cold news
Greu firent duel de Celidis,
Greeks made grief for Celidis
que Polidamas ot ocis.
whom Polydamas had killed
Sa gent en plore e brait e crie:
His folk thereof weeps and bawls and cries
onc tel dolor ne fu oïe.
ever such grief not was heard

Hector's Brothers

XXXVIII

Hector drives the Greeks back onto Telamon's men of Salamis, and Teucer wounds him through the hauberk. The young Theseus warns Hector that his troops are too slow to help him; Hector thanks him and promises to repay him. Hector rescues Polydamas, whom Menelaus and Telamon had taken. Hector's horse is killed under him, and Amphimachus, trying to seize him, is beheaded; then ten of his brothers ride in: each unhorses or kills a Greek, and Dolon gives Hector a fresh charger. Deiphobus wounds Teucer with an arrow, and his archers harry the Greeks. When Quintilien and Rodomorus have Theseus at their mercy, Hector spares him for his courtesy and has him remounted.

Ore a Hector mout de ses buens:
Now has Hector much of his goods
o la grant aïde des suens
with the great aid of-the his
les a chaciez une grant masse.
them he-has chased a great mass
Par vive force les entasse
By living force them he-heaps
sor un conrei mout orgoillos:
upon a troop very proud
ja i avra des lances tros,
already there will-have of-the lances stumps
quar ço sont cil de Salemine.
for that are those of Salamis
Quant Telamon vit la destine,
When Telamon saw the destiny
qui reis e sire e maistre ert d'eus,
who king and lord and master was of-them

d'ire desvez, cruëus e feus,
with-wrath maddened cruel and fierce
ala un Troïen ferir,
he-went a Trojan to-strike
qu'en es le pas l'estut morir.
so-that-on the-very the step him-behooved to-die
Puis trait l'espee, si lor done:
Then he-draws the-sword so to-them he-gives
maint en ocit, maint en estone,
many-a thereof he-kills many-a thereof he-stuns
maint en abat, maint en mahaigne.
many-a thereof he-throws-down many-a thereof he-maims
Quatre amiraut de sa compaigne
Four emirs of his company
e Teücer avuec, le rei,
and Teucer with-them the king
qui mout par aveit grant conrei,
who very greatly had great troop
l'ont socoru, jol vos di bien.
him-have helped I-it to-you say well
Ja i perdront li Troïen:
Now there will-lose the Trojans
enui deivent faire e rancune
annoyance they-must make and rancor
treis batailles que sont contre une.
three battalions which are against one
Reis Teücer fu en l'estor
King Teucer was in the-fight
sor un cheval bai milsoudor,
on a horse bay thousand-shilling

plus isnel d'autre e plus corant,
more swift than-other and more running
plus bel, plus hardi e plus grant.
more fair more bold and more big
A Hector joint: en mi le piz
With Hector he-joins in the-midst the chest
li a fausé l'auberc tresliz:
to-him he-has pierced the-hauberk triple-meshed
se ne brisast si tost la lance,
if not had-broken so soon the lance
de l'ame eüst fait desevrance.
from the-soul he-would-have made separation
Blecié l'a mout, s'est qui l'en plaigne;
Wounded him-he-has much so-there-is who him-thereof may-pity
mais, ainz que li jornaus remaigne,
but before that the day's-fight may-remain
cuit jo que teus le comparra
think I that such it will-pay-for
qui nules coupes n'i avra.
who any blame there will-have
De lui se fust il bien vengiez,
On him himself would-be he well avenged
mais mout li fu tost esloigniez.
but much from-him he-was soon distanced
Dorion trueve l'amiraut;
Dorion he-finds the-emir
el li trencha que le bliaut,
other to-him he-cut than the tunic
ço fu del sanc e de la char.
that was of-the blood and of the flesh

Dès or nel tient mie a eschar:
From now not-it he-holds at-all as mockery
trop veit grant gent environ sei,
too-much he-sees great folk around himself
e trop li targent si conrei.
and too-much to-him delay his troops
En dous cenz places se combatent,
In two hundred places themselves they-fight
ociënt sei e entrabatent.
they-kill themselves and throw-each-other-down
Beaus e riches ert Theseüs.
Fair and rich was Theseus
Treis anz aveit e neient plus
Three years he-had and nothing more
que primes ot armes portees,
since first he-had arms borne
s'en ot teus uevres achevees
so-thereof he-had such works achieved
dont il aveit grant pris eü
whereof he had great worth had
e dont il ert mout coneü.
and whereof he was very known
Vit la grant gent cui il aveient,
He-saw the great folk whom they had
qui a Hector se combateient;
who with Hector themselves fought
vit e cuida tot a estros
he-saw and thought all for certain
qu'ainz qu'il poüst aveir socors,
that-before that-he could have help

qu'il ne fust morz, vencuz o pris.
that-he not would-be dead vanquished or taken
De tel chose s'est entremis
In such thing himself-is busied
que li avra mestier ancui:
which to-him will-have need today
«Hector,» fait il, «trop grant enui
Hector says he too great annoyance
«sofrez ici. Ne sai por quei
you-suffer here Not I-know for what
«n'endurez vos que cist conrei
not-endure you that these troops
«vos viengent aidier e socorre:
to-you may-come to-help and to-succor
«Mei est a vis que trop demore.
To-me is at opinion that too-much it-delays
«Se vos chaez ci entre nos,
If you fall here among us
«vos n'i poëz estre rescos:
you not-there can be rescued
«Pesereit m'en. Ja Deu ne place
It-would-weigh-on me-thereof Ever God not may-please
«qu'uns sous des noz mal vos i face!
that-one alone of-the ours ill to-you there may-do
«Mandez, beaus sire, vostre gent
Send fair lord for-your folk
«qu'il chevauchent isnelement,
that-they may-ride swiftly
«quar en poi d'ore mesavient:
for in little of-hour ill-befalls

«Trop par est fous qui rien ne crient.»
Too greatly is foolish who anything not fears
Hector l'en rent mout granz merciz:
Hector to-him-thereof renders very great thanks
«Beaus amis, frere, mout bien diz.
Fair friend brother very well thou-sayest
«Grant gré t'en sai: se jo poëie,
Great gratitude to-thee-thereof I-know if I could
«volentiers tel guerredonreie;
willingly such I-would-repay
«mais mout ses poi que jo sai faire:
but much thou-knowest little what I know to-do
«Or le verras jusqu'a ne guaire.»
Now it thou-wilt-see within not long
Reis Menelaus entre tant dis
King Menelaus between so-much while
Polidamas en menot pris:
Polydamas thence led taken
Telamon aveit abatu,
Telamon had thrown-down
qui dur estor li ot rendu;
who hard fight to-him had rendered
pris ert en fin senz recovrier.
taken he-was in end without recovery
Perdu aveit son brant d'acier,
Lost he-had his blade of-steel
sis heaumes li ert sor le vis,
his helmet to-him was on the face
rompuz e quassez e maumis;
broken and smashed and misused

entor lui ert grant la meslee.
around him was great the melee
Hector le veit, cui pas n'agree:
Hector it sees to-whom at-all not-it-pleases
cele part point toz eslaissiez,
that way he-spurs all launched
e sacheiz bien mout fu iriez,
and know well very he-was angered
tost ot la presse departie:
soon he-had the press parted
a l'espee trenchant forbie,
with the-sword cutting furbished
plus de trente lor en a morz.
more than thirty of-them thereof he-has killed
Rescos fu cil par son esforz,
Rescued was he by his effort
par estoveir lor a toleit:
by necessity from-them he-has taken-him
grant merveille a cil qui ço veit,
great marvel has he who this sees
quar tanz granz cous a receüz
for so-many great blows he-has received
e de tanz a esté feruz,
and by so-many he-has been struck
nul nel poüst aveir sofert.
any not-it could have suffered

E si sacheiz merveilles pert
And so know marvels he-loses
de la soë gent en l'estor:
of the his folk in the-fight
trop par sont poi contre les lor.
too greatly they-are few against the theirs
Reis Epistroz, reis Menelaus,
King Epistrophus king Menelaus
Reis Telamon o lor vassaus
King Telamon with their vassals
e o lor gent comunaument
and with their folk in-common
pristrent un tel envaïment
took a such charge
sor Troïens, qui mout perdirent,
upon Trojans who much lost
que par force le champ guerpirent.
that by force the field they-abandoned
Toz desconfiz les ont chaciez:
All discomfited them they-have chased
ja n'en eschapast la meitiez,
ever not-thence would-escape the half
mais li dis frere qu'Ector ot —
but the ten brothers that-Hector had
oëz com grant mestier li ot —
hear how great need to-him there-was
del conrei s'esteient parti
from-the troop themselves-had parted
ou les aveit mis e guerpi.
where them he-had put and left

De lui criement, s'en ont dotance:
For him they-fear so-thereof they-have doubt
n'en iert hui mais fait desevrance,
not-thereof will-be today more made separation
s'o lui se pueent ajoster.
if-with him themselves they-can join
Les batailles virent mesler,
The battalions they-saw mingle
virent les estranges meslees
they-saw the strange melees
e la resplendor des espees:
and the brightness of-the swords
adonc vousissent o lui estre.
then they-would-have-wished with him to-be
Reguardé ont desor senestre:
Looked they-have toward left
virent Troïens desconfiz,
they-saw Trojans discomfited
oënt les noises e les criz.
they-hear the noises and the cries
Ensemble traistrent cele part,
Together they-drew that way
fier e hardi come liepart.
fierce and bold as leopard
Tuit li premier quis encontrerent
All the first who-them met
a haute voiz lor escriërent.
with high voice to-them cried
«Poigniez», font il, «ne targiez mais,
Spur say they not delay more

«qu'Ector i suefre trop grant fais.»
for-Hector there suffers too great burden
Veir est, mout i ert entrepris:
True it-is much there he-was hard-pressed
soz lui ont son cheval ocis,
under him they-have his horse killed
mais n'i a nul qui prendre l'ost,
but not-there is any who to-take him-may-dare
quar il le comparreit mout tost.
for he it would-pay-for very soon
Amphimacus nel pot sofrir,
Amphimachus not-it could suffer
avant ala por lui saisir,
forward he-went for him to-seize
mais chierement le compara;
but dearly it he-paid-for
onc autre guage n'i laissa
ever other pledge not-there he-left
ne mais le chief desor le bu.
nor more the head off the trunk
A tant si frere i sont venu.
At so-much his brothers there are come
Odeneaus joint o Eneas,
Odenel joins with Aeneas
qu'il l'abati en mi le tas;
so-that-he him-threw-down in the-midst the heap
o Epistrot Antonius,
with Epistrophus Antonius
que des chevaus se mistrent jus;
so-that from-the horses themselves they-put down

durement ra feru Edron
harshly again-has struck Edron
par mi l'escu rei Telamon,
through the-midst the-shield (of-)king Telamon
qu'onques l'aubers ne l'a guari
so-that-ever the-hauberk not him-has protected
qu'outre n'en past l'espié forbi,
so-that-beyond not-thereof may-pass the-spear furbished
si que del cors li sans l'en ist
so that from-the body the blood to-him-thence goes-out
a si grant fais que mot ne dist.
at so great load that word not he-said
Ne refailli mie Delon,
Not failed-again at-all Dolon
que l'amiraut Polixenon
for the-emir Polyxenon
a si feru qu'entre mil Gres
he-has so struck that-among a-thousand Greeks
est morz a la terre remés.
he-is dead on the ground remained
Le destrier prent, qui vaut cent livres:
The charger he-takes which is-worth a-hundred pounds
isneaus ert, coranz e delivres.
swift it-was running and nimble
A Hector vient e si li baille,
To Hector he-comes and so to-him gives
qui mout tost i monta, senz faille.
who very soon there mounted without fail

Siciliëns ra si feru
Sicilien again-has so struck
un amiraut par mi l'escu
an emir through the-midst the-shield
que lui e le cheval enverse
that him and the horse he-overturns
mout laidement en mi la presse.
very foully in the-midst the press
Quintiliëns ne refaut mie:
Quintilien not fails-again at-all
a Bauduin joint, le fil Ourie,
with Baldwin he-joins the son (of-)Ourie
que del cheval le desensele.
so-that from-the horse him he-unsaddles
O ses dous mains tint sa boële,
With his two hands he-held his bowel
que del cors li chiet par la plaie:
which from-the body to-him falls through the wound
ore a dur cuer, s'il ne s'esmaie.
now he-has hard heart if-he not himself-dismays
Rodomorus revait si joindre
Rodomorus again-goes so to-join
que dous lor en abat d'un poindre.
that two of-them thereof he-throws-down at-one charge
Cassibilanz bien le refait,
Cassibilant well it again-does
qu'o le conte Glo de Valfrait
for-with the count Glo of Valfrait
josta, veant Hector son frere.
he-jousted seeing Hector his brother

Ne fu la maille si entere
Not was the mail so whole
que de dous parz li fuz n'i paire:
that on two sides the shaft not-there may-appear
bien set qu'il ne puet vivre guaire.
well he-knows that-he not can live long
Autre en refiert Dinas d'Aron,
Another thereof again-strikes Dinas of-Aron
si qu'il ne dist ne o ne non.
so that-he not said nor yes nor no
Doroscaluz bien i revient:
Doroscalus well there again-comes
fiert l'amiraut qui Dorse tient,
he-strikes the-emir who Dorse holds
que lui ensemble e le cheval
so-that him together and the horse
a abatu tot par egual.
he-has thrown-down all by equal
Puis metent les mains as espees,
Then they-put the hands to-the swords
si s'entredonent granz colees.
so they-give-each-other great blows
La veïsseiz un estor tel,
There you-would-have-seen a fight such
onc nus hom ne vit si cruël.
ever any man not saw so cruel
Li onze frere s'i aiuënt,
The eleven brothers themselves-there help
si que les treis conreiz remuënt.
so that the three troops they-move-back

Teus cent lor en i ont ocis,
Such hundred of-them thereof there they-have killed
qui assez erent de grant pris.
who enough were of great worth
Granz fu l'esforz qu'il i ont fait:
Great was the-effort that-they there have made
por ço sera toz jorz retrait.
for that it-will-be all days recounted
Cil de Peoine chevauchierent,
Those of Paeonia rode
vers la bataille s'aproismierent:
toward the battle they-approached
dui riche rei en sont seignor,
two rich kings thereof are lords
qui les ameinent a l'estor;
who them lead to the-fight
e Deïphebus les chadele,
and Deiphobus them leads
l'arc en la main: n'a pas roële.
the-bow in the hand not-be-has at-all buckler
N'a nul escu en sa compaigne,
Not-there-is any shield in his company
mais maint bon arc e mainte engeigne;
but many-a good bow and many-a engine
maint quarrel e mainte saiete
many-a bolt and many-a arrow
i a saisie, a traire preste.
there he-has seized to shoot ready
Tuit entesé le poindre ont pris:
All with-bows-drawn the charge they-have taken

la ot maint chevalier ocis
there there-was many-a knight killed
e maint cheval mort e navré.
and many-a horse dead and wounded
Deïphebus a avisé:
Deiphobus has aimed
d'une saiete o trenchant fer
with-an arrow with cutting iron
a si feru rei Teücer
he-has so struck king Teucer
par mi l'escu, par mi l'auberc
through the-midst the-shield through the-midst the-hauberk
qu'il li a fait un mout lait merc:
that-he to-him has made a very ugly mark
n'en iert mais bien guariz des meis.
not-thence he-will-be more well healed of-the months
Por quant si li corut maneis
For how-much so to-him he-ran forthwith
doner une si grant colee
to-give a so great blow
que tote ensanglenta s'espee.
that all bloodied his-sword
Reis Steropeus i trait sovent:
King Steropeus there shoots often
mout lor damage de lor gent;
much to-them he-harms of their folk
martire en fait Pretemesus:
martyrdom thereof makes Pyraechmes
vint lor en i a morz e plus.
twenty of-them thereof there he-has killed and more

Theseüs vait par la bataille
Theseus goes through the battle
l'eaume lacié e la ventaille,
the-helmet laced and the ventail
l'escu al col, l'espee ceinte:
the-shield at-the neck the-sword girt
del sanc des Troïens est teinte;
with-the blood of-the Trojans it-is dyed
mout en a hui fait grant damage.
much thereof he-has today made great harm
Quintiliëns le pro, le sage,
Quintilien the valiant the wise
ala joster ensemble o lui.
went to-joust together with him
Tel se donerent ambedui
Such themselves gave both
par les escuz, par les haubers
through the shields through the hauberks
qu'outre en passerent fuz e fers,
that-beyond thereof passed shafts and irons
si que les lances peceierent
so that the lances broke
e qu'a la terre s'abatierent;
and that-to the ground themselves-they-threw-down
après se donerent de granz
after themselves they-gave of great
parmi les heaumes de lor branz.
through the helmets with their blades
La vint poignant Rodomorus:
There came spurring Rodomorus

de s'espee fiert Theseüs
with his-sword he-strikes Theseus
tres par mi l'eaume granz cous treis.
very through the-midst the-helmet great blows three
Li dui frere l'aveient preis:
The two brothers him-had taken
le chief perdist de maintenant,
the head he-would-have-lost from now
quant i avint Hector poignant.
when there arrived Hector spurring
Bien le conut, mout li fu bel:
Well him he-knew much to-him it-was fair
«Laissiez» fait il, «le dameisel:
Leave says he the young-lord
«Il n'avra mais hui destorbier,
He not-will-have more today hindrance
«la ou li puisse aveir mestier.
there where to-him I-may have use
«N'a pas volu hui mon damage, —
Not-he-has at-all wished today my harm
«mout est corteis e pro e sage, —
very he-is courteous and valiant and wise
«dreiz est que mei repeist del suen.
right it-is that me he-may-feed-again of-the his
«En cest cheval, qui mout est buen,
On this horse which very is good
«le remontez a sauvement:
him remount in safety
«Vueil que quites raut a sa gent.»
I-wish that free he-may-go-back to his folk

Ensi le firent, n'i ot plus:
Thus it they-did not-there was more
mout l'en mercia Theseüs.
much him-thereof thanked Theseus

The Death of Cassibilant

XXXIX

Thoas and Philitoas bring fresh battalions, and Thoas kills Priam's beloved bastard son Cassibilant. Hector, grieving, plunges among seven thousand Greeks like a famished wolf, and the Bastards avenge their brother. The Cretans and Nestor's men of Pylos ride in, met by Edras, Pythagoras, and Fion, who hurls darts from his chariot until the Greeks surround him and the archer Ludel wounds him in the face with a bolt; Pythagoras and Edras rescue him at great cost. Hector breaks through to his own men and routs the Greek battalions, and Aeneas's Lycaonians drive ten troops back, until Ajax, seeing the Greeks give way, urges his men to turn them toward the palisades.

Thoas rest al tornei venuz,
Thoas again-is to-the tourney come
bien o plus de cinc mile escuz,
well with more than five thousand shields
e Philitoas senz essoine
and Philitoas without excuse
o la grant gent de Caledoine.
with the great folk of Calydon
Quant cez dous batailles i vindrent,
When these two battalions there came

a mout grant peine se retindrent
with very great pain themselves held-back
li Troïen qu'il ne foïrent:
the Trojans that-they not fled
ço sacheiz bien, mout i perdirent.
that know well much there they-lost
Merveille fu ço que pot estre:
Marvel it-was that which could be
se seüssent Grezeis lor estre,
if knew Greeks their being
mis les eüssent a la veie.
put them they-would-have on the way
Thoas avant toz se desreie,
Thoas before all himself breaks-rank
e sist armez sor tel destrier
and sat armed on such charger
qui cent livres valeit d'or mier.
which a-hundred pounds was-worth of-gold pure
Tant come il pot traire de sei,
As-much as he could draw from himself
vait ferir un des fiz le rei:
he-goes to-strike one of-the sons (of-)the king
apelez ert Cassibilanz.
called he-was Cassibilant
A merveilles l'amot Prianz,
To marvels him-loved Priam
quar mout ert proz e genz e beaus:
for very he-was valiant and handsome and fair
hui en sera faiz dueus noveaus.
today thereof will-be made grief new

Thoas li a l'escu percié
Thoas to-him has the-shield pierced
e son hauberc si desmaillié
and his hauberk so unmailed
que tres par mi le gros del piz
that very through the-midst the thick of-the chest
passa l'enseigne de samiz.
passed the-pennon of samite
Morz trebucha, veant teus cent
Dead he-tumbled seeing such hundred
qui mout par en furent dolent.
who very greatly thereof were grieving
N'i a celui qui la venjance
Not-there is that-one who the vengeance
ne quiere a espee o a lance.
not may-seek with sword or with lance
Duel a Hector: ço vos di bien,
Grief has Hector that to-you I-say well
ne laissera por nule rien
not he-will-let for any thing
que il a ceus ne s'abandont;
that he to those not himself-may-abandon
pesera li, s'ensi s'en vont.
it-will-weigh-on him if-thus themselves-thence they-go
Son escu prent, son heaume afaite;
His shield he-takes his helmet he-adjusts
de son frere mout se deshaite,
for his brother much himself is-dejected
que il ont mort devant ses ieuz:
whom they have killed before his eyes

dès ore engroisse sis orguieuz.
from now swells his pride
Ses genz restreint environ sei,
His folk he-draws-close around himself
puis recomence le tornei,
then he-begins-again the tourney
ensi estrange e ensi dur
so strange and so hard
que rien n'i esteit a seür;
that anything not-there was in safety
quar cent mile saietes volent,
for a-hundred thousand arrows fly
que maint bon chevalier afolent.
which many-a good knight wound
Hector, ensi come li lous
Hector thus as the wolf
qui de longes est fameillos
who for long is famished
s'embat por sa preie saisir,
plunges for his prey to-seize
que rien ne la li puet tolir,
so-that anything not it from-him can take-away
tot ensement s'est embatuz
all likewise himself-is plunged
entre set mil Greus fervestuz:
among seven thousand Greeks iron-clad
fiert e ocit, detrenche e tue,
he-strikes and kills cuts and slays
tote la bataille remue.
all the battalion he-moves

Nel puis dire, quar ne savreie,
Not-it I-can say for not I-would-know
mais ceus qu'il trueve en mi sa veie
but those whom-he finds in the-midst his way
fait tost aveir la fin prochaine;
he-makes soon have the end near
mout par i traist sis cors grant peine.
very greatly there drew his body great pain
Mout le refont bien li Bastart:
Much it again-do well the Bastards
de ceus de Grece font essart,
of those of Greece they-make clearing
le duel lor vendent de lor frere;
the grief to-them they-sell of their brother
teus n'i a coupes quil compere.
such not-there has blame who-it pays-for
Vueillent o non, ços di de veir,
May-they-wish or not that-you I-say for true
chaciez les ont par estoveir;
chased them they-have by necessity
mais mout i ont grant perte faite:
but very there they-have great loss made
toz li plus riches s'en deshaite.
all the most rich themselves-thereof are-dejected
Mal lor alot a cele feiz,
Ill to-them it-went at that time
quant venir virent dous conreiz:
when to-come they-saw two troops
ço sont Creteis e cil de Pire,
that are Cretans and those of Pylos

dont Nestor esteit reis e sire.
of-whom Nestor was king and lord
Mais chevalier si richement
More knights so richly
ne vindrent a torneiement.
not came to tourney
Cinc mile sont: n'i a pas treis
Five thousand they-are not-there is at-all three
qui nen aient confanon freis
who not may-have pennon fresh
jaune o vermeil o inde o bloi.
yellow or vermilion or indigo or blue
N'en i semble pas aveir poi,
Not-thereof there seems at-all to-have few
quar, quis esguarde, ço li semble,
for who-them looks-at that to-him seems
se toz li monz esteit ensemble,
if all the world were together
s'avreient il o eus bataille.
so-would-have they with them battle
Dès or vos di jo bien senz faille
From now to-you say I well without fail
qu'il i avra tel poigneïz
that-there there will-be such spurring
dont mil seront enseveliz.
of-which a-thousand will-be buried
Le petit pas ont chevauchié:
At-the little pace they-have ridden

ja esteient mout aprochié
already they-were very near-come
de la ou cil se combateient,
to there where those themselves fought
qui as armes s'entrocieient,
who in-the arms killed-each-other
quant une eschiele lor avint,
when one battalion on-them befell
que a grant peine les detint.
which with great pain them held-back
Cil d'Agreste les encontrerent,
Those of-Agreste them met
qui onques nul jor nes amerent.
who ever any day not-them loved
Si sacheiz bien que cil d'Agreste
So know well that those of-Agreste
sont chevalier pro e honeste:
are knights valiant and honest
d'icez est sire reis Edras
of-these is lord king Edras
e reis Fion, li fiz Doglas,
and king Fion the son (of-)Doglas
cil qui le riche curre aveit
he who the rich chariot had
qui de si grant beauté esteit.
which of so great beauty was
Fion esteit desus armez,
Fion was upon-it armed
bien deveit estre redotez:
well he-ought to-be dreaded

chose devine resemblot
thing divine he-resembled
a qui que onques l'esguardot.
to whoever that ever him-looked-at
Pitagoras, li fiz le rei,
Pythagoras the son (of-)the king
les ot amenez al tornei,
them had brought to-the tourney
qui mout ert proz e aïdables:
who very was valiant and helpful
sire esteit d'eus e conestables.
lord he-was of-them and constable
Icist redrecierent les fuz
These raised-again the shafts
e resaisirent les escuz;
and seized-again the shields
lez la bataille s'en passerent,
beside the battle themselves-thence they-passed
o les dous conreiz assemblerent.
with the two troops they-joined
Al venir ot brisiees lances
At-the coming there-was broken lances
e derompues conoissances,
and torn devices
perciez escuz, heaumes quassez,
pierced shields helmets smashed
haubers e ventres esfondrez,
hauberks and bellies broken-through

chevaliers morz e maubailliz:
knights dead and ill-treated
n'i ot mais hui tel fereïz.
not-there was ever today such striking
Par la bataille Fion vait:
Through the battle Fion goes
de son curre lor lance e trait
from his chariot at-them he-hurls and shoots
darz empenez de fin acier;
darts feathered of fine steel
le jor ocist maint chevalier.
the day he-killed many-a knight
Come il le fist nel savreit riens,
How he it did not-it would-know anyone
mais mout aïde as Troïens;
but much he-helps to-the Trojans
les greignors presses des Grezeis
the greatest presses of-the Greeks
fait departir tot sor lor peis.
he-makes part all against their will
Ne li pueent grantment forfaire,
Not to-him they-can greatly do-harm
sin veïsseiz mil a lui traire:
so-thereof you-would-have-seen a-thousand at him shoot
n'i a un sol a ço n'entende,
not-there is a sole at that not-may-attend
que jus del curre le descende
that down from-the chariot him he-may-bring
mort, piece a piece depecié.
dead piece by piece cut-to-pieces

Bien en cuident estre vengié,
Well thereof they-think to-be avenged
quar enclos l'ont loinz de ses genz.
for enclosed him-they-have far from his folk
Grant piece dura li contenz:
Great while lasted the struggle
Greu l'asaillent de granz vertuz,
Greeks him-assail with great strengths
mais vassaument s'est defenduz.
but valiantly himself-is defended
Por quant si l'a navré Ludel
For how-much so him-has wounded Ludel
par mi la chiere d'un quarrel:
through the-midst the face with-a bolt
Ludel esteit bons chevaliers,
Ludel was good knight
e si esteit mout bons archiers.
and so he-was very good archer
Ne se poëit mais plus tenir:
Not himself he-could more longer hold
sempres li esteüst morir,
at-once to-him it-would-have-behooved to-die
quant le choisi Pitagoras:
when him caught-sight-of Pythagoras
«Sire», fait il al rei Edras,
Lord says he to-the king Edras
«vez la Fion: ou il l'ont pris,
see there Fion where they him-have taken

«ore i parra, s'il a amis
now there will-appear if-he has friends
«ne bienvoillanz a lui socorre.»
nor well-wishers to him succor
A tant laissierent chevaus corre.
At so-much they-let horses run
Tel mil en ont les branz nuz traiz,
Such thousand thereof have the blades naked drawn
qui n'en partiront mie en paiz.
who not-thence will-part at-all in peace
Mout troveront bien quis recueille:
Much they-will-find well who-them may-gather
el i lairont que la despueille,
other there they-will-leave than the spoils
c'iert des plus chiers membres qu'il ont.
it-will-be of-the most dear limbs that-they have
Jusqu'a Fion la veie font,
Up-to Fion the way they-make
mais mout fu forz a delivrer:
but very it-was hard to deliver
a mainz le covint comparer;
to many it behooved to-pay-for
cent en remestrent en la place,
a-hundred thereof remained in the place
qui onc ne firent puis manace.
who ever not made after threat
Cist ont l'escosse comparee,
These have the-rescue paid-for

quar al partir de la meslee
for at-the parting of the melee
en furent Troïen li pire;
thereof were Trojans the worse
quar cil de Crete e cil de Pire
for those of Crete and those of Pylos
pristrent sor eus une envaïe:
took upon them a charge
faite lor ont tel departie
made to-them they-have such parting
o darz, o lances, o espiez,
with darts with lances with spears
dont mout ont morz e detrenchiez.
whereof many they-have killed and cut-down
Mesle pesle erent li conrei:
Pell mell were the troops
ne sai entendre ne ne vei
not I-know to-understand nor not I-see
com ja mais seient desmeslé.
how ever more they-may-be disentangled
La ot tant heaume esquartelé
There there-was so-many helmet quartered
e tant hauberc e tant escu
and so-many hauberk and so-many shield
trenchié, desmaillié e rompu!
cut unmailed and broken
Des faiz Hector que parlereie?
Of-the deeds (of-)Hector what would-I-speak
Bien cuit que il fera la veie,
Well I-think that he will-make the way

cui qu'il enuit, desci qu'as suens:
to-whom that-it may-annoy up to-the his
en talent l'a e en porpens.
in mind him-he-has and in purpose
Grant merveille iert se il i passe.
Great marvel it-will-be if he there passes
Toz les detrenche, toz les quasse;
All them he-cuts-down all them he-smashes
nul n'en consiut, nul n'en ataint,
any not-thereof he-overtakes any not-thereof he-reaches
qu'il ne l'ocie o nel mahaint.
that-he not him-may-kill or not-him may-maim
Si frere sont de lui mout près,
His brothers are to him very near
qui mout i sofrirent grant fais.
who very there suffered great burden
Deïphebus i fiert sovent,
Deiphobus there strikes often
qui nes esparne de neient.
who not-them spares in nothing
Polidamas, ços di por veir,
Polydamas that-you I-say for true
en redevra grant pris aveir,
thereof again-will-be-due great worth to-have
quar mout le fait proosement.
for very it he-does valiantly
Menelaus fu entre sa gent,
Menelaus was among his folk
Reis Telamon entre les suens,
King Telamon among the his

qui assez en raveit de buens:
who enough thereof again-had of good
mout i refont de granz esforz,
very there again-they-make of great efforts
e tant i ont Troïens morz
and so-many there they-have Trojans killed
que merveille est e iert toz dis
that marvel it-is and will-be all days
com chevaliers en estort vis.
how knight thereof escaped alive
Mais par l'esforz qu'Hector i fait,
But by the-effort that-Hector there makes
si com li Livres me retrait,
so as the Book to-me recounts
derompirent desci qu'as lor,
they-broke-through up to-the theirs
qui en aveient le peior.
who thereof had the worst
S'om lor a fait honte e pesance,
If-one to-them has done shame and sorrow
ore en pueent prendre venjance:
now thereof they-can take vengeance
si firent il si merveillose
so made they so marvelous
que lor fu pesme e dolorose,
that to-them it-was worst and grievous
quar des meillors des cinc conreiz
for of-the best of-the five troops
lor laissierent el champ toz freiz.
to-them they-left in-the field all cold

Desconfiz les ont malement:
Discomfited them they-have badly
n'i ot del recovrer neient.
not-there was of-the recovering nothing
Par mi lor genz les embatirent,
Through the-midst their folks them they-drove
e sacheiz bien mout i perdirent.
and know well much there they-lost
Les batailles sont reüsees,
The battalions are pushed-back
que auques erent esfreëes:
which somewhat were frightened
n'i ot conrei qui ne branlast,
not-there was troop which not might-waver
qui ne crensist, qui ne dotast.
which not might-fear which not might-doubt
Ja rert li estors maintenuz,
Already again-was the fight maintained
quant Eneas i est venuz:
when Aeneas there is come
ceus de Licoine ameine o sei,
those of Lycaonia he-leads with himself
qui Eüfeme orent a rei.
who Euphemes had as king
Iceste eschiele fu mout grosse:
This battalion was very thick
a! tante enseigne i a destorse,
ah so-many banner there has unfurled
tant escu pris por aler joindre!
so-many shield taken for to-go to-join

A l'avenir ont pris lor poindre,
At the-coming they-have taken their charge
puis vont toz les conreiz ferir
then they-go all the troops to-strike
qu'Ector ot fait le champ guerpir.
which-Hector had made the field abandon
Iluec ot un tel tasseïz
There there-was such a heaping
e un si fait abateïz,
and a so made throwing-down
n'i a Grezeis qui bien ne cuit
not-there is Greek who well not may-think
que il seient tuit desconfit.
that they may-be all discomfited
Teus dis conreiz ont mis a un,
Such ten troops they-have put to one
dont riche teneit om chascun
of-which rich held one each
de treis mil chevaliers e plus.
of three thousand knights and more
Or sont Troïen al desus:
Now are Trojans on-the above
s'est qui fuie, bien chaceront.
if-there-is who may-flee well they-will-chase
Mais jusqu'a poi se retendront,
But in-a little themselves they-will-hold-back
quar Aïaus, li bons vassaus,
for Ajax the good vassal

quant veit que sor eus vert li maus
when he-sees that upon them turns the ill
e qu'il veit ses genz reüser
and that-he sees his folk pushed-back
e par force del champ geter,
and by force from-the field thrown
ocire e desconfire e prendre,
killed and routed and taken
por poi ne laissent le defendre,
for little not they-leave the defending
deriere sei veit tant conrei,
behind himself he-sees so-many troop
tant amiraut, tant riche rei,
so-many emir so-many rich king
reguarde des Grezeis la flor,
he-looks-at of-the Greeks the flower
qui hui ne vindrent a l'estor
who today not came to the-fight
ou sont tant riche chevalier
where are so-many rich knight
e ou a si grant recovrier, —
and where there-is so great recovery
soz ciel n'a nule gent, senz faille,
under heaven not-is any folk without fail
vers cui n'eüssent pro bataille: —
toward whom not-they-would-have valiant battle
«Avoi!» fait il, «ço que sera,
Come-now says he what that will-be
«iceste uevre a que tornera?
this work to what will-it-turn

«E que ont ore nostre gent,
And what have now our folk
«qu'ensi s'en vienent laidement?
that-thus themselves-thence they-come foully
«Ja ne pueent il tenir place,
Ever not can they hold place
«bien font semblant que l'om les chace.
well they-make semblance that one them chases
«Mout conois bien ço que jo vei:
Much I-know well that which I see
«Veez com branlent cil conrei!
See how waver those troops
«Tant les ont cil desavanci
So-much them have those thwarted
«qu'a peine ierent hui mais hardi
that-with pain they-will-be today more bold
«si come erent jehui matin;
so as they-were this morning
«e si dot mout qu'a la parfin
and so I-fear much that-at the end
«ne nos facent tote pesance:
not to-us they-may-make all sorrow
«Grant paor ai de meschaance.
Great fear I-have of mischance
«Or n'i a plus, seignor», fait il,
Now not-there is more lords says he
«guardez ne seions li plus vil
guard not we-may-be the most vile
«ne li peior al departir:
nor the worst at-the parting

«Assez nos i vient mieuz morir
Enough to-us there comes better to-die
«que faire mauvaistié de nos.
than to-make badness of ourselves
«Ne seiez ja de rien dotos;
Not be ever of anything fearful
«sacheiz, sos m'en volez aidier,
know if-you me-therein wish to-help
«nos les ferons ja repairier
we them shall-make now return
«vers lor lices, mais bien lor peist;
toward their palisades but well to-them it-may-weigh
«e se nostre force nos creist,
and if our force to-us grows
«com si fera, de cent mile homes,
as so it-will-do by a-hundred thousand men
«se nos mauvaise gent ne somes,
if we bad folk not are
«contre la porte e a l'entree
against the gate and at the-entrance
«sera lor gent desbaretee.
will-be their folk routed
«Or i poignons, si n'i ait faille,
Now there let-us-spur so not-there may-be fail
«ainz que vienge cele bataille
before that may-come that battalion
«que ci si près nos siut al dos;
which here so near us follows at-the back

«e si guardez n'i ait si os
and so guard not-there may-be so bold
«qui senz mei parte de l'estor.
who without me may-part from the-fight
«Li deu nos en facent honor!»
The gods to-us thereof may-make honor

The Archers of Paris

XL

Ajax and Aeneas joust and wound each other, and Philitoas and his men hold back the Trojans until Hector unhorses and wounds Philitoas. The Greeks press the Trojans back, and the Essimieis, Ulysses' Achaeans, and the Pigreis come fresh into the fight. Paris's Persian archers arrive; Paris kills a Phrygian king, Ulysses' cousin, and Ulysses brings Paris down through his horse, until Troilus wounds Ulysses on the helmet. The Greeks drive the Trojans to their palisades. Hector returns to his own men of Troy and urges them to defend their land and avenge their kinsmen and his brother Cassibilant, foretelling that the Greeks will be routed that day.

Lors chevauchierent come gent
Then they-rode as folk
qui de bien faire orent talent,
who of well doing had desire
tant qu'as lances vindrent baissier.
until that-to-the lances they-came to-lower
Por veir vos puet l'om afichier
For true to-you can one affirm
qu'il les alerent si ferir,
that-they them went so to-strike

cent en chaïrent al partir.
a-hundred thereof fell at-the parting
Ci ot grant noise a l'assembler,
Here there-was great noise at the-joining
ci veïst l'om estor lever,
here would-have-seen one fight rise
ci veïst l'om lances brisier,
here would-have-seen one lances break
ci veïst l'om escuz percier,
here would-have-seen one shields pierce
ci veïst l'om haubers fauser
here would-have-seen one hauberks fail
e des haumes le feu voler,
and from-the helmets the fire fly
ci veïst l'om ferir d'espees,
here would-have-seen one strike with-swords
ci veïst l'om testes coupees,
here would-have-seen one heads cut-off
ci veïst l'om abateïz
here would-have-seen one throwing-down
e tanz bons chevaliers feniz
and so-many good knights ended
e tant destrier vuit senz seignor:
and so-many charger empty without lord
n'i ot eü en tot le jor
not-there had been in all the day
estors si pesmes ne mortaus.
fights so worst nor mortal
O Eneas joinst Aïaus:
With Aeneas joined Ajax

teus se donerent es escuz
such themselves they-gave on-the shields
qu'outre en passerent fers e fuz.
that-beyond thereof passed irons and shafts
N'i ot hauberc qui ne fausast,
Not-there was hauberk which not failed
ne nul d'eus dous qui ne saignast;
nor any of-them two who not bled
n'i ot lance que ne croissist,
not-there was lance which not cracked
ne nul d'eus dous qui ne chaïst;
nor any of-them two who not fell
mais sor les heaumes des verz branz
but upon the helmets with-the green blades
s'entredonerent de si granz
gave-each-other of so great
que les cercles voler en firent
that the circlets fly thereof they-made
e les mailles s'entrembatirent
and the mails drove-into-each-other
par mi les chiés, que sans en raie.
through the-midst the heads so-that blood thence streams
N'en partissent mie o tel plaie,
Not-thence they-would-part at-all with such wound
li queus que seit fust sempres morz,
the which that may-be would-be at-once dead

o ambedui, se lor esforz
or both if their effort
ne recovrast, quis a partiz:
not had-recovered who-them has parted
iluec fu granz li fereïz.
there was great the striking
N'ert pas la bataille arestee,
Not-was at-all the battle stopped
quar la grant chace e la huëe
for the great chase and the outcry
durot ancore sor Grezeis,
lasted still upon Greeks
ou mout perdirent, ço fu veirs.
where much they-lost that was true
Philitoas de Caledoine
Philitoas of Calydon
e tote sa gent, senz essoine,
and all his folk without excuse
dont bien i ot treis mil de taus,
of-whom well there there-were three thousand of such
qui ja socorront Aïaus, —
who already will-help Ajax
si firent il par tel maniere,
so did they in such manner
cinc cenz lor en mistrent en biere, —
five hundreds of-them thereof they-put on bier

retenu ont cist dui conrei
held-back have these two troops
la gent de Troie e le desrei
the folk of Troy and the disorder
qu'il faiseient sor la lor gent.
which-they made upon the their folk
Ci rot mortel torneiement:
Here again-there-was mortal tourney
mout se peinent d'eus reüser
much themselves they-pain them to-push-back
e d'eus ariere retorner,
and them back to-turn
e Troïen d'eus desconfire;
and Trojans them to-rout
mais mei est vis qu'or lor empire.
but to-me it-is opinion that-now to-them it-worsens
Ne lor est pas legier a faire:
Not to-them it-is at-all light to do
por ceste chose mut contraire.
for this thing moved harm
Li un vers les autres contendent,
The one against the others contend
escuz, haubers, heaumes se fendent,
shields hauberks helmets themselves split
trenchent sei braz, cuisses e piez.
they-cut themselves arms thighs and feet
Tant en gist morz e mahaigniez,
So-many thereof lie dead and maimed

tote la terre en est coverte:
all the land thereof is covered
d'ambedous parz i a grant perte.
on-both sides there is great loss
Philitoas joint a Hector,
Philitoas joins with Hector
que la lance de sicamor
so-that the lance of sycamore
vola en pieces sor l'escu;
flew in pieces on the-shield
e Hector ra lui si feru
and Hector again-has him so struck
par les dous arçons de la sele
through the two saddle-bows of the saddle
que li bons destriers de Castele
that the good charger of Castile
chaï soz lui. Cil fu navrez,
fell under him He was wounded
une liuëe jut pasmez:
a league's-while he-lay swooned
de la plaie puet bien morir,
of the wound he-can well die
e sin reporreit bien guarir.
and so-thereof he-could-again well recover
Ici rot mout chevaliers morz,
Here again-there-were many knights dead
ci recovrerent lor esforz
here recovered their effort
cil de Grece sor ceus dedenz;
those of Greece upon those within

mais mout dura ainz li contenz
but much lasted before the struggle
que cele place fust guerpie;
than that place were abandoned
mainte joste, mainte escremie,
many-a joust many-a fencing
mainte meslee, maint estor
many-a melee many-a fight
firent ainz Greu contre les lor
made before Greeks against the theirs
que il onques se remuassent
than they ever themselves might-move
ne que il sor eus recovrassent.
nor that they upon them might-recover
Mais Greu par force recovrerent,
But Greeks by force recovered
par ire pleine lor alerent:
by wrath full at-them they-went
si durement les ont feruz
so harshly them they-have struck
que par force les ont rompuz
that by force them they-have broken
del champ, o vousissent o non.
from-the field or they-might-wish or not
Ci rot trop grant ocision,
Here again-there-was too great slaughter
ci rot grant desbareteïz:
here again-there-was great rout

li huz e la noise e li criz
the shout and the noise and the cry
est teus sor Troïens levez,
is such upon Trojans raised
par force les ont reüsez.
by force them they-have pushed-back
Vont s'en ariere laidement,
They-go themselves-thence back foully
quar trop i perdent de lor gent.
for too-much there they-lose of their folk
Tuit li conrei se sont josté
All the troops themselves are joined
qui al tornei orent esté;
who at-the tourney had been
ensemble sont a un venu:
together they-are at one come
onc tant heaume ne tant escu
ever so-many helmet nor so-many shield
ne vit nus hom del mont ensemble.
not saw any man of-the world together
Tote la terre crolle e tremble.
All the land shakes and trembles
Mout enforcierent li Grezeis:
Much grew-stronger the Greeks
teus batailles lor vindrent treis,
such battalions to-them came three
que mout durent estre dotoses
which much ought to-be dreaded
e maufaisanz e perilloses,
and evildoing and perilous

quar ço furent Essimiëis
for that were Essimieis
o saietes, o ars Turqueis.
with arrows with bows Turkish
Huniers, li fiz Mahont, les guie.
Huniers the son (of-)Mahont them guides
Iceste gent fu mout hardie.
This folk was very bold
Ulixès fu o ceus d'Achaie,
Ulysses was with those of-Achaea
qui Troïens point ne manaie;
who Trojans at-all not spares
o les Pigreis reis Emelins:
with the Pigreis king Emelins
cist ne chevauchent pas roncins,
these not ride at-all nags
qui chevaus buens d'outre Eüfrate.
who horses good from-beyond Euphrates
Ici vos di qu'ot grant barate.
Here to-you I-say that-there-was great tumult
Cist trei conrei vindrent le pas.
These three troops came the pace
Dis mile sont al plus eschars:
Ten thousand they-are at-the most scant
n'en i a nul ne seit armez
not-thereof there is any not may-be armed
e de bataille conreez.
and for battle equipped
O ço que Troïen rusoënt,
With that that Trojans pushed-back

qui vers la vile s'en raloënt,
who toward the town themselves-thence went-back
cist avindrent, qui furent freis,
these arrived who were fresh
quis alerent ferir maneis
who-them went to-strike forthwith
si durement que li escu
so harshly that the shields
e li hauberc sont derompu;
and the hauberks are broken
percent sei ventres e corailles.
they-pierce themselves bellies and entrails
Dès or engroissent les batailles,
From now swell the battles
dès or i a marteleïz
from now there is hammering
sor les heaumes des branz forbiz,
upon the helmets with-the blades furbished
dès or i chieent chevalier
from now there fall knights
mort e navré de lor destrier,
dead and wounded from their charger
dès or i a mortel estor,
from now there is mortal fight
dès or en ont Greu le meillor,
from now thereof have Greeks the best
dès or en meinent ceus dedenz,
from now thereof they-lead those within

e sin font maint chaeir a denz
and so-thereof they-make many-a fall on teeth
pasmez e freiz, de la mort près.
swooned and cold to the death near
Ici ont sostenu grant fais
Here have sustained great burden
li plus hardi e li meillor:
the most bold and the best
n'i esteient mie a sojor.
not-there they-were at-all at rest
Quel merveille, s'il ont deshait?
What marvel if-they have dejection
Quinze conrei sont contre set.
Fifteen troops are against seven
Veneient s'en, ços di por veir,
They-were-coming themselves-thence that-you I-say for true
cui qu'en pesast, par estoveir,
whom that-thereof it-might-weigh by necessity
quant cil de Perse i sont venu,
when those of Persia there are come
qui aportent maint arc tendu.
who bring many-a bow drawn
Paris li beaus, li proz les guie.
Paris the fair the valiant them guides
Ici ot riche compaignie:
Here there-was rich company
haubers orent e hauberjons,
hauberks they-had and habergeons

chapeaus de fer e chaperons
hats of iron and hoods
de dras de seie nués e freis;
of cloths of silk new and fresh
li bon cheval Aragoneis.
the good horses Aragonese
Sont tuit covert de conoissances;
Are all covered with devices
ars Turqueis ont en lieu de lances;
bows Turkish they-have in place of lances
le brant d'acier a chascuns ceint.
the blade of-steel has each girt
N'i a celui qui ne se peint
Not-there is that-one who not himself pains
de venjance prendre des lor,
of vengeance to-take for-the theirs
qu'il lor ocistrent en l'estor.
whom-they to-them killed in the-fight
Serré ensemble chevauchierent,
Close together they-rode
de la bataille s'aprochierent.
to the battle they-approached
Devers destre sont avenu
On-the-side right they-are come
lores, s'i ont levé le hu;
then so-there they-have raised the shout
tuit ensemble criënt e traient
all together they-cry and shoot
e chevaliers e chevaus plaient.
and knights and horses they-wound

Ici ot noise e traerece.
Here there-was noise and shooting
Sempres s'esmaie cui l'om blece.
At-once himself-dismays whom one wounds
Paris lor trait, bien i avise:
Paris at-them shoots well there he-aims
ocis lor a un rei de Frise
killed to-them he-has a king of Phrygia
dont mout furent dolent Grezeis,
of-whom very were grieving Greeks
quar mout aveit d'armes grant preis.
for very he-had in-arms great worth
Cosins germains ert Ulixès:
Cousin german he-was (of-)Ulysses
de lui vengier se mist a fais.
of him to-avenge himself he-put to burden
Le cheval poinst, qui mout fu buens;
The horse he-spurred which very was good
Paris requiert entre les suens:
Paris he-attacks among the his
tel li dona par mi l'arçon
such to-him he-gave through the-midst the-saddle-bow
e par les pans del hauberjon
and through the skirts of-the habergeon
que l'enseigne del vert cendal
that the-pennon of-the green sendal
met tote el ventre del cheval.
he-puts all in-the belly of-the horse
Paris chaï, por poi n'est morz;
Paris fell for little not-he-is dead

e s'Ulixès eüst l'esforz,
and if-Ulysses had-had the-strength
sor lui s'arestast volentiers.
upon him himself-would-have-stopped willingly
Mais Troïlus i vint premiers:
But Troilus there came first
n'ot point de lance, mais l'espee
not-he-had at-all of lance but the-sword
li a sor l'eaume presentee.
to-him he-has on the-helmet presented
Fent e quasse, pleie e deront,
He-splits and smashes bends and breaks
que les mailles d'en mi le front
so-that the mails from in-the-middle-of the forehead
li a enz el chief embarrees,
to-him he-has in in-the head driven
del sanc de lui ensanglentees.
with-the blood of him bloodied
Pendant ala une liuëe:
Hanging he-went a league's-while
por poi n'a la sele voidiee.
for little not-he-has the saddle emptied
Sempres li fu li vis sanglenz,
At-once to-him was the face bloody
angoissos fu mout e dolenz.
anguished he-was much and grieving
D'un retros fiert en mi le vis
With-a back-stroke he-strikes in the-midst the face
celui qui si près l'ot requis;
him who so near him-had attacked

sor le nes pleie le nasal:
on the nose he-bends the nose-guard
ço sacheiz bien, mout li fist mal.
that know well much to-him it-did ill
Escrieve li, fortment li saigne,
It-bursts to-him greatly to-him it-bleeds
e la bataille mout engraigne:
and the battle much grows
de ceus de l'ost mout i apluet.
of those of the-host much there rains
Chascuns s'aïde com mieuz puet:
Each himself-helps as best he-can
lancent, traient, fierent maneis.
they-hurl they-shoot they-strike forthwith
Lors rechacierent li Grezeis.
Then chased-again the Greeks
Lieve li huz e la criëe;
Rises the shout and the outcry
la ot maint coup feru d'espee.
there there-was many-a blow struck with-sword
S'Ector ne fust e Troïlus
If-Hector not were and Troilus
e lor frere Deïphebus,
and their brother Deiphobus
Paris li beaus e li Bastart,
Paris the fair and the Bastards

qui si irié sont de lor part
who so angered are on their part
que n'i ataignent chevalier
that not-there they-reach knight
qu'il ne guerpisse le destrier,
that-he not may-abandon the charger
mauvaisement lor en fust pris;
badly to-them thereof it-would-have taken
mais cist defendent lor païs
but these defend their country
as branz d'acier, que cil comperent
with-the blades of-steel which those pay-for
qui sor eus par force ariverent.
who upon them by force arrived
Greu jusqu'as lices les ameinent,
Greeks up-to-the palisades them lead
d'eus desconfire mout se peinent:
them to-rout much themselves they-pain
enz en entre dis mile e plus.
within thereof enter ten thousand and more
Iluec s'aida bien Troïlus:
There himself-helped well Troilus
pris en devra aveir de maint,
worth thereof he-will-be-due to-have from many-a
se par envie ne remaint.
if by envy not it-remains
N'i eüst mot del plus tenir,
Not-there would-have-been word of-the more holding
jas covenist a departir,
ever-them it-would-have-behooved to part

enz les meïssent a dreiture,
within them they-would-have-put at right
mil en eüssent sepouture,
a-thousand thereof would-have-had burial
quant Hector vint a son conrei
when Hector came to his troop
qui ja ert auques en esfrei:
which already was somewhat in alarm
n'aveient mie lor seignor,
not-they-had at-all their lord
guerpiz les aveit tote jor;
abandoned them he-had all day
senz eus ot mainte lance fraite
without them there-was many-a lance broken
e en mainz lieus espee traite.
and in many places sword drawn
Dis mile e plus sont el tropel:
Ten thousand and more they-are in-the throng
quant le virent, mout lor fu bel;
when him they-saw much to-them it-was fair
toz lor talenz lor mue e change.
all their mood to-them changes and changes
La n'ot nul chevalier estrange:
There not-there-was any knight foreign
del païs sont estraiz e nez
of-the country they-are sprung and born
e il e toz lor parentez.
and they and all their kindred

Cil defendront a lor poëir
These will-defend to their power
lors cors, lor terre e lor aveir;
their bodies their land and their wealth
cil vengeront les granz forfaiz
these will-avenge the great wrongs
que cil de Grece lor ont faiz
which those of Greece to-them have done
e le grant tort e le grant lait.
and the great wrong and the great insult
Hector lor mostre e lor retrait:
Hector to-them shows and to-them recounts
«Seignor,» fait il, «vos veez l'uevre
Lords says he you see the-work
«que ore a primes se descuevre:
which now at first itself uncovers
«Estrange en est la començaille,
Strange thereof is the beginning
«ne sai quel iert la definaille.
not I-know what will-be the ending
«Ci a sor nos tel riche gent,
Here there-is upon us such rich folk
«qui ne nos aiment de neient;
who not us love in nothing
«de tot le mont i est la flor
of all the world there is the flower
«e li plus riche e li meillor.
and the most rich and the best

«Venu i sont por nos ocire
Come there they-are for us to-kill
«e por nostre cité destruire:
and for our city to-destroy
«Ja mais anceis ne s'en iront,
Ever more before not themselves-thence they-will-go
«se par bataille ne s'en vont.
if by battle not themselves-thence they-go
«E s'il nos pueent hui laidir,
And if-they us can today ill-use
«mout nos en puet granz maus venir:
much to-us thereof can great ills come
«Puis que lor gent ne nos crembra,
Since that their folk not us will-fear
«tote lor force en doblera.
all their force thereby will-double
«Mout les avons hui damagiez,
Much them we-have today harmed
«ocis e morz e detrenchiez,
killed and slain and cut-down
«e mout par l'ont bien fait li nostre:
and very greatly it-have well done the ours
«Guardez que l'onor en seit vostre.
Guard that the-honor thereof may-be yours
«Chaciez nos ont e remuëz
Chased us they-have and moved
«e sor noz geudes amenez;
and upon our foot-soldiers brought
«ne cuident qu'aions recovrier:
not they-think that-we-may-have recovery

«Mais se vos me volez aidier,
But if you me wish to-help
«ja lor ferons tel envaïe
now to-them we-shall-make such charge
«dont mainte ame iert del cors partie;
whereby many-a soul will-be from-the body parted
«ja les ferons del champ torner
now them we-shall-make from-the field turn
«e lor ferons chier comparer
and to-them we-shall-make dearly pay-for
«la mort de noz riches parenz,
the death of our rich kinsmen
«des proz e des beaus e des genz.
of-the valiant and of-the fair and of-the noble
«Venjons, seignor, noz ancessors,
Let-us-avenge lords our ancestors
«qui nos conquistrent les honors
who for-us won the domains
«que cist a tolir nos essaient
which these to take-away from-us try
«e ci nos ociënt e plaient.
and here us kill and wound
«Un de mes freres m'ont hui mort,
One of my brothers to-me-they-have today killed
«dont j'ai grant ire e desconfort,
whereof I-have great wrath and discomfort
«Cassibilant, qui mout ert proz:
Cassibilant who very was valiant
«Li reis en iert iriez sor toz.
The king thereof will-be angered above all

«Saveir poons senz nule faille,
To-know we-can without any fail
«se vencu ne sont en bataille,
if vanquished not they-are in battle
«qu'il veintront nos e ociront
that-they will-vanquish us and will-kill
«e noz maisniees destruiront.
and our households will-destroy
«Si vueil jo e pri endreit mei,
So wish I and pray for my-part
«ainz que departons del tornei,
before that we-depart from-the tourney
«qu'alons mostrer tot nostre esforz.
that-we-go to-show all our effort
«N'i seit or ja dotee morz:
Not-there may-be now ever feared death
«Chascuns morra a son termine.
Each will-die at his term
«Sacheiz que mis cuers me devine
Know that my heart to-me foretells
«que il seront hui desconfit.
that they will-be today discomfited
«Or n'en prenons ja plus respit,
Now not-thereof let-us-take ever more respite
«mais es nons as deus alons lor.
but in-the names of-the gods let-us-go at-them
«Que hui nos en facent honor»!
That today to-us thereof they-may-make honor

Thoas Taken and Rescued

XLI

Hector leads his men round the battle and strikes the Greeks from behind. The sons of Priam recognize Thoas, their brother's killer: Quintilien and Odenel unhorse him, Rodomorus seizes him and gets his own hand cut through, and when Thoas's sword breaks they unlace his ventail to behead him, until Menestheus unhorses Odenel, Paris wounds Menestheus with an arrow, and Thoas's men carry him off. Huniers grazes Hector's face with an arrow and Hector splits his head. Hector asks Priam for a thousand knights to finish the Greeks; Priam, seeing his son's bloodied face and shield, grants them and his brothers. Hector and Ajax unhorse each other, and jousts break out along the line, Maudan Clarueil putting out Schedius's eye.

Lors chevauchent senz demorance:
Then they-ride without delay
la ot dreciee mainte lance,
there there-was raised many-a lance
e despleié maint confanon
and unfurled many-a pennon
e mainte enseigne e maint penon
and many-a banner and many-a streamer
vert e vermeil, de seie ovré 9685
green and vermilion of silk worked
e de fil d'or menu brosdé;
and with thread of-gold finely embroidered
la parut maint heaume d'acier
there appeared many-a helmet of-steel
e maint escu e maint destrier
and many-a shield and many-a charger
sor e baucent, grisle e ferrant.
sorrel and piebald gray and iron-gray

Hector les en meine un pendant.
Hector them thence leads a slope
Tote la bataille eschiverent:
All the battle they-avoided
de grant engin se porpenserent,
of great device themselves they-bethought
quar a travers bien loinz des lor
for at across well far from-the theirs
sont avenu al grant estor.
they-are come to-the great fight
E sacheiz bien, puis le joïse,
And know well since the judgment
ne fu mais gent ensi requise;
not was ever folk thus attacked
onc hom ne vit si dur estor,
ever man not saw so hard fight
ne ne verra ja mais nul jor,
nor not will-see ever more any day
com cist rendront ja as Grezeis.
as these will-render now to-the Greeks
Chascuns ot ire e fu toz freis,
Each had wrath and was all fresh
chascuns a l'enarme saisie,
each has the-strap seized
chascuns a l'avenir s'escrie,
each at the-coming himself-cries
chascuns ala le suen ferir.
each went the his to-strike
La oïsseiz lances croissir,
There you-would-have-heard lances crack

la veïsseiz gent bien aidier,
there you-would-have-seen folk well help
escuz estroër e percier;
shields hole and pierce
la ot tant hauberc desmaillié
there there-was so-many hauberk unmailed
e tant bon chevalier blecié,
and so-many good knight wounded
tant abatu senz relever;
so-many thrown-down without rising
la veïsseiz tant coup doner
there you-would-have-seen so-many blow give
des branz sor les heaumes d'acier;
with-the blades upon the helmets of-steel
la ne se set coarz aidier;
there not himself knows coward to-help
la ot granz huz e granz criëes;
there there-was great shouts and great outcries
la volent fer e pont d'espees;
there fly iron and pommel of-swords
fendent heaumes, fausent haubers;
they-split helmets fail hauberks
la chieent chevalier envers;
there fall knights backward
trenchent sei chiés e braz e cors.
they-cut themselves heads and arms and bodies
De grant peril sera estors
From great peril will-be escaped
qui del champ porra vis eissir.
who from-the field will-be-able alive to-go-out

Hector lor fait le brant sentir,
Hector to-them makes the blade feel
quis detrenche, qui les mahaigne,
who-them cuts-down who them maims
quin fait esclarcir lor compaigne:
who-thereof makes thin their company
dès or lor mostre qui il est;
from now to-them he-shows who he is
d'eus ocire le truevent prest.
them to-kill him they-find ready
La bataille ont par mi perciee,
The battalion they-have through the-midst pierced
mais mainte sele i ot voidiee.
but many-a saddle there there-was emptied
Cil qui devant se combateient,
Those who in-front themselves fought
quant il entendent e il veient
when they hear and they see
que deriere sont envaï,
that behind they-are attacked
auques en furent esbaï.
somewhat thereof they-were dismayed
Entre eus veient lor enemis,
Among them they-see their enemies
qui maint des lor ont ja ocis,
who many-a of-the theirs have already killed
e cil recuevrent devant eus,
and those recover before them
qui mout lor sont cruëus e feus.
who very to-them are cruel and fierce

Chascuns ra pris son hardement;
Each again-has taken his boldness
dès or vos di qu'i ot content:
from now to-you I-say that-there there-was strife
onc hom n'oï parler de tel,
ever man not-heard speak of such
si doloros ne si mortel.
so grievous nor so mortal
Par la bataille vait Thoas,
Through the battle goes Thoas
sovent les vait ferir el tas:
often them he-goes to-strike in-the heap
tot a bandon a son cors mis,
all at abandon he-has his body put
mout damage ses enemis.
much he-harms his enemies
Coneü l'ont li fil le rei:
Known him-have the sons (of-)the king
Quintiliens lor mostre al dei:
Quintilien to-them shows with-the finger
«Seignor, cist est nostre enemis,
Lords this-one is our enemy
«qui nos a nostre frere ocis;
who to-us has our brother killed
«poignons a lui e sil venjons».
let-us-spur at him and so-him let-us-avenge
Donc point e broche a esporons;
Then he-pricks and spurs with spurs
Odeneaus point ensemble o lui.
Odenel spurs together with him

Cil le ferirent ambedui
They him struck both
par mi l'escu, qu'il l'abatirent,
through the-midst the-shield so-that-they him-threw-down
mais autre plaie ne li firent.
but other wound not to-him they-made
Ne lor estordra mie a tal,
Not from-them he-will-escape at-all at such
quar saisi l'a par le nasal
for seized him-has by the nose-guard
Rodomorus, qui i avint;
Rodomorus who there arrived
mais guaires longes ne le tint,
but much long not him he-held
quar cil a trait le brant d'acier,
for he has drawn the blade of-steel
bien se cuida de lui vengier:
well himself he-thought on him to-avenge
tel li dona par mi la main,
such to-him he-gave through the-midst the hand
mais oan ne s'en verra sain.
but this-year not himself-thence he-will-see sound
Odeneaus l'a treis cous feru
Odenel him-has three blows struck
de s'espee sor l'eaume agu;
with his-sword on the-helmet pointed
si fist Quintiliëns teus set,
so did Quintilien such seven
dont cil dut bien perdre le hait.
whereby he ought well to-lose the cheer

Dous feiz o treis l'ont abatu,
Two times or three him-they-have thrown-down
mais dur estor lor a rendu:
but hard fight to-them he-has rendered
d'eus assez tost se delivrast,
from-them enough soon himself he-would-have-freed
se s'espee ne peceiast.
if his-sword not had-broken
Sempres le vont saisir e prendre,
At-once him they-go to-seize and take
dès qu'il ne s'ot de quei defendre.
from that-he not himself-had with what to-defend
La ventaille li deslaçoënt,
The ventail from-him they-unlaced
assez vilment le demenoënt:
enough vilely him they-handled
le chief perdist senz demorance,
the head he-would-have-lost without delay
mais mout fu près sa delivrance.
but very was near his deliverance
Li dus d'Athenes i avint.
The duke of-Athens there arrived
D'une grant lance que il tint
With-a great lance that he held
fiert Odenel si qu'il l'abat
he-strikes Odenel so that-he him-throws-down
jambes levees trestot plat.
legs raised all flat
Teus l'a veü cui mout en peise:
Such him-has seen to-whom much thereof it-weighs

ço est Paris, qui l'arc enteise.
that is Paris who the-bow bends
D'une saiete l'a navré
With-an arrow him-he-has wounded
auques en char par le costé,
somewhat in flesh by the side
e Quintiliëns li redone
and Quintilien to-him again-gives
sor le heaume, que tot l'estone.
on the helmet so-that all him-stuns
Volez lor est Thoas des mains,
Flown from-them is Thoas from-the hands
mais ne fu mie del tot sains:
but not he-was at-all of-the all sound
plaies a granz, mais guarir puet;
wounds he-has great but recover he-can
por quant bon mire li estuet.
for how-much good physician to-him behooves
Si home lige natural
His men liege native
l'ont tost monté en un cheval,
him-have soon mounted on a horse
fors de la presse l'en ont trait:
out of the press him-thence they-have drawn
assez i ot crïié e brait.
enough there there-was cried and bawled
Menesteüs fu bien rescos:
Menestheus was well rescued
cent chevalier tuit aïros,
a-hundred knights all wrathful

si home tuit de son païs,
his men all from his country
l'ont trait d'entre ses enemis;
him-have drawn from-among his enemies
estanchiee li ont sa plaie,
stanched to-him they-have his wound
que sans n'en ist plus ne ne raie.
so-that blood not-thence goes-out more nor not streams
Hector de rien ne s'aseüre:
Hector in anything not himself-makes-secure
son poëir met tot e sa cure
his power he-puts all and his care
en eus laidir e desconfire.
in them to-ill-use and to-rout
Des gieus partiz iert lor li pire,
Of-the games divided will-be to-them the worse
s'il le puet faire, al departir.
if-he it can do at-the parting
Nel porent mie Greu sofrir:
Not-it could at-all Greeks suffer
trop les damage laidement;
too-much them he-harms foully
entre lui e la soë gent,
between him and the his folk
perciez e remuëz les ont.
pierced and moved them they-have
Cil de la terre bien le font:
Those of the land well it do
bon apui ont en lor seignor.
good support they-have in their lord

Huniers li reis vint par l'estor,
Huniers the king came through the-fight
qui sire esteit d'Essimiëis.
who lord was of-Essimieis
Entesé ot un arc Turqueis:
Bent he-had a bow Turkish
destent, si fiert Hector el vis
he-looses so strikes Hector in-the face
que por un poi ne l'a ocis;
so-that for a little not him-he-has killed
mais la saiete glaceia,
but the arrow glanced
si que guaires ne le navra.
so that much not him it-wounded
Hector s'en est mout tost vengiez:
Hector himself-thence is very soon avenged
le chief li fent en dous meitiez.
the head to-him he-splits in two halves
Aïre sei de ço qu'il saigne:
He-angers himself for that that-he bleeds
sis hardemenz dès or engraigne.
his boldness from now grows
Un graile sone por apel:
A trumpet he-sounds for rallying
maint l'oïrent, cui mout fu bel.
many-a it-heard to-whom much it-was fair
Vers lui s'en traient tel set mile,
Toward him themselves-thence draw such seven thousand
dont bons chevaliers est li pire;
of-whom good knight is the worst

puis lor chevauchent de rehiz.
then on-them they-ride of again
Donc i rot mout grant fereïz.
Then there again-there-was very great striking
La bataille ont par mi fendue,
The battalion they-have through the-midst split
mais de lor gent ont mout perdue.
but of their folk they-have much lost
O lor conreiz se rajosterent,
With their troops themselves they-joined-again
e quant ç'avint qu'il assemblerent,
and when it-happened that-they joined
si torneierent longement
so they-tourneyed long
devant les lices o lor gent.
before the palisades with their folk
Mout i ot fait chevalerie
Much there there-was done chivalry
e mainte ame de cors partie.
and many-a soul from body parted
Les geudes i traistrent assez:
The foot-soldiers there shot enough
ocis en ont mout e navrez,
killed thereof they-have many and wounded
mout i ont chevaus guaaigniez.
many there they-have horses won
Hector ne s'est mie atargiez,
Hector not himself-is at-all delayed
vait a Priant le rei parler:
he-goes to Priam the king to-speak

«Sire», fait il, «ços vueil mostrer:
Lord says he that-you I-wish to-show
«Sacheiz de veir, nostre enemi
Know for true our enemies
«sont mout gregié e mout laidi
are very burdened and much ill-used
«e enoié de nos sofrir.
and wearied of us to-suffer
«Se de ci les poons partir,
If from here them we-can part
«desconfit sont senz retor prendre:
discomfited they-are without turn to-take
«Ne se porront de nos defendre
Not themselves they-will-be-able from us to-defend
«ne tenir place, jol sai bien.
nor hold place I-it know well
«Or si n'i a plus autre rien:
Now so not-there is more other thing
«Mil chevaliers me baillereiz
A-thousand knights to-me you-will-give
«a refreschir cez noz conreiz.
to refresh these our troops
«Por rien del siegle ne creireie
For anything of-the world not I-would-believe
«que ja nes metons a la veie.
that ever not-them we-may-put on the way
«Chevauchiez hui mais après nos
Ride today more after us
«o la grant gent que est o vos:
with the great folk that is with you

«Ja lor covient le champ guerpir,
Already to-them behooves the field to-abandon
«o eus o nos toz a morir;
or them or us all to die
«a ço ne puet mie aveir faille.
at that not can at-all have fail
«Chevauchiez hui mais par bataille,
Ride today more by battalion
«les geudes menez sagement,
the foot-soldiers lead wisely
«e n'i ait d'eus desrei neient.»
and not-there may-be of-them disorder none
Prianz li dist: «Beaus fiz amis,
Priam to-him said Fair son friend
«mout vei ensanglenté cel vis,
very I-see bloodied that face
«mout vei cel escu estroé
very I-see that shield holed
«e cel vert heaume decoupé.
and that green helmet cut-up
«Bien pert que as eü essoigne:
Well appears that thou-hast had trouble
«Par mi les mailles de la broigne
Through the-midst the mails of the byrnie
«te saut li sans de plusors lieus;
to-thee leaps the blood from many places
«dès or pert bien n'est mie gieus.
from now appears well not-it-is at-all game
«Trop deit estre mis cuers marriz.
Too-much ought to-be my heart grieved

«Or va, sil fai si com tu diz:
Now go so-it do so as thou sayest
«Hui t'en dongent li deu victoire,
Today to-thee-thereof may-give the gods victory
«si qu'en aions honor e gloire!»
so that-thereof we-may-have honor and glory
Hector retorne a la bataille.
Hector returns to the battle
Teus mil en meine o sei, senz faille,
Such thousand thereof he-leads with himself without fail
n'i a nul n'ait lance e espee
not-there is any not-may-have lance and sword
e qui bien n'ait la teste armee.
and who well not-may-have the head armed
Ses freres meine Hector o sei,
His brothers leads Hector with himself
par le comandement le rei.
by the command (of-)the king
A l'avenir le poindre ont pris,
At the-coming the charge they-have taken
puis vont ferir lor enemis
then they-go to-strike their enemies
si durement, par tel aïr
so harshly with such force
que trestoz les rens font fremir.
that all the ranks they-make tremble
A eus hurtent; cil les recueillent,
Into them they-crash those them receive
qui en lor sanc sovent se mueillent.
who in their blood often themselves wet

Hector josta o Aïaus,
Hector jousted with Ajax
que jus chaïrent des chevaus:
so-that down they-fell from-the horses
ne l'uns ne l'autre n'i ot plaie,
nor the-one nor the-other not-there had wound
ne l'uns l'autre plus n'i essaie,
nor the-one the-other more not-there tries
quar ne lor lut por la grant presse.
for not to-them it-was-allowed for the great press
Uns amirauz, Morins d'Aresse,
An emir Morins of-Aresse
est chaeiz morz, ne vesqui plus:
is fallen dead not lived more
tel coup li dona Menelus.
such blow to-him gave Menelus
Isdor, sis frere, i ra ataint
Isdor his brother there again-has reached
un riche conte e si empeint
a rich count and so pushes
que mort le seivre de la sele.
that dead him he-severs from the saddle
Chirrus sa lance i enastele:
Chirrus his lance there splinters
par mi le cors fiert un Grezeis
through the-midst the body he-strikes a Greek
estrait de contes e de reis.
sprung from counts and from kings
Meles d'Orep niés fu Thoas:
Meles of-Orep nephew was (of-)Thoas

cist joinst o Celidonias,
this-one joined with Celidonias
que del cheval l'a enversé
so-that from-the horse him-he-has overturned
e par mi la chiere navré.
and through the-midst the face wounded
Hermagoras son frere venge:
Hermagoras his brother avenges
celui fiert si desoz la renge
him he-strikes so under the belt
que li poumons e la boële
that the lung and the bowel
li chiet sor l'arçon de la sele.
to-him falls on the-saddle-bow of the saddle
Scedius ert uns riches reis
Schedius was a rich king
e mout preisiez entre Grezeis:
and very prized among Greeks
o cestui joinst Maudanz Clarueil;
with this-one joined Maudan Clarueil
si l'a feru tres par mi l'ueil
so him-he-has struck very through the-midst the-eye
que fors del chief li est volez.
that out of-the head to-him it-is flown
De l'angoisse chaïst pasmez,
From the-anguish he-would-have-fallen swooned
s'il ne se fust tenuz as mains;
if-he not himself had held by-the hands
dès or n'est mie del tot sains.
from now not-he-is at-all of-the all sound

Bien le fist Sardes de Vertfueil,
Well it did Sardes of Vertfueil
qu'un amiraut de grant orgueil
for-an emir of great pride
a si feru al premier poindre
he-has so struck at-the first charge
que mort l'a abatu al joindre.
that dead him-he-has thrown-down at-the joining
Es rens s'est mis Margariton,
Into-the ranks himself-is put Margariton
puis vait ferir rei Telamon
then he-goes to-strike king Telamon
par mi l'escu de tel aïr
through the-midst the-shield with such force
qu'il li a fait le fer sentir:
that-he to-him has made the iron feel
se dreit alast, morz fust senz faille.
if straight it-had-gone dead he-would-be without fail
Cil traist l'espee, que bien taille.
He draws the-sword which well cuts
Tel li dona, de set semaines
Such to-him he-gave for seven weeks
ne furent puis ses plaies saines.
not were after his wounds healed
Prothenor joinst o Fanoël,
Prothenor joined with Fanoel
que jus l'abati del poutrel,
so-that down him-he-threw from-the colt
e s'il n'eüst si tost aïe,
and if-he not-had-had so soon aid

il n'en portast mie la vie.
he not-thence would-carry at-all the life
Bruns li Gemeaus l'a socoru:
Brun the Twin him-has helped
Prothenor fiert par mi l'escu,
Prothenor he-strikes through the-midst the-shield
que les estriers li fait guerpir
so-that the stirrups to-him he-makes abandon
e les resnes del poing saillir:
and the reins from-the fist leap
de l'eaume feri el sablon,
with the-helmet he-struck into-the sand
mais tost le ront monté li son.
but soon him again-have mounted the his
O Ulixès josta Mathan,
With Ulysses jousted Mathan
qui puis en traist assez ahan,
who after thereof drew enough toil
quar en la cuisse le navra,
for in the thigh him he-wounded
que por un poi nel mahaigna.
so-that for a little not-him he-maimed
Almadian le dut vengier,
Almadian him ought to-avenge
quar la teste li fist saignier,
for the head to-him he-made bleed
ou il feri teus treis colees,
where he struck such three blows
que puis furent chier comparees.
which after were dearly paid-for

Emelins e Gilor d'Agluz
Emelins and Gilor of-Agluz
s'entredonerent es escuz,
gave-each-other on-the shields
si que les lances peceierent
so that the lances broke
e qu'a la terre s'abatierent.
and that-to the ground themselves-they-threw-down
O Archelaus joinst Godelès,
With Archelaus joined Godeles
que des escuz fendent li ais
so-that of-the shields split the boards
e des haubers fause la maille,
and of-the hauberks fails the mail
si que les enseignes de paille
so that the pennons of silk
sont de lor sanc ensanglentees,
are with their blood bloodied
mais mout sont poi en char entrees.
but very they-are little into flesh entered

The Death of Merion

XLII

Doglas unhorses Teucer and Menestheus wounds him, until Doglas's brothers Born of Love and Thare bring Menestheus down; Teucer and Ajax save him. The Persian archers and the foot-soldiers drive the Greeks back toward their tents, and Hector, says Dares, kills a thousand. Deiphobus wounds Polypoetes, and Hector kills Merion before a pavilion and strips his arms, but Menestheus runs him through the hauberk while he is dismounted. Bound up, Hector kills thousands more, and the Trojans plunder three hundred tents. The day would have ended the war, but Ajax, son of Priam's sister Hesione, recognizes his cousin Hector and begs him to call off his men. Hector does so, and the ships go unburned.

O Teücer a joint Doglas,
With Teucer has joined Doglas
mais trop porta sa lance bas:
but too-much he-carried his lance low
le cheval fiert en mi le front,
the horse he-strikes in the-midst the forehead
qu'il l'a trebuchié en un mont.
so-that-he it-has tumbled in a heap
Doglas sor lui s'est arestez:
Doglas upon him himself-is stopped
morz fust o pris o encombrez,
dead he-would-be or taken or encumbered
quant Menesteüs le socort;
when Menestheus him helps
mais, jo cuit bien, ainz qu'il s'en tort,
but I think well before that-he himself-thence may-turn

avra il mainz cous receüz
will-have he many blows received
o les bons branz d'acier moluz.
with the good blades of-steel ground
Un grant espié d'acier tot cler
A great spear of-steel all bright
li fait par mi l'escu passer,
to-him he-makes through the-midst the-shield pass
que d'ore en autre le li fent.
so-that from-edge into other it to-him he-splits
La maille de l'auberc s'estent:
The mail of the-hauberk itself-stretches
cent en rompirent d'un tenant;
a-hundred thereof broke at-one stretch
une plaie li fist mout grant.
a wound to-him he-made very great
Menesteüs del brant d'acier
Menestheus with-the blade of-steel
li ra la chiere fait saignier;
to-him again-has the face made bleed
tot le nasal li a trenchié
all the nose-guard to-him he-has cut
e del nes tote la meitié.
and of-the nose all the half
Quant Nez d'Amors vit e conut
When Born of-Love saw and knew
qu'a son frere si mal estut,
that-to his brother so ill it-stood
eslaisse sei, fiert le vassal,
he-launches himself strikes the vassal

que jus le porte del cheval.
so-that down him he-carries from-the horse
Menesteüs en piez sailli,
Menestheus to feet leapt
del fuerre trait le brant forbi;
from-the scabbard he-draws the blade furbished
vers les dous freres se defent,
against the two brothers himself he-defends
mais il le hastent durement:
but they him press harshly
l'escu li trenchent o les branz
the-shield to-him they-cut with the blades
e de l'auberc pieces mout granz,
and of the-hauberk pieces very great
l'eaume li fendent sor le chief.
the-helmet to-him they-split on the head
Trop par i ert a grant meschief,
Too greatly there he-was in great mischief
quar mout le requereit Tharez, —
for much him attacked Thare
c'ert des freres toz li meins nez, —
it-was of-the brothers all the least born
quant Teücer i est venuz:
when Teucer there is come
grant piece s'i rest defenduz.
great while himself-there again-he-is defended
Quant Hector vint a la meslee,
When Hector came to the melee
ja fust as premiers cous finee,
already it-would-be at-the first blows ended

mais reis Telamon Aïaus
but king Telamonian Ajax
i est venuz o mil vassaus,
there is come with a-thousand vassals
la rescosse fu comparee,
the rescue was paid-for
quar mout en sorst dure meslee.
for much thereof arose hard melee
Estrangement fu departie,
Strangely it-was parted
quar li riches reis de Persie
for the rich king of Persia
rot sa bataille conreëe:
again-had his battalion equipped
cinc mile sont de sa contree;
five thousand they-are of his country
tuit entesé lor poindre ont pris.
all with-bows-drawn their charge they-have taken
Un graile ra soné Paris:
A trumpet again-has sounded Paris
hardement prist li plus coarz.
boldness took the most coward
Li huz lieve de totes parz:
The shout rises from all sides
quant les geudes virent venir,
when the foot-soldiers they-saw come
n'i ot neient del plus sofrir.
not-there was nothing of-the more suffering

Tuit ensemble comunaument
All together in-common
ont pris sor Greus l'envaiement;
have taken upon Greeks the-charge
dès or les ont mis a la veie.
from now them they-have put on the way
Hector o son brant les conveie:
Hector with his blade them escorts
por veir retrait e dit Darès
for true recounts and says Dares
qu'il en i ocist mil e mais.
that-he thereof there killed a-thousand and more
S'est qui fuie, pro est qui chace.
If-there-is who may-flee valiant is who chases
O plaise as Greus o lor desplace,
Or it-may-please to-the Greeks or to-them it-may-displease
menez les ont senz nul retor
led them they-have without any turn
desci qu'il furent sor les lor;
until that-they were upon the theirs
mais lors i ot grant contençon
but then there there-was great contention
e estrange defension.
and strange defense
Rodeis e cil d'Orcomenie
Rhodians and those of-Orchomenus
e cil d'Elide la guarnie,
and those of-Elis the furnished
treis batailles ruistes e granz,
three battalions rough and great

fieres merveilles e dotanz,
fierce marvelously and fearful
a la meslee sont venues.
to the melee are come
De lances e d'espees nues
With lances and with-swords naked
donerent mainte grant colee:
gave many-a great blow
la gent de Troie ont remuëe.
the folk of Troy they-have moved
Mais en poi d'ore recovrerent:
But in little of-hour they-recovered
une grant piece les menerent
a great while them they-led
vers les tentes mout laidement.
toward the tents very foully
Esfreëe esteit mout lor gent:
Frightened was very their folk
donc ravindrent cil de Larise,
then again-came those of Larissa
e si sacheiz bien senz devise
and so know well without exception
qu'il le firent merveilles bien;
that-they it did marvelously well
ocistrent i maint Troïien.
they-killed there many-a Trojan
Polibetès, qui ert lor sire,
Polypoetes who was their lord
les damage mout et empire:
them harms much and worsens

onc chevaliers de nul païs
ever knight of any country
ne laidi plus ses enemis.
not ill-used more his enemies
A lui a trait Deïphebus:
At him has shot Deiphobus
en la cuisse le feri jus
in the thigh him he-struck down
d'une saiete barbelee
with-an arrow barbed
que jusqu'a l'os li est colee.
so-that up-to the-bone to-him it-is slid
Trait sei ariere por sa plaie
He-draws himself back for his wound
faire estanchier, que mout li raie.
to-make stanch which much for-him streams
Donc rechacierent cil dedenz,
Then chased-again those within
quar mout s'esvertuënt lor genz;
for much themselves-strain their folks
par mi les tentes les ont mis.
through the-midst the tents them they-have put
La rot maint chevalier ocis.
There again-there-was many-a knight killed
Hector a choisi Merion:
Hector has caught-sight-of Merion
tres par devant un paveillon
very through before a pavilion
li est guenchiz e coruz sore:
to-him he-is turned and run upon

«Ja avendra», fait il, «vostre hore:
Now will-come says he your hour
«As morz vueil que seiez compainz,
To-the dead I-wish that you-may-be companion
«qu'irié me feïstes dès ainz
for-angered me you-made since before
«de Patroclus, cui m'escossistes:
for Patroclus whom from-me-you-rescued
«Onc mais si mal saut ne feïstes.»
Ever before so ill leap not you-made
Fiert le par mi l'eaume desus,
He-strikes him through the-midst the-helmet above
que del cheval l'abati jus.
so-that from-the horse him-he-threw down
Cil se defent, — Hector l'asaut —
He himself defends Hector him-assails
mais por neient, rien ne li vaut,
but for nothing anything not to-him avails
quar il en a le chief perdu,
for he thereof has the head lost
si vos di bien que mare i fu.
so to-you I-say well that ill-fated there he-was
Chevaliers ert hardiz e proz
Knight he-was bold and valiant
e uns des plus amez de toz.
and one of-the most loved of all

Hector veit le cors en la tente;
Hector sees the body in the tent
son poëir a mis e s'entente
his power he-has put and his-intent
d'aveir ses armes, ja li trait:
of-having his arms now from-him he-draws
ço peise mei, quar trop est lait.
that weighs-on me for too-much it-is ugly
Cil qui en a le chief coupé
He who thereof has the head cut-off
l'aveit en la tente aporté.
it-had in the tent carried
Se dant Hector fust a plaisir,
If lord Hector were at pleasure
il s'en poüst assez sofrir;
he himself-thence could enough forbear
mais trop les aveit aamees:
but too-much them he-had loved
por poi ne furent comparees.
for little not they-were paid-for
Li dus d'Athenes l'aguaitot,
The duke of-Athens him-watched
qui a merveilles se penot
who to marvels himself pained
come il le poüst damagier:
how he him could harm
il ne pensot d'el guaaignier.
he not thought of-other to-gain
Vit le sor le cors descendu:
He-saw him on the body dismounted

onc a nul jor si liez ne fu.
ever at any day so glad not he-was
Un espié tint d'acier trenchant,
A spear he-held of-steel cutting
puis laisse corre l'auferrant.
then he-lets run the-warhorse
Anceis qu'Ector l'eüst veü
Before that-Hector him-had seen
ne qu'il eüst pris son escu,
nor that-he had taken his shield
li ot l'auberc si desmaillié
to-him he-had the-hauberk so unmailed
qu'une aune i passe de l'espié.
that-an ell there passes of the-spear
Plaie i ot grant e merveillose,
Wound there there-was great and marvelous
mais n'ert mie trop perillose:
but not-it-was at-all too perilous
se travers dei entrast plus enz,
if across finger it-had-entered more in
toz morz chaïst iluec a denz.
all dead he-would-have-fallen there on teeth
Li dus ne s'i voust arester,
The duke not himself-there wished to-stop
quar bien le poüst comparer.
for well it he-could pay-for
Une enseigne de samiz freis
A pennon of samite fresh
a fait Hector pleier en treis;
has made Hector fold in three

sa plaie li ont estanchiee
his wound to-him they-have stanched
e bien estreitement leiee.
and well tightly bound
Puis rest montez: mout ot grant ire;
Then again-he-is mounted much he-had great wrath
dès or fera des Greus martire.
from now he-will-make of-the Greeks martyrdom
Ço dit l'Estoire de verté,
That says the-Story in truth
que, après ço qu'om l'ot navré,
that after that that-one him-had wounded
en ocist plus que dedevant:
thereof he-killed more than before
miliers, si com jo truis lisant,
thousands so as I find reading
en a le jor morz de ses mains;
thereof he-has the day killed with his hands
e si n'ert il pas del tot sains,
and so not-was he at-all of-the all sound
quar mout l'aveient debatu
for much him-they-had beaten
e en maint lieu del sanc tolu.
and in many-a place of-the blood taken-away
Trop i perdirent Greu le jor,
Too-much there lost Greeks the day
desconfit furent senz retor.
discomfited they-were without return

Agamennon n'ot pas leisir
Agamemnon not-had at-all leisure
qu'onques el champ poüst venir,
that-ever in-the field he-might come
ne des autres mout grant partie,
nor of-the others very great part
quar lor gent ert si esfreïe,
for their folk was so frightened
del recovrer esteit neienz.
of-the recovering it-was nothing
Mout guaaignierent cil dedenz,
Much gained those within
quar plus de treis cenz paveillons,
for more than three hundred pavilions
toz pleins de riches guarisons,
all full of rich provisions
d'or e d'argent e de vaissele
of-gold and of-silver and of vessels
e de despueille riche e bele
and of spoils rich and fair
en ont porté e guaaignié:
thereof they-have carried and gained
mout en furent Greu damagié.
much thereby were Greeks harmed
Le jor fust fin de la bataille,
The day would-be end of the battle
a ço ne poüst aveir faille,
at that not could have fail
mais Destinee nel laissa,
but Destiny not-it allowed

que ceus de Troie guerreia.
who those of Troy warred-on
Savez por quei remest le jor?
Know-you for what it-remained the day
Prianz aveit une soror,
Priam had a sister
Esiona, qu'en fu menee
Hesione who-thence was led
adonc, quant Troie fu guastee.
then when Troy was laid-waste
La dame un fil eü aveit
The lady a son had had
qui au siege venuz esteit:
who to-the siege come was
ço ert Telamon Aïaus,
that was Telamonian Ajax
bons chevaliers e bons vassaus.
good knight and good vassal
A Hector s'a tant combatu
With Hector himself-he-has so-long fought
qu'il se sont entreconeü.
that-they themselves are recognized-each-other
Li uns a l'autre fist grant joie:
The one to the-other made great joy
Hector l'en voust mener a Troie
Hector him-thence wished to-lead to Troy
por son grant parenté veeir;
for his great kindred to-see
mais il en crensist blasme aveir:
but he thereof would-have-feared blame to-have

ne voust aler ensemble o lui.
not he-wished to-go together with him
Mout se baisierent ambedui,
Much themselves kissed both
mout s'acolerent e joïrent
much themselves-embraced and fêted
e lor chiers aveirs s'entrofrirent.
and their dear possessions offered-each-other
Cil li a dit e fait preiere
He to-him has said and made prayer
que sa gent face traire ariere
that his folk he-may-make draw back
e comant les a departir,
and may-command them to part
qu'a ço porront bien revenir
for-to that they-will-be-able well to-return
chascun jor mais, tant que seit fin.
each day more until that may-be end
Hector li a dit: «Beau cosin,
Hector to-him has said Fair cousin
«vostre plaisirs en sera faiz,
your pleasure thereof will-be done
«mais trop par nos est laiz cist plaiz.
but too greatly to-us is ugly this plea
«Ceste gent est sor nos venue,
This folk is upon us come
«qui nostre terre ont confondue,
who our land have confounded
«si ne sevent dire por quei.
so not they-know to-say for what

«Mais j'en afi la meie fei,
But I-thereof pledge the my faith
«ainz que seions deserité,
before that we-may-be disinherited
«l'avront chierement comparé:
it-they-will-have dearly paid-for
«Auques lor est ja chalongiee,
Somewhat to-them it-is already disputed
«mainte ame en est de cors sachiee.
many-a soul thereof is from body drawn
«Jo ne vueil pas que il s'en fuient
I not wish at-all that they themselves-thence may-flee
«ne qu'il s'en aillent ne esduient:
nor that-they themselves-thence may-go nor escape
«Bel m'iert quant jos verrai morir
Fair to-me-it-will-be when I-them shall-see die
«e toz a glaive revertir.
and all to sword return
«Li deu nos en facent honor!»
The gods to-us thereof may-make honor
Ensi partirent de l'estor,
Thus they-parted from the-fight
ensi remest: n'i ot plus fait.
thus it-remained not-there was more done
Si com l'Estoire nos retrait,
So as the-Story to-us recounts
les nes voleient alumer,
the ships they-wished to-set-alight
quant il en fist le feu torner;
when he thence made the fire turn

e cil qui ardeir les voleient
and those who burn them wished
tote aise e leisir en aveient.
all ease and leisure thereof had
Arses fussent de maintenant,
Burned they-would-be from now
si n'en seront ja mais a tant;
so not-thence they-will-be ever more at so-much
nen avront force ne poëir
not they-will-have force nor power
qu'il les puissent ja mais ardeir:
that-they them may ever more burn
se Fortune vousist le jor,
if Fortune had-wished the day
lor grant travail, lor grant labor
their great toil their great labor
fussent finé, qu'a plus n'en fussent
would-be ended so-that-to more not-thereof they-would-be
n'autre damage n'i eüssent.
nor-other harm not-there they-would-have
Ha! Deus, com lor en fust bien pris!
Ah God how to-them thereof it-would-be well taken
Mais Aventure, ço m'est vis,
But Adventure that to-me-is opinion
nel voleit pas, rien n'en doton,
not-it wished at-all anything not-thereof we-doubt

quant par si petite acheison
since by so little occasion
remest le jor lor delivrance
remained the day their deliverance
e lor rescosse e lor quitance:
and their rescue and their quittance
si ert la chose a avenir
so was the thing to happen
que rien nel poëit destolir.
that anything not-it could turn-aside

Achilles Mourns Patroclus

XLIII

Hector leads his men back into Troy amid the people's tears of joy. His mother and sisters disarm him, Andromache weeps, and the physician Goz tends his wounds. Priam visits him but is not told of Cassibilant's death. The ladies debate who fought best after Hector and praise Troilus, Polydamas, Paris, and the Bastards. In the morning the Greeks ask a truce of two months, and both sides search the field and bury their dead. Achilles swoons over Patroclus, blaming himself for sending him out alone, and swears to kill Hector; he buries Patroclus in a sealed tomb of green marble. Agamemnon buries Protesilaus and Merion, and the Trojans bury Cassibilant by Venus's temple.

Hector a fait sa gent remaindre,
Hector has made his folk remain
dont toz jorz mais se porra plaindre:
whereof all days more himself he-will-be-able to-complain
a mout grant force et a travaille
with very great force and with toil
parti sa gent de la bataille. 10190
he-parted his folk from the battle
En la cité sont repairié,
Into the city they-are returned
li un joiant, li autre irié.
the some joyful the others angered
Qui pert ami ne chier parent
Who loses friend or dear kinsman
sovent en a le cuer dolent:
often thereof has the heart grieving

poi en i a qui perdu n'ait
few thereof there are who lost not-may-have
tant dont il a ire e deshait.
so-much whereof he has wrath and dejection
Par les osteus sont departi:
Through the lodgings they-are divided
mout furent bien la nuit servi;
very they-were well the night served
li sain furent bien ostelé
the sound were well lodged
e angoissos sont li navré.
and anguished are the wounded
Hector deriers entre en la vile:
Hector last enters into the town
encontre vienent tel vint mile,
toward-him come such twenty thousand
n'i a un sol ne plort de joie,
not-there is a sole not may-weep for joy
quant le veient rentrer en Troie.
when him they-see re-enter into Troy
N'i remaint dame ne pucele
Not-there remains lady nor maiden
ne borgeise ne dameisele,
nor burgess nor damsel
n'en isse fors por lui mirer.
not-thence may-go-out out for him to-gaze-at
Mil en i veïst om plorer.
A-thousand thereof there would-have-seen one weep
En haut s'escriënt li plusor:
On high cry-out the most

«Vez ci de toz vaillanz la flor,
See here of all valiant-men the flower
«li soverains e li plus proz:
the sovereign and the most valiant
«C'est cil qui nos vengera toz
It-is he who us will-avenge all
«des torz, des laiz cui faiz nos ont.
for-the wrongs for-the insults which done to-us they-have
«Cil qui sire est de tot le mont
He who lord is of all the world
«le nos defende d'encombrier,
him to-us may-defend from-hindrance
«ensi come il nos est mestier!»
thus as it to-us is need
Onques içо ne li failli
Ever this not to-him failed
jusqu'al palais, qu'il descendi.
up-to-the palace where-he dismounted
Sa merel prist entre ses braz,
His mother-him took between her arms
e ses sorors ostent les laz;
and his sisters take-off the laces
del chief li ont son heaume osté,
from-the head to-him they-have his helmet taken
del sanc de lui ensanglenté;
with-the blood of him bloodied
l'auberc li traient de son dos; —
the-hauberk to-him they-draw from his back
la nuit n'ot guaires de repos; —
the night not-he-had much of rest

ses genoillieres li osterent
his knee-pieces from-him they-took
celes qui de bon cuer l'amerent.
those who with good heart him-loved
Remés est en un auqueton
Remained he-is in a gambeson
porpoint d'un vermeil ciclaton:
quilted of-a vermilion ciclatoun
li sans de lui glaciez e pers
the blood of him frozen and livid
le li ot si al dos aers
it to-him had so to-the back stuck
qu'a granz peines li ont osté.
that-with great pains from-him they-have taken-it
La ot mout tendrement ploré.
There there-was very tenderly wept
Dame Andromacha sa moillier,
Lady Andromache his wife
cui il ert sor toz autres chier,
to-whom he was above all others dear
plora des ieuz mout tendrement,
wept from-the eyes very tenderly
e entor li puceles cent:
and around her maidens a-hundred
la n'ot eschar ne guab ne ris.
there not-there-was mockery nor jest nor laughter
En un chier lit de ciparis
In a dear bed of cypress
a entaille Sarrazinor,
with carving Saracen

d'or e de pierres tot entor,
with-gold and with stones all around
covert d'un feutre chier e freis
covered with-a felt dear and fresh
d'un drap plus blanc que nule neis,
of-a cloth more white than any snow
estelé d'or menuëment,
starred with-gold finely
le couchierent isnelement.
him they-laid swiftly
Li bons mires Goz li senez,
The good physician Goz the wise
qui devers Oriënt fu nez,
who toward the-East was born
qui plus preisiez fu en son tens
who more prized was in his time
que Ypocras ne Galiëns,
than Hippocrates nor Galen
li a ses plaies reguardees
to-him has his wounds looked-at
e afaitiees e lavees.
and dressed and washed
Beivre li fist une poison
Drink to-him he-made a potion
que tost le traist a guarison.
which soon him drew to healing
Li cors li est asoagiez:
The body to-him is eased
ne puet mais estre trop gregiez.
not he-can more be too burdened

Un poi l'a fait desgeüner,
A little him-he-has made break-fast
puis font la chambre delivrer.
then they-make the chamber clear
Ainz qu'il s'endormist, vint li Reis,
Before that-he himself-slept came the King
Prianz li sages, li corteis.
Priam the wise the courteous
Demanda li com li estait;
He-asked him how to-him it-stood
e il li dist que bien li vait:
and he to-him said that well to-him it-goes
«Demain, senz autre demorance,
Tomorrow without other delay
«e o m'espee e o ma lance
both with my-sword and with my lance
«lor mosterrai se jo sui sains:
to-them I-shall-show if I am sound
«De ço seiez vos bien certains.»
Of that be you well certain
La nuit ne dist om pas Priant
The night not said one at-all (to-)Priam
la mort son fil Cassibilant;
the death (of-)his son Cassibilant
celerent li, si firent bien,
they-hid it-from-him so they-did well
quar il l'amot sor tote rien:
for he him-loved above all thing

la nuit en fust plus deshaitiez
the night thereof he-would-be more dejected
e plus dolenz e plus iriez.
and more grieving and more angered
En la sale sont li mangier
In the hall are the meals
apareillié grant e plenier:
prepared great and full
qui mangier voust, sin ot adès;
who to-eat wished so-thereof had withal
e si furent servi en pais.
and so they-were served in peace
Après alerent as osteus,
After they-went to-the lodgings
e sin i ot la nuit de teus
and so-thereof there there-were the night of such
qui n'orent guaires de repos,
who not-had much of rest
quar si lor duelent piz e dos
for so to-them ache chest and back
qu'a peines se pueent torner.
that-with pains themselves they-can turn
N'ont mal apris a endurer:
Not-they-have ill learned to endure
or l'aprendront, mais bien lor peist,
now it-they-will-learn but well to-them it-may-weigh
por lor damage, qui lor creist.
for their harm which to-them grows

Les dames ont assez enquis
The ladies have enough asked
qui en deveit aveir le pris,
who thereof ought to-have the worth
emprès Hector cui le dorreient;
after Hector to-whom it they-would-give
mais certainement nel saveient,
but certainly not-it they-knew
quar Troïlus l'a mout bien fait,
for Troilus it-has very well done
ç'a bien dit chascuns e retrait,
that-has well said each and recounted
e si n'i ra ne haut ne bas
and so not-there again-is nor high nor low
pris n'en redoint Polidamas:
worth not-thereof may-give-again (to-)Polydamas
n'en i ot nul plus i sofrist
not-thereof there was any more there suffered
n'en tot le jor mieuz le feïst.
nor-in all the day better it did
Tel l'a oï cui pas n'en peise,
Such it-has heard to-whom at-all not-thereof it-weighs
que n'est vilaine ne borgeise.
who not-is peasant-woman nor burgess
Qui bien l'ot fait, ne fu teü,
Who well it-had done not was silenced
anceis fu bien dit e seü.
rather it-was well said and known
N'i abaissent Paris de rien,
Not-there they-lower Paris in anything

ainz diënt qu'il l'a fait mout bien.
rather they-say that-he it-has done very well
Des Bastarz diënt senz desdit
Of-the Bastards they-say without gainsaying
qu'il sont bon chevalier eslit
that-they are good knights chosen
e de lor armes bien aidant.
and of their arms well helping
En paroles d'icel semblant
In words of-that semblance
passent la nuit desci qu'al main,
they-pass the night until to-the morning
que cil qui sont entier e sain
when those who are whole and sound
revuelent adober lor cors
again-wish to-arm their bodies
por recombatre o ceus defors.
for to-fight-again with those outside
Ja s'armoënt par les ostaus,
Already they-armed through the lodgings
monter voleient es chevaus,
mount they-wished on-the horses
quant cil defors triuës requistrent.
when those outside truces asked
Mais ceus des lor qu'il i tramistrent
But those of-the theirs whom-they there sent
ne sai nomer: nel truis escrit,
not I-know to-name not-it I-find written
ne l'Estoire pas nel me dit.
nor the-Story at-all not-it to-me says

Les triuës furent demandees,
The truces were asked
e cil dedenz les ont donees:
and those within them have given
li Troïen e li Grezeis
the Trojans and the Greeks
les ont plevies a dous meis.
them have pledged at two months
N'avront reguart li un des lor:
Not-will-have fear the one of-the theirs
dès ore avront assez sojor;
from now they-will-have enough rest
grant leisir avront li navré
great leisure will-have the wounded
de revenir en lor santé.
of returning to their health
Le champ ou la bataille fu,
The field where the battle was
ou tant chiés ot sevrez de bu,
where so-many heads there-were severed from trunk
ou tant ot morz e detrenchiez,
where so-many there-were dead and cut-down
ont comandé qu'il seit cerchiez.
they-have commanded that-it may-be searched
D'ambedous parz i ot grant gent:
On-both sides there there-was great folk
chascuns i cerche son parent
each there searches his kinsman
o son ami o son seignor;
or his friend or his lord

la ot assez lermes e plors.
there there-was enough tears and weepings
As morz donerent sepouture,
To-the dead they-gave burial
si come il ert leis e dreiture.
so as it was law and right
Achillès plore Patroclon:
Achilles weeps Patroclus
onc greignor duel ne fist nus hom.
ever greater grief not made any man
Desor le cors sovent se pasme,
Upon the body often himself he-swoons
mout se laidenge e mout se blasme:
much himself he-reviles and much himself blames
«Ne fis pas bien, beaus douz amis,
Not I-did at-all well fair sweet friend
«quant jo senz mei vos i tramis.
when I without me you there sent
«Ha! las, com dure destinee!
Ah alas how hard destiny
«Mauvaise amor vos ai portee:
Bad love to-you I-have borne
«Bien reconois miens est li torz,
Well I-acknowledge mine is the wrong
«dès que vos senz mei estes morz;
since that you without me are dead
«quar, se jo fusse delez vos
for if I were beside you
«al torneiement doloros,
at-the tourney grievous

«ne crensisseiz home vivant.
not you-would-have-feared man living
«Quant jo de vos depart a tant,
Since I from you part at so-much
«n'avrai amor ne compaignie
not-I-shall-have love nor company
«a rien que seit mais en ma vie.
with anything that may-be more in my life
«En vos esteit mis cuers trestoz,
In you was my heart all
«quar mout estiëz beaus e proz,
for very you-were fair and valiant
«leiaus e frans e de bon aire.
loyal and noble and of good nature
«Ja mais ne cuit nul jor rien faire
Ever more not I-think any day anything to-do
«dont aie joie ne leece:
whereof I-may-have joy nor gladness
«Toz jorz serai mais en tristece.
All days I-shall-be more in sadness
«Amis, por quei vos ai perdu?
Friend for what you have-I lost
«Vostre genz cors tant mare i fu!
Your handsome body so ill-fated there was
«Plus m'amiëz que nule rien,
More me-you-loved than any thing
«quar jo ere vostre, e vos mien.
for I was yours and you mine

«O plors, o lermes vos plaindrai
With weeping with tears you I-shall-lament
«toz les jorz mais que jo vivrai.
all the days more that I shall-live
«Vengerai vos, se fairel puis:
I-shall-avenge you if to-do-it I-can
«Bien sache Hector, se jo le truis,
Well may-know Hector if I him find
«qu'il ocira mei, o jo lui.
that-he will-kill me or I him
«Ha! las, chaitis, que jo n'i fui
Ah alas wretch that I not-there was
«la ou il descendi sor vos!
there where he dismounted upon you
«Li maus coilverz, li coveitos
The evil scoundrel the covetous
«le comparast: si fera il;
it would-pay-for so will-do he
«por vos en ocirai tel mil,
for you thereof I-shall-kill such thousand
«n'i avra cel n'ait teste armee.
not-there will-have that-one not-may-have head armed
«Bien lor sera l'ire mostree
Well to-them will-be the-wrath shown
«que j'ai de vos». Lors se pasma,
which I-have for you Then himself he-swooned
estrange duel en demena.
strange grief thereof he-made

Tot belement e par leisir
All softly and at leisure
a fait le cors ensevelir
he-has made the body bury
mout richement, de grant maniere.
very richly in great manner
Plusors gieus firent a la biere
Many games they-made at the bier
de maint endreit, de maint semblant,
of many-a kind of many-a semblance
quar a cel tens, ço truis lisant,
for at that time that I-find reading
le faiseit om al plus vaillant,
it did one for-the most valiant
quant d'icest siegle ert trespassant:
when from-this world he-was passing
quant i aveit mort un baron,
when there had died a baron
granz chanz, granz gieus i faiseit om,
great songs great games there made one
teus come al mort aparteneit
such as to-the dead belonged
solonc l'usage qu'il teneit.
according-to the-usage that-one held
Un sarcueil fist faire Achillès
A coffin made make Achilles
e grant e bel e riche adès:
and great and fair and rich withal
de vert marbre fu toz ovrez.
of green marble it-was all worked

La fu li cors, bien seelez.
There was the body well sealed
La tombe fu entiere e saine,
The tomb was whole and sound
e si soudee la plataine
and so soldered the plate
que rien n'i conoisseit jointure.
that anything not-there knew joint
Mout li fist riche sepouture:
Very to-him he-made rich sepulcher
s'il l'aveit a la vie amé,
if-he him-had in the life loved
bien li a a la mort mostré.
well to-him he-has in the death shown
Li vilains dist, mais il menti,
The peasant said but he lied
que ja hom morz n'avra ami.
that ever man dead not-will-have friend
Ici l'ot mout buen Patroclus:
Here him-had very good Patroclus
tant en fist cil come il pot plus,
so-much thereof did he as he could most
e a la mort e a la vie
and in the death and in the life
li fu amis senz tricherie.
to-him he-was friend without treachery
Agamennon que refaiseit?
Agamemnon what again-did
Mout richement, en son endreit,
Very richly in his part

fist sevelir Proteselal
he-made bury Protesilaus
e Merion, le bon vassal:
and Merion the good vassal
onques plus honoreement
ever more honorably
n'orent mais rei enterrement.
not-had ever kings burial
Li Grezeis ont le champ cerchié:
The Greeks have the field searched
en dis jorz ont tant espleitié
in ten days they-have so-much achieved
que tuit li lor sont seveli.
that all the theirs are buried
Troïen ront fait autresi:
Trojans again-have done likewise
mout en ont bien porté les lor
much thereof they-have well carried the theirs
e seveli a grant honor.
and buried with great honor
Delez le temple Veneris,
Beside the temple of-Venus
en un sarcueil de marbre bis
in a coffin of marble gray
ont enterré Cassibilant.
they-have buried Cassibilant
Grant duel en demena Priant;
Great grief thereof made Priam

si frere l'ont ploré e plaint,
his brothers him-have wept and lamented
e si firent li autre maint.
and so did the others many-a

Cassandra and Palamedes

XLIV

Cassandra, hearing the slaughter, cries that the Trojans must make peace or Ilion will fall, and curses the destiny brought by Helen, until she is shut away. The truce is kept; Troy feasts while the Greeks hold council after council on how to harm their enemies. Palamedes resents Agamemnon's command and declares before two hundred kings and dukes that Agamemnon was not chosen by their consent and is less wise than they. He claims that he himself knows better how to give counsel, order battles, keep watch and feed the army, and settle quarrels, and that he will not grant Agamemnon power over him. Many side with him. The truce ends.

Quant Cassandra, la fille al rei,
When Cassandra the daughter to-the king
oï la tomoute e l'esfrei,
heard the tumult and the-alarm
e vit l'ocise e le martire,
and saw the-killing and the slaughter
a haute voiz comence a dire:
with high voice she-begins to say
«Va! coilvertaille, gent haïe,
Go scoundrel-rabble folk hated
«por que het tant chascuns sa vie?
for what hates so-much each his life
«Por que volez si tost morir?
For what wish-you so soon to-die

«A ço vos covendra venir,
To that you will-behoove to-come
«ou cil sont que vos enterrez:
where those are whom you bury
«Toz vos tieng a maleürez.
All you I-hold as ill-fated
«Quar faites pais, o se ço non,
Come make peace or if that not
«abatuz sera Ylion.
thrown-down will-be Ilion
«Franche maisniee, quel dolor
Noble household what grief
«qu'or decharreiz mais chascun jor!
that-now you-will-fall-down more each day
«Frere amis chiers, quel destinee!
Brothers friends dear what destiny
«Tante lerme iert por vos ploree,
So-many tear will-be for you wept
«s'est quil face, jusqu'a brief tens!
if-there-is who-it may-do within short time
«Se creüz en fust li miens sens,
If believed thereof were the my sense
«de tot cest mal fusseiz en pais;
from all this ill you-would-be in peace
«mais or ne puet remaneir mais,
but now not it-can remain more
«desci que tuit seions destruit.
until that all we-may-be destroyed
«Que fait chascuns, qu'il ne s'en fuit?
What does each that-he not himself-thence flees

«Coment porra cuers endurer
How will-be-able heart to-endure
«le grant duel qu'avons a passer?
the great grief which-we-have to pass
«Ha! Deus, por que ne me part il?
Ah God for what not me splits it
«Ha! riche Troie, a quel eissil
Ah rich Troy to what exile
«sereiz desci qu'a poi livree!
you-will-be until within little delivered
«Maudite seit la destinee
Cursed may-be the destiny
«que nos avons par dame Heleine,
which we have by lady Helen
«e la dolor e la grant peine!»
and the grief and the great pain
Içо diseit assez sovent
This she-said enough often
en audiënce de la gent.
in hearing of the folk
Ancor deïst el mainte chose,
Still would-have-said she many-a thing
mais il l'ont en tel lieu enclose
but they her-have in such place shut
ou assez fu puis longement:
where enough she-was after long
n'en eisseit pas a son talent.
not-thence she-went-out at-all at her will

Par cez diz furent en errance
By these sayings they-were in uncertainty
e en paor e en dotance.
and in fear and in doubt
Les triuës furent si guardees,
The truces were so kept
ne furent fraites ne quassees.
not they-were broken nor shattered
Cil de la vile sont a aise:
Those of the town are at ease
nus ne lor fait que lor desplaise.
any not to-them does what to-them may-displease
Chevalerie i a assez
Chivalry there there-is enough
e de vitaille granz plentez;
and of victuals great plenty
riches osteus i ot tenuz
rich households there there-were held
e mainz chiers aveirs despenduz,
and many dear possessions spent
maint bel convive fait sovent
many-a fair feast made often
e presenté maint bel present.
and presented many-a fair present
Prianz les sot mout bien aveir,
Priam them knew very well to-keep
que a chascun fait son voleir;
for to each he-does his will

e il sont tuit encoragié
and they are all heartened
qu'ensi come il ont comencié
that-thus as they have begun
de bien faire le parsivront:
of well to-do it they-will-pursue
ja a nul tens ne li faudront.
ever at any time not to-him they-will-fail
Cil de l'ost sont en mout grant cure
Those of the-host are in very great care
par quel engin n'en quel mesure
by what device nor-in what measure
puissent grever lor enemis.
they-may harm their enemies
Entre eus en ont maint conseil pris:
Among them thereof they-have many-a counsel taken
n'ert guaires jorz qu'il n'assemblassent
not-was much day that-they not-assembled
e que li sage n'en parlassent;
and that the wise not-thereof spoke
e en maint sen i esguardoënt,
and in many-a sense there they-looked
e maint conseil s'entredonoënt.
and many-a counsel they-gave-each-other
Palamedès mout s'en travaille:
Palamedes much himself-thereof toils
n'i a nul d'eus qui tant i vaille,
not-there is any of-them who so-much there may-be-worth

n'en i a nul mieuz i esguart
not-thereof there is any better there may-regard
ne plus eüst engin ne art;
nor more may-have device nor art
mais une rien mout li desplaist,
but one thing much to-him displeases
e sacheiz bien pas ne s'en taist,
and know well at-all not himself-thereof he-keeps-silent
qu'Agamennon ait la maistrie
that-Agamemnon may-have the mastery
ne desor eus toz seignorie.
nor over them all lordship
Oiant les reis, oiant les dus,
Hearing the kings hearing the dukes
dont bien i ot dous cenz e plus,
of-whom well there there-were two hundreds and more
en a parlé mout grossement:
thereof he-has spoken very coarsely
«Seignor», fait il, «ne sai neient
Lords says he not I-know nothing
«que plus bas home e meins sachant,
that more low man and less knowing
«e qui ne puet pas valeir tant
and who not can at-all be-worth so-much
«com vos faites plusor de vos,
as you do most of you
«deie aveir poësté sor nos.
ought to-have power over us
«Ço ne tieng jo mie a saveir:
That not hold I at-all for wisdom

«Mout en porrions meins valeir.
Much thereby we-could less be-worth
«Teus covient que seit de nos sire,
Such it-behooves that may-be of us lord
«qui grant sen ait e grant avire,
who great sense may-have and great judgment
«e qui puisse peine sofrir
and who can pain suffer
«e l'ost guarder e maintenir
and the-host keep and maintain
«e conseillier en maint endreit
and counsel in many-a place
«de ço dont plus serons destreit.
of that whereof most we-shall-be pressed
«N'ert pas jostee la navie,
Not-was at-all joined the fleet
«quant il reçut ceste baillie:
when he received this governance
«Il ne l'ot pas par noz otreiz,
He not it-had at-all by our grants
«ne il n'est pas reisons ne dreiz
nor it not-is at-all reason nor right
«qu'il ait princé desor tant rei,
that-he may-have princedom over so-many king
«se il ne l'a par lor otrei.
if he not it-has by their grant
«Endreit mei ne le lo jo mie,
For my-part not it advise I at-all
«e nel di pas por vanterie:
and not-it I-say at-all for boasting

«Se il est sages, e jo plus,
If he is wise and I more
«si ai autant contes e dus
so I-have as-many counts and dukes
«e chevaliers e autre gent
and knights and other folk
«e plus qu'il n'a, mien esciënt.
and more than-he not-has to-my knowledge
«Mieuz sai les hauz conseiz doner
Better I-know the high counsels to-give
«e les batailles ordener,
and the battles to-order
«e sai mieuz conoistre al venir
and I-know better to-know at-the coming
«quin iert li mieudre al departir.
who-thereof will-be the best at-the parting
«Mieuz sai endurer fort estor
Better I-know to-endure strong fight
«e les noz genz partir des lor,
and the our folks to-part from-the theirs
«si sai mieuz l'ost escharguaitier
so I-know better the-host to-watch
«e querre qu'ele ait a mangier,
and seek that-it may-have to eat
«aler en fuerre près e loinz,
to-go to forage near and far
«si come il iert sovent bosoinz.
so as it will-be often need

«Mieuz sai departir un comun
Better I-know to-divide a common
«e dreite part rendre a chascun,
and right part to-render to each
«e si puis mieuz les nuiz veillier
and so I-can better the nights watch
«e les jorz entiers travaillier;
and the days entire toil
«e se jo vei qu'il face a faire,
and if I see that-it may-make to do
«bien lor savrai un sermon traire
well to-them I-shall-know a speech to-draw
«e mostrer uevres de semblance,
and show works of semblance
«por aveir d'eus meillor fiance;
for to-have of-them better trust
«e se entre eus sordeit descorde,
and if among them should-arise discord
«pais en savrai faire e acorde:
peace thereof I-shall-know to-make and accord
«Ja por estre bien enseigniez
Ever for being well taught
«ne seront jor desconseilliez.
not they-will-be day at-a-loss
«E dès que jo tant puis e sai,
And since that I so-much can and know
«sacheiz que pas n'otreierai
know that at-all not-I-shall-grant
«qu'il ait baillie mais des meis:
that-he may-have governance more of-the months

«Se il est reis, e jo sui reis,
If he is king and I am king
«tot d'autre sen, d'autre veisdie
all of-other sense of-other cunning
«que il n'iert ja jor de sa vie.
than he not-will-be ever day of his life
«Si fait n'ataignent rien as miens:
His doings not-reach anything to-the mine
«Por ço n'est pas reisons ne biens
For that not-is at-all reason nor good
«qu'il ait desor mei poësté:
that-he may-have over me power
«Nen avra il ja mais, mon gré.»
Not will-have he ever more my will
A ço que dist Palamedès
At that which said Palamedes
ot dit e respondu adès:
had said and answered withal
devers lui li plusor se tienent,
on-side him the most themselves hold
quar il l'aiment, dotent et criement.
for they him-love fear and dread
Ne puis toz les respons retraire,
Not I-can all the answers recount
quar trop ai a dire e a faire.
for too-much I-have to say and to do
Ensi remest: n'i ot plus ore,
Thus it-remained not-there was more now
mais vos orreiz assez ancore,
but you will-hear enough still

saveir a que ço torna puis,
to-know to what that turned after
mais, si com jo el Livre truis,
but so as I in-the Book find
les triuës furent acomplies
the truces were fulfilled
e trespassees e faillies:
and passed and failed
dès or dirons, n'i avra faille,
from now we-shall-tell not-there will-have fail
com fu de la tierce bataille.
how it-was of the third battle

The Third Battle

XLV

Agamemnon orders his battalions with Achilles first, then Diomedes and Menelaus; Hector and Troilus lead the Trojans out. Helen and Polyxena watch from the galleries and the ladies point out Paris, Hector, Polydamas, and Troilus. Hector and Achilles open the third battle, unhorsing each other at the first joust. In their second meeting Hector unhorses Achilles and takes his Nubian horse, and they fight until their men part them. Diomedes and Troilus unhorse each other; Diomedes remounts first, Troilus on foot kills his horse under him, and Diomedes rides off on Troilus's. Troilus remounts and drives the Greeks back until Menelaus checks him; Paris's men return, and more than seven hundred of the best fall on both sides.

Agamennon plus n'i atent:
Agamemnon more not-there waits
fait ses conreiz, seivre sa gent.
he-makes his troops separates his folk
Achillès met as premerains,
Achilles he-puts among-the first
qui mout par esteit d'ire pleins.
who very greatly was of-wrath full
Diomedès ala après,
Diomedes went after
chevaliers ot pro e adès:
knights he-had valiant and withal
dou mile en ot de sa contree,
two thousand thereof he-had of his country
n'i a cel n'ait la teste armee.
not-there is that-one not-may-have the head armed
Menelaus vait après icez,
Menelaus goes after these

qui teus set mile en ot de prez,
who such seven thousand thereof had of ready
n'i a un sol qui ja n'i fiere
not-there is a sole who ever not-there may-strike
senz faire force e senz preiere.
without making force and without prayer
Après cez vienent li conrei,
After these come the troops
li duc, li amiraut, li rei,
the dukes the emirs the kings
bien establi e ordené.
well established and ordered
Reissu s'en sont de la cité
Gone-out-again themselves-thence they-are from the city
guarni Hector e Troïlus,
furnished Hector and Troilus
e chevalier dis mile e plus:
and knights ten thousand and more
les batailles ont ordenees
the battalions they-have ordered
e a lor princes comandees.
and to their princes commanded
La lice passent deforaine,
The palisade they-pass outer
si s'espandent par mi l'areine.
so they-spread through the-midst the-sand
La veïst om maint heaume agu
There would-have-seen one many-a helmet pointed
e mainte lance e maint escu;
and many-a lance and many-a shield

la veïst om maint bon cheval
there would-have-seen one many-a good horse
e maint preisié cors de vassal.
and many-a prized body of vassal
D'ambedous parz a grant orgueil:
On-both sides there-is great pride
por ço en plorerent maint ueil;
for that thereof wept many-a eye
n'iert mais li jorz anceis passez,
not-will-be more the day before passed
n'i aient mil les chiés coupez.
not-there may-have a-thousand the heads cut-off
Les Dames sont par mi les estres
The Ladies are through the-midst the galleries
e es entailles des fenestres.
and in-the carvings of-the windows
Dame Heleine i est paorose
Lady Helen there is fearful
e mout pensive e mout dotose:
and very pensive and very doubting
entor li esclarcist la place
around her grows-bright the place
de la resplendor de sa face;
with the brightness of her face
sa fresche chiere coloree
her fresh face colored
est le jor de maint remiree;
is the day by many-a gazed-at
li uns l'autre la mostre al dei.
the one to-the-other her shows with-the finger

Polixena, la fille al rei,
Polyxena the daughter to-the king
i rest, que de rien n'est meins bele.
there again-is who in anything not-is less fair
E l'une d'eles l'autre apele;
And the-one of-them the-other calls
al dei mostrent: «Vez la Paris;
with-the finger they-show See there Paris
«la rest Hector, ço m'est a vis;
there again-is Hector that to-me-is at opinion
«e vez de ça Polidamas,
and see from here Polydamas
«qui ja s'ira ferir el tas.
who already himself-will-go to-strike into-the heap
«Mout resemble bien chevalier:
Much he-resembles well knight
«Vez com li siet l'eaumes d'acier!
See how to-him sits the-helmet of-steel
«Ça rest li conreiz Troïlus.
Here again-is the troop (of-)Troilus
«Vez! or s'en ist Deïphebus.
See now himself-thence goes-out Deiphobus
«Vez come or sont ja près a près!
See how now they-are already near to near
«Ja i avra de plain eslais
Now there will-have at plain gallop
«mil jostes faites haïnoses.
a-thousand jousts made hateful
«Mout devons estre paoroses,
Much we-ought to-be fearful

«que les vies e les santez
for the lives and the healths
«e les joies de noz aez
and the joys of our ages
«veons en si faite balance.
we-see in so made balance
«Que mort n'en face desevrance,
That death not-thereof may-make separation
«n'i a nule doter n'en deie,
not-there is any fear not-it ought
«quar n'i a cele que ne veie
for not-there is that-one who not may-see
«sa mort a ses ieuz o sa vie.»
her death with her eyes or her life
Chascune vers Deu s'umelie,
Each toward God herself-humbles
que la lor gent i guart e tienge,
that the their folk there he-may-guard and hold
que meschaance ne lor vienge.
that mischance not to-them may-come
D'ambedous parz s'entraproismierent
On-both sides approached-each-other
cil qui par ire se requierent:
those who in wrath themselves attack
grant noise i a e grant esfreiz.
great noise there is and great alarm

Dis mile confanons despleiz
Ten thousand pennons unfurled
i a baissiez: n'en leveront
there are lowered not-thence they-will-raise
desci qu'en sanc se moilleront.
until that-in blood themselves they-will-wet
Hector e la soë compaigne,
Hector and the his company
que mout par ert fiere e grifaigne,
which very greatly was fierce and grim
e Achillès avuec les suens,
and Achilles with the his
qui grant plenté en ot de buens,
who great plenty thereof had of good
assemblerent primes le jor.
joined-battle first the day
Mout se porterent grant iror
Much themselves they-bore great wrath
e grant haïne e grant rancure:
and great hatred and great rancor
par mi les escuz a peinture
through the-midst the shields with painting
se ferirent de plain eslais,
themselves they-struck at plain gallop
que il en desjoinstrent les ais,
so-that they thereof disjoined the boards
e par mi les broignes safrees
and through the-midst the byrnies gilded
sont les lances enastelees,
are the lances splintered

qu'andui chaïrent en l'erbei.
so-that-both fell on the-grass
Après comencent le tornei
After they-begin the tourney
pesme e felon e senz amor,
worst and felon and without love
que dou mile escuz peinz a flor
so-that two thousand shields painted with flower
e trei mile heaumes verz gemez
and three thousand helmets green jeweled
i ot sempres esquartelez,
there there-were at-once quartered
si qu'a mainz perent les cerveles
so that-to many appear the brains
e que mort trebuchent des seles.
and that dead they-tumble from-the saddles
Par grant ire se sont requis:
By great wrath themselves they-are attacked
assez en i ot des ocis.
enough thereof there there-were of-the killed
Hector i fiert, Hector i maille,
Hector there strikes Hector there hammers
Hector tresperce la bataille;
Hector pierces-through the battle
par mi la fent et par mi vait;
through the-midst it he-splits and through the-midst goes

icil qui veie ne li fait
he who way not to-him makes
poëz saveir mal est bailliz,
you-can know ill he-is served
quar en petit d'ore est feniz.
for in little of-hour he-is ended
Achillès mie ne sojorne,
Achilles at-all not rests
quant qu'il ataint ocit a orne.
as-much as-he reaches he-kills in row
Iriez fu mout: s'ire lor vent,
Angered he-was much his-wrath to-them he-sells
après lui lait le champ sanglent.
after him he-leaves the field bloody
Devant lui fuient Troïien.
Before him flee Trojans
Onc tel merveille ne fist rien:
Ever such marvel not did anyone
chascuns quil veit vers sei venir,
each who-him sees toward himself come
se son cors ne puet destolir,
if his body not he-can turn-aside
toz est seürs de mort receivre.
all he-is sure of death to-receive
Maint en i fait des ames seivre.
Many-a thereof there he-makes from-the souls part
Sor un cheval sist de Nubie
On a horse he-sat of Nubia
fort e corant, ou mout se fie:
strong and running where much himself he-trusts

en tot le monde n'ot plus bel
in all the world not-there-was more fair
ne plus hardi ne plus isnel.
nor more bold nor more swift
Il sist desus ensi plantez
He sat upon-it thus planted
com se il fust ilueques nez.
as if he were there born
D'armes chieres e precioses,
With-arms dear and precious
forz, entieres e merveilloses,
strong whole and marvelous
fu sis cors armez gentement.
was his body armed handsomely
De la clarté li airs resplent.
Of the brightness the air shines
Dès que li monz fu estorez,
Since that the world was established
ne fu veüz si beaus armez
not was seen so fair armed
ne chevaliers de si grant pris.
nor knight of so great worth
Il e Hector sont enemis
He and Hector are enemies
ensi com des testes trenchier.
thus as of-the heads cutting
Mout voudreit l'uns l'autre essaier;
Much would-wish the-one the-other to-try

n'i a nul d'eus qui sa vigor
not-there is any of-them who his vigor
e sa grant force e sa valor
and his great force and his valor
ne vousist a l'autre esprover.
not would-wish on the-other to-prove
Por tant lor estuet comparer:
For so-much them behooves to-pay-for
ne cuit qu'il puisse autrement estre;
not I-think that-it may otherwise be
mar vit li uns d'eus l'autre naistre.
ill saw the one of-them the-other be-born
Tant sont venu, tant sont alé
So-much they-have come so-much they-have gone
que l'uns d'eus a l'autre encontré.
that the-one of-them has the-other met
En es le pas qu'il se conurent,
On the-very the step that-they themselves knew
de mautalent s'entrecorurent.
with ill-temper ran-at-each-other
Requis se sont par si grant ire,
Attacked themselves they-are with so great wrath
rien nel porreit conter ne dire.
anything not-it could tell nor say
Par mi les escuz a lions
Through the-midst the shields with lions
se passerent les confanons:
themselves passed the pennons
n'i ot hauberc qui ne fausast,
not-there was hauberk which not failed

ne nul des dous qui ne saignast.
nor any of-the two who not bled
Al parhurter chiet Achillès
At-the knocking falls Achilles
en mi la place toz envers.
in the-midst the place all backward
Hector a le cheval saisi,
Hector has the horse seized
si poëz bien saveir de fi
so you-can well know for sure
que mout li fu forz a tolir.
that very to-him it-was hard to take-away
Dodaniët del Pui de Tir,
Dodaniet of-the Pui of Tir
un suen vaslet, l'a comandé.
a his squire it-he-has entrusted
Tost ront Greu Achillès monté:
Soon again-have Greeks Achilles mounted
sore li cort le brant nu trait,
upon to-him he-runs the blade naked drawn
Hector a feru entresait
Hector he-has struck forthwith
dous si granz cous que toz chancele;
two so great blows that all he-totters
por un petit ne guerpi sele.
for a little not he-let-go saddle
Hector s'iraist: de mautalent,
Hector grows-angry with ill-temper
a trait l'espee o le cler brant;
he-has drawn the-sword with the bright blade

teus treis l'en ra sor l'eaume asis
such three him-thence again-he-has on the-helmet set
que tot en a sanglent le vis.
that all thereof he-has bloody the face
N'i eüst rien del departir,
Not-there would-have-been anything of-the parting
l'un d'eus i esteüst morir,
the-one of-them there it-would-have-behooved to-die
o ambedous, par aventure;
or both by adventure
mais maintenant e a dreiture
but forthwith and at right
se sont lor genz mis entredous.
themselves are their folks put between-two
La ot estor si angoissos,
There there-was fight so anguished
si perillos e si mortel,
so perilous and so mortal
ja mais nus hom ne verra tel.
ever more any man not will-see such
Adonc i vint Diomedès
Then there came Diomedes
o set vinz chevaliers e mais,
with seven twenties knights and more
e de l'autre part Troïlus
and from the-other side Troilus
n'en ot pas meins, ainz en ot plus.
not-thereof had at-all less rather thereof he-had more
Cil laissierent chevaus aler,
Those let horses go

puis si se vont entredoner
then so themselves they-go to-give-each-other
par mi les escuz de colors
through the-midst the shields of colors
et par mi les heaumes a flors.
and through the-midst the helmets with flowers
Li hauberc blanc, fort et doblier
The hauberks white strong and double
se desmaillent contre l'acier.
themselves unmail against the-steel
Par mi les cors passent les lances:
Through the-midst the bodies pass the lances
la ot fait d'ames desevrances.
there there-was made of-souls separations
Si s'entredonent de lor branz
So they-give-each-other with their blades
par mi les heaumes de mout granz
through the-midst the helmets of very great
que desci qu'as denz se porfendent:
that up to-the teeth themselves they-split
ensi faitement se contendent.
thus fashioned themselves they-contend
Diomedès e Troïlus
Diomedes and Troilus
se porterent des chevaus jus.
themselves bore from-the horses down
La joste d'eus fu aspre e dure,
The joust of-them was harsh and hard
quar chascuns ert proz senz mesure:
for each was valiant without measure

se les lances ne peceiassent,
if the lances not had-broken
ja a nul jor mais ne jostassent.
ever at any day more not they-would-joust
Diomedès premiers remonte:
Diomedes first remounts
o ço qu'il ot e ire e honte,
with that that-he had both wrath and shame
fiert par mi l'eaume Troïlus
he-strikes through the-midst the-helmet Troilus
si que le cercle en abat jus.
so that the circlet thereof he-throws down
L'uns fu a pié, l'autre a cheval:
The-one was on foot the-other on horse
n'esteient mie par egual.
not-they-were at-all by equal
Diomedès mout le requiert
Diomedes much him attacks
e en mainz lieus l'asene e fiert;
and in many places him-aims and strikes
e cil retrait son brant d'acier,
and he draws his blade of-steel
si li abat mort son destrier:
so to-him he-throws-down dead his charger
tot le fendi jusqu'al peitral.
all it he-split up-to-the breast-strap
E cil qui ot le cuer vassal
And he who had the heart valiant
ne s'esbaïst ne ne s'esmaie,
not himself-dismays nor not himself-frightens

ne Troïlus point ne manaie.
nor Troilus at-all not spares
Granz se fierent e granz se donent.
Great themselves they-strike and great themselves they-give
Sor les heaumes li brant resonent:
On the helmets the blades resound
pleier les font sor les haubers,
bend them they-make upon the hauberks
des mailles pareissent les mers,
of-the mails appear the marks
sis embarrent par mi les chiés.
so-them they-drive through the-midst the heads
Trop par esteit li estors griés
Too greatly was the fight grievous
e senz manaie e senz merci,
and without mercy and without pity
quant la presse les departi:
when the press them parted
ja i eüst mereaus mestraiz,
already there would-have-been counters misplayed
ja ne remansist ainz li plaiz.
ever not would-have-remained before the plea
Al remonter des dous barons,
At-the remounting of-the two barons
ot de lor genz granz contençons;
there-was of their folks great contentions
maint chevalier i ot feru
many-a knight there there-was struck
e jus del cheval abatu.
and down from-the horse thrown-down

Diomedès, ços sai bien dire,
Diomedes that-I know well to-say
n'en fu cel jor de rien li pire:
not-thereof was that day in anything the worse
se son cheval i a perdu,
if his horse there he-has lost
mout bon eschange en a eü,
very good exchange thereof he-has had
dès qu'il le Troïlus en meine.
since that-he the Troilus's thence leads
Merveilles i mistrent grant peine
Marvelously there they-put great pain
e grant esforz a lui tolir,
and great effort from him to-take-away
mais ne l'en porent dessaisir:
but not him-thence they-could disseize
puis lor mostra en maint estor
after to-them he-showed in many-a fight
e damaja assez des lor.
and harmed enough of-the theirs
Quant Troïlus fu remonté
When Troilus was remounted
en un cheval sor pomelé
on a horse sorrel dappled
qui mout fu beaus e mout fu buens,
which very was fair and very was good
o l'aïde qu'il ot des suens,
with the-aid that-he had of-the his

les vait ferir de tel vigor
them he-goes to-strike with such vigor
que sempres perdirent li lor
that at-once lost the theirs
cent chevaliers e assez plus:
a-hundred knights and enough more
par force les font traire en sus.
by force them they-make draw in up
Mout les menoënt laidement,
Much them they-led foully
quant Menelaus vint o sa gent,
when Menelaus came with his folk
qui durement les a feruz:
who harshly them has struck
la ot assez des abatuz
there there-was enough of-the thrown-down
e des navrez e des ocis.
and of-the wounded and of-the killed
Adonc revint la gent Paris
Then came-back the folk (of-)Paris
tote eslaissiee e abrivee:
all launched and driven
ore espesse bien la meslee
now thickens well the melee
e li contenz d'ambedous parz.
and the strife on-both sides
Traient saietes, lancent darz:
They-shoot arrows hurl darts
n'i ose rien descovrir l'ueil.
not-there dares anything uncover the-eye

Mar virent onc lor grant orgueil,
Ill they-saw ever their great pride
qui d'ambes parz i est si grant.
which on-both sides there is so great
Hector, li fiz al rei Priant,
Hector the son to-the king Priam
vait toz armez par la bataille:
goes all armed through the battle
o l'espee, dont li branz taille,
with the-sword of-which the blade cuts
lor done cous granz e morteus.
to-them he-gives blows great and mortal
Le jor lor en ocist de teus,
The day to-them thereof he-killed of such
qui mout erent de haut parage
who very were of high lineage
e ou Greu orent grant damage.
and in-whom Greeks had great harm
Les batailles e li conrei
The battalions and the troops
sont avenues al tornei:
are come to-the tourney
li un les autres envaïrent,
the ones the others attacked
sovent chacierent e foïrent,
often they-chased and fled
sovent josterent e menu,
often they-jousted and thick
sovent se sont entrabatu;
often themselves they-are thrown-down-each-other

sovent perdent, sovent guaaignent;
often they-lose often they-gain
sovent s'ociënt e mahaignent.
often they-kill-each-other and maim
De toz les plus chevaleros,
Of all the most knightly
des plus hardiz e des meillors,
of-the most bold and of-the best
perdent le jor plus de set cenz
they-lose the day more than seven hundreds
e cil defors e cil dedenz.
both those outside and those within

The Council Against Hector

XLVI

Hector splits king Boetes to the teeth and cuts Boetes' kinsman Archilogus to the navel, leading off both horses. Achilles beheads the bastard Doroscalus, and Troilus, Paris, and Polydamas avenge him. Prothenor of Boeotia unhorses Hector and reaches for Galatea, and Hector kills him. His uncle Archelaus fights over the body, and a thousand knights die before the Greeks abandon it; night saves them from a rout. That night Agamemnon tells the kings that Hector, who killed three of their kings that day, is Troy's strength, castle, and banner, and must be taken or killed. Achilles swears to give his life to it to avenge Patroclus, and Ulysses keeps watch.

Entre les rens del grant tornei
Between the ranks of-the great tourney
vint Boëtès, un riche rei,
came Boetes a rich king
l'escu al col, l'eaume lacié,
the-shield at-the neck the-helmet laced
vers Troïens le cuer irié;
toward Trojans the heart angered
confanon porte en son sa lance
pennon he-carries in top his lance
de ses armes par conoissance.
of his arms for device
Le jor feïst chevalerie,
The day he-would-have-done chivalry
se ne li fust desavancie;
if not to-him it-were thwarted
mais cil la li mist en defeis,
but he it to-him put in hindrance

qui plus damage les Grezeis:
who most harms the Greeks
ço est Hector, li plus hardiz.
that is Hector the most bold
Sor les escuz peinz a verniz
On the shields painted with varnish
se donent tel que li quartier
themselves they-give such that the quarters
volent des hanstes de pomier.
fly from-the shafts of apple-wood
Hector ot mout tost fait son tor:
Hector had very soon made his turn
o le trenchant brant de color
with the cutting blade of color
li done tel sor l'eaume agu
to-him he-gives such on the-helmet pointed
que jusqu'as denz l'a porfendu.
that up-to-the teeth him-he-has split
Veant mil Greus chaï cil morz,
Seeing a-thousand Greeks fell he dead
e ço lor fu granz desconforz,
and that to-them was great discomfort
quar il ert mout riches e proz
for he was very rich and valiant
e uns des plus vaillanz de toz.
and one of-the most valiant of all
Hector en meine le destrier:
Hector thence leads the charger
n'a guaires mis al guaaignier.
not-he-has much put at-the winning

Archilogus veit e entent
Archilogus sees and understands
qu'Ector li a mort son parent
that-Hector to-him has killed his kinsman
e son ami, que mout amot:
and his friend whom much he-loved
tel aleüre come il pot
such pace as he could
traire del destrier de Castele,
draw from-the charger of Castile
le vait ferir soz la mamele.
him he-goes to-strike under the breast
Treis mailles fausent del blazon,
Three mails fail of-the blazon
si que tres par mi l'auqueton
so that very through the-midst the-gambeson
li saut de sanc uns rais bien gros.
to-him leaps of blood a jet well big
N'entra guaires li fers el cors:
Not-entered much the iron in-the body
sempres fust alez a la fin,
at-once he-would-be gone to the end
mais la hanste del fust fraisnin
but the shaft of-the wood ashen
est debrisiee e dequassee.
is broken and shattered
Hector a trait la bone espee:
Hector has drawn the good sword
celui ataint, un coup li meist;
him he-reaches a blow to-him he-puts

cui que seit bel ne cui qu'en peist,
whom that may-be fair nor whom that-thereof may-weigh
tot le trenche jusqu'al nombril.
all him he-cuts up-to-the navel
Ice[l] coup virent tel trei mil,
That blow saw such three thousand
qui mout le redoterent puis,
who much him feared after
ensi com jo el Livre truis.
thus as I in-the Book find
Le cheval prent a la main destre,
The horse he-takes in the hand right
e l'autre tint a la senestre.
and the-other he-held in the left
Meine les en, n'est qui li viet:
He-leads them thence not-is who to-him may-forbid
fors Galatee, sor qu'il siet,
except Galatea on which-he sits
ne vit onques nus hom si buen.
not saw ever any man so good
A cele feiz chacent li suen:
At that time chase the his
lor enemis ont remüé,
their enemies they-have moved
mais mout furent tost recovré.
but very they-were soon recovered
Li sire d'armes premerains,
The lord of-arms first
c'est Achillès li segurains,
it-is Achilles the steadfast

li proz, li forz, li vertuös,
the valiant the strong the mighty
sor toz les autres merveillos,
above all the others marvelous
recovra primes en la chace;
recovered first in the chase
mais jo vueil bien que chascuns sace
but I wish well that each may-know
merveilles fist iluec de sei.
marvels he-did there of himself
Un des Bastarz, des fiz le rei,
One of-the Bastards of-the sons (of-)the king
qui aveit non Doroscalu,
who had name Doroscalus
trencha la teste sor le bu.
he-cut the head off the trunk
Maint coup reçut por la venjance
Many-a blow he-received for the vengeance
de dart e d'espee e de lance,
of dart and of-sword and of lance
mais ne li ont de rien gregié
but not to-him they-have in anything burdened
ne son cors maumis ne plaié.
nor his body misused nor wounded
Mais por la mort del fil le rei
But for the death of-the son (of-)the king
furent Troïen en desrei;
were Trojans in disorder
sor ceus de Grece mout perdirent:
upon those of Greece much they-lost

ço fu la mort que il mar virent,
that was the death which they ill saw
quar Troïlus toz s'en forsene,
for Troilus wholly himself-thence maddens
qui o l'espee les asene.
who with the-sword them aims
Sor les heaumes teus lor asiet,
On the helmets such to-them he-sets
nul n'en abat qui jan reliet;
any not-thereof he-throws-down who ever-not-thence rises
n'i a teste si bien armee,
not-there is head so well armed
se il l'ataint, ne seit coupee.
if he it-reaches not may-be cut-off
Paris de rien nes remanaie,
Paris in anything not-them spares
maint en ocit e maint en plaie;
many-a thereof he-kills and many-a thereof he-wounds
si refaiseit Polidamas.
so again-did Polydamas
Dès or nel tieng jo mie a guas:
From now not-it hold I at-all as jest
li Troïen fort les acueillent,
the Trojans strongly them receive
el sanc des Greus sovent se mueillent.
in-the blood of-the Greeks often themselves wet
Des morz est la terre coverte,
With-the dead is the land covered
d'ambedous parz i ot grant perte;
on-both sides there there-was great loss

mais trop avint as Greus pesante,
but too-much it-befell to-the Greeks heavy
quar, si com li Livres recante,
for so as the Book recounts
danz Prothenor, reis de Boëce,
lord Prothenor king of Boeotia
des plus vaillanz de tote Grece,
of-the most valiant of all Greece
forz e poissanz e beaus e proz
strong and powerful and fair and valiant
e uns des plus riches de toz,
and one of-the most rich of all
cil feri Hector en travers,
he struck Hector in across
que del cheval le porte envers.
so-that from-the horse him he-carries backward
Galatee cuida saisir,
Galatea he-thought to-seize
mais mout s'en poüst bien sofrir:
but much himself-thence he-could well forbear
entremetre l'en fist pechiez.
to-meddle him-thence made sin
Hector ot honte e fu iriez;
Hector had shame and was angered
le brant nu trait li est coruz:
the blade naked drawn to-him he-is run

haubers ne heaumes ne escuz
hauberks nor helmets nor shields
nel pot guarir que tot nel fende
not-him could protect that all not-him he-may-split
e qu'a la terre ne l'estende.
and that-to the ground not him-he-may-stretch
Ci reçurent Greu grant damage,
Here received Greeks great harm
quar mout ert pro e riche e sage.
for very he-was valiant and rich and wise
Hector monte, le cheval prent,
Hector mounts the horse he-takes
qui ses set peis valeit d'argent,
which its seven weights was-worth of-silver
a tel qui l'en meine le baille;
to such who it-thence leads it he-gives
puis rest entrez en la bataille,
then again-he-is entered into the battle
fel e cruëus e angoissos:
felon and cruel and anguished
le brant nu porte perillos,
the blade naked he-carries perilous
par cui tant chevalier perissent
by which so-many knights perish
e tant en muerent e fenissent.
and so-many thereof die and end
Quant Archelaus veit que Hector
When Archelaus sees that Hector
lor a ensi mort Prothenor,
to-them has thus killed Prothenor

tel duel en a e tel pesance,
such grief thereof he-has and such sorrow
por poi ne s'ocit de sa lance.
for little not himself-he-kills with his lance
Cil esteit oncles a cestui,
He was uncle to this-one
n'amot nule rien avers lui:
not-he-loved any thing compared-to him
norri l'aveit enfant petit,
nourished him-he-had child small
onc si grant duel nus hom ne vit
ever so great grief any man not saw
come Archelaus fait e demeine.
as Archelaus makes and shows
Onques por force ne por peine
Ever by force nor by pain
ne porent Greu le cors aveir:
not could Greeks the body have
el champ l'estut a remaneir.
in-the field it-behooved to remain
Mout s'en entremist Archelaus:
Much himself-therein busied Archelaus
la parut bien qu'il ert vassaus,
there appeared well that-he was vassal
quar tant i a des lor ocis
for so-many there he-has of-the theirs killed
qu'a merveilles en ot grant pris.
that-to marvels thereof he-had great worth
Por le content del cors aveir,
For the strife of-the body to-have

vos puet l'om bien dire por veir
to-you can one well say for true
qu'en morurent mil chevalier,
that-thereof died a-thousand knights
e si l'estut Greus a laissier:
and so it-behooved Greeks to leave
ne l'en porent mie porter.
not it-thence they-could at-all carry
Ja començot a avesprer:
Already it-began to grow-evening
vers les tentes par estoveir,
toward the tents by necessity
par vive force e par poëir,
by living force and by power
les aveient fait reüser
them they-had made push-back
e par force del champ torner.
and by force from-the field turn
Se ne venist la nuit si tost,
If not had-come the night so soon
mout i perdissent cil de l'ost:
much there would-have-lost those of the-host
mout esteient estouteié,
much they-were ill-handled
navré, lassé e travaillié.
wounded weary and toiled
Por l'oscurté de l'anuitant
For the-darkness of the-nightfall
se departirent a itant.
themselves they-parted at so-much

Li jorz failli e vint la nuit.
The day failed and came the night
Cil qui furent de guerre duit
Those who were in war trained
ont la bataille desevree:
have the battle separated
chascuns en a sa gent menee
each thereof has his folk led
estreite serree le pas.
tight close the pace
Travaillié sont, quassé e las.
Toiled they-are broken and weary
Vers la cité vont Troïien,
Toward the city go Trojans
qui le jor l'orent fait mout bien,
who the day it-they-had done very well
e as herberges li Grezeis.
and to-the lodgings the Greeks
En crieme sont e en sospeis
In fear they-are and in suspicion
de ço qu'il sont si damagié:
for that that-they are so harmed
n'i a un sol n'en seit irié.
not-there is a sole not-thereof may-be angered
Hector criement plus que la mort,
Hector they-fear more than the death
e tot por icest desconfort,
and all for this discomfort
quant vint la nuit, après mangier,
when came the night after eating

ainz que nus d'eus s'alast couchier,
before that any of-them himself-went to-lie-down
furent mandé trestuit li rei
were summoned all the kings
e li prince chascuns par sei.
and the princes each by himself
Al tref Agamennon josterent:
At-the tent (of-)Agamemnon they-joined
or si oëz de que parlerent.
now so hear of what they-spoke
Il lor a dit: «Seignor baron,
He to-them has said Lords barons
«mout estes pro e de haut non;
very you-are valiant and of high name
«fort ont esté vostre ancessor,
strong have been your ancestors
«mout ont eü pris e honor,
much they-have had worth and honor
«onc de nule hore n'avillierent.
ever at any hour not-they-were-debased
«La digneté qu'il vos laissierent
The dignity which-they to-you left
«devez guarder e essaucier,
you-ought to-guard and to-exalt
«qu'om ne vos en puisse abaissier.
that-one not you thereof may lower
«Une tele uevre avez emprise
A such work you-have undertaken
«que bien savez tuit senz devise,
that well you-know all without exception

«se vos n'en venez al desus,
if you not-thence come to-the above
«que vostre pris ne durra plus.
that your worth not will-last more
«Ci perira vostre poissance:
Here will-perish your power
«N'iert de vos faite remembrance.
Not-will-be of you made remembrance
«La grant honor que vos avez,
The great honor which you have
«se vos ceste uevre n'achevez,
if you this work not-achieve
«iert tote quassee e perie,
will-be all broken and perished
«e vostre terre en iert honie;
and your land thereof will-be shamed
«e se nos poons a chief traire
and if we can to end draw
«ceste bosoigne e cest afaire,
this need and this affair
«si avrons conquis tel honor,
so we-shall-have won such honor
«come hom porreit aveir greignor.
as man could have greater
«Mais ço que nos i puet plus nuire
But that which us there can most harm
«nos covendreit plus a destruire.
us would-behoove most to destroy

«Fort enemi e pesme e mal
Strong enemy and worst and ill
«avons trové en cest vassal:
we-have found in this vassal
«Lait damage nos a hui fait,
Ugly harm to-us he-has today done
«n'i a celui ne s'en deshait;
not-there is that-one not himself-thereof may-be-dejected
«teus treis reis nos a hui ocis,
such three kings to-us he-has today killed
«qui mout esteient de grant pris.
who very were of great worth
«Conseil en fait mout buen a prendre,
Counsel thereof does very good to take
«e tuit devons a ço entendre,
and all we-ought to that attend
«com faitement poissons ovrer
how fashioned we-may work
«de son cors prendre e encombrer:
of his body to-take and encumber
«Trop par nos a hui damagiez
Too greatly us he-has today harmed
«e faiz corroços e iriez.
and made wrathful and angered
«Sovent serons par lui marriz,
Often we-shall-be by him grieved
«se de mort n'est desavanciz:
if from death not-be-is thwarted
«C'est lor esforz, c'est lor chasteaus,
It-is their strength it-is their castle

«c'est lor apuiz, c'est lor chadeaus,
it-is their support it-is their leader
«c'est lor ados, c'est lor fiance,
it-is their backing it-is their trust
«ço est tote lor atendance,
that is all their expectation
«qu'il ne font rien se par lui non:
for-they not do anything if by him not
«C'est lor enseigne e lor dragon.
It-is their banner and their dragon
«As plus coarz done osement:
To-the most coward he-gives boldness
«Sa grant proëce, quis esprent,
His great prowess who-them inflames
«nos fait noz presses departir.
us makes our presses part
«Mais qui or lor porreit tolir,
But who now from-them could take-away
«que pris o mort rendist son cors,
so-that taken or dead he-might-render his body
«a peines mais istreient fors,
with pains more they-would-go-out out
«a peines avreient vigor
with pains they-would-have vigor
«de nos sofrir un tot sol jor:
of us to-suffer a whole single day
«Sacheiz que mout s'esmaiereient
Know that much themselves-they-would-dismay
«del damage qu'en lui fereient;
for-the harm which-in him they-would-make

«ne nos porreient mais durer
not us they-could more last
«ne en bataille contrester.
nor in battle withstand
«E por ço vos ai jo mandez,
And for that you have I summoned
«qu'en si grant fais vos en metez
that-in so great burden yourselves thereof you-may-put
«qu'a ço seient tuit vostre esforz,
that-to that may-be all your effort
«coment puisse estre pris o morz.
how he-may be taken or dead
«Chascuns en face son poëir,
Each thereof may-make his power
«quar mout i a grant estoveir:
for much there is great necessity
«Bien se devreit de mort disner,
Well himself ought of death to-dine
«dès quos en voudriëz pener.
since that-you thereof would-wish to-pain
«Danz Achillès, que jo vei ci,
Lord Achilles whom I see here
«o son bon brant d'acier forbi,
with his good blade of-steel furbished
«li dona hui teus treis colees
to-him gave today such three blows
«que mout furent desmesurees;
which very were beyond-measure
«e s'il n'eüst prochaine aiuë,
and if-he not-had-had near aid

«tel essoigne li fust creüe,
such trouble to-him would-be grown
«dont bien poüst mort receveir.
whereof well he-could death receive
«Or en faisons nostre poëir,
Now thereof let-us-make our power
«e seit si asprement requis
and may-he-be so harshly attacked
«que demain seit o morz o pris.» 11060
that tomorrow he-may-be or dead or taken
Comunaument ont respondu
In-common they-have answered
que cist conseiz iert bien creü.
that this counsel will-be well believed
Mout en depriënt Achillès
Much thereof they-beg Achilles
que il de ço se mete en fais:
that he in that himself may-put to burden
«De ço», fait il, «ne parlez mie. 11065
Of that says he not speak at-all
«S'aveit chascuns juré sa vie
If-had each sworn his life
«qu'il n'eüst mal ne destorbier,
that-he not-might-have ill nor hindrance
«mort ne prison ne encombrier,
death nor prison nor encumbrance

«ne porreit il pas remaneir —
not could it at-all remain
«tant par m'a fait le cuer doleir
so greatly to-me-he-has made the heart ache
«de Patroclus, qu'il m'a ocis,
for Patroclus whom-he to-me-has killed
«dont tant sui dolenz e pensis —
whereof so-much I-am grieving and pensive
«qu'il n'ocie mei o jo lui.
that-he not-may-kill me or I him
«Toz afaires lais por cestui,
All affairs I-leave for this-one
«qu'a nule rien ne guart ne pens,
for-at any thing not I-look nor think
«ne mais que truisse lieu e tens
nor more than-that I-may-find place and time
«que del grant duel seie vengiez
that from-the great grief I-may-be avenged
«dont toz jorz mais serai iriez.
whereof all days more I-shall-be angered
«Tres bien poëz de fi saveir
Very well you-can for sure know
«que mon engin e mon poëir
that my device and my power
«i metrai tant que mort le rende:
there I-shall-put until that dead him I-may-render
«Il n'iert mais jorz qu'a el entende.»
He not-will-be more day that-at other I-may-attend
Autretel ra chascuns pramis,
Likewise again-has each promised

mais ainz qu'il l'aient mort ne pris,
but before that-they him-may-have dead nor taken
lor fera il teus treis saillies
to-them will-make he such three sallies
dont maint des lor perdront les vies.
whereby many-a of-the theirs will-lose the lives
Departent sei, mais l'escharguaite
They-part themselves but the-watch
fu cele nuit richement faite,
was that night richly made
quar o mil chevaliers e mais
for with a-thousand knights and more
la fist la nuit danz Ulixès.
it made the night lord Ulysses
La quarte bataille fu grant:
The fourth battle was great
qui or voudra oïr avant
who now will-wish to-hear ahead
escout, quar bien savrons retraire
let-him-listen for well we-shall-know to-recount
tot quant qu'en dit l'estoire Daire,
all as-much as-thereof says the-story (of-)Dares
quant qu'en fu e quant qu'en avint,
as-much as-thereof was and as-much as-thereof befell
e li queus d'eus mieuz se contint.
and the which of-them best himself bore

The Fourth Battle

XLVII

At dawn the Trojans sacrifice in the temples and ride out, more than a hundred and fifty thousand, and the fourth battle is fought hand to hand with swords. Paris's Persian archers do great harm. Hector unhorses Agamemnon, and Achilles knocks off Hector's helmet, but Aeneas, Troilus, and sixty knights beset Achilles until his shield is cut to pieces and Hector has seized him. Diomedes unhorses Aeneas, taunting him for the counsel he gave against him, and wounds Hector in the head, making him let Achilles go; Hector unhorses Diomedes, and Troilus fights him on foot. Agamemnon is remounted, a hundred Greek lords ride to the rescue, and the Trojans' allied kings meet them.

Cil de Troie sont a seür.
Those of Troy are in safety
Sor les portes e par le mur
On the gates and along the wall
sont les guaites que chalemelent
are the watchmen who pipe
e que cornent e que frestelent.
and who horn and who whistle
A ceus de l'ost diënt folie,
To those of the-host they-say folly
e quant l'aube fu esclarcie,
and when the-dawn was brightened
si se lievent par les osteus,
so themselves they-rise through the lodgings
as temples vont des damedeus
to-the temples they-go of-the gods
sacremenz faire e oreisons.
sacrifices to-make and prayers

Puis ont vestuz les auquetons;
Then they-have put-on the gambesons
sor bliauz, sor peliçons vairs,
over tunics over pelisses gray
lacent heaumes, vestent haubers.
they-lace helmets put-on hauberks
Par mi la vile s'arment tuit
Through the-midst the town themselves-arm all
senz noise faire e senz grant bruit;
without noise to-make and without great din
cuevrent chevaus de conoissances,
they-cover horses with devices
lacent enseignes en lor lances.
they-lace banners on their lances
Les escuz pris sont tuit monté
The shields taken they-are all mounted
e les conreiz ont devisé
and the troops they-have divided
par grant esguart e sagement.
by great regard and wisely
Hector s'en ist premierement:
Hector himself-thence goes-out first
ceus de la terre estraiz e nez
those of the land sprung and born
en a en son conrei menez;
thereof he-has in his troop led
grant est e fier e redoté.
great it-is and fierce and dreaded

Eneas rist de la cité
Aeneas again-goes-out from the city
o ceus qu'il ot a maistreier:
with those whom-he had to command
plus de trei mile heaumes d'acier
more than three thousand helmets of-steel
poüst om choisir entor lui;
could one choose around him
riche conrei ot en cestui.
rich troop there-was in this-one
Paris s'en ist li beaus, li proz,
Paris himself-thence goes-out the fair the valiant
qui ceus de Perse meine toz.
who those of Persia leads all
Après s'en ist Deïphebus,
After himself-thence goes-out Deiphobus
Polidamas e Troïlus,
Polydamas and Troïlus
Philemenis e Antenor,
Philemenis and Antenor
li reis Perseis, sis niés Mennor,
the king Perseis his nephew Memnon
tote lor gent, tuit li conrei:
all their folk all the troops
n'i remaint amiraut ne rei.
not-there remains emir nor king

La veïsseiz maint heaume a or
There you-would-have-seen many-a helmet with gold
e maint destrier baucenc e sor
and many-a charger piebald and sorrel
covert de riches dras de seie:
covered with rich cloths of silk
toz li païs en reflambeie.
all the country thereof blazes
Quant eissu furent de la vile,
When gone-out they-were from the town
plus sont de cent cinquante mile.
more they-are than a-hundred fifty thousand
Cil de l'ost ront lor armes prises
Those of the-host again-have their arms taken
e de lor gent fait lor devises.
and of their folk made their divisions
Lor conreiz seivrent e partissent
Their troops they-separate and divide
e merveilles bien se guarnissent:
and marvelously well themselves furnish
qui veit les heaumes, les escuz
who sees the helmets the shields
e les enseignes sor les fuz
and the banners on the shafts
merveille sei dont tant gent vint
marvels himself whence so-much folk came
e coment rien lor contretint.
and how anything to-them withstood
Assemblé sont d'ambedous parz:
Assembled they-are on-both sides

traient saietes, lancent darz
they-shoot arrows hurl darts
mout plus espés que ne chiet pluie;
very more thick than not falls rain
del cors lor ist li sans e vuie.
from-the body to-them goes-out the blood and empties
Dis mile e plus trestuit d'un front
Ten thousand and more all at-one front
lances baissiees s'entrevont;
lances lowered go-at-each-other
si se fierent par les escuz
so themselves they-strike through the shields
que les haubers mailliez menuz
that the hauberks mailed fine
fausent e rompent as plusors,
fail and break to-the most
que les enseignes de colors
so-that the banners of colors
se metent par mi les costez:
themselves put through the-midst the sides
onques estors ne fu jostez
ever fight not was joined
ou eüst tel ocision.
where there-might-have-been such slaughter
Tant en chiet morz sor le sablon,
So-many thereof fall dead upon the sand
grant merveille a quis veit as ieuz.
great marvel has who-it sees with-the eyes

Lor granz sorfaiz e lor orguieuz
Their great outrages and their pride
charra ancor, ne puet autre estre.
will-fall still not can other be
Mar virent onc Heleine naistre:
Ill they-saw ever Helen be-born
ço savez bien que pas ne fail,
that you-know well that at-all not I-fail
mout les a mis en grant travail.
much them she-has put in great toil
Li grant conrei sont avenu
The great troops are come
e se sont si entreferu
and themselves are so struck-each-other
e des lances e des espees,
both with-the lances and with-the swords
ne sont les testes si armees
not are the heads so armed
que a miliers, ço dit l'Autor,
but by thousands that says the-Author
ne s'entrocëissent le jor.
not themselves-would-kill-each-other the day
Estrange peine i endurerent
Strange pain there endured
icil qui d'armes se penerent.
those who with-arms themselves pained
Le jor i ot mout poi josté,
The day there there-was very little jousted
quar si par est l'estor meslé,
for so greatly is the-fight mingled

n'i ot se chaple non d'espees,
not-there was if hacking not with-swords
dont se donent morteus colees.
with-which themselves they-give mortal blows
Greu n'orent force ne leisir
Greeks not-had force nor leisure
d'Ector encombrer ne laidir:
Hector to-encumber nor to-ill-use
chascuns aveit mout a entendre
each had much to attend
a son cors guarder e defendre,
to his body to-guard and to-defend
quar la bataille ert mout dotose
for the battle was very fearful
e felenesse e perillose.
and felonous and perilous
Mout i chaeient mort sovent;
Very there fell dead often
maint chevalier i a sanglent
many-a knight there there-is bloody
o de son sanc o de l'autrui.
or with his blood or with that-of-another
Il ne departiront mais hui
They not will-part more today
que trei mil chevaliers n'i ait
that three thousand knights not-there may-be
qui ja mais ne vendront a plait,
who ever more not will-come to plea
ne ne pendront escu a col.
nor not will-hang shield at neck

Tot le plus sage tienc a fol,
All the most wise I-hold as fool
quant por ceste acheison s'ociënt.
when for this occasion themselves-they-kill
La gent de Perse se raliënt:
The folk of Persia themselves rally
le poindre ont pris, les ars tenduz:
the charge they-have taken the bows drawn
la rot assez des abatuz
there again-there-was enough of-the thrown-down
e des navrez e des ocis.
and of-the wounded and of-the killed
Merveilles l'ot bien fait Paris:
Marvelously it-had well done Paris
hardiement, par grant ruistece,
boldly with great roughness
lor fait conoistre sa proëce;
to-them he-makes know his prowess
bien se fait le jor conoissant
well himself he-makes the day known
o l'arc Turqueis e o le brant.
with the-bow Turkish and with the blade
Coment que il l'ait aillors fait,
However that he it-may-have elsewhere done
le jor est dreiz que pris en ait:
the day it-is right that worth thereof he-may-have
si avra il, quar bien est dreiz,
so will-have he for well it-is right
e or, ço cuit, e autre feiz.
and now that I-think and other time

Agamennon fu entrepris,
Agamemnon was hard-pressed
qu'Ector li perça l'escu bis
for-Hector to-him pierced the-shield gray
e le hauberc menu maillié:
and the hauberk finely mailed
a la terre l'a trebuchié.
to the ground him-he-has tumbled
Nel consiut pas par mi le cors:
Not-him he-reaches at-all through the-midst the body
a cele feiz li est estors,
at that time to-him he-is escaped
quar Achillès l'a socoru,
for Achilles him-has helped
qui fiert Hector del brant molu,
who strikes Hector with-the blade ground
si que l'eaume li fait voler.
so that the-helmet to-him he-makes fly
Mais mout le dut chier comparer,
But much it ought dearly pay-for
quar Eneas e Troïlus
for Aeneas and Troilus
e chevalier seisante e plus
and knights sixty and more
i sont venu tuit a eslais.
there are come all at gallop
Ne s'en ira hui mais en pais,
Not himself-thence he-will-go today more in peace
quar as branz nuz mout le requierent,
for with-the blades naked much him they-attack

mout le damagent, mout le fierent:
much him they-harm much him they-strike
meü li ont tel encombrier
raised to-him they-have such hindrance
o les clers branz trenchanz d'acier
with the bright blades cutting of-steel
que jusqu'a poi, s'il n'a aïe, 11225
that within little if-he not-has aid
porra petit preisier sa vie.
he-will-be-able little to-prize his life
Saisir le vont de totes parz:
Seize him they-go from all sides
mais senglers, lion ne lieparz
but boars lions nor leopards
ne se defent si come il fait.
not themselves defend so as he does
Nos porreit pas estre retrait 11230
Not-to-you could at-all be recounted
l'une meitié de sa proëce:
the-one half of his prowess
mout les ocit e navre e blece.
much them he-kills and wounds and hurts
Bien conurent icist le jor
Well knew these the day
sa grant proëce e sa valor:
his great prowess and his valor

nus ne cuidast que uns sous hom
any not would-have-thought that one alone man
poüst aveir defension
could have defense
tant come il ot. De set parties
so-much as he had From seven parts
li erent ses armes faillies;
to-him were his arms failed
toz ses escuz ert detrenchiez,
all his shield was cut-to-pieces
e sis heaumes a or vergiez
and his helmet with gold striped
li dependeit toz par quartiers.
from-him hung all by quarters
Sis cors ne resteit mie entiers,
His body not again-was at-all whole
quar li sanz li saut par mainz lieus.
for the blood to-him leaps from many places
Ja fust de lui feniz li gieus,
Already would-be of him ended the game
qu'Ector l'aveit pris e saisi
for-Hector him-had taken and seized
e de la place departi,
and from the place parted
quant noncié fu Diomedès:
when announced it-was (to-)Diomedes
cele part vint toz a eslais,
that way he-came all at gallop
le cheval broche et se desreie.
the horse he-spurs and himself breaks-rank

Eneas trueve en mie sa veie:
Aeneas he-finds in the-midst his way
tel li dona par mi l'escu
such to-him he-gave through the-midst the-shield
e par l'auberc maillié menu
and through the-hauberk mailed fine
que del costé li traist un rai,
that from-the side to-him he-drew a jet
jus l'abati en mi le tai.
down him-he-threw in the-midst the mud
Puis li a dit: «Sire honorez,
Then to-him he-has said Lord honored
«qui les autres conseiz donez,
who the others counsels give
«mout estes proz, mais, par ma fei,
very you-are valiant but by my faith
«ne me pris pas meins endreit mei.
not myself I-prize at-all less for my-part
«Quel damage se l'om vos pert!
What harm if one you loses
«Ou trovera l'om mais coilvert
Where will-find one more scoundrel
«ne losengier nul qui vos vaille?
nor flatterer any who you may-be-worth
«Ne venez mais a la bataille,
Not come more to the battle

«que mal vos vueil por le conseil
for ill you I-wish for the counsel
«que vos donastes non feeil
that you gave not faithful
«l'autr'ier al rei de mei laidir:
the-other-day to-the king of me to-insult
«Faire vos en cuit repentir.
To-make you thereof I-think repent
«Mar vos cola onques del col:
Ill to-you it-slid ever from-the neck
«Tenir vos en poëz por fol.»
To-hold yourself thereof you-can for fool
Li fiz Tydeüs trait l'espee.
The son (of-)Tydeus draws the-sword
L'ire li fu el chief montee:
The-wrath to-him was in-the head mounted
quant veit Achillès entrepris,
when he-sees Achilles hard-pressed
por un petit n'enrage vis.
for a little not-he-goes-mad alive
Hector feri, qui le teneit,
Hector he-struck who him held
par mi le chief desus a dreit.
through the-midst the head above at straight
N'aveit heaume fors la ventaille:
Not-he-had helmet except the ventail
contre le brant l'aubers desmaille,
against the blade the-hauberk unmails
une grant plaie li a faite.
a great wound to-him he-has made

Hector de rien ne s'en deshaite:
Hector in anything not himself-thereof is-dejected
por quant cil li vola des poinz,
for how-much he from-him flew from-the fists
cui mestiers ert e granz bosoinz.
to-whom need was and great want
Hector fu toz d'ire embrasez:
Hector was all with-wrath inflamed
l'espee trait qu'il ot al lez,
the-sword he-draws that-he had at-the side
tel la rendi Diomedès,
such it he-rendered (to-)Diomedes
que del cheval le porte envers.
that from-the horse him he-carries backward
Sor lui descendi Troïlus,
Upon him dismounted Troilus
quil haï tant qu'il ne pot plus;
who-him hated so-much that-he not could more
mais cil tost en piez resailli,
but he soon to feet leapt-again
qui vassaument se defendi:
who valiantly himself defended
dure escremie, n'en sai plus,
hard fencing not-thereof I-know more
se rendent il e Troïlus.
themselves render they and Troilus
Ne s'en foï pas Achillès,
Not himself-thence fled at-all Achilles
ainz se requistrent de mout près:
rather themselves they-attacked from very near

entre Hector e lui s'entredonent,
between Hector and him they-give-each-other
que tuit se blecent e estonent.
so-that all themselves they-hurt and stun
Agamennon ont remonté.
Agamemnon they-have remounted
Entre tant dis que ç'ot duré,
Between so-much while that that-had lasted
a l'escosse vindrent tel cent
to the-rescue came such hundred
qui assez orent hardement:
who enough had boldness
Reis Menelaus, reis Ulixès
King Menelaus king Ulysses
e uns autre, Polibetès;
and an other Polypoetes
li forz, li granz Telepolus,
the strong the big Tlepolemus
Palamedès e Sthelenus;
Palamedes and Sthenelus
Reis Polidarius li gras,
King Podalirius the fat
Nestor li vieuz, li reis Thoas,
Nestor the old the king Thoas
Ascalaphus e Archelaus
Ascalaphus and Archelaus
e Telamon e Aïaus;
and Telamon and Ajax
Menesteüs le pro, le sage,
Menestheus the valiant the wise

e li riches reis de Cartage
and the rich king of Carthage
e li beaus Eürialus,
and the fair Euryalus
Philitoas e Theseüs,
Philitoas and Theseus
e tel seisante autre Grezeis
and such sixty other Greeks
dont li plus povre ert dus o reis.
of-whom the most poor was duke or king
Cil vindrent tuit a la meslee.
These came all to the melee
De la rot grant gent aünee,
From there again-there-was great folk gathered
quar il i fu reis Pandarus,
for it there was king Pandarus
Apon li vieuz e Adrastus,
Ampon the old and Adrastus
li reis Nesteus, li reis Caras,
the king Nesteus the king Caras
Reis Mercerès, reis Sanias,
King Merceres king Sanias
Reis Cupesus, cil de Larise
King Cupesus he of Larissa
e li vertuös reis de Frise;
and the mighty king of Phrygia
li reis Remus de Cisonie,
the king Remus of Cisonia

Eüfemes de Liconie
Euphemes of Lycaonia
e li reis de Trace Acamus;
and the king of Thrace Acamas
Reis Steropeus, reis Antipus,
King Steropeus king Antipus
Reis Sarpedon, reis Heseüs
King Sarpedon king Rhesus
e li tres beaus Archilogus;
and the very fair Archilogus
Philemenis li granz, li proz:
Philemenis the big the valiant
icist furent al bosoing toz.
these were at-the need all
Paris i fu e li Bastart,
Paris there was and the Bastards
qui ne sont mauvais ne coart:
who not are bad nor coward
soz ciel n'a gent qui plus d'eus vaille
under heaven not-is folk who more than-them may-be-worth
ne en estor ne en bataille.
nor in fight nor in battle
Vers eus se trait Polidamas,
Toward them himself draws Polydamas
e Antenor, qui nes het pas.
and Antenor who not-them hates at-all
Puis que li monz fu estorez,
Since that the world was established

ne fu si fiers estors jostez
not was so fierce fight joined
n'ou tant eüst de riche gent.
nor-where so-much there-might-have-been of rich folk
La ot tant riche guarnement,
There there-was so-much rich garment
tant precios, tant chier vendu,
so precious so dear sold
tant heaume a or e tant escu,
so-many helmet with gold and so-many shield
tant bon cheval covert d'orfreis
so-many good horse covered with-gold-embroidery
de grant valor e de grant preis!
of great value and of great worth
Chascuns pense e dit e afie
Each thinks and says and affirms
que ja fera chevalerie.
that now he-will-do chivalry
Ne sai que plus vos en devis:
Not I-know what more to-you thereof I-may-relate
lances baissiees, escuz pris,
lances lowered shields taken
se vont les escuz estroër;
themselves they-go the shields to-hole
fers e penons i font passer,
irons and pennons there they-make pass
les ais en fendent e desjoignent;
the boards thereof they-split and disjoin
par mi les haubers s'entrepoignent,
through the-midst the hauberks pierce-each-other

si que li sans del cors lor raie
so that the blood from-the body to-them streams
par desor l'erbe que baleie.
over the grass which it-sweeps

Thoas Taken

XLVIII

The kings joust one against another. Agamemnon and Pandarus unhorse each other, and Menelaus unhorses Paris before Helen's eyes. Ulysses wounds Adrastus in the mouth, old Ampon strikes Polymenes down, and Palamedes unhorses Polydamas, mocking his hopes of a fair lady. Philemenis, wounded by Menestheus, overthrows him and takes his charger, and Sarpedon and Telamon wound each other. Hector fights Thoas and Achilles, cutting Thoas's nose, and when the Greeks draw back with the wounded Telamon, Deiphobus and Antenor take Thoas captive into Troy. Paris wounds Menelaus in the thigh with an arrow. Menelaus and Ajax lie in wait for him, and when he comes out unarmed at sunset to shoot, Aeneas covers him with his shield and Hector drives them off.

Agamennon e Pandarus
Agamemnon and Pandarus
se porterent des chevaus jus:
themselves bore from-the horses down
11355 bien s'atainstrent e bien se fierent
well themselves-reached and well themselves they-struck
e durement se combatierent.
and harshly themselves fought
Reis Menelaus joste a Paris:
King Menelaus jousts with Paris
si l'a feru, ço m'est a vis,
so him-he-has struck that to-me-is at opinion

l'escu soz la bocle li part,
the-shield under the boss to-him he-parts
ou il aveit peint un liepart.
where he had painted a leopard
Ja fust Paris, senz faille, morz,
Already would-be Paris without fail dead
mais li haubers esteit si forz
but the hauberk was so strong
qu'il n'en puet maille desmaillier;
that-he not-thence can mail unmail
mais Menelaus l'a fait glacier,
but Menelaus it-has made glance
a l'empeindre, tot contre val.
at the-thrust all toward down
Par sor la crope del cheval
By over the crupper of-the horse
Paris chaï: grant honte en ot
Paris fell great shame thereof he-had
por Heleine, que l'esguardot.
for Helen who-him watched
Entre Adrastus e Ulixès
Between Adrastus and Ulysses
s'entrevindrent de plain eslais;
came-at-each-other at plain gallop
l'uns feri haut, li autre bas.
the-one struck high the other low
Reis Adrastus chaï a quas:
King Adrastus fell in-a heap

si fu navrez par mi la boche
so he-was wounded through the-midst the mouth
que grant dolor al cuer l'en toche.
that great grief at-the heart him-thereof touches
Le destrier en meine Ulixès:
The charger thence leads Ulysses
Adrastus ne l'avra hui mais.
Adrastus not it-will-have today more
Polimenès ra si feru
Polymenes again-has so struck
Ampon le vieil par mi l'escu
Ampon the old through the-midst the-shield
que del coup le porta en veie.
that from-the blow him he-carried on way
Cil trait l'espee que verdeie:
He draws the-sword which gleams-green
ferir le vait, si l'a ataint
to-strike him he-goes so him-he-has reached
e si tres durement empeint
and so very harshly thrust
qu'a terre chiet a mort navrez.
that-to ground he-falls to death wounded
Ampon s'en est a tant tornez.
Ampon himself-thence is at so-much turned
Li gros, li lons Telepolus
The thick the tall Tlepolemus
e li beaus reis Archilogus
and the fair king Archilogus
s'atainstrent si que chascuns saigne,
themselves-reached so that each bleeds

e chaeit sont en mi la plaigne.
and fallen they-are in the-midst the plain
Après se donerent de granz
After themselves they-gave of great
par mi lor heaumes de lor branz,
through the-midst their helmets with their blades
e s'il ne fussent departiz,
and if-they not had-been parted
li queus que seit en fust marriz.
the which that may-be thereof would-be grieved
Polidamas de plein eslais
Polydamas at full gallop
fiert en l'escu Palamedès,
strikes in the-shield Palamedes
si que l'enseigne tote i passe
so that the-pennon all there passes
e de la lance une grant masse
and of the lance a great mass
peceie e fraint e enastele.
breaks and shatters and splinters
Mais cil ne muet ne ne chancele,
But he not moves nor not totters
ainz refiert lui si durement
rather again-strikes him so harshly
par mi l'escu, qui d'or resplent,
through the-midst the-shield which with-gold shines
qu'outre en passe li fers d'acier.
that-beyond thereof passes the iron of-steel

Ne fu si forz l'auberc doblier
Not was so strong the-hauberk double
qu'il ne li esfondrast la pel;
that-he not to-him might-break-through the skin
tot abati en un moncel
all he-threw-down in a heap
e le seignor e le cheval,
both the lord and the horse
puis li a dit: «Sire vassal,
then to-him he-has said Lord vassal
«mout estes proz, mais, par ma fei,
very you-are valiant but by my faith
«ne me pris pas meins endreit mei.
not myself I-prize at-all less for my-part
«Dès or en vendrons a l'essai:
From now thereof we-shall-come to the-test
«Ja mais en lieu ne vos verrai
Ever more in place not you I-shall-see
«que mis escuz vos seit guenchiz,
that my shield to-you may-be turned
«anceis poëz bien estre fiz
rather you-can well be sure
«que j'en ferai oïr novele
that I-thereof shall-make hear news
«a tel dame que mout est bele.
to such lady who very is fair
«Poi l'en chaudra, que qu'ele en oie.
Little to-her-thereof it-will-matter whatever that-she thereof may-hear

«Autres chevaliers a en Troie
Other knights there-are in Troy
«plus beaus e plus vaillanz de vos:
more fair and more valiant than you
«Trop vos faites chevaleros.
Too-much you make-yourself knightly
«De grant neient entre en barate,
Of great nothing enters into bargain
«qui ço bargaigne qu'il n'achate, 11420
who that haggles which-he not-buys
«quar de son gré ne a enviz
for of his will nor at unwillingness
«ne sereiz ja de li saisiz.»
not you-will-be ever of her seized
Polidamas fu toz desvez.
Polydamas was all maddened
Les paroles conut assez:
The words he-knew enough
ja ne seront mais obliëes 11425
ever not they-will-be more forgotten
si les avra cil comparees.
so them will-have he paid-for
Reis Sthelenus e reis Caras
King Sthenelus and king Caras
s'entrevindrent plus que le pas.
came-at-each-other more than the pace
De grant ravine s'encontrerent,
With great rush themselves-met
merveillos cous s'entredonerent: 11430
marvelous blows themselves-they-gave-each-other

par mi escuz jusqu'as haubers
through the-midst shields up-to-the hauberks
firent passer e fuz e fers;
they-made pass both shafts and irons
des lances volent li esclat.
from-the lances fly the splinters
Reis Sthelenus Caras abat;
King Sthenelus Caras throws-down
sor lui s'areste e fait que fous,
upon him himself-stops and does as fool
quar cil li done de teus cous
for he to-him gives of such blows
que son cheval li a ocis,
that his horse to-him he-has killed
lui meïsme navré el vis:
him himself wounded in-the face
ensi se defent chevaliers,
thus himself defends knight
quant veit que il en est mestiers.
when he-sees that it thereof is need
Li dus d'Athenes, li preisiez,
The duke of-Athens the prized
vint par le champ toz eslaissiez
came along the fields all launched
sor un cheval baucenc d'Espaigne
on a horse piebald of-Spain
qui toz ert coverz d'entreseigne:
which all was covered with-device
l'eaume lacié, l'auberc vestu,
the-helmet laced the-hauberk put-on

par les enarmes tint l'escu;
by the straps he-held the-shield
en sa lance ot grant fer d'acier
on his lance there-was great iron of-steel
e une enseigne de drap chier;
and a pennon of cloth dear
chevalerie vueut e quiert.
chivalry he-wishes and seeks
Philemenis le cheval fiert
Philemenis the horse strikes
des esporons tant com plus puet.
with-the spurs as-much as most he-can
Li uns des dous vers l'autre muet.
The one of-the two toward the-other moves
Li dus d'Athenes fiert premier:
The duke of-Athens strikes first
la hanste grosse de pomier
the shaft thick of apple-wood
li fist par mi l'escu passer;
to-him he-made through the-midst the-shield pass
plain pié en puet l'om mesurer.
full foot thereof can one measure
Joster li fait al cors le braz.
Join to-him he-makes to-the body the arm
Del hauberc sont rompu li laz:
Of-the hauberk are broken the laces
par mi le cors le navre e plaie.
through the-midst the body him he-wounds and hurts
E cil de rien nel remanaie:
And he in anything not-him spares

fent li l'escu, trenche l'arçon,
he-splits to-him the-shield cuts the-saddle-bow
del hauberc deront le giron,
of-the hauberk he-breaks the skirt
le braier trenche en dous meitiez;
the breeches-belt he-cuts in two halves
par sor la cuisse fu plaiez.
by over the thigh he-was wounded
Empeint le bien, jus le cravente:
He-thrusts him well down him he-overthrows
entor lui fu l'erbe sanglente.
around him was the-grass bloody
Le destrier prent Philemenis
The charger takes Philemenis
qui mout ert buens e de grant pris;
which very was good and of great worth
o tot s'en torne, as suens le baille,
with all himself-thence he-turns to-the his it he-gives
puis rest venuz en la bataille.
then again-he-is come into the battle
Mercerès joint, le pro, le sage,
Merceres joins the valiant the wise
o le riche rei de Carthage:
with the rich king of Carthage
par mi le cors tot a bandon
through the-midst the body all at abandon
li fist passer son confanon;
to-him he-made pass his pennon
mort le trebuche de la sele,
dead him he-tumbles from the saddle

mais le bon destrier de Castele
but the good charger of Castile
a il saisi e guaaignié,
has he seized and won
puis l'a a un des suens baillié.
then it-he-has to one of-the his given
Philitoas a le renc pris:
Philitoas has the rank taken
armes ot d'or a lions bis; 11480
arms he-had of-gold with lions gray
sor son hauberc ot un bliaut
on his hauberk he-had a tunic
d'un drap de seie qui mout vaut.
of-a cloth of silk which much is-worth
Lance baissiee, l'escu pris,
Lance lowered the-shield taken
li saut Remus en mi le vis,
to-him leaps Remus in the-midst the face
e sist en un cheval ferrant 11485
and sat on a horse iron-gray
fort e isnel e tost corant.
strong and swift and quickly running
Ferirent sei de tel aïr
They-struck themselves with such force
que les lances estut croissir:
that the lances it-behooved to-crack
haut en volerent les asteles.
high thereof flew the splinters
Ambedui ont guerpi les seles; 11490
Both have abandoned the saddles

sor piez saillirent de vigor;
on feet they-leapt with vigor
o les trenchanz branz de color
with the cutting blades of color
se sont alé entrenvaïr
themselves they-are gone to-attack-each-other
e granz colees departir.
and great blows to-deal
Reis Theseüs vit la bosoigne:
King Theseus saw the need
sor un cheval bai de Gascoigne
on a horse bay of Gascony
vint eslaissiez par mi la presse;
he-came launched through the-midst the press
e Resa, li fel reis d'Aresse,
and Rhesus the fierce king of-Aresse
li vait encontre les granz sauz.
him goes against the great leaps
Par mi les escuz a esmauz
Through the-midst the shields with enamels
s'ont fait passer les fuz fraisnins,
themselves-they-have made pass the shafts ashen
si que les haubers doblentins
so that the hauberks double-meshed
firent fauser e desmaillier.
they-made fail and unmail
Malement se durent blecier:
Badly themselves they-were-to wound

par mi les cors se sont navré
through the-midst the bodies themselves they-are wounded
e des chevaus jus enversé.
and from-the horses down overturned
Ne puet li uns d'eus l'autre nuire:
Not can the one of-them the-other harm
dès ore avront mestier de mire.
from now they-will-have need of physician
Li Bastart ont brochié as lor.
The Bastards have spurred at-the theirs
Ja, quant departira l'estor,
Ever when will-part the-fight
nes en tendra l'om as peiors:
not-them thereof will-hold one as-the worse
a lor escuz pert de colors,
at their shields appears of colors
qui sont fendu e estroé
which are split and holed
e des fers des lances cloé;
and with-the irons of-the lances nailed
o les trenchanz espees nues
with the cutting swords naked
en sont les bocles abatues.
thereof are the bosses thrown-down
Mout par sont hardi e vassal:
Very greatly they-are bold and valiant
guaaignié i ont maint cheval
won there they-have many-a horse
qui plus valent de mil besanz.
which more are-worth than a-thousand bezants

Amer les deit li reis Prianz,
Love them ought the king Priam
e si fait il tot a estros,
and so does he all for certain
quar chevalier sont merveillos.
for knights they-are marvelous
Li beaus, li proz reis Sarpedon
The fair the valiant king Sarpedon
ala joster a Telamon,
went to-joust with Telamon
qui mout fu fel e mout fu durs
who very was felon and very was hard
e forz e hardiz e seürs.
and strong and bold and steady
Sor les chevaus, les escuz pris,
On the horses the shields taken
d'ire e de mautalent espris,
with-wrath and with ill-temper inflamed
s'entrevindrent de plain eslais:
came-at-each-other at plain gallop
des forz escuz fendent les ais
of-the strong shields they-split the boards
e des haubers rompent la maille,
and of-the hauberks they-break the mail
que les enseignes de Thessaille
so-that the pennons of Thessaly
passent par mi les nuz costez.
pass through the-midst the bare sides
A terre sont chaeit pasmez:
To ground they-are fallen swooned

navré se sont trop malement.
wounded themselves they-are too badly
La joste virent tel cinc cent,
The joust saw such five hundred
n'i ot un sol cui n'en pesast
not-there was a sole to-whom not-thereof it-weighed
e qui grant duel n'en demenast.
and who great grief not-thereof made
Trop erent cil haut home e fort:
Too-much were those high men and strong
a maint donerent desconfort.
to many-a they-gave discomfort
Entre Thoas e Achillès,
Between Thoas and Achilles
qui parent prochain erent près,
who kinsmen near were near
se combatirent a Hector,
themselves fought with Hector
que les heaumes cerclez a or
so-that the helmets circled with gold
s'esteient fait des chiés voler.
themselves-had made from-the heads fly
Onques ne d'ors ne de sengler
Ever nor of-bears nor of boar
ne fu veüe tel bataille.
not was seen such battle

Par les mailles de la ventaille
Through the mails of the ventail
rendent le sanc: n'est pas merveille
they-render the blood not-is at-all marvel
se soz eus est l'erbe vermeille.
if under them is the-grass vermilion
Thoas i ot del nes trenchié
Thoas there had of-the nose cut
bien les dous parz o la meitié.
well the two parts or the half
L'esforz Hector ont esprové
The-effort (of-)Hector have proved
cil qui sont mout d'armes lassé:
those who are very with-arms wearied
soz ciel n'a mais home vivant
under heaven not-is more man living
qui encontre eus eüst guarant.
who against them might-have-had warrant
Por Telamon, qui fu navrez,
For Telamon who was wounded
qui toz por mort en fu portez,
who all for dead thence was carried
se retraistrent Grezeis en sus:
themselves drew-back Greeks in up
seisante chevaliers e plus
sixty knights and more
des lor i ont le jor perduz.
of-the theirs there they-have the day lost
Thoas li reis fu retenuz:
Thoas the king was retained

Deïphebus l'en a mené
Deiphobus him-thence has led
e Antenor en la cité.
and Antenor into the city
Paor deveit aveir mout grant,
Fear he-ought to-have very great
quar mout le het le rei Priant.
for much him hates the king Priam
Mout en fu Achillès dolent,
Much thereof was Achilles grieving
e il e tote la lor gent:
and he and all the their folk
por tant fu bien aparissant,
for so-much it-was well apparent
ainz que li trei jor passissant.
before that the three days might-pass
De cest estor fu mout parlé
Of this fight was much spoken
par l'ost e en la grant cité:
through the-host and in the great city
joie en ont grant, quar bien l'ont fait.
joy thereof they-have great for well it-they-have done
Lonc tens après fu puis retrait,
Long time after it-was after recounted
por ço que tuit li rei defors
for that that all the kings outside
aveient josté cors a cors
had jousted body to body

a ceus dedenz qui plus valeient
with those within who most were-worth
e qui de greignor pris esteient.
and who of greater worth were
Perdu i ont e guaaignié:
Lost there they-have and gained
c'est costume de tel marchié.
it-is custom of such bargain
Quant li estors fu departiz,
When the fight was parted
dont tant en i ot de marriz,
whereof so-many thereof there there-were of grieved
si se retraistrent li conrei.
so themselves drew-back the troops
Assez dura puis le tornei:
Enough lasted after the tourney
assez i ot puis chevaliers
enough there there-were after knights
abatuz morz de lor destriers.
thrown-down dead from their chargers
De granz quarreaus lor traist Paris:
With great bolts at-them shot Paris
mainz lor en a le jor ocis.
many of-them thereof he-has the day killed
O l'arc Turqueis les enhardeie:
With the-bow Turkish them he-emboldens
de la cité vueut qu'om le veie.
from the city he-wishes that-one him may-see
S'entente a mise Menelaus,
His-intent has put Menelaus

o cent de ses meillors vassaus,
with a-hundred of his best vassals
en lui guaitier, en lui sorprendre.
in him watching in him surprising
Sa femme li cuide chier vendre:
His wife to-him he-thinks dear to-sell
l'ame del cors li cuide traire,
the-soul from-the body to-him he-thinks to-draw
mais ço li est mout grief a faire.
but that to-him is very grievous to do
A el ne pense, a el n'entent,
On other not he-thinks on other not-he-attends
mout l'envaïst le jor sovent;
much him-attacked the day often
par la bataille le porsieut:
through the battle him he-pursues
sa mort porchace e quiert e vueut.
his death he-procures and seeks and wishes
Paris s'a bien aparceü:
Paris himself-has well perceived
reguarde sei, si l'a veü.
he-looks himself so him-he-has seen
E dist: «Ja vos traireiz ariere,
And said Now you will-draw back
«e guardez que jo ne vos fiere
and guard that I not you may-strike
«el cors de vos o el cheval.
in-the body of you or in-the horse
«Se vos alez querant mon mal,
If you go seeking my ill

«le guerredon vos en rendrai:
the reward to-you thereof I-shall-render
«Vos savreiz ja coment jo trai».
You will-know now how I shoot
Une saiete a encochiee
An arrow he-has nocked
reide e trenchant e aguisiee;
stiff and cutting and sharpened
bien l'avisa e traist d'aïr,
well it-he-aimed and shot with-force
de près la li a fait sentir.
from near it to-him he-has made feel
Menelau fiert e navre e plaie:
Menelaus he-strikes and wounds and hurts
de la cuisse li sans li raie;
from the thigh the blood to-him streams
por poi qu'a terre ne s'estent
for little that-to ground not himself-he-stretches
de la dolor qu'il a e sent.
from the grief that-he has and feels
En sus se trait, ire a e duel:
In up himself he-draws wrath he-has and grief
ja mais joie n'avra, son vuel,
ever more joy not-he-will-have by-his will
devant que il s'en seit vengiez.
before that he himself-thereof may-be avenged
Si tost come il fu estanchiez,
So soon as he was stanched
est remontez en l'auferrant;
he-is remounted on the-warhorse

bien dit e mostre e fait semblant
well he-says and shows and makes semblance
qu'ainz i morra que cil n'i muire:
that-before there he-will-die than he not-there may-die
verra se rien li porra nuire.
he-will-see if anything to-him will-be-able to-harm
Ariere vient a ses vassaus:
Back he-comes to his vassals
ensemble o lui vait Aïaus,
together with him goes Ajax
qui Paris het mout e manace.
who Paris hates much and threatens
Ensemble vienent en la place:
Together they-come into the place
mout l'aguaitent, mout le coleient,
much him-they-watch much him they-spy-on
mout volentiers l'entreprendreient.
very willingly him-they-would-attack
Enragié sont e fors del sens
Maddened they-are and out of-the sense
qu'il ne se trait plus près des rens:
that-he not himself draws more near to-the ranks
ja li sereient près veisin;
already to-him they-would-be near neighbors
o les branz d'acier Peitevin
with the blades of-steel Poitevin
li meistreient, se il poëient,
to-him they-would-put if they could
si que mort el champ le rendreient.
so that dead in-the field him they-would-render

Hector conut l'assemblement
Hector knew the-gathering
e sot lor cuer e lor talent;
and knew their heart and their desire
Menelau ot veü navrer
Menelaus he-had seen wounded
e puis ariere retorner:
and then back return
vengera s'en, ço set de veir,
he-will-avenge himself-thereof that he-knows for true
se aise e lieu en puet aveir;
if ease and place thereof he-can have
a autre rien ne vueut entendre,
on other thing not he-wishes to-attend
ne mais a Paris entreprendre.
nor more on Paris to-attack
Cele part vait e Eneas
That way he-goes and Aeneas
tot a celé plus que le pas:
all in secret more than the pace
ja esteient jusqu'a lui point,
already they-were up-to him spurred
lez ses costez se furent joint.
beside his sides themselves they-were joined
En Menelau n'ot que irier:
In Menelaus not-there-was but to-be-angry
un glaive tint trenchant d'acier,
a sword he-held cutting of-steel

vers Paris point. Ja fust feruz
toward Paris he-spurs Already he-would-be struck
e del cheval jus abatuz,
and from-the horse down thrown-down
se Eneas n'i avenist,
if Aeneas not-there had-come
qui entredous son escu mist.
who between-two his shield put
Paris s'esteit ja desarmez, 11655
Paris himself-had already disarmed
quar li soleiz ert resconsez;
for the sun was set
mais as lor esteit venuz traire,
but at-the theirs he-was come to-shoot
quant se meïssent el repaire;
when themselves they-would-put on-the return
e por faire le poigneïz,
and for to-make the spurring
aveit ses guarnemenz guerpiz. 11660
he-had his garments abandoned
Bien l'aveit Menelaus sorpris.
Well him-had Menelaus surprised
Tote l'enseigne o le fer bis
All the-pennon with the iron gray
li meïst par mi la forcele,
to-him he-would-have-put through the-midst the fork
mort le trebuchast de la sele,
dead him he-would-have-tumbled from the saddle

se Eneas o son escu
if Aeneas with his shield
n'eüst le coup si retenu:
not-had the blow so held-back
covert en a le cors Paris
covered thereof he-has the body (of-)Paris
e de la presse l'a fors mis,
and from the press him-he-has out put
e por ço qu'il ert desarmé,
and for that that-he was disarmed
l'en meine o sei en la cité.
him-thence he-leads with himself into the city
Mais de tot ço n'i eüst rien:
But of all that not-there would-have-been anything
morz fust Paris, ço set om bien,
dead would-be Paris that knows one well
se danz Hector nel defendist,
if lord Hector not-him had-defended
qui a grant fais son cors en mist,
who with great burden his body therein put
quar bien mil chevaliers e plus
for well a-thousand knights and more
a fait par force traire en sus:
he-has made by force draw in up
atainz en i a teus quarante
reached thereof there he-has such forty
qui al tornei n'avront mais cante.
who at-the tourney not-will-have more count
O l'aïde des suens qu'il ot,
With the-aid of-the his that-he had

les a chaciez tant come il pot; 11680
them he-has chased as-much as he could
l'espee el poing les enconveie:
the-sword in-the fist them he-escorts
trestuit li fuient e font veie.
all to-him flee and make way
Vont s'en: n'i ot le jor plus fait,
They-go themselves-thence not-there was the day more done
d'ambedous parz se sont retrait.
on-both sides themselves they-are withdrawn

The Visit to the Ladies

XLIX

Hector visits the wounded and is disarmed by the ladies, his face marked by his hauberk's mails. Paris tells Helen how he and Menelaus wounded each other; she goes to Hector, who describes the fight, and weeps. Priam asks his counselors whether Thoas should be hanged, ransomed, or torn apart. Aeneas warns that the Greeks would do the same to any captured Trojan, and Hector advises keeping him a month as a hostage and treasure; Priam, fearing to be thought cowardly, yields to them. Aeneas, Polydamas, and Troilus visit Hecuba, who begs them to guard the town, and Helen, whom Polydamas silently loves. Doroscalus is buried beside Cassibilant, and a night storm overturns five hundred Greek tents.

Vait s'en Hector par le tornei, 11685
Goes himself-thence Hector through the tourney
sa gent en meine devant sei.
his folk thence he-leads before himself
Ainz qu'il se fussent desarmé,
Before that-they themselves were disarmed

ot li jorz perdu sa clarté:
had the day lost its brightness
mais il, com proz et com vassaus,
but he as valiant and as vassal
vait sus e jus par les ostaus
goes up and down through the lodgings
por les navrez reconforter
for the wounded to-comfort
e por dire e por comander
and for to-say and for to-command
que l'om lor face lor plaisir,
that one to-them may-do their pleasure
e quiert mires a eus garir.
and seeks physicians for them to-heal
Puis vait el grant palais descendre:
Then he-goes in-the great palace to-dismount
a s'espee receivre e prendre
at his-sword to-receive and to-take
ot assez dames e puceles
there-were enough ladies and maidens
riches e proz, sages e beles.
rich and valiant wise and fair
Son cors desarment volentiers:
His body they-disarm willingly
onques vaslez ne escuiers
ever youth nor esquire
n'i adesa se eles non.
not-there touched if they not
Quant remés fu en l'auqueton,
When remained he-was in the-gambeson

qui fu d'un drap Saragoceis, —
which was of-a cloth of-Saragossa
cel jor l'aveit vestu tot freis:
that day it-he-had put-on all fresh
or est deroz e senz color;
now it-is torn and without color
de sanc glacié e de suör
with blood frozen and with sweat
est toz soilliez e maillentez, —
it-is all soiled and stained
d'un mantel gris s'est afublez
with-a mantle gray himself-is wrapped
d'un drap de seie a or ovré.
of-a cloth of silk with gold worked
Bien pert qu'il aveit manovré,
Well appears that-he had labored
quar en son vis ont fait lor merc
for in his face they-have made their mark
parfont les mailles del hauberc.
deep the mails of-the hauberk
Les sorcilles ot mout enflees
The eyebrows he-had very swollen
del grant fereiz des espees.
from-the great striking of-the swords
La char ot perse en plusors lieus:
The flesh he-had livid in many places
a lui pert bien queus est li gieus.
in him appears well what is the game
Bien fu chauciez d'un paile chier.
Well he-was shod with-a silk dear

Onques ne nasqui chevalier
Ever not was-born knight
cors a cors le poüst sofrir,
body to body who-him could suffer
el champ ne l'esteüst morir.
in-the field not him-would-have-behooved to-die
Paris s'en ert venuz avant:
Paris himself-thence was come ahead
semblant d'amor e joie grant
semblance of-love and joy great
li aveit dame Heleine fait.
to-him had lady Helen made
Il meïsmes li a retrait
He himself to-her has recounted
com Menelaus l'ot abatu
how Menelaus him-had thrown-down
e il raveit lui si feru
and he again-had him so struck
que por un poi ne l'aveit mort:
that for a little not him-he-had killed
«Sire,» fait el, «n'avez pas tort,
Lord says she not-you-have at-all wrong
«se il vos het, que lui haeiz:
if he you hates that him you-hate
«Dès or se guart mieuz autre feiz,
From now himself let-him-guard better other time
«quar bien li coite, ço m'est vis».
for well to-him it-smarts that to-me-is opinion
Quant assez ot joï Paris,
When enough had fêted Paris

dist qu'ele ira veeir Hector.
she-said that-she will-go to-see Hector
Par mi la sale peinte a or
Through the-midst the hall painted with gold
en est tot dreit a lui venue;
thence she-is all straight to him come
e quant il l'a aparceüe,
and when he her-has perceived
contre li saut et si l'embrace;
toward her he-leaps and so her-embraces
les ieuz e la boche e la face
the eyes and the mouth and the face
li a baisié plus de cent feiz:
to-her he-has kissed more than a-hundred times
«Bele,» fait il, «s'ui veïsseiz
Fair says he if-today you-had-seen
«voz dous seignors entremesler,
your two lords mingle-with-each-other
«Paris chaeir, celui navrer,
Paris fall that-one wounded
«coment li uns l'autre a requis,
how the one the-other has attacked
«d'ire e de mautalent espris,
with-wrath and with ill-temper inflamed
«paor e crieme en eüsseiz,
fear and dread thereof you-would-have-had
«se vos de rien les amisseiz.
if you in anything them had-loved
— Sire,» fait el, «se jo nes vei,
Lord says she if I not-them see

«n'en ai jo por ço meins d'esfrei;
not-thereof have I for that less of-alarm
«en crieme en sui e en dotance,
in dread thereof I-am and in doubt
«quar paor ai de meschaance.
for fear I-have of mischance
«Deus vos en guart, si com jo vueil!»
God you thereof may-guard so as I wish
Adonc plorerent si dui ueil.
Then wept her two eyes
En une chambre a or ovree
In a chamber with gold worked
e de cristal pavementee
and with crystal paved
que plus reluist cler de soleil
which more shines bright than sun
d'escharboncles e d'or vermeil,
with-carbuncles and with-gold vermilion
portendue de pailes chiers,
hung with silks dear
manda Prianz ses conseilliers:
summoned Priam his counselors
l'uns fu Paris, li autre Hector,
the-one was Paris the other Hector
e Troïlus e Antenor,
and Troilus and Antenor
Deïphebus e Eneas,
Deiphobus and Aeneas
e li setmes Polidamas.
and the seventh Polydamas

Cil furent al conseil mandé.
These were to-the council summoned
Premerains a Prianz parlé:
First has Priam spoken
«Seignor, li reis Thoas est pris,
Lords the king Thoas is taken
«qui riches est e de grant pris:
who rich is and of great worth
«N'aveit en l'ost treis chevaliers
Not-there-was in the-host three knights
«si forz, si proz ne si guerriers.
so strong so valiant nor so warlike
«Venuz nos ert deseriter
Come to-us he-was to-disinherit
«e de cest regne fors geter
and from this realm out to-cast
«e nos laidir e nos ocire:
and us to-ill-use and us to-kill
«Por ço vos vueil mostrer e dire,
For that to-you I-wish to-show and to-say
«saveir quel conseil en prendrons,
to-know what counsel thereof we-shall-take
«sera raienz o sel pendrons,
he-will-be ransomed or so-him we-shall-hang
«o membre a membre seit desfaiz,
or limb from limb may-he-be undone
«o vilment a chevaus detraiz,
or vilely by horses drawn

«que cil qui ça nos ont requis
so-that those who hither us have attacked
«seient seürs, certains e fiz
may-be sure certain and confident
«d'aveir en autretel loier,
of-having thereof such wage
«ses poons prendre ne baillier.
if-them we-can take nor hold
«Crieme en avront, paor e dote,
Fear thereof they-will-have dread and doubt
«e sin vaudra meins lor gent tote;
and so-thereof will-be-worth less their folk all
«meins en seront hardiz et proz.»
less thereof they-will-be bold and valiant
Eneas respont devant toz:
Aeneas answers before all
«Seignor,» fait il, «jo endreit mei
Lords says he I for my-part
«vos di e lo en dreite fei
to-you say and advise in right faith
«qu'il ne seit desfaiz ne maumis.
that-he not may-be undone nor misused
«Mout est forz hom, trop a amis:
Much he-is strong man too-many he-has friends
«Se de lui est venjance prise,
If of him is vengeance taken
«a la maniere e a la guise
in the manner and in the guise
«refereient Greu d'un de nos.
would-do-again Greeks with-one of us

«Trop sont li tornei perillos,
Too-much are the tourneys perilous
«e vos i avez tant amis!
and you there have so-many friends
«Cuidez qu'il n'en i ait de pris?
Think-you that-they not-thereof there may-have of taken
«Oïl, certes, n'i avra faille, 11795
Yes certainly not-there will-be fail
«se uit jorz dure la bataille.
if eight days lasts the battle
«Trop i avez parenz e fiz:
Too-many there you-have kinsmen and sons
«Se de nul d'eus erent saisiz,
If of any of-them they-were seized
«arivez sereit a mal port,
arrived he-would-be at ill port
«dure sereit la soë mort. 11800
hard would-be the his death
«Tel en prendront, cui qu'il enuit,
Such thereof they-will-take whom that-it may-annoy
«por ceste chambre d'or recuit
for this chamber of-gold refined
«ne voudriëz qu'il fust ocis,
not you-would-wish that-be were killed
«desfaiz, afolez ne maumis.
undone maimed nor misused
«Al mien conseil e al mien sen 11805
To-the my counsel and to-the my sense
«vos cuit jo dire ço por buen.
to-you think I to-say that for good

«Roëz qu'en diront cist seignor,
Hear what-thereof will-say these lords
«qui mout vuelent tuit vostre honor.»
who much wish all your honor
Hector respont en es le pas:
Hector answers on the-very the step
«Sire, bien vos dit Eneas.
Lord well to-you says Aeneas
«Seit or tres bien guardez li reis,
May-be now very well guarded the king
«e anceis que vienge a un meis,
and before that may-come at a month
«savrons que nos en devrons faire:
we-shall-know what we thereof ought to-do
«Tost porra l'om estre al desfaire
Soon will-be-able one to-be at-the undoing
«o al raiembre o al quiter
or at-the ransoming or at-the freeing
«o a son cors tot desmembrer.
or at his body all to-dismember
«Ne savons pas les aventures:
Not we-know at-all the adventures
«Les batailles sont forz e dures,
The battles are strong and hard
«uns chevaliers est mout tost pris;
a knight is very soon taken
«nus des noz n'est si poëstis,
any of-the ours not-is so powerful
«se il i esteit retenuz,
if he there were held

«que por cestui ne fust renduz.
that for this-one not would-be rendered
«Tresors nos iert a raençon,
Treasure to-us he-will-be for ransom
«tant com le tendrons en prison.
as-long as him we-shall-hold in prison
— Veire!» fait sei Prianz li reis,
Truly says himself Priam the king
«mais sempres diront li Grezeis
but at-once will-say the Greeks
«que tant ont art, sen e veisdie
that so-much they-have art sense and cunning
«que mauvaistié e coardie
that badness and cowardice
«nos a si toz espoëntez,
us has so all frightened
«e si par somes esfreez,
and so greatly we-are frightened
«que nen osons faire autre rien;
that not we-dare do other thing
«ne jo ne vueil, ço sacheiz bien,
nor I not wish that know well
«que mauvaistié pensent de nos.
that badness they-may-think of us
«E ne por quant jol met sor vos:
And not for how-much I-it put upon you
«Faites en ço que vos voudreiz;
Do thereof that which you will-wish
«ne vueil eissir de vos conseiz.»
not I-wish to-go-out from your counsels

Tant li ont dit e fait entendre
So-much to-him they-have said and made understand
que le respit li ont fait prendre
that the respite him they-have made take
del rei Thoas a mort livrer.
of-the king Thoas to death to-deliver
Conseil li sorent buen doner:
Counsel to-him they-knew good to-give
ja la fin del meis ne veïst
ever the end of-the month not he-would-see
que chierement s'en repentist.
that dearly himself-thereof he-would-repent
Ensi partirent del conseil
Thus parted from-the council
cil qui ami sont e feeil.
those who friends are and liegemen
Eneas vait veeir Heleine,
Aeneas goes to-see Helen
Polidamas o sei en meine;
Polydamas with himself thence he-leads
ensemble o eus vait Troïlus.
together with them goes Troilus
En une chambre de benus,
In a chamber of ebony
que plus reluist e plus resplent
which more shines and more glows
que la lune del firmament,
than the moon of-the firmament

truevent les dames. Cent puceles
they-find the ladies A-hundred maidens
a o eles gentes e beles:
there-are with them noble and fair
n'i a celi n'ait endreit sei
not-there is that-one not-may-have for herself
pere o seignor o frere a rei.
father or lord or brother as king
Ecuba fu corteise e proz: 11855
Hecuba was courteous and valiant
les treis vassaus a joïz toz;
the three vassals she-has fêted all
de parfont sen a eus parole,
with deep sense to them she-speaks
come cele que n'est pas fole:
as she who not-is at-all foolish
«Seignor,» fait ele, ço sai bien,
Lords says she that I-know well
«del pro mon seignor e del mien, 11860
from-the profit (of-)my lord and from-the mine
«ne d'essaucier nostre corone
nor from-exalting our crown
«de ço que dreiz e leis nos done,
of that which right and law to-us gives
«nos traisistes onques ariere.
not-yourselves you-drew ever back
«Certaine amor e fei entiere
Certain love and faith whole
«nos avez jusque ci portee: 11865
to-us you-have until here borne

«Ore est la chose a tant alee
Now is the thing at so-much gone
«que conoistre nos estovra
that know us it-will-behoove
«qui onc de bon cuer nos ama.
who ever with good heart us loved
«Ço dist cil qui pas ne menti
That said he who at-all not lied
«qu'al bosoing veit l'om son ami.
that-at-the need sees one his friend
«Li bosoinz est ore avenuz:
The need is now come
«Onques si granz ne fu veüz.
Ever so great not was seen
«Dès ore apareistra l'amor
From now will-appear the-love
«e li granz sens e la valor
and the great sense and the valor
«que en vos est e l'atendance,
which in you is and the-expectation
«quar mout i avons grant fiance.
for much there we-have great trust
«Ja por nul haut conseil doner
Ever for any high counsel to-give
«n'i estuet autres demander:
not-there it-behooves others to-ask
«Li reis s'est mis del tot en vos.
The king himself-is put of-the all in you
«Mout est cist sieges perillos:
Very is this siege perilous

«Por Deu, sin seiez en grant cure,
For God so-thereof be in great care
«quar tost avient mesaventure.
for soon befalls misadventure
«Faites la vile bien guarder,
Make the town well guard
«ne nos laissiez desheriter:
not us let disinherit
«L'onor en iert vostre e li proz,
The-honor thereof will-be yours and the profit
«sin sereiz honoré toz jorz,
so-thereof you-will-be honored all days
«e nostre heir, qui le regne avront,
and our heirs who the realm will-have
«les voz toz jorz en ameront.
the yours all days thereof will-love
«S'abaissions, l'abaissemenz
If-we-were-lowered the-lowering
«resereit vostre e a voz genz.
would-be-again yours and to your folks
«Ore en aient li deu pitiez,
Now thereof may-have the gods pity
«si nos facent joios e liez
so to-us may-they-make joyful and glad
«de ceus qui tant nos ont gregiez
over those who so-much us have burdened
«e ci enclos e asegiez.
and here shut-in and besieged
— Reïne dame,» font li il,
Queen lady say to-her they

«en iceste uevre a grant peril,
in this work there-is great peril
«quar a tant est la chose alee,
for at so-much is the thing gone
«ne puet mais estre trestornee
not it-can more be turned-aside
«desci que il o nos, senz faille,
until that they or we without fail
«seions tuit vencu en bataille.
may-be all vanquished in battle
«E se li deu l'ont porveü,
And if the gods it-have foreseen
«mout avrons tost escombatu
very we-shall-have soon fought-free
«nos e la vile e le païs
us and the town and the country
«des mains as morteus enemis.
from-the hands of-the mortal enemies
«Estre l'estuet a lor plaisir:
Be it-behooves at their pleasure
«Autrement ne poons guarir.
Otherwise not we-can find-safety
«Toz noz aveirs, toz noz tresors,
All our possessions all our treasures
«noz sens, noz vies e noz cors
our senses our lives and our bodies
«sont a ço mis si a bandon
are at that put so at abandon
«que nostre poëir en feron.
that our power thereof we-shall-do

«Içо creez e sacheiz bien,
This believe and know well
«ja ne nos en feindrons de rien.»
ever not us thereof we-shall-feign in anything
En la chambre ont assez esté
In the chamber they-have enough been
e o Heleine mout parlé
and with Helen much spoken
e a conseil e en oiant.
both in counsel and in hearing
Mout lor a fait joios semblant.
Much to-them she-has made joyful semblance
Mout fu corteise, sage e proz:
Very she-was courteous wise and valiant
de ses chiers aveirs done a toz.
of her dear possessions she-gives to all
E il l'ont mout aseüree
And they her-have much reassured
e en maint sen reconfortee.
and in many-a sense comforted
Polidamas toz sous se taist:
Polydamas all alone himself keeps-silent
ço qu'il a del suen mout li plaist.
that which-he has of-the hers much to-him pleases
Bien sai plus en voudreit aveir,
Well I-know more thereof he-would-wish to-have
mais il n'iert mie a son voleir
but it not-will-be at-all at his will
ne a son cuer n'a son talant.
nor at his heart nor-at his desire

N'a entre eus dous fait ne semblant
Not-has between them two deed nor semblance
ne parole, dont vilanie
nor word whereof villainy
puisse estre dite ne oïe;
may be said nor heard
mais grief chose est a averer
but grievous thing it-is to prove
voleir, corage ne penser.
will heart nor thought
Troïlus baise sa soror,
Troilus kisses his sister
que de beauté porte la flor.
who of beauty bears the flower
Après s'en vont, congié ont pris.
After themselves-thence they-go leave they-have taken
Ne sai que plus vos en devis:
Not I-know what more to-you thereof I-may-relate
l'eve fu prise el grant palais;
the-water was taken in-the great palace
mil chevalier e mil e mais
a-thousand knights and a-thousand and more
i mangierent a grant honor.
there ate with great honor
Qui qu'eüst ire ne dolor,
Who that-might-have-had wrath nor grief
Paris ot mout de son talant,
Paris had much of his desire
quar cele o le cors avenant,
for she with the body comely

cui resplendist ieuz, boche e face,
to-whom shine eyes mouth and face
le tient la nuit entre sa brace:
him holds the night between her arms
n'est dreiz que rien ait duel ne ire,
not-is right that anything may-have grief nor wrath
que entre ses braz la remire.
who between her arms her gazes-at
Doroscaluz, li fiz le rei
Doroscalus the son (of-)the king
fu plainz, quar bien i ot de quei:
was lamented for well there there-was of what
chevaliers esteit merveillos,
knight he-was marvelous
forz e hardiz e corajos.
strong and bold and courageous
Si frere l'ont plaint e ploré
His brothers him-have lamented and wept
et li comuns de la cité:
and the commons of the city
n'i a dame que duel n'en ait
not-there is lady who grief not-thereof may-have
e por sa mort ne se deshait.
and for his death not herself may-grieve
Mout en a fait grant duel Priant.
Very thereof has made great grief Priam
Lez son frere Cassibilant,
Beside his brother Cassibilant

l'ont mis en un sarcueil mout riche
him-they-have put in a coffin very rich
d'une pierre qu'a non oniche,
of-a stone which-has name onyx
que mout reluist e mout est dure:
which much shines and much is hard
cent mars valeit la sepouture.
a-hundred marks was-worth the sepulcher
En l'ost de Grece furent quei,
In the-host of Greece they-were quiet
qu'en crieme sont e en esfrei.
for-in dread they-are and in alarm
Trop lor meschiet, ço lor est vis:
Too-much to-them it-goes-ill that to-them is opinion
mout i a ja des lor ocis,
much there there-are already of-the theirs killed
e des bleciez e des navrez
and of-the hurt and of-the wounded
teus dont mout sont desconfortez.
such whereof much they-are discomforted
Rei Telamon plaignent e plorent,
King Telamon they-lament and weep
la ou il gist vont tuit e corent;
there where he lies go all and run
grant paor ont que il n'en muire.
great fear they-have that he not-thereof may-die
Mais ço lor diënt bien li mire
But that to-them say well the physicians
qu'ainz ne guaires sera toz sains,
that-before not long he-will-be all sound

de ço seient fiz e certains:
of that let-them-be sure and certain
nes espoënte si la plaie
not-them frightens so-much the wound
qu'il par cuident qu'a mort le traie.
that-they greatly think that-to death him it-may-draw
S'il fust guariz e respassez,
If-he were healed and recovered
bien fussent Greu reconfortez,
well would-be Greeks comforted
ne fust sol por Thoas le rei
not were-it only for Thoas the king
qu'il ont hui perdu al tornei:
whom-they have today lost at-the tourney
cuident que ja n'ait raençon
they-think that ever not-he-may-have ransom
se de la teste perdre non.
if of the head to-lose not
Dolent en sont e abosmé:
Grieving thereof they-are and cast-down
n'i ot la nuit ris ne guabé,
not-there was the night laugh nor jest
ne eschar fait n'enveiseüre.
nor mockery made nor-merriment
Icele nuit fu si oscure
That night was so dark
e tant tona, venta e plut,
and so-much it-thundered blew and rained
onc, puis cele hore que l'oz mut,
ever since that hour that the-host moved

nen orent trait si grant martire.
not they-had suffered so great martyrdom
Desci qu'al jor venta a tire:
Until to-the day it-blew at row
li paveillon furent versé
the pavilions were overturned
e derompu et desciré.
and torn and rent
Chaeit en sont la nuit cinc cent:
Fallen thereof are the night five hundred
tant par ont esté fort li vent.
so greatly have been strong the winds
A l'ajornant cessa l'orage,
At the-dawning ceased the-storm
soëf tens fist, mout asoage:
mild weather it-made much it-eases
ore i avra tel poigneïz
now there there-will-be such spurring
dont mil seront enseveliz.
whereof a-thousand will-be buried

The Fifth Battle

L

On a fair morning the armies arm again, and Achilles leads seven thousand out against the town with Diomedes, Agamemnon, and Menelaus behind him. Achilles kills Hupoz, the giant king of Larissa, and gives away his charger. Hector kills Orcomenis of India; Diomedes kills king Antipus, and Hector kills Alamenis, a duke from beyond the Jotarus. The twin kings of Phocis come at Hector: he kills Epistrophus and taunts the corpse. Schedius, grieving, nearly takes Hector with his men until Aeneas rescues him and kills Amphimachus; Schedius strikes Hector on the nose-guard, and Hector cuts him down. Paris, Deiphobus, Polydamas, and Antenor arrive with fresh thousands.

Mout fu bele la matinee,
Very was fair the morning
e senz nule autre demoree
and without any other delay
se rarmerent tost e isnel,
themselves they-armed-again soon and swiftly
quar venir veient tel cembel,
for to-come they-see such skirmish
ou a dis mile chevaliers
where there-are ten thousand knights
trestoz armez sor lor destriers:
all armed on their chargers
n'i a cel n'ait heaume lacié,
not-there is that-one not-may-have helmet laced
escu e lance e bon espié
shield and lance and good spear
cler e trenchant d'acier molu.
bright and cutting of-steel ground

Cil de Troie s'en sont eissu
Those of Troy themselves-thence are gone-out
volenterif e desiros
eager and desirous
de Grezeis faire corroços.
of Greeks to-make wrathful
Des herberges s'en ist premiers,
From-the lodgings himself-thence goes-out first
bien o set mile chevaliers,
well with seven thousand knights
danz Achillès, les escuz pris,
lord Achilles the shields taken
vers ceus dedenz mautalentis.
toward those within ill-tempered
Diomedès e sa compaigne
Diomedes and his company
le siut après tote la plaigne:
him follows after all the plain
o les trenchanz fers acerez,
with the cutting irons steeled
les fuz dreciez gros e planez,
the shafts raised thick and planed
o les enseignes qui baleient,
with the banners which wave
vers ceus de la vile se traient,
toward those of the town themselves they-draw
felon, engrès e maufaisant
felon eager and evildoing
e d'eus destruire desirant.
and of-them to-destroy desirous

Agamennon e Menelaus,
Agamemnon and Menelaus
o la force de lor vassaus,
with the force of their vassals
sont des herberges fors eissu,
are from-the lodgings out gone
por eus combatre fervestu:
for themselves to-fight iron-clad
granz sont les torbes, granz les rens.
great are the throngs great the ranks
Puis chevauchent vers Troïens,
Then they-ride toward Trojans
e cil revienent encontre eus,
and those come-back against them
qui mout lor sont cruëus e feus,
who much to-them are cruel and fierce
guarni de bataille aduree:
furnished with battle hardened
oëz quel en fu l'assemblee.
hear what thereof was the-joining
Des suens s'est partiz Achillès,
From-the his himself-is parted Achilles
e vint poignant tot a eslais
and came spurring all at gallop
sor un cheval, qui plus tost vait
on a horse which more quickly goes
qu'arbaleste ne ars ne trait:
than-crossbow nor bows nor shot

par lieus fu sors e par lieus blans
by places it-was sorrel and by places white
le col, la crope e toz les flans;
the neck the crupper and all the flanks
mout fu isneaus, mout fu hardiz;
very it-was swift very it-was bold
del reiaume de Leütiz
from-the realm of Leutiz
fu amenez e chier venduz.
it-was brought and dearly sold
L'aubers fu beaus e li escuz,
The-hauberk was fair and the shield
e li heaumes d'or encerclé.
and the helmet with-gold circled
D'un fraisne dreit, lonc e plané
Of-an ash straight long and planed
ot grosse lance o fer trenchant;
he-had thick lance with iron cutting
d'un chier vermeil paile Aufricant
of-a dear vermilion silk African
ot confanon e conoissance,
he-had pennon and device
e senz nule autre demorance
and without any other delay
ala joster par tel devise
he-went to-joust by such arrangement
o Hupot, le rei de Larise,
with Hupoz the king of Larissa
qui mout ert forz e mout ert granz,
who very was strong and very was big

por poi ne resemblot jaianz.
for little not he-resembled giants
Cil dui s'atainstrent premerain
These two reached-each-other first
devant les autres el champ plain.
before the others in-the field plain
Mout fu d'eus dous la joste dure
Very was of-them two the joust hard
e laide la mesaventure.
and ugly the misadventure
Hupoz li granz feri premier,
Hupoz the big struck first
si que la lance de quartier
so that the lance of quarter
li a passee lez le flanc,
to-him he-has passed beside the flank
qu'a l'esporon raia le sanc:
so-that-at the-spur streamed the blood
mout en faut poi ne l'a ocis.
very thereof fails little not him-he-has killed
Achillès fu mautalentis:
Achilles was ill-tempered
Hupot feri par mi l'escu,
Hupoz he-struck through the-midst the-shield
si que l'aubers qu'il ot vestu
so that the-hauberk which-he had put-on
ne le guari qu'en mi le piz
not him protected that-in the-midst the chest
ne past l'enseigne de samiz.
not might-pass the-pennon of samite

Le cuer li trenche en dous meitiez,
The heart to-him it-cuts in two halves
qu'a la terre est morz trebuchiez.
so-that-to the ground he-is dead tumbled
Le destrier prent, a tel le baille
The charger he-takes to such it he-gives
qui li rendra, s'il puet, senz faille.
who to-him will-render-it if-he can without fail
Set cenz mars d'argent vaut e plus:
Seven hundreds marks of-silver it-is-worth and more
onques meillor n'ot reis ne dus.
ever better not-had king nor duke
Li reis de Larise fu morz,
The king of Larissa was dead
e sacheiz bien, granz desconforz
and know well great discomfort
en ont le jor tuit cil dedenz;
thereof have the day all those within
mais ainz que parte li contenz,
but before that may-part the struggle
sera vengiez, ne puet remaindre:
it-will-be avenged not it-can remain
assez ravront li Greu a plaindre.
enough again-will-have the Greeks to lament
D'ambedous parz s'entrenvaïrent,
On-both sides attacked-each-other
merveillos cous s'entreferirent;
marvelous blows struck-each-other
lances passent par mi escuz:
lances pass through the-midst shields

mil en i gist des abatuz
a-thousand thereof there lie of-the thrown-down
morz e navrez, sanglenz e freiz.
dead and wounded bloody and cold
Par ire assembla li torneiz,
In wrath joined the tourney
par ire se sont entrataint:
in wrath themselves they-are reached-each-other
grant sont li cri, grant sont li plaint.
great are the cries great are the laments
Sor les verz heaumes clers bruniz
On the green helmets bright burnished
a des espees fereïz
there-is with-the swords striking
si merveillos et si mortel
so marvelous and so mortal
que les testes volent, non el:
that the heads fly not other
n'i a espargne ne merci.
not-there is sparing nor mercy
D'ambedous parz sont enemi:
On-both sides they-are enemies
por ço sera aparissant,
for that it-will-be apparent
anceis que vienge a l'anuitant.
before that it-may-come to the-nightfall
En l'ost aveit un riche rei
In the-host there-was a rich king
qui sages ert e proz de sei:
who wise was and valiant of himself

Orcomenis ert apelez,
Orcomenis he-was called
devers Inde sai qu'esteit nez.
toward India I-know that-he-was born
Mil chevaliers vaillanz de pris
A-thousand knights valiant of worth
ot amenez de son pais:
he-had brought from his country
n'i ot un sol n'eüst conrei
not-there was a sole not-might-have-had equipment
com se ço fust li cors d'un rei.
as if that were the body of-a king
Lor sire esteit Orcomenis,
Their lord was Orcomenis
qui mout aveit d'armes grant pris.
who much had in-arms great worth
O Hector joint: ço fu folie.
With Hector he-joins that was folly
Par mi l'escu, qui d'or flambie,
Through the-midst the-shield which with-gold flames
li a passé le fer d'acier
to-him he-has passed the iron of-steel
e l'enseigne de paile chier;
and the-pennon of silk dear
la lance esclice e enastele.
the lance splinters and shatters
Hector ne muet ne ne chancele,
Hector not moves nor not totters

ainz li ra si l'escu percié
rather to-him again-has so the-shield pierced
e le fort hauberc desmaillié
and the strong hauberk unmailed
qu'il li desjoint les dous costez:
that-he to-him disjoins the two sides
a la terre est morz craventez.
to the ground he-is dead overthrown
Cil orent duel qui mout l'amerent,
Those had grief who much him-loved
e qui grant amor li mostrerent:
and who great love to-him showed
ço furent si home demeine,
that were his men own
qui o travail e o grant peine
who with toil and with great pain
ont le cors trait d'entre chevaus.
have the body drawn from-among horses
Diomedès o ses vassaus
Diomedes with his vassals
i est venuz, puis vont joster.
there is come then they-go to-joust
La veïsseiz estor lever;
There you-would-have-seen fight rise
la veïsseiz lances brisier;
there you-would-have-seen lances break
la ne se set nus conseillier;
there not himself knows any to-counsel

la oïsseiz tel tinterece
there you-would-have-heard such ringing
e sor heaumes tel croisserece;
and on helmets such cracking
la veïsseiz tant chevalier
there you-would-have-seen so-many knight
qui ne puet nuire ne aidier.
who not can harm nor help
Par sus les morz passent li vif.
By over the dead pass the living
Grant piece i ot duré l'estrif:
Great while there there-had lasted the-strife
a tant Diomedès s'eslaisse.
at so-much Diomedes himself-launches
La ou il veit la greignor presse,
There where he sees the greatest press
vait si ferir rei Antipon
he-goes so to-strike king Antipus
que tot le feie e le poumon
that all the liver and the lung
li fait del ventre devaler.
to-him he-makes from-the belly descend
N'est pas legiere a restorer
Not-is at-all light to restore
la grant perte que Troïen
the great loss that Trojans
ont faite en lui, ço set l'om bien.
have made in him that knows one well
Bien i parut qu'Ector en peise:
Well there appeared that-Hector thereof weighs

Alamenis si poi n'adeise
Alamenis so little not-he-touches
que d'une lance nel tresperst
that with-a lance not-him he-pierces-through
ensi que l'ame del cors pert.
thus that the-soul from-the body he-loses
Alamenis ert riches dus
Alamenis was rich duke
d'outre le flun de Jotarus;
from-beyond the river of Jotarus
mout aveit fait e mout feïst,
much he-had done and much he-would-do
s'Ector ne le desavancist.
if-Hector not him had-thwarted
Dui rei avindrent en l'estor,
Two kings arrived in the-fight
qui mout erent de grant valor:
who very were of great valor
frere esteient cil dui gemel.
brothers were those two twins
Païs aveient grant e bel
Country they-had great and fair
e riche e plenteïf toz dis:
and rich and abounding all days
c'ert li regnes de Phocidis,
it-was the realm of Phocis
une terre mout delitose
a land very delightful
e de trestoz biens abondose.
and of all goods abounding

O grant plenté de chevaliers
With great plenty of knights
guarniz d'armes e de destriers
furnished with-arms and with chargers
erent venu en l'ost Grezeis:
they-were come into the-host Greek
mout esteient pro e corteis.
very they-were valiant and courteous
L'uns aveit non Epistrophus
The-one had name Epistrophus
et li autre reis Scedius.
and the other king Schedius
Amoënt sei d'amor certaine:
They-loved themselves with-love certain
parole laide ne vilaine
word ugly nor base
ne sot l'uns d'eus a l'autre dire.
not knew the-one of-them to the-other to-say
Ensi com Daires fist escrire,
Thus as Dares made write
vos dirai come il lor avint.
to-you I-shall-tell how it to-them befell
Reis Epistroz un glaive tint
King Epistrophus a sword held
cler e trenchant come rasor:
bright and cutting as razor
Hector choisi en mi l'estor,
Hector he-caught-sight-of in the-midst the-fight
le damage veit qu'il lor fait,
the harm he-sees that-he to-them does

par mi la presse a lui se trait;
through the-midst the press to him himself he-draws
coup li done grant a merveille,
blow to-him he-gives great to marvel
si que la sele en est vermeille.
so that the saddle thereof is vermilion
Empeint le bien, mais ne chiet mie;
He-thrusts him well but not he-falls at-all
puis li a dit: «Vostre estoutie
then to-him he-has said Your boldness
«nos damage, mais, ço sacheiz,
us harms but that know
«si griefment l'espeneïreiz
so grievously it-you-will-pay-for
«que l'ame i laissereiz del ventre.
that the-soul there you-will-leave from-the belly
«Bien redevez aler soëntre
Well you-again-ought to-go following
«après iceus quos avez morz:
after those whom-you have killed
«Si lor sera mout granz conforz,
So to-them it-will-be very great comfort
«quant de vos se verront vengiez.»
when on you themselves they-will-see avenged
Hector l'entent, mout fu iriez:
Hector it-hears very he-was angered
«Vos les sivreiz,» fait il, «premiers,
You them will-follow says he first
«et des autres trente miliers,
and of-the others thirty thousands

«ainz que jo ja après eus aille;
before that I ever after them may-go
«et si ne cuit que rien vos vaille
and so not I-think that anything to-you may-avail
«la manace quos m'avez faite.»
the threat which-you to-me-have made
A tant la bone espee a traite;
At so-much the good sword he-has drawn
tres par mi l'eaume ou l'ors resplent
very through the-midst the-helmet where the-gold shines
li done tel que mort l'estent;
to-him he-gives such that dead him-he-stretches
jus le trebuche del destrier,
down him he-tumbles from-the charger
puis li a dit en reprovier:
then to-him he-has said in reproach
«As morz dites quos trovereiz —
To-the dead say whom-you will-find
«ja mar por mei lor celereiz —
ever ill-fated for me from-them you-will-hide
«que jos ai après eus tramis,
that I-you have after them sent
«quar n'eriëz pas mis amis.»
for not-you-were at-all my friends
Quant Scedius veit Epistrot,
When Schedius sees Epistrophus
son chier frere, qu'Ector a mort,
his dear brother whom-Hector has killed
si grant duel a, por poi ne muert:
so great grief he-has for little not he-dies

sa chiere bat, ses poinz detuert,
his face he-beats his fists he-twists
sovent se pasme de dolor,
often himself he-swoons from grief
e si home tuit li plusor.
and his men all the most
Après reprenent les escuz,
After they-take-again the shields
feus e dolenz e irascuz.
fierce and grieving and angered
Hector quierent, jal troveront.
Hector they-seek now-him they-will-find
Tel mil l'en asaillent d'un front,
Such thousand him-thence assail at-one front
n'i a un sol de mort nel hee.
not-there is a sole of death not-him may-hate
Iluec reçut maint coup d'espee.
There he-received many-a blow of-sword
Mout le batent, mout le laidissent:
Much him they-beat much him they-ill-use
o mort o pris le retenissent,
or dead or taken him they-would-hold
se Eneas nel socorust;
if Aeneas not-him had-helped
mauvaisement li esteüst.
badly to-him it-would-have-gone
Poignant i vint o teus set cenz,
Spurring there he-came with such seven hundreds
qui ja feront Grezeis dolenz.
who now will-make Greeks grieving

Tres par mi eus se sont plongiez,
Very through the-midst them themselves they-are plunged
fierent de lances e d'espiez;
they-strike with lances and with-spears
mais durement resont feru,
but harshly again-they-are struck
mort e navré e abatu.
dead and wounded and thrown-down
La ot maint cri, la ot maint plaint;
There there-was many-a cry there there-was many-a lament
la se sont il bien entrataint.
there themselves are they well reached-each-other
Eneas i ocist un rei,
Aeneas there killed a king
qui riches ert e proz de sei:
who rich was and valiant of himself
Amphimacus l'apelot om,
Amphimachus him-called one
mout par ert hauz e de grant non.
very greatly he-was high and of great name
O son espié l'a mort geté.
With his spear him-he-has dead thrown
Mout l'ont puis plaint e regreté:
Much him-they-have after lamented and mourned
n'aveit nul heir, e por ço fu
not-he-had any heir and for that was
sis reiaumes tot confondu.
his realm all confounded

Reis Scedius, il e sa gent,
King Schedius he and his folk
se combatirent durement:
themselves fought harshly
seit biens, seit maus, coment qu'il prenge,
be-it well be-it ill however that-it may-take
ço que il puet son frere venge.
that which he can his brother he-avenges
Quant veit Hector entre les suens,
When he-sees Hector among the his
donc cuide aveir mout de ses buens.
then he-thinks to-have much of his goods
Trebuchié l'ont de son cheval,
Tumbled him-they-have from his horse
mais il lor a livré estal:
but he to-them has delivered stand
c'est li senglers, il sont li chien,
it-is the boar they are the dogs
qui ne s'entrespargnent de rien,
who not spare-each-other in anything
quar, s'il le fierent, il fiert eus.
for if-they him strike he strikes them
Desci qu'a poi creistra li dueus:
Until within little will-grow the grief
«Par Deu! coilverz,» fait Scedius,
By God scoundrel says Schedius
«ici morreiz, ne vivreiz plus.
here you-will-die not you-will-live more
«De mon frere prendrai venjance:
Of my brother I-shall-take vengeance

«Ja comparreiz la desevrance
Now you-will-pay-for the separation
«que vos avez de nos dous fait.»
which you have of us two made
O le brant nu d'acier qu'ot trait
With the blade naked of-steel which-he-had drawn
li est coruz come desvez;
to-him he-is run as madman
par mi l'escu qu'est d'or bendez
through the-midst the-shield which-is with-gold banded
l'a si feru que li clavel
him-he-has so struck that the nails
en sont volé o le chantel.
thereof are flown with the rim
Un autre coup li ra asis
An other blow to-him again-he-has set
sor le nasal, en mi le vis.
upon the nose-guard in the-midst the face
L'espee li torna el poing:
The-sword to-him turned in-the fist
c'esteit bien a Hector bosoing,
that-was well for Hector need
quar, se a dreit l'eüst feru,
for if at straight him-he-had struck
malement l'en fust avenu;
badly to-him-thence it-would-have befallen
le nes perdist desor la boche.
the nose he-would-have-lost above the mouth
Grant ire esprent Hector e toche:
Great wrath inflames Hector and touches

«Dès or,» fait il, «sui jo honiz,
From now says he am I shamed
«se jusqu'a poi n'estes marriz.»
if within little not-you-are grieved
Tot dreit a lui s'a eslancié,
All straight at him himself-he-has launched
le braz destre li a trenchié
the arm right to-him he-has cut
e le costé jusqu'al nombril:
and the side up-to-the navel
icest coup virent plus de mil.
this blow saw more than a-thousand
Cil chaï morz en es le pas.
He fell dead on the-very the step
Desci qu'a lui vint Eneas:
Up to him came Aeneas
monter l'ont fait en son destrier.
mount him-they-have made on his charger
Ja i avra estor plenier,
Now there there-will-be fight full
quar al bosoing i vint Paris
for at-the need there came Paris
o plus de dis mile Persis
with more than ten thousand Persians
sor les destriers isneaus coranz.
on the chargers swift running
Deïphebus en raduist tanz:
Deiphobus thereof again-brought so-many
plus sont de vint mile a cheval.
more they-are than twenty thousand on horse

Polidamas, le bon vassal,
Polydamas the good vassal
e il e sis pere Antenor,
both he and his father Antenor
en sont venu al duc Hector.
thence are come to-the duke Hector

The Sagittary

LI

Menelaus, Ajax, Ulysses, Diomedes, and the other kings join the slaughter, and the Greeks drive the Trojans back to the narrow passes. Achilles beheads king Euphemis, Priam's kinsman, and Hector rallies the Trojans by killing Elpenor and Dorus. Then Pistropleus, king of Alizonia, comes out with three thousand men and a Sagittary, a hairy creature horse from the navel down, with eyes that burn in the dark and a bow of boiled leather. Loosed, it routs the Greeks to their tents and kills hundreds with fiery arrows. Diomedes, already wounded in the head, charges it; its dart pierces his shield and side and lodges in a tent-pole, and he cuts the creature in two, and the Greeks win back the field.

De la revint reis Menelaus
From there came-back king Menelaus
o grant plenté de bons vassaus,
with great plenty of good vassals
Reis Aïaus, reis Ulixès,
King Ajax king Ulysses
d'Arges li proz Diomedès,
of-Argos the valiant Diomedes

Reis Archelaus, reis Machaon
King Archelaus king Machaon
e li sages Agamennon.
and the wise Agamemnon
O ço que pot aveir chascuns,
With that which could have each
fu li chaples le jor comuns;
was the hacking the day general
mout fu engrès, mout fu felons:
very it-was fierce very it-was felon
Reis, dus e contes e barons
Kings dukes and counts and barons
i ot le jor assez ocis.
there were the day enough killed
Ne sai que plus vos en devis:
Not I-know what more to-you thereof I-may-relate
d'ambedous parz ot grant esforz,
on-both sides there-was great effort
por ço en i chiet mout de morz.
for that thereof there falls very of dead
Set feiz o uit avint lo jor
Seven times or eight it-befell the day
que Greu en orent le peior,
that Greeks thereof had the worse
e li Troïen autresi.
and the Trojans likewise
Ja esteit bien passé midi:
Already was well passed midday
Grezeis ont fait aleiement,
Greeks have made alliance

si ront ensemble trait lor gent.
so again-they-have together drawn their folk
Quant lor batailles ont sevrees
When their battalions they-have separated
e lor eschieles ordenees,
and their ranks arranged
si rasaillent lor enemis
so they-attack-again their enemies
tant qu'a la veie les ont mis.
so-much that-to the road them they-have put
A lor destreiz les ont hurtez:
At their narrow-passes them they-have driven
por poi n'i perdirent assez;
for little not-there they-lost many
a l'entasser del pas saisir,
at the-crowding of-the pass to-seize
en i covint maint a morir.
thereof there it-behooved many-a to die
Estreites furent les entrees,
Narrow were the entrances
e les presses desmesurees:
and the presses beyond-measure
por ço i ont grant perte faite.
for that there they-have great loss made
Achillès tint l'espee traite:
Achilles held the-sword drawn
mout en ocit, mout en cravente;
much thereof he-kills much thereof he-crushes
des morz est la terre sanglente.
of-the dead is the ground bloody

Un riche rei, Eüfemis,
A rich king Euphemis
qui mout aveit d'armes grant pris,
who much had in-arms great worth
trencha la teste o la ventaille,
he-cut the head with the ventail
e bien sacheiz de veir, senz faille,
and well know of truth without fail
que mout en pesera Priant
that much thereof will-weigh-on Priam
e cele o le cors avenant.
and her with the body comely
Parenz esteit as fiz le rei:
Kinsman he-was to-the sons (of-)the king
cosins germains, si com jo crei.
cousin german so as I believe
Trop i perdissent cil dedenz,
Too-much there would-have-lost those within
mais cil qui n'ert coarz ne lenz,
but he who not-was coward nor slow
Hector, li soverains de toz,
Hector the sovereign of all
li forz, li hardiz e li proz,
the strong the bold and the valiant
quant veit des suens la meschaance,
when he-sees of-the his the mischance
tel duel en a e tel pesance
such grief thereof he-has and such sorrow
que por un poi n'enrage vis.
that for a little not-he-goes-mad alive

Le brant nu trait, d'ire sorpris,
The blade naked he-draws by-wrath seized
est recovrez toz premerains:
he-is rallied all first
dous reis lor ocist de ses mains
two kings to-them he-killed with his hands
forz e riches e combatanz
strong and rich and fighting
e en lor regnes mout poissanz.
and in their realms very powerful
Li uns aveit non Elpinor,
The one had name Elpenor
del reiaume de Libanor;
of-the kingdom of Libanor
l'autre Dorus de Satelee:
the-other Dorus of Satelee
cist ne verront mais lor contree.
these not will-see more their country
Li recovriers fu esforcis:
The rally was forced
sacheiz bien s'i aida Paris;
know well himself-there helped Paris
mout i sofri e endura
much there he-suffered and endured
e maint des lor i damaja.
and many-a of-the theirs there he-harmed
Donc recovrerent Troïien:
Then rallied Trojans
li preisié d'armes le font bien.
the esteemed in-arms it do well

Ne puis tot dire n'aconter,
Not I-can all say nor-recount
qu'enuiz sereit de l'escouter,
for-weariness it-would-be of the-listening
ço que chascuns fist endreit sei.
that which each did as-for himself
Mais en la vile aveit un rei
But in the town there-was a king
qui sire esteit d'Alizonie:
who lord was of-Alizonia
o merveillose compaignie
with marvelous company
esteit venuz Troie guarnir,
he-was come Troy to-garrison
mais mal ot eü al venir.
but ill he-had had at-the coming
Reis Pistropleus ert apelez,
King Pistropleus he-was called
de totes arz esteit fondez.
in all arts he-was grounded
Quant il oï e dit li fu
When he heard and told to-him it-was
que li Greu erent tant venu
that the Greeks were so-far come
e lor gent esteit si laidie,
and their folk was so ill-used
si fist armer sa compaignie;
so he-had armed his company

isnelement s'en est eissuz
swiftly himself-thence he-is gone-out
o bien trei mile fervestuz.
with well three thousand iron-clad
Il ot o sei un Saietaire
He had with himself a Sagittary
qui mout ert fel e de put aire.
who very was felon and of base breed
Dès le nombril enjusqu'a val
From the navel down-to below
ot cors e forme de cheval.
he-had body and form of horse
Il n'est rien nule, s'il vousist,
It not-is thing any if-he wished
que d'isnelece l'atainsist.
that by-swiftness him-might-overtake
Cors, braz et chiere aveit semblanz
Body arms and face he-had like
as noz, mais n'ert mie avenanz.
to-the ours but not-was at-all comely
Il ne fust ja de dras vestuz,
He not was ever of clothes dressed
quar come beste esteit peluz.
for as beast he-was hairy
La chiere aveit de tel façon,
The face he-had of such fashion
plus ert vermeille d'un charbon.
more it-was red than-a coal
Li ueil el chief li reluiseient,
The eyes in-the head to-him shone

par nuit oscure li ardeient:
by night dark to-him they-burned
de treis granz liuës, senz mentir,
from three great leagues without lying
le poüst om tres bien choisir.
him could one very well make-out
Tant par aveit la chiere orrible,
So very he-had the face horrible
soz ciel n'a nule rien qui vive
under heaven not-there-is any thing which lives
que de lui ne preïst freor.
that of him not would-take fear
Un arc portot: n'ert pas d'aubor,
A bow he-carried not-it-was at-all of-laburnum
ainz ert de gluz de cuir boillie,
rather it-was of glue of leather boiled
soudez par estrange maistrie;
joined by strange mastery
tant par ert forz, rien n'en traisist
so very it-was strong anyone not-from-it would-draw
ne par force nel destendist.
nor by force not-it would-unbend
Cent saietes de fin acier
A-hundred arrows of fine steel
portot en un cuivre d'or mier,
he-carried in a quiver of-gold pure
d'alerions bien empenees:
with-eagles well feathered

es granz terres deshabitees
in-the great lands uninhabited
sont e conversent vers Midi.
they-are and dwell toward the-South
Si faitement com jo vos di,
So fashioned as I to-you tell
s'en eissirent fors al bosoing.
themselves-thence they-went-out forth at-the need
Ne quistrent pas Grezeis trop loing:
Not they-sought at-all Greeks too far
près de la vile les troverent,
near to the town them they-found
por ço vos di quel compararent.
for that to-you I-say that-it they-paid-for
Troïens orent reüsez,
Trojans they-had driven-back
en sus les aveient botez:
up away them they-had pushed
lors vindrent Alizoniëns
then came the-Alizonians
toz eslaissiez par mi les rens;
all charging through the-midst the ranks
ceus vont ferir qui les atendent
those they-go to-strike who them await
e qui estrange estor lor rendent.
and who strange fight to-them return
La fu li chaples perillos
There was the hacking perilous
e d'ambedous parz damajos;
and on-both sides harmful

ci ot des morz estrange perte:
here was of-the dead strange loss
tote la terre en est coverte.
all the ground thereof is covered
Uns dus corteis de Salemine,
A duke courteous of Salamis
Polixenarz de la Gaudine,
Polyxenarz of the Gaudine
parenz Telamon Aïaus, —
kinsman (of-)Telamon Ajax
bons chevaliers ert e vassaus, —
good knight he-was and vassal
cel a Hector tel coup feru
that-one has Hector such blow struck
que la teste de sor le bu
that the head from over the trunk
li fait el champ bien loinz voler.
to-him he-makes in-the field well far fly
Adonc laissierent cil aler
Then let those go
le Saietaire, quil teneient
the Sagittary whom-they held
e qui en lor guarde l'aveient:
and who in their keeping him-had
mostré li ont as queus forface,
shown to-him they-have to which he-may-wrong
as queus aït e les queus hace.
to which he-may-help and the which he-may-hate
Adonques saut, mout fait grant joie.
Then he-leaps very he-makes great joy

Mout le remirent cil de Troie.
Much him gaze-at those of Troy
Grant noise fait e brait e crie,
Great noise he-makes and brays and cries
que par trestot en vait l'oïe.
so-that through all thereof goes the-hearing
Toz ceuz de l'ost fait merveillier;
All those of the-host he-makes marvel
e quant il veient l'Aversier
and when they see the-Adversary
qui a eus trait e quis ocit,
who at them shoots and who-them kills
n'i a un sol, grant ne petit,
not-there is a sole great nor small
a cui il n'en prenge esfreance;
to whom it not-thereof may-take fright
e senz nule autre demorance
and without any other delay
se traient sus, e cil lor vait,
themselves they-draw back and he to-them goes
qui estrange damage en fait.
who strange damage thereof makes
Li Saietaires trait a eus:
The Sagittary shoots at them
a un sol coup en ocit deus
at a single blow thereof he-kills two
o treis, ço dit l'Escriz, sovent;
or three that says the-Writing often
en petit d'ore en ocit cent.
in little of-time thereof he-kills a-hundred

De la boche li saut escume,
From the mouth to-him leaps foam
que par mi l'air del ciel alume.
which through the-midst the-air of-the sky blazes
La gent de Grece mout s'esmaie.
The folk of Greece much is-dismayed
Ses saietes, ainz qu'il les traie,
His arrows before that-he them may-shoot
i mueille e entosche e adeise;
there he-wets and poisons and touches
après, si tost come il enteise,
after as soon as he draws-them
flambe li fers, l'airs e li venz.
flames the iron the-air and the wind
Se longes durast cist contenz,
If long had-lasted this struggle
l'ost de Grece fust maubaillie:
the-host of Greece would-have-been ill-used
ja uns sous n'en portast la vie.
ever one alone not-thence would-have-carried the life
Par l'esfremissement de lui,
By the-trembling of him
si com jo pens e com jo cui,
so as I think and as I believe
en perdent le jor teus dou mile
thereof they-lose the day such two thousand
dont bons chevaliers ert li pire:
of-whom good knight was the worst
desconfist les li Saietaires.
discomfited them the Sagittary

Ço dit l'estoire que fist Daires,
That says the-history which made Dares
par mi les tentes s'embatirent
through the-midst the tents they-rushed
e sacheiz bien grant perte i firent.
and know well great loss there they-made
Tuit esteient a mort livré,
All were to death delivered
ne poëit estre trestorné,
nor it-could be turned-aside
ne fust une estrange aventure.
were-it not for-a strange chance
As tres ert la desconfiture:
At-the tents was the rout
Grezeis a pié e a cheval
Greeks on foot and on horse
se defendeient comunal
themselves defended together
a grant meschief; mout i perdeient.
at great mischief much there they-lost
Ensi come il se combateient, —
Thus as they themselves were-fighting
li Saietaires par tot vait;
the Sagittary through all goes
mout redote chascuns son trait,
much fears each his shot
que rien n'ataint que ne seit morz;
for anything not-he-reaches that not may-be dead

haubers dobliers ne escuz forz
hauberks doubled nor shields strong
n'a de son coup defension; — 12455
not-has from his blow defense
par dedevant un paveillon
in front-of a pavilion
ert trespassez; Diomedès
was passed-by Diomedes
veneit fuiant toz sous après.
he-came fleeing all alone after
Navrez ert li fiz Tydeüs
Wounded was the son (of-)Tydeus
d'un dart par mi le chief desus, 12460
by-a dart through the-midst the head above
mais ne se sent guaires bleciez;
but not himself he-feels much hurt
mout a grant duel, mout est iriez
much he-has great grief much he-is angered
de ço que si grant perte ont faite.
for that that so great loss they-have made
Tot a cheval, l'espee traite
All on horse the-sword drawn
s'embat desus le Saietaire. 12465
he-rushes upon the Sagittary
Entrepris est, ne sait que faire:
Caught he-is not he-knows what to-do
s'ariere torne, c'iert folie,
if-back he-turns that-would-be folly
sempres maneis perdra la vie; —
at-once forthwith he-will-lose the life

tel vint mil le sivent e mais,
such twenty thousand him follow and more
qui o lui n'ont triuë ne pais; —
who with him not-have truce nor peace
le Maufé crient dedevant sei,
the Devil he-fears before themselves
qui Greus a mis en tel esfrei.
who Greeks has put in such terror
Li Saietaires le choisi:
The Sagittary him caught-sight-of
en haut cria, braist e heni;
on high he-cried brayed and neighed
la terre crolla soz ses piez.
the earth shook under his feet
A lui a trait: mout fu iriez.
At him he-has shot very he-was angered
D'un dart d'acier l'a si feru
With-a dart of-steel him-he-has so struck
qu'onc ne s'aresta en l'escu:
that-ever not itself-stopped in the-shield
l'auberc li trenche e le costé,
the-hauberk to-him it-cuts and the side
de l'autre part fiert en un tré.
on the-other part it-strikes in a tent-pole
Por poi n'est morz: s'enz plus entrast,
For little not-he-is dead if-in-it more had-entered
ja mais sa boche ne manjast.
ever more his mouth not would-have-eaten
Donc ra la main mise al tarqueis,
Then again-he-has the hand put to-the quiver

mais cil li vient de plain eslais,
but that-one to-him comes in plain gallop
le brant d'acier li fait sentir.
the blade of-steel to-him he-makes feel
Mout ot grant force e grant aïr:
Very he-had great strength and great fury
andous li trenche les costez,
both to-him he-cuts the sides
en dous meitiez est desevrez:
in two halves he-is severed
ço que d'ome est chiet en la place, —
that which of-man is falls in the place
ço cuit, ja remandra la chace —
that I-think already will-stop the chase
ço que a beste ert resemblant
that which to beast was resembling
ala grant piece puis corant,
went great while after running
tant que Grezeis l'ont abatu,
until that Greeks it-have struck-down
qui en recuevrent lor vertu.
who thereby recover their strength
Se ne fust li fiz Tydeüs,
If not were-it the son (of-)Tydeus
vencu esteient, n'en sai plus.
vanquished they-were not-thereof I-know more
Quant le Saietaire ont ocis,
When the Sagittary they-have killed
si ront Grezeis hardement pris:
so again-have Greeks boldness taken

sonent buisines, sonent corz;
they-sound trumpets they-sound horns
par estoveir e par esforz
by necessity and by force
les vont des tentes fors geter
them they-go from-the tents out to-throw
e loinz as plains chans reüser.
and far to-the plain fields to-drive-back
La ot estor, ne vit hom tel
There there-was fight not saw man such
si doloros ne si mortel:
so grievous nor so mortal
perdu i ot e guaaignié,
lost there was and gained
dont li plusor furent irié.
whereof the most were angered

Antenor Taken

LII

Achilles kills Phileus of Palatine. Hector spurs Galatea against him and both are unhorsed; Achilles seizes Galatea, and Priam's bastard sons win the horse back for Hector. The Greeks take Antenor prisoner, and Polydamas, absent at his father's capture, vows to sell his wrath dear. At night Agamemnon tells the Greek council that help will come from Mysia and that Diomedes' killing of the Sagittary is a sign from the gods; Achilles proposes trading Antenor for the captive Thoas. In Troy the Trojans mourn Antenor and the Sagittary, count the kings they have lost and the seven Hector killed, and are cheered.

Un rei i ot de ceus dedenz
A king there there-was of those within
qui mout ert beaus e proz e genz:
who very was handsome and valiant and noble
Phileüs esteit apelez.
Phileus he-was called
Norriz esteit e engendrez
Nurtured he-was and begotten
del grant regne de Palatine:
of-the great realm of Palatine
oëz quel esteit sa destine.
hear what was his destiny
Joster ala a Achillès;
To-joust he-went with Achilles
trop par embraça pesant fais,
too very he-embraced heavy burden
quar il l'en ocist de sa lance:
for he him-thereof killed with his lance

ço fu as suens ire e pesance.
that was to-the his wrath and sorrow
Hector le vit, cui pas n'agree:
Hector it saw to-whom at-all not-it-pleases
vers Achillès point Galatee.
toward Achilles he-spurs Galatea
Granz cous s'entrefierent andous,
Great blows strike-each-other both
quar l'uns e l'autre est aïros:
for the-one and the-other is angry
peceié sont li fort espié,
broken are the strong spears
e l'uns e l'autre est trebuchié.
and the-one and the-other is tumbled
Achillès rest montez premier,
Achilles again-is mounted first
puis tent la main al bon destrier;
then he-stretches the hand to-the good charger
Galatee saisist e prent,
Galatea he-seizes and takes
o tot s'en torne isnelement:
with all himself-thence he-turns swiftly
dès ore a il mout de ses buens,
from now has he much of his goods
se mener l'en puet jusqu'as suens.
if lead him-thence he-can up-to-the his
Ire a Hector, as suens escrie
Wrath has Hector to-the his cries
qu'il ne l'en laissent mener mie:
that-they not him-thence let lead at-all

«Franc chevalier, poigniez après,
Noble knights spur after
«quar ja grant joie n'avrai mais,
for ever great joy not-I-shall-have more
«se il si quitement l'en meine:
if he so freely him-thence leads
«Ore i metez travail e peine.»
Now there put toil and pain
Donc en i brochent tant ensemble, 12535
Then thereof there spur so-many together
tote la terre en crolle e tremble:
all the earth thereof shakes and trembles
por la rescosse del cheval
for the rescue of-the horse
sont mort e navré maint vassal.
are dead and wounded many-a vassal
Mout en dura li fereïz,
Much thereof lasted the striking
ainz que nus d'eus en fust saisiz: 12540
before that any of-them thereof were seized
maint heaume i ot ainz descerclé
many-a helmet there was before uncircled
e maint bon escu estroé
and many-a good shield broken
e maint chevalier abatu.
and many-a knight thrown-down
Mais, si com jo l'ai entendu,
But so as I it-have heard

li Bastart l'ont rendu le jor
the Bastards it-have rendered the day
Hector lor frere e lor seignor:
(to-)Hector their brother and their lord
li lor esforz e lor proëce,
the their effort and their prowess
lor hardemenz e lor vistece
their boldness and their swiftness
le fist voler celui des poinz
it made fly him from-the fists
qui Greus maintient es granz bosoinz.
who Greeks upholds in-the great needs
Ainz que departist la meslee,
Before that might-part the melee
lor en fu bien s'ire mostree;
to-them thereof was well his-wrath shown
quar Antenor lor a toleit,
for Antenor from-them he-has taken
dont cil dedenz sont mout destreit;
whereof those within are very distressed
pris l'a par fei e retenu.
taken him-he-has on faith and held
Quant Polidamas l'a seü,
When Polydamas it-has known
por un petit n'enrage vis.
for a little not-he-goes-mad alive
N'i esteit pas quant il fu pris,
Not-there he-was at-all when he was taken
toz s'en voleit abandoner:
wholly himself-thence he-wished to-abandon

ja lor feïst chier comparer
already to-them he-would-make dearly pay-for
s'ire e son duel e son damage;
his-wrath and his grief and his harm
mais li haut home e li plus sage
but the high men and the most wise
font departir la grant bataille,
make part the great battle
quar icil jorz lor faiseit faille:
for that day to-them was-making failing
vespres esteit e nuit prochaine.
evening it-was and night near
A grant travail e a grant peine
With great toil and with great pain
sont departi e desevré:
they-are parted and separated
li un s'en vont en la cité,
the some themselves-thence go into the city
li autre dreit as paveillons.
the others straight to-the pavilions
La nuit josterent lor barons
The night met their barons
e lor princes e lor hauz homes:
and their princes and their high men
de lor conseil oëz les somes.
of their counsel hear the sums
Agamennon lor a preié
Agamemnon them has begged
que pas ne seient esmaié:
that at-all not they-may-be dismayed

combatent sei seürement,
let-them-fight themselves securely
quar il set bien certainement
for he knows well certainly
que de Mese tel gent vendra
that from Mysia such folk will-come
que grant aïde lor fera.
which great help to-them will-make
Lor oz creistra mais chascun jor;
Their host will-grow from-now each day
si n'i ait neient del sojor
so not-there let-there-be nothing of-the rest
se del combatre non a tire,
if of-the fighting not in a-row
tant que cil en seient li pire
until that those thereof may-be the worse
e qu'il seient vencu o pris
and that-they may-be vanquished or taken
o en bataille tuit conquis.
or in battle all conquered
«Veez,» fait il, «quel demostrance
See-you says he what sign
«nos font li deu por seürance
to-us make the gods for assurance
«del deable pesme e hisdos
of-the devil wicked and hideous
«qui hui s'est combatuz o nos.
who today himself-is fought with us
«Tuit fussons mort, pris o vencu,
All we-would-have-been dead taken or vanquished

«se jusqu'a ore eüst vescu;
if until now he-had lived
«se ne fust li fiz Tydeüs,
if not were-it the son (of-)Tydeus
«de nos fust fait, jo n'en sai plus.
of us it-would-have-been done I not-thereof know more
«Bele aventure e grant honor
Fair adventure and great honor
«l'en ont li deu fait hui cest jor:
him-thereof have the gods made today this day
«Mout en est sis pris avanciez,
Much thereby is his worth advanced
«e mout en devons estre liez,
and much thereby we-ought to-be glad
«quar il fu fiz estraiz e nez
for he was son sprung and born
«e del meillor pere engendrez
and of-the best father begotten
«qui onques jor ceinsist espee.
who ever day girded sword
«Uns des plus hauz d'este contree
One of-the most high of-this country
«e des plus sages qui i seit
and of-the most wise who there may-be
«et qui greignor lieu i teneit,
and who greater place there held
«qui plus i puet emprès le rei
who most there can after the king
«e cui il plus dit son segrei,
and to-whom he most tells his secret

«par cui conseil e par cui sen
by whose counsel and by whose sense
«font ço que font li Troïen,
do that which do the Trojans
«cel avons pris e retenu.
that-one we-have taken and held
«Mout nos en fust bien avenu,
Much to-us thereof it-would-have well befallen
«quar, si com j'oi dire e retraire,
for so as I-hear say and recount
«toz noz voleirs nos feïst faire,
all our wishes to-us he-would-make do
«pais e concorde a nostre gré;
peace and concord to our liking
«mais malement somes mené
but badly we-are led
«del rei Thoas qu'il tienent pris.»
of-the king Thoas whom-they hold taken
Fait Achillès: «Beaus sire amis,
Says Achilles Fair lord friend
«se nos delivrer le poon
if us to-free him we-can
«por Antenor de la prison,
for Antenor from the prison
«mout nos en iert bien avenu.
much to-us thereof it-will-be well befallen
«Trop avrions en lui perdu:
Too-much we-would-have in him lost
«Mout est hauz hom, riches e proz;
Very he-is high man rich and valiant

«de lui plus feible somes toz;
from him more feeble we-are all
«or le ravrons, si iert grant joie,
now him we-shall-have-again so it-will-be great joy
«por Antenor le vieil de Troie.»
for Antenor the old of Troy
De ço li sorent mout bon gré
For that to-him they-knew very good will
tuit cil qui erent assemblé;
all those who were assembled
a mout grant bien li atornerent,
at very great good to-him they-turned-it
tant com vesqui plus l'en amerent.
as-long as he-lived more him-thereof they-loved
La nuit se font escharguaitier:
The night themselves they-make keep-watch
bien sont trei mile chevalier
well are three thousand knights
cil qui en ont esté bani.
those who thereof have been summoned
Si faitement com jo vos di,
So fashioned as I to-you tell
furent cil de la ville quei,
were those of the town quiet
qu'il n'i font noise ne esfrei.
that-they not-there make noise nor alarm
Por Antenor sont deshaitiez,
For Antenor they-are disheartened
e mout s'en fait Prianz iriez:
and much himself-thereof makes Priam angered

trop ont en lui grant perte faite,
too-great they-have in him great loss made
mais ço les conforte e rehaite,
but this them comforts and cheers-again
qu'il ne li feront se bien non
that-they not to-him will-do if good not
por Thoas, qu'il ont en prison.
for Thoas whom-they have in prison
Del Saietaire ont mout parlé.
Of-the Sagittary they-have much spoken
Diënt trop en sont maumené
They-say too-much thereby they-are ill-used
de ço que si tost l'ont perdu:
for that that so soon him-they-have lost
se sol le jor eüst vescu,
if only the day he-had lived
tote fust quite la contree,
all would-have-been free the country
chier l'eüssent Greu comparee;
dearly it-would-have Greeks paid-for
ja mais n'en tornassent ariere
ever more not-thence they-would-have-turned back
cent mil n'en remansist en biere.
a-hundred thousand not-thence would-have-remained on bier
Assez ont plaint Eüfemis,
Enough they-have lamented Euphemis
Hupot le grant e Phileïs,
Hupoz the great and Phileus
Astor, Menestren e Antif.
Astor Menestheus and Antipus

C'erent sis rei poësteïf:
These-were six kings powerful
les quatre en ocist Achillès,
the four thereof killed Achilles
les autres dous Diomedès.
the others two Diomedes
Bien puet l'om creire, ço m'est vis,
Well can one believe that to-me-is opinion
la ou il a sis reis ocis,
there where he has six kings killed
que mout i a autre gent morte.
that much there has other folk dead
Auques les enhaite e conforte
Somewhat them cheers and comforts
ço que Hector a le jor fait,
that which Hector has the day done
qui sous lor en a ocis set:
who alone of-them thereof has killed seven
li sis en erent riche rei,
the six thereof were rich kings
li setmes dus, si com jo crei.
the seventh a-duke so as I believe
Li uns ot non Orcomenis,
The one had name Orcomenis
li autre reis Alamenis,
the other king Alamenis
Reis Elpinor, reis Scedius,
King Elpenor king Schedius
Reis Epistroz, reis Dorius;
King Epistrophus king Dorius

Polixenarz li dus ot non,
Polyxenarz the duke had name
riches, poissanz de grant renon:
rich powerful of great renown
sacheiz qu'en la quinte bataille
know that-in the fifth battle
ocist Hector cez set, senz faille.
killed Hector these seven without fail
Danz Eneas rocist un rei
Lord Aeneas again-killed a king
qui riches ert e proz de sei:
who rich was and valiant of himself
Amphimacus ert apelez.
Amphimachus he-was called
Ç'a Troïens reconfortez,
That-has Trojans comforted-again
que par tot en sont li meillor:
that through all thereof they-are the best
por un en perdent treis des lor.
for one thereof they-lose three of-the theirs
Polidamas fu mout pensis
Polydamas was very pensive
por son pere, que Greu ont pris;
for his father whom Greeks have taken
mais ço comence a porpenser,
but this he-begins to ponder
se demain vuelent assembler,
if tomorrow they-wish to-join

mout lor voudra chier s'ire vendre
much to-them he-will-wish dearly his-wrath to-sell
e tel rei d'eus ocire o prendre,
and such king of-them to-kill or take
par quei sis pere iert ostagiez,
by which his father will-be exchanged
o, s'il l'ociënt, chier vengiez.
or if-they him-kill dearly avenged

The Sixth and Seventh Battles

LIII

At dawn the Trojans go out again, and the Greeks, compelled by need, receive them, and the battle is fought in blood and entrails until evening, Dares counting the dead knights by thousands. Both armies return exhausted and grieving. The poet says the destined work is now beginning. In the Greek camp many long to go home, for Troy is strong and well supplied, but Calchas reassures them. This seventh great battle lasts eighty days without a truce, Hector and Achilles meeting many times without the day of their great disaster yet coming, and Polydamas sells his father's captivity dear.

La nuit passa: li jorz repaire,
The night passed the day returns
que Lucifer e l'aube esclaire.
which Lucifer and the-dawn brighten
Un poi fu embrons li matins,
A little was overcast the morning
rosee mueille les jardins;
dew wets the gardens
mais del soleil vint la clarté,
but from-the sun came the brightness

que del jor abat l'oscurté.
which of-the day brings-down the-darkness
Sor la fresche herbe vert e lee
On the fresh grass green and broad
chaï des arbres la rosee;
fell from-the trees the dew
beaus fu li tens e cler le jor.
fair was the weather and bright the day
Sacheiz n'i ot autre sojor,
Know not-there was other rest
mais de la vile s'en eissirent,
but from the town themselves-thence they-went-out
e cil de l'ost les recoillirent,
and those of the-host them received
qui pas nes porent eschiver:
who at-all not-them could avoid
mieuz amassent a sojorner
better they-would-have-liked to rest
qu'a eus combatre a cele feiz;
than-with them to-fight at that time
mais li bosoinz e li destreiz
but the need and the distress
le lor fait faire, o peist o place;
it to-them makes do or it-may-weigh or it-may-please
e o preiere e o manace
and with prayer and with threat
en sont venu el champ mortal;
thereof they-are come into-the field mortal

e cil qui furent plus vassal
and those who were most valiant
s'entrecontrerent as premiers.
met-each-other at-the first
Puis començа li estors fiers,
Then began the fight fierce
pesmes, estranges, doloros:
wicked strange grievous
la veïsseiz tant angoissos,
there you-would-have-seen so-many in-anguish
qui sont navré e qui se plaignent,
who are wounded and who themselves lament
qui s'entrociënt e mahaignent.
who kill-each-other and maim
Grant sont li renc e li conrei,
Great are the ranks and the companies
grant la bataille e li tornei,
great the battle and the tourneys
granz les chaces e les meslees;
great the chases and the melees
si n'ont les testes si armees
so not-they-have the heads so armed
qu'il ne s'espandent les cerveles,
that-they not themselves-spill the brains
les entrailles e les boëles.
the entrails and the bowels
De lor sanc est grant la paluz.
Of their blood is great the marsh
Tant i gist morz e abatuz,
So-many there lie dead and thrown-down

nus hom n'en set esmee faire;
any man not-thereof knows estimate to-make
mais ço vos puis por veir retraire,
but this to-you I-can for true recount
que l'Estoire me conte e dit
that the-History to-me tells and says
e Daires, qui as ieuz le vit,
and Dares who with-the eyes it saw
que solement des chevaliers
that only of-the knights
i ot le jor plusors miliers
there were the day many thousands
abatuz morz e detrenchiez.
thrown-down dead and cut-to-pieces
Mout s'i sont bien Grezeis aidiez,
Much themselves-there are well Greeks helped
mout ont le jor estrangement
much they-have the day strangely
a ceus dedenz mort de lor gent;
to those within killed of their folk
mais chierement lor fu rendu,
but dearly to-them it-was rendered
qu'estrange perte i ront eü.
for-strange loss there again-they-have had
Trestot le jor se combatirent,
All the day themselves they-fought
onc jusqu'al seir ne departirent.
ever until-the evening not they-parted
Grief en fu mout la departie.
Grievous thereof was very the parting

De ceus i a poi qui s'en rie:
Of those there is few who himself-thereof may-laugh
mout sont gregié, mout sont lassé,
much they-are aggrieved much they-are weary
e li plusor d'eus sont navré.
and the most of-them are wounded
Li jorz failli, la nuit vint tost: 12735
The day failed the night came soon
as herberges vont cil de l'ost,
to-the lodgings go those of the-host
e Troïen s'en retornerent,
and Trojans themselves-thence returned
dedenz la vile s'en entrerent
within the town themselves-thence they-entered
irié, senz noise e senz gabeis.
angered without noise and without jesting
Espris sont d'ire vers Grezeis, 12740
Inflamed they-are with-wrath toward Greeks
qui par orgueil les ont requis
who by pride them have attacked
e lor homes lor ont ocis
and their men to-them have killed
e par force les cuident prendre
and by force them they-think to-take
e Troie ardeir e metre en cendre.
and Troy to-burn and to-put into ashes
De sanc vermeil e de suör 12745
With blood vermilion and with sweat
sont lait e teint tuit li plusor.
are ugly and stained all the most

Li cuirs des mains lor est failliz,
The skin of-the hands to-them is failed
tant a duré li fereïz.
so-long has lasted the striking
Qui son ami lait el champ mort,
Who his friend leaves in-the field dead
sin a dolor e desconfort:
so-thereof has grief and discomfort
n'en sont meü ne aporté.
not-thereof they-are moved nor carried
Plaint i ot mout e regreté
Lament there was much and mourning
e de chaudes lermes plorees.
and of hot tears wept
Ore avendront les destinees
Now will-come the destinies
que li deu ont en providence:
which the gods have in providence
ne faut pas l'uevre, anceis comence,
not fails at-all the-work rather begins
si dolorose e si cruël
so grievous and so cruel
que ja nus hom n'orra mais tel.
that ever any man not-will-hear more such
Que vos en fereie lonc plait?
Why to-you thereof would-I-make long speech
En l'ost ra pro ire e deshait:
In the-host again-there-is much wrath and dismay
mout ont perdu, poi guaaignié,
much they-have lost little gained

ne rien n'ont ancore espleitié;
nor anything not-they-have yet achieved
fort gent ont encontre eus trovee,
strong folk they-have against them found
qui bien defendent lor contree;
who well defend their country
par plusors feiz les ont laidiz,
by many times them they-have ill-used
chaciez del champ e desconfiz;
chased from-the field and discomfited
la vile est fort, que rien ne crient,
the town is strong for anything not it-fears
e li socors toz jorz lor vient;
and the help all days to-them comes
de vivre i a si grant plenté
of victuals there is so great plenty
que trop sont riche e asazé.
that very they-are rich and sated
Mout s'en deshaitent li plusor
Much themselves-thereof are-dismayed the most
e mout vousissent le retor,
and much they-would-have-wished the return
mais c'est neienz: ne sevent mie
but that-is nothing not they-know at-all
quel mortel guerre les desfie.
what mortal war them defies
Calcas lor fait de teus sermons
Calchas to-them makes of such sermons
e lor mostre de teus reisons,
and to-them shows of such reasons

par que plusor se raseürent,
by which most themselves reassure
tel qui la mort puis en reçurent.
such who the death after thereby received
Senz triuë que entre eus fust prise,
Without truce which between them were taken
si com l'Estoire nos devise,
so as the-History to-us relates
dura oitante jorz, senz faille,
lasted eighty days without fail
icele setme grant bataille:
that seventh great battle
oitante, ce sont quatre vint.
eighty that are four score
Mainte merveille lor avint:
Many-a marvel to-them befell
maint dur estor, mainte meslee
many-a hard fight many-a melee
e maint grant coup feru d'espee
and many-a great blow struck with-sword
e maint chevalier mort e pris
and many-a knight dead and taken
i ot, por veir le vos plevis.
there was for true it to-you I-pledge
Danz Achillès e danz Hectors
Lord Achilles and lord Hector
mainte bataille cors a cors
many-a battle body to body
firent a cheval e a pié:
made on horse and on foot

par plusors feiz se sont plaié,
by many times themselves they-are wounded
par plusors feiz entrabatu;
by many times thrown-each-other-down
mais n'ert pas ancore avenu
but not-it-was at-all yet come
li jorz de lor grant destorbier,
the day of their great disaster
qui ne puet mais guaires targier.
which not can more much delay
Grant pris en a Polidamas:
Great worth thereby has Polydamas
sa grant ire n'oblie pas,
his great wrath not-be-forgets at-all
que s'il son pere tienent pris,
that if-they his father hold taken
que a plusors n'en seit de pis;
that to many not-thereof may-be the worse
sovent lor vent sa prison chier
often to-them he-sells his prison dear
o l'espee trenchant d'acier.
with the-sword cutting of-steel

The Exchange of Prisoners

LIV

The stench of the unburied dead sickens the Greek camp, and Agamemnon proposes a three months' truce to burn and bury them. Diomedes and Ulysses ride by night to Troy; Dolon challenges them and then guides them to Priam's hall, where the knights sit scarred at supper. Hector alone objects that the Greeks want to forage and waste Troy's provisions, but yields to the others. Both sides burn their dead for fifteen days, and the Trojans repair their walls. At a parley Antenor is exchanged for Thoas. At Calchas's bidding the Greeks ask for his daughter Briseida, and Priam, cursing the traitor, lets her go, wanting nothing of his in Troy.

Ainz que li termes fust passez
Before that the term were passed
des oitante jorz devisez,
of-the eighty days set
i ot des morz si grant merveille
there was of-the dead so great marvel
que tote la terre vermeille:
that all the earth reddens
les eves e li flueve grant
the waters and the rivers great
corent de sanc trestuit sanglant;
run with blood all bloody
des charoignes ist la flairor
from-the carrions comes-out the stench
e li airs est pleins de puör
and the air is full of stink
des cors qui sont, piece a, ocis,
from-the bodies which are a-while ago killed

qui ne sont ars n'en terre mis;
which not are burned nor-in earth put
e por l'olor, que si est male,
and for the-smell which so is bad
en gisent mil envers e pale,
thereof lie a-thousand on-their-backs and pale
gros e enflé. Chascuns engrote:
swollen and puffed Each falls-sick
por poi la gent n'en perist tote.
for little the folk not-thereof perishes all
Soz ciel nen est rien que la sente,
Under heaven not is thing that it may-smell
que toz li cuers ne li desmente.
that all the heart not to-it may-fail
Qui navrez est, ço le partue:
Who wounded is that him finishes-off
ne li puet mires faire aiuë;
not to-him can physician make help
toz les esteint la fort puör.
all them extinguishes the strong stink
Entre eus triuës n'eüst mais jor,
Between them truces not-would-have-been more day
se ço ne fust, jol vos plevis,
if that not had-been I-it to-you pledge
desci qu'il fussent tuit ocis:
until that-they were all killed
mais nel porent plus endurer.
but not-it they-could more endure

Agamennon a fait joster
Agamemnon has made assemble
trestoz les reis e les demeines,
all the kings and the lords
les dus, les princes, les chataines:
the dukes the princes the captains
«Seignor,» fait il, «franc chevalier,
Lords says he noble knights
«autre conseiz nos a mestier.
other counsel to-us is needful
«N'i a mais rien del plus sofrir:
Not-there is more anything of more to-suffer
«Toz nos i covendra morir.
All us there will-behoove to-die
«Ceste puör nos ocit toz;
This stink us kills all
«nen est si riches ne si proz
not is so rich nor so valiant
«que meins n'en puisse e meins n'en vaille.
that less not-thereof he-may-be-able and less not-thereof may-be-worth
«Tant a duré ceste bataille,
So-long has lasted this battle
«des morz sont tuit li champ jonchié:
with-the dead are all the fields strewn
«N'i a de terre demi pié
Not-there is of ground half foot
«qui delivres seit a combatre.
which free may-be to fight

«Quinze jorz a o vint e quatre
Fifteen days ago or twenty and four
«nos n'assemblames, ço m'est vis,
we not-joined that to-me-is opinion
«se sor morz non e sor ocis.
if on dead not and on slain
«Triuës nos covient a requerre,
Truces to-us it-behooves to seek
«si metra l'om les cors en terre,
so will-put one the bodies in earth
«si seront li champ delivré.
so will-be the fields freed
«Quant seront ars et enterré,
When they-will-be burned and buried
«passera l'air e le venin
will-pass the-air and the venom
«qui nos fait traire male fin;
which us makes draw evil end
«puis revendra l'airs sains e freis.
then will-come-back the-air healthy and fresh
«Seient les triuës a treis meis
Let-be the truces at three months
«prises o ceus de la cité.»
taken with those of the city
Tuit ont le conseil creanté.
All have the counsel granted
La nuit, senz autre demorier,
The night without other delay
i alerent li messagier.
there went the messengers

Diomedès fist le message,
Diomedes did the message
e Ulixès, le pro, le sage,
and Ulysses the valiant the wise
armé d'armes sor lor chevaus.
armed with-arms on their horses
Encontre eus dous vint uns vassaus:
Against them two came a vassal
riches hom ert, de Troie nez;
rich man he-was of Troy born
Dolon sai qu'esteit apelez.
Dolon I-know that-he-was called
Chevaliers ert proz e corteis:
Knight he-was valiant and courteous
quant il aparçut les Grezeis,
when he caught-sight-of the Greeks
demandé lor a ambedous:
asked to-them he-has both
«Di, va,» fait il, «qui estes vos?
Say go-on says he who are you
«Armez vos vei, si est nuit neire:
Armed you I-see so it-is night black
«Reconoissiez m'en chose veire,
Acknowledge me-thereof thing true
«fous e estouz me resemblez.
mad and foolhardy to-me you-seem
«Que querez vos ne ou alez,
What seek you nor where go-you
«qui or chevauchiez a ceste hore?
who now ride at this hour

«Ne jo ne vei qui vos socore,
Nor I not see who you may-help
«se il vos torne a grant bosoing;
if it to-you turns to great need
«ne de ço n'estes guaires loing.
nor from that not-you-are much far
«N'en tornereiz mais hui ariere
Not-thence you-will-turn more today back
«que jo al meins en l'un ne fiere:
but-that I at-the least on the-one not may-strike
«L'aubers n'iert tant forz, se l'ataing,
The-hauberk not-will-be so strong if it-I-reach
«que al cors ne face entreseing
that on-the body not I-may-make mark
«tel, par que l'ame en iert a dire.»
such by which the-soul thereof will-be to say
Diomedès prist a sozrire:
Diomedes took to smile
«Vassaus,» fait il, «mout estes proz,
Vassal says he very you-are valiant
«coneü l'ai as premiers moz:
known it-I-have at-the first words
«Se o les diz i sont li fait,
If with the sayings there are the deeds
«embatu somes en fol plait.
fallen-into we-are into mad plea
«Por quant si n'i avreiz reguart
For all-that so not-there you-will-have fear
«a ceste feiz de nostre part,
at this time on our part

«se premiers vers nos n'enchaez.
if first toward us not-you-fall
«Seürs seiez, ne vos tamez:
Secure be-you not you fear
«Ja mar por nos fuireiz plein pié.
Ever ill for us you-will-flee full foot
«Li Greu nos ont ça enveié;
The Greeks us have hither sent
«parler alons al rei Priant.
to-speak we-go to-the king Priam
«Retorne o nos, si va avant,
Turn-back with us so go before
«si nos condui jusqu'al palais.
so us lead up-to-the palace
«Triuës volons tenir e pais
Truces we-wish to-hold and peace
«dous meis o treis, se il le vuelent,
two months or three if they it wish
«por enterrer les morz qui uelent.»
for to-bury the dead which stink
Dolon respont: «Ço sereit bien:
Dolon answers That would-be well
«Ja nel desvoudront Troïien,
Ever not-it will-refuse Trojans
«quar mout nos a ça enz afliz
for much us has here within afflicted
«l'olor des cors desseveliz.
the-smell of-the bodies unburied
«Se por ço non qu'armez vos vei,
If for that not that-armed you I-see

«menasse vos devant le rei:
I-would-lead you before the king
«Trop en crembreie estre blasmez,
Too-much thereof I-would-fear to-be blamed
«se devant lui vos meing armez.
if before him you I-lead armed
«Mais ja, por chose que j'en crienge
But ever for thing which I-thereof may-fear
«ne por damage qui m'en vienge,
nor for harm which to-me-thereof may-come
«ne laisserai qu'o vos n'en aille.
not I-shall-leave that-with you not-thence I-may-go
«Mestiers vos est qu'anuit vos vaille,
Need to-you is that-tonight you I-may-be-worth
«quar mout vos heent nostre gent.
for much you hate our folk
«Or chevauchiez seürement:
Now ride securely
«Nos vendra mais hui destorbiers
Not-to-you will-come more today hindrance
«qu'o vos n'en seie parçoniers.»
that-with you not-thereof I-may-be sharer
Danz Ulixès mout l'en mercie
Lord Ulysses much him-thereof thanks
e mout li pramet e afie
and much to-him promises and pledges
que, «se lieus est, le guerredon
that if place there-is the reward
«a cort terme vos en rendron:
at short term to-you thereof we-shall-render

«Ç'avient en l'an, o meins, espeir,
That-happens in the-year or less perhaps
«que l'om ne cuide ja veeir.»
which one not thinks ever to-see
Ensi parlant ont chevauchié:
Thus speaking they-have ridden
de plusors furent areisnié,
by many they-were addressed
mais lor conduiz por eus respont,
but their guide for them answers
dit que il quierent e ou vont.
says what they seek and where they-go
Tant espleitent qu'al palais vindrent:
So-much they-press that-at-the palace they-came
onques anceis resne ne tindrent.
ever before rein not they-held
Al mangier ert asis Prianz;
At-the eating was seated Priam
mout ert la cort pleniere e granz:
very was the court full and great
fu i Hector, Deïphebus,
was there Hector Deiphobus
Paris li beaus e Troïlus,
Paris the fair and Troilus
e tel trei mile chevalier
and such three thousand knights
qui asis furent al mangier,
who seated were at-the eating
n'i a pas dis n'aient testee,
not-there are at-all ten not-may-have head-wound

o coup o de lance o d'espee.
or blow or of lance or of-sword
Mout i pareist bien as plusors
Much there appeared well on-the most
qu'il ont sofert les granz estors:
that-they have suffered the great fights
chamoissié sont e enmaillié
bruised they-are and mail-marked
e des haubers entreseignié;
and by-the hauberks marked
les vis et les fronz ont escriz.
the faces and the foreheads they-have scored
Encens ne basmes ne raïz
Incense nor balms nor roots
n'ueut si soëf come il faiseient;
not-smells so sweet as they did
de noise faire se teneient.
from noise to-make themselves they-held
Mout par sont servi richement
Very much they-are served richly
en chiers vaisseaus d'or e d'argent.
in dear vessels of-gold and of-silver
Cil sont venu devant le deis,
Those are come before the dais
e Ulixès, li plus corteis
and Ulysses the most courteous
qui en l'ost fust de nul aage,
who in the-host were of any age
a dit al rei tot son message,
has said to-the king all his message

si come Agamennon lor mande.
so as Agamemnon to-them sends
E Prianz lor dit e comande
And Priam to-them says and commands
«qu'il s'atendent, sin parlera;
that-they themselves-wait so-thereof he-will-speak
après, si lor en respondra.»
after so to-them thereof he-will-answer
Ses reis, ses dus e ses privez
His kings his dukes and his intimates
a toz Prianz a sei mandez:
has all Priam to himself summoned
la parole lor a mostree,
the speech to-them he-has shown
que mout lor plaist e lor agree:
which much to-them pleases and to-them suits
«Seignor,» fait il, «ore esguardez
Lords says he now consider
«quos en voudreiz e qu'en loëz.
what-you thereof will-wish and what-thereof you-advise
«Treis meis nos quierent Greu de trieve
Three months to-us ask Greeks of truce
«por la puör, que mout les grieve,
for the stink which much them grieves
«des cors qui sor terre porrissent:
of-the bodies which on earth rot
«Il n'i a el, mais tuit perissent.
It not-there is else but all perish
«Mestier ravons grant de sojor:
Need again-we-have great of rest

«Las e navré sont li plusor;
Weary and wounded are the most
«nel porrions mais endurer.
not-it we-could more endure
«Chascuns en die son penser.»
Each thereof let-say his thought
Tuit l'otreient e mout lor plaist,
All it-grant and much to-them pleases
fors sol Hector, qui ne s'en taist:
except only Hector who not himself-thereof keeps-silent
«Seignor,» fait il, «mei est a vis
Lords says he to-me is at opinion
«qu'il ont trop granz triuës requis.
that-they have too great truces asked
«Decevant sont e engeignos,
Deceiving they-are and crafty
«mais ço n'est pas li proz de nos.
but that not-is at-all the profit of us
«La guarison d'este cité,
The provision of-this city
«le pain, le vin, la char, le blé
the bread the wine the meat the wheat
«nos vuelent faire deguaster,
us they-wish to-make to-waste
«mais mout avons mal sojorner:
but much we-have ill to-rest
«Toleiz nos ont les guaaignages,
Taken from-us they-have the tilled-lands
«les porz de mer e les passages.
the ports of sea and the passages

«Por quei nos soferrons enclos
For what us we-shall-suffer shut-in
«ne que nos vaudra cist repos,
nor what to-us will-avail this rest
«quant combatre nos restovra?
when to-fight us again-will-behoove
«Si savons bien que cil deça
So we-know well that those on-this-side
«le font por nos plus damagier.
it do for us more to-harm
«Piece a ne lor lut porchacier;
A-while ago not to-them it-was-allowed to-forage
«tant par a duré la bataille
so very has lasted the battle
«que grant sofraite ont de vitaille;
that great want they-have of victuals
«querre en vuelent e près e loing.
to-seek thereof they-wish both near and far
«Par estoveir e par bosoing
By necessity and by need
«nos ont il tel terme requis.
to-us have they such term asked
«N'eüst joi pro de quinze dis
Not-would-have I-there enough of fifteen days
«as morz ardeir e enterrer
for-the dead to-burn and to-bury
«e a toz les chans delivrer?
and to all the fields to-clear
«Oïl, par le mien esciënt.
Yes by the my knowledge

«Mais l'art e le decevement
But the-art and the deceit
«qui est en eus ne conoist rien:
which is in them not knows anything
«Ne m'est pas a vis que seit bien.
Not to-me-is at-all at opinion that may-be well
«Non pas por ço que sous desface
Not at-all for that that alone I-may-undo
«chose qu'a toz seit bele e place:
thing which-to all may-be fair and may-please
«Voz volentez engré e vueil;
Your wills I-grant and wish
«trop i fereie grant orgueil,
too-great there I-would-do great pride
«se jo desvoleie toz sous
if I refused all alone
«iço que agree a toz vos.»
that which pleases to all you
Mainte parole i ot parlee,
Many-a word there was spoken
ainz que la triuë fust donee.
before that the truce were given
Le lonc espace e le sojor
The long space and the rest
en aiment mout tuit li plusor,
thereof love much all the most
quar mout sont las e enoié,
for much they-are weary and vexed
blecié, lassé e travaillié:
hurt wearied and worn

por ço fu de toz creanté.
for that it-was by all granted
Li reis Prianz l'a afïé,
The king Priam it-has pledged
e cil tres bien de la lor part,
and those very well on the their part
que nes uns hom n'i ait reguart.
that not-even one man not-there may-have fear
Après tornerent as herberges:
After they-turned to-the lodgings
n'ert pas la nuit li cieus tenerges,
not-was at-all the night the sky dark
ainz raiot la lune auques cler.
rather again-shone the moon somewhat bright
Quant tot lor ot fait trespasser
When all them had made pass
Dolon la vile e les destreiz:
Dolon the town and the narrow-ways
«Seignor,» fait il, «dès ore ireiz
Lords says he from now you-will-go
«a hait soëf le pas o tost:
at ease gentle the pace or quick
«Ne cremez rien desci qu'en l'ost.»
Not fear anything until that-in the-host
Andui ont pris de lui congié,
Both have taken of him leave
en l'ost des Greus sont repairié:
in the-host of-the Greeks they-are returned
la triuë diënt qu'est donee,
the truce they-say that-is given

del rei e des suens afiëe.
by-the king and by-the his pledged
Par les tentes en font grant joie,
Through the tents thereof they-make great joy
e ensement par tote Troie.
and likewise through all Troy
Mout lor est bel, mout en sont lié;
Much to-them it-is fair much thereof they-are glad
e quant li jorz fu esclairié,
and when the day was brightened
comunaument les cors amassent,
in-common the bodies they-gather
a cenz, a miliers les entassent;
by hundreds by thousands them they-heap
par lieus en font granz aünees,
by places thereof they-make great gatherings
granz monceaus e granz assemblees.
great heaps and great assemblies
Le bois atraient des montaignes:
The wood they-draw from-the mountains
mout par i vait de granz compaignes,
very much there goes of great companies
mout par i suefrent grant labor.
very much there suffer great labor
Ardent les cors e nuit e jor,
They-burn the bodies both night and day
li ré ardent par plusors lieus:
the pyres burn in many places
mout en est laiz e neirs li cieus.
much thereby is ugly and black the sky

Cil de Troie les lor alument:
Those of Troy the theirs kindle
tuit li convers e li champ fument;
all the slopes and the fields smoke
contre le feu croissent li os.
against the fire crack the bones
N'i a nul d'eus qui seit si os —
Not-there is any of-them who may-be so bold
tant fortment ueut e put e flaire, —
so greatly it-smells and stinks and reeks
tant come il art, qui s'i ost traire.
so-long as it burns who himself-there dare draw
Quinze jorz ont entiers duré
Fifteen days have whole lasted
la grant arson e li grant ré:
the great burning and the great pyres
mout i ont travaillié lor cors
much there they-have wearied their bodies
e cil dedenz e cil defors.
both those within and those outside
Li rei, li duc qui sont ocis
The kings the dukes who are killed
sont mout ploré de lor amis.
are much wept by their friends
En sarquieuz riches de liois
In coffins rich of hard-stone
e de fin marbre verz e blois,
and of fine marble green and blue

jaunes e pers, menuz gotez,
yellow and purple small dotted
sont seveliz e enterrez.
they-are shrouded and buried
Quant la terre fu delivree
When the earth was freed
e cele olor fu trespassee,
and that smell was passed
l'aure venta soëf e saine,
the-breeze blew gentle and healthy
e cil qui orent trait la peine
and those who had drawn the pain
se reposerent volentiers,
themselves rested willingly
quar mout lor en ert granz mestiers;
for much to-them thereof was great need
mout s'esjoïssent del sojor,
much themselves-rejoice in-the rest
mais Troïen ne cessent jor
but Trojans not cease day
d'eus enforcier e atorner
themselves to-strengthen and prepare
e des granz fossez reparer.
and the great ditches to-repair
Les murs haucent la ou sont bas
The walls they-raise there where they-are low
e granz trenchiees font as pas.
and great trenches they-make at-the passes

Al mieuz qu'il porent s'atornerent,
At-the best that-they could themselves-they-prepared
tant com les triuës lor durerent.
as-long as the truces to-them lasted
A parlement vindrent un jor
To parley came one day
li rei, li prince e li contor.
the kings the princes and the counts
Prianz i fu e tuit si fil
Priam there was and all his sons
e autre chevalier tel mil,
and other knights such thousand
dont li plus povre aveit cité,
of-whom the most poor had city
tor o chastel o fermeté.
tower or castle or stronghold
Agamennon e Menelaus,
Agamemnon and Menelaus
Reis Telamon, reis Aïaus
King Telamon king Ajax
e li haut home des Grezeis,
and the high men of-the Greeks
contes, dus, amirauz e reis,
counts dukes emirs and kings
i sont venu de l'autre part:
there are come from the-other part
li un des autres n'ont reguart.
the some of-the others not-have fear

Grant sont li renc, granz les conseiz
Great are the ranks great the counsels
qu'il se mandent par plusors feiz;
which-they themselves send by many times
mais onc requeste que fust faite
but ever request which were made
ne pot le jor estre a chief traite,
not could the day be to end drawn
fors d'Antenor e de Thoas:
except of-Antenor and of Thoas
cil furent quite en es le pas.
those were quit on the-very the spot
Por l'un a l'om l'autre quité:
For the-one has one the-other released
grant joie en font en la cité,
great joy thereof they-make in the city
e de Thoas en l'ost Grezeis.
and of Thoas in the-host Greek
Calcas li sages, li corteis,
Calchas the wise the courteous
ot une fille mout preisiee,
had a daughter very prized
bele e corteise e enseigniee:
fair and courteous and well-taught
de li esteit grant renomee,
of her was great renown
Briseïda ert apelee.
Briseida she-was called
Calcas ot dit Agamennon,
Calchas had told (to-)Agamemnon

as autres reis, a Telamon,
to-the other kings to Telamon
qu'il la demandassent Priant:
that-they her should-ask (of-)Priam
«Ne voleit pas d'ore en avant
Not he-wished at-all from now on
qu'ele fust plus en lor comune,
that-she were more in their company
car trop les het, ço set, Fortune;
for too-much them hates that knows Fortune
si ne vueut pas qu'o eus perisse,
so not he-wishes at-all that-with them she-may-perish
en l'ost o lui vueut que s'en isse.»
in the-host with him he-wishes that herself-thence she-may-come-out
Ceste requeste fu bien faite:
This request was well made
mainte parole i ot retraite.
many-a word there was related
Calcas blasmerent Troïien,
Calchas blamed Trojans
diënt que plus est vis d'un chien:
they-say that more he-is vile than-a dog
«De toz hontos e de toz vis
Of all shameful and of all vile
«est il curaille li chaitis,
is he offal the wretch
«qui riche e haut ert entre nos,
who rich and high was among us
«puis nos guerpi, s'ala a vos.»
then us he-abandoned himself-went to you

Li reis Prianz jure e afie,
The king Priam swears and pledges
s'aveir le puet en sa baillie,
if-have him he-can in his power
que male fin li fera traire,
that evil end to-him he-will-make draw
c'iert a chevaus rompre e detraire:
that-will-be by horses to-break and tear-apart
«Se por ço non que la pucele
If for that not that the maiden
est franche e proz e sage e bele,
is noble and valiant and wise and fair
por lui fust arse e desmembree.»
for him she-would-be burned and dismembered
Nos en quier faire demoree,
Not-you thereof I-seek to-make delay
li reis Prianz la lor otreie:
the king Priam her to-them grants
«Aler s'en puet, tienge sa veie;
Go herself-thence she-can let-her-hold her way
qu'il ne het rien», ço lor dit, «tant
for-he not hates anything that to-them he-says so-much
come le vieil, le soduiant;
as the old the deceiver
ne vueut que rien que a lui taigne
not he-wishes that anything that to him may-belong
en sa cité seit ne remaigne.»
in his city may-be nor may-remain

Achilles and Hector Meet

LV

During the truce Achilles visits Hector with a hundred kings and lords. Achilles says he has never seen Hector unarmed, that he carries Hector's death in his hands and will avenge Patroclus. Hector proposes a single combat to end the war, with hostages on both sides, the losers to leave the land, and taunts Achilles over Patroclus. Achilles accepts at once. But Agamemnon and the Greek lords refuse to stake everything on one knight, and Achilles swears never to help them again; in Troy the queen, the ladies, and the Trojans also refuse, except Priam, and the high men part with the combat called off.

A Hector vait danz Achillès
To Hector goes lord Achilles
o teus cent chevaliers e mais,
with such a-hundred knights and more
qui tuit erent rei, o contor,
who all were kings or counts
o amiraut, o aumaçor.
or emirs or almanzors
De ceus dedenz i rest la flor
Of those within there again-is the flower
e des Grezeis tuit li meillor.
and of-the Greeks all the best
La ot retrait chevaleries
There was recounted chivalries
e de plusors fait aaties;
and by many made boasts

la ot parlé del desconfire
there was spoken of-the routing
quin iert li mieudre, qui li pire;
who-thereof will-be the best who the worst
qui jostera, qui sera pris;
who will-joust who will-be taken
quin iert blasmez, quin avra pris.
who-thereof will-be blamed who-thereof will-have praise
En plusors sens se contraliënt:
In many ways themselves they-contradict
li un s'iraissent, l'autre en riënt:
the some themselves-anger the-others thereof laugh
«Beaus sire Hector,» fait Achillès,
Fair lord Hector says Achilles
«onc de mes ieuz ne vos vi mais
ever with my eyes not you I-saw more
«que n'eüsseiz la teste armee.
that not-you-had the head armed
«Mout truis vers vos dure meslee;
Much I-find toward you hard melee
«ço est de loinz, se vos m'amez.
that is from far if you me-love
«A mon hauberc pareist assez:
On my hauberk it-appears enough
«Sovent m'en derompez les laz.
Often to-me-thereof you-break the laces
«Se de la force de voz braz
If from the force of your arms
«ne me puis guarder ne defendre,
not myself I-can guard nor defend

«la mort m'en covendra a prendre.
the death me-thereof will-behoove to take
«Mais, par toz les deus soverains,
But by all the gods sovereign
«de ço reseiez toz certains,
of that be-you-also all certain
«se Patroclon vengier poëie,
if Patroclus avenge I-could
«mout volentiers m'en penereie.
very willingly myself-thereto I-would-strive
«Grant duel avez en mon cuer mis,
Great grief you-have in my heart put
«mais jo espeir, e sin sui fis,
but I hope and so-thereof am sure
«que j'en avrai mon desirier,
that I-thereof shall-have my desire
«que que il deie porloignier.
whatever that it may delay
«Ja si de mei nos guardereiz
Ever so from me not-you will-guard
«que ne vos ataigne une feiz:
that not you I-may-reach one time
«C'iert, se jo puis, en tel maniere
That-will-be if I can in such manner
«qu'om vos en portera en biere.
that-one you thence will-carry on bier
«De ço poëz estre seürs,
Of that you-can be sure
«se vos sovent eissiez des murs.
if you often go-out from-the walls

«Jo m'i atent e atendrai:
I myself-there await and will-await
«Desci qu'al jor que jol verrai
Until that-at-the day that I-it will-see
«n'i a guaires, j'en sui certains:
not-there is much I-thereof am certain
«Vostre mort port en cez dous mains».
Your death I-carry in these two hands
Hector respont: «Sire Achillès,
Hector answers Lord Achilles
«se jo vos hé, jo n'en puis mais:
if I you hate I not-thereof can more
«Mout par i a acheison grant.
Much very there is cause great
«N'irai or ja plus atendant,
Not-I-shall-go now ever more waiting
«mais se tant vos fiëz en vos,
but if so-much you trust in yourself
«seit la bataille entre nos dous;
let-be the battle between us two
«e s'en champ me poëz conquerre,
and if-in field me you-can conquer
«Troïen guerpiront la terre,
Trojans will-abandon the land
«que ja uns sous n'en i remaigne
so-that ever one alone not-thereof there may-remain
«qui ne s'en fuie en terre estraigne.
who not himself-thence may-flee into land foreign

«Ço vos ferai aseürer
That to-you I-shall-make assure
«e bons ostages ja livrer,
and good hostages at-once deliver
«mais autretel refaceiz mei:
but such-the-same do-again-you me
«Si pro vos sai e cuit e vei,
So valiant you I-know and think and see
«ja devers vos ne remandra.
ever on-the-side-of you not it-will-remain
«L'ire grant que vostre cuers a
The-wrath great which your heart has
«porreiz vengier e les mesfaiz
you-will-be-able to-avenge and the misdeeds
«que tant dites que vos ai faiz,
which so-much you-say that to-you I-have done
«e la dolor del compaignon
and the grief of-the companion
«dont j'ai fait la desevreison,
of-whom I-have made the separation
«que tantes feiz avez sentu
whom so-many times you-have felt
«entre voz braz tot nu a nu,
between your arms all naked to naked
«et autres gieus vis e hontos,
and other games vile and shameful

«dont li plusor sont haïnos
of-which the most are hateful
«as deus, quin prenent la venjance
to-the gods who-thereof take the vengeance
«par la lor devine poissance.
by the their divine power
«Granz biens sereit, se par nos dous
Great good it-would-be if by us two
«en erent tant de mort rescos
thereof were so-many from death rescued
«e si mortel guerre fenie,
and so mortal war ended
«dont cent mile perdront la vie.
whereof a-hundred thousand will-lose the life
«Par noz cors en puet estre fin
By our bodies thereof can be end
«ancore anuit o le matin».
yet tonight or the morning
Ire e vergoigne ot Achillès:
Wrath and shame had Achilles
«Jo ne vivrai,» fait il, «ja mais
I not shall-live says he ever more
«jor el siegle senz deshonor,
day in-the world without dishonor
«que l'om ne m'en tienge a peior,
that one not me-thereof may-hold for worse
«se ja de ceste en mei defaut.
if ever of this in me it-fails
«Querez qui voz ostages baut:
Seek who your hostages may-deliver

«Jo referai les miens livrer.
I again-shall-make the mine deliver
«A ço ne quier plus demorer:
To that not I-seek more to-delay
«Toz prez en sui, ne m'en guenchis.
All ready for-it I-am not myself-thence I-turn-aside
«N'en seit ja jorz ne termes pris,
Not-thereof let-be ever day nor term taken
«mais faites voz armes venir,
but have your arms come
«si seions mis al covenir.»
so let-us-be put at-the agreement
Departent sei por rassembler:
They-part themselves for to-reassemble
la veïsseiz genz aüner.
there you-would-have-seen folk gather
Entor Hector sont Troïen,
Around Hector are Trojans
a Achillès vienent li suen.
to Achilles come the his
De la bataille qu'il ont prise
Of the battle which-they have taken
parolent tuit en mainte guise:
speak all in many-a way
la ot estrangement parlé
there was strangely spoken
e maint conseil pris e doné.
and many-a counsel taken and given

Agamennon ne li haut home
Agamemnon nor the high men
ne vuelent pas, ço est la some,
not wish at-all that is the sum
qu'Achillès face la bataille.
that-Achilles may-do the battle
Mais jo vos di por veir, senz faille,
But I to-you say for true without fail
que en lui mie ne remaint;
that in him at-all not it-remains
quar d'eus se claime e d'eus se plaint
for of-them himself he-complains and of-them himself he-laments
que si le vuelent abaissier,
that so him they-wish to-lower
quant por le cors d'un chevalier
when for the body of-a knight
nel laissent metre en aventure.
not-him they-let put in hazard
Mout s'en corroce e mout en jure
Much himself-thereof he-angers and much thereof he-swears
que ja de lui mais en sa vie
that ever from him more in his life
n'avront ne socors ne aïe.
not-they-will-have nor help nor aid
D'Ector quos ireie acontant?
Of-Hector why-you would-I-go recounting
Par Troie est la tomoute grant.
Through Troy is the tumult great

A la reïne e as puceles
To the queen and to-the maidens
en sont contees les noveles:
thereof are told the news
por la paor, por l'esmaiance,
for the fear for the-dismay
por la pitié, por la dotance,
for the pity for the doubt
ont mout ploré e grant duel fait.
they-have much wept and great grief made
Quos en fereie plus lonc plait?
Why-you thereof would-I-make more long speech
Ne vuelent sofrir Troïen
Not wish to-suffer Trojans
a nes un fuer n'a nes un sen
at not-even one price nor-at not-even one way
qu'Ector se combate por eus.
that-Hector himself may-fight for them
Onc tel merveille ne teus dueus
Ever such marvel nor such griefs
ne vit mais nus hom a gent faire.
not saw ever any man to folk make
Tuit vuelent oster e desfaire
All wish to-remove and undo
que la bataille pas ne seit:
that the battle at-all not may-be
a toz vos di que desplaiseit,
to all to-you I-say that it-displeased
fors solement al rei Priant;
except only to-the king Priam

mais a son dit n'a son semblant
but at his word nor-at his look
ne pert il pas qu'il le desvueille,
not appears it at-all that-he it may-refuse
la soë face pas ne mueille.
the his face at-all not he-wets
Que que chascuns parout ne die,
Whatever that each may-speak nor may-say
il set mout bien ou il se fie.
he knows very well where he himself trusts
La bataille sai qu'il vousist,
The battle I-know that-he would-have-wished
se es Grezeis ne defaillist;
if in-the Greeks not it-had-failed
ja par lui ne fust desloë,
ever by him not it-would-be dissuaded
sempres ceinsist Hector s'espee,
at-once would-have-girded Hector his-sword
el champ entrast armez maneis,
into-the field would-have-entered armed forthwith
mais li haut home des Grezeis,
but the high men of-the Greeks
li duc, li prince e li contor,
the dukes the princes and the counts
tuit li plus sage e li meillor
all the most wise and the best
ont tant parlé e dit e fait
have so-much spoken and said and done
que l'uns ne l'autre n'i a lait
that the-one nor the-other not-there has insult

ne rien que tort a deshonor.
nor anything which may-turn to dishonor
Ensi departirent le jor.
Thus they-parted the day

Troilus and Briseida

LVI

Troilus grieves, for Briseida, whom he loves and who has given herself to him, must go to the Greek camp. She laments that she must leave Troy and Troilus. They spend the night together weeping. Next morning she dresses in her richest clothes, including a mantle made by enchantment in Upper India, which changes color, and is lined with the skin of a beast hunted by the Cenocephali. She takes leave of the queen, Helen and the maidens, and the king's sons escort her out. The poet says her grief will soon be forgotten, and that woman's grief is short-lived. He then praises a rich lady and Solomon's strong woman.

Qui qu'eüst joie ne leece,
Whoever that-may-have-had joy nor gladness
Troïlus ot ire e tristece:
Troilus had wrath and sadness
ço est por la fille Calcas,
that is for the daughter (of-)Calchas
quar il ne l'amot mie a guas.
for he not her-loved at-all in jest
Tot son cuer aveit en li mis;
All his heart he-had in her put
si par ert de s'amor espris
so very he-was with her-love inflamed
qu'il n'entendeit se a li non.
that-he not-attended if to her not

El li raveit de sei fait don
She to-him again-had of herself made gift
e de son cors e de s'amor:
both of her body and of her-love
ço saveient tuit li plusor.
that knew all the most
Quant dit li fu, quel sot de veir,
When told to-her it-was which-she knew of truth
que par force e par estoveir
that by force and by necessity
l'en coveneit en l'ost aler,
her-thence it-behooved into the-host to-go
n'i aveit rien del plus ester,
not-there was anything of-the more to-stay
mout ot grant duel, mout ot grant ire.
very she-had great grief very she-had great wrath
Des ieuz plore, del cuer sospire:
With-the eyes she-weeps from-the heart she-sighs
«Lasse», fait el, «quel destinee,
Alas says she what destiny
«quant la vile dont jo sui nee
when the town whence I am born
«m'estuet guerpir en tel maniere!
me-behooves to-abandon in such manner
«A une assez vil chamberiere
To a quite vile chambermaid
«sereit il d'estre en ost grant honte:
would-be it of-being in host great shame

«N'i conois rei, ne duc, ne conte
Not-there I-know king nor duke nor count
«qui ja honor ne bien m'i face.
who ever honor nor good to-me-there may-do
«Or moilleront lermes ma face
Now will-wet tears my face
«chascun jor mais, senz alejance.
each day more without relief
«Ha! Troïlus, quel atendance
Ah Troilus what expectation
«ai faite en vos, beaus douz amis!
I-have made in you fair sweet friend
«Ja mais nul jor que seiez vis
Ever more any day that you-may-be alive
«nos amera rien plus de mei.
not-you will-love anything more than me
«Mout a mal fait Prianz, le rei,
Very has ill done Priam the king
«qui de sa vile m'en enveie.
who from his town me-thence sends
«Ja Deu ne place que jo seie
Ever God not may-it-please that I may-be
«vive desci qu'a l'ajornant!
alive until that-at the-dawning
«La mort vueil e quier e demant.»
The death I-wish and seek and ask
La nuit vait a li Troïlus,
The night goes to her Troilus
qu'iriez est si qu'il ne puet plus.
who-angered is so that-he not can more

Del conforter n'i a neient:
Of-the comforting not-there is nothing
chascuns d'eus plore tendrement,
each of-them weeps tenderly
quar bien sevent que l'endemain
for well they-know that the-next-day
seront l'uns de l'autre lontain;
they-will-be the-one from the-other distant
n'avront plus aise ne leisor
not-they-will-have more ease nor leisure
de faire ensemble lor amor.
of to-make together their love
Tant com lor leist, qu'il en ont aise,
As-much as to-them it-is-allowed that-they thereof have ease
vos di que l'uns d'eus l'autre baise;
to-you I-say that the-one of-them the-other kisses
mais la dolor qu'al cuer lor toche
but the grief which-at-the heart them touches
lor fait venir par mi la boche
to-them makes come through the-midst the mouth
les lermes qu'il lor chiet des ieuz.
the tears which to-them falls from-the eyes
Entre eus n'a ire ne orguieuz,
Between them not-is wrath nor prides
defension ne descordance.
defense nor discord
En grant dolor e en pesance
In great grief and in sorrow
les ont cil mis qui ço lor font:
them have those put who that to-them do

ja Deus joïr ne lor en dont!
ever God to-enjoy not to-them thereof may-give
Le pechié deit espeneïr
The sin he-ought to-expiate
qui dous amanz fait departir,
who two lovers makes to-part
ensi come li Grezeis firent,
thus as the Greeks did
qui puis griefment l'espeneïrent.
who after grievously it-expiated
Troïlus les haeit devant:
Troilus them hated before
puis lor mostra e fist semblant
then to-them showed and made semblance
qu'il li aveient fait tel chose
that-they to-him had done such thing
dont li membra puis a grant pose.
whereof to-him remembered after at great while
Onc ne s'en sorent si guarder
Ever not themselves-thence they-knew so guard
qu'il ne lor feïst comparer.
that-he not to-them made pay-for
La nuit orent ensemble esté,
The night they-had together been
mais mout lor a petit duré.
but very to-them has little lasted
Assez fu griés li departirs,
Enough was grievous the parting
geté i ot plainz e sospirs;
thrown there was laments and sighs

e l'endemain, quant fu cler jor,
and the-next-day when it-was bright day
fist la pucele son ator.
made the maiden her preparation
Ses chiers aveirs fist enmaler,
Her dear goods she-had put-in-chests
ses dras e ses robes trosser;
her cloths and her robes packed
son cors vesti e atorna
her body she-dressed and adorned
des plus chiers guarnemenz qu'ele a.
with-the most dear garments which-she has
D'un drap de seie a or brosdé,
Of-a cloth of silk with gold embroidered
a riches uevres bien ovré,
with rich works well wrought
ot un bliaut forré d'ermine,
she-had a tunic lined with-ermine
lonc que par terre li traïne,
long so-that on ground to-her it-trails
qui trop fu riche e avenant
which very was rich and becoming
e a son cors si bien estant
and to her body so well fitting
qu'el mont n'a rien, s'el la vestist,
that-in-the world not-is thing if-she it wore
plus bel de cel li avenist.
more fair than that to-her would-become

En Inde la Superior
In India the Upper
firent un drap enchanteor
they-made a cloth enchanted
par nigromance e par merveille:
by necromancy and by marvel
n'est pas la rose si vermeille,
not-is at-all the rose so vermilion
ne si blanche la flor de lis,
nor so white the flower of lily
com le jor est, cinc feiz o sis.
as the day it-is five times or six
Le jor est bien de set colors,
The day it-is well of seven colors
si n'a soz ciel bestes ne flors
so not-there-is under heaven beasts nor flowers
dont l'om n'i veie portraitures,
of-which one not-there may-see portrayals
formes, semblances e figures.
forms likenesses and figures
Toz jorz est freis, toz jorz est beaus:
All days it-is fresh all days it-is fair
de cel drap fu faiz li manteaus.
of that cloth was made the mantle
Un sage poëte Indiien,
A wise poet Indian
qui o Calcas le Troiien
who with Calchas the Trojan
ot esté longement apris,
had been long taught

li enveia de son païs.
to-her sent from his country
Onc nus nel vit n'eüst merveille
Ever any not-it saw not-may-have-had marvel
qui est qui tel chose apareille,
who it-is who such thing prepares
quar a si faite uevre bastir
for at so made work to-build
covient grant sen e grant avir.
it-behooves great sense and great wealth
Del mantel fu la pane chiere,
Of-the mantle was the lining dear
tote enterine e tote entiere:
all whole and all entire
n'i ot ne piece ne costure.
not-there was nor piece nor seam
Ço truevent clerc en escriture
That find clerks in writing
que bestes a vers Oriant, —
that beasts there-are toward the-East
cele de treis anz est mout grant, —
that-one of three years is very great
l'om les claime dindialos;
one them calls dindialos
mout vaut la pel e plus li os.
much is-worth the skin and more the bone
Onc Deus ne fist cele color,
Ever God not made that color
en teint n'en herbe ne en flor,
in dye nor-in grass nor in flower

dont la pel ne seit coloree.
of-which the skin not may-be colored
Gent sauvage d'une contree
Folk wild of-a country
qui Cenocefali ont non, —
who Cenocephali have name
lait sont e d'estrange façon, —
ugly they-are and of-strange fashion
cil les prenent, mais c'est a tart,
those them take but it-is at late
e si vos dirai par quel art.
and so to-you I-shall-tell by what art
La ou il sont a grant arson,
There where they are in great burning
n'i a ne ombre ne boisson;
not-there is nor shade nor bush
mais li mostre, li aversier
but the monsters the devils
prenent les rains del balsamier,
take the boughs of-the balsam-tree
lor cors en cuevrent e lor braz, —
their bodies thereof they-cover and their arms
n'i font ne pieges n'autres laz, —
not-there they-make nor snares nor-other laces
e la beste, que n'est pas sage,
and the beast which not-is at-all wise
vient a la fueille e a l'ombrage.
comes to the leaf and to the-shade
Ne set sa mort ne son encombre:
Not it-knows its death nor its trouble

broste, puis si s'endort en l'ombre.
it-browses then so itself-falls-asleep in the-shade
Cil la tue, qui mainte feiz
That-one it kills who many-a time
en est jusqu'a la mort destreiz,
thereby is unto the death distressed
o ars o esteinz de chalor.
or burned or extinguished by heat
Il n'i vont mie chascun jor.
They not-there go at-all each day
D'icele beste fu la pane:
Of-that beast was the lining
basmes, encens ne tumiame
balms incense nor thymiama
n'uelent si bien come el faiseit;
not-smell so well as it did
tot le drap del mantel covreit;
all the cloth of-the mantle it-covered
deugiee ert plus que nus hermines.
soft it-was more than any ermines
L'orles n'ert pas de sambelines,
The-border not-it-was at-all of sables
qui d'unes bestes de grant pris:
which of-some beasts of great worth
dedenz le flun de Paradis
within the river of Paradise
sont e conversent, ço set l'om,
are and dwell that knows one
se ço est veir que nos lison.
if that is true which we read

D'inde e de jaune sont gotees.
With-blue and with yellow they-are spotted
Trop sereient chier achatees,
Too-much they-would-be dearly bought
quin trovereit; mais, par ma fei,
who-of-them would-find but by my faith
si com jo cuit e com jo crei,
so as I think and as I believe
n'en furent onques prises dis:
not-of-them were ever taken ten
n'est nule beste de lor pris.
not-is any beast of their worth
De dous robins sont li tassel:
Of two rubies are the clasps
onques si riche ne si bel
ever so rich nor so fair
ne furent veü n'esguardé.
not were seen nor-looked-at
Quant son cors ot gent atorné,
When her body she-had nobly adorned
congié a pris de mainte gent,
leave she-has taken of many-a folk
qui de li furent mout dolent.
who for her were very sorrowful
Les puceles e la reïne
The maidens and the queen
ont grant pitié de la meschine,
have great pity for the girl
e mout en plore dame Heleine;
and much thereof weeps lady Helen

e cele, que n'est pas vilaine,
and she who not-is at-all base
se part d'eles o plors, o criz,
herself parts from-them with weeping with cries
quar mout par est sis cuers marriz:
for much very is her heart grieved
rien ne la veit pitié n'en ait.
anyone not her sees pity not-thereof may-have
Un palefrei li ont fors trait:
A palfrey to-her they-have out drawn
onques pucele a nes un jor
ever maiden on not-even one day
ne chevaucha, ço cuit, meillor.
not rode that I-think better
Li conveiz fu des fiz le rei:
The escort was of-the sons of-the king
o li s'en issent plus de trei.
with her themselves-thence go-out more than three
Troïlus a sa resne prise,
Troilus has her rein taken
qui mout l'ama d'estrange guise.
who much her-loved in-strange manner
Mais or faudra, dès or remaint:
But now it-will-fail from now it-remains
por que chascuns sospire e plaint.
for which each sighs and laments
Mais, se la danzele est iriee,
But if the damsel is angered
par tens resera apaiee;
in time she-will-be-again appeased

son duel avra tost oblïé
her grief she-will-have soon forgotten
e son corage si müé
and her heart so changed
que poi li iert de ceus de Troie.
that little to-her it-will-be of those of Troy
S'ele a hui duel, el ravra joie
If-she has today grief she again-will-have joy
de tel qui onc ne la vit jor:
of such who ever not her saw day
tost i avra torné s'amor,
soon there she-will-have turned her-love
tost en sera reconfortee.
soon thereby she-will-be comforted
Femme n'iert ja trop esguaree:
Woman not-will-be ever too-much bewildered
por ço qu'ele truist ou choisir,
for that that-she may-find where to-choose
poi durent puis li suen sospir.
little last after the her sighs
A femme dure dueus petit:
To woman lasts grief little
a l'un ueil plore, a l'autre rit.
with the-one eye she-weeps with the-other she-laughs
Mout muënt tost li lor corage.
Much change soon the their hearts
Assez est fole la plus sage:
Enough is foolish the most wise

quant qu'ele a en set anz amé
whatever that-she has in seven years loved
a ele en treis jorz oblïé.
has she in three days forgotten
Onc nule ne sot duel aveir.
Ever any not knew grief to-have
Mout lor pert bien de lor saveir:
Very to-them appears well of their wisdom
ja n'avront tant nul jor mesfait
ever not-they-will-have so-much any day misdone
chose ne rien que tant seit lait,
thing nor anything which so-much may-be ugly
ço lor est vis, qui que les veie,
that to-them is opinion whoever that them may-see
que l'om ja blasmer les en deie.
that one ever to-blame them thereof ought
Ja jor ne cuideront mesfaire:
Ever day not they-will-think to-misdo
des folies est ço la maire.
of-the follies is that the greatest
Qui s'i atent ne qui s'i creit
Who himself-thereon waits nor who himself-thereon trusts
sei meïsme vent e deceit.
himself same sells and deceives
De cest, veir, criem g'estre blasmez
For this truth I-fear I-to-be blamed
de cele que tant a bontez
by her who so-much has bounties
que hautece a, pris e valor,
who highness has worth and worth

honesté e sen e honor,
honesty and sense and honor
bien e mesure e sainteé,
good and measure and holiness
e noble largece e beauté;
and noble largesse and beauty
en cui mesfait de dames maint
in whom misdeeds of ladies many-a
sont par le bien de li esteint;
are by the good of her extinguished
en cui tote sciënce abonde,
in whom all knowledge abounds
a la cui n'est nule seconde
to the whom not-is any second
que el mont seit de nule lei.
which in-the world may-be of any law
Riche dame de riche rei,
Rich lady of rich king
senz mal, senz ire, senz tristece,
without ill without wrath without sadness
poisseiz aveir toz jorz leece!
may-you have all days gladness
Salemon dit en son escrit,
Solomon says in his writing
cil qui tant ot sage esperit:
he who so-much had wise spirit
«Qui fort femme porreit trover
Who strong woman could find
«le Criator devreit loër.»
the Creator ought to-praise

Fort l'apele por les feblors
Strong her-he-calls for the feebler
qu'il sot e conut es plusors;
whom-he knew and recognized in-the most
fort est cele qui se defent
strong is she who herself defends
que fous corages ne la prent.
so-that mad heart not her takes
Beauté e chasteé ensemble
Beauty and chastity together
est mout grief chose, ço me semble:
is very grievous thing that to-me seems
soz ciel n'a rien tant coveitiee.
under heaven not-is thing so-much coveted
Assez avient mainte feiee
Enough befalls many-a time
que par l'enui des preiëors
that by the-pestering of-the suitors
en sont conquises les meillors:
thereof are conquered the best
merveille est com rien se defent
marvel it-is how anyone herself defends
a cui l'om puet parler sovent.
to whom one can speak often
Quis trueve beles e leiaus,
Who-them finds fair and loyal
uns des angeles esperitaus
one of-the angels spiritual
ne deit estre plus chiers tenuz:
not ought to-be more dear held

13490 chiere pierre ne ors moluz
dear stone nor gold ground
n'est a cel tresor comparez.
not-is to that treasure compared
Ici porrions dire assez,
Here we-could say enough
mais n'est or lieus: retornerons
but not-is now place we-shall-return
a ço que proposé avons.
to that which proposed we-have

The Suit of Diomedes

LVII

Briseida begs Troilus not to forget her, and they pledge their love before parting. Outside the town the escort delivers her to Diomedes, Telamon, Ulysses, Ajax, Menestheus, and sixty knights. Diomedes leads her toward the camp and at once declares his love, asking to be her knight. Briseida answers that it would be neither right nor wise to give her love so soon. She has lost her friends and her home, and a maiden alone in a camp must guard herself from blame. She does not refuse him for any fault of his, but she has no heart to love him or any man now.

13495 La danzele cuide morir,
The damsel thinks to-die
quant de celui deit departir
when from that-one she-must part
qu'ele tant aime e tant a chier.
whom-she so-much loves and so-much has dear

Ne li fine hore de preier
Not to-him ceases hour from begging
qu'il ne l'oblit, quar a sa vie
that-he not her-may-forget for in her life
ne sera ja autrui amie;
not she-will-be ever another's beloved
s'amor toz jorz li guardera,
her-love all days for-him she-will-keep
ja mais jor autre ne l'avra,
ever more day other not her-will-have
ne rien n'avra joie de li:
nor anyone not-will-have joy of her
«Bele,» fait il, «or vos en pri,
Fair says he now you thereof I-beg
«s'onc m'amastes, ore i pareisse!
if-ever me-you-loved now there let-it-appear
«Ne vueil que nostre amor descreisse:
Not I-wish that our love may-decrease
«De meie part vos di jo bien
On my part to-you I-say I well
«qu'el n'apeticera de rien.
that-it not-will-lessen in anything
«Mon cuer avreiz toz jorz verai,
My heart you-will-have all days true
«ja por autre nos changerai.»
ever for other not-you I-shall-change
De ço se sont entreplevi,
Of that themselves they-are pledged-each-other
ainz qu'il se seient departi.
before that-they themselves may-be parted

Li conveiz a ja tant duré
The escort has already so-long lasted
qu'il furent fors de la cité.
that-they were outside of the city
Ceus la livrerent cui il durent,
To-those her they-delivered to-whom they ought
qui mout volentiers la reçurent.
who very willingly her received
Contre li vint Diomedès,
Toward her came Diomedes
Reis Telamon, reis Ulixès,
King Telamon king Ulysses
Reis Aïaus, Menesteüs,
King Ajax Menestheus
cil qui d'Athene ert sire e dus,
he who of-Athens was lord and duke
e chevalier bien tel seisante
and knights well such sixty
dont li plus povre ert riche cante.
of-whom the most poor was rich count
La dameisele plore fort;
The damsel weeps strongly
rien ne li puet doner confort:
anything not to-her can give comfort
de Troïlus a grant dolor,
for Troilus she-has great grief
qui si s'esloigne de s'amor.
who so himself-distances from her-love
En lui ne ra joie ne ris:
In him not again-is joy nor laughter

mout s'en torne triz e pensis.
much himself-thence turns sad and pensive
E li fiz Tydeüs l'en meine,
And the son (of-)Tydeus her-thence leads
qui ainz en soferra grant peine
who before thereof will-suffer great pain
qu'il sol la baist ne qu'il i gise:
that-he only her may-kiss nor that-he there may-lie
«Bele,» fait il, «a dreit se prise
Fair says he by right himself prizes
«qui de vostre amor est saisiz:
who with your love is seized
«Le cuer de vos e les periz
The heart of you and the perils
«voudreie aveir par covenant
I-would-wish to-have by covenant
«que vostre fusse a mon vivant.
that yours I-might-be in my living
«Se por ço non que trop est tost
If for that not that too it-is soon
«e que si somes près de l'ost,
and that so we-are near to the-host
«e que jo vos vei deshaitiee,
and that I you see disheartened
«pensive e dotose e iriee,
pensive and fearful and angered
«jos criasse mout grant merci,
I-you would-beg very great mercy

«qu'a chevalier e a ami
that-as knight and as friend
«me receüsseiz tot demeine.
me you-might-receive all as-your-own
«Ainz en voudrai sofrir grant peine
Rather thereof I-shall-wish to-suffer great pain
«que, se vos plaist, a ço n'en vienge;
than if to-you pleases to that not-thereof it-may-come
«mais mout me dot e mout me criem ge
but much myself I-doubt and much myself fear I
«que vostre cuers seit haïnos
that your heart may-be hateful
«vers mei e vers ceus devers nos.
toward me and toward those on-the-side-of us
«A la gent qui vos ont norrie
To the folk who you have nurtured
«sai que sereiz toz jorz amie:
I-know that you-will-be all days friend
«De ço nos deit om ja blasmer.
For that not-you ought one ever to-blame
«Mais j'ai oï assez parler
But I-have heard enough speak
«que gent qu'onc ne s'erent veü
that folk who-ever not themselves-had seen
«ne acointié ne coneü
nor become-acquainted nor known
«s'amoënt mout, ç'avient adès.
themselves-loved much that-happens always
«Bele,» fait sei Diomedès,
Fair says himself Diomedes

«onques d'amer ne m'entremis,
ever with-loving not myself-I-meddled
«n'amie n'oi ne fui amis:
nor-beloved not-I-had nor I-was lover
«Or sent qu'Amors vers vos me tire.
Now I-feel that-Love toward you me draws
«Qui vostre grant beauté remire,
Who your great beauty gazes-at
«n'est merveille se il esprent.
not-is marvel if he catches-fire
«Tant sacheiz bien certainement
So-much know well certainly
«qu'en vos metrai mon bon espeir:
that-in you I-shall-put my good hope
«Ja ne quier mais grant joie aveir
Ever not I-seek more great joy to-have
«desci que j'aie seürance
until that I-may-have assurance
«d'aveir vostre amor senz dotance,
of-having your love without doubt
«e que j'aie vostre solaz
and that I-may-have your solace
«si faitement qu'entre mes braz
so fashioned that-between my arms
«vos bais e ieuz e boche e face.
you I-may-kiss both eyes and mouth and face
«Douce amie, ne vos desplace
Sweet beloved not you may-displease
«rien que vos pri ne que vos die,
anything which you I-beg nor which to-you I-may-say

«ne nel tengiez a vilanie.
nor not-it hold to baseness
«Preiee sereiz e requise
Begged you-will-be and sought
«d'amer, ço sai, en mainte guise,
of-loving that I-know in many-a way
«ci sont tuit li preisié del mont
here are all the esteemed of-the world
«e li plus riche qui i sont,
and the most rich who there are
«e li plus bel e li meillor,
and the most fair and the best
«qui vos requerront vostre amor.
who of-you will-seek your love
«Mais sacheiz, bele, bien vos di,
But know fair well to-you I-say
«se de mei faites vostre ami,
if of me you-make your lover
«vos n'i avreiz se honor non.
you not-there will-have if honor not
«Preisiez deit estre e de grant non
Esteemed ought to-be and of great name
«qui de vostre amor est saisiz:
who with your love is seized
«Bele, s'a vos me sui ofriz,
Fair if-to you myself I-am offered
«ne refusez le mien homage.
not refuse the my homage

«Tel cuer prenez e tel corage
Such heart take and such heart
«que mei prengiez a chevalier:
that me you-may-take as knight
«Leial ami e dreiturier
Loyal friend and righteous
«vos serai mais d'ore en avant
to-you I-shall-be more from-now in forward
«a toz les jorz de mon vivant.
to all the days of my living
«Mainte pucele avrai veüe
Many-a maiden I-shall-have seen
«e mainte dame coneüe:
and many-a lady known
«Onc mais a rien ne fis preiere
Ever more to anyone not I-made prayer
«de mei amer en tel maniere.
of me to-love in such manner
«Vos en estes la premeraine,
You thereof are the first
«si sereiz vos la dereraine.
so will-be you the last
«Ja Deu ne place, s'a vos fail,
Ever God not may-it-please if-to you I-fail
«que mais por autre me travail:
that more for other myself I-may-labor
«Non ferai jo, ço sai de veir,
Not shall-do I that I-know of truth
«e se vostre amor puis aveir,
and if your love I-can have

«guarderai le senz rien mesfaire;
I-shall-keep it without anything to-misdo
«n'orreiz de mei chose retraire
not-you-will-hear of me thing recounted
«que vos desplace a nes un jor.
which you may-displease on not-even one day
«Des granz sospirs e del grant plor
Of-the great sighs and of-the great weeping
«dont vos vei mout chargiee e pleine,
of-which you I-see much laden and full
«metrai mon cors en mout grant peine
I-shall-put my body in very great pain
«com vos en puisse esleecier
how you thereof I-may gladden
«o acoler e o baisier;
with embracing and with kissing
«si metrai tel confort en vos
so I-shall-put such comfort in you
«dont vostre cors sera joios.
whereof your body will-be joyful
«Al servir sui abandonez:
To-the serving I-am given-over
«Grant joie avrai, se vos volez.
Great joy I-shall-have if you wish
«Dès ore en sui apareilliez:
From now for-it I-am prepared
«Deus doint ne m'en faceiz deviez!
God grant not to-me-thereof you-may-make refusal

«Quar qui ço aime e prie e sert
For who that loves and begs and serves
«quil het, tote sa peine pert.»
who-him hates all his pain loses
Briseïda fu sage e proz,
Briseida was wise and valiant
respondi li e a briés moz:
answered to-him and in brief words
«Sire,» fait ele, «a ceste feiz
Lord says she at this time
«nen est biens ne reisons ne dreiz
not is good nor reason nor right
«que d'amer vos donge parole:
that of-loving to-you I-may-give word
«Por trop legiere e por trop fole
For too light and for too foolish
«m'en porriëz toz jorz tenir.
me-thereby you-could all days hold
«Se dit m'avez vostre plaisir,
If told to-me-you-have your pleasure
«bien l'ai oï e entendu,
well it-I-have heard and understood
«mais ne vos ai joi coneü
but not you I-have I-there known
«a doner vos si tost m'amor.
to give you so soon my-love
«Mout s'en desveient li plusor.
Much themselves-thereby lose-their-way the most

«Mainte pucele est escharnie
Many-a maiden is mocked
«par ceus ou est la tricherie
by those where is the trickery
«e qui sont mençongier e faus:
and who are lying and false
«Cil deceivent les cuers leiaus.
Those deceive the hearts loyal
«Trop est grief chose a esguarder
Too-much is grievous thing to consider
«ou l'om se deit d'amors fiër:
where one himself ought in-love to-trust
«Por un quin rit en plorent sis.
For one who-thereof laughs thereof weep six
«Ne vueil entrer de mal en pis:
Not I-wish to-enter from ill into worse
«Qui tant a ire e esmaiance
Who so-much has wrath and dismay
«e en son cuer duel e pesance
and in her heart grief and sorrow
«come jo ai, mout li tient poi
as I have much to-her matters little
«d'amors ne de bien ne de joi.
of-loves nor of good nor of joy
«Mes bons amis guerpis e lais,
My good friends I-abandon and leave
«ou ja ne cuit recovrer mais,
where ever not I-think to-recover more

«que conoisseie e que amoë
whom I-knew and whom I-loved
«e ou a grant honor estoë.
and where in great honor I-was
«N'est richece ne bons aveirs
Not-is wealth nor good possessions
«que n'i eüsse a mes voleirs:
that not-there I-might-have-had at my wishes
«Ore en sui mise del tot fors;
Now thence I-am put of-the all out
«por ço en ai meins chier mon cors.
for that thereof I-have less dear my body
«N'est merveille se m'en deshait,
Not-is marvel if myself-thereof I-dismay
«ne n'est mie bien, se vos plaist,
nor not-it-is at-all good if to-you pleases
«a pucele de ma valor
for maiden of my worth
«qu'en ost emprenge fole amor:
that-in host she-may-undertake foolish love
«Se en li a point de saveir,
If in her there-is point of wisdom
«guarder se deit de blasme aveir.
guard herself she-ought from blame to-have
«Celes quil font plus sagement
Those who-it do most wisely
«en lor chambres celeement
in their chambers secretly

«ne se pueent pas si guarder
not themselves can at-all so guard
«d'els ne facent sovent parler.
of-them not they-may-make often speak
«Or serai en feire e en fole,
Now I-shall-be in fair and in crowd
«senz autres dames serai sole:
without other ladies I-shall-be alone
«Ne voudreie pas chose faire
Not I-would-wish at-all thing to-do
«que l'om poüst en mal retraire.
which one could in ill recount
«Non ferai jo, n'en ai corage;
Not shall-do I not-thereof I-have heart
«mais tant vos cuit de haut parage
but so-much you I-think of high lineage
«e pro, solonc le mien avis,
and valiant according-to the my opinion
«bien afaitié e bien apris,
well bred and well taught
«ne vos vueil chose faire acreire
not to-you I-wish thing to-make believe
«que mout ne fust leiaus e veire.
which very not were loyal and true
«Soz ciel n'a si riche pucele
Under heaven not-is so rich maiden
«ne si preisiee ne si bele,
nor so prized nor so fair
«por ço que rien vousist amer,
for that that anything she-might-wish to-love

«que pas vos deüst refuser:
that at-all you she-ought to-refuse
«Ne jo nos refus autrement.
Nor I not-you refuse otherwise
«Mais n'ai corage ne talent
But not-I-have heart nor desire
«que vos ne autre aim aparmains; 13675
that you nor other I-may-love presently
«si poëz bien estre certains,
so you-can well be certain
«s'a ço me voleie aproismier,
if-to that myself I-wished to-approach
«nul plus de vos n'avreie chier.
any more than you not-I-would-have dear
«Mais n'en ai pensé ne voleir,
But not-thereof I-have thought nor will
«ne ja Deus nel me doint aveir!» 13680
nor ever God not-it to-me may-give to-have

Briseida Among the Greeks

LVIII

Diomedes, seeing she is not too wild, swears to wait for her mercy and serve Love, and before they part he takes one of her gloves unnoticed. Calchas welcomes his daughter in tears. She reproaches him for abandoning his city, friends, and honor to help Troy's enemies, saying shame is worse than death and that Apollo did wrong to command it. Calchas answers that he could not refuse the gods and that Troy is doomed. Diomedes leads her to the pavilion of Pharaoh, a marvel too long to describe, where the Greek lords welcome her. Before the fourth evening, the poet says, she will have lost all wish to return: hearts change soon.

Diomedès fu sage e proz:
Diomedes was wise and valiant
bien entendi as premiers moz
well he-understood at-the first words
qu'el n'esteit mie trop sauvage.
that-she not-was at-all too wild
Itant li dist de son corage:
So-much to-her he-told of his heart
13685 «Bele, ço sacheiz bien de veir
Fair that know well of truth
«qu'en vos metrai mon bon espeir:
that-in you I-shall-put my good hope
«Amerai vos d'amor veraie,
I-shall-love you with-love true

«tant atendrai vostre manaie
so-long I-shall-await your mercy
«que vos avreiz de mei merci
that you will-have on me mercy
«e que me tendreiz por ami.
and that me you-will-hold for friend
«Quant Amors vueut qu'a vos m'otrei,
When Love wishes that-to you myself-I-grant
«nel contredi ne nel denei:
not-it I-contradict nor not-it I-deny
«A son gré e a son plaisir
At his liking and at his pleasure
«li voudrai mais dès or servir.
him I-shall-wish more from now to-serve
«De vos me rendra guerredon:
With you to-me he-will-render reward
«Jo ne l'en quier nul autre don;
I not him-thereof seek any other gift
«e se a ço ne m'atendeie,
and if on that not myself-I-relied
«ja de bon cuer nel servireie.
ever with good heart not-him I-would-serve
«De sa maisniee serai mais,
Of his household I-shall-be henceforth
«e se sol vostre boche en bais,
and if only your mouth thereof I-kiss
«n'avra nul plus riche de mei
not-will-there-be any more rich than me
«en l'ost de Troie devers sei.»
in the-host of Troy toward himself

Mout deïst plus Diomedès,
Much would-say more Diomedes
mais ja erent des tentes près:
but already they-were to-the tents near
ne poëit plus o li parler.
not he-could more with her speak
Ainz que venist al desevrer,
Before that it-came to-the parting
li a crïié cent feiz merci,
to-her he-has cried a-hundred times mercy
que de lui face son ami.
that of him she-may-make her friend
Un de ses guanz li a toleit,
One of her gloves from-her he-has taken
que nus nel set ne aparceit:
so-that any not-it knows nor perceives
mout s'en fait liez, n'aparceit mie
much himself-thereof makes glad not-he-perceives at-all
que ele en seit de rien marrie.
that she thereof may-be in anything grieved
A tant Calcas i est venuz,
At that Calchas there is come
qui contre li s'en fu eissuz.
who toward her himself-thence was gone-out
Mout l'a joïe e ele lui,
Much her-he-has welcomed and she him
e mout se sont baisié andui;
and much themselves they-are kissed both
assez se sont entrembracié:
enough themselves they-are embraced-each-other

Calcas en plore de pitié.
Calchas thereof weeps from pity
O sa fille li vieuz parole,
With his daughter the old-man speaks
mout sovent la baise e acole:
very often her he-kisses and embraces
«Sire,» fait ele, «dites mei,
Lord says she tell me
«ço est merveille que jo vei
that is marvel which I see
«de vos, qui ensi l'avez fait
of you who thus it-you-have done
«que toz jorz mais vos iert retrait,
that all days more to-you it-will-be reproached
«qui aidiez a voz enemis,
who help to your enemies
«come il destruient voz amis
how they destroy your friends
«e la terre dont estes nez,
and the land whence you-are born
«e qui voz tres granz heritez,
and who your very great heritages
«voz richeces, voz mananties
your riches your dwellings
«e voz honors avez guerpies
and your honors have abandoned
«por estre povre e eissilliez.
for to-be poor and exiled
«Come iert ja mais vostre cuers liez,
How will-be ever more your heart glad

«qui de tel uevre estes aidanz?
who in such work are helping
«Vostre clers sens, li hauz, li granz,
Your clear sense the high the great
«qu'est devenuz? Ou est alez?
what-is become Where is-it gone
«Trop malement estes blasmez,
Too badly you-are blamed
«e si devez vos mout bien estre:
and so ought you much well to-be
«Seignor e vesque e pere e maistre
Lord and bishop and father and master
«vos aveient sor toz eus fait;
you they-had over all themselves made
«trop a ici vergondos plait.
too-much there-is here shameful plea
«Mout deit om plus honte doter
Much ought one more shame to-fear
«que mort foïr ne eschiver.
than death to-flee nor to-shun
«A morir a, ço set, chascuns, —
To die there-is that knows each
«icist dons est a toz comuns, —
this gift is to all common
«e qui morir puet honorez,
and who to-die can honored
«li cors en est beneürez
the body thereby is blessed
«e l'ame en vait en granz deliz;
and the-soul thereby goes into great delights

«mais qui en cest siegle est honiz
but who in this world is shamed
«en l'autre sera trop hontos:
in the-other will-be too shameful
«Li laiz enfers, li tenebros,
The ugly hell the dark
«li est aprestez, c'est bien dreiz.
for-him is prepared that-is well right
«Sire, mout est mis cuers destreiz
Lord much is my heart distressed
«de ço qu'ensi faite haïne
for that that-thus made hatred
«vos a Pluto e Proserpine
to-you has Pluto and Proserpina
«e li autre deu enfernal,
and the other gods infernal
«par cui vos avez icest mal,
by whom you have this ill
«iceste honte, icest damage.
this shame this harm
«Quant vos aviëz en corage
When you had in heart
«qu'en la cité ne tornisseiz
that-into the city not you-would-return
«ne qu'a nos ne revertisseiz,
nor that-to us not you-would-come-back
«por que fustes donc si cruëus,
for what you-were then so cruel

«qu'avuec noz enemis morteus
that-with our enemies mortal
«venistes ci nos damagier
you-came here us to-harm
«ne nostre perte porchacier?
nor our loss to-pursue
«Mieuz alisseiz vos sojorner
Better you-would-have-gone you to-stay
«en un de cez isles de mer,
in one of these islands of sea
«tant que de cest siege fust fin.
until that of this siege were end
«Trop i mesfist dant Apollin,
Too-much there misdid lord Apollo
«se il tel respons vos dona
if he such answer to-you gave
«ne se il ço vos comanda.
nor if he that to-you commanded
«Maudiz seit hui icist augurs,
Cursed be today this augury
«icist dons e icist eürs,
this gift and this fortune
«qu'a si grant honte vos revert!
which-to so great shame to-you returns
«Qui l'onor de cest siegle pert
Who the-honor of this world loses
«mout deit petit sa vie amer.»
very ought little his life to-love

Adonc começa a plorer
Then she-began to weep
e si par ot serré le cuer,
and so very she-had tight the heart
ne parlast plus a nes un fuer.
not she-would-speak more at not-even one price
Calcas respont a la meschine:
Calchas answers to the girl
«Fille,» fait il, «ceste destine
Daughter says he this destiny
«ne vousisse que ja fust meie.
not I-would-have-wished that ever it-were mine
«Bien soi que grant blasme en avreie,
Well I-knew that great blame thereby I-would-have
«mais ne m'en poi faire escurdos
but not myself-thereof I-could make obstinate
«n'encontre les deus refusos;
nor-against the gods refusing
«ne poi desvoleir lor plaisir:
nor I-could refuse their pleasure
«Tost m'en poüst mesavenir.
Soon to-me-thereof could mishap
«Ço m'estut faire e venir ça,
That me-behooved to-do and to-come here
«dès qu'Apollo le comanda.
since that-Apollo it commanded
«Onc ne fis rien a tel enviz:
Ever not I-did anything with such unwillingness
«Jo n'en dei pas estre honiz,
I not-thereby ought at-all to-be shamed

«quar, se il fust al mien talent,
for if it were at-the my desire
«ceste uevre alast tot autrement.
this work would-go all otherwise
«Rien ne set mie la dolor
Anyone not knows at-all the grief
«qu'en suefre mis cuers nuit e jor.
which-thereof suffers my heart night and day
«Mais se fusse si fous ne teus
But if I-were so mad nor such
«qu'encontre le voleir as deus
that-against the will of-the gods
«vousisse errer ne chose faire
I-would-wish to-go nor thing to-do
«que de neient lor fust contraire,
which in nothing to-them were contrary
«ne sui de ço pas en dotance,
not I-am of that at-all in doubt
«qu'il n'en preïssent tel venjance
that-they not-thereof would-take such vengeance
«qu'a toz jorz mais me fust grevose,
that-to all days more to-me would-be grievous
«pesme, mortel e perillose.
wicked mortal and perilous
«Ensorquetot bien vei e sai
Above-all well I-see and know
«que morz e destruiz les verrai;
that dead and destroyed them I-shall-see

«si nos vient mieuz aillors guarir
so to-us comes better elsewhere to-be-saved
«que la dedenz o eus morir:
than there within with them to-die
«Mort seront il, vencu e pris,
Dead will-be they vanquished and taken
«quar li deu l'ont ensi pramis.
for the gods it-have thus promised
«Ne puet mais ço longes durer.
Not can more that long last
«Ne finoë hore de penser
Not I-ceased hour from thinking
«com ça vos en traisisse a mei:
how hither you thence I-might-draw to me
«Jo n'esteie d'el en esfrei.
I not-was of-else in alarm
«Quant or vos ai, mout bien m'estait:
When now you I-have very well with-me-it-stands
«N'avrai mais ire ne deshait.»
Not-I-shall-have more wrath nor dismay
Mout fut la danzele esguardee;
Much was the damsel gazed-at
mout l'ont Grezeis entre eus loëe:
much her-have Greeks among themselves praised
«Mout est bele,» ço diënt tuit.
Very she-is fair that say all

Diomedès tant la conduit
Diomedes so-far her leads
qu'el descendi al paveillon
that-she dismounted at-the pavilion
qui fu al riche Pharaon,
which was of-the rich Pharaoh
cel qui neia en la mer Roge.
that-one who drowned in the sea Red
Danz Calcas l'ot d'un suen serorge,
Lord Calchas it-had from-a his brother-in-law
por aprendre li la mesure
for to-teach to-him the measure
com bien li monz est lez ne dure,
how much the world is wide nor lasts
ne com bien la terre est parfonde,
nor how much the earth is deep
ne qui sostient la mer ne l'onde:
nor who upholds the sea nor the-wave
ço li aprist e fist saveir.
that to-him he-taught and made know
Assez l'en dona grant aveir,
Enough him-thereby he-gave great wealth
quant il le paveillon en ot.
when he the pavilion thereof had
Onques ancor clers tant ne sot
Ever yet clerk so-much not knew
que la façon ne la merveille,
that the fashion nor the marvel
ne ço que li tres apareille,
nor that which the tent adorns

poüst escrire en parchemin
he-could write on parchment
ne en romanz ne en latin.
nor in Romance nor in Latin
Taire m'en vueil a ceste feiz.
Be-silent myself-thereof I-wish at this time
Si fust il bien reisons e dreiz
So were it well reason and right
que jo de la façon parlasse,
that I of the fashion should-speak
mais laidement m'i demorasse:
but foully myself-there I-would-delay
mout ai a dire e mout a faire,
much I-have to say and much to do
por ço n'en vueil or plus retraire;
for that not-thereof I-wish now more to-recount
mais trop fu beaus, riches e genz.
but very it-was fair rich and noble
Jonchiez fu toz d'erbes dedenz,
Strewn it-was all with-herbs within
que o les flors furent coillies:
which with the flowers were gathered
ne furent flaistres ne mesties,
not they-were withered nor faded
mout olurent buen e soëf.
much they-smelled good and sweet
Quant la danzele fu el tref,
When the damsel was in-the tent
ou sis conduiz l'ot descendue,
where her guide her-had set-down

qui sovent color por li mue,
who often color for her changes
congié a pris de li a peine.
leave he-has taken of her with pain
Mais li haut prince e li demeine
But the high princes and the lords
i sont venu li remirer
there are come her to-gaze-at
e ses noveles demander.
and her news to-ask
Corteisement e a briés moz
Courteously and in brief words
e sagement respont a toz.
and wisely she-answers to all
Mout l'ont joïe e honoree
Much her-they-have welcomed and honored
e mout l'ont tuit reconfortee.
and much her-have all comforted
Or li vait mieuz qu'el ne cuidot,
Now to-her it-goes better than-she not thought
quar sovent veit ço que li plot.
for often she-sees that which to-her pleased
Anceis que veie le quart seir,
Before that she-may-see the fourth evening
n'avra corage ne voleir
not-she-will-have heart nor will
de retorner en la cité.
of returning into the city
Mout sont corage tost müé,
Very are hearts soon changed

poi veritable e poi estable;
little truthful and little steadfast
mout sont li cuer vain e muable.
very are the hearts vain and changeable
Por çol comperent li leial:
For that-it pay the loyal
sovent en traient peine e mal.
often thereby they-draw pain and ill

The Eighth Battle

LIX

The three months' truce ends and both sides arm, rested and healed. Hector rides out on Galatea with ten thousand, followed by Troilus, Paris with his Persian archers, Deiphobus, and Memnon, while Menelaus, Diomedes, Achilles, the kings of Caledonia, and Agamemnon lead out the Greeks. The ladies watch from the walls. The Caledonians charge first: Hector kills king Phelis with a lance through the chest and gives away his Castilian charger. Phelis's nephew Antipus avenges his uncle on many Trojans and knocks off Hector's helmet, but Hector taunts him and cleaves him in two, and the Caledonians are routed.

Mout sont enoié li plusor,
Much are vexed the most
mout lor enuie del sojor:
much to-them irks of-the rest
mout voudreient que li respiz
much they-would-wish that the respite
e li termes fust acompliz,
and the term were fulfilled
qui de treis meis esteit donez.
which of three months was given

Assez fu anceis desirez
Enough it-was before desired
qu'il fust trespassez ne failliz.
that-it were passed nor ended
D'ambedous parz se sont guarniz.
On-both sides themselves they-are furnished
Sain sont e freis e sojorné
Sound they-are and fresh and rested
e de lor plaies respassé.
and of their wounds healed
Lor armes ont renovelees
Their arms they-have renewed
e lor lances bien atornees:
and their lances well prepared
penons, enseignes de colors
pennons banners of colors
i atachierent es plusors.
there they-attached on-the most
Cler sont li fer e bien trenchant,
Bright are the irons and well cutting
de fin acier resplendissant.
of fine steel shining
Les heaumes ont fait resclarcir
The helmets they-have made brighten
e les espees reforbir.
and the swords repolish
Sojorné sont li bon destrier:
Rested are the good chargers

dès or repueent torneier
from now again-they-can tourney
e dures batailles fornir.
and hard battles furnish
A ço ne pueent il faillir,
At that not can they fail
a ço seront il assez tost:
at that will-be they enough soon
demain vendront desci qu'a l'ost
tomorrow will-come until that-to the-host
icil dedenz eus envaïr
those within them to-attack
e granz colees departir.
and great blows to-deal
La nuit sont les triuës rompues,
The night are the truces broken
que tant ont esté atendues.
which so-long have been awaited
Enz en l'aube del cler matin,
Right in the-dawn of-the bright morning
senz nule autre hore de destin,
without any other hour of fate
cuevrent chevaus de mil manieres
they-cover horses of a-thousand manners
de colieres e de cropieres.
with breast-straps and with cruppers
Li chevalier se sont armé
The knights themselves are armed
comunaument par la cité.
in-common through the city

Autretel font en l'ost defors:
Likewise they-do in the-host outside
chascuns a bien armé son cors
each has well armed his body
d'aubers e d'eaumes e d'escuz
with-hauberks and with-helmets and with-shields
forz e entiers, a or voluz.
strong and whole with gold rounded
Les batailles sont ordenees
The battalions are arranged
e departies e sevrees.
and parted and separated
De la cité s'en ist Hector
From the city himself-thence goes-out Hector
l'eaume lacié al cercle d'or.
the-helmet laced with-the circle of-gold
Bien sist armez sor Galatee,
Well he-sat armed on Galatea
l'auberc vestu, ceinte l'espee,
the-hauberk put-on girded the-sword
l'escu al col a dous lions.
the-shield at-the neck with two lions
Plus de dis mile compaignons
More than ten thousand companions
le sivent, tuit bon chevalier:
him follow all good knights
n'i a cel n'ait heaume d'acier.
not-there is that-one not-may-have helmet of-steel
Après cez s'en rist Troïlus:
After these himself-thence again-goes-out Troilus

cil en raveit dis mile e plus
that-one thereof again-had ten thousand and more
armez es chevaus milsoudors,
armed on-the horses thousand-shilling
o covertures de colors
with coverings of colors
detrenchiees de dras de seie.
cut-out of cloths of silk
Paris se rest mis a la veie
Paris himself again-is put on the way
o ceus de Perse qu'il chadele:
with those of Persia whom-he leads
la lor compaigne fu mout bele.
the their company was very fair
Li tarqueis sont plein e guarni
The quivers are full and furnished
de saietes d'acier bruni
with arrows of-steel burnished
reides, trenchanz e acerees.
stiff cutting and steeled
Li plusor d'eus portent espees
The most of-them carry swords
as morteus chaples maintenir.
for-the mortal hackings to-maintain
Deïphebus s'en vueut eissir
Deiphobus himself-thence wishes to-go-out
e reis Mennon o lor compaignes,
and king Memnon with their companies
que mout sont fieres e grifaignes.
which very are fierce and grim

Tuit li haut prince e tuit li rei,
All the high princes and all the kings
les batailles e li conrei
the battalions and the troops
sont fors des lices es graviers:
are outside of-the palisades on-the gravels
bien furent plus de cent miliers.
well they-were more than a-hundred thousands
E cil de l'ost, que refereient?
And those of the-host what would-they-do
Por poi que tuit ne se desreient:
For little that all not themselves break-ranks
de combatre sont coveitos,
to fight they-are covetous
volenterif e desiros.
eager and desirous
Reis Menelaus toz premerains
King Menelaus all first
chevaucha contre Troïains,
rode against Trojans
o bien set mile compaignons
with well seven thousand companions
vers Troïens durs e felons.
toward Trojans hard and felon
Diomedès après cez vient,
Diomedes after these comes
qui grant partie del champ tient:
who great part of-the field holds

maint bel penon e mainte enseigne
many-a fair pennon and many-a banner
puet l'om choisir en sa compaigne
can one make-out in his company
danz Achillès plus ne sojorne,
lord Achilles more not rests
sa bataille fait e atorne:
his battalion he-makes and prepares
sevrez en a bien teus set mile,
separated thereof he-has well such seven thousand
dont bons chevaliers est li pire.
of-whom good knight is the worst
Vers ceus chevauchent e se traient,
Toward those they-ride and themselves draw
qui de neient ne se resmaient.
who in nothing not themselves are-dismayed
Reis Antipus e reis Phelis,
King Antipus and king Phelis
qui mout esteient de grant pris,
who very were of great worth
de la terre de Caledoine,
of the land of Caledonia
senz respit prendre e senz essoine,
without respite to-take and without excuse
se sont des tentes departi;
themselves they-are from-the tents parted
avuec, trei mile fervesti.
with three thousand iron-clad

Li autre rei, senz atendance
The other kings without waiting
e senz nule autre demorance,
and without any other delay
des chevaliers de lor contrees
of-the knights of their countries
ront lor batailles conreëes.
again-have their battalions arrayed
Agamennon après icez
Agamemnon after these
revient de bataille toz prez.
again-comes for battle all ready
Quant es plains chans e loinz es plaignes
When on-the plain fields and far on-the plains
sont ordenees les compaignes,
are arranged the companies
merveilles veit, merveilles mire,
marvels he-sees marvels he-gazes-at
qui le jor veit si fait empire:
who the day sees so made host
grant pris i a e grant orgueil;
great worth there is and great pride
des lances i sont grant li brueil
of-the lances there are great the thickets
e des armes les resplendors.
and of-the arms the gleams

Sus el palais e par les tors
Up in-the palace and through the towers
e as fenestres d'or volues
and at-the windows with-gold vaulted
sont les dames mout esperdues,
are the ladies very distraught
mout paoroses e dotanz:
very fearful and dreading
la bataille, que mout iert granz,
the battle which very will-be great
vuelent veeir e esguarder.
they-wish to-see and to-watch
Qui lors veïst lor cors trembler
Who then had-seen their bodies tremble
e les colors muër sovent
and the colors change often
merveillast sei com faitement
would-have-marveled himself how fashioned
poüssent vivre une sole hore.
they-could live a single hour
Quos en fereie autre demore?
Why-you thereof would-I-make other delay
D'ambedous parz se sont requis
On-both sides themselves they-are assailed
ensi com morteus enemis.
thus as mortal enemies
Caledoneis se desreerent,
Caledonians themselves broke-ranks
qui laidement le compararent:
who foully it paid-for

trei mile en ont les escuz pris,
three thousand thereof have the shields taken
puis si brochent les aumaris.
then so they-spur the steeds
Lor enseigne criënt en haut.
Their war-cry they-cry on high
Des Troïens cil qui plus vaut,
Of-the Trojans he who most is-worth
Hector, o ceus de son conrei,
Hector with those of his troop
assemble avuec eus al tornei.
joins with them at-the tourney
Premerains vint li reis Phelis:
First came the king Phelis
armes ot d'or a lions bis,
arms he-had of-gold with lions gray
e en son heaume un chaperon
and on his helmet a hood
plus blanc que neif, d'un amiton,
more white than snow of-a fine-cloth
dont les langues batent a val
of-which the tongues beat to below
par son la crope del cheval,
over top the crupper of-the horse
qui plus se muet e plus tost vait
which more itself moves and more quickly goes
qu'arbaleste ne ars ne trait.
than-crossbow nor bows nor shot
Hector ataint, qui vint premiers:
Hector he-reaches who came first

veant dis mile chevaliers,
seeing ten thousand knights
li vait doner par mi l'escu,
to-him he-goes to-give through the-midst the-shield
que d'ore en autre l'a fendu.
so-that from-rim to other it-he-has split
Sor le hauberc la lance archeie;
On the hauberk the lance bends
esclat en volent, si peceie.
splinters thereof fly so it-shatters
Hector l'encontre, qui ne faut:
Hector him-meets who not fails
par mi l'escu, auques en haut,
through the-midst the-shield somewhat on high
e tres par mi le gros del piz
and right through the-midst the thick of-the chest
passe l'enseigne de samiz;
passes the-pennon of samite
mort l'a empeint jus de la sele.
dead him-he-has thrust down from the saddle
Puis prent le destrier de Castele,
Then he-takes the charger of Castile
qui vaut son peis de fin argent:
which is-worth its weight of fine silver
a tel en fist le jor present,
to such thereof he-made the day present
qui mout en fist chevalerie,
who much thereby did chivalry
ainz que la presse fust partie.
before that the press were parted

Quant ço virent Caledoneis,
When that saw Caledonians
les chevaus brochent demaneis;
the horses they-spur at-once
ceus vont ferir qui les recueillent
those they-go to-strike who them receive
e qui en lor cler sanc se mueillent:
and who in their bright blood themselves wet
mout sont angoissos e pensis
much they-are anguished and pensive
de lor seignor, qui est ocis.
for their lord who is killed
Tant com lor lances lor durerent,
As-long as their lances to-them lasted
escuz, haubers en esfondrerent,
shields hauberks thereof they-broke-through
e vassaus cors de chevaliers:
and valiant bodies of knights
mout en chiet morz de lor destriers.
much thereof falls dead from their chargers
La ot d'enseignes grant traïn,
There was of-banners great train
e de forz lances de sapin
and of strong lances of fir
grant briseïz, grant croisserece;
great breaking great cracking
iluec se pasment de destrece
there themselves swoon from distress
tel mil cui la mort fu prochaine,
such thousand to-whom the death was near

ainz que trespassast la semaine.
before that might-pass the week
Maint brant d'acier forbi e cler
Many-a blade of-steel burnished and bright
i font sor heaumes resoner,
there they-make on helmets resound
si qu'il beivent jusqu'es cerveles
so that-they drink up-to-the brains
e jusque es arçons des seles.
and up-to in-the saddlebows of-the saddles
Ha! quel ocise e quel merveille!
Ah what slaughter and what marvel
E quel damage i rapareille
And what harm there again-prepares
Hector li forz, li vertuös,
Hector the strong the mighty
tot nu le glaive perillos,
all naked the sword perilous
dont il lor trenche chiés e bus:
with-which he to-them cuts heads and trunks
dous cenz lor en a morz e plus!
two hundreds to-them thereof he-has killed and more
Reis Antipus fu en l'estor:
King Antipus was in the-fight
niés fu Phelis, de sa soror,
nephew he-was (of-)Phelis by his sister
genz chevaliers e proz e beaus,
noble knight and valiant and fair
auques d'aé, non pas toseaus.
somewhat of-age not at-all youth

Son oncle venge e sa grant ire,
His uncle he-avenges and his great wrath
des Troïens i fait martire:
of-the Trojans there he-makes martyrdom
sol o sa lance en a morz dis
alone with his lance thereof he-has killed ten
e o s'espee vint e sis.
and with his-sword twenty and six
Hector requiert: mieuz li venist
Hector he-attacks better to-him it-would-come
que l'esloignast et quel foïst;
that him-he-avoided and that-him he-fled
por quant sil fiert en l'eaume agu
for all-that so-him he-strikes on the-helmet pointed
que tuit li laz en sont rompu,
that all the laces thereof are broken
del chief le li a fait voler.
from-the head it to-him he-has made fly
S'outre li leüst recovrer,
If-further to-him had-been-allowed to-recover
bien fust vengiez li reis Phelis;
well would-be avenged the king Phelis
mais Hector l'a si entrepris,
but Hector him-has so beset
ne li puet mais hui eschaper.
not from-him he-can more today escape
Dist li: «Bien vos poëz vanter
Said to-him Well you can boast
«que la mort vos depent a l'ueil.
that the death to-you hangs at the-eye

«Trop envaïstes grant orgueil
Too-much you-undertook great pride
«de mei ocire ne laidir:
of me to-kill nor to-ill-use
«Tart estereiz al repentir.
Late you-will-be at-the repenting
«Pesant fais prent cil e embrace,
Heavy burden takes that-one and embraces
«qui a ocire me manace:
who to kill me threatens
«Ço font li vostre chascun jor.
That do the yours each day
«Mais se ma force e ma vigor
But if my strength and my vigor
«me vuelent li deu guarantir,
to-me wish the gods to-guarantee
«ja tant n'en i savra venir
ever so-many not-thereof there will-know to-come
«que jo nes face ensevelir
that I not-them may-make bury
«e o cest brant d'acier morir.
and with this blade of-steel die
«Ja savreiz,» fait il, «come il taille.»
Soon you-will-know says he how it cuts
Le chief o tote la ventaille
The head with all the ventail
li trenche si qu'en dous meitiez
to-him he-cuts so that-in two halves
est a la terre trebuchiez.
he-is to the ground tumbled

Mort a e l'oncle e le nevo,
Dead he-has both the-uncle and the nephew
qui mout erent vassal e pro.
who very were vassal and valiant
Ci est tote lor gent vencue,
Here is all their folk vanquished
ici ont Greu grant perte eüe,
here have Greeks great loss had
que laidement les damaja
which foully them harmed
e que mout les desconforta.
and which much them discomforted

The Horse Sent to Briseida

LX

Achilles arrives and drives Hector back on Troilus's company. He kills Lycaon of Porte Cee and Euphorbius of Chastel Clus before Hector's eyes. Hector, wounded in the face and shamed before Helen and the ladies, kills Achilles' cousin Meriones. Achilles and Hector wound each other and exchange threats. Troilus, Memnon, and Menelaus join the fighting; Troilus unhorses Menelaus, who is captured but cannot be taken from the field. Diomedes unhorses Troilus and sends his horse by a squire to Briseida. She answers that Diomedes ought not to harm one who loves her, predicts that Troilus will soon take his revenge for the horse, and says she will not hate Diomedes without cause but does not yet love him.

Adonc i avint Achillès,
Then there arrived Achilles
e si sacheiz que pesant fais
and so know that heavy burden
charja a ceus de maintenant:
he-loaded on those from now
la ot un fereïz si grant
there was a striking so great
qu'om ne parot ja mais de tel,
that-one not will-speak ever more of such
de si cruël, de si mortel.
of so cruel of so mortal
Fiere compaigne ot Achillès:
Fierce company had Achilles
Troïens requierent de près,
Trojans they-attack from near

qu'a cent en font les chiés voler
so-that-to a-hundred thereof they-make the heads fly
e de la place remuër.
and from the place move
Mais mout lor fu grief chose a faire:
But much to-them it-was grievous thing to do
ne me retrait en nul lieu Daire
nor to-me recounts in any place Dares
que si doloros fereïz
that so grievous striking
ne si estrange chapleïz
nor so strange hacking
i eüst eü autre feiz.
there might-have been other time
La fu Hector ensi destreiz
There was Hector so distressed
e si grevez, n'en dirai plus,
and so oppressed not-thereof I-shall-say more
que sor le conrei Troïlus
that onto the company (of-)Troilus
le reüserent par destrece.
him they-drove-back by distress
Dous mout hauz contes de noblece,
Two very high counts of nobility
de la vile de Troie nez,
of the town of Troy born
riches, vassaus e honorez; —
rich vassals and honored
c'ert Licaon de Porte Cee,
that-was Lycaon of Porte Cee

mieudre vassaus ne ceinst espee;
better vassal not girded sword
l'autre cuens Eüforbius,
the-other count Euphorbius
qui sire esteit de Chastel Clus:
who lord was of Chastel Clus
ço ert un merveillos repaire
that was a marvelous dwelling
en la forest de Mont Esclaire; —
in the forest of Mont Esclaire
conte erent cil e de granz nons;
counts were those and of great names
onques Hector n'ot compaignons
ever Hector not-had companions
qui plus pro fussent de cez dous.
who more valiant were than these two
Iriez dut estre e angoissos,
Angered ought be and anguished
que veant lui e assez près
that seeing him and enough near
les li ocist danz Achillès.
them to-him killed lord Achilles
N'orent les testes si armees
Not-they-had the heads so armed
qu'il ne lor ait des bus sevrees.
that-he not to-them may-have from-the trunks severed
Ici a perte fiere e grant,
Here there-is loss fierce and great
quar des autres i perdent tant,
for of-the others there they-lose so-many

se Troïlus tarjast un poi,
if Troilus had-delayed a little
n'eüst Hector mais des meis joi.
not-would-have Hector more of-the months joy
De la place s'est remuëz,
From the place himself-is moved
e si i ot perdu assez
and so there he-had lost enough
des plus vassaus de sa compaigne.
of-the most valiant of his company
La chiere li escrieve e saigne
The face to-him splits and bleeds
d'une plaie, mais n'est pas dit
from-a wound but not-it-is at-all said
coment il l'ot ne qui li fist.
how he it-had nor who to-him it-did
Quant il se vit ensanglentez
When he himself saw bloodied
e par force del champ getez,
and by force from-the field thrown
e vit Heleine e ses sorors
and saw Helen and his sisters
e set cenz dames par les tors,
and seven hundreds ladies along the towers
ire ot e honte tot ensemble;
wrath he-had and shame all together
de mautalent fremist e tremble.
with ill-will he-quivers and trembles
Torne desvez contre Grezeis.
He-turns maddened against Greeks

Merionès, uns riches reis, —
Meriones a rich king
cosins ert Achillès germains,
cousin he-was (of-)Achilles german
del reiaume de Lidiains;
of-the kingdom of Lidiains
jovnes esteit, de poi d'aage,
young he-was of little age
mais mout esteit e pro e sage, —
but very he-was both valiant and wise
celui ataint Hector premier:
that-one reaches Hector first
de l'espee trenchant d'acier
with the-sword cutting of-steel
li trenche l'eaume e la ventaille,
to-him he-cuts the-helmet and the ventail
que la cervele e la coraille
so-that the brain and the innards
li espant tote. Cil chiet morz.
to-him he-spills all That-one falls dead
N'orra ja mais hom tel esforz
Not-will-hear ever more man such effort
com fist Hector iluec toz sous.
as did Hector there all alone
Achillès fu mout angoissos
Achilles was very anguished
de son cosin, qu'il vit morir.
for his cousin whom-he saw die
Hector cuida desavancir:
Hector he-thought to-hinder

d'une lance grosse e trenchant
with-a lance thick and cutting
li vait doner un coup si grant
to-him he-goes to-give a blow so great
que li ais de l'escu percierent
that the boards of the-shield they-pierced
e les manicles desmaillierent.
and the gauntlets unmailed
Por poi les dous deiz de la main
For little the two fingers of the hand
ne li trencha trestoz a plain:
not to-him it-cut all in full
n'est pas navrez a mahaignier
not-he-is at-all wounded to maiming
n'a l'estor guerpir ne laissier.
nor-to the-fight to-abandon nor to-leave
Hector se rest vers lui empeint:
Hector himself again-is toward him thrust
dous cous sor l'eaume l'a ataint,
two blows on the-helmet him-he-has reached
si qu'enz el chief ont fait lor merc
so that-into in-the head they-have made their mark
quinze des mailles del hauberc;
fifteen of-the mails of-the hauberk
n'i ot cele sanc n'en traisist.
not-there was that-one blood not-thence might-draw
Ne l'uns ne l'autre ne s'en rist.
Nor the-one nor the-other not himself-thereof laughed
Hector li dist: «Danz Achillès,
Hector to-him said Lord Achilles

«ne vos traireiz de mei si près,
not you will-draw to me so near
«ne me traie plus près de vos.
nor me let-draw more near to you
«Trop est cist miens branz perillos;
Too-much is this my blade perilous
«laiz est e teinz del sanc des reis,
ugly it-is and stained with-the blood of-the kings
«qu'il s'en est hui moilliez en treis:
that-it itself-thereof is today wetted in three
«Tant en a trait, tuit en sont freit.
So-much thereof it-has drawn all thereof are cold
«Mais s'en cel vostre test ne beit,
But if-in that your skull not it-drinks
«si que esclat de la cervele
so that splinters of the brain
«vougent el plat de la lemele,
may-fly on-the flat of the blade
«ne sera ja resaziiez;
not it-will-be ever sated
«e se vos ne vos esloigniez,
and if you not yourself distance
«jan cuiderai bien acomplir
already-thereof I-shall-think well to-fulfill
«son desirier e son plaisir.
its desire and its pleasure
«Mout a grant seif de beivre en vos:
Much it-has great thirst of drinking in you
«Il n'est de rien si desiros.»
It not-is for anything so desirous

Achillès fu mout orgoillos,
Achilles was very proud
cruëus e fel e aïros;
cruel and felon and angry
nel sopleia ne tant ne quant:
not-him he-yielded nor so-much nor how-much
«Hector,» fait il, «mauvais semblant
Hector says he bad semblance
«en faisiëz n'a ancor guaire,
thereof you-made not-there-is yet hardly
«quant vos meïstes el repaire:
when you put-yourselves into-the retreat
«Le dos tornastes a noz genz
The back you-turned to our folk
«por remirer celes dedenz,
for to-gaze-at those within
«que ne vos en sevent nul gré.
who not to-you thereof know any thanks
«Plus lait ne plus ensanglenté
More ugly nor more bloodied
«ne vei jo nul que jo faz vos;
not see I any than I do you
«de tel chose estes desiros
of such thing you-are desirous
«que vos fera descompaignier
which you will-make separate
«entre vos e le brant d'acier:
between you and the blade of-steel
«Autre seignor avra, senz faille,
Other lord it-will-have without fail

«ainz que seit fin de la bataille;
before that may-be end of the battle
«mais ja nel porra mais porter
but ever not-it will-be-able more to-carry
«nus qui tant face a redoter,
any who so-much may-make to dread
«qui tel force ait ne tel poëir
who such force may-have nor such power
«com vos, içe savons de veir.»
as you that we-know of truth
Ne porent plus aveir leisir
Not they-could more have leisure
d'autres paroles departir,
of-other words to-deal
quar Troïlus i fu venuz,
for Troilus there was come
qui plus ot de cinc mile escuz.
who more had than five thousand shields
Ceus vont ferir qui les atendent
Those they-go to-strike who them await
e qui estrange estor lor rendent:
and who strange fight to-them return
s'il fierent, bien resont feru,
if-they strike well again-they-are struck
mort e navré e abatu;
dead and wounded and thrown-down
mais par force les remuërent
but by force them they-moved
e de la place les sevrerent,
and from the place them they-separated

e les ociëient a cenz.
and them were-killing by hundreds
Mais lors i vindrent unes genz,
But then there came some folk
que mout se mistrent a grant fais
who very themselves put to great burden
de vengier la gent Achillès
of avenging the folk (of-)Achilles
e le damage des treis reis.
and the harm of-the three kings
Bien recovrerent li Grezeis,
Well rallied the Greeks
quant Menelaus s'i fu jostez.
when Menelaus himself-there was joined
Troïen perdissent assez,
Trojans would-have-lost enough
ne fust Mennon, li reis de Perse,
not were-it Memnon the king of Persia
qui trei mile ot de gent averse:
who three thousand had of folk hostile
n'i ot un sol qui ne jostast
not-there was a sole who not jousted
e sa lance ne peceiast
and his lance not shattered
en cors d'omes o en escuz.
in bodies of-men or in shields
Cin ot teus dous cenz abatuz,
Here-thereof had such two hundreds thrown-down
dont n'en leva onc la meitié;
of-whom not-thereof rose ever the half

ci se sont il endamagié,
here themselves are they harmed
ci fu li estors mout pleniers,
here was the fight very full
trop i ot morz de chevaliers;
too-many there were dead of knights
ci vont li vif desus les morz.
here go the living above the dead
D'andous parz fu granz li esforz:
On-both sides was great the effort
ne se chacent ne ne se muevent,
not themselves they-chase nor not themselves they-move
mais o les branz nuz s'entretruevent.
but with the blades naked find-each-other
Trenchent sei chiés e poinz e braz,
They-cut themselves heads and fists and arms
que rais e gotes e esclaz
so-that streams and drops and splinters
lor saut del cors espessement:
to-them leap from-the body thickly
del sanc d'eus sont li champ sanglent.
with-the blood of-them are the fields bloody
Bien ert li estors comunaus,
Well was the fight general
quant o Mennon joinst Menelaus.
when with Memnon joined Menelaus
Abatu l'ot navré el vis,
Thrown-down him-he-had wounded in-the face
mais a son tor fu entrepris,
but in his turn he-was beset

quar Troïlus li est guenchiz:
for Troilus to-him is turned
enz el mi lieu del gros del piz
right in-the mid place of-the thick of-the chest
li a sa lance peceiee,
to-him he-has his lance shattered
si que la sele en est voidiee.
so that the saddle thereby is emptied
Forz fu l'aubers, quant ne fausa:
Strong was the-hauberk when not it-failed
la grosse lance debrisa;
the thick lance broke
se tel ne fust la destinee,
if such not were the destiny
l'ame li fust del cors sevree.
the-soul to-him would-be from-the body severed
Sacheiz sor le rei Menelaus
Know over the king Menelaus
fu granz li chaples des vassaus:
was great the hacking of-the vassals
mainte ame i ot de cors sevree,
many-a soul there was from body severed
ainz que departist la meslee.
before that might-part the melee
La se resont bien entrataint,
There themselves again-they-are well reached-each-other
ne tant ne quant ne se sont feint,
nor so-much nor how-much not themselves they-are feigned

Hector n'Achillès: cors a cors
Hector nor-Achilles body to body
trop laidement se sont amors.
too foully themselves they-are bitten
Il i perdront, jol sai de veir:
They there will-lose I-it know of truth
ne puet pas anceis remaneir.
not it-can at-all before remain
Pris e saisiz fu Menelaus,
Taken and seized was Menelaus
mais, por la presse des chevaus,
but for the press of-the horses
nel porent del champ esloignier.
not-him they-could from-the field distance
E si sacheiz lor chevalier
And so know their knights
le firent si que nule gent
it did so that any folk
nel firent onc plus vassaument:
not-it did ever more valiantly
ne seront hui del champ parti,
not they-will-be today from-the field parted
ainz ne seient d'eus mil feni.
before not may-be of-them a-thousand ended
En icestui destruiement
In this destruction
e en icest ociement
and in this killing
i avint li fiz Tydeüs,
there arrived the son (of-)Tydeus

quin ot o sei trei mile e plus
who-of-them had with himself three thousand and more
de teus qui bien furent armé.
of such who well were armed
Si come il vindrent abrivé,
So as they came impetuous
si vont lor lances peceier
so they-go their lances to-shatter
e lor proëces essaier.
and their prowesses to-try
Tel i a d'eus cui bien en prent
Such there is of-them to-whom well thereof takes
e tel i a qui s'en repent.
and such there is who himself-thereof repents
Cil qui se trueve fors de sele,
He who himself finds out of saddle
o cui traïne la boële,
with whom trails the bowel
ne puet muër ne se repente
not he-can help not himself may-repent
qu'il eissi hui fors de sa tente.
that-he went-out today out of his tent
Mais ne por quant, par vif bosoing,
But nor for all-that by lively need
del champ dous traiz e plus en loing
from-the field two shots and more in far
chacierent Greu lor enemis:
chased Greeks their enemies
mout lor ont de lor gent ocis,
much to-them they-have of their folk killed

mout i perdirent a cest poindre.
much there they-lost at this charge
Diomedès est alez joindre
Diomedes is gone to-join
o Troïlus por la danzele:
with Troïlus for the damsel
jus le trebuche de la sele.
down him he-tumbles from the saddle
Le destrier prent par le noël.
The charger he-takes by the knot
Un suen vaslet, un dameisel,
A his valet a squire
a apelé e si li tent:
he-has called and so to-him holds-it-out
«Va tost,» fait il, «isnelement
Go quickly says he swiftly
«a la tente Calcas de Troie
to the tent (of-)Calchas of Troy
«e di a sa fille la bloie
and say to his daughter the fair-haired
«que jo li envei cest destrier:
that I to-her send this charger
«Guaaignié l'ai d'un chevalier
Won it-I-have from-a knight
«qui mout par se fait bien de li;
who very much himself makes well of her

«e si li di que jo li pri
and so to-her say that I her beg
«qu'el ne s'iraisse de mes diz,
that-she not herself-anger at my words
«qu'en li est toz mis esperiz.»
for-in her is all my spirit
Cil s'en torne les sauz menuz;
That-one himself-thence turns the leaps small
devant la tente est descenduz,
before the tent he-is dismounted
puis est entrez el paveillon,
then he-is entered into-the pavilion
dont de fin or sont li paisson,
of-which of fine gold are the pegs
l'estache tote e li pomeaus
the-pole all and the knobs
e li aigles, qui trop est beaus.
and the eagle which very is fair
Li fiz Cariz de Pierre Lee
The son (of-)Cariz of Pierre Lee
a la danzele saluëe
has the damsel greeted
de part son natural seignor:
on part-of his natural lord
«Dame,» fait il, «cest milsoudor
Lady says he this thousand-sou-steed
«vos enveie par druërie:
to-you he-sends by love-token
«Sacheiz que pas ne vos oblie.
Know that at-all not you he-forgets

«De Troïlus, ços sai retraire,
From Troilus that-you I-know to-recount
«qui tant se sueut de vos bien faire,
who so-much himself is-wont of you well to-make
«l'a guaaignié, n'a se poi non;
it-he-has won not-there-is if little not
«jus l'en trebucha el sablon.
down him-thence he-tumbled onto-the sand
«Tel poindre fist, veant mes ieuz,
Such charge he-made seeing my eyes
«ne fu de la si granz l'orguieuz,
not was-there of there so great the-pride
«cent n'en chaïssent tuit envers,
a-hundred not-thereof would-have-fallen all backward
«dont li plus sains est pale e pers.
of-which the most healthy is pale and livid
«Ço vos mande, por vos se peine
That to-you he-sends for you himself he-strains
«e que toz est vostre demeine.»
and that all he-is your own
Par l'anelet d'or a cristal
By the-ring of-gold with crystal
prist la danzele le cheval:
took the damsel the horse
«Di mei,» fait ele, «ton seignor
Tell me says she to-your lord
«que ci me porte male amor;
that here me he-bears evil love

«quar, se rien se fait bien de mei
for if anyone himself makes well of me
«par le mien gré n'a mon otrei,
by the my will nor-by my grant
«ne s'aucuns est mis bienvoillanz,
nor if-anyone is my well-wisher
«tant com vers mei iert depreianz,
as-long as toward me he-will-be beseeching
«nel deit laidir ne damagier:
not-him he-ought to-ill-use nor to-harm
«Ço qu'est de mei aint e ait chier.
That which-is of me let-him-love and may-he-have dear
«Bien sai, s'il m'aime de neient,
Well I-know if-he me-loves in anything
«que mieuz en sera a ma gent:
that better thereby it-will-be to my folk
«A toz en deit porter manaie.
To all thereof he-ought to-bear mercy
«Mais, se il est quil me retraie,
But if it is who-it to-me may-relate
«assez orrai, ainz le quart jor,
enough I-shall-hear before the fourth day
«que cil avra pris tel retor
that that-one will-have taken such return
«de cest milsoudor o s'espee,
for this thousand-sou-steed with his-sword
«dont la perte iert bien restoree.
whereby the loss will-be well restored
«N'est pas vilains a desguagier,
Not-be-is at-all base at redeeming

«quar soz ciel n'a tel chevalier.
for under heaven not-is such knight
«Bien cuit que il sivra sa preie,
Well I-think that he will-follow his prey
«si ne li chaudra qui quel veie:
so not to-him it-will-matter who that-it may-see
«Teus la li cuidera veer,
Such it from-him will-think to-refuse
«qui bien le porra comparer.
who well it will-be-able to-pay-for
«Va ariere, torne a l'estor,
Go back turn to the-fight
«si me salue ton seignor,
so me greet your lord
«e si li di que tort fereie,
and so to-him say that wrong I-would-do
«puis qu'il m'aime, se jol haeie:
since that-he me-loves if I-him hated
«Ja nel harrai, se jo n'ai dreit,
Ever not-him I-shall-hate if I not-have right
«n'ancor ne l'aim dont mieuz li seit.»
nor-yet not him-I-love whereof better for-him may-it-be

Hector Wounded

LXI

Paris's archers drive the Greeks to their tents until Agamemnon's fresh ten thousand turn the fight, and Polydamas and Fion recover the field before the walls. Diomedes' horse falls under him, and Polydamas gives it to Troilus. Riding it, Troilus unhorses Achilles with a blow that wounds him for a month, and Achilles is nearly taken until Telamon rescues him. The battle lasts thirty days. Two of Priam's bastard sons die, and Hector, wounded in the face by a bolt, lies fifteen days unarmed. Priam asks a six months' truce, which is granted, and the dead are burned. Broz the Apulian tends Hector in the Chamber of Alabaster, with Helen and Polyxena by him.

Li vaslez s'est de li partiz,
The valet himself-is from her parted
ariere torne al fereïz,
back he-turns to-the striking
al merveillos e al mortal,
to-the marvelous and to-the mortal
la ou fenissent tant vassal,
there where end so-many vassal
tant conte e tant riche baron.
so-many count and so-many rich baron
Paris e tuit si compaignon
Paris and all his companions
furent ja en l'estor venuz
were already into the-fight come
sor les destriers, les ars tenduz.
on the chargers the bows bent

Qu'en direie? Tel traëiz
What-thereof would-I-say Such shooting
ne si estrange poigneïz
nor so strange charging
ne vit nus hom ne tel dolor.
not saw any man nor such grief
Ne porent Greu sofrir l'estor,
Not could Greeks endure the-fight
derompu furent de la place:
broken they-were from the place
jusqu'as tentes dura la chace.
up-to-the tents lasted the chase
S'Agamennon nes socorust,
If-Agamemnon not-them had-helped
mauvaisement lor esteüst.
badly to-them it-would-have-stood
Dis mile Greu novel e freis,
Ten thousand Greeks new and fresh
laciez les heaumes Paviëis,
laced the helmets Pavian
le sivent tuit, les escuz pris.
him follow all the shields taken
Cist requierent lor enemis
These attack their enemies
o fers esmoluz de Gontaut:
with irons ground of Gontaut
la fausent hauberc e bliaut,
there they-pierce hauberk and tunic
la desjoignent costez e piz;
there they-disjoin sides and chests

la ot assez des esbaïz,
there was enough of-the bewildered
qui ne se sevent conseillier.
who not themselves know to-counsel
Par les chans vont vuit li destrier,
Through the fields go empty the chargers
des seles sont li arçon frait.
of-the saddles are the saddlebows broken
Que vos en fereie lonc plait?
Why to-you thereof would-I-make long speech
Li Troïen sont resorti,
The Trojans are gone-back
si ont el champ des lor guerpi
so they-have in-the field of-the theirs left
treis cenz e plus, ço dit l'Escrit
three hundreds and more that says the-Writing
e cil qui o ses ieuz le vit.
and he who with his eyes it saw
Par mi les lices les meïssent,
Through the-midst the barriers them they-would-have-put
ja anceis mais ne departissent,
ever before more not they-would-have-parted
se n'i venist Polidamas
if not-there had-come Polydamas
e reis Fion, li fiz Doglas:
and king Fion the son (of-)Doglas
cil ont les lor resvigorez,
those have the theirs reinvigorated
par eus fu li chans recovrez;
by them was the field recovered

mais mout i ot anceis colees
but much there was before blows
prises, rendues e donees,
taken rendered and given
que li enchauz fust arestez.
that the pursuit were stopped
Perdu i ot le jor assez:
Lost there was the day enough
miliers de gent, ço truis lisant.
thousands of folk that I-find reading
Ci ot bataille trop pesant.
Here was battle very heavy
Devant les doves, près des murs,
Before the moats near the walls
fu li torneiz pesmes e durs,
was the tourney wicked and hard
tot le jor puis, desci qu'al seir:
all the day after until that-at-the evening
mout le poëient bien veeir
much it could well see
les puceles des aleors
the maidens from-the galleries
e des ars voutiz e des tors.
and from-the arches vaulted and from-the towers
Polidamas mout i josta,
Polydamas much there jousted
chevaus assez i guaaigna.
horses enough there he-won
Mout se pena d'armes porter:
Much himself he-strove with-arms to-bear

assez saveient son penser
enough knew his thought
plusor, qui nul plait n'en teneient
several who any plea not-thereof held
ne qui semblant ne l'en faiseient.
nor who semblance not to-him-thereof made
Diomedès e il josterent,
Diomedes and he jousted
qui tant ne quant ne s'entramerent.
who so-much nor how-much not loved-each-other
La joste fu mout aïrose
The joust was very angry
e a chascun d'eus perillose:
and to each of-them perilous
n'i ot celui qui ne saignast
not-there was that-one who not bled
e qui sa lance ne brisast.
and who his lance not broke
Mais li chevaus Diomedès
But the horse (of-)Diomedes
torna desoz lui tot a fais:
turned under him all at weight
soz lui chaï, mout fu bleciez.
under him it-fell much he-was hurt
Ainz qu'il refust sailliz en piez,
Before that-he again-were leapt onto feet
ot Polidamas le destrier
had Polydamas the charger
livré a un suen escuier;
delivered to a his squire

a Troïlus en fist present.
to Troilus thereof he-made present
La joste virent tel cinc cent
The joust saw such five hundred
qui mout en orent grant envie;
who much thereof had great envy
e celes que nel heent mie
and those who not-him hate at-all
l'ont l'une a l'autre al dei mostré: 14425
it-have the-one to the-other with-the finger shown
assez en ont entre els parlé
enough thereof they-have among themselves spoken
e mout grant bien retrait e dit.
and very great good recounted and said
Quant Troïlus le cheval vit,
When Troilus the horse saw
grant gré l'en sot del don si riche:
great thanks him-thereof he-knew for-the gift so rich
enz en son cuer dit e afiche 14430
right in his heart he-says and asserts
qu'il en fera chevalerie,
that-he therewith will-do chivalry
si qu'en orra parler s'amie.
so that-thereof will-hear speak his-beloved
E si fist il: ne tarja guaire,
And so did he not delayed hardly
ensi com vos m'orreiz retraire.
thus as you me-will-hear recount

Trop les empressot Achillès,
Too-much them pressed Achilles
e tant se teneit des rens près
and so-much himself held to-the ranks near
que n'i poëit nus des lor joindre
that not-there could any of-the theirs join
n'a dreit aler ne a dreit poindre,
nor-at right go nor at right spur
qu'il ne li sorsist a la chiere
that-he not on-him sprang at the face
o as costez o par deriere:
or at-the sides or from behind
ociëit les veant lor ieuz,
he-was-killing them seeing their eyes
mais ja charra tost sis orguieuz.
but soon will-fall quickly his pride
Troïlus sist sor le destrier,
Troilus sat on the charger
que mout ama e mout ot chier,
which much he-loved and much had dear
quar en si buen n'ot onc monté.
for on so good not-he-had ever mounted
L'escu al col d'or emboclé,
The-shield at-the neck with-gold bossed
l'eaume lacié, l'auberc el dos,
the-helmet laced the-hauberk on-the back

la lance el poing, ou fu entors
the lance in-the fist where was wrapped
li confanons cui li dona
the banner which to-him gave
dameisele Briseïda,
damsel Briseida
que mout l'amot ancore al jor,
who much him-loved yet at-the day
toz les granz sauz del milsoudor
all the great leaps of-the thousand-sou-steed
a le renc pris: bien esguarda
has the rank taken well he-watched
que uns des suens poinst e brocha.
that one of-the his spurred and pricked
Ferir alot un chevalier,
To-strike he-was-going a knight
mais Achillès sailli premier,
but Achilles sprang first
quil feri si par mi la chiere
who-him struck so through the-midst the face
que morz chaï en la poudriere.
that dead he-fell in the dust
A tant i sorvint Troïlus.
At that there arrived Troilus
Ne sai que aloignasse plus:
Not I-know why I-should-lengthen more
devers sei le trueve acosté,
toward himself him he-finds alongside
merveillos coup li a doné,
marvelous blow to-him he-has given

quar outre passe toz li fers.
for beyond passes all the iron
Onques nel pot tenir haubers:
Ever not-it could hold hauberk
se Achillès ne se baissast,
if Achilles not himself had-stooped
ja mais sa boche ne manjast.
ever more his mouth not would-have-eaten
Cil l'a hurté come vassal
That-one him-has struck as vassal
fortment de sei e del cheval;
greatly with himself and with-the horse
jus le trebuche del destrier.
down him he-tumbles from-the charger
Sentu a si le fer d'acier
Felt has so the iron of-steel
que ne fu puis d'un meis durant
that not it-was after of-a month lasting
qu'il n'en eüst le cuer dolant.
that-he not-thereof might-have-had the heart grieving
Ne fu mie trop esbaïz:
Not he-was at-all too bewildered
mout refu tost en piez sailliz,
very again-he-was soon onto feet leapt
son destrier prent par mi la resne.
his charger he-takes by the-midst the rein
E Troïlus point ne l'esperne:
And Troïlus at-all not him-spares

de l'espee li meist e done
with the-sword to-him he-puts and gives
sor le heaume, qui cler resone.
on the helmet which bright resounds
Tuit se rassemblent comunal:
All themselves reassemble together
ci rot estor dur e mortal;
here again-was fight hard and mortal
ci fait Hector teus escremies
here makes Hector such sword-play
dont cent des lor perdent les vies.
whereby a-hundred of-the theirs lose the lives
Si vos di bien que li Bastart
So to-you I-say well that the Bastards
i font de ceus de l'ost essart:
there make of those of the-host clearing
la ou il vont sont li renc cler,
there where they go are the ranks clear
a mainz en font les chiés voler.
to many thereof they-make the heads fly
La rescosse ert mout angoissose
The rescue was very anguished
e as plus forz mout perillose:
and to-the most strong very perilous
rien ne vit onc tel foleïz
anyone not saw ever such madness
ne d'espees tel fereïz.
nor of-swords such striking

Outré aveient Achillès
Overcome had Achilles
cil qui s'en mistrent a grant fais.
those who themselves-thereto put to great burden
Toz esteit pris e retenuz,
All he-was taken and held
quant Telamon i est venuz
when Telamon there is come
e li bons dus Atheniëns.
and the good duke Athenian
Cist n'i fussent mais hui a tens,
These not-there would-have-been more today in time
s'il tarjassent ne tant ne quant,
if-they had-delayed nor so-much nor how-much
ja Achillès n'eüst guarant;
ever Achilles not-would-have-had protector
mais il l'ont de la presse trait,
but they him-have from the press drawn
sin furent ainz maint espié frait
so-thereof were before many-a spear broken
e maint escu d'or emboclé
and many-a shield with-gold bossed
tot detrenchié e decoupé,
all cut-to-pieces and hewn
de maint heaume li laz rompu
of many-a helmet the laces broken
e maint chevalier abatu.
and many-a knight thrown-down
Grant piece dura la meslee,
Great while lasted the melee

trop fu l'escosse comparee,
too-dearly was the-rescue paid-for
trop i ot grant damage fait.
too-much there was great harm done
Il n'i a plus: li jorz s'en vait
It not-there is more the day itself-thence goes
e la nuit vient oscure et neire,
and the night comes dark and black
que a fait departir la feire.
which has made part the fair
Parti s'en sont e trait en sus,
Parted themselves-thence they-are and drawn up away
a cele feiz n'i ot fait plus:
at that time not-there was done more
as herberges s'en retornerent
to-the lodgings themselves-thence returned
cil qui guaires n'i sojornerent;
those who much not-there stayed
el ne refirent cil dedenz.
else not did-again those within
Trente jorz dura li contenz,
Thirty days lasted the struggle
onc un sol jor ne trespassa;
ever a single day not passed
n'onques lor gent ne desevra
nor-ever their folk not separated
desci ques departi li seirs
until that-them parted the evening
e li vespres oscurs e neirs.
and the evening-hour dark and black

Li trente jor furent penible:
The thirty days were painful
n'en i ot nul si mautraïble
not-thereof there was any so hardy
qui toz ne fust las et matiz,
who all not were weary and spent
ainz que il fussent acompliz.
before that they were fulfilled
Dui des Bastarz i furent mort,
Two of-the Bastards there were dead
qui donerent grant desconfort
who gave great discomfort
al rei Priant e a Paris
to-the king Priam and to Paris
e as meillors de lor païs.
and to-the best of their country
Es deriers jorz de la bataille,
In-the last days of the battle
par les mailles de la ventaille
through the mails of the ventail
fu Hector navrez en la chiere
was Hector wounded in the face
d'un lonc quarrel en tel maniere
by-a long bolt in such manner
que por un poi ne fu ocis;
that for a little not he-was killed

puis en jut bien teus quinze dis
then thereof he-lay well such fifteen days
qu'onc son hauberc ne pot vestir
that-ever his hauberk not he-could put-on
ne fors des murs de Troie eissir.
nor out of-the walls of Troy go-out
Mout en reçurent grant damage
Much thereby received great harm
li plus prochain de son lignage:
the most near of his lineage
tant com la bataille a duré
as-long as the battle has lasted
dès puis qu'il fu el vis navré,
from since that-he was in-the face wounded
en furent bien li sordeior.
thereof were well the worse
Mout ert regretez chascun jor;
Much he-was mourned each day
mout en ploroënt tendrement
much for-him they-wept tenderly
cil qui le grant destruiement
those who the great destruction
veeient faire de lor genz.
saw make of their folk
Par maintes feiz les mistrent enz,
By many times them they-put in
e par maintes feiz reüserent
and by many times they-drove-back
plus sovent qu'il ne recovrerent.
more often than-they not rallied

Mout en aveient le peior:
Much thereof they-had the worse
quant il n'aveient lor seignor,
when they not-had their lord
n'aveient point de forterece.
not-they-had point of fortress
Mout regretoënt sa proëce,
Much they-mourned his prowess
mout en esteient angoissos
much thereby they-were anguished
e dolent e trist e ploros.
and grieving and sad and tearful
Li champ erent covert des morz,
The fields were covered with-the dead
e li vergier e toz les orz:
and the orchards and all the gardens
ço diseient e afichoënt
that they-said and asserted
cil quis veeient e esmoënt,
those who-them saw and estimated
que plus en i aveit assez
that more thereof there had enough
que quant il furent ars es rez.
than when they were burned on-the pyres
Ço diseient bien li plusor:
That said well the most
«N'en i ot pas tant l'autre jor.»
Not-thereof there was at-all so-many the-other day
Nel reporent plus endurer,
Not-it they-could-again more endure

quar n'aveient ou assembler:
for not-they-had where to-join
l'olor e la puör les chace.
the-smell and the stink them chases
N'i aveit vuit ne champ ne place.
Not-there was empty nor field nor place
Empor Hector, qui jut navré,
For Hector who lay wounded
dont li suen erent maumené,
whereby the his were ill-used
e por redelivrer les chans,
and for to-clear-again the fields
requist triuës li reis Prians.
asked truces the king Priam
Ses genz veeit, ço dit l'Autor,
His folk he-saw that says the-Author
a miliers morir chascun jor:
by thousands die each day
bien apareit que n'i ert mie
well it-appeared that not-there was at-all
cil quin aveit la seignorie.
he who-thereof had the lordship
Messages prist li nobles reis
Messengers took the noble king
membrez e sages e corteis,
mindful and wise and courteous
a Agamennon les tramist;
to Agamemnon them he-sent
mais ne truis pas lor non escrit.
but not I-find at-all their name written

Sis meis requistrent triuë entiere,
Six months they-asked truce entire
qu'om n'i traie ne lanst ne fiere.
that-one not-there may-shoot nor throw nor strike
Donee fu senz contredit
Given it-was without gainsaying
qui fust de grant ne de petit;
which were of great nor of small
d'ambedous parz l'ont afiëe.
on-both sides it-they-have pledged
Adonc refu grant l'assemblee
Then again-was great the-assembly
as rez faire e as cors ardeir:
for-the pyres to-make and for-the bodies to-burn
ne finerent ne main ne seir
not they-ceased nor morning nor evening
desci que tot fu acompli
until that all was fulfilled
e que tuit furent seveli
and that all were shrouded
e mis en cendre e en sarquieuz.
and put in ashes and in coffins
N'i ot si jovne ne si vieuz
Not-there was so young nor so old
qui ne fust liez del lonc sojor.
who not were glad of-the long rest
En fuerre alerent li plusor:
In foraging went the most
mestiers lor en ert e bosoinz;
need to-them thereof was and want

mout lor covint a querre loinz.
much to-them it-behooved to seek far
Li fil le rei furent ploré
The sons of-the king were wept
le jor qu'il furent enterré;
the day that-they were buried
sarquieuz orent trop precios.
coffins they-had very precious
Seveliz les ont ambedous
Shrouded them they-have both
delez lor freres richement,
beside their brothers richly
solonc lor lei mout hautement.
according-to their law very highly
En pais furent e en sojor
In peace they-were and in rest
bien demi an, ço dit l'Autor.
well half year that says the-Author
Dès or ont bien lor volenté
From now have well their will
e li malade e li navré.
both the sick and the wounded
Broz li Puilleis, li plus senez
Broz the Apulian the most wise
qui de mirgie fust usez
who in medicine were practiced
ne d'oignement freis ne d'emplastre,
nor in-ointment fresh nor in-plaster
dedenz la Chambre de Labastre,
within the Chamber of Alabaster

tailla Hector si gentement
operated-on Hector so nobly
que mal ne trait, dolor ne sent.
that ill not he-draws grief nor feels
Totes les dames, les puceles,
All the ladies the maidens
totes les riches dameiseles
all the rich damsels
sont devant lui e nuit e jor;
are before him both night and day
vienent i rei, prince e contor,
come there kings princes and counts
vienent i cil qui plus valeient
come there those who most were-worth
e qui de greignor pris esteient.
and who of greater worth were
Polixena i est, sa suer,
Polyxena there is his sister
que mout l'aime de tot son cuer,
who much him-loves with all her heart
e dame Heleine, que le sert,
and lady Helen who him serves
que sa plaie li leve e tert
who his wound for-him washes and wipes
mout doucement e de bon gré.
very sweetly and with good will
Assez en ont sovent parlé
Enough thereof they-have often spoken
la quel en tienent a plus bele,
the which thereof they-hold for more fair

o dame Heleine, o la pucele;
or lady Helen or the maiden
mais n'en sevent que afermer
but not-thereof they-know what to-affirm
ne la plus bele deviser.
nor the most fair to-declare
Soz ciel n'a cuer qui porpensast,
Under heaven not-is heart which could-conceive
ne n'a boche qui devisast
nor not-is mouth which could-describe
les beautez ne les resplendors
the beauties nor the radiances
a la meins bele d'eles dous.
of the least fair of-them two

The Chamber of Beauties

LXII

The Chamber of Alabaster, where Hector lies, shines with Arabian gold and the twelve precious stones of Scripture, bright as a summer day even at night. At its four corners stand pillars of electrum, jasper, onyx, and jet. On them three necromancer-poets set four images, two maidens and two youths. The first maiden holds a mirror in which everyone who enters sees their own looks and can set their dress right. The second dances, tumbles, and juggles knives, and conjures on a golden table every kind of battle, beast, ship, and monster. The first youth, crowned on an ophite throne, plays twelve instruments so sweetly that lovers may talk unheard.

En la Chambre de Labastrie,
In the Chamber of Alabaster
ou l'ors d'Araibe reflambie,
where the-gold of-Arabia flames
e les doze pieres gemeles
and the twelve stones twin
que Deus en eslist as plus beles,
which God thereof chose as most fair
quant precioses les noma, —
when precious them he-named
ço fu safirs e sardina,
that was sapphire and sardine
topace, prasme, crisolite,
topaz prase chrysolite
maraude, beriz, ametiste,
emerald beryl amethyst
jaspe, robins, chiere sardoine,
jasper ruby dear sardonyx

charbocles clers e calcedoine, —
carbuncles bright and chalcedony
d'icestes ot de lonc, de lé,
of-these there-was in length in breadth
en la Chambre mout grant plenté.
in the Chamber very great plenty
N'i coveneit autre clarté,
Not-there was-needed other brightness
quar toz li plus beaus jorz d'esté
for all the most fair day of-summer
ne reluist si n'a tel mesure
not shines so nor-has such measure
come el faiseit par nuit oscure.
as it did by night dark
De prasmes verz e de sardines
With prases green and with sardines
e de bones alemandines
and with good almandines
sont les vitres, e li chassiz
are the panes and the frames
d'or d'Araibe tresgeteïz.
of-gold of-Arabia cast
Des entailles ne des figures
Of-the carvings nor of-the figures
ne des formes ne des peintures
nor of-the forms nor of-the paintings
ne des merveilles ne des gieus,
nor of-the marvels nor of-the games
dont mout i ot par plusors lieus,
of-which much there was in many places

ne quier retraire ne parler,
not I-seek to-recount nor to-speak
qu'enuiz sereit de l'escouter.
for-weariness it-would-be of the-listening
Mais en la Chambre, es quatre angleaus,
But in the Chamber in-the four corners
ot quatre pilers lons e beaus:
there-were four pillars long and fair
l'uns fu de leutre precios,
the-one was of electrum precious
l'autre de jaspe vertuös;
the-other of jasper powerful
d'une oniche li tierz après
of-an onyx the third after
e li quarz fu d'un gargatès:
and the fourth was of-a jet
plus de dous cenz mars d'or recuit
more than two hundreds marks of-gold refined
valeit li noaudre, ço cuit.
was-worth the least that I-think
N'est hui nus hom de cel poëir,
Not-is today any man of that power
qui par force ne par aveir
who by force nor by wealth
en eslijast les dous menors.
thereof might-buy the two least
Trei poëte, sages dotors,
Three poets wise doctors
qui mout sorent de nigromance,
who much knew of necromancy

les asistrent par tel semblance
them set by such semblance
que sor chascun ot tresgeté
that on each there-was cast
une image de grant beauté.
an image of great beauty
Les dous que plus esteient beles
The two which most were fair
aveient formes de puceles;
had forms of maidens
les autres dous de jovenceaus:
the others two of youths
onques nus hom ne vit tant beaus;
ever any man not saw so fair
e si esteient colorees
and so they-were colored
e en tel maniere formees,
and in such manner formed
quis esguardot, ço li ert vis
who-them looked-at that to-him was opinion
qu'angele fussent de Paradis.
that-angels they-were of Paradise
Des dous danzeles la menor
Of-the two damsels the lesser
teneit toz tens un mireor
held all times a mirror
en or asis cler e vermeil:
in gold set bright and vermilion

rais de lune ne de soleil
ray of moon nor of sun
ne resplent si come il faiseit.
not shines so as it did
Qui onques en la Chambre esteit,
Who ever in the Chamber was
si se veeit veraiement,
so himself saw truly
senz deceveir, apertement.
without deceiving openly
Li mireors n'ert mie faus:
The mirror not-was at-all false
a toz iceus ert comunaus
to all those it-was common
qui onques en la Chambre entroënt.
who ever into the Chamber entered
Lor semblances i esguardoënt:
Their likenesses there they-looked-at
bien conoisseient maintenant
well they-knew at-once
ço que sor eus n'ert avenant;
that which on them not-was becoming
sempres l'aveient afaitié
at-once it-they-had set-right
e gentement apareillié.
and nobly arranged
Apertement, senz deceveir,
Openly without deceiving

i pueent conoistre e saveir
there can know and learn
les danzeles se lor mantel
the damsels if their mantle
lor estont bien e lor cercel
to-them stands well and their circlet
e lor guimples e lor fermal.
and their wimples and their brooch
Ço esteit bien, non mie mal:
That was well not at-all ill
plus seürement s'en estoënt
more securely themselves-thence they-stood
e mout meins assez en dotoënt.
and very less much thereof they-feared
N'i esteit om guaires repris
Not-there was one much reproved
de fol semblant ne de fol ris:
of foolish look nor of foolish laugh
tot demostrot li mireors,
all showed the mirror
contenances, semblanz, colors,
countenances looks colors
teus com chascuns aveit en sei.
such as each had in himself
D'el serveient li autre trei.
Of-else served the other three

L'autre danzele ert mout corteise,
The-other damsel was very courteous
quar tote jor joë e enveise
for all day she-plays and frolics
e bale e tresche e tombe e saut,
and dances and treads and tumbles and leaps
desus le piler, si en haut
upon the pillar so on high
que c'est merveille qu'el ne chiet.
that it-is marvel that-she not falls
Par soventes feiz se rasiet:
By frequent times herself sits-again
lance e requeut quatre couteaus.
she-throws and catches four knives
Cent gieus divers riches e beaus
A-hundred games diverse rich and fair
i fait le jor set feiz o uit.
there she-makes the day seven times or eight
Sor une table d'or recuit,
On a table of-gold refined
que devant li est lee e grant,
which before her is broad and great
fait merveilles de tel semblant
she-makes marvels of such semblance
que ne porreit rien porpenser, —
that not could anyone imagine
bataille d'ors ne de sengler,
battle of-bears nor of boar
de grip, de tigre, de lion,
of griffin of tiger of lion

ne vol d'ostor ne de faucon
nor flight of-goshawk nor of falcon
ne d'espervier ne d'autre oisel,
nor of-sparrowhawk nor of-other bird
gieu de dame o de dameisel,
game of lady or of young-lord
ne parlemenz ne repostauz,
nor parleys nor ambushes
batailles, traïsons n'asauz,
battles treasons nor-assaults
ne nef siglant par haute mer,
nor ship sailing on high sea
ne nus divers peissons de mer,
nor any diverse fishes of sea
ne batailles de champions,
nor battles of champions
n'omes cornuz ne marmions,
nor-men horned nor monkeys
ne serpenteaus volanz, hisdos,
nor serpents flying hideous
nuitons ne mostres perillos, —
goblins nor monsters perilous
que n'i face le jor joër,
that not-there she-may-make the day play
e lor natures demostrer:
and their natures show
conoistre fait tot en apert
to-know she-makes all in open
de quei chascune joë e sert.
of what each plays and serves

Merveille semble a esguarder,
Marvel it-seems to behold
quar om ne savreit porpenser
for one not would-know to-imagine
que devienent après les gieus.
what they-become after the games
Des arz e des segreiz des cieus
Of-the arts and of-the secrets of-the heavens
sot cil assez quis tresgeta
knew he enough who-them cast
e qui l'image apareilla.
and who the-image prepared
Qui esguarde la grant merveille,
Who beholds the great marvel
qui est qui tel chose apareille,
who it-is who such thing prepares
merveille sei ço que puet estre,
marvels himself that which it-can be
qu'onc ne fist Deus cel home naistre,
that-ever not made God that man be-born
quis esguarde, ne s'entroblit
who-them beholds not himself-forgets
de son pensé e de son dit,
of his thought and of his speech
e cui entendre n'i covienge,
and to-whom attending not-there it-may-behoove
e cui l'image ne detienge.
and whom the-image not may-detain

A peine s'en puet rien partir
With pain himself-thence can anyone part
ne de la Chambre fors eissir,
nor from the Chamber out go-out
tant com l'image ses gieus fait,
as-long as the-image its games makes
que desus le piler s'estait.
which upon the pillar itself-stands
Uns des danzeaus de l'autre part
One of-the youths on the-other part
fu tresgetez par grant esguart.
was cast by great design
Sor le piler esteit asis
On the pillar he-was seated
en un faudestuel de grant pris.
in a faldstool of great worth
D'une ofiane fu ovrez:
Of-an ophite it-was wrought
c'est une piere chiere assez.
that-is a stone dear enough
Cil qui la veit auques sovent,
He who it sees somewhat often
ço dit li Livres, qui ne ment,
that says the Book which not lies
en refreschist e renovele,
thereby is-refreshed and renewed
e la color l'en est plus bele,
and the color to-him-thereby is more fair

ne grant ire ja nen avra
nor great wrath ever not he-will-have
le jor qu'une feiz la verra.
the day that-one time it he-will-see
L'image ot son chief coroné
The-image had its head crowned
d'un cercle d'or mout bien ovré
with-a circle of-gold very well wrought
o esmeraudes, o rubis,
with emeralds with rubies
qui mout li esclairent le vis.
which much to-it brighten the face
Estrumenz tint granz e petiz,
Instruments it-held great and small
e si n'en sot onc tant Daviz,
and so not-thereof knew ever so-much David
quis fist e quis apareilla,
who-them made and who-them prepared
n'onques si bien ne les sona
nor-ever so well not them sounded
come l'image, senz desdit.
as the-image without gainsaying
Iluec par ot si grant delit
There very was so great delight
que gigue, harpe e simphonie,
for fiddle harp and symphony
rote, viële e armonie,
rote viol and harmony
sautier, cimbales, timpanon,
psaltery cymbals tympanum

monocorde, lire, coron, —
monochord lyre chorus
içо sont li doze estrument, —
these are the twelve instruments
tant par les sone doucement
so very them it-sounds sweetly
que l'armonie esperital,
that the-harmony spiritual
ne li coron celestial,
nor the choirs celestial
n'est a oïr si delitable:
not-is to hear so delightful
tot semble chose esperitable.
all seems thing spiritual
Quant cil de la Chambre conseillent,
When those of the Chamber confer
a l'endormir e quant il veillent,
at the-falling-asleep and when they wake
sone e note tant doucement,
it-sounds and plays so sweetly
ne trait dolor ne mal ne sent
not draws grief nor ill nor feels
quil puet oïr ne escouter.
who-it can hear nor listen
Fol corage ne mal penser
Foolish heart nor ill thought
n'i prent as genz, ne fous talanz.
not-there takes to-the folk nor foolish desires
Mout fait grant bien as escoutanz,
Much it-does great good to-the listeners

quar auques haut pueent parler:
for somewhat loud they-can speak
nes puet om pas si escouter.
not-them can one at-all so listen
Iç'agree mout as plusors,
This-pleases much to-the most
qui sovent conseillent d'amors
who often confer of-love
e de segreiz e d'autres diz
and of secrets and of-other sayings
qui pas ne vuelent estre oïz.
which at-all not wish to-be heard

The Images of the Chamber

LXIII

The crowned youth also scatters fresh flowers over the floor. A golden eagle above him and a horned satyr opposite, throwing and catching a mace, make the eagle fly; its wind withers the flowers, and fresh ones replace them twice a day. The fourth image shows each person by secret signs what they most need to do, when to leave, and keeps everyone from baseness. It holds a topaz censer whose stone burns without smoke and whose scent cures every ill. The Chamber is all alabaster, transparent from inside, with silver doors. The poet must sail on, and says Priam gave the Chamber to Helen when Paris took her.

Li dameiseaus, qui tant est genz,
The youth who so-much is noble
après le son des estrumenz,
after the sound of-the instruments
prent flors de mout divers semblanz,
takes flowers of very diverse looks
beles e fresches, bien olanz;
fair and fresh well smelling
adonc les gete a tel plenté
then them throws in such plenty
desus le pavement listé
upon the pavement banded
que toz en est en fin coverz:
that all thereof is in end covered
c'est en estez e en iverz.
that-is in summers and in winters
Ço fait l'image assez sovent,
That does the-image enough often

si ne set rien com faitement
so not knows anyone how fashioned
ne tant en a ne tant en prent.
nor so-many thereof it-has nor so-many thereof it-takes
Ne dure mie longement,
Not it-lasts at-all long
quar sor l'image a un aiglel
for over the-image there-is an eaglet
d'or tresgeté, sor un arcel,
of-gold cast on a little-arch
qui mout par est bien faiz e beaus:
which very much is well made and fair
oëz de quei sert li oiseaus.
hear for what serves the bird
Trestot a dreit, de l'autre part,
All at straight on the-other part
ra tresgeté par grant esguart
again-there-is cast by great design
un satirel hisdos, cornu,
a satyr hideous horned
en piez desus un arc volu:
on feet upon an arch vaulted
une mace tient en sa main,
a mace it-holds in its hand
poi meins grosse d'un petit pain.
little less big than-a little loaf
Tot dreit a l'aigle esme a geter,
All straight at the-eagle it-aims to throw
e quant il lait la mace aler,
and when it lets the mace go

volez s'en est tost e foïz
flown itself-thence it-is soon and fled
tant que li cous est resortiz.
until that the blow is rebounded
La pelote a tost recoillie
The ball has soon gathered-up
li satireaus, n'en laisse mie;
the satyr not-thereof misses at-all
ne il ne porreit pas faillir
nor it not could at-all fail
al receveir n'al recoillir
at-the receiving nor-at-the gathering
n'al relancier les autres feiz,
nor-at-the throwing-again the other times
a icele hore qu'il est dreiz.
at that hour which-it is right
Mais, tant come en dure li lanz,
But as-long as thereof lasts the throw
fuit li aigles e est volanz:
flees the eagle and is flying
de ses ailes e de sa plume
from its wings and from its plumage
ist venz, quar c'est dreiz e costume.
comes-out wind for it-is right and custom
Si tost come il vient sor les flors,
So soon as it comes over the flowers
par l'artimaire des dotors,
by the-magic-art of-the doctors
sont si seches e enveillies,
they-are so dry and aged

ainz que de rien seient flaistries,
before that in anything they-may-be withered
que nus ne set qu'eles devienent;
that any not knows what-they become
après celes, autres revienent,
after those others come-back
beles, fresches, d'autre color.
fair fresh of-other color
Ensi avient dous feiz le jor.
Thus it-befalls two times the day
Si tost com rest asis l'aigleaus
So soon as again-is seated the-eaglet
e sa mace a li satireaus,
and its mace has the satyr
si respant l'image ses flors
so again-spreads the-image its flowers
mout mieuz olanz e mout meillors.
very better smelling and very better
Jons ne glaieus n'erbe menue
Rushes nor irises nor-grass small
n'i avra ja autre estendue.
not-there will-have ever other spread
L'image n'est guaires oisive:
The-image not-is much idle
a mainte chose est ententive
to many-a thing it-is attentive
que mout plaisent a esguarder
which much please to behold
e que assez font a loër.
and which enough are to praise

Des flors tienent a grant noblece:
Of-the flowers they-hold for great nobility
diënt que mout est grant richece;
they-say that very it-is great richness
ne fu onques si grant maistrie
not was-there ever so great mastery
por rien ne faite ne oïe.
for anything nor made nor heard
La quarte image reserveit
The fourth image served
d'une chose que mout valeit;
for-a thing which much was-worth
quar ceus de la Chambre esguardot
for those of the Chamber it-watched
e par signes lor demostrot
and by signs to-them showed
que c'ert que il deveient faire
what that-was that they ought to-do
e que plus lor ert necessaire:
and what most to-them was necessary
a conoistre le lor faiseit
to know it to-them it-made
si qu'autre ne l'aparceveit.
so that-another not it-perceived
S'en la Chambre fussent set cent,
If-in the Chamber there-were seven hundred

si seüst chascuns veirement
so would-know each truly
que l'image li demostrast
that the-image to-him showed
içо que plus li bosoignast.
that which most to-him was-needful
Ço qu'il mostrot ert bien segrei:
That which-it showed was well secret
nel coneüst ja rien fors sei,
not-it would-know ever anyone except himself
ne jo ne nus, fors il toz sous.
nor I nor any except he all alone
Ici ot sen trop engeignos:
Here there-was sense very ingenious
merveille fu com ço pot estre
marvel it-was how that could be
ne come rien de ço fu maistre.
nor how anyone of that was master
Ja en la Chambre n'esteüst
Ever in the Chamber not-would-have-stayed
nus hom, fors tant come il deüst:
any man except as-long as he ought
l'image saveit bien mostrer
the-image knew well to-show
quant termes esteit de l'aler,
when term was of the-going
e quant trop tost, e quant trop tart;
and when too soon and when too late
sovent preneit de ço reguart.
often it-took of that heed

Bien guardot ceus d'estre enoios,
Well it-guarded those from-being tiresome
d'estre vilains, d'estre coitos,
from-being base from-being hasty
qui dedenz la Chambre veneient,
who within the Chamber came
qui entroënt ne qui eisseient:
who entered nor who went-out
nus n'i poëit estre obliëz,
any not-there could be forgetful
fous ne vilains ne esguarez,
foolish nor base nor bewildered
quar l'image, par grant maistrie,
for the-image by great mastery
les guardot toz de vilanie.
them guarded all from baseness
D'un grant topace cler e chier
Of-a great topaz bright and dear
tint en sa main un encensier,
it-held in its hand a censer
o chaeines bien entailliees
with chains well carved
e de fil d'or menu treciees.
and with thread of-gold fine braided
D'unes gomes esperitaus,
With-some gums spiritual
dont mout traite li Mecinaus,
of-which much treats the Medicinal
fu toz empliz li encensiers:
was all filled the censer

onc tant d'aveir ne fu si chiers.
ever so-much of-wealth not was so dear
Une piere ot enz alumee,
A stone there-was within kindled
dont il n'ist flambe ne fumee:
from-which it not-comes-out flame nor smoke
senz descreistre art e nuit e jor,
without decreasing it-burns both night and day
granz est li feus de sa chalor.
great is the fire of its heat
Des gomes qui dedenz alument
Of-the gums which within kindle
bone est l'olor, puis qu'eles fument:
good is the-smell since that-they smoke
soz ciel n'est rien que la receive,
under heaven not-is thing that it may-receive
ja fous corages le deceive.
ever foolish heart it may-deceive
Esperital en est l'olor,
Spiritual thereof is the-smell
quar il nen est maus ne dolor
for it not is ill nor grief
que n'en guarisse, qui la sent.
that not-thereof may-cure who it smells
Ici covint grant esciënt
Here it-behooved great knowledge
a faire si que fust durable
to make so that-it might-be lasting
e a trestoz jorz mais estable;
and for all days more stable

e si fust il jusqu'al joïse,
and so would-have-been it until-the judgment
s'ensi ne fust la cité prise.
if-thus not had-been the city taken
En la Chambre n'ot onc mortier,
In the Chamber not-was-there ever mortar
chauz ne sablon ne ciment chier,
lime nor sand nor cement dear
enduit ne moleron ne plastre:
coating nor rubble nor plaster
tote entiere fu de labastre.
all whole it-was of alabaster
C'est une pierre mout soutis:
That-is a stone very subtle
nen est si blanche flor de lis
not is so white flower of lily
come est defors tote e dedenz.
as it-is outside all and within
Quant il i a aucunes genz,
When it there has some folk
veeir pueent tot cler par mi,
see they-can all clear through the-midst
mais il n'i seront ja choisi:
but they not-there will-be ever seen
qui dedenz est, defors veit cler;
who within is outside sees clear
si ne set nus tant esguarder,
so not knows any so-much to-look
s'il est defors, ja dedenz veie.
if-he is outside ever within may-see

Bien met son aveir e empleie,
Well puts his wealth and employs
qui en tel uevre le despent.
who in such work it spends
Li huis furent de fin argent,
The doors were of fine silver
a neiaus fait, mout bien ovré,
with niello made very well wrought
e li torel d'or esmeré.
and the pivots of-gold refined
Li liz en que se jut Hector,
The bed in which himself lay Hector
se il i ot argent ne or,
if it there had silver nor gold
ço pot estre la plus vil chose.
that could be the most vile thing
Del lit par sereit trop grant chose,
Of-the bed very it-would-be too great thing
se j'en començoe a parler;
if I-thereof began to speak
mais ne m'i leist a demorer:
but not to-me-there it-is-allowed to stay
mout par ai ancore a sigler,
very much I-have yet to sail
quar ancor sui en haute mer.
for yet I-am on high sea
Por ço me covient espleitier,
For that me behooves to-press-on
quar sovent sordent destorbier;
for often arise hindrances

maintes uevres sont comenciees,
many works are begun
que sovent sont entrelaissiees.
which often are left-off
Ceste me doint Deus achever,
This to-me may-grant God to-finish
qu'a dreit port puisse ancre geter! 14950
so-that-at right port I-may anchor throw
Quant Paris ot pris dame Heleine,
When Paris had taken lady Helen
si li dona tote en demeine
so to-her gave all as her-own
ceste chambre li reis Prianz,
this chamber the king Priam
par le voleir de ses enfanz:
by the will of his children
onques a dame n'a pucele 14955
ever to lady nor-to maiden
ne fu donee autresi bele
not was given likewise fair
ne si riche, ço dit li Livres.
nor so rich that says the Book
Plus valeit de cent mile livres.
More it-was-worth than a-hundred thousand pounds