OLD FRENCH SERIES · VOLUME 54

The Romance of Troy

Benoît de Sainte-Maure

Le Roman de Troie

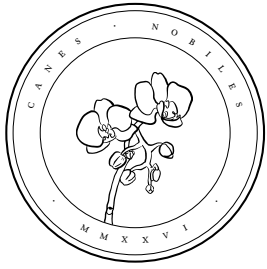
The Romance of Troy

Part Four: The Fall of Troy and the Returns

---

with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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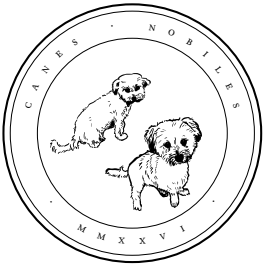

Volume 54 of the Canes Nobiles Old French interlinear texts

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, 1904–1908), t. III and IV

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 fourth part runs from the death of Paris through the fall of Troy and the Greeks' returns to the death of Ulysses and the poet's epilogue.

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The Death of Paris

XCVI

In June the Greeks ride out under twenty thousand pennons, Ajax with no hauberk, and Diomedes, Menelaus, Ulysses, and Agamemnon after him. With Troilus, Hector, and Deiphobus dead, Paris leads the Trojans out, weeping for his brothers. Philemenis rescues Polydamas from Menestheus. Paris shoots Ajax through both sides with a poisoned arrow; the dying Ajax seeks him out and drives his sword into his face, and both die. The Greeks drive the Trojans back inside. Helen laments Paris above all, calling herself the cause of every death, and Priam lays him in a jasper coffin before the goddess's altar. Priam's house, Hecuba above all, comes to love Helen as a daughter, and Priam keeps his men within the walls, awaiting a marvelous succor.

En juing, quant sont plus lonc li jor,
In June when are more long the days
que li soleiz rent grant chalor,
that the sun gives great heat
se ratornerent, ços sai dire,
themselves they-re-prepared that-you I-know to-say
par grant orgueil e par grant ire.
with great pride and with great wrath
De l'ost partirent les conreiz.
From the-host departed the troops
Vint mile confanons despleiz
Twenty thousand pennons unfurled
i veïst l'om verz e vermeiz.
there would-have-seen one green and vermilion
Es armes se fiert li soleiz;
In-the arms itself strikes the sun

del verniz e de l'or d'Espaigne
of-the varnish and of the-gold of-Spain
resclarcist tote la champaigne.
brightens all the plain
Reis Aïaus vait premerains:
King Ajax goes first
tant par est d'estoutie pleins
so very he-is of-recklessness full
qu'armes ne prent ne qu'il nes baille;
that-arms not he-takes nor that-he not-them bears
toz nuz vueut estre a la bataille.
all naked he-wishes to-be at the battle
S'il ne s'i guarde, il fait que fous,
If-he not himself-there guards he does like fool
quar mout li dorra l'om granz cous:
for many to-him will-give one great blows
fort pel avra, se l'om l'ataint,
strong skin he-will-have if one him-reaches
qu'om ne la perst e navre e saint.
that-one not it pierces and wounds and bleeds
Diomedès vint après cez,
Diomedes came after these
de combatre guarniz e prez.
for fighting equipped and ready
Li dus d'Athenes vint après,
The duke of-Athens came after
e Menelaus e Ulixès,
and Menelaus and Ulysses
e tuit li prince e tuit li rei.
and all the princes and all the kings

Agamennon lor tient conrei
Agamemnon for-them holds array
o plus de trente mile armez
with more than thirty thousand armed
forz e seürs e adurez.
strong and sure and hardened
Le pas chevauchent vers la vile:
The pace they-ride toward the town
d'eus i a teus seisante mile,
of-them there is such sixty thousand
qui avront ainz grant estoveir,
who will-have before great necessity
içe vos di jo bien por veir,
this to-you say I well for true
qu'ui mais seient del champ geté.
that-today more they-may-be from-the field thrown
Tuit se rarment par la cité,
All themselves re-arm through the city
e quant il n'i ont Troïlus
and when they not-there have Troilus
ne Hector ne Deïphebus,
nor Hector nor Deiphobus
mout en sont trist e doloros:
very thereof they-are sad and sorrowful
le jor redotent perillos.
the day they-dread perilous
Paris s'en ist l'eaume lacié:
Paris himself-thence goes-out the-helmet laced

mout a le cuer gros e irié
very he-has the heart heavy and angered
de ses freres qui sont ocis;
for his brothers who are killed
l'eve li file a val le vis.
the-water to-him trickles down along the face
Bien set qu'il en avra bosoing:
Well he-knows that-he thereof will-have need
ne cuit que ço seit guaires loing.
not I-think that that may-be much far
Ha! las, com fiere destinee
Ah weary how fierce destiny
li ert cel jor determinee!
to-him was that day determined
Après lui vint Polidamas,
After him came Polydamas
Philemenis e reis Edras,
Philemenis and king Edras
danz Eneas e tuit li suen,
lord Aeneas and all the his
qui chevalier erent trop buen.
who knights were very good
Trestuit s'en eissirent li lor:
All themselves-thence went-out the theirs
ainz que bien fust prime de jor,
before that well it-was prime of day
furent il prest en mi la plaigne.
were they ready in midst the plain

La veïsseiz tante compaigne
There you-would-have-seen many-a company
preste e guarnie e bien armee,
ready and equipped and well armed
tant fer, tante enseigne orfresee,
so-many iron so-many banner gold-embroidered
tant bon cheval baucenc e sor,
so-many good horse piebald and sorrel
tant heaume e tant escu a or,
so-many helmet and so-many shield with gold
tante coverture entailliee
many-a caparison carved
de drap de seie entreseigniee,
of cloth of silk emblazoned
tant brueil de lances de sapin!
so-much thicket of lances of fir
Ancore esteit assez matin,
Still it-was enough early
quant il s'entralerent ferir.
when they each-other-went to-strike
Sempres maneis a l'avenir
At-once forthwith at the-encounter
i ot si merveillos estor
there was so marvelous fight
que dis mile targes a flor
that ten thousand targes with flowers
i fendirent e dequasserent
there split and shattered
e mil haubers i esfondrerent.
and thousand hauberks there burst

Tres en mi les ventres s'ataignent,
Right in midst the bellies each-other-they-reach
si que les lances i empeignent
so that the lances there they-thrust
e que lor saut li sans des cors.
and that to-them leaps the blood from-the bodies
A estrange gieu sont amors:
To strange game they-are drawn
sovent lor en creist li bacins
often to-them thereof cracks the basin
o les branz d'acier Peitevins,
with the blades of-steel Poitevin
si qu'il en trebuchent des seles
so that-they thereof tumble from-the saddles
e que lor perent les cerveles.
and that to-them show the brains
Paris o la soë compaigne,
Paris with the his company
perde o guaaint, com que l'en preigne,
may-he-lose or may-he-win how that to-him-thereof it-may-take
o ceus de Logres s'est meslez:
with those of Logres himself-is mingled
la ot tant fers ensanglentez,
there was so-many irons bloodied
tant darz d'acier e tant quarreaus
so-many darts of-steel and so-many bolts
par mi costez e par boeaus,
through midst sides and through bowels
par mi chieres e par mi ieuz,
through midst faces and through midst eyes

n'i a si jovne ne si vieuz
not-there is so young nor so old
qui vivre i puisse une loëe.
who to-live there could a league
N'i a broigne si dur serree
Not-there is byrnie so hard joined
par ont li sans ne rait a fil.
through where the blood not streams at thread
El champ en gisent ja tel mil
In-the field thereof lie already such thousand
dont li plus sains est refreidiz,
of-whom the most healthy is grown-cold
qu'en lui n'a vie n'esperiz.
that-in him not-is life nor-spirit
Diomedès rest avenu.
Diomedes again-is arrived
Feru se sont e abatu,
Struck each-other they-have and thrown-down
entre lui e Philemenis;
between him and Philemenis
o les branz nuz se sont requis:
with the blades bare each-other they-have sought
dure escremie se rendissent,
hard fencing each-other they-would-have-given
se lor dous genz nes departissent.
if their two folk not-them had-parted

Ci rot peceieïz de lances
Here again-was breaking of lances
e derompues conoissances
and broken devices
e grant retenteïz d'espees
and great resounding of-swords
tres par mi les testes armees;
right through midst the heads armed
ci desjoignent cercle e nasal;
here come-apart circlet and nose-guard
ici trebuchent maint vassal
here tumble many-a vassal
mort e freit de sor lor destrier;
dead and cold from upon their charger
ci fausent li hauberc doblier.
here fail the hauberks double
Pro sont e fort Paflagoneis:
Valiant are and strong Paphlagonians
grant ocise font de Grezeis.
great slaughter they-make of Greeks
Nel pot sofrir Diomedès:
Not-it could endure Diomedes
quatre archiees o cinc bien près
four bowshots or five well nearly
les ont chaciez e remuëz,
them they-have chased and moved
sin ont a cent les chiés coupez.
so-thereof they-have to hundred the heads cut

Adonc i vint Menesteüs:
Then there came Menestheus
mil chevaliers ot bien e plus,
thousand knights he-had well and more
n'i a cel n'ait lance planee
not-there is that-one not-has lance planed
o enseigne d'orfreis bendee.
with banner of-orphrey banded
Sor les chevaus toz abrivez
On the horses all launched
ont Paflagoneis encontrez.
they-have Paphlagonians met
Lor enseigne criënt en haut,
Their war-cry they-cry on high
si vos di bien que nus n'i faut:
so to-you I-say well that any not-there fails
l'espesse i est grant e li tas.
the-throng there is great and the heap
Ici sont desboclé e quas
Here are unbossed and broken
li fort escu peint a color;
the strong shields painted with color
ci començа si fier estor
here began so fierce fight
que hom mortaus ne vit son per
that man mortal not saw its peer
ne tant feïst a redoter.
nor so-much it-would-make to dread
Trenchent sei chiés e braz e piez.
They-cut themselves heads and arms and feet

Menesteüs vint eslaissiez,
Menestheus came galloping
l'escu al col, lance levee:
the-shield at-the neck lance raised
sor la bocle d'or neielee
on the boss of-gold nielloed
a si feru Polidamas
has so struck Polydamas
que d'ore en autre est fraiz e quas.
that from-rim into other it-is broken and shattered
L'auberc li trenche e le samiz;
The-hauberk to-him he-cuts and the samite
ne l'ataint pas el gros del piz, —
not him-he-reaches at-all in-the thick of-the chest
sempres fust morz de maintenant, —
at-once he-would-be dead from now
por quant si fist l'auberc sanglant.
for how-much so he-made the-hauberk bloody
Polidamas ra lui feru
Polydamas again-has him struck
sus en la pene de l'escu:
up on the edge of the-shield
sa lance froisse e enastele;
his lance breaks and splinters
al parhurter guerpi la sele.
at-the knocking he-left the saddle
L'espee traist Menesteüs:
The-sword drew Menestheus
de lui fust sempres al desus,
of him he-would-be at-once at-the upper-hand

maintenant l'eüst mort o pris,
now him-he-would-have dead or taken
quant le rescost Philemenis,
when him rescued Philemenis
qui Greus ocit e quis requiert,
who Greeks kills and who-them attacks
e qui estranges cous i fiert.
and who strange blows there strikes
Bien lor mostre qu'il est vassaus;
Well to-them he-shows that-he is vassal
a mainz en trenche les nasaus,
to many thereof he-cuts the nose-guards
les nes, les mentons e les boches:
the noses the chins and the mouths
ne joë pas o eus as toches.
not he-plays at-all with them at-the touches
Paris tant dis se combateit,
Paris so-much while himself was-fighting
o ceus de Logres contendeit:
with those of Logres he-was-contending
o l'arc les berse treis e treis
with the-bow them he-shoots three and three
e o l'espee de maneis;
and with the-sword of forthwith
mout en ocit, mout en mahaigne,
many thereof he-kills many thereof he-maims
mout en abat en mi la plaigne;
many thereof he-fells in midst the plain
par la force des suens les chace.
by the force of-the his them he-chases

Grant perte i a d'eus en la place:
Great loss there is of-them in the place
se ne fussent Atheniëis,
if not had-been Athenians
mout par i perdissent Grezeis,
much very there would-have-lost Greeks
mais socoruz les ont senz faille.
but succored them they-have without fail
Ici comence tel bataille,
Here begins such battle
dont set cenz chevaliers esliz
whereof seven hundred knights chosen
orent sanglenz testes e piz.
had bloody heads and chests
Aïaus vait par la bataille,
Ajax goes through the battle
qui n'a hauberc ne n'a ventaille,
who not-has hauberk nor not-has ventail
heaume lacié n'escu al col:
helmet laced nor-shield at-the neck
bien se devreit tenir por fol,
well himself he-ought to-hold for fool
qu'il en tel lieu s'est embatuz.
that-he in such place himself-is plunged
Le piz e les costez a nuz:
The chest and the sides he-has bare
c'est merveille que il tant dure.
it-is marvel that he so-long lasts
Oëz quel esteit s'aventure.
Hear what was his-adventure

Mout par damajot Troïens
Much very he-harmed Trojans
e mout alot cerchant les rens:
and much he-went searching the ranks
n'i a chevalier si armé
not-there is knight so armed
qui plus s'i seit abandoné.
who more himself-there be abandoned
Sovent i fiert, sovent i maille,
Often there he-strikes often there he-hammers
sovent tresperce la bataille.
often he-pierces the battle
Sor un cheval sist merveillos:
On a horse he-sat marvelous
de besanz vaut un mui o dous;
of bezants it-is-worth a bushel or two
en Grece n'ot onc son pareil.
in Greece not-was ever its equal
Tot l'ot covert d'un drap vermeil.
All it-he-had covered with-a cloth vermilion
Sovent le point, tost le remue;
Often it he-spurs soon it he-moves
maint en ocit e navre e tue.
many-a thereof he-kills and wounds and slays
Quant Paris veit le forsené,
When Paris sees the madman
qui ensi s'est abandoné,
who thus himself-is abandoned
sa gent li veit fortment laidir,
his folk to-him he-sees greatly outrage

ne l'ot cure de plus sofrir.
not it-he-had care of more to-endure
Une saiete a encochiee
An arrow he-has notched
reide e trenchant e entoschiee:
stiff and cutting and poisoned
22785 enteise bien e trait d'aïr.
he-draws well and shoots with-force
Bien l'a feru e, senz faillir,
Well him-he-has struck and without failing
par mi les dous costez le point,
through midst the two sides him he-pricks
si que l'eschine li desjoint.
so that the-spine to-him he-disjoins
Cil a sentu le coup mortal:
That-one has felt the blow mortal
22790 adonques broche le cheval;
then he-spurs the horse
fors de son sen, desvez e feus,
out of his sense maddened and fierce
se fiert parmi la presse d'eus.
himself he-strikes through the press of-them
Fiert e done cous perillos,
He-strikes and gives blows perilous
plus en a mort de vint e dous.
more thereof he-has dead than twenty and two
22795 Paris a quis tant qu'il le trueve,
Paris he-has sought so-long that-he him finds
si vos di bien qu'ainz qu'il se mueve,
so to-you I-say well that-before that-he himself moves

s'entredorront de granz fresteaus
each-other-they-will-give of great flail-strokes
a mont parmi les hatereaus,
up above through the napes
si que les testes lor saignierent.
so that the heads to-them bled
Felenessement se requierent.
Feloniously each-other they-attack
Fait Aïaus: «Sire Paris,
Says Ajax Lord Paris
«jo cuit qu'ore estes entrepris:
I think that-now you-are caught
«Se trait avez a mei de loinz,
If shot you-have at me from far
«vers vos me sui serrez e joinz.
toward you myself I-am pressed and joined
«Ocis m'avez, jol sai e sent:
Killed me-you-have I-it know and feel
«Por quant s'iert ja premierement
For how-much so-will-be now first
«vostre ame en enfer de la meie;
your soul in hell than the mine
«jo vueil qu'el se mete a la veie.
I wish that-it itself put to the way
«Ja ne traireiz mais d'arc d'aubor.
Ever not you-will-shoot more with-bow of-laburnum
«Ici deseivre vostre amor
Here parts your love
«e l'Eleine, que mar fust nee,
and the-Helen who ill was born

«que mainte gent ont comparee.
whom many-a folk have paid-for
«Por li morreiz, e jo si faz.»
For her you-will-die and I so do
Aïaus l'a saisi as braz
Ajax him-has seized by-the arms
qu'il aveit plus forz d'un jaiant;
which-he had more strong than-a giant
granz cous li done maintenant,
great blows to-him he-gives now
sa mort li vueut paier e soudre:
his death to-him he-wishes to-pay and to-settle
ne se pot pas de lui esvoudre.
not himself he-could at-all from him free
Par mi la chiere l'a feru
Through midst the face him-he-has struck
de la pointe del brant molu:
with the point of-the blade ground
sempres maneis l'estut morir
at-once forthwith him-behooved to-die
e de cest siegle departir.
and from this world to-depart
En la place chiet morz Paris:
In the place falls dead Paris
l'espee ot dreite par le vis.
the-sword he-had straight through the face
E cil par est si detrenchié
And that-one very is so cut-to-pieces
qu'il n'a entier ne main ne pié,
that-he not-has whole nor hand nor foot

teste ne piz, costé ne braz.
head nor chest side nor arm
Plus fu vermeiz que nus cendaz:
More he-was red than any sendal
Deus ne fist home, s'il le veit,
God not made man if-he him sees
que toz li cuers ne l'en esfreit.
whom all the heart not to-him-thereof may-quail
Vers les tentes l'en ont porté
Toward the tents him-thence they-have carried
cil qui mout l'ont plaint e ploré:
those who much him-have lamented and wept
ço est sa maisniee demeine.
that is his household own
A grant travail e a grant peine
With great travail and with great pain
li est l'ame del cors eissue:
to-him is the-soul from-the body gone-out
por poi qu'as denz ne la manjue.
for little that-with-the teeth not it he-eats
Si tost come il orent sachiee
So soon as they had drawn-out
la saiete, qu'ert entoschiee,
the arrow that-was poisoned
senz sanc, toz freiz, pales e vains,
without blood all cold pale and faint
sempres fenist entre lor mains.
at-once he-ends between their hands

Paris fu morz, le pro, le sage.
Paris was dead the valiant the wise
Troïen virent lor damage:
Trojans saw their harm
mout en furent descoragié,
much thereof they-were disheartened
desconforté e esmaié;
discomforted and dismayed
tel duel en ont qu'onc puis le jor
such grief thereof they-have that-ever after the day
ne tindrent place ne estor.
not they-held place nor fight
Diomedès a fait soner
Diomedes has made sound
un cor d'olifant haut e cler;
a horn of-ivory high and clear
ses genz restreint e ses batailles.
his folk he-draws-in and his battalions
Dès or veit om les devinailles
From now sees one the prophecies
que Cassandra aveit pramis.
that Cassandra had promised
Porté en ont le cors Paris
Carried thence they-have the body (of-)Paris
en la cité sor son escu.
into the city on his shield
E Greu orent levé le hu
And Greeks had raised the hue
sor Troïens, si les acueillent;
upon Trojans so them they-assail

tant en ociënt e esbueillent
so-many thereof they-kill and disembowel
come il lor plaist, e neient plus.
as it them pleases and nothing more
Sacheiz que li fiz Tydeüs
Know that the son (of-)Tydeus
en fait a mil les dos torner:
thereof makes to thousand the backs turn
n'i a neient del plus ester.
not-there is nothing of-the more to-stand
Menesteüs fort s'i raiuë:
Menestheus strongly himself-there again-helps
o la trenchant espee nue,
with the cutting sword bare
entre lui e Diomedès,
between him and Diomedes
les font entrer enz si a fais
them they-make enter in so at heap
que mil en laissent de forsclos,
that thousand thereof they-leave of shut-out
qui n'ont entier ne pel ne os.
who not-have whole nor skin nor bone
Par mi les portes les ont mis:
Through midst the gates them they-have put
ço lor a fait la mort Paris.
that to-them has done the death (of-)Paris
Li fiz Tydeüs les ensiut,
The son (of-)Tydeus them follows
qui les ataint et aconsiut.
who them reaches and overtakes

Par mi la vile o eus s'est mis;
Through midst the town with them himself-is put
quatre archiees o cinc o sis
four bowshots or five or six
torne del borc en son demeine:
he-turns of-the borough into his domain
ja mais par force ne par peine
ever more by force nor by pain
n'en fust sevrez ne derompuz,
not-thence he-would-be severed nor broken-off
se des suens fust bien parseüz.
if by-the his he-were well followed
Ariere l'en covint torner.
Back him-thence behooved to-turn
Come musarz i dut entrer,
As fool there he-was-to enter
quar li Bastart l'en ont mis fors
for the Bastards him-thence have put out
e en set lieus plaié son cors.
and in seven places wounded his body
La porte clostrent cil dedenz:
The gate closed those within
lasse e matee est mout lor genz.
weary and beaten is much their folk
Agamennon — que fereit al? —
Agamemnon what would-he-do else
devant l'entree del portal
before the-entrance of-the gateway
a fait la nuit Grezeis logier;
has made the night Greeks lodge

dis mile d'eus i fait veillier:
ten thousand of-them there he-makes watch
bien sont asis li pan des murs.
well are besieged the stretches of-the walls
Dedenz n'a guaires des seürs
Within not-there-is much of-the secure
ne des haitiez ne des joios,
nor of-the glad nor of-the joyful
quar duel i a trop angoissos.
for grief there is very anguished
La nuit les ont escharguaitié
The night them have watched
mil chevalier riche e preisié.
thousand knights rich and prized
Seveliz fu li cors Paris
Buried was the body (of-)Paris
dedenz le temple Junonis
within the temple of-Juno
si faitement qu'onc fiz de rei
so fashioned that-ever son of king
ne fu si richement, ço crei,
not was so richly that I-believe
ne n'iert ja mais jusqu'a la fin.
nor not-will-be ever more until the end
Tuit li poëte e li devin
All the poets and the diviners
i sont al mestier dire e faire.
there are at-the office to-say and to-do

Ne porreie mie retraire
Not I-could at-all recount
le duel — trop est cruëus e granz —
the grief very is cruel and great
que de lui fait li reis Prianz
that for him makes the king Priam
e la reïne, que s'en muert:
and the queen who herself-thence dies
sovent se pasme, ses mains tuert,
often herself she-swoons her hands she-wrings
sovent se vueut laissier morir,
often herself she-wishes to-let die
sovent li vueut li cuers partir,
often to-her wishes the heart to-break
sovent s'escrie, sovent brait:
often she-cries-out often she-shrieks
sacheiz de veir que mal li vait.
know of truth that ill to-her goes
Grant duel fait mout Polidamas,
Great grief makes much Polydamas
grant Antenor, grant Eneas,
great Antenor great Aeneas
grant li estrange e li privé.
great the strangers and the intimates
Sacheiz qu'onc mais en la cité
Know that-ever more in the city
n'ot si grant duel, puis que fu faite:
not-was so great grief since that it-was made
tote rien vivant s'i deshaite.
all thing living itself-there grieves

Qui veit Heleine bien puet dire
Who sees Helen well can say
que sor toz dueus est la soë ire:
that over all griefs is the her sorrow
onc rien n'ot mais si grant destrece.
ever anything not-had more so great distress
Sovent regrete sa proëce
Often she-mourns his prowess
e sa beauté e sa valor:
and his beauty and his valor
«En duel, en lermes e en plor,»
In grief in tears and in weeping
fait el, «beaus sire amis, morrai,
says she fair lord friend I-shall-die
«quant jo ensi perdu vos ai.
since I thus lost you I-have
«Plus vos amoë que mon cuer:
More you I-loved than my heart
«Ço ne puet estre a nes un fuer,
That not can be at not-even one price
«que j'après vos remaigne en vie.
that I-after you may-remain in life
«A Mort pri jo qu'ele m'ocie:
To Death pray I that-she me-may-kill
«Ja plus terre ne me sostienge,
Ever more earth not me may-sustain
«ne ja mais par femme ne vienge
nor ever more through woman not may-come
«si grant damage com par mei!
so great harm as through me

«Tant riche duc e tant bon rei
So-many rich dukes and so-many good kings
«e tant riche amiraut preisié
and so-many rich emirs prized
«en sont ocis e detrenchié!
thereof are killed and cut-to-pieces
«Lasse! a quel hore fui jo nee,
Wretched at what hour was I born
«ne por quei oi tel destinee
nor for what I-had such destiny
«que li monz fust par mei destruit?
that the world were through me destroyed
«Bien engendra estrange fruit
Well engendered strange fruit
«mis pere en mei, quant jo conçui.
my father in me when I was-conceived
«C'est grant dolor que onques fui:
It-is great sorrow that ever I-was
«A ma naissance vint sor terre
At my birth came upon earth
«ire e dolor e mortel guerre;
wrath and sorrow and mortal war
«del mont chaï e joie e pais.
from-the world fell both joy and peace
«Ja tel femme ne naisse mais!
Ever such woman not may-be-born more
«Li cuers me partireit, mon vuel.
The heart to-me would-break by-my will
«Ha! tante dame ai mise en duel,
Ah so-many-a lady I-have put in grief

«dont lor seignor e lor ami
whose their lord and their friend
«sont ja par mei enseveli!
are already through me buried
«Por mei n'iert ja fait oreisons;
For me not-will-be ever made prayers
«sor mei torront les maudiçons
upon me will-turn the curses
«de ceus qui sont e qui seront
of those who are and who will-be
«e qui el siegle mais naistront.
and who in-the world more will-be-born
«Lasse! por quei serai haïe!
Wretched for what I-shall-be hated
«Ço peise mei, que j'oi onc vie.
That grieves me that I-had ever life
«Ja ne vousisse estre engendree:
Ever not I-would-have-wished to-be engendered
«Ço peise mei, que onc fui nee.
That grieves me that ever I-was born
«En maudite hore començai,
In cursed hour I-began
«en plus male definerai.
in more evil I-shall-end
«Mil mui de sanc de cors vassaus
Thousand bushels of blood of bodies vassal
«de chevaliers proz e leiaus
of knights valiant and loyal
«sont espandu par m'acheison:
are spilled through my-occasion

«Qui me fera beneïçon?
Who to-me will-make blessing
«Ço n'iert ja nule rien vivant.
That not-will-be ever any thing living
«Que ne m'ocit le rei Priant,
Why not me-kills the king Priam
«qui par mei est vis confonduz
who through me is alive confounded
«e que ses fiz li ai toluz?
and since his sons to-him I-have taken
«Par mei se veit desheriter:
Through me himself he-sees disinherit
«Mout me devreit bien desmembrer.
Much me he-ought well to-dismember
«Ecuba, dame, que fereiz?
Hecuba lady what will-you-do
«De mei coment vos vengereiz?
Of me how you will-avenge-yourself
«Toleiz vos ai voz beaus enfanz,
Taken from-you I-have your fair children
«les proz, les riches, les vaillanz.
the valiant the rich the worthy
«Ne fist dame tel porteüre,
Not made lady such bearing
«n'a si dolorose aventure
nor-at so sorrowful adventure
«ja mais jusqu'a la fin del mont
ever more until the end of-the world
«de cors de femme tel n'istront.
from body of woman such not-will-issue

«Comandez, dame, en quel maniere
Command lady in what manner
«ma fin sera plus dure e fiere.
my end will-be more hard and fierce
«Vengiez vos tost, por Deu, de mei:
Avenge you soon for God on me
«Ne vueil plus vivre ne ne dei.
Not I-wish more to-live nor not I-ought
«Del cors me traient les mameles
From-the body to-me may-they-draw the breasts
«Dames, meschines e puceles,
Ladies maidens and girls
«que par mei ont perdu lor joie
who through me have lost their joy
«en la noble cité de Troie.
in the noble city of Troy
«Lasse! mar m'i virent venir.
Wretched ill me-there they-saw come
«Ja nel deüssent consentir
Ever not-it they-ought to-have-allowed
«li deu ne la mer ne li vent;
the gods nor the sea nor the winds
«bien me deüst neier torment:
well me ought to-drown storm
«Ço fust grant joie e mout granz biens
That would-be great joy and very great good
«e granz profiz as Troïiens.
and great profit to-the Trojans
«Sire Paris, beaus douz amis,
Lord Paris fair sweet friend

«ne seit vostre esperiz eschis:
not may-be your spirit shy
«Al mien vueille sa compaignie.
To-the mine may-it-wish its company
«Ja sui jo vostre douce amie,
Already am I your sweet beloved
«cele que por vos se forsene;
she who for you herself maddens
«cui rien ne conforte n'asene,
whom anything not comforts nor-cheers
«cele que por vos sent la mort,
she who for you feels the death
«cele que onc ne vos fist tort
she who ever not you did wrong
«ne que onc jor de vostre vie
nor who ever day of your life
«vers vos ne pensa vilanie,
toward you not thought baseness
«cele que ne desire rien
she who not desires anything
«n'autre confort ne autre bien
nor-other comfort nor other good
«ne mais m'ame o la vostre seit.
nor more my-soul with the yours be
«A la Mort pri que s'en espleit,
To the Death I-pray that herself-thence she-hasten
«si la sivrai ainz qu'il seit loinz:
so her I-shall-follow before that-it be far
«Içe est or toz mis bosoinz,
That is now all my need

«iço sont tuit mi desirier.
that are all my desires
«Ha! chaeles, Mort, ne targier.
Ah come-now Death not to-delay
«Vien plus a hait, e si sivrai
Come more at will and so I-shall-follow
«mon chier ami: trop demorai.
my dear friend too-long I-tarried
«Atendez mei, beaus sire amis,
Await me fair lord friend
«tant qu'aie baisié vostre vis,
until that-I-have kissed your face
«voz ieuz e vostre bele boche.»
your eyes and your fair mouth
Autresi tost come ele i toche,
Just-so soon as she there touches
s'espasmi, si que a grant peine
she-swooned so that with great pain
eissi de li puis funs n'aleine.
went-out from her after breath nor-wind
Reide por morte en est levee,
Stiff for dead thence she-is lifted
en un chier lit en est portee.
on a dear bed thence she-is carried
Par maintes feiz se resperist,
Through many times herself she-revives
par maintes feiz se respasmist;
through many times herself she-swoons-again

par maintes feiz se fait mener
through many times herself she-makes lead
al cors por plaindre e por plorer;
to-the body for lamenting and for weeping
sovent le prent entre ses braz
often him she-takes between her arms
e sovent chiet sor lui a quaz.
and often she-falls upon him at flat
De li a l'om greignor pitié
For her has one greater pity
que de Paris l'une meitié.
than for Paris the-one half
Mil lermes fist la nuit plorer:
Thousand tears she-made the night weep
ne la poëit nus esguarder,
not her could any behold
hom ne femme, jovnes ne vieuz,
man nor woman young nor old
qu'el ne feïst plorer des ieuz.
that-she not would-make weep from-the eyes
Tote la nuit a ço duré.
All the night has that lasted
Quant del jor parut la clarté,
When of-the day appeared the brightness
s'a fait Prianz apareillier
so-has made Priam prepare
dedenz un temple riche e chier
within a temple rich and dear
fondé en l'onor de Minerve:
founded in the-honor of Minerva

al cors vueut que l'on chant e serve,
to-the body he-wishes that one sing and serve
quar mout par i a grant covent
for very very there is great convent
e mout par i a sainte gent.
and very very there is holy folk
Li reis aveit en son tresor
The king had in his treasure
un chier sarcueil qui n'ert pas d'or,
a dear coffin which not-was at-all of-gold
ainz ert d'un jaspe vert goté:
but it-was of-a jasper green spotted
onc en cest siegle trespassé
ever in this world past
ne fu veü si chier vaissel.
not was seen so dear vessel
Al cors en a l'om fait tombel.
To-the body thereof has one made tomb
A son ues l'estoiot li Reis:
At his need it-be-was-keeping the King
aillors gerra, se li Grezeis
elsewhere he-will-lie if the Greeks
pueent aveir de lui saisine.
can have of him seizin
Devant l'autel a la devine,
Before the-altar of the divine
a la deuesse, a la poissant,
of the goddess of the mighty
firent quatre lions d'un grant,
they-made four lions of-a size

d'or esmerez tresgeteïz,
of-gold refined cast
e si ne sont mie petiz:
and so not are at-all small
sor cez ont le sarcueil asis,
upon these they-have the coffin set
puis i mistrent le cors Paris
then there they-put the body (of-)Paris
bien embasmé e richement.
well embalmed and richly
Precios fu le monument:
Precious was the monument
onc fiz de rei ne jut plus bel.
ever son of king not lay more fair
Li reis Prianz prist son anel,
The king Priam took his ring
el dei li mist de la main destre,
on-the finger to-him put of the hand right
e en l'autre li mist le ceptre;
and in the-other to-him put the scepter
el chief li asiet la corone,
on-the head to-him he-sets the crown
beneïçon a s'ame done:
blessing to his-soul he-gives
ne vueut que Greus en seit saisiz.
not he-wishes that Greek thereof be seized
Iluec ot assez braiz e criz
There was enough shrieks and cries
e ullemenz e pasmeisons.
and howlings and swoonings

Ciment fait o sanc de dragons
Cement made with blood of dragons
ont pris li sage e destempré,
have taken the wise and tempered
sin ont le sarcueil seelé
so-thereof they-have the coffin sealed
o une mout riche plataine
with a very rich slab
de pierre qu'om claime egetaine,
of stone that-one calls egetaine
plus preciose e mout plus riche
more precious and very more rich
que calcedoine ne qu'oniche.
than chalcedony nor than-onyx
Ne sai dire ne reconter
Not I-know to-say nor recount
le duel qui fu a l'enterrer.
the grief which was at the-burying
Tel l'i a dame Heleine fait
Such it-there has lady Helen made
e tant i a crïé e brait
and so-much there has cried and shrieked
que Prianz e sis parentez
that Priam and his kindred
l'en sorent puis merveillos grez:
to-her-thereof knew after marvelous thanks
mout en fu puis de toz amee
much thereof she-was after by all loved
e mout l'en ont tuit honoree.
and much her-thereof have all honored

La reïne, ço vos di bien,
The queen that to-you I-say well
l'en ama puis sor tote rien.
her-thereof loved after above all thing
Come lor fille la teneient,
As their daughter her they-held
a merveille la cherisseient.
at marvel her they-cherished
Por ço qu'onc n'aveient veü
For that that-ever not-they-had seen
que ele eüst lor mal volu
that she had their ill wished
ne fait regret de son païs
nor made regret of her country
n'amé le pro lor enemis,
nor-loved the profit (of-)their enemies
por ço l'amoënt autretant
for that her-they-loved as-much
com s'el fust fille al rei Priant.
as if-she were daughter to-the king Priam
Oï avez quos ai conté,
Heard you-have that-you I-have told
qu'asis furent en la cité:
that-besieged were in the city
n'osoënt les portes ovrir
not-they-dared the gates open
ne a bataille fors eissir.
nor to battle out go
Cil de l'ost ont la vile asise.
Those of the-host have the town besieged

Mais li mur ne sont pas de glise
But the walls not are at-all of clay
ne de palu ne de terrace:
nor of marsh nor of earthwork
de marbre sont plus plain de glace.
of marble they-are more smooth than ice
Vert sont e pers, jaune e vermeil,
Green they-are and blue yellow and vermilion
mout reluisent contre soleil;
much they-gleam against sun
haut sont e dreit e bataillié:
high they-are and straight and battlemented
n'i ataindreit lance n'espié;
not-there would-reach lance nor-spear
chargié sont de chaillous cornuz
loaded they-are with stones horned
e de granz peus fentiz aguz;
and with great stakes split sharp
s'a dedenz teus vint mil danzeaus,
so-there-is within such twenty thousand squires
qui bien defendront les creneaus
who well will-defend the battlements
mout volentiers e senz preiere,
very willingly and without prayer
se il truevent quis i requiere.
if they find who-them there may-attack
Mais onc n'i ot doné asaut:
But ever not-there was given assault
trop sont li mur espés e haut.
too are the walls thick and high

Les tors, li mur e li donjon,
The towers the walls and the keeps
o mout poi de defension,
with very little of defense
se tendreient jusqu'a mil anz.
themselves would-hold until-to thousand years
Li oz des Greus fu fiers e granz.
The host of-the Greeks was fierce and great
Agamennon les fist armer
Agamemnon them made arm
e par eschieles deviser:
and by squadrons divide
a ceus dedenz mandent bataille,
to those within they-send battle
mais cele feiz lor en font faille.
but that time to-them thereof they-make default
Ne vueut Prianz qu'uns sous s'en isse
Not wishes Priam that-one alone himself-thence may-go-out
a cele feiz, desci qu'il puisse
at that time until that-he may
aveir esforz a eus sofrir,
have strength at them to-withstand
si qu'il les face revertir
so that-he them may-make turn-back
as herberges e as chans plains.
to-the lodgings and to-the fields open
Oëz de qu'il esteit certains:
Hear of what-he was certain
d'un socors merveillos e fier,
of-a succor marvelous and fierce

d'un grant, d'un riche, d'un plenier,
of-a great of-a rich of-a full
d'un des plus beaus qui onc fust fait.
of-one of-the most fair that ever was made
Oëz que l'Estoire en retrait.
Hear what the-Story thereof recounts

The Amazons and Penthesilea

XCVII

The poet describes the world as Julius Caesar's surveyors measured it, and names the seas, isles, mountains, rivers, and provinces of the East. There lies Amazonia, a land of women only, who meet the men of the neighboring realms each spring and bear arms for renown. Their queen Penthesilea comes to Troy with a thousand maidens, hoping to see Hector, and grieves to find him dead. With Philemenis and the Paphlagonians the Trojans sally; she unhorses Menelaus and takes Diomedes's shield; Telamon fells her, and her maidens bring him down and are leading him off when Diomedes rescues him. The Greeks are driven to their tents, Priam embraces and thanks her, and the assaults go on daily until Menelaus returns.

Ço que terre e mer avirone,
That which earth and sea surrounds
si com la Letre dit e sone,
so as the Text says and sounds
est Ocean dreit apelé.
is Ocean rightly called
En quatre parz est devisé
In four parts is divided
li mondes toz: c'est Oriënz,
the world all it-is East

Meridïès e Occidenz,
South and West
Septentrion; en ço contient
North in that contains
li cercles qu'Abismes sostient.
the circle which-Abyss sustains
Julius Cesar, li senez,
Julius Caesar the wise
qui tant fu sages e discrez,
who so-much was wise and discreet
fist tot cerchier e mesurer.
made all search and measure
Soz ciel nen ot terre ne mer,
Under heaven not there-was earth nor sea
isle, province, pui ne flun,
isle province height nor river
ne pueple en tot le mont nes un,
nor people in all the world not-even one
qu'il ne meïssent tot en letre.
that-they not would-put all in letter
Grant chose fu de l'entremetre:
Great thing it-was of the-undertaking
trente e dous anz i demorerent
thirty and two years there tarried
cil qui grant peine i endurerent.
those who great pain there endured
Trente mers distrent qu'i aveit,
Thirty seas they-said that-there was
en tant com li mondes teneit:
in as-much as the world held

n'en i a plus ne plus n'en distrent
not-thereof there is more nor more not-thereof they-said
ne, ço sacheiz, plus n'en escristrent.
nor that know more not-thereof they-wrote
Devises sont e totes un:
Divided are and all one
d'eles renaissent grant li flun
from-them are-reborn great the rivers
qui par les terres sont corant
which through the lands are running
e qui en eles sont rentrant.
and which into them are re-entering
Cinquante sis tant solement,
Fifty six so-much only
en tant com tient le firmament,
in as-much as holds the firmament
n'en i a plus, fors cez nomez,
not-thereof there is more except these named
qui aient principalitez, —
which may-have principalities
maint eves sont e maint ruissal,
many-a waters are and many-a streams
qui ne sont mie principal —
which not are at-all principal
n'en i a mais cinquante sis,
not-thereof there is but fifty six
ensi come en l'Estoire truis.
so as in the-Story I-find
Seisante doze isles resont,
Sixty twelve isles again-are

si n'en a plus en tot le mont
so not-thereof there-is more in all the world
dont i seit faite remembrance,
whereof there be made remembrance
n'ou rien vivant prenge naissance.
nor-where anything living may-take birth
Quarante pui, tot par egual,
Forty heights all by equal
resont qui seient principal:
again-are which may-be principal
plusor e maint en sont assez,
many and many-a thereof are enough
mais n'en est traite autoritez
but not-thereof is drawn authority
ne n'en fu la descripcion,
nor not-thereof was the description
ne mais de quarante par non.
nor more of forty by name
Les provinces furent contees
The provinces were counted
e a seisante dis nombrees:
and at sixty ten numbered
sacheiz que plus n'en i troverent
know that more not-thereof there they-found
cil qui par tot le mont alerent.
those who through all the world went
Es treis parties devisees
In-the three parts divided
que ariere vos sont contees, —
which back to-you are told

ço est en cele d'Oriënt
that is in that of-the-East
e en icele d'Occident
and in that of-the-West
e en Septentrion, — troverent,
and in North they-found
sis vinz e cinc genz i nombrerent.
six score and five peoples there numbered
En la partie de Midi
In the part of South
ne pot estre seü n'oï
not could be known nor-heard
des genz nule diversité:
of-the peoples any diversity
por le grant chaut desmesuré,
for the great heat measureless
por les deserz, por les vermines
for the deserts for the vermin
granz, orribles e serpentines,
great horrible and serpentine
n'i oserent les piez porter;
not-there they-dared the feet bear
onc ne lor vint nes en penser.
ever not to-them came not-even into thinking
N'en distrent rien ne il ne porent,
Not-thereof they-said anything nor they not could
quar onc la verité n'en sorent.
for ever the truth not-thereof they-knew

Se jo fusse auques leisantis,
If I were somewhat at-leisure
dreiz fust e biens, ço m'est a vis,
right it-would-be and good that to-me-is at opinion
que cestes terres vos nomasse
that these lands to-you I-should-name
e que les choses devisasse
and that the things I-should-describe
dont ci est faite mencion;
whereof here is made mention
mais n'est or lieus ne ne poon:
but not-is now place nor not we-can
trop grant estuide i covendreit,
too great study there would-behoove
qui de trestot parler voudreit.
who of everything to-speak would-wish
Tant par en est grant la matire
So very thereof is great the matter
que, quil comencereit a dire,
that who-it would-begin to say
ne sereit pas sempres a fin:
not would-be at-all at-once at end
trop i covendreit parchemin.
too-much there would-behoove parchment
Ici covient que jo m'en taise,
Here behooves that I myself-thereof be-silent
mais s'aveir puis e lieu e aise,
but if-to-have I-can both place and ease

tel uevre voudrai embracier
such work I-shall-wish to-embrace
e envaïr e comencier
and to-undertake and to-begin
qu'en tot le mont n'avra partie,
that-in all the world not-will-have part
ou qu'ele seit, que jo ne die
where that-it may-be that I not may-tell
quel est, com grant e com bien tient,
what it-is how great and how much it-holds
ne qu'il i a ne qu'i avient,
nor what-it there has nor what-there happens
quel nature ont li element,
what nature have the elements
quel les contrees, quel la gent.
what the countries what the folk
Tot en dirai, se jol comenz,
All thereof I-shall-tell if I-it begin
qu'a ço sofist bien nostre engenz.
since-to that suffices well our wit
En la partie d'Oriënt,
In the part of-the-East
dont jo parlai premierement,
whereof I spoke first
a sol uit mers: c'est Caspion
it-has only eight seas it-is Caspian
e l'autre mare Persicon;
and the-other sea Persian
la tierce a non, ço m'est a vis,
the third has name that to-me-is at opinion

a dreit, mer Tiberiadis;
at right sea of-Tiberias
la quarte rapelent après
the fourth they-call-again after
par non la mer Alphatenès
by name the sea Alphatenes
e la quinte mare Rubron,
and the fifth sea Red
la siste mer Arabicon;
the sixth sea Arabian
la setme mer a non Caphorte
the seventh sea has name Caphorte
e l'oitme apelent la mer Morte.
and the-eighth they-call the sea Dead
Icil avreit assez a faire
That-one would-have enough to do
qui bien voudreit dire e retraire
who well would-wish to-tell and recount
come eles sont e les manieres,
how they are and the manners
ne dont eles sont plus plenieres.
nor whereof they are more full
Nuef isles ra en Oriënt:
Nine isles again-has in East
en totes nuef conversent gent.
in all nine dwell folk
Ipopodès, la plus lontaine,
Ipopodes the most distant
en apelent la premeraine;
thereof they-call the first

Taprobane, c'est l'autre après,
Taprobane it-is the-other after
que dous itanz est graindre e mais;
which two times is greater and more
la tierce a non Elephantine:
the third has name Elephantine
mainte chiere espece a mecine
many-a dear spice for medicine
creist en li buene e preciose;
grows in it good and precious
la quarte isle ra non Therose:
the fourth isle again-has name Therose
Chipre, Rode, Citherea,
Cyprus Rhodes Cythera
Crete la grant e Carphata.
Crete the great and Carpathos
Qui les merveilles vos direit
Who the marvels to-you would-tell
qu'es isles sont, que l'om i veit,
which-in-the isles are which one there sees
a fort chose le tendriëz,
at strong thing it you-would-hold
rien tant volentiers n'orriëz.
anything so willingly not-you-would-hear
Set puiz i ra: c'est Caucasus,
Seven heights there again-has it-is Caucasus
Sina, Cametès, Libanus,
Sina Cametes Libanus
Armenius, monz Bodians,
Armenius mount Bodians

e li setmes monz Casians.
and the seventh mount Casians
Qui direit les descripcions,
Who would-tell the descriptions
en queus lieus n'en queus regions
in what places nor-in what regions
il sont, ne queus flueves i cort,
they are nor what rivers there runs
li queus en naist, li queus en sort,
the which thereof is-born the which thereof springs
come il sont haut, com bien il tienent
how they are high how much they hold
ne com granz choses i avienent,
nor how great things there happen
a grant merveille vos vendreit
at great marvel to-you it-would-come
com faitement ço avendreit.
how fashioned that would-happen
En icez lieus Oriëntaus,
In these places Eastern
vint e dous flueves principaus
twenty and two rivers principal
a solement: ço est Gangès,
it-has only that is Ganges
Sigoton e Therioclès,
Sigoton and Theriocles
Exos, Cametès, Sigota,
Exos Cametes Sigota
Eüfratès e Carmanta;
Euphrates and Carmanta

Armedius, c'est li novains,
Armedius it-is the ninth
qui de mainte merveille est pleins;
which of many-a marvel is full
Suse, Cortace e Ydaspès,
Susa Cortace and Hydaspes
Crisoras li trezains après;
Crisoras the thirteenth after
Diapagite e Pactolus,
Diapagite and Pactolus
Alibota e Taxius,
Alibota and Taxius
Eleüzer e Azonis,
Eleuzer and Azonis
e li vintains a non Tigris;
and the twentieth has name Tigris
Crisos, Jordans: c'est le derier.
Crisos Jordan it-is the last
Qui sor icez voudreit traitier
Who upon these would-wish to-treat
e dire de queus lieus il vienent
and to-tell from what places they come
ne en queus lieus il se detienent,
nor in what places they themselves hold
queus viles sont sor eus asises
what cities are upon them set
ne de queus regnes sont devises,
nor of what realms they-are divisions
qu'il a en eus ne qu'om i prent,
what-there is in them nor what-one there takes

bien sai de veir certainement
well I-know of truth certainly
que volentiers i entendreient
that willingly there would-attend
cil qui retraire le m'orreient.
those who recount it me-would-hear
En ceste Oriëntal partie, —
In this Eastern part
de ço ne redotons nos mie, —
of that not doubt we at-all
a treize provinces contees:
it-has thirteen provinces counted
oëz come els sont devisees.
hear how they are divided
Perse, Inde, Isaure e Azonis;
Persia India Isauria and Azonis
la quinte Sine, ço m'est vis;
the fifth Sina that to-me-is opinion
la siste a non Apamena,
the sixth has name Apamena
l'autre Mesopotamia;
the-other Mesopotamia
Phenice, Assire, Commacine;
Phoenicia Assyria Commagene
l'onzime apelent Palestine;
the-eleventh they-call Palestine
Sire, la plus chaude, l'ardant,
Syria the most hot the-burning
e Mede, que mout par est grant.
and Media which very very is great

Toz Oriënz trestoz entiers,
All East all entire
qui del mont est l'uns des quartiers,
which of-the world is the-one of-the quarters
en icez choses est compris
in these things is comprised
e des autres treis parz devis
and from-the other three parts divided
dont jo ne vueil or plus traitier,
whereof I not wish now more to-treat
qu'a ço me covient repairier
since-to that me behooves to-return
por que j'ai de tot ço tochié.
for which I-have of all that touched
Ço nos recontent li Traitié
That to-us recount the Treatises
e li grant Livre Historial,
and the great Books Historical
qu'en la partie Oriëntal
that-in the part Eastern
est Amazoine, terre grant:
is Amazonia land great
oëz que nos trovons lisant.
hear what we find reading
De femmes est tote habitee:
By women is all inhabited
de tant com dure la contree,
of as-much as lasts the country
n'i enterra hom a nul jor.
not-there will-enter man at any day

Mais, si com diënt li autor,
But so as say the authors
delez la terre près assez
beside the land near enough
a un isle qui bien est lez:
there-is an isle which well is broad
seisante liuës tient al meins;
sixty leagues it-holds at-the least
de precios arbres est pleins
of precious trees it-is full
e d'erbes chieres speciaus.
and of-herbs dear rare
Plains est li isles e eguaus
Level is the isle and even
e delitos e riche e bel.
and delightful and rich and fair
La vont contre le tens novel.
There they-go against the time new
Bel s'atornent e richement:
Fair themselves-array and richly
precios sont lor vestement
precious are their garments
de dras de seie a or batuz;
of cloths of silk with gold beaten
noblement ont les cors vestuz.
nobly they-have the bodies clothed
Dès qu'est li meis d'avril entrez
From that-is the month of-April entered
desci que juinz s'en est alez,
until that June itself-thence is gone

i sont a joie e a sojor.
there they-are at joy and at leisure
Li home des regnes entor
The men of-the realms around
vienent a eles: c'est lor us.
come to them it-is their custom
Treis meis i sont e neient plus.
Three months there they-are and nothing more
A mout grant joie les receivent:
With very great joy them they-receive
adonc empreignent e conceivent.
then they-become-pregnant and conceive
Les plus beles, les plus preisiees
The most fair the most prized
n'i sont eües n'atochiees
not-there are had nor-touched
se de ceus non qui ont valor
if by those not who have valor
e qui plus ont pris e honor:
and who most have prize and honor
li plus vaillant as plus vaillanz.
the most worthy to-the most worthy
Iluec aportent les enfanz
There they-bring the children
qui masle sont e d'eles né:
which male are and of-them born
as peres sont iluec doné,
to-the fathers they-are there given

que ja un sol n'en retendront
for ever a single not-thereof they-will-keep
ne plus d'un an nel norriront;
nor more than-a year not-them they-will-nurse
les meschines, celes norrissent.
the girls those they-nurse
E quant ço vient qu'il departissent,
And when it comes that-they part
tot l'an sont puis, ja de ses ieuz
all the-year they-are after ever from his eyes
nes verra hom, jovnes ne vieuz:
not-them will-see man young nor old
s'en lor terre meteit les piez,
if-in their land he-put the feet
sempres sereit toz detrenchiez.
at-once he-would-be all cut-to-pieces
D'eles i a mout grant partie
Of-them there is very great part
que ja a nul jor de lor vie
that ever at any day of their life
ne seront d'omes adesees
not will-be by-men touched
ne ja n'ierent despucelees.
nor ever not-will-be deflowered
Armes portent: mout sont vaillanz
Arms they-bear very they-are worthy
e hardies e combatanz,
and bold and fighting
e en toz lieus en sont preisiees.
and in all places thereof they-are prized

Avenu est maintes feiees
Happened it-is many-a times
que eisseient de lor païs:
that they-went-out from their country
armes portent por aveir pris.
arms they-bear for to-have prize
En icel terme e en cez anz
In that term and in these years
que cist sieges esteit si granz
that this siege was so great
a Troie, esteit en lor contree
at Troy was in their country
la reïne Panthesilee.
the queen Penthesilea
Proz e hardie e bele e sage,
Valiant and bold and fair and wise
de grant valor, de grant parage,
of great valor of great lineage
mout ert preisiee e honoree;
much she-was prized and honored
de li esteit grant renomee.
of her was great renown
Por Hector, que voleit veeir,
For Hector whom she-wished to-see
e por pris conquerre e aveir,
and for prize to-conquer and to-have
s'esmut a venir al socors.
herself-set-out to come to-the succor
Mout furent riches ses ators.
Very were rich her arrays

Mout amena riche compaigne
Much she-brought rich company
e fiere e hardie e grifaigne:
and fierce and bold and fearsome
mil dameiseles adurees,
thousand damsels hardened
forz, aïdanz e bien armees
strong helpful and well armed
sor bons chevaus Arabiëis;
on good horses Arabian
mout par orent riche herneis.
very very they-had rich harness
Tant errerent par lor jornees,
So-much they-traveled by their days
tant trespasserent des contrees
so-many they-passed of-the countries
qu'a Troie vindrent: c'ert mestiers.
that-to Troy they-came it-was need
Dous meis e plus trestoz entiers
Two months and more all entire
aveient Greu sis as portaus,
had Greeks sat at-the gates
que n'en esteit eissuz vassaus:
that not-thence was gone-out vassal
Prianz n'i laissot porte ovrir,
Priam not-there let gate open
qui les atendeit a venir.
who them was-awaiting to come

Quant noncié fu Panthesilee
When announced it-was-to Penthesilea
la dolorose destinee
the sorrowful destiny
qu'Ector ert morz, mout l'en pesa:
that-Hector was dead much her-thereof weighed
un si fait duel en demena
a so made grief thereof she-showed
que nus ne vit onc si grant faire;
that any not saw ever so great make
por poi ne se mist el repaire.
for little not herself she-put on-the return
Bien ert seü qu'ele l'amast,
Well it-was known that-she him-would-have-loved
se fust qu'en vie le trovast.
if it-were that-in life him she-had-found
Troïen sorent sa venue:
Trojans knew her coming
contre li est lor gent eissue.
against her is their folk gone-out
Li reis Prianz li fait grant joie,
The king Priam to-her makes great joy
e tuit icil qui sont a Troie.
and all those who are at Troy
Panthesilee grant duel fait,
Penthesilea great grief makes
quant li reis li dit e retrait
when the king to-her tells and recounts
son duel e son grant desconfort,
his grief and his great discomfort

e com si fil esteient mort:
and how his sons were dead
«Sire,» fait la franche reïne,
Lord says the noble queen
«trop a ici fiere destine:
too-much there-is here fierce destiny
«Onc mais tel perte ne fu faite.
Ever more such loss not was made
«Sacheiz de veir mout me deshaite
Know of truth much me grieves
«que jo Hector ne truis en vie:
that I Hector not find in life
«Toz jorz en serai mais marrie;
All days thereof I-shall-be more grieved
«plus l'amoë que rien vivant.
more him-I-loved than thing living
«La perte de lui est trop grant,
The loss of him is too great
«mais en ço n'a nul recovrier.
but in that not-is any recovery
«Faites voz genz apareillier,
Make your folk prepare
«s'irons la fors as Greus parler:
so-we-shall-go there outside to-the Greeks to-speak
«Jusqu'a poi lor voudrai mostrer
Until-to little to-them I-shall-wish to-show
«queus puceles jo meing o mei
what maidens I lead with me
«ne qu'eles valent en tornei.
nor what-they are-worth in tourney

«Duel ai d'Ector sor tote rien:
Grief I-have for-Hector above all thing
«Ancui s'en aparcevront bien.
Today themselves-thereof they-will-perceive well
«Sa mort lor ferai comparer:
His death to-them I-shall-make pay-for
«Ja ne s'en savront si guarder.»
Ever not themselves-thereof they-will-know so to-guard
Que vos ireie porloignant?
Why you should-I-go prolonging
Somondre a fait le rei Priant
Summon has made the king Priam
totes ses genz, qu'uns n'i remaigne.
all his folk that-one not-there may-remain
La ot atachié mainte enseigne
There was fastened many-a banner
e maint penon en fust plané.
and many-a pennon on shaft planed
Tote s'estormist la cité:
All itself-stirs the city
par tot s'armerent comunal.
through all themselves-armed in-common
La ot covert maint bon cheval,
There was covered many-a good horse
la ot eschieles devisees:
there was squadrons divided
en unes places granz e lees,
in some places great and broad
delez unes tors anciënes,
beside some towers ancient

s'armerent Amazoniënes.
armed-themselves Amazons
Un hauberc vest Panthesilee
A hauberk dons Penthesilea
plus blanc que neis desor gelee:
more white than snow upon frost
onques nus hom, ço sai de veir,
ever any man that I-know of truth
si bel armé ne pot veeir.
so fair armed not could see
Dous puceles mout honorees
Two maidens very honored
e de lor dame mout amees
and by their lady very loved
li ont el chief son heaume asis:
to-her have on-the head her helmet set
riches dut estre et de grant pris,
rich it-must be and of great price
quar li cercles e li nasaus
for the circlet and the nose-guard
fu toz a pierres preciaus
was all with stones precious
plus resplendissanz que n'est rai.
more resplendent than not-is ray
Sor un cheval d'Espaigne bai,
On a horse of-Spain bay
plus grant, plus fort e plus vaillant
more great more strong and more worthy
d'autre cheval e plus corant,
than-other horse and more running

est montee delivrement,
she-is mounted nimbly
pleine d'ire e de mautalent.
full of-wrath and of ill-will
Coverz fu toz d'un drap de seie,
Covered it-was all with-a cloth of silk
qui plus que flor de lis blancheie.
which more than flower of lily whitens
Cent escheletes cler sonanz,
Hundred little-bells clear sounding
petites, d'or, non mie granz,
small of-gold not at-all great
i atachent. Senz plus targier,
there they-fasten Without more delay
a ceint le brant forbi d'acier,
she-has girded the blade burnished of-steel
dont el ferra granz cous maneis.
whereof she will-strike great blows forthwith
Un fort escu plus blanc que neis,
A strong shield more white than snow
o une bocle de fin or,
with a boss of fine gold
orlé de pierres tot le bor,
rimmed with stones all the border
de bons robins clers e ardanz
with good rubies clear and burning
e d'esmeraudes verdeianz,
and with-emeralds greening
par la guige d'orfreis l'a pris,
by the strap of-orphrey it-she-has taken

si l'a al col serré e mis.
so it-she-has at-the neck fastened and put
Une lance de fust fraisnin,
A lance of wood ashen
o un trenchant fer acerin,
with a cutting iron steely
li a baillié une pucele,
to-her has handed a maiden
o une enseigne fresche e bele.
with a banner fresh and fair
Hastivement, senz demorer,
Hastily without delaying
a fait sa maisniee monter:
she-has made her household mount
mil sont e plus, n'i a pas dis
thousand they-are and more not-there is at-all ten
que bien n'aient armez les vis,
that well not-have armed the faces
les chiés, les braz e les costez.
the heads the arms and the sides
Sor les haubers dobliers safrez
Upon the hauberks double gilded
ont lor beaus crins toz destreciez,
they-have their fair hair all unbraided
si reluisanz e si peigniez
so gleaming and so combed
qu'ors esmerez semblast oscurs.
that-gold refined would-seem dark
O hardiz cuers e o seürs,
With bold hearts and with sure

chevauchent dreit vers les portaus,
they-ride straight toward the gates
les escuz pris, sor les chevaus.
the shields taken on the horses
Puis que li mondes comença,
Since that the world began
ne ja mais tant come il durra,
nor ever more as-long as it will-last
n'iert mais veüe tel compaigne:
not-will-be more seen such company
n'i a cele qui n'ait enseigne
not-there is she who not-has banner
e grosse lance o fer d'acier.
and thick lance with iron of-steel
Mout oïsseiz les deus preier
Much you-would-have-heard the gods pray
as gentis dames honorees,
to-the noble ladies honored
que de la vile esteient nees,
who of the town were born
qu'il les defendissent le jor
that-they them might-defend the day
de mort, de perte e de dolor.
from death from loss and from sorrow
Armez se fu Philemenis,
Armed himself had Philemenis
qui prochains ert de lor païs:
who neighbor was of their country
cil lor voudra estre en aïe,
he to-them will-wish to-be in help

tant com li iert el cors la vie.
as-long as to-him will-be in-the body the life
O lui sont li Paflagoneis,
With him are the Paphlagonians
qui onc jor n'amerent Grezeis,
who ever day not-loved Greeks
li rei, li prince e li demeine.
the kings the princes and the lords
Chascuns de l'atorner se peine
Each in the-arraying himself takes-pains
com le puissent le jor si faire
how it they-may the day so do
e tant lor enemis forfaire
and so-much their enemies harm
par que des portaus les desjoignent:
by which from-the gates them they-may-sever
por veir vos di, mout s'en bosoignent.
for true to-you I-say much themselves-thereof they-need
Sor les murs hauz e crenelez
On the walls high and crenelated
sont li arbalestier montez,
are the crossbowmen mounted
e cil qui les granz peus aguz
and those who the great stakes sharp
e les pesanz chaillous cornuz
and the heavy stones horned
geteront, si que mort seront
will-throw so that dead will-be
tuit cil qui d'eus s'aproismeront.
all those who to-them will-approach

Quos ireie lonc plait faisant?
Why-you should-I-go long plea making
Establi a le rei Priant
Established has the king Priam
li quel s'en istreient premier,
the which themselves-thence would-go-out first
li quel après, li quel derier.
the which after the which last
Toz premerains, ço m'est a vis,
All first that to-me-is at opinion
s'en est eissuz Philemenis
himself-thence is gone-out Philemenis
o la soë gent honoree,
with the his folk honored
que mout est fiere e redotee;
which very is fierce and dreaded
Dardanidès ont fait ovrir.
Dardanides they-have made open
Donc poüsseiz tomoute oïr,
Then you-could-have tumult heard
granz sons, granz noises e granz criz
great sounds great noises and great cries
e d'olifanz granz cornëïz.
and of-ivory-horns great horn-blowing
Cil de Grece, senz demoriers,
Those of Greece without delays
resont monté sor lor destriers;
again-are mounted on their chargers

tost ont lor cors d'armes guarniz
soon they-have their bodies with-arms furnished
e toz lor conreiz departiz.
and all their troops divided
Cil qui s'en issent del portal
Those who themselves-thence go-out from-the gateway
sont aduré e bon vassal.
are hardened and good vassals
Enz el mi lieu del grant tas d'eus
Right in-the midst place of-the great heap of-them
les vont ferir iriez e feus,
them they-go to-strike angered and fierce
que sor haubers e sor cuiriees
that upon hauberks and upon cuirasses
lor ont lor lances peceiees.
to-them they-have their lances shattered
Des atainz chiet sor le sablon
Of-the struck falls on the sand
mainz qui ne diënt o ne non.
many who not say yes nor no
Les mains ont mises as espees,
The hands they-have put to-the swords
e sin donent de teus colees
and so-thereof they-give of such blows
a ceus defors que mare i virent.
to those outside that ill there they-saw

Si faitement les recoillirent
So fashioned them they-received
que bien le tierz o la meitié
that well the third or the half
en ont sempres deschevauchié.
thereof they-have at-once unhorsed
S'adonc ne fussent li archier
If-then not had-been the archers
e des murs li arbalestier,
and of-the walls the crossbowmen
mauvaisement lor i fust pris.
badly to-them there it-would-have taken
Mout le fait bien Philemenis;
Much it does well Philemenis
mout rescot bien ses abatuz
much he-rescues well his thrown-down
e chier lor a ses morz venduz:
and dear to-them he-has his dead sold
seisante i a des suens rescos,
sixty there he-has of-the his rescued
qui pasmé gisent en l'erbos.
who swooned lie in the-grass
A la rescosse des premiers
At the rescue of-the first
s'en eissirent mil chevaliers:
themselves-thence went-out thousand knights
sor les chevaus, pris les escuz,
on the horses taken the shields
o les bons espiez esmoluz,
with the good spears whetted

envaïr vont lor enemis
to-assail they-go their enemies
e aïdier Philemenis.
and to-help Philemenis
Polidamas li proz les guie,
Polydamas the valiant them guides
qui hautement s'enseigne escrie.
who loudly his-war-cry cries
Un rei ataint: ne failli pas,
A king he-reaches not he-failed at-all
mort le geta en mi le tas.
dead him he-threw in midst the heap
Ici resfondrent mainte broigne,
Here burst-again many-a byrnie
e si vos di que grant essoigne
and so to-you I-say that great hardship
lor i creisseit, quant cil dedenz
to-them there grew when those within
s'en eissirent o lor granz genz,
themselves-thence went-out with their great folk
dis mile e plus, serré estreit.
ten thousand and more close tight
Qui icele assemblee veit
Who that assembly sees
dire puet bien qu'onc tel dolor
say can well that-ever such sorrow
ne si desmesuré estor
nor so measureless fight
ne vit ne ne verra ja mais.
not he-saw nor not will-see ever more

La trenchent des escuz les ais
There they-cut of-the shields the boards
e des heaumes les coinz aguz;
and of-the helmets the corners sharp
del sanc i est grant la paluz
of-the blood there is great the marsh
qui de mil cors chiet e devale,
which from thousand bodies falls and flows-down
si que tuit en sont freit e pale.
so that all thereof are cold and pale
Icist contenz dura assez
This strife lasted enough
enz es trenchiees des fossez,
right in-the trenches of-the ditches
tant que li proz Diomedès,
until that the valiant Diomedes
li dus d'Athene e Ulixès
the duke of-Athens and Ulysses
e Telamon e Aïaus,
and Telamon and Ajax
Agamennon e Menelaus
Agamemnon and Menelaus
lor firent un envaïment,
to-them made an assault
e si vos di certainement
and so to-you I-say certainly
que cil dedenz s'en rentrissient
that those within themselves-thence would-re-enter
mout volentiers, s'il poussient.
very willingly if-they could

Mais de poi de gent fu l'entree
But with little of folk was the-entrance
de la porte si estopee
of the gate so stopped
que n'en i pot le disme entrer:
that not-thence there could the tenth enter
por ço les covint a torner.
for that them behooved to turn
Si firent il com por la mort:
So did they as for the death
la fu si dotee la sort
there was so feared the lot
qu'il n'i ot nul tant fust hardiz,
that-they not-there was any so-much were bold
qui iluec ne fust esfreïz.
who there not were frightened
Damage a grant d'ambedous parz,
Harm there-is great of-both sides
mais o saietes e o darz
but with arrows and with darts
e o quarreaus que cil lor traient,
and with bolts which those to-them shoot
qui mout en ociënt e plaient,
who much thereof kill and wound
iç'a fait Greus retraire en sus:
this-has made Greeks withdraw in back
cinc cenz de lor homes e plus
five hundred of their men and more
laissent dedenz les granz fossez;
they-leave within the great ditches

sor eus fu toz li criz levez.
upon them was all the cry raised
Bien s'i aïdent cil dedenz,
Well themselves-there help those within
bien fu recovree lor genz.
well was recovered their folk
Adonc i vint Panthesilee
Then there came Penthesilea
o sa gent estreite serree,
with her folk tight close
que mout ert fiere e combatant.
which much was fierce and fighting
Li brieuz des lances i est grant;
The crash of-the lances there is great
haut s'escriënt a l'avenir,
loud they-cry-out at the-encounter
mais soz ciel n'est rien a oïr
but under heaven not-is anything to hear
avers eles: lais de Bretons,
toward them lays of Bretons
harpe, viële n'autre sons
harp viol nor-other sounds
n'est se plors non avers lor criz.
not-is if weeping not toward their cries
Sor les escuz peinz a verniz
On the shields painted with varnish
vont Grezeis ferir senz demore:
go Greeks to-strike without delay

tant en abatent en poi d'ore
so-many thereof they-fell in little of-time
que toz en cuevre li herbeiz.
that all thereof covers the grassland
Dès ore engroisse li torneiz:
From now thickens the tourney
en mi les ventres les ataignent
in midst the bellies them they-reach
si que des arçons les empeignent
so that from-the saddlebows them they-thrust
e si que les gros fuz planez
and so that the thick shafts planed
lor remainent par les costez.
to-them remain through the sides
Quant les lances sont debrisiees,
When the lances are broken
si ont les espees sachiees,
so they-have the swords drawn
dont els fierent granz cous e fiers:
whereof they strike great blows and fierce
ci ot traïn de chevaliers,
here was rout of knights
ci ot si fait abateïz
here was so made felling
e si angoissos chapleïz
and so anguished hacking
que rien nel poüst pas sofrir.
that anything not-it could at-all endure

Ço puis bien dire senz mentir
That I-can well say without lying
que cil defors sont si branlé
that those outside are so shaken
qu'a peine sont puis aresté.
that-with pain they-are after stopped
Merveilles fait Panthesilee:
Marvels does Penthesilea
ja n'i ferra coup de s'espee
ever not-there she-will-strike blow of her-sword
qu'un n'en ocie. Mais griefment
that-one not-thereof she-may-kill But grievously
li remaumetent Greu sa gent.
to-her ill-treat Greeks her folk
O Menelau josta la bele,
With Menelaus jousted the fair
qu'envers le mist jus de la sele;
that-backward him she-put down from the saddle
al meins en ot le milsoudor:
at-the least thereof she-had the thousand-shilling-horse
maint en i guaaigna le jor.
many-a thereof there she-won the day
Ele e Diomedès josterent;
She and Diomedes jousted
de plain eslais s'entrecontrerent,
at full gallop each-other-they-met
que les lances enastelerent
so-that the lances splintered
e que les escuz esfondrerent.
and that the shields burst

L'escu li toli la reïne:
The-shield from-him took the queen
de cel jor n'en ot puis saisine.
from that day not-thereof he-had after seizin
Soz lui s'enarbra son destrier:
Under him reared his charger
mout par fu près del trebuchier.
very very he-was near of-the tumbling
Coneü a bien sa ruistece
Known he-has well her vigor
e sa vertu e sa proëce.
and her strength and her prowess
Redotee est en petit d'ore:
Dreaded she-is in little of-time
es greignors presses lor cort sore;
in-the greater presses on-them she-runs upon
sovent lor fait muër estaus
often to-them she-makes change stands
e guerpir seles e chevaus.
and quit saddles and horses
Bien li aïdent ses puceles:
Well her help her maidens
sanc i espandent e cerveles,
blood there they-spill and brains
toz les conreiz font traire ariere,
all the troops they-make draw back
si vos di bien que la poudriere
so to-you I-say well that the dust
est del sanc vermeil destempree.
is with-the blood vermilion tempered

Rei Telamon mout desagree
King Telamon much displeases
ço que il veit: nel puet sofrir;
that which he sees not-it can endure
Panthesilee vait ferir.
Penthesilea he-goes to-strike
Sorprise l'a, ne le vit pas;
Surprised her-he-has not him she-saw at-all
jus l'abati en mi le tas;
down her-he-threw in midst the heap
puis met la main al brant d'acier,
then puts the hand to-the blade of-steel
en mi eles se vait plongier.
in midst them himself he-goes to-plunge
A treis en fait les chiés voler,
To three thereof he-makes the heads fly
mais mout le dut chier comparer,
but much it he-had dear to-pay-for
qu'abatu l'ont de son destrier;
for-felled him-they-have from his charger
par quinze lieus li font raier
through fifteen places to-him they-make stream
le sanc del cors par mi la broigne.
the blood from-the body through midst the byrnie
Ci li dut creistre tel essoigne
Here to-him had to-grow such hardship
qu'o l'aïde Philemenis
that-with the-help (of-)Philemenis
l'en menoënt entre eles pris.
him-thence they-were-leading between them taken

A peine pot rescosse aveir,
With pain he-could rescue have
mais par force e par estoveir
but by force and by necessity
le lor toli Diomedès,
him from-them took Diomedes
qui d'armes i sofri tel fais
who of-arms there endured such burden
qu'onques, puis l'ore qu'il fu nez,
that-ever after the-hour that-he was born
ne fu en estor si grevez.
not was in fight so oppressed
Anceis que il fust departiz,
Before that he were parted
en i ot tant des espasmiz
thereof there was so-many of-the swooned
que l'om n'en sot le nombre dire.
that one not-thereof knew the number tell
Onc si fait duel ne tel martire
Ever so made grief nor such martyrdom
ne vit rien nee de ses ieuz:
not saw anything born with his eyes
dès or covient baissier orguieuz.
from now behooves to-lower prides
Panthesilee se rescrie,
Penthesilea herself cries-again
ses puceles o sei ralie,
her maidens with herself rallies
puis lor chevauche de rehiz.
then to-them she-rides of again

Adonc i rot grant fereïz
Then there again-was great striking
e grant bataille tote jor;
and great battle all day
mais, si com reconte l'Autor,
but so as recounts the-Author
par l'esforz des Amazoneises,
by the-effort of-the Amazons
des franches puceles corteises,
of-the noble maidens courteous
furent Greu si estouteié
were Greeks so ill-handled
e si laidi e si plaié,
and so outraged and so wounded
e tant perdirent de lor gent
and so-many they-lost of their folk
que, senz autre recovrement,
that without other recovery
lor estut la vile guerpir
them behooved the town to-abandon
e as herberges revertir,
and to-the lodgings to-return
mout laidi e mout desconfit.
much outraged and much discomfited
Se la nuit n'en preïst respit,
If the night not-thereof had-taken respite
de la bataille mal estast:
from the battle ill it-would-have-stood
sacheiz ja piez n'en eschapast.
know ever foot not-thence would-have-escaped

La reïne Panthesilee
The queen Penthesilea
lor a tres bien l'ire mostree
to-them has very well the-wrath shown
qu'ele a d'Ector: comparé l'ont
which-she has for-Hector paid-for it-they-have
e plus, s'el puet, le comparront.
and more if-she can it they-will-pay-for
Sacheiz, ensi com nos lisons,
Know so as we read
pris les eüst es paveillons
taken them she-would-have in-the pavilions
morz e vencuz e detrenchiez,
dead and vanquished and cut-to-pieces
que ja n'en eschapast uns piez,
that ever not-thence would-have-escaped one foot
e des nes arses tot le plus,
and of-the ships burned all the most
ne fust sol li fiz Tydeüs.
not had-been only the son (of-)Tydeus
Mais il sis cors lor destoli,
But he his body to-them withheld
qui grant fais d'armes i sofri:
who great burden of-arms there endured
ja n'avront mais o lui sojor.
ever not-they-will-have more with him rest
Ainz qu'il partissent de l'estor,
Before that-they parted from the-fight

fu vespres bas e nuit prochaine:
was evening low and night near
assez orent travail e peine.
enough they-had travail and pain
Li Troïen o lor conreiz,
The Trojans with their troops
le petit pas, serrez estreiz,
the little pace close tight
s'en entrent enz: mout l'ont bien fait.
themselves-thence enter in much it-they-have well done
De trestoz fu dit e retrait
By all it-was said and recounted
que la reïne, senz desdit
that the queen without denial
qui fust de grant ne de petit,
whoever were of great nor of small
aveit le pris de cel jornal,
had the prize of that day
si que li dui meillor vassal
so that the two best vassals
n'aveient d'eus tant fait d'esforz
not-had of-them so-much done of-force
ne tant des lor ocis ne morz
nor so-many of-the theirs killed nor dead
com la reïne solement.
as the queen alone
La nuit li firent maint present,
The night to-her they-made many-a present
mout l'ont joïe e honoree;
much her-they-have feasted and honored

cele nuit l'ont bien celebree
that night her-they-have well celebrated
e fait ses buens e ses talanz.
and done her pleasures and her wishes
Toz cuide estre rescos Prianz
All thinks to-be rescued Priam
par li e par la soë gent:
by her and by the her folk
entre ses braz l'acole e prent,
between his arms her-he-embraces and takes
merciz li rent, tot sei li done
thanks to-her he-renders all himself to-her he-gives
e quant qu'il a li abandone.
and as-much as-he has to-her he-yields
Mout li fait grant pitié li vieuz,
Much to-her makes great pity the old-man
quar tendrement plore des ieuz
for tenderly he-weeps from-the eyes
de ses fiz e de son damage.
for his sons and for his harm
E cele, come proz e sage,
And she as valiant and wise
le conforte mout bonement.
him comforts very kindly
La nuit jurent seürement
The night they-lay securely
en la cité; mais li Grezeis
in the city but the Greeks
sont en grant crieme e en sospeis
are in great fear and in suspicion

qu'il ne seient l'endemain pris
that-they not may-be the-next-day taken
e par asaut del tot conquis.
and by assault of-the all conquered
Esguardé ont qu'as paveillons
Decided they-have that-at-the pavilions
sera tant lor defensions 23740
will-be so-long their defenses
que Menelaus seit repairiez
until Menelaus be returned
de la ou il ert enveiez
from there where he was sent
e que li fiz Achillès vienge:
and that the son (of-)Achilles may-come
n'i a un sol qui ne s'en crienge.
not-there is a single who not himself-thereof may-fear
Cele nuit se sont bien guarni, 23745
That night themselves they-have well furnished
e quant li jorz fu resclarci,
and when the day was brightened
si se rarmerent cil dedenz,
so themselves re-armed those within
fors s'en eissi tote lor genz.
out themselves-thence went all their folk
Lor conreiz ont bien devisez;
Their troops they-have well divided
ainz que li soleiz fust levez, 23750
before that the sun were risen
furent il près des paveillons.
were they near of-the pavilions

Quant Greu virent les confanons
When Greeks saw the pennons
e les compaignes avenir,
and the companies come
lor armes sont alé saisir:
their arms they-are gone to-seize
defendront sei, o autrement
they-will-defend themselves or otherwise
lor ira ja trop malement.
to-them it-will-go now too badly
Devant les tentes se rengierent,
Before the tents themselves they-ranged
e cil de Troie s'aproismierent,
and those of Troy approached
quis vont ferir senz autre esguart.
who-them go to-strike without other regard
La volent saietes e dart,
There fly arrows and darts
la ot estor dur e mortal,
there was fight hard and mortal
la ot detrenchié maint vassal;
there was cut-to-pieces many-a vassal
la furent Greu requis a mort,
there were Greeks attacked to death
mais mout se defendirent fort.
but very themselves they-defended strongly
Il perdent mout, mais nequeden
They lose much but nevertheless
chier le comperent Troïen.
dear it pay-for Trojans

Li asauz fu mout granz e fiers,
The assault was very great and fierce
tant com dura li jorz entiers.
as-long as lasted the day entire
La reïne de Femenie
The queen of Femenie
lor i a fait mainte envaïe:
to-them there has made many-a attack
entre li e ses dameiseles,
between her and her damsels
lor font oïr freides noveles.
to-them they-make hear cold news
Par maintes feiz les derompeient
Through many times them they-broke
de la ou il se defendeient:
from there where they themselves were-defending
onc tel dolor gent ne sofrirent
ever such sorrow folk not endured
ne si faite perte ne firent.
nor so made loss not made
Icest asaut, icest martire
This assault this martyrdom
lor a duré trestot a tire:
to-them has lasted all at stretch
onc un sol jor ne lor failli,
ever a single day not to-them failed
tant que Menelaus reverti.
so-long that Menelaus returned

Pyrrhus and Penthesilea

XCVIII

Menelaus brings Pyrrhus, son of Achilles; the Myrmidons take him as their lord, and he is knighted in his father's arms. Pyrrhus unhorses Polydamas and fells Philemenis, whom Penthesilea frees. When he taunts his men for yielding to women, she answers that her maidens are no common women, and they wound each other. Pyrrhus kills Glaucus, Antenor's son and Polydamas's half-brother, and the fighting goes on all month. On the last day she drives her lance through his body; maddened, he severs her arm and cuts her to pieces, then falls in a swoon. Her maidens die avenging her, more than ten thousand Trojans perish at the gates, and the survivors never again take up arms.

Tant ot alé e tant ot fait,
So-far he-had gone and so-much he-had done
si com li Livres me retrait,
so as the Book to-me recounts
que Pirrus amena o sei.
that Pyrrhus brought with himself
Licomedès, le riche rei,
Lycomedes the rich king
qui pere ert Deïdamia,
who father was (of-)Deidamia
cele ou Achillès l'engendra,
she on-whom Achilles him-engendered
le li ot baillié en plorant:
him to-him he-had handed in weeping
norri l'aveit petit enfant,
nursed him-he-had small child
sin ot pitié al departir.
so-thereof he-had pity at-the parting

Bien en cuida del sen eissir
Well thereof she-thought from-the sense to-go-out
sa mere Deïdamia:
his mother Deidamia
estrange duel en demena.
strange grief thereof she-showed
Danz Menelaus en sol dous meis
Lord Menelaus in only two months
refu ariere en l'ost Grezeis.
again-was back in the-host Greek
Li dameiseaus fu mout joïz
The squire was much feasted
e a grant honor recoilliz.
and with great honor received
En l'ost nen ot si orgoillos,
In the-host not there-was so proud
si riche ne si desdeignos,
so rich nor so disdainful
qui encontre ne li alast,
who toward not him would-go
qui nel joïst, qui nel baisast
who not-him would-feast who not-him would-kiss
e qui ne li ait fait honor.
and who not to-him has done honor
Receü l'ont a lor seignor
Received him-they-have for their lord
Mirmidoneis joiosement:
Myrmidons joyfully
del pere ont bon restorement,
for-the father they-have good restitution

itel com vos porreiz oïr
such as you will-be-able to-hear
anceis que vienge al departir.
before that it-may-come to-the parting
Pirrus fu durement joïz
Pyrrhus was greatly feasted
en l'ost de granz e de petiz.
in the-host by great and by small
Des armes son pere Achillès,
With-the arms (of-)his father Achilles
ço me reconte e dit Darès,
that to-me recounts and says Dares
le firent en l'ost chevalier,
him they-made in the-host knight
e si li ceinst le brant d'acier
and so to-him girded the blade of-steel
Telamon Aïaus plorant,
Telamonian Ajax weeping
par otrei e par covenant
by grant and by covenant
que son pere venge, s'il puet.
that his father he-avenge if-he can
Ja demander ne vos estuet
Ever to-ask not you it-behooves
s'il festiverent icel jor:
if-they feasted that day
tuit li ont fait joie e honor.
all to-him have made joy and honor

As damedeus ont sacrefises
To-the lord-gods they-have sacrifices
faiz e renduz en maintes guises,
made and rendered in many-a guises
por ço qu'il les ont conseilliez.
for that that-they them have counseled
Dès or resont apareilliez
From now again-they-are prepared
de combatre vers Troïens:
for fighting against Trojans
a ço n'a mais guaires de tens.
to that not-is more much of time
Cele nuit firent li Grezeis
That night made the Greeks
mout grant ator e grant herneis
very great array and great harness
d'eus atorner a l'endemain:
of-themselves to-array for the-next-day
de ço sont bien fi e certain,
of that they-are well sure and certain
qu'or seront tuit o mort o pris,
that-now they-will-be all or dead or taken
o il veintront lor enemis.
or they will-vanquish their enemies
Tote lor uevre iert mais a un,
All their work will-be more at one
qu'itel en est l'esguart comun:
for-such thereof is the-decision common
«N'atendront ja», ço diënt bien,
Not-they-will-wait ever that they-say well

«ques asaillent li Troïien;
that-them may-attack the Trojans
«des herberges contre eus iront,
from-the lodgings against them they-will-go
«près des lices les troveront.»
near the lists them they-will-find
Si firent il, ço fu verté.
So did they that was truth
Quant del jor parut la clarté,
When of-the day appeared the brightness
si s'armerent tost e isnel;
so themselves-armed soon and swiftly
puis sont devisé li tropel
then are divided the bands
e li grant conrei merveillos,
and the great troops marvelous
fier e doté e perillos.
fierce and feared and perilous
Bien ordené e bien devis,
Well ordered and well divided
se sont tuit a la veie mis.
themselves they-have all to the way put
Troïens cuident devancir,
Trojans think to-forestall
mais belement e par leisir
but fairly and at leisure
s'en sont eissu de la cité,
themselves-thence they-are gone-out from the city
prest de bataille e conreé,
ready for battle and arrayed

e ço mout esforcieement.
and that very forcefully
Panthesilee d'Oriënt
Penthesilea of-the-East
s'en est le jor mout entremise:
herself-thence is the day much busied
tot ensi come ele devise,
all just as she devises
tot ensi est tenu e fait.
all just-so is held and done
Ne vos en quier faire lonc plait,
Not you thereof I-seek to-make long plea
mais, ainz que fust prime de jor,
but before that it-were prime of day
furent josté li nostre as lor
were jousted the ours with-the theirs
ensi tres dolorosement
so very sorrowfully
que li escu envous d'argent
that the shields vaulted of-silver
sont frait e quas e desboclé
are broken and shattered and unbossed
e li heaume tuit decoupé:
and the helmets all cut-up
par mi lor saillent les cerveles
through midst to-them leap the brains
e par les haubers les boëles.
and through the hauberks the bowels
Dis mile darz i ot lanciez,
Ten thousand darts there were thrown

enteinz del sanc d'eus e moilliez.
dyed with-the blood of-them and wet
N'i a hauberc tant fort doblier
Not-there is hauberk so strong double
qui ne desmente vers l'acier;
which not may-give-way against the-steel
par mi trespercent les costez
through midst they-pierce the sides
des trenchanz quarreaus empenez.
of-the cutting bolts feathered
Ici avreit assez a faire
Here would-have enough to do
qui voudreit conter e retraire
who would-wish to-tell and recount
e dire com faitierement
and to-say how fashioned
s'entrerequistrent mortelment,
each-other-they-attacked mortally
com li conrei, senz plus sofrir,
how the troops without more enduring
se sont alé entreferir
themselves are gone to-strike-each-other
des lances d'acier esmolues
with-the lances of-steel whetted
sor les granz targes d'or volues,
on the great targes of-gold vaulted

ensi que li peceieïz
so that the breaking
e l'estranges abateïz
and the-strange felling
en est oïz par la cité
thereof is heard through the city
e el palais d'antiquité,
and in-the palace of-antiquity
ou mil dames a paoroses,
where thousand ladies there-are fearful
ploranz, pensives e dotoses,
weeping pensive and doubtful
quar chascun jor creist lor damages.
for each day grows their harm
Pirrus li forz, li proz, li sages,
Pyrrhus the strong the valiant the wise
vint al tornei o sa compaigne,
came to-the tourney with his company
armé sor un cheval d'Espaigne
armed on a horse of-Spain
tot le plus bel e le meillor
all the most fair and the best
qu'onc eüst fiz d'empereor,
that-ever had son of-emperor
des armes son pere adobé:
with-the arms (of-)his father dubbed
soz ciel nen ot si bel armé;
under heaven not there-was so fair armed
mout li siet bien l'eaumes el chief.
much to-him sits well the-helmet on-the head

Dur enemi e pesme e grief
Hard enemy and worst and grievous
i ont recovré Troïien:
there have recovered Trojans
jusqu'a tierz jor le verront bien.
until-to third day him they-will-see well
Ne sembla pas tosel n'enfant:
Not he-seemed at-all lad nor-child
plenier e large fu e grant;
full and broad he-was and great
mout resembla bien chevalier.
much he-resembled well knight
D'un drap de seie riche e chier
Of-a cloth of silk rich and dear
ot en ses lances panonceaus;
he-had on his lances pennons
armes ot d'or a lionceaus.
arms he-had of-gold with lion-cubs
Bien l'endotrinent e enseignent
Well him-they-instruct and teach
icil qui de rien ne s'en feignent:
those who in anything not themselves-thereof feign
ço sont si home dreiturier.
those are his men rightful
Jo ne vos quier plus atargier:
I not you seek more to-delay
devant trestoz ses compaignons,
before all his companions
plus afilez qu'esmerillons,
more keen than-merlins

vait joster a Polidamas,
he-goes to-joust with Polydamas
que l'escu li a frait e quas;
that the-shield to-him he-has broken and shattered
l'auberc li trenche e le samiz
the-hauberk to-him he-cuts and the samite
enz el mi lieu del gros del piz:
right in-the midst place of-the thick of-the chest
se la lance ne peceiast,
if the lance not had-shattered
ja mais sa boche ne manjast.
ever more his mouth not would-have-eaten
Polidamas grant li redone,
Polydamas great to-him gives-back
si que li forz espiez tronçone
so that the strong spear breaks
e qu'en volent haut li esclat.
and that-thence fly high the splinters
E ne por quant Pirrus l'abat,
And not for how-much Pyrrhus him-fells
si que del coin del heaume agu
so that with-the corner of-the helmet sharp
feri enz el chemin herbu.
he-struck right on-the road grassy
Sor lui s'est arestez Pirrus:
Upon him himself-is stopped Pyrrhus
veant mil chevaliers e plus,
seeing thousand knights and more
l'aveit saisi par la ventaille;
him-he-had seized by the ventail

de lui fust ja finé senz faille,
of him it-would-be already ended without fail
quant le rescost Philemenis.
when him rescued Philemenis
Par mi l'escu al lion bis
Through midst the-shield with-the lion gray
vait ferir le fil Achillès,
he-goes to-strike the son (of-)Achilles
que de l'escu perce les ais.
so-that of the-shield he-pierces the boards
Tres par mi le cors a bandon
Right through midst the body at will
li meïst tot le confanon,
to-him he-would-have-put all the pennon
se li haubers ne fust si dur.
if the hauberk not were so hard
O hardi cuer e o seür,
With bold heart and with sure
refiert si lui qu'en mi la plaigne
he-strikes-back so him that-in midst the plain
l'abat del bon cheval d'Espaigne.
him-he-fells from-the good horse of-Spain
Puis met la main al brant d'acier:
Then he-puts the hand to-the blade of-steel
la mort son pere lor vent chier.
the death (of-)his father to-them he-sells dear

Paflagoneis sont mout irié,
Paphlagonians are much angered
quant lor seignor veient a pié
when their lord they-see on foot
e abatu si laidement.
and felled so foully
Ceus vont ferir isnelement
Those they-go to-strike swiftly
quil preneient devant lor ieuz.
who-him were-taking before their eyes
D'ambedous parz fu granz l'orguieuz.
Of-both sides was great the-pride
Mirmidoneis sont en revel;
Myrmidons are in revel
joie ont de lor seignor novel,
joy they-have of their lord new
qu'il veient si bien contenir:
whom-they see so well bear-himself
ne li ont talent de faillir,
not to-him they-have desire of failing
tant come il seient dui ne trei.
as-long as they may-be two or three
Iluec assembla tel tornei
There assembled such tourney
e tel estor e tel meslee,
and such fight and such melee

dont la terre est ensanglentee
whereof the earth is bloodied
e jonchiee des detrenchiez
and strewn with-the cut-to-pieces
e des navrez e des plaiez.
and with-the wounded and with-the hurt
Pirrus s'est en grant peine mis
Pyrrhus himself-has in great pain put
de retenir Philemenis,
for holding Philemenis
e si home de lui raveir;
and his men of him to-have-back
mais par force e par estoveir
but by force and by necessity
lor ont rescos Mirmidoneis.
from-them have rescued Myrmidons
Ici n'ot eschar ne guabeis,
Here not-was mockery nor jesting
que duel estrange e braiz e criz.
but grief strange and shrieks and cries
Par set feiees o par dis
Through seven times or through ten
recovrerent sor lor seignor;
they-rallied over their lord
mais si grant force i a des lor
but so great force there is of-the theirs
que tant ne se sevent pener
that so-much not themselves they-know to-strive
quel puissent faire remonter.
that-him they-may make remount

Por lui se livrent a martire,
For him themselves they-deliver to martyrdom
a detrenchier e a ocire:
to being-cut-to-pieces and to being-killed
bien l'eüssent, c'est la vertez,
well him-they-would-have it-is the truth
o ainz fust trop chier comparez,
or rather he-would-be too dear paid-for
quant Telamon i est venuz
when Telamon there is come
o plus de quatre mile escuz.
with more than four thousand shields
Ceus vont ferir. Jo n'en sai al:
Those they-go to-strike I not-thereof know else
la remestrent vuit li cheval,
there remained empty the horses
la lor covint les dos torner;
there them behooved the backs to-turn
si n'oï onc nus hom parler
so not-heard ever any man speak
de gent qui si se defendissent.
of folk who so themselves would-defend
Tant sai que cil dedenz perdissent;
So-much I-know that those within would-have-lost
senz recovrer, vencuz e las,
without recovery vanquished and weary
les meïssent par mi le pas
them they-would-have-put through midst the pass
de maintenant, senz plus atendre,
from now without more waiting

n'i eüst rien de plus defendre,
not-there would-have-been anything of more defending
quant i avint Panthesilee,
when there came Penthesilea
la proz, la franche, l'onoree,
the valiant the noble the-honored
la plus vaillant que onc nasquist
the most worthy that ever was-born
ne que el siegle plus vausist,
nor that in-the world more would-be-worth
e cele que plus ot honor.
and she who most had honor
Mil dameiseles de valor
Thousand damsels of valor
armees sor chevaus braidis,
armed on horses spirited
forz e isneaus e mal traitis,
strong and swift and ill tractable
la sivent: n'en i a pas treis
her follow not-thereof there is at-all three
qui n'aient heaumes Paviëis,
who not-have helmets of-Pavia
escuz e blans haubers tresliz.
shields and white hauberks triple-meshed
De ciclaton e de samiz
Of ciclaton and of samite
sont les enseignes es espiez,
are the banners on-the spears
qui trenchanz sont e aguisiez,
which cutting are and sharpened

e es granz lances acerees.
and on-the great lances steeled
Mout les a bien amonestees
Much them has well exhorted
lor dame totes. N'en sai al,
their lady all Not-thereof I-know else
mais tot le pendant d'un costal
but all the slope of-a hillside
sont avenues al tornei:
they-are come to-the tourney
haut s'escriënt, solonc lor lei;
loud they-cry-out according-to their law
mais rien ne fu, ço[s] sai conter,
but anything not was that-you I-know to-tell
si bele el mont a escouter:
so fair in-the world to hear
ne semblent pas voiz femenines,
not they-seem at-all voices feminine
que d'esperitaus riens devines.
but of-spiritual things divine
Adonc laissent chevaus aler,
Then they-let horses go
toz ceus de l'ost vont encontrer.
all those of the-host they-go to-meet
Des lances reides de sapin,
With-the lances stiff of fir
dont li bon fer sont acerin,
whereof the good irons are steely

lor vont doner par les forceles
to-them they-go to-give through the collarbones
e es ventres, que les boëles
and in-the bellies so-that the bowels
lor espandent sor les arçons,
to-them they-spill upon the saddlebows
qu'asteles volent e tronçons.
so-that-splinters fly and stumps
Ci a escuz perciez e fraiz,
Here there-is shields pierced and broken
ci a mil branz d'acier nuz traiz,
here there-is thousand blades of-steel bare drawn
oschiez e teinz en sanc vermeil,
notched and dyed in blood vermilion
ci a si doloros trepeil
here there-is so sorrowful tumult
que nus n'i cuide aveir duree.
that any not-there thinks to-have endurance
Telamon e Panthesilee
Telamon and Penthesilea
jostent: ço sai que si s'atainstrent
joust that I-know that so each-other-they-reached
que de lor chevaus jus s'empeinstrent.
that from their horses down each-other-they-thrust
Mout resaillirent tost en piez
Very they-leapt-up soon on feet
en mi la place toz iriez.
in midst the place all angered
Sore li cort Panthesilee:
Upon him runs Penthesilea

tel cop li done de l'espee
such blow to-him she-gives with the-sword
par mi le heaume dedesus
through midst the helmet above
que de son chief li abat jus.
that from his head to-him she-fells down
Fort fu e de mout grant aïr:
Strong she-was and of very great force
des dous paumes le fist ferir
with-the two palms him she-made strike
a la terre, vousist o non.
to the earth he-might-wish or not
Iluec resorst tel contençon,
There arose-again such contention
de que cent chevalier preisié
of which hundred knights prized
furent ocis e detrenchié.
were killed and cut-to-pieces
Bien s'i aïdent les puceles:
Well themselves-there help the maidens
a ceus de l'ost font voidier seles.
to those of the-host they-make empty saddles
Lor dame ont faite remonter
Their lady they-have made remount
hastivement, senz demorer.
hastily without delaying
A tant vindrent Paflagoneis,
At that came Paphlagonians
mort et navré, vencu e preis:
dead and wounded vanquished and taken

«Dame,» font il, «nostre seignor
Lady say they our lord
«nos ont toleit en champ li lor:
from-us have taken in field the theirs
«Veez, cil la l'en meinent pris.
See those there him-thence lead taken
— Est ço,» fait el, «Philemenis,
Is that says she Philemenis
«cil qui est nez de mon païs?
he who is born of my country
— O il, dame, li vostre amis.
Yes he lady the your friend
— Dameiseles,» fait el, «poigniez;
Damsels says she spur
«guardez que si seit ostagiez
see that so he-be hostaged
«que cent des plus outrecuidanz
that hundred of-the most overweening
«en aient ja les piz sanglanz.»
thereof may-have now the chests bloody
A tant laissent chevaus aler.
At that they-let horses go
Ne vos sai plus que deviser,
Not you I-know more what to-describe
mais maintenant, senz plus targier,
but now without more delaying
lor vont les forz escuz percier
to-them they-go the strong shields to-pierce
e les haubers des cors desjoindre.
and the hauberks from-the bodies to-disjoin

Ici ot bien estrange poindre,
Here was well strange charging
que nus hom nez ne vit onc mais
that any man born not saw ever more
si dur estor ne si engrès.
so hard fight nor so fierce
Mirmidoneis sont mout vassal:
Myrmidons are very vassal
as danzeles livrent estal.
to-the damsels they-deliver stand
O eles sont Paflagoneis:
With them are Paphlagonians
ici reperdront ja Grezeis.
here will-lose-again now Greeks
La reïne de Femenie
The queen of Femenie
vos di que nes esparne mie:
to-you I-say that not-them she-spares at-all
les vis lor trenche e les costez.
the faces to-them she-cuts and the sides
Mout est li suens branz redotez:
Much is the her blade dreaded
veie li font li orgoillos
way to-her make the proud
e tuit li plus chevaleros.
and all the most knightly
N'est merveille, s'ele est dotee:
Not-is marvel if-she is feared
bien fiert de lance e mieuz d'espee.
well she-strikes with lance and better with-sword

Por l'escosse Philemenis
For the-rescue (of-)Philemenis
sorst tel meslee e teus estris,
arises such melee and such strifes
dont cent chevalier trebuchierent,
whereof hundred knights tumbled
qui onques puis ne redrecierent.
who ever after not rose-again
Li fiz Achillès veit l'ovraigne
The son (of-)Achilles sees the-work
e la bataille que engraigne:
and the battle which grows
celui guerpi qu'il teneit pris.
that-one he-quitted whom-he was-holding taken
D'ire e de mautalent espris,
With-wrath and with ill-will inflamed
reprent l'escu par les enarmes:
he-takes-again the-shield by the straps
jo cuit ja lor fera teus charmes,
I think now to-them he-will-make such charms
dont li costé lor saigneront.
whereof the sides to-them will-bleed
Toz les suens escrie e somont:
All the his he-cries and summons
«Tornez,» fait il, «franc chevalier.
Turn says he noble knights
«Trop vos laissiez estouteier.
Too-much yourselves you-let bully
«Ço sont femmes, ço m'est a vis,
Those are women that to-me-is at opinion

«que si vos tolent voz amis,
who so from-you take your friends
«voz compaignons, les beaus, les proz.
your companions the fair the valiant
«Mais, se n'en est lor li desoz,
But if not-thereof is theirs the under
«ja mais ne quier armes porter.
ever more not I-seek arms to-bear
«Enoier nos deit e peser,
Vex us it-ought and weigh
«quant femmes vers nos tienent place.»
when women against us hold place
Panthesilee ot la manace:
Penthesilea hears the threat
a poi l'en est, petit le crient:
at little to-her-thereof is little him she-fears
«Vassaus,» fait ele, «se devient,
Vassal says she if it-happens
«tu cuides que nos seions taus
thou thinkest that we may-be such
«come autres femmes comunaus,
as other women common
«que les cors ont vains e legiers:
who the bodies have weak and light
«Ço n'est mie nostre mestiers.
That not-is at-all our office
«Puceles somes: n'avons cure
Maidens we-are not-we-have care
«de mauvaistié ne de luxure;
of wickedness nor of lust

«le regne qui nos apartient
the realm which to-us belongs
«defendons si que rien ne crient:
we-defend so that anything not it-fears
«N'est peceiez, ars ne maumis.
Not-is smashed burned nor ill-done
«Porter armes por aveir pris
To-bear arms for to-have prize
«somes a cest socors venues.
we-are to this succor come
«N'est mie del tot senz aiuës
Not-be-is at-all of-the all without helps
«qui mes compaignes a e mei,
who my companions has and me
«e, si come jo pens e crei,
and so as I think and believe
«tu savras, ainz que cist jorz faille,
thou wilt-know before that this day fail
«de que nos servons en bataille.
of what we serve in battle
«A tei e a la toë gent
To thee and to the thy folk
«vendrai ancui mon mautalent.
I-shall-sell today my ill-will
«Por Achillès, cui tu iés fiz,
For Achilles whose thou art son
«qui a Priant a mort ses fiz,
who to Priam has slain his sons
«Hector le pro e le vaillant,
Hector the valiant and the worthy

«qui de son cors par valeit tant
who of his body very was-worth so-much
«qu'en tot le siegle trespassé
that-in all the world past
«ne fu nus hom de sa bonté,
not was any man of his goodness
«dont ai dolor, ire e pesance,
whereof I-have sorrow wrath and sorrow
«tei desfie de mort ma lance:
thee defies of death my lance
«Ja savras bien, se jo t'ataing,
Now thou-wilt-know well if I thee-reach
«s'est a certes, o jo me feing.»
if-it-is in earnest or I myself feign
N'i ot onc puis autre devise:
Not-there was ever after other parley
l'escu saisi, la lance prise,
the-shield seized the lance taken
li chevauche de plain eslais;
him she-rides-at at full gallop
e Pirrus, li fiz Achillès,
and Pyrrhus the son (of-)Achilles
de mout grant ire la receit.
with very great wrath her receives
Par mi les escuz bien a dreit
Through midst the shields well at right
se ferirent de tel aïr
each-other they-struck with such force
com li cheval porent venir;
as the horses could come

les ais fendirent e percierent
the boards they-split and pierced
e les forz broignes desmaillierent.
and the strong byrnies unmailed
Lez les costez passent les fers,
Beside the sides pass the irons
s'i sont aparissanz les mers,
so-there are visible the marks
quar li sans toz chauz e vermeiz
for the blood all hot and vermilion
lor file desci qu'as arteiz.
to-them trickles until to-the toes
De l'autre part dous granz cotees
On the-other side two great cubits
passerent bien ensanglantees
passed well bloodied
les enseignes de drap de seie.
the banners of cloth of silk
E la lance Pirrus peceie:
And the lance (of-)Pyrrhus shatters
sus contre mont en sont volé
up toward high thence are flown
li grant esclat del fust plané.
the great splinters of-the wood planed
Bien le rempeinst Panthesilee,
Well him thrusts-back Penthesilea
si que de la sele doree
so that from the saddle gilded
l'a sozlevé e porté jus.
him-she-has lifted and carried down

En piez est resailliz Pirrus:
On feet is leapt-up Pyrrhus
o le brant nu li corut sore,
with the blade bare at-her he-ran upon
treis cous la fiert en mout poi d'ore.
three blows her he-strikes in very little of-time
E cele ratainst si a lui
And she reaches-back so at him
que, ço sacheiz, si com jo cui,
that that know so as I think
se la presse nes departist,
if the press not-them had-parted
legierement li meschaïst.
lightly to-him it-would-have-gone-ill
Por la joste sorst grant meslee,
For the joust arises great melee
grant contençon, grant assemblee.
great contention great assembly
Mirmidoneis ont remonté
Myrmidons have remounted
Pirron, le novel adobé,
Pyrrhus the new dubbed
lor natural seignor novel:
their natural lord new
mout sont joiant, mout lor est bel
very they-are joyful much to-them it-is fair
de ço que si hardiement,
of that that so boldly

si bien e si proosement
so well and so valiantly
fait, veant eus, chevalerie.
he-does seeing them chivalry
Ci ot mainte lance croissie
Here was many-a lance cracked
en hardiz cors de chevaliers;
in bold bodies of knights
ci fu li estors mout pleniers,
here was the fight very full
qu'Agamennon i est venuz
for-Agamemnon there is come
o plus de trente mile escuz,
with more than thirty thousand shields
e Diomedès ensement,
and Diomedes likewise
qui mout i amena grant gent.
who much there brought great folk
Lor duc, lor amiraut, lor rei,
Their dukes their emirs their kings
lor batailles e lor conrei,
their battalions and their troops
tote lor force s'i aüne:
all their force itself-there gathers
mais hui iert bien l'uevre comune.
but today will-be well the-work common
La reïne de Femenie
The queen of Femenie
ra ajosté sa compaignie:
again-has joined her company

hastivement refait monter
hastily she-makes-again mount
Philemenis d'outre la mer.
Philemenis from-beyond the sea
Grant gré l'en sot, mout l'en mercie;
Great thanks to-her-thereof he-knew much her-thereof he-thanks
dit qu'el li a rendu la vie.
he-says that-she to-him has rendered the life
Ses genz restreinst environ sei:
His folk he-drew-in around himself
ja i avra pesme tornei.
now there will-be worst tourney
Polidamas i rest venuz,
Polydamas there again-is come
qui longement s'ert combatuz
who long himself-had fought
as genz Telamon Aïaus:
with-the folk (of-)Telamonian Ajax
grant plenté rot de bons vassaus.
great plenty he-again-had of good vassals
Remus, li reis de Cisonie,
Remus the king of Cisonie
fu en iceste compaignie.
was in this company
Eneas rot riche conrei,
Aeneas again-had rich troop
quar ceus de Licoine ot o sei.
for those of Lycaonia he-had with himself

Prianz vient après en bataille
Priam comes after in battle
o teus qui ja ne feront faille
with such who ever not will-make default
ne ja en champ nel guerpiront.
nor ever in field not-him will-quit
Puis que Deus establi le mont,
Since that God established the world
ne fu uevre plus aatie
not was work more fierce
ne plus criente ne plus haïe.
nor more feared nor more hated
Li fereïz rest comenciez
The striking again-is begun
mout granz de lances e d'espiez,
very great of lances and of-spears
qui esfondrent ventres e piz:
which burst bellies and chests
des plus vassaus, des plus esliz
of-the most vassal of-the most chosen
i chiet sovent, pasmez e freiz
there falls often swooned and cold
e qui a la mort sont destreiz.
and who at the death are pressed
Li fiz Achillès s'esvertue:
The son (of-)Achilles himself-exerts
o la trenchant espee nue,
with the cutting sword bare
se plonge es presses mout sovent,
himself he-plunges in-the presses very often

de son pere venjance prent.
of his father vengeance he-takes
Mout en ocit, mout en mahaigne;
Many thereof he-kills many thereof he-maims
après lui mueille la champaigne
after him wets the plain
de sanc de cors de chevaliers.
with blood of bodies of knights
Tant com dura li jorz entiers,
As-long as lasted the day entire
fu la bataille si meslee
was the battle so mingled
qu'el ne pot estre desevree.
that-it not could be parted
A pié se combatent plusor
On foot themselves fight many
en dous cenz lieus par mi l'estor.
in two hundred places through midst the-fight
Panthesilee o ses puceles
Penthesilea with her maidens
lor fait oïr freides noveles:
to-them makes hear cold news
près se tienent des fers des lances.
near themselves they-hold of-the irons of-the lances
As Greus sont trop les meschaances.
To-the Greeks are too-many the mishaps
Glaucon, un gentil chevalier,
Glaucus a noble knight
fiz Antenor de sa moillier, —
son (of-)Antenor by his wife

Polidamas esteit sis frere
Polydamas was his brother
d'autre femme que de sa mere;
by-other woman than by his mother
enfes esteit, jovnes toseaus,
child he-was young lad
mais mout par esteit genz e beaus, —
but very very he-was noble and fair
cel a Pirrus mort de sa lance:
that-one has Pyrrhus slain with his lance
ço fu as suens dueus e pesance.
that was to-the his griefs and sorrow
Por la venjance, ços di bien,
For the vengeance that-you I-say well
i brochierent mil Troïen
there spurred thousand Trojans
e mil puceles honorees.
and thousand maidens honored
La rot mout seles delivrees,
There again-was many saddles emptied
dont li seignor jurent envers
whereof the lords lay backward
par mi l'areine pale e pers.
through midst the-sand pale and livid
S'ire e son mautalent lor vent
Her-wrath and her ill-will to-them sells
Panthesilee d'Oriënt
Penthesilea of-the-East
al fil Achillès, qu'el retrueve:
to-the son (of-)Achilles whom-she finds-again

anceis que nus d'eus dous se mueve,
before that any of-them two himself may-move
se sont il trenchié les escuz
themselves have they cut the shields
o les verz branz d'acier moluz
with the green blades of-steel ground
e des heaumes rompu les laz,
and of-the helmets broken the laces
si qu'envers, a denz e toz plaz
so that-backward on teeth and all flat
s'entrabatirent el sablon.
each-other-they-felled on-the sand
Longes dura lor contençon.
Long lasted their contention
A ceste feiz, d'icest estor
At this time of-this fight
en fu Pirrus le sordeior:
thereof was Pyrrhus the worse
le chief, le vis e la peitrine
the head the face and the breast
li ensanglenta la reïne.
to-him bloodied the queen
Saisi l'aveit par la ventaille,
Seized him-she-had by the ventail
quant sor eus versa la bataille,
when upon them poured the battle
ques a partiz e desevrez.
which-them has parted and severed

Polidamas fu si desvez
Polydamas was so maddened
de son frere qui est ocis,
for his brother who is killed
que por un poi n'enrage vis;
that for a little not-goes-mad alive
mout le regrete e plaint e plore.
much him he-mourns and laments and weeps
Es greignors presses lor cort sore:
In-the greater presses on-them he-runs upon
fiert e chaple, maint en adente,
he-strikes and hacks many-a thereof he-throws-face-down
maint en ocit, maint en cravente.
many-a thereof he-kills many-a thereof he-crushes
Par la merveille que il fait,
By the marvel which he does
si com l'Estoire me retrait,
so as the-Story to-me recounts
e par l'esforz Panthesilee,
and by the-effort (of-)Penthesilea
quant vint le seir, vers la vespree,
when came the evening toward the eventide
les derompirent si a fais
them they-broke so at heap
que plus de trente arpenz e mais
that more than thirty acres and more
les chacierent si a desrei
them they-chased so at disarray
que nus n'i prist retor de sei.
that any not-there took return of himself

Greu i perdirent maint des lor,
Greeks there lost many-a of-the theirs
e perdissent mout plus le jor,
and would-have-lost very more the day
se ne fust li fiz Achillès,
if not had-been the son (of-)Achilles
Telamon e Diomedès.
Telamon and Diomedes
Cist recovrerent de la chace,
These recovered from the chase
mais a peine tindrent puis place;
but with pain they-held after place
mout en orent puis le sordeis,
much thereof they-had after the worse
si ne fu jorz de tot le meis
so not was day of all the month
qu'il ne fussent en autretant,
that-they not were in just-as-much
ensi com nos trovons lisant.
so as we find reading
Mout sostindrent d'ambes parties:
Much they-endured of-both parts
dis mile en perdirent les vies,
ten thousand thereof lost the lives
ainz qu'i eüst parlé de trieve.
before that-there had spoken of truce

Panthesilee mout les grieve:
Penthesilea much them aggrieves
mout destruit Greus, mout les mahaigne
much destroys Greeks much them maims
par la force de sa compaigne;
by the force of her company
sovent repert de ses puceles,
often she-loses-again of her maidens
des mieuz vaillanz e des plus beles.
of-the best worthy and of-the most fair
Mout se heent, ele e Pirrus:
Much each-other hate she and Pyrrhus
por ço lor est sovent en us
for that to-them it-is often in custom
d'eus combatre, d'eus envaïr
of-them fighting of-them assailing
e d'eus sovent entreferir.
and of-them often striking-each-other
Sovent se sont entressaié,
Often each-other they-have tested
tant a cheval e tant a pié,
so-much on horse and so-much on foot
qu'al dererain jor se troverent:
that-at-the last day each-other they-found
en maudite hore s'assemblerent.
in cursed hour they-came-together
Par mi les escuz se ferirent,
Through midst the shields each-other they-struck
si tost come il s'entrechoisirent.
so soon as they each-other-caught-sight

La joste fu mout eslaissiee:
The joust was very headlong
sa lance i a Pirrus brisiee,
his lance there has Pyrrhus broken
e la reïne le rasene,
and the queen him strikes-back
que se desve, que se forsene
so-that himself he-goes-mad so-that himself he-raves
dont il de li tant se defent.
whereof he from her so-much himself defends
Par mi le cors tot pleinement
Through midst the body all fully
li met l'enseigne de cendal,
to-him she-puts the-banner of sendal
mais ne l'abat pas del cheval.
but not him-she-fells at-all from-the horse
La lance est par mi tronçonee:
The lance is through midst broken
ainz que del cors li fust ostee,
before that from-the body to-him it-were removed
i ot assez e criz e plainz;
there was enough both cries and laments
a lui vengier brochierent mainz.
to him avenge spurred many
Le sanc li troble e le cervel:
The blood to-him troubles and the brain

s'il or muert, ne li iert pas bel;
if-he now dies not to-him will-be at-all fair

* * *

(lacuna)

Ne vivra plus, s'il ne s'en venge:
Not he-will-live more if-he not himself-thereof avenge

le tros el cors, com que l'en prenge,
the stump in-the body how that to-him-thereof it-may-take

vait renvaïr Panthesilee.
he-goes to-assail-again Penthesilea

Oëz com faite destinee.
Hear what made destiny

El n'aveit pas l'eaume lacié,
She not-had at-all the-helmet laced

el chief li ert tot detrenchié:
on-the head to-her it-was all cut-to-pieces

quant el le vit vers sei venir,
when she him saw toward herself come

premiere le cuida ferir;
first him she-thought to-strike

mais Pirrus tant s'esvertua
but Pyrrhus so-much himself-exerted

qu'un coup merveillos li geta
that-a blow marvelous at-her he-threw

a dreit entrel cors e l'escu;
at right between-the body and the-shield

sevré li a le braz del bu,
severed from-her he-has the arm from-the trunk

tot le li trencha en travers.
all it from-her he-cut in across

Ensanglentez, pales e pers
Bloodied pale and livid
e demi morz la ra saisie;
and half dead her again-he-has seized
o l'esforz de sa compaignie,
with the-effort of his company
qui des danzeles le defendent
who from-the damsels him defend
e qui o Troïens contendent,
and who with Trojans contend
l'a trebuchiee del destrier.
her-he-has tumbled from-the charger
Sor li descent cruël e fier;
Upon her he-descends cruel and fierce
granz cous morteus li meist e done
great blows mortal to-her he-puts and gives
del brant d'acier, qui cler resone;
with-the blade of-steel which clear resounds
sor l'erbe vert, fresche e novele
on the-grass green fresh and new
li espant tote la cervele;
to-her he-spills all the brain
toz les membres li a trenchiez:
all the limbs to-her he-has cut
ensi se rest de li vengiez.
thus himself again-is on her avenged
C'est damages: teus ne fu mais.
It-is harm such not was ever
Pirrus vuide del sanc adès;
Pyrrhus empties of-the blood forthwith

en mi la place chiet pasmez:
in midst the place he-falls swooned
adonc fu plainz e regretez.
then he-was lamented and mourned
Grant noise i sorst e grant criëe:
Great noise there arises and great crying
criement l'ame s'en seit alee;
they-fear the-soul itself-thence be gone
porté l'en ont as paveillons.
carried him-thence they-have to-the pavilions
E des danzeles que dirons?
And of-the damsels what shall-we-say
Veient que lor dame ont perdue:
They-see that their lady they-have lost
onc puis n'i ot resne tenue.
ever after not-there was rein held
Fors de lor sen e pleines d'ire,
Out of their sense and full of-wrath
se vuelent totes faire ocire;
themselves they-wish all to-make kill
as plusors sont li cuer partiz.
to-the most are the hearts broken
Ilueques sorst teus fereïz
There arises such striking
d'eles envers Mirmidoneis,
of-them against Myrmidons
de Troïens contre Grezeis,
of Trojans against Greeks
que rien nel vos savreit conter.
that anything not-it to-you would-know-how to-tell

Tuit se vuelent a mort livrer:
All themselves they-wish to death to-deliver
mesle pesle s'entrefereient,
mingle mangle each-other-they-struck
e si a fais s'entrociëient
and so at heap each-other-they-killed
que sor les morz erent li vif.
that upon the dead were the living
Demi jor dura cel estrif,
Half day lasted that strife
que nus ne s'en pot resortir
that any not himself-thence could withdraw
ne eschaper ne defoïr,
nor escape nor flee
ne ne saveient qui veintreit
nor not they-knew who would-vanquish
ne as queus d'eus li chans sereit;
nor to the-which of-them the field would-be
tant que, — ço truis escrit lisant, —
so-long that that I-find written reading
por la perte, qu'ensi fu grant,
for the loss which-thus was great
de la reïne que fu morte,
of the queen who was dead
de que chascuns se desconforte,
of which each himself is-discomforted
e por sa maisniee honoree,
and for her household honored

que tant s'est puis abandonee
which so-much itself-has after abandoned
de li vengier que mortes sont,
of her avenging that dead they-are
qu'eles n'ont piz ne braz ne front
that-they not-have chest nor arm nor brow
qui de sanc vermeil ne decore,
which with blood vermilion not runs
senz plus ester e senz demore,
without more standing and without delay
prenent lor branle vers la vile.
they-take their flight toward the town
Ço dit l'Escriz, plus de dis mile
That says the-Writing more than ten thousand
en ocistrent a l'entasser.
thereof they-killed at the-crowding
Ja n'orra mais nus hom parler
Ever not-will-hear more any man speak
de si tres doloros jornal.
of so very sorrowful day
Ne sont si large li portal
Not are so broad the gateways
qu'espessement ne s'i estreignent;
that-thickly not themselves-there they-may-crowd
e cil de Grece ne se feignent
and those of Greece not themselves feign
d'eus ocire, d'eus detrenchier.
of-them killing of-them cutting-to-pieces

Jusqu'as ventres sont li destrier
Until-to-the bellies are the chargers
en sanc vermeil. Ne puet hom dire
in blood vermilion Not can man tell
la merveille ne le martire
the marvel nor the martyrdom
qui fu le jor sor ceus dedenz:
which was the day upon those within
morte e vencue est si lor genz
dead and vanquished is so their folk
que ja mais des portes n'istront
that ever more from-the gates not-they-will-go-out
ne ceus defors ne soferront.
nor those outside not will-withstand
Cil qui de l'ocise eschaperent
Those who from the-slaughter escaped
clostrent les portes e serrerent:
closed the gates and locked
assez i ot ire e deshait.
enough there was wrath and distress
O eus fust bel, o eus fust lait,
To them were-it fair to them were-it foul
les murs asistrent environ.
the walls they-besieged around
Ne trovons pas ne ne lison
Not we-find at-all nor not we-read
qu'onc puis en fust arme saisie
that-ever after thereof were arm seized
ne pris bataille n'aatie.
nor taken battle nor-fierce

Dite vos en ai la deriere:
Told to-you thereof I-have the last
mais ore orreiz par quel maniere
but now you-will-hear by what manner
en fu la fin, ne queinement
thereof was the end nor how
avint le grant destruiement,
happened the great destruction
qui cil furent quil porparlerent
who those were who-it plotted
ne queinement il en ovrerent.
nor how they thereof wrought
Toz lor diz e lor parlemenz
All their sayings and their parleys
e toz lor granz decevemenz,
and all their great deceptions
si com Ditis le dit e Daire,
so as Dictys it says and Dares
ja me porreiz oïr retraire.
now me you-will-be-able to-hear recount

The Treason of Antenor and Aeneas

XCIX

Dictys, a knight in the Greek host, wrote what he knew: who plotted the treason, how the Palladium was stolen and Troy burned, and how the Greeks went home. Against Neoptolemus's plea, Diomedes has Penthesilea's body thrown into the Scamander. Antenor, Aeneas, Anchises, and Polydamas resolve to give Helen back and seek peace. Antenor argues before Priam that the city cannot hold, and Amphimachus denounces him. Priam blames Antenor and Aeneas for the war itself and secretly orders Amphimachus to kill them at a supper, but Rumor warns them. They swear to betray the city if their goods and kin are spared, come to court too strongly escorted to be touched, and Priam bitterly sends them to treat.

Riches chevaliers fu Ditis
Rich knight was Dictys
e clers sages e bien apris
and learned wise and well taught
e sciëntos de grant memoire:
and knowing of great memory
contre Daire rescrist l'Estoire.
against Dares rewrote the-Story
Cil fu defors en l'ost Grezeis,
That-one was outside in the-host Greek
chevaliers sages e corteis;
knight wise and courteous
les uevres, si come les sot,
the works so as them he-knew
mist en escrit come il mieuz pot.
he-put in writing as he best could
Icist Ditis nos fait certains,
This Dictys us makes certain

saveir li quel des citeains
to-know the which of-the citizens
porparlerent la traïson.
plotted the treason
E coment li Palladion
And how the Palladium
fu del temple Minerve emblez
was from-the temple (of-)Minerva stolen
e as Grezeis defors livrez,
and to-the Greeks outside delivered
e coment par seducion
and how by seduction
de nuit saisirent Ylion;
by night they-seized Ilion
com la cité fu embrasee,
how the city was set-afire
a feu e a flambe livree;
to fire and to flame delivered
li quel furent mort e ocis
the which were dead and killed
e li quel d'eus mené chaitis.
and the which of-them led captive
Après iço porreiz oïr
After that you-will-be-able to-hear
com Ditis les fait revertir
how Dictys them makes return
en lor contrees dont il vindrent,
to their countries whence they came

e les merveilles que avindrent
and the marvels which befell
a plusors d'eus e les dolors.
to many of-them and the sorrows
Tot ço qu'en conte li Autors
All that which-of-it tells the Author
vos retrairai senz demorer:
to-you I-shall-recount without delaying
dès ore i fait buen escouter.
from now there it-is good to-listen
En la cité ot grant dolor,
In the city was great sorrow
grant plaint, grant esmai e grant plor.
great lament great dismay and great weeping
Nule rien n'i prent haitement:
Any thing not-there takes delight
ne veient mais com faitement
nor they-see more how fashioned
il aient socors ne aïe.
they may-have succor nor help
La reïne de Femenie
The queen of Femenie
fu plainte mout e regretee
was lamented much and mourned
e tendrement de toz ploree.
and tenderly by all wept

Cil defors ont le cors miré
Those outside have the body gazed-at
e diënt que de sa beauté
and they-say that of her beauty
ne nasqui onques rien vivant.
not was-born ever anything living
Parlé en ont petit e grant,
Spoken thereof have small and great
saveir que del cors sereit fait
to-know what with-the body would-be done
diënt que grant honte e grant lait
they-say that great shame and great outrage
lor fist de venir encontre eus:
to-them she-did by coming against them
«Si lor a fait damage e dueus,
So to-them she-has done harm and griefs
par li e par le suen esforz
by her and by the her force
i a des lor dis mile morz;
there is of-the theirs ten thousand dead
par maintes feiz les a vencuz:
through many times them she-has vanquished
seit l'en teus guerredons renduz
may-be to-her-thereof such rewards rendered
que ja ne seit ensevelie.»
that ever not she-be buried
Neptolemus n'agree mie,
Neoptolemus not-agrees at-all

anceis vueut qu'ele ait sepouture
rather he-wishes that-she have burial
e son mestier e sa dreiture:
and her office and her right
«Dolor sereit e retraçon,
Sorrow it-would-be and reproach
«se s'ame aveit dampnacion». 24450
if her-soul had damnation
Tot ço desvueut Diomedès,
All that rejects Diomedes
sor toz en est fel e engrès:
above all thereof he-is felon and fierce
a trestoz vueut faire otreier
to all he-wishes to-make grant
qu'a chiens seit donee a mangier,
that-to dogs she-be given to eat
o en un des flueves getee. 24455
or into one of-the rivers thrown
Ço est la verité provee,
That is the truth proved
qu'en Eschandre la traïnerent,
that-into Scamander her they-dragged
la savons bien qu'il la geterent:
there we-know well that-they her threw
c'ert une eve grant e parfonde.
it-was a water great and deep
Damedeus trestoz les confonde! 24460
Lord-God all them confound
Quar mout i firent que vilain.
For much there they-did like churls

Quant de Pirron furent certain
When of Pyrrhus they-were certain
que il guarreit, mout lor fu bel:
that he would-recover much to-them it-was fair
dès ore ont bien tot lor avel.
from now they-have well all their desire
Li pan des murs e li portal,
The stretches of-the walls and the gateways
d'entor e d'a mont e d'a val,
of-around and of-at above and of-at below
furent asis, e cest de près:
were besieged and this from near
ja Troïen n'en istront mais.
ever Trojans not-thence will-go-out more
Treis jorz furent si abosmé
Three days they-were so cast-down
qu'om n'i a autre areisoné.
that-one not-there has other addressed
Entre Antenor e Eneas,
Between Antenor and Aeneas
Anchisès e Polidamas,
Anchises and Polydamas
ont pris conseil e demandé,
they-have taken counsel and asked
cui que desplace o vienge a gré,
whom that it-may-displease or may-come to pleasure
rendront Heleine son seignor:
they-will-render Helen her lord
«N'i remandra aveir n'ator,
Not-there will-remain goods nor-array

«drap de seie ne or molu,
cloth of silk nor gold ground
«qui tot ne seit o li rendu;
which all not be with her rendered
«ne lor iert mais por li mal fait.»
not to-them will-be more for her ill done
Ici n'en ot nul autre plait,
Here not-thereof was any other plea
mais venu sont al rei Priant.
but come they-are to-the king Priam
La cort josta pleniere e grant.
The court gathered full and great
Diënt al rei «dès or les creie,
They-say to-the king from now them he-should-believe
«prenge conseil e si porveie
he-should-take counsel and so provide
«coment des males aventures,
how of-the evil adventures
«que tant par sont pesmes e dures,
which so very are worst and hard
«traira a chief, qu'en voudra faire,
he-will-draw to head what-of-it he-will-wish to-do
«quar tuit li deu l'en sont contraire.
for all the gods to-him-thereof are contrary
«Tuit conoissent e veient bien
All know and see well
«que son pro ne vuelent de rien:
that his profit not they-wish of anything
«Mostré li ont jusqu'a la fin,
Shown to-him they-have until-to the end

«e bien li pramist Apollin
and well to-him promised Apollo
«e tuit li prophetizement
and all the prophesying
«e li parfont devinement.»
and the deep divining
Prianz pleins d'ire e de rancune,
Priam full of-wrath and of rancor
en sospirant maudit Fortune:
in sighing curses Fortune
chaitif se claime e doloros
wretched himself he-calls and sorrowful
e a toz les deus haïnos.
and to all the gods hateful
Dit lor qu'il s'en conseillera
He-tells them that-he himself-thereof will-counsel
e en après lor respondra:
and in after to-them will-answer
«Sire,» font il, «se tei plaiseit,
Lord say they if thee it-pleased
«il sereit bien reison e dreit
it would-be well reason and right
«que tu oïsses noz conseiz;
that thou wouldst-hear our counsels
«e se il sont buens e feeiz,
and if they are good and faithful
«por quei nel fereies tu bien?
for what not-it wouldst-do thou well
«T'onor volons sor tote rien.
Thy-honor we-wish above all thing

«Saches chascuns de nos se crient
Know each of us himself fears
«del grant damage qui te vient:
for-the great harm which to-thee comes
«La ou tu perz, la perdons nos;
There where thou losest there lose we
«de ton pro somes curios.»
of thy profit we-are careful
A ço respondi Priamus:
To that answered Priam
«Vostre conseil pas ne refus:
Your counsel at-all not I-refuse
«Dire poëz, e nos l'orrons;
Say you-can and we it-will-hear
«s'est bien a faire, sil ferons.»
if-it-is well to do so-it we-shall-do
Donc leva Antenor en piez
Then rose Antenor on feet
qui sages fu e enreisniez:
who wise was and well-spoken
«Sire,» fait il, «bien est seü
Lord says he well is known
«e esprové e coneü
and proved and known
«par tot le mont, tant come il dure,
through all the world as-far as it lasts
«que, se ne fust Mesaventure,
that if not had-been Misadventure

«vengiez vos fusseiz des torzfaiz
avenged yourself you-would-have of-the wrongs
«que cil de Grece vos ont faiz,
which those of Greece to-you have done
«a vos e a voz ancessors.
to you and to your ancestors
«Et ç'a duré e anz e jors,
And that-has lasted both years and days
«tant que vostre regne est destruit:
so-long that your realm is destroyed
«N'en avez vin ne blé ne fruit.
Not-thereof you-have wine nor grain nor fruit
«Tant vos en estes combatuz
So-much you thereof are fought
«que toz voz fiz vos ont toluz,
that all your sons from-you they-have taken
«les beaus, les proz e les vaillanz,
the fair the valiant and the worthy
«dont damages est fiers e granz.
whereof harm is fierce and great
«N'avez mais qui por vos contende
Not-you-have more who for you may-contend
«ne qui vostre cité defende.
nor who your city may-defend
«De vostre gent est mort la flor:
Of your folk is dead the flower

«N'i avez mais aïdeor
Not-there you-have more helper
«qui guaires seit crienz ne dotez
who much be feared nor dreaded
«ne qui d'armes seit renomez.
nor who of-arms be renowned
«Fort sont encontre nos Grezeis:
Strong are against us Greeks
«Ancore i a seisante reis,
Still there are sixty kings
«n'i a un sol mal ne vos vueille,
not-there is a single ill not you may-wish
«qui ne se plaigne e ne se dueille
who not himself may-complain and not himself may-grieve
«de lor perte, que mout lor griege.
of their loss which much them grieves
«Dès or nos est mout près le siege.
From now to-us is very near the siege
«Ancore est vis danz Menelaus
Still is alive lord Menelaus
«e danz Telamon Aïaus,
and lord Telamonian Ajax
«Diomedès le corajos
Diomedes the courageous
«e danz Ulixès l'engeignos,
and lord Ulysses the-ingenious
«Menesteüs le pro, le sage
Menestheus the valiant the wise
«e Nestor, cel de grant aage,
and Nestor that-one of great age

«Agamennon, le prince d'eus
Agamemnon the prince of-them
«e Pirrus li hardiz, li feus,
and Pyrrhus the bold the felon
«li vertuös, li combatere,
the strong the fighter
«qui mout poi vaut meins de son pere,
who very little is-worth less than his father
«e des autres milier tel cent,
and of-the others thousand such hundred
«qui valor ont e hardement,
who valor have and boldness
«qui ça dedenz nos ont asis
who here within us have besieged
«e morz e vencuz e ocis,
and dead and vanquished and killed
«qui talent n'ont ne volenté
who desire not-have nor will
«de nos guerpir ne la cité,
of us to-abandon nor the city
«jusqu'il l'aient par force prise
until-they it-have by force taken
«e de nos toz fait lor jostise.
and of us all made their justice
«Se vos plaist, si avendreit bien
If you pleases so it-would-befall well
«que vos esguardisseiz tel rien,
that you would-consider such thing

«par que nos poüssons guarir
by which we could be-saved
«d'estre destruit e de perir.
from-being destroyed and from perishing
«Tot cest damage e ceste peine
All this harm and this pain
«nos est venu par dame Heleine:
to-us is come through lady Helen
«Dès or mais seit rendue as lor.
From now more be-she rendered to-the theirs
«Puis qu'ele a perdu son seignor,
Since that-she has lost her lord
«queus proz sereit de li tenir?
what profit would-be of her holding
«Queus biens nos en porreit venir?
What good to-us thereof could come
«Rendue seit, — morz est Paris, —
Rendered be-she dead is Paris
«e tot l'aveir qu'o li fu pris;
and all the-goods which-with her was taken
«si seit parlé e engeignié
so be-it spoken and contrived
«e fait e quis e porchacié,
and done and sought and pursued
«com nos poissons mais pais aveir:
how we could more peace have
«C'est bosoing e grant estoveir.»
It-is need and great necessity
A tant se tot, ne parla plus.
At that himself he-silenced not he-spoke more

Donc saut en piez Amphimacus:
Then leaps on feet Amphimachus
c'ert li mieudre des fiz Priant;
he-was the best of-the sons (of-)Priam
fel esteit mout e mesdisant.
félon he-was much and slanderous
Antenor a mout contredit,
Antenor he-has much gainsaid
mout laidengié e mout despit
much reviled and much despised
e mout laidi e mout blasmé:
and much outraged and much blamed
«Haï!» fait il, «quel seürté
Hey says he what surety
«poons aveir en vos dès ore?
can-we have in you from now
«Assez sera veü ancore
Enough will-be seen still
«que cil cuers pense e qu'il vueut faire.
what this heart thinks and what-it wishes to-do
«Gentil sermon nos savez traire,
Noble sermon to-us you-know to-draw
«mais vos n'en sereiz ja creü:
but you not-thereof will-be ever believed
«Ainz en seront dis mile escu
Rather thereof will-be ten thousand shields
«percié e frait e desboclé,
pierced and broken and unbossed
«que cist plaiz seit acreanté.
than this plea be granted

«O tuit morront, o tuit morrons:
Or all will-die or all we-shall-die
«Ja d'autre pais ne parlerons.
Ever of-other peace not we-shall-speak
«N'est pas l'uevre en tel sen alee
Not-is at-all the-work in such sense gone
«que pais en deie estre parlee
that peace thereof ought to-be spoken
«ne fin s'o les branz non toz nuz,
nor end if-with the blades not all bare
«que morz en seient e vencuz
that dead thereof they-be and vanquished
«o nos de ça o il de la:
or we of here or they of there
«Ensi cuit jo que il sera.
Thus think I that it will-be
«E ensi seit d'ore en avant:
And thus be-it from-now on forward
«Ço est granz maus qu'il targe tant;
That is great ill that-it delays so-much
«ja n'ait il mais longe duree!»
ever not-may-have it more long endurance
Mainte parole a cist parlee
Many-a word has this-one spoken
orgoillose, laide e vilaine;
proud foul and churlish
e danz Eneas mout se peine
and lord Aeneas much himself takes-pains
de lui blandir e chastiier,
of him to-soothe and to-chastise

e de mostrer e d'enseignier
and of showing and of-teaching
qu'en ço qu'il dit e qu'il coveite
that-in that which-he says and which-he covets
n'a se folie non reveite:
not-is if folly not open
«Del combatre n'i a mais rien, —
Of-the fighting not-there is more anything
iceste chose sevent bien, —
this thing they-know well
ne d'eus en bataille sofrir,
nor of-them in battle to-withstand
ne des portes contre eus ovrir.
nor of-the gates against them to-open
«Devers nos est fraite la guerre;
On-the-side-of us is broken the war
«autre conseil nos covient querre:
other counsel us behooves to-seek
«C'est de pais faire, n'en sai plus».
That-is of peace to-make not-thereof I-know more
Adonc respondi Priamus
Then answered Priam
irieement as dous vassaus:
angrily to-the two vassals
«Seignor, come estes si cruaus,
Lords how you-are so cruel
«si estranges, si desleiez
so strange so disloyal
«que tel chose me conseilliez?
that such thing me you-counsel

«Por poi jo ne me desespeir;
For little I not myself despair
«grant honte i porriëz aveir.
great shame there you-could have
«Par voz conseiz, ço m'est a vis,
By your counsels that to-me-is at opinion
«en ai jo fait ço que j'en fis.
thereof have I done that which I-thereof did
«Danz Antenor, que jo vei ci,
Lord Antenor whom I see here
«quant il de Grece reverti,
when he from Greece returned
«d'Esiona qu'il ala querre,
from-Hesione whom-he went to-seek
«dist Greu veneient en ma terre
said Greeks were-coming into my land
«mei destruire, mei eissillier.
me to-destroy me to-exile
«Il me loa a enveier
He me advised to send
«en lor regne Paris rober:
into their realm Paris to-plunder
«Ja ne me venist en penser
Ever not to-me would-have-come into thought
«qu'il ne autre par mon envei
that-he nor other by my sending
«lor meüst guerre ne esfrei,
to-them would-have-moved war nor alarm

«se il ne le m'eüst loé
if he not it to-me-had advised
«e fait faire e amonesté.
and made do and urged
«Par lui le fis: or sui vencuz,
Through him it I-did now I-am vanquished
«mes fiz, mes homes ai perduz;
my sons my men I-have lost
«or vueut que pais reface o eus.
now he-wishes that peace I-make-again with them
«Sacheiz que trop a dit que feus:
Know that too-much he-has spoken like felon
«Jo ne sai mie porpenser
I not know at-all to-conceive
«com tel chose m'osa loër.
how such thing to-me-he-dared advise
«E vos», fait il, «sire Eneas,
And you says he lord Aeneas
«de ço ne vos resovient pas,
of that not to-you remembers at-all
«que fustes a Heleine prendre,
that you-were at Helen to-take
«qui bien le poüsseiz defendre?
who well it could-have prevented
«Se vousisseiz, ja jor Paris
If you-had-wished ever day Paris
«ne l'amenast en cest païs.
not her-would-have-brought into this country
«Ço qu'en fu fait vos en feïstes,
That which-of-it was done you thereof did

«e vos meïsmes la tolistes:
and you yourself her took
«Or si volez que jo m'acort
Now so you-wish that I myself-agree
«a ceus qui m'ont vencu e mort
with those who me-have vanquished and slain
«e qui mes bons fiz m'ont toleiz.
and who my good sons from-me-have taken
«Angoissos dei estre e destreiz,
Anguished I-ought to-be and distressed
«se me covient tel pais a faire.
if me behooves such peace to make
«Mais il n'avra saiete a traire
But there not-will-be arrow to shoot
«en ceste vile ne quarrel,
in this town nor bolt
«ne tor entiere ne crenel,
nor tower entire nor battlement
«quant jo a ço serai trovez».
when I at that shall-be found
A merveille les a blasmez.
At marvel them he-has blamed
Vers lui s'iraist mout Eneas,
Toward him grew-angry much Aeneas
e sacheiz bien ne s'en taist pas.
and know well not himself-thereof be-silences at-all
Grosses paroles e enflees
Coarse words and swollen
i ot retraites e parlees.
there were recounted and spoken

Irié repairent as ostaus:
Angered they-return to-the lodgings
comparez fu puis cil jornaus.
paid-for was after that day
Li reiz Prianz ne set que face;
The king Priam not knows what he-may-do
l'eve li cort a val la face.
the-water to-him runs down along the face
Ceus crient e dote, e si a dreit,
Those he-fears and doubts and so at right
quar bien conoist e aparceit
for well he-knows and perceives
qu'il n'avra plus aïde d'eus:
that-he not-will-have more help of-them
engeignos sont, ço set, e feus.
crafty they-are that he-knows and felon
En une chambre peinte a flor,
In a chamber painted with flowers
o le vaslet, son fil menor,
with the youth his son younger
parole e dit li reis Prianz
speaks and says the king Priam
qu'il a paor e dote granz
that-he has fear and doubt great
de cez vassaus qu'il nel traïssent,
of these vassals that-they not-him may-betray

qui si faitement l'envaïssent
who so fashioned him-assail
de pais faire: ne dote mie
of peace making not he-doubts at-all
que il n'i pensent felenie:
that they not-there may-think felony
«Fort sont e bien emparenté;
Strong they-are and well kinned
«trestot le mieuz de la cité
all the best of the city
«porront aveir a lor plaisir
they-will-be-able to-have at their pleasure
«e a lor uevre consentir.
and to their work to-consent
«Bien sai, s'il ne sont devanci,
Well I-know if-they not are forestalled
«que nos serons par eus traï.
that we shall-be by them betrayed
«Jo lo qu'om lor trenche le chief:
I advise that-one to-them cut the head
«Por quant si est a faire grief,
For how-much so it-is to do grievous
«mais de dous maus deit om eslire
but of two ills ought one to-choose
«queus est li mieudre e queus li pire.
which is the better and which the worse
«Ço iert granz maus qu'om les ocie:
That will-be great ill that-one them may-kill

«Noauz sereit, s'esteit traïe
Worse it-would-be if-were betrayed
«ceste cité ne nos par eus;
this city nor we by them
«trop sereit lait damage e dueus.
too-much it-would-be foul harm and grief
«Por ço», fait il, «le te concrei,
For that says he it to-thee I-entrust
«que plus chier ami n'ai de tei.
for more dear friend not-I-have than thee
«Tis pere sui, e tu mis fiz:
Thy father I-am and thou my son
«Guart que seies proz e hardiz,
Take-care that thou-be valiant and bold
«e seit celee ceste ovraigne,
and be concealed this work
«qu'om n'en veie semblant n'enseigne.
that-one not-thereof may-see seeming nor-sign
«Demain a seir seront mandé,
Tomorrow at evening they-will-be summoned
«si come il ont acostumé,
so as they have accustomed
«por prendre o eus estreiz conseiz,
for to-take with them close counsels
«los e paroles e segreiz,
advice and words and secrets
«e por faire uns devinemenz
and for to-make some divinings
«e uns granz sacrefiemenz.
and some great sacrificings

«Après les ferai conjurer
After them I-shall-make conjure
«que il remaignent al soper.
that they may-remain at-the supper
«E tu te seies bien armez
And thou thyself be well armed
«o feeus compaignons privez,
with faithful companions intimate
«puis guart qu'il n'en estorcent vis.
then take-care that-they not-thence escape alive
«Se tu les aveies ocis,
If thou them hadst killed
«mout porrions puis poi doter,
much we-could after little to-fear
«qu'as murs ne puet rien aboter
for-to-the walls not can anything reach
«ne asaillir, quar trop sont haut.
nor assail for too they-are high
«Se sol vitaille ne nos faut,
If only victual not us fails
«jusqu'a mil anz ne cremons rien.
until-to thousand years not we-fear anything
«Or guart que tu le faces bien».
Now take-care that thou it do well
Ço li respont Amphimacus:
That to-him answers Amphimachus
«De ço», fait il, «rien ne refus,
Of that says he anything not I-refuse

«quar cist conseiz nos est sauvables
for this counsel to-us is saving
«e a la cité profitables».
and to the city profitable
Ensi remest ceste parole,
Thus remained this word
mais Renomee, que tost vole,
but Rumor which soon flies
lor fist saveir de maintenant
to-them made know from now
tot le pensé le rei Priant.
all the thought (of-)the king Priam
Ne vos puis dire chose certe,
Not to-you I-can tell thing certain
com ceste uevre fu descoverte,
how this work was uncovered
mais bien le sot danz Eneas,
but well it knew lord Aeneas
Antenor e Polidamas,
Antenor and Polydamas
e Anchisès e cuens Dolon,
and Anchises and count Dolon
e li sages Ucalegon.
and the wise Ucalegon
Hastivement pristrent conseil,
Hastily they-took counsel
qu'en crieme erent e en esveil,
for-in fear they-were and in alarm

com faitement s'en vengereient
how fashioned themselves-thereof they-would-avenge
ne coment il s'en defendreient.
nor how they themselves-thereof would-defend
Que vos en fereie lonc plait?
Why to-you thereof should-I-make long plea
Si com l'Estoire me retrait,
So as the-Story to-me recounts
plevi se sont e afïé
pledged themselves they-have and sworn
qu'il traïreient la cité,
that-they would-betray the city
o ço que lor possessions
with that that their possessions
e lor aveir e lor maisons
and their goods and their houses
e lor ami e lor parent
and their friends and their kin
eüssent pais e quitement:
might-have peace and quittance
ço sera parlé as Grezeis.
that will-be spoken to-the Greeks
Içó jurerent sor lor leis;
That they-swore upon their laws
après ont esguardé coment
after they-have considered how
sereit empris cel parlement.
would-be undertaken that parley

Antenor dist «qu'il soferreient
Antenor said that-they would-hold-off
«e que tuit ensemble atendreient
and that all together they-would-wait
«que les mandast li reis Prianz;
that them may-summon the king Priam
«donc fust lor compaigne si granz
then would-be their company so great
«qu'il nel dotassent ne ses fiz:
that-they not-him would-fear nor his sons
«Puis resera tant acoilliz
Then again-be-will-be so-much pressed
«de pais faire, qu'estre son gré
of peace making that-against his will
«nos sera dit et comandé
to-us will-be said and commanded
«de sa boche tot erraument
from his mouth all straightway
«qu'en l'ost alons al parlement.
that-to the-host we-may-go to-the parley
«Dès qu'il nos trovera guarniz
From that-he us will-find furnished
«de son aguait e de ses fiz,
against his ambush and against his sons
«il n'en fera ja autre rien; —
he not-thereof will-do ever other anything
«quarante ans a, jol conois bien; —
forty years there-are I-him know well

«e dès que nos avrons leisir
and from that we shall-have leisure
«d'aler en l'ost e de venir,
of-going into the-host and of coming
«si porrons donc apareillier,
so we-shall-be-able then to-prepare
«faire, parler e porchacier
to-make to-speak and to-pursue
«com ceste uevre seit achevee,
how this work may-be achieved
«que nos avons ci porparlee.»
which we have here plotted
Ensi se resont departi,
Thus themselves again-they-have parted
mais bien se sont entre eus guarni,
but well themselves they-have among them furnished
que qu'avenist ne que que non,
what that-might-happen nor what that not
quar mout redotent traïson.
for much they-dread treason
Ensi com jo vos ai conté,
So as I to-you have told
furent a l'endemain mandé.
they-were at the-next-day summoned
Ço puet om bien creire e saveir,
That can one well believe and know

que mout aveient grant poëir
that much they-had great power
e grant force e grant poësté
and great force and great might
e grant ligniee en la cité.
and great lineage in the city
Quant il certain senz sospeçon
When they certain without suspicion
saveient bien la traïson,
knew well the treason
com des chiés perdre senz respit,
as of-the heads to-lose without respite
ja ne trespassassent la nuit.
ever not they-would-have-passed the night
Mout ert reis Prianz afebliz
Much was king Priam weakened
de ses homes e de ses fiz:
of his men and of his sons
quant il sor ço a cort aloënt,
when they upon that to court went
poëz saveir grant gent menoënt,
you-can know great folk they-were-leading
e tel qui bien s'i aïdast,
and such who well themselves-there would-help
se a nul bosoing lor tornast.
if to any need to-them it-turned

Tost conut Prianz lor corage
Soon knew Priam their heart
e qu'il erent guarni e sage
and that-they were furnished and wise
de traïson estre entrepris;
against treason to-be caught
veit qu'il ne porront estre ocis
he-sees that-they not will-be-able to-be killed
ne engeignié por nule rien:
nor tricked for any thing
angoissos fu, ço sai jo bien.
anguished he-was that know I well
Veit que n'est lieus del comencier:
He-sees that not-is place of-the beginning
Amphimacus a fait laissier
Amphimachus he-has made leave
ço que il lor apareillot;
that which he for-them was-preparing
ne lor fist rien, quar il ne pot.
not to-them he-did anything for he not could
Ses genz manda li reis Prianz:
His folk summoned the king Priam
la cort josta pleniere e granz.
the court gathered full and great
Adonc i ot assez parlé
Then there was enough spoken
e maint conseil pris e doné:
and many-a counsel taken and given
tuit se tienent a un acort.
all themselves hold at one accord

Li un diënt: «Li Reis a tort,
The some say The King has wrong
«qui toz nos vueut faire morir
who all us wishes to-make die
«e faire destruire e perir.
and to-make destroy and perish
«Son regne veit a force prendre,
His realm he-sees by force to-take
«si ne s'a mais de quei defendre.»
so not himself-has more of what to-defend
O Eneas tença li Reis,
With Aeneas quarreled the King
mais comandé a sor son peis
but commanded he-has against his weight
qu'il aillent porchacier e querre
that-they may-go to-pursue and to-seek
coment sera pais de la guerre:
how will-be peace from the war
«Alez,» fait il, «quant mais n'en puis
Go says he since more not-thereof I-can
«e quant autre conseil ne truis,
and since other counsel not I-find
«si engeigniez e si querez
so contrive and so seek
«e si sacheiz lor volentez,
and so know their wills
«que ço sereit qu'il requerreient
what that would-be which-they would-require
«e que il nos demandereient;
and what they from-us would-ask

«puis le me resavreiz a dire.
then it to-me you-will-know-again to tell
«Ha! las, com doloros concire!
Ah weary how sorrowful council
«Com me devreit li cuers partir!
How to-me ought the heart to-break
«Plus hé mais vivre que morir.»
More I-hate more to-live than to-die

Antenor's Embassy

C

Antenor goes out to the Greeks with an olive branch and recounts Troy's misfortunes. Agamemnon, the king of Crete, Ulysses, and Diomedes plot the treason with him in a pavilion: Aeneas will keep his heritage and goods, and Antenor his goods and half of Priam's realm for one of his sons. He asks for a truce to bury the dead and for Penthesilea's body, and returns under the safe-conduct of the aged king Talthybius, whom he feasts. The next day, before the council, Antenor recalls that Greeks and Trojans share one ancestor, praises the Greeks' good faith, urges that Helen be returned and that the city ransom itself with its treasures and the temples' ornaments, and the people beg Priam to agree.

La cort se depart a itant. 24825
The court itself parts at that
Plore des ieuz le rei Priant:
Weeps from-the eyes the king Priam
paor a grant d'estre engeigniez.
fear he-has great of-being tricked
E cil s'est tost apareilliez:
And that-one himself-has soon prepared

sor les murs monte et sor l'eschive,
upon the walls he-climbs and upon the-parapet
en sa main tint un rain d'olive;
in his hand he-held a branch of-olive
pais mostre as Greus e seürtance,
peace he-shows to-the Greeks and assurance
e cil li ont fait demostrance
and those to-him have made demonstration
qu'a eus s'en isse toz seürs.
that-to them himself-thence he-may-go-out all secure
E Antenor ist fors des murs.
And Antenor goes out of-the walls
Benignement fu saluëz
Kindly he-was greeted
e receüz e honorez.
and received and honored
Entor lui est grant gent venue;
Around him is great folk come
chascuns le joïst e salue:
each him feasts and greets
de lui font los e diënt bïen
of him they-make praise and say well
qu'il est sages sor tote rien.
that-he is wise above all thing
Par lui, ç'ont bien amenteü,
By him that-have well recalled
ne lor est pas nul mal venu.
not to-them is at-all any ill come

Priënt qu'il die e qu'il espande
They-pray that-he may-say and that-be may-spread
a toz que il quiert e demande.
to all what he seeks and asks
«Seignor,» fait il, «une merveille —
Lords says he a marvel
«onc nus hom n'oï sa pareille —
ever any man not-heard its equal
«avient toz jorz a ceus de Troie,
happens all days to those of Troy
«que ja n'avront repos ne joie
that ever not-they-will-have rest nor joy
«ne grant prosperité ne pais.
nor great prosperity nor peace
«Bien oïstes come Herculès
Well you-heard how Hercules
«destruist cest regne e cest païs,
destroyed this realm and this country
«com Laomedon fu ocis,
how Laomedon was killed
«com ceste cité fu fondue,
how this city was razed
«robee e arse e abatue:
plundered and burned and thrown-down
«Senz forfait e senz acheison
Without misdeed and without occasion
«fu icele destrucion.
was that destruction
«Prianz icist, qui ert sis fiz,
Priam this-one who was his son

«chevaliers riches e hardiz,
knight rich and bold
«refist la vile noblement.
remade the town nobly
«Après li conseilla sa gent
After to-him counseled his folk
«qu'il enveiast sa soror querre
that-he should-send his sister to-seek
«Esiona en vostre terre,
Hesione into your land
«que Telamon de Salemine
whom Telamon of Salamis
«teneit vilment com sa meschine.
was-holding vilely as his servant-girl
«Jo meïsmes i fui tramis,
I myself there was sent
«mais mout trovai toz ceus eschis
but much I-found all those unwilling
«a cui j'en fis requerrement.
to whom I-thereof made request
«Il fust alé tot autrement,
It would-have gone all otherwise
«ço sacheiz bien, s'el fust rendue:
that know well if-she had-been rendered
«Ja puis guerre n'en fust meüe.
Ever after war not-thereof would-have-been moved
«Li reis aveit fiz merveillos
The king had sons marvelous
«e hardiz e chevaleros:
and bold and knightly

«Distrent ja ço ne soferreient,
They-said ever that not they-would-endure
«l'ire e la honte vengereient.
the-wrath and the shame they-would-avenge
«Assez en furent destorbé
Enough thereof they-were hindered
«e par mainz desamonesté,
and by many dissuaded
«mais ne lor pot estre toleit,
but not from-them could it-be taken
«qui qu'eüst tort ne qui que dreit.
who that-might-have wrong nor who that right
«Fait en sont puis li fier damage:
Done thereof are after the fierce harms
«Tant bel chevalier pro e sage
So-many fair knights valiant and wise
«e tant bon rei en sont ocis,
and so-many good kings thereof are killed
«e deserté tant bon païs.
and laid-waste so-many good countries
«Ja mais desci qu'al finement
Ever more until to-the end
«n'en sera fait restorement:
not-thereof will-be made restoration
«Tot ensi l'estoveit a estre.
All thus it-behooved to be
«Nostre seignor e nostre maistre
Our lord and our master
«m'ont ci endreit tramis a vos,
me-have here right sent to you

«de la pais faire desiros:
of the peace to-make desirous
«J'en sui venuz a vos parler,
I-thereof am come to you to-speak
«se vos i voudreiz atorner.
if you there would-wish to-turn
«Bien devreit ceste uevre aveir fin.
Well ought this work to-have end
«Cil qui erent jovne meschin
Those who were young lads
«sont or tuit vieil e tuit chenu.
are now all old and all hoary
«Soient des voz tant esleü
May-be of-the yours so-many chosen
«com vos plaira a ço traitier,
as to-you it-will-please to that to-treat
«quar ensi a ues e mestier.
for thus there-is need and necessity
«Puis nos traions a une part,
Then us let-us-draw to one side
«e si en prenons tel esguart,
and so thereof let-us-take such decision
«par quei remaigne cist contenz
by which may-remain this strife
«e que pais seit entre noz genz.»
and that peace be between our folk
Ceste parole fu graee;
This word was approved
sempres n'i ot plus demoree,
at-once not-there was more delay

ne pristrent terme ne respit:
nor they-took term nor respite
Agamennon i ont eslit,
Agamemnon there they-have chosen
le rei de Crete e Ulixès,
the king of Crete and Ulysses
e s'i refu Diomedès:
and so-there again-was Diomedes
ensi com reconte Ditis,
just as recounts Dictys
sor ces quatre fu l'esguarz mis.
upon these four was the-decision put
En un paveillon riche e bel,
In a pavilion rich and fair
dont l'aigle est d'or e le pomel
whose the-eagle is of-gold and the knob
e li paisson d'ivoire chier,
and the stakes of-ivory dear
s'en entrerent por conseillier.
themselves-thence they-entered for counseling
Longes paroles i ont faites,
Long words there they-have made
que bien ierent aillors retraites.
which well will-be elsewhere recounted
Porparlee ont la traïson,
Plotted they-have the treason
ensi com nos la vos diron,
just as we it to-you shall-tell

qu'Eneas ait tot quitement
that-Aeneas may-have all quit
tot l'erité qu'a lui apent
all the-heritage which-to him belongs
e son aveir, senz perdre rien,
and his goods without losing anything
e si li aseürent bien
and so to-him they-assure well
que de l'aveir comunal pris,
that of the-goods common taken
quant sera partiz e devis,
when it-will-be parted and divided
avra tel don e tel partie
he-will-have such gift and such share
qu'a toz les jorz mais de sa vie
that-to all the days more of his life
sera d'aveir enmanantiz,
he-will-be with-goods enriched
riches, comblez e repleniz.
rich filled and replenished
A Antenor ofrent e diënt
To Antenor they-offer and say
e bien li jurent e afiënt
and well to-him swear and pledge
que si aveir seront guardé
that his goods will-be kept
e que tuit cil seront quité
and that all those will-be quit

qu'il voudra e qu'a li tendront
whom-he will-wish and who-to him will-hold
e qui rien li apartendront;
and who anything to-him will-pertain
demi le regne al rei Priant,
half the realm of-the king Priam
tant come il tient e come est grant,
as-much as it holds and as it-is great
otreieront un de ses fiz: 24935
they-will-grant to-one of his sons
de ço se sont entrepleviz,
of that themselves they-have pledged-each-other
ensi aferment lor afaire.
thus they-confirm their affair
Del bien celer e del bien taire
Of-the well concealing and of-the well keeping-silent
les prie mout, e puis lor dit
them he-prays much and then to-them says
que une triuë e un respit 24940
that a truce and a respite
prengent entre eus e ceus dedenz,
they-should-take between them and those within
tant qu'enterree seit lor genz;
until-that buried be their folk
quar ç'avient bien e est mesure,
for that-befits well and is measure
que li mort aient sepouture.
that the dead may-have burial

Après ra fait tot son poëir
After again-he-has done all his power
del cors Panthesilee aveir:
of-the body (of-)Penthesilea to-have
mout en furent anceis preié
much thereof they-were before prayed
que il l'eüssent otreié.
than they it-would-have granted
Mais li haut prince e li demeine
But the high princes and the lords
donent la triuë a quel que peine,
give the truce at what that pain
tant qu'en terre seient li cors:
until-that in earth be the bodies
merciz lor en rent Antenors.
thanks to-them thereof renders Antenor
Congié prent d'eus, jo n'en sai plus.
Leave he-takes of-them I not-thereof know more
Mené en a Taltibius,
Led thence he-has Talthybius
un rei qui ert de grant aage
a king who was of great age
e qu'il teneient mout a sage:
and whom-they held much for wise
por sei covrir le lor a quis,
for himself to-cover him from-them he-has asked

e cil de l'ost li ont tramis
and those of the-host him-there have sent
en son conduit, que rien ne crienge
in his conduct so-that anything not he-may-fear
e que damages ne li vienge.
and that harm not to-him may-come
Quant Antenor s'en fu rentré
When Antenor himself-thence was re-entered
dedenz les murs de la cité,
within the walls of the city
chevalier, dames e puceles
knights ladies and maidens
li ont demandé queus noveles
to-him have asked what news
il lor aporte des Grezeis
he to-them brings from-the Greeks
ne s'avra pais Prianz li reis:
nor if-will-have peace Priam the king
«Seignor», fait il, «laissiez m'ester:
Lords says he let me-be
«N'est or pas lieus del reconter.
Not-is now at-all place of-the recounting
«Vespres est bas e nuit prochaine.
Evening is low and night near
«Demain, ainz que seit meriaine,
Tomorrow before that it-be noon
«porreiz oïr, se bon vos est,
you-will-be-able to-hear if good to-you it-is
«de que il sont guarni e prest,
of what they are furnished and ready

«qu'il requierent ne qu'il feront.»
what-they require nor what-they will-do
A tant departent, si s'en vont.
At that they-part so themselves-thence they-go
Cele nuit fu bien herbergiez,
That night was well lodged
bien honorez e essauciez
well honored and exalted
Taltibius, e Antenor,
Talthybius and Antenor
sacheiz, mout li fist grant honor.
know very to-him he-did great honor
Longement sistrent al soper.
Long they-sat at-the supper
Donc començа a sermoner
Then began to preach
danz Antenor toz ses enfanz
lord Antenor all his children
e ses prochains apartenanz
and his near kin
qu'il guardassent sor tote rien
that-they should-take-care above all thing
qu'o ceus de Grece fussent bien:
that-with those of Greece they-might-be well
en ço seit lor entendement.
in that be their understanding
Dit lor que soz ciel n'a tel gent:
He-tells them that under heaven not-is such folk

grant seürté, grant atendance
great surety great reliance
a en aveir lor bienvoillance:
there-is in having their goodwill
«Toz me sui,» fait il, «esbaïz
All myself I-am says he amazed
«del bel apel e des beaus diz
by-the fair address and by-the fair words
«e de l'onor que il m'ont faite.»
and by the-honor which they me-have done
Mainte chose lor a retraite
Many-a thing to-them he-has recounted
por son oste faire esjoïr
for his guest to-make rejoice
e por lui plus a gré servir.
and for him more at pleasure to-serve
Comande lor que l'endemain
He-commands them that the-next-day
seient el champ tuit premerain
they-be in-the field all first
son fil querre, quar pais avront
his son to-seek for peace they-will-have
tuit cil qui aler i voudront.
all those who to-go there will-wish
La nuit passa: le jor après,
The night passed the day after
se rassemblerent el palais
themselves they-reassembled in-the palace
comunaument cil de la vile.
in-common those of the town

Grant fu la cort e le concile.
Great was the court and the council
Ne sai que aloignasse plus:
Not I-know why I-should-prolong more
Antenor e Taltibius
Antenor and Talthybius
i vont, o eus Polidamas;
there go with them Polydamas
après i revint Eneas.
after there came-again Aeneas
Grant piece furent mu e quei:
Great while they-were mute and quiet
n'i a baron, prince ne rei,
not-there is baron prince nor king
en cui n'ait pro ire e deshait.
in whom not-is enough wrath and distress
Que vos fereie plus lonc plait?
Why to-you should-I-make more long plea
Li reis Prianz a comandé
The king Priam has commanded
que ço qu'Antenor a trové
that that which-Antenor has found
o ceus de Grece cont e die.
with those of Greece he-may-tell and say
La parole fu bien oïe.
The word was well heard

«Oëz,» fait il, «riche seignor,
Hear says he rich lords
«qui tant avez eü honor
who so-much have had honor
«e richeces e mananties,
and riches and wealth
«possessions e seignories:
possessions and lordships
«Ore estes tant de guerre afliz
Now you-are so-much by war afflicted
«e damagiez e apovriz
and harmed and impoverished
«qu'il n'i a nul qui ne s'en dueille
that-he not-there is any who not himself-thereof may-grieve
«e qui la pais, ço cuit, ne vueille.
and who the peace that I-think not may-wish
«Par l'acheison d'une moillier
By the-occasion of-a wife
«est avenu cest encombrier
is happened this trouble
«e ceste grant destrucion:
and this great destruction
«Onc mais par si faite acheison
Ever more by so made occasion
«n'avint el siegle tel damage.
not-happened in-the world such harm
«Seignor, nos somes del lignage
Lords we are of-the lineage
«rei Pelopis estrait e né:
(of-)king Pelops drawn and born

«Trestuit somes d'un parenté,
All we-are of-one kinship
«tuit descendons d'une ligniee
all we-descend from-one line
«que sor totes est essauciee,
which above all is exalted
«tuit venimes d'un ancessor.
all we-came from-one ancestor
«Mout deüst aveir grant amor
Much there-ought to-have great love
«entre Grezeis e Troïens.
between Greeks and Trojans
«Seignor, qui verra mais le tens
Lords who will-see more the time
«que un sol jor poissons cesser
that one single day we-may cease
«de faire duel ne de plorer?
of making grief nor of weeping
«Las! se jo n'en aveie plus
Weary if I not-thereof had more
«ne mais sol de mon fils Glaucus,
nor more only for my son Glaucus
«sin avreie jo trop en tant
so-thereof I-would-have I too-much in so-much
«que n'ier mais liez en mon vivant.
that not-I-shall-be more glad in my living
«Mort sont li frere e li nevo:
Dead are the brothers and the nephews
«N'avons nos ancor perdu pro?
Not-have we still lost enough

«Desire tant le rei Priant
Desires so-much the king Priam
«perdre cest chaitif remanant?
to-lose this wretched remnant
«Tost le porra aveir perdu,
Soon it he-will-be-able to-have lost
«s'autre conseiz n'en est creü.
if-other counsel not-thereof is believed
«L'angoissos resaziement
The-anguished surfeit
«e le mortel destruiement
and the mortal destruction
«dont tant par somes enoié,
whereof so very we-are wearied
«mort e lassé e travaillié,
dead and weary and travailed
«nos deit esforcier de pais faire.
us ought to-urge of peace to-make
«E tant vos sai jo bien retraire:
And so-much to-you I-know I well to-recount
«Mout par sont Greu de grant saveir,
Very very are Greeks of great wisdom
«de grant force e de grant poëir;
of great force and of great power
«mout guardent bien ço qu'il afiënt
much they-keep well that which-they pledge
«e ço qu'il prametent e diënt;
and that which-they promise and say
«mout ont les triuës bien tenues,
much they-have the truces well held

«onc par eus ne furent rompues;
ever by them not they-were broken
«onques ancor ne fu oïe
ever still not was heard
«lor traïson, lor tricherie.
their treason their trickery
«Veritel sont e gent leial,
Truthful they-are and folk loyal
«large, poissant e comunal.
generous mighty and common
«Jo ai parlé ensemble o eus:
I have spoken together with them
«Nes ai trovez cruëus ne feus
Not-them I-have found cruel nor fierce
«ne de combatre ataïnos,
nor of fighting eager
«come gent que si est sor nos
as folk who so is upon us
«e que si en est al desus.
and who so thereof is on-the top
«Seignor, tendreiz vos ancor plus
Lords will-hold you still more
«en ceste cité dame Heleine?
in this city lady Helen
«Iert toz jorz mais por li en peine
It-will-be all days more for her in pain
«e en dolor e en misere?
and in sorrow and in misery

«Soz ciel nen a fille ne mere
Under heaven not there-is daughter nor mother
«ne rien vivant que or seit nee
nor anything living which now be born
«que por li ne nos blast e hee.
that for her not us may-blame and may-hate
«Por li avreit tote gent joie,
For her would-have all folk joy
«se arse e fondue esteit Troie:
if burned and razed were Troy
«S'il ne la vousissent baillier,
If-they not her would-wish to-take
«sis en deüssons nos preier.
so-them thereof ought we to-pray
«Tant les avons nos ofenduz,
So-much them have we offended
«tant nos somes d'eus defenduz
so-much ourselves we-are against-them defended
«e esloigniez de lor amor
and distanced from their love
«que, seveaus non por ceste honor
that at-least not for this honor
«e por cest regne restorer,
and for this realm to-restore
«nos devrions bien racorder
we ought well to-reconcile
«o eus e reconciliier:
with them and to-reconcile-ourselves
«Sacheiz mout nos est grant mestier.
Know much to-us is great need

«De ceste laide ocision
Of this foul slaughter
«ne vos serai plus compaignon.
not to-you I-shall-be more companion
«Que que faceiz d'ore en avant,
What that you-may-do from-now on forward
«de mei vos di jo bien itant,
of me to-you I-say I well so-much
«qu'en tel lieu m'en voudrai aler,
that-into such place myself-thence I-shall-wish to-go
«ou jo n'en oie mais parler.
where I not-thereof may-hear more speak
«E qui porreit tant duel sofrir?
And who could so-much grief endure
«Mieuz nos vendreit a un morir
Better to-us would-come at one to-die
«que languir a si grant dolor.
than to-languish at so great sorrow
«Ha! las, ja vi jo ja tel jor,
Ah weary once saw I once such day
«tel tens, tel semaine e teus anz
such time such week and such years
«que la joie par ert si granz
that the joy very was so great
«en cest regne e en cest païs!
in this realm and in this country
«Nus n'i ert mornes ne pensis
Any not-there was mournful nor pensive
«ne deshaitiez ne doloros;
nor distressed nor sorrowful

«toz li pueples esteit joios
all the people was joyful
«e asazez e repleniz:
and sated and replenished
«Las! mais ore est si apovriz
Weary but now it-is so impoverished
«e si del tot aneientez!
and so from-the all brought-to-nothing
«Haï! Troie, noble citez!
Ah Troy noble city
«Qui vos vit e or vos verreit,
Who you saw and now you would-see
«ha! com poi s'i reconoistreit!
ah how little himself-there would-recognize
«Ja ne direit ço fusseiz vos.
Ever not he-would-say that you-were you
«Tant sont destreit e angoissos
So-much are distressed and anguished
«cil qui en vos estont e maignent,
those who in you stand and dwell
«ne vueil que ja plus m'acompaignent.
not I-wish that ever more me-they-may-accompany
«N'i ai cure de tant ester
Not-there I-have care of so-long staying
«que jos veïsse craventer,
that I-them should-see crash-down
«fondre e abatre e trebuchier.
collapse and be-thrown-down and tumble

«Li temple precios e chier
The temples precious and dear
«sont de sanc teint e mergoillié.
are with blood dyed and soaked
«Li deu n'ont mais de nos pitié,
The gods not-have more of us pity
«misericorde ne merci:
mercy nor grace
«Laissié nos ont e relenqui.
Left us they-have and forsaken
«Sacheiz de veir que nos n'avron
Know of truth that we not-shall-have
«ja mais par eus defension.
ever more through them defense
«Que porrions nos donc plus faire,
What could we then more do
«dès que li deu nos sont contraire?
from that the gods to-us are contrary
«Ne poons pas contre eus aler.
Not we-can at-all against them go
«Or seit tot ço laissié ester,
Now be all that let stand
«e si en seit teus esguarz pris,
and so thereof be such decision taken
«par que remaigne cist estris,
by which may-remain this strife
«que ne seient desherité
so-that not may-be disinherited
«li heir de nos estrait e né.
the heirs from us drawn and born

«Riches maisons e bien guarnies
Rich houses and well furnished
«e comblees de mananties
and filled with wealth
«a en ceste cité assez;
there-is in this city enough
«pro i a d'omes asazez,
enough there is of-men sated
«qui granz tresors ont e pleniers
who great treasures have and full
«e mout ont or cuit e deniers:
and much they-have gold refined and pennies
«Cil se traient a une part,
Those themselves may-draw to one side
«e si prengent si fait esguart
and so may-take so made decision
«que chascuns tant ofre e pramete
that each so-much may-offer and may-promise
«e chascuns tant del suen i mete
and each so-much of-the his there may-put
«que raienz en seit cist païs
that ransomed thereof be this country
«des mains as morteus enemis,
from-the hands of-the mortal enemies
«nos e noz vies rachatees,
we and our lives redeemed
«que mout avront cortes durees,
which much will-have short durations
«se ço tient auques ne se dure.
if that holds somewhat nor itself lasts

«Li temple sont a desmesure
The temples are beyond measure
«preciosement aorné:
preciously adorned
«S'il nos torne a necessité,
If-it us turns to necessity
«si en seit pris l'aornement,
so thereof be taken the-adornment
«l'or e les pierres e l'argent,
the-gold and the stones and the-silver
«si seit doné senz demorance
so be-it given without delay
«por pais aveir e por quitance.
for peace to-have and for quittance
«Des granz tresors qu'a nostre reis,
Of-the great treasures which-has our king
«ne de ço qu'ont li suen borgeis
nor of that which-have the his burgesses
«ne li suen citeain demeigne,
nor the his citizens own
«n'i ait ja rien: tot lor remaigne;
not-there may-be ever anything all to-them may-remain
«toz seit quites li lor aveirs.
all be quit the their goods
«Or pareisse ci sis saveirs,
Now may-appear here his wisdom
«sis sens e sa discrecion,
his sense and his discretion
«e vueille sa delivreison,
and may-he-wish his deliverance

«nostre rescosse e son salu.
our rescue and his safety
«Qui mais ne puet, bien est vencu.
Who more not can well is vanquished
«Il set toz noz esforz e veit:
He knows all our forces and sees
«Afebli somes e destreit,
Weakened we-are and distressed
«tant que n'osons mais fors eissir
so-much that not-we-dare more out to-go
«ne les portes de Troie ovrir.»
nor the gates of Troy to-open
Ço dist, ne plus. Donc fist semblant
That he-said not more Then he-made semblance
qu'angoisse e duel eüst mout grant;
that-anguish and grief he-had very great
d'andous les ieuz plore griefment.
from-both the eyes he-weeps grievously
Li pueples dit comunaument
The people says in-common
que mout a bon conseil doné.
that very he-has good counsel given
Ci ot maint grant sospir geté
Here was many-a great sigh thrown
e d'ieuz moilliee mainte face.
and with-eyes wet many-a face
A Priant priënt que il face
To Priam they-pray that he may-do
ço que l'om por bien li conseille,
that which one for good to-him counsels

si que fin seit de la merveille
so that end be of the marvel
e de l'ocise e de l'eissil
and of the-slaughter and of the-exile
25180 e del torment e del peril:
and of-the torment and of-the peril
«Ço feront tuit qu'Antenor dit:
That will-do all which-Antenor says
ja n'i avra grant ne petit,
ever not-there will-be great nor small
qui aveir ait, qui le reponge,
who goods may-have who it may-hide
que tot por pais aveir nel donge.»
that all for peace to-have not-it may-give

The Terms of Peace

CI

Priam tears his white hair, curses Fortune, and gives way: let them take his own goods first. Antenor and Aeneas are sent back to the Greeks. Glaucus is buried, and Penthesilea is drawn from the river, embalmed, and kept by Philemenis to carry home. Helen begs Antenor to plead for her. Ulysses and Diomedes come into the city, and the Greeks demand that Amphimachus be banished. A cry in the palace alarms the council. Antenor tells the two kings of the Palladium, the image sent from heaven that keeps Troy, and promises to obtain it through Theano, the priest who guards it. The Greeks demand five thousand bezants of gold, five thousand marks of silver, and grain for ten years, and Priam asks first for sureties of peace.

Quant la grant noise est trespassee
When the great noise is passed
e la cort rest aseüree,
and the court again-is reassured
Prianz li reis fait duel estrange,
Priam the king makes grief strange
si que tot le sen pert e change:
so that all the sense he-loses and changes
ses lons cheveus blans e chenuz
his long hair white and hoary
a o ses dous mains derompuz.
he-has with his two hands torn

Ensi angoissosement plore,
Thus anguishedly he-weeps
si se maudit e se devore
so himself he-curses and himself devours
que, ço dit bien, d'ire e duel
that that he-says well from-wrath and grief
li partireit li cuers, son vuel:
to-him would-break the heart by-his will
«Las!» fait il, «malaventuros!
Weary says he ill-fated
«Ne me sont mie haïnos
Not to-me are at-all hateful
«solement li deu soverain,
only the gods sovereign
«quar or n'ai ami si prochain
for now not-I-have friend so near
«qui de rien plaigne mon damage:
who of anything may-lament my harm
«Tuit me sont eschif e sauvage.
All to-me are shy and wild
«N'a ancor pas treis anz passez,
Not-is still at-all three years passed
«se cist conseiz me fust donez,
if this counsel to-me had-been given
«ainz qu'Ector mis fiz fust ocis,
before that-Hector my son were killed
«Troïlus li proz e Paris,
Troilus the valiant and Paris
«ço me fust granz profiz del faire:
that to-me would-be great profit of-the doing

«Mais or, quant ne puet estre maire
But now since not can be greater
«ma honte ne ma deshonor,
my shame nor my dishonor
«si me rachaterai des lor?
so myself I-shall-ransom from-the theirs
«Fiere uevre a ci a endurer.
Fierce work there-is here to endure
«Jo ne puis pas sous contrester
I not can at-all alone withstand
«vers eus ne vers vos, ço vei bien:
against them nor against you that I-see well
«Ço peise mei sor tote rien.
That grieves me above all thing
«Las! n'i a mais ou jo m'apui:
Weary not-there is more where I myself-lean
«Dès or conois bien ou jo sui.
From now I-know well where I am
«Haï! Fortune dolorose,
Ah Fortune sorrowful
«come estes pesme e tenebrose!
how you-are worst and dark
«Tant me fustes ja liee e bele,
So-much to-me you-were once glad and fair
«sor le plus haut de la roële
on the most high of the wheel
«m'aseïstes e me posastes;
me-you-set and me placed
«mais, puis que vos reporpensastes,
but since that you reconsidered

«trop laidement, senz demorer,
too foully without delaying
«me ravez fait jus devaler,
me you-again-have made down descend
«qu'el plus bas sui desoz voz piez,
so-that-in-the most low I-am beneath your feet
«povre, vis e desconseilliez,
poor vile and counsel-less
«senz espeir e senz atendance
without hope and without expectation
«d'aveir mais joie n'alejance,
of-having more joy nor-relief
«senz resordre, senz redrecier.
without rising-again without straightening
«Por ço me covient otreier
For that me behooves to-grant
«ço que cist seignor vuelent faire:
that which these lords wish to-do
«N'i avront plus par mei contraire.
Not-there they-will-have more from me opposition
«Com puet, si aut, quant mais n'en puis
How it-can so may-it-go since more not-thereof I-can
«e quant autre conseil n'en truis.
and since other counsel not-thereof I-find
«Le mien aveir prengent premier:
The my goods let-them-take first
«Ja mar m'en i lairont denier!
Ever ill to-me-thereof there they-will-leave penny
«Facent: mei l'estuet consentir.
Let-them-do me it-behooves to-consent

«Por ço que jo nel puis oïr,
For that that I not-it can hear
«m'en vois: il lor dongent senz mei.
myself-thence I-go they for-them may-give without me
«Facent la pais, e jo l'otrei.»
Let-them-make the peace and I it-grant
Ploros, pensis, muz e taisanz,
Weeping pensive mute and silent
ist del palais li reis Prianz:
goes-out from-the palace the king Priam
duel a, ne puet pas aveir maire.
grief he-has not can at-all to-have greater
E cil traitierent lor afaire:
And those treated their affair
esguardé ont comunaument
decided they-have in-common
qu'Antenor aut premierement
that-Antenor may-go first
a ceus de Grece, e si enquiere
to those of Greece and so may-inquire
tot lor voleir e lor maniere,
all their will and their manner
que ço sera qu'il requerront
what that will-be which-they will-require
ne que ço iert qu'il lor dorront.
nor what that will-be which-they to-them will-give
Eneas ont o lui tramis,
Aeneas they-have with him sent

ensi come Antenor a quis
just as Antenor has sought
e par son engin porchacié.
and by his craft pursued
Par les osteus sont repairié.
Through the lodgings they-are returned
Vespres ert bas e nuit prochaine:
Evening was low and night near
le jor orent trait mout grant peine
the day they-had endured very great pain
cil qui as cors furent alé
those who to-the bodies were gone
e qui les orent amassé
and who them had gathered
e ars e en la terre mis.
and burned and in the earth put
Glaucon, le fil Antenoris,
Glaucus the son of-Antenor
en aporterent si ami:
thence brought his friends
cele nuit l'ont enseveli
that night him-they-have buried
e plaint e ploré jusqu'al jor.
and lamented and wept until-the day
E cil qui l'amoënt d'amor —
And those who him-loved with-love
c'ert sis pere e Polidamas —
it-was his father and Polydamas
li firent faire un riche vas
for-him made make a rich vessel

de marbre vert e inde e pers:
of marble green and indigo and blue
la le couchierent tot envers;
there him they-laid all backward
sepouture ot bele e bien faite.
burial he-had fair and well made
Panthesilee refu traite
Penthesilea again-was drawn
del flun ou ele fu getee.
from-the river where she was thrown
En la vile fu aportee:
Into the town she-was brought
ja si granz dueus n'iert mais retrait
ever so great griefs not-will-be more recounted
com ses puceles en ont fait
as her maidens thereof have made
e come en firent Troïen.
and as thereof made Trojans
Embasmee fu bel e bien.
Embalmed she-was fairly and well
Puis que li monz fu estabiliz,
Since that the world was established
ne fu ne n'iert cors seveliz
not was nor not-will-be body buried
si richement n'a tel honor,
so richly nor-at such honor
n'ou tant eüst ne duel ne plor.
nor-where so-much there-might-have nor grief nor weeping
Portee en iert en son païs,
Carried thence she-will-be into her country

quar ne vueut pas Philemenis,
for not wishes at-all Philemenis
se la pais est, qu'il ne l'en meint:
if the peace is that-he not her-thence may-lead
mout la regrete e mout la plaint.
much her he-mourns and much her laments
Le cors a fait tant demorer
The body he-has made so-long tarry
qu'il oie a que voudra torner
until-he may-hear at what will-wish to-turn
cele uevre, s'il iert pais o guerre,
that work if-it will-be peace or war
qu'o li s'en ireit en sa terre:
that-with her himself-thence would-go into his land
ne por vivre ne por morir,
nor for living nor for dying
ne la voudra ja ainz guerpir.
not her he-will-wish ever before to-abandon
Cist parlement furent retrait
These parleys were recounted
a dame Heleine, que duel fait
to lady Helen who grief makes
estrange e pesme e doloros.
strange and worst and sorrowful
Par nuit, quant l'airs est tenebros,
By night when the-air is dark
vint belement e en requei
she-came quietly and in secret
preier, criër merci de sei:
to-pray to-cry mercy for herself

a Antenor dit bien espeire,
to Antenor she-says well she-hopes
e plusor li ont fait acreire,
and many to-her have made believe
qu'ele iert rendue son seignor.
that-she will-be rendered (to-)her lord
Vilment a honte e a dolor
Vilely to shame and to sorrow
crient qu'il la face desmembrer;
she-fears that-he her may-make dismember
por ço li vient merci criër:
for that to-him she-comes mercy to-cry
«Sire, se parlez as Grezeis,
Lord if you-speak to-the Greeks
«o les princes e o les reis,
with the princes and with the kings
«por Deu! si lor preiez de mei.»
for God so to-them pray for me
Fait Antenor: «Cel vos otrei,
Says Antenor That to-you I-grant
«que jo en pro vos en estace
that I in profit you thereof may-stand
«e que tot mon poëir en face.»
and that all my power thereof I-may-do
Ne voustrent cil plus demorer:
Not wished those more to-tarry
si tost com li jorz parut cler,
so soon as the day appeared clear

vindrent en l'ost; ceus demanderent
they-came into the-host those they-asked
o cui lor uevre porparlerent.
with whom their work they-plotted
Des comunes choses dedenz
Of-the common things within
fu entre eus granz li parlemenz:
was between them great the parley
tote la some de l'afaire
all the sum of the-affair
ont porparlee senz retraire.
they-have plotted without withdrawing
Granz preieres ont fait après
Great prayers they-have made after
coment dame Heleine eüst pais
how lady Helen might-have peace
e pardon envers son seignor
and pardon toward her lord
e seürtance entre les lor.
and assurance among the theirs
La traïson, come ele iert faite,
The treason how it would-be done
ont dite e parlee e retraite;
they-have said and spoken and recounted
après l'ont bien aseüree.
after it-they-have well assured
N'i ot puis autre demoree,
Not-there was after other delay
ne autre parole n'i font:
nor other word not-there they-make

pris ont congié, puis si s'en vont.
taken they-have leave then so themselves-thence they-go
O eus en meinent Ulixès
With them thence they-lead Ulysses
e avueques Diomedès,
and with Diomedes
par l'esguart del comun conseil.
by the-decision of-the common counsel
Ici n'ot fait autre apareil:
Here not-was made other preparation
en la cité sont repairié.
into the city they-are returned
Mout se firent Troïen lié,
Much themselves made Trojans glad
quant il les dous reis ont choisiz:
when they the two kings have espied
seürs cuident bien estre e fiz
sure they-think well to-be and certain
que de l'uevre seit pais e fin.
that of the-work be peace and end
Ancore esteit assez matin,
Still it-was enough early
quant li concires assembla
when the council assembled
e que toz li senez josta.
and when all the senate gathered
Par le conseil Antenoris,
By the counsel of-Antenor
ensi com reconte Ditis,
just as recounts Dictys

firent ço dire a Ulixès,
they-made that say to Ulysses
que ja o eus n'avreient pais
that ever with them not-they-would-have peace
ne plaiz n'en sereit escoutez,
nor plea not-thereof would-be heard
se del regne n'esteit getez
if from-the realm not-were thrown
Amphimacus, si faitement
Amphimachus so fashioned
que mais n'i ait repairement:
that more not-there may-be returning
ço vuelent Greu e ço requierent.
that wish Greeks and that they-require
Après parlerent e traitierent
After they-spoke and treated
coment il fussent bienvoillant.
how they might-be well-wishing
La ou le concire ert plus grant,
There where the council was most great
si sorst uns esfremissemenz,
so arose a trembling
une noise e uns criëmenz
a noise and a crying
granz e estranges a deslei
great and strange at disarray
d'a mont, del grant palais le Rei.
of-at above of-the great palace (of-)the King

Cil qui erent al parlement
Those who were at-the parley
cuiderent tot certainement
thought all certainly
que ço fussent li fil Priant,
that that were the sons (of-)Priam
si chevalier e si serjant,
his knights and his sergeants
qui les dous reis venissent prendre.
who the two kings might-come to-take
Senz plus ester, senz plus atendre,
Without more standing without more waiting
saillirent mainte comunal:
leapt-up many-a in-common
paor orent grant li vassal
fear had great the vassals
des testes perdre maintenant.
of-the heads to-lose now
Icil esfreiz remest a tant.
That alarm remained at that
Mout enquistrent que ç'ot esté,
Much they-inquired what that-had been
e quant içe fu trespassé,
and when that was passed
s'a pris Antenor les dous reis:
so-has taken Antenor the two kings
n'i ot plus homes fors eus treis.
not-there was more men except them three

En un arvol peint soutiument
In a vault painted subtly
se sont asis loinz d'autre gent:
themselves they-have sat far from-other folk
«Mout me travail,» fait il, «seignor,
Much myself I-labor says he lords
«come aveir puisse vostre amor,
how to-have I-may your love
«voz bienvoillances e voz grez:
your goodwills and your favors
«Conoistre e saveir le poëz.
Know and learn it you-can
«Une chose vos vueil gehir
A thing to-you I-wish to-confess
«e tot le segrei descovrir,
and all the secret to-uncover
«que ça enz est que nos sostient,
which here within is which us sustains
«que nos guarde, que nos maintient,
which us guards which us maintains
«par que nos avons atendance,
by which we have expectation
«defension e seürtance.
defense and assurance
«Ylus, li reis toz premerains
Ilus the king all first
«qui onques fust des Troïains,
who ever was of-the Trojans

«qui fonda Troie e Ylion
who founded Troy and Ilion
«e qui li emposa son non,
and who to-it imposed his name
«un jor, quant il establisseit
one day when he was-establishing
«Templum Minerve, qu'il faiseit, —
Templum Minervae which-he was-making
«n'ert ancor pas desus covert, — 25385
not-was still at-all above covered
«i vint del ciel tot en apert
there came from-the heaven all in open
«un signe fier e precios
a sign fierce and precious
«e sor toz autres merveillos.
and above all others marvelous
«Pallas, — ço ne mescreons mie, —
Pallas that not let-us-disbelieve at-all
«deuesse de chevalerie, 25390
goddess of chivalry
«li enveia por seürtance,
to-him sent for assurance
«que ja ne fussent en dotance
that ever not might-be in doubt
«li heir de perdre cest païs:
the heirs of losing this country
«Sacheiz del ciel i fu tramis.
Know from-the heaven there it-was sent

«De fust est faiz, mais ne sai dire
Of wood it-is made but not I-know to-say
«ne la façon ne la matire,
nor the fashion nor the matter
«com faitement fu manovrez
how fashioned it-was wrought
«e entailliez e compassez.
and carved and measured
«El temple s'asist de cler jor,
In-the temple itself-set of clear day
«veant toz, sor l'autel major:
seeing all on the-altar major
«Onques puis ne fu remuëz
Ever after not it-was moved
«ne atochiez ne adesez.
nor touched nor handled
«Apelez est Palladion:
Called it-is Palladium
«En si grant veneracion
In so great veneration
«est tenuz qu'en nule maniere
it-is held that-in any manner
«rien en terre n'avons si chiere.
anything on earth not-we-have so dear
«C'est l'esperance as Troïens,
It-is the-hope to-the Trojans
«c'est lor refuiz e toz lor biens:
it-is their refuge and all their good
«Bien est pramis, bien est sorti;
Well it-is promised well it-is allotted

«bien ont tuit li deu establi
well have all the gods established
«que par ço sera defendue
that by that will-be defended
«ceste cité, ja n'iert perdue,
this city ever not-will-be lost
«ne la Troïene ligniee
nor the Trojan line
«nul jor ne sera eissilliee,
any day not will-be exiled
«por qu'aient le Palladion.
provided that-they-may-have the Palladium
«Ço savons bien e ço creon,
That we-know well and that we-believe
«qui l'adesereit de sa main,
who it-would-touch with his hand
«que li celeste soverain
that the heavenly sovereigns
«le destruireient de maneis.
him would-destroy of forthwith
«Mais, s'en erent saisi Grezeis,
But if-thereof were seized Greeks
«qu'il fust sol fors des murs de Troie,
that-it were only outside the walls of Troy
«aveir porreient si grant joie
to-have they-could so great joy
«com cil qui tot avreient fait:
as those who all would-have done

«N'i avreit ja puis autre plait
Not-there would-be ever after other plea
«ne mais d'acomplir lor voleir.»
nor more of-fulfilling their will
Fait Ulixès: «Puet estre veir
Says Ulysses Can it-be true
«que ensi seit? — Oïl, senz faille.
that thus it-be Yes without fail
— Donc ne sai jo que ço nos vaille.
Then not know I what that to-us may-avail
«Quel parlement tendrions nos
What parley would-hold we
«ne o les autres ne o vos,
nor with the others nor with you
«quant rien ne nos porreit valeir?
since anything not to-us could avail
«Mais tant estes de grant saveir,
But so-much you-are of great wisdom
«sages, sciëntos e porvis,
wise knowing and provident
«se volez estre nostre amis
if you-wish to-be our friend
«ne faire rien que as Greus place,
nor to-do anything but to-the Greeks may-please
«senz ço que ja grant gent le sace,
without that that ever great folk it may-know

«le nos dorreiz: donc savrons bien
it to-us you-will-give then we-shall-know well
«qu'o nos estes sor tote rien
that-with us you-are above all thing
«a porchacier com biens nos vienge
in pursuing how good to-us may-come
«e coment cest afaire avienge. 25440
and how this affair may-befall
«Li grez par i sera si granz
The thanks very there will-be so great
«que toz referons voz talanz
that all we-shall-do-again your wishes
«e voz plaisirs, n'en dotez mie.»
and your pleasures not-thereof doubt at-all
Diomedès bien l'en afie,
Diomedes well to-him-thereof pledges
qui mout l'en prie e le losenge. 25445
who much him-thereof prays and him flatters
Fait Antenor: «Com qu'il m'en prenge,
Says Antenor How that-it to-me-thereof may-take
«ja seit ço que de toz meschiés
now be that that of all mischiefs
«est ço li maire e li plus griés,
is that the greatest and the most grievous
«jo le ferai, se fairel puis,
I it shall-do if to-do-it I-can
«se jo o Theano le truis. 25450
if I with Theano it find
«Theans le guarde nuit e jor:
Theano it guards night and day

«Prestre est sacrez, de grant valor;
Priest he-is consecrated of great valor
«n'iert ja eüz por nule rien,
not-it-will-be ever had for any thing
«se par lui non, ço sai jo bien.
if through him not that know I well
«Tornez vos en ore a itant,
Turn yourselves thence now at that
«e jo irai al rei Priant
and I shall-go to-the king Priam
«parler de ço que requerez
to-speak of that which you-require
«e de l'aveir que demandez.
and of the-goods which you-ask
«A covrir vers lui nos covient,
To cover toward him us it-behooves
«quar mout se dote e mout se crient.»
for much himself he-doubts and much himself he-fears
En l'ost des Greus joiant e lié
In the-host of-the Greeks joyful and glad
s'en sont li dui rei repairié.
themselves-thence are the two kings returned
E Antenor a ajosté
And Antenor has gathered
les hauz homes de la cité,
the high men of the city
Eneas e des autres tant,
Aeneas and of-the others so-many
dont la cort fu pleniere e grant.
whereof the court was full and great

Al rei Priant tot en oiance
To-the king Priam all in hearing
fu retraite la covenance
was recounted the covenant
e la requeste que font Gré:
and the request which make Greeks
«Cinc mil besanz d'or esmeré
Five thousand bezants of-gold refined
«e cinc mil mars d'argent senz leis
and five thousand marks of-silver without alloy
«bien esmeré e a bon peis
well refined and at good weight
«e par dis anz tot ensement
and for ten years all likewise
«cent mile charges de froment
hundred thousand loads of wheat
«vueut e requiert Diomedès.
wishes and requires Diomedes
«Reis Telamon e Ulixès,
King Telamon and Ulysses
«Agamennon e reis Nestor
Agamemnon and king Nestor
«tant requierent, n'i a tresor
so-much they-require not-there is treasure
«si grant un sol, qui que le guart,
so great a single whoever that it may-keep
«dont il nen aient la lor part.
whereof they not may-have the their share
«A esfondrer les nos estuet:
To empty them us it-behooves

«Maugré en ait qui mais n'en puet.
Ill-will thereof may-have who more not-thereof can
«Ço somes nos, n'en poons mais:
That are we not-thereof we-can more
«Ja autrement n'avrions pais.
Ever otherwise not-we-would-have peace
«Nos les avons tant defendu
We them have so-much defended
«e tant nos somes combatu
and so-much ourselves we-are fought
«que ne poons mais en avant.
that not we-can more on forward
— Ci n'a donc plus», ço dit Priant,
Here not-is then more that says Priam
«ne mais seit toz li aveirs pris,
nor more be all the goods taken
«demandez, porchaciez et quis
asked pursued and sought
«e de totes parz amassez;
and from all sides gathered
«mais anceis qu'il lor seit livrez
but before that-it to-them be delivered
«ne qu'il l'aient ne qu'il le tiengent,
nor that-they it-have nor that-they it may-hold
«seions seür que pais nos tiengent.»
let-us-be sure that peace to-us they-may-keep

The Palladium

CII

The ransom is gathered. While Antenor plots with Ulysses and Diomedes in Minerva's temple, the sacrifices will not burn, and an eagle snatches the offering and carries it to the Greek ships. Cassandra says Apollo is angered by his bloodied temple, and the offerings burn at Hector's tomb. That night Antenor bribes Theano, who lets him take the Palladium with his eyes hidden, and it is sent to Ulysses. Antenor asks the Greeks to protect him, and Ulysses promises friendship and sets his reward at two thousand bezants and as much silver from even the least of the kings. Calchas and Chryses declare that, to appease Minerva for her violated temple, a great horse must be made and presented to it, and Epeus is charged with building it.

Ensi fu li plaiz agraez,
Thus was the plea approved
qui ne pot estre trestornez.
which not could be overturned
Par grant esguart ont fait la mise:
By great decision they-have made the levy
quant el fu aünee e quise,
when it was gathered and sought
si granz aveirs ne fu veüz.
so great goods not was seen
Un jor qu'Ulixès fu venuz,
One day that-Ulysses was come
e li fiz Tydeüs o lui,
and the son (of-)Tydeus with him
parler a Antenor andui, —
to-speak to Antenor both
enz el temple Minerve esteient,
right in-the temple (of-)Minerva they-were

lor traïson establisseient,
their treason they-were-establishing
come a chief en porreient traire,
how to head thereof they-could draw
quar mout esteit grief chose a faire;
for much it-was grievous thing to do
danz Eneas la devisot,
lord Aeneas it was-devising
qui engeignos fu e mout sot, —
who crafty was and much knew
une merveille fiere e grant
a marvel fierce and great
avint iluec, lor ieuz veant,
happened there their eyes seeing
qu'un devin sacrefiement
for-a divine sacrificing
i voleient faire la gent:
there wished to-make the folk
granz i esteit li apareiz
great there was the preparation
e li ators e li conreiz;
and the arrays and the furnishings
des saintuaires plus preisiez
of-the relics most prized
ert li auteus pleins e chargiez.
was the altar full and loaded
Les sacrefises i poserent,
The sacrifices there they-placed
par maintes feiz les alumerent;
through many times them they-lit

mais onc li feus nes aluma,
but ever the fire not-them lit
ne rien n'i arst ne n'i tocha
nor anything not-there burned nor not-there touched
si come il soleit faire avant.
so as it was-wont to-do before
Ici ot signe fier e grant
Here was sign fierce and great
e mout grant noise e mout granz criz:
and very great noise and very great cries
toz li pueples fu esbaïz.
all the people was amazed
Por conoistre que ço mostrot
For knowing what that showed
e que tel rien senefiot,
and what such thing signified
e por saveir certainement
and for knowing certainly
tote la fin del parlement,
all the end of-the parley
corent senz eschars e senz ris
they-run without mockeries and without laughs
dreit a l'autel Apollinis.
straight to the-altar of-Apollo
Les entrailles e les boëles
The entrails and the bowels
de bestes masles e femeles
of beasts male and female

ront desus posé humblement
again-they-have upon placed humbly
e fait lor sacrefiement.
and made their sacrificing
Le feu ralument dedesoz,
The fire they-light-again beneath
mais quant qu'il font n'est bel ne proz:
but as-much as-they do not-is fair nor profit
la flambe esteint, rien n'i adeise.
the flame goes-out anything not-there touches
Ceus qui ço veient fortment peise.
Those who that see greatly it-grieves
A terre chiet, rien n'i remaint;
To earth it-falls anything not-there remains
chascuns sospire e plore e plaint:
each sighs and weeps and laments
ne se sevent vif conseillier.
not themselves they-know alive to-counsel
Roëz un signe pesme e fier,
Hear-again a sign worst and fierce
estrange, orrible e perillos,
strange horrible and perilous
qu'uns aigles granz e merveillos,
that-an eagle great and marvelous
criant, braiant uns si hauz criz
crying shrieking some so high cries
que près e loinz sont bien oïz,
that near and far they-are well heard

veant tot le pueple, saisi
seeing all the people seized
ço que de sor l'autel chaï;
that which from upon the-altar fell
le sacrefise en porte o sei.
the sacrifice thence it-carries with itself
Ici ot bien estrange esfrei:
Here was well strange alarm
as nes le pose en l'ost Grezeis.
to-the ships it it-places in the-host (of-)Greeks
Troïen ont crieme e sospeis,
Trojans have fear and suspicion
deshaitement e esmaiance:
distress and dismay
ços mist en si grant desperance
that-them put in so great despair
qu'onc puis ne fu ne lor fust vis
that-ever after not was nor to-them would-be seeming
que tuit erent traï e pris.
that all were betrayed and taken
Entre eus devinoënt sovent
Among themselves they-divined often
que ço mostrot destruiement
that that showed destruction
lait e estrange et mout prochain.
foul and strange and very near
Seür erent bien e certain
Sure were well and certain
li quatre vassal, senz doter,
the four vassals without doubting

que ço voleit senefiër:
what that wished to-signify
bien celoënt que nule rien
well they-concealed that any thing
n'i conoisseient, mal ne bien;
not-there they-knew ill nor good
grant semblant font que mout s'esfreient
great semblance they-make that much themselves-fear
de ço qu'il oënt e qu'il veient.
of that which-they hear and which-they see
Mout par ont, oiant toz, loëz
Much very they-have hearing all praised
les lieus devins sainz e sacrez
the places divine holy and sacred
ou si faites choses avienent.
where so made things happen
Merveillose parole en tienent
Marvelous word thereof hold
li Greu entre eus, ço que puet estre.
the Greeks among them what that can be
E danz Calcas, li sages maistre,
And lord Calchas the wise master
dit que li aigles a mostré
says that the eagle has shown
que seignor sont de la cité:
that lords they-are of the city
en ço n'a mais grant demorance.
in that not-is more great delay

Cil de Troie sont en errance
Those of Troy are in wandering
e en dolor e en deshait.
and in sorrow and in distress
Ecuba la reïne i vait
Hecuba the queen there goes
por l'ire as damedeus plaissier:
for the-wrath of-the lord-gods to-appease
faire lor vueut sacrefiier
to-make for-them she-wishes to-sacrifice
maiesmement Apollini,
especially to-Apollo
a Minerve tot autresi;
to Minerva all likewise
mout lor fait granz oblacions,
much to-them she-makes great oblations
e mout lor ofre riches dons.
and much to-them offers rich gifts
Desor l'autel resont esteinz
Upon the-altar again-are extinguished
li sacrefise, com dès ainz.
the sacrifices as from before
Li deu mostrent, chose provee,
The gods show thing proved
qu'il lor desplaist e desagree:
that-it to-them displeases and disagrees
ne receivent rien qu'om lor face.
not they-receive anything that-one for-them may-do

Cassandra priënt qu'el ne tace
Cassandra they-pray that-she not be-silent
ceste merveille, anceis lor die
this marvel rather to-them may-tell
que si faite uevre senefie.
what so made work signifies
Dit a a peine e enseignié
Said she-has with pain and taught
qu'Apollo est vers eus irié
that-Apollo is toward them angered
por son temple, qu'est violez
for his temple which-is violated
e laidement ensanglentez:
and foully bloodied
por ço refusot, c'ert reisons,
for that he-refused it-was reason
lor sacrefises e lor dons.
their sacrifices and their gifts
«Alez,» fait ele, «sis portez
Go says she so-them carry
«la ou Hector fu enterrez;
there where Hector was buried
«sis alumez, e si ardront
so-them light and so they-will-burn
«e li deu se rapaieront.»
and the gods themselves will-be-appeased
Or ne se sont plus delaié:
Now not themselves they-have more delayed
fait ont ço qu'ele a enseignié.
done they-have that which-she has taught

Li feus nen est pas la esteint,
The fire not is at-all there extinguished
anceis art tot quant qu'il ataint.
rather it-burns all as-much as-it reaches
Quant ço fu fait e acompli,
When that was done and fulfilled
par les osteus sont departi:
through the lodgings they-are parted
auques se sont raseüré;
somewhat themselves they-have reassured
grant joie ont, quant li damedé
great joy they-have since the lord-gods
se sont envers eus rapaié.
themselves are toward them appeased
Cele nuit n'i a plus targié
That night not-there has more delayed
danz Antenor. Oëz qu'il fait
lord Antenor Hear what-he does
e que Ditis conte e retrait:
and what Dictys tells and recounts
el temple Minerve est entrez;
in-the temple (of-)Minerva he-is entered
ja ert li cieus cler estelez.
already was the heaven clear starred
Thean, le prestre soverain
Theano the priest sovereign
qui en guarde aveit e en main
who in keeping had and in hand
le temple e le Palladion,
the temple and the Palladium

a li coilverz mis a reison:
has the knave put to reason
«Jo sui venuz,» fait il, «a tei,
I am come says he to thee
«e si te descuevre un segrei.
and so to-thee I-uncover a secret
«Li Greu m'ont preié e requis
The Greeks me-have prayed and required
«e tant doné e tant pramis
and so-much given and so-much promised
«de lor chiers aveirs precios,
of their dear goods precious
«ja tant ne vivrons mais nos dous
ever so-long not shall-live more we two
«que seions povres ne afliz:
that we-may-be poor nor afflicted
«Sor toz serons enmanantiz
Above all we-shall-be enriched
«e riches d'aveir e comblez.
and rich of-goods and filled
«Mais ço priënt, que seit emblez
But that they-pray that be stolen
«e livrez li Palladion.
and delivered the Palladium
«Ceste chose sor eus metron.
This thing upon them we-shall-put
«N'iert ja cuidé que l'aions fait
Not-it-will-be ever thought that we-it-have done
«ne ja n'iert conté ne retrait:
nor ever not-it-will-be told nor recounted

«Sor Ulixès sera tot mis,
Upon Ulysses will-be all put
«ja puis n'iert demandé ne quis.
ever after not-it-will-be asked nor sought
«Raient seront e pain querant
Ransomed will-be and bread seeking
«par cest païs tuit li manant
through this country all the dwellers
«e sofraitos e apovri,
and needy and impoverished
«e nos serons enmananti:
and we shall-be enriched
«Ja n'en avrai un sol denier
Ever not-thereof I-shall-have a single penny
«dont ne te face parçonier.
whereof not thee I-may-make partner
«Cist ne te sert ne ne te vaut:
This-one not thee serves nor not thee avails
«Que te grieve ne que te chaut,
What thee grieves nor what to-thee matters
«s'il l'ont, puis que la pais est faite?
if-they it-have since that the peace is made
«Ja n'en iert mais espee traite.
Ever not-thereof will-be more sword drawn
«Jo l'ai si quise e porparlee
I it-have so sought and plotted
«que lor gent s'en iert tote alee
that their folk themselves-thence will-be all gone
«desci qu'a uit jorz o a meins,
until that-to eight days or at less

«e nos serons comblez e pleins
and we shall-be filled and full
«de ço dont ja jor de ta vie
of that whereof ever day of thy life
«ne te vendreit force n'aïe.»
not to-thee would-come force nor-help
Theans s'en fait mout escurdos,
Theano himself-thereof makes much haughty
mout estranges, mout desdeignos;
much strange much disdainful
tote la nuit s'en fist preier,
all the night himself-thereof he-made pray
ainz qu'il li vousist otreier.
before that-he to-him would-wish to-grant
A mout grant peine li otreie:
With very great pain to-him he-grants
ses ieuz repont, que il nel veie,
his eyes he-hides so-that he not-it may-see
e Antenor l'ala saisir.
and Antenor it-went to-seize
Bien l'en deüst mesavenir:
Well to-him-thereof ought to-befall-ill
si feïst il par tel endreit —
so would-have-done he by such right
mais Minerve li consenteit —
but Minerva to-him was-consenting
que sempres perdist les dous ieuz.
that at-once he-might-lose the two eyes

En l'ost des Greus fu ainz li vieuz
In the-host of-the Greeks was rather the old-man
que il fust guaires resclarci;
than it were much brightened
as reis le dona e ofri.
to-the kings it he-gave and offered
Tot maintenant bien resconsé
All now well hidden
e bien estreit envolopé
and well tightly wrapped
l'ont tramis par feeus messages,
it-they-have sent by faithful messengers
par teus qui sont creanz e sages,
by such who are trustworthy and wise
a Ulixès, quin a grant joie,
to Ulysses who-thereof has great joy
quar dès or set que lor est Troie.
for from now he-knows that theirs is Troy
O mout grant veneracion,
With very great veneration
estoia le Palladion:
he-stowed the Palladium
ne retraireit nus hom humains
not would-recount any man human
la grant joie dont il est pleins.
the great joy whereof he is full
Al main, quant li jorz parut cler,
In-the morning when the day appeared clear
ront lor conseil fait assembler:
again-they-have their council made assemble

mout par fu plenier cel concire.
very very was full that council
Donc lor prist Antenor a dire:
Then to-them took Antenor to say
«Seignor,» fait il, «jo vos di bien
Lords says he I to-you say well
«que haïz sui sor tote rien
that hated I-am above all thing
«del rei Priant e de sa gent,
by-the king Priam and by his folk
«por ço qu'o vos tieng parlement.
for that that-with you I-hold parley
«En iço met tot mon poëir,
In that I-put all my power
«qu'empli seient vostre voleir.
that-fulfilled may-be your will
«Par mei e par le mien porchaz
By me and by the my pursuit
«vos apareil a toz e faz
for-you I-prepare to all and make
«com chascuns ait ço qu'il demande.
how each may-have that which-he asks
«Ainz qu'autre novele s'espande,
Before that-other news itself-may-spread
«vos vueil preier que me guardeiz
you I-wish to-pray that me you-may-keep
«e que leiaument vos teigneiz
and that loyally yourselves you-may-hold
«en ço que nos avons parlé,
in that which we have spoken

«fait e pramis e devisé.»
done and promised and devised
Fait Ulixès: «Seürement
Says Ulysses Securely
«seiez: mar dotereiz neient.
be ill you-will-fear nothing
«Sacheiz nos vos serons ami:
Know we to-you shall-be friends
«Ja ne vos iert de rien menti
Ever not to-you will-be of anything lied
«que vos aions en covenant.
what you we-may-have in covenant
«Tuit vos serons mais bienvoillant;
All to-you we-shall-be more well-wishing
«chascuns de nos par bone fei
each of us by good faith
«vos guardera mais come sei.
you will-keep more as himself
«Pensez de ceste uevre achever,
Think of this work to-achieve
«si nos remetrions en mer,
so us we-would-put-again to sea
«si ririons en noz païs,
so we-would-go-again into our countries
«quar trop avons ci iluec sis.
for too-long we-have here there sat
«Dites la definicion,
Tell the definition

«e après si parfineron
and after so we-shall-finish
«com ço seit acompli e fait.»
how that may-be fulfilled and done
E Ulixès dit e retrait
And Ulysses says and recounts
que cil qui meins avra des reis
that he who least will-have of-the kings
doint dous mil besanz a bon peis
may-give two thousand bezants at good weight
e autretant de fin argent.
and as-much of fine silver
Seignor, ensi faitierement
Lords thus fashioned
fu li Palladion emblez.
was the Palladium stolen
Quant Antenor s'en fu alez,
When Antenor himself-thence was gone
sil fist aporter li comuns,
so-it made bring the commons
si que le pot veeir chascuns.
so that it could see each
Parlé en ont e grant los fait,
Spoken thereof they-have and great praise made
e diënt tuit que bien lor vait.
and they-say all that well to-them goes
Grant joie ont fait e festivé,
Great joy they-have made and feasted
e Calcas a amonesté,
and Calchas has exhorted

il e Crisès, qu'il sacrefiënt.
he and Chryses that-they may-sacrifice
Après lor comandent e diënt
After to-them they-command and say
por le temple qu'ert violez,
for the temple which-was violated
dont li Pallades ert emblez,
whence the Palladium was stolen
que Minerve n'en seit iriee,
so-that Minerva not-thereof be angered
seit une chose apareilliee
be a thing prepared
grant, en semblance de cheval, —
great in semblance of horse
ço voustrent tuit, jo n'en sai al, —
that wished all I not-thereof know else
e comandent, quant il iert faiz,
and they-command when it will-be made
qu'a force seit menez e traiz,
that-by force it-be led and drawn
tant qu'al temple seit presentez
so-long that-to-the temple it-be presented
dont li Pallades fu emblez.
whence the Palladium was stolen
A ço fu quis danz Epius:
To that was sought lord Epeus
preié li ont, jo n'en sai plus,
prayed to-him they-have I not-thereof know more
qu'il traie a chief de ceste ovraigne;
that-he may-draw to head of this work

e Crisès li dit e enseigne
and Chryses to-him says and teaches
come ele iert faite e establie.
how it will-be made and established
E cil a si l'uevre envaïe
And he has so the-work undertaken
qu'onc puis ne ainz ne fu tel faite:
that-ever after nor before not was such made
quant la chose vos iert retraite,
when the thing to-you will-be recounted
a grant merveille vos torra.
at great marvel to-you it-will-turn

The Wooden Horse

CIII

The allies who survived leave Troy rather than share its shameful peace, and Philemenis carries Penthesilea home, where she is buried magnificently; for this he and his heirs receive three maidens a year from her country. The oaths are sworn outside the walls, the Greek kings passing between two sacrifices, and Priam commends Helen to them. The Greek princes ask that a gift be presented to Minerva; Priam is silent, but Aeneas and Antenor win his consent. The horse is drawn on wheels to the gates, and since it will not pass, the Trojans tear down the walls Neptune built. Ulysses demands the payment first, and the horse is drawn in amid rejoicing.

Li granz concires rassembla
The great council reassembled
a l'endemain defors les murs:
at the-next-day outside the walls
la voust estre Prianz seürs
there wished to-be Priam sure
que pais li tiengent ferme e saine.
that peace to-him they-may-keep firm and sound
Li rei, li prince e li demeine
The kings the princes and the lords
qui de mort furent eschapé
who from death were escaped
virent que cil de la cité
saw that those of the city
faiseient plait vil e hontos
were-making plea vile and shameful
e a lor ues trop vergondos.
and to their need too shameful

Del rei Priant pristrent congié,
Of-the king Priam they-took leave
alé s'en sont e repairié:
gone themselves-thence they-are and returned
ne voleient estre apelé
not they-wished to-be called
al jor qui ert aterminé,
to-the day which was appointed
qui por jurer ert establi,
which for swearing was established
qu'il ne fussent del tot honi.
that-they not might-be of-the all shamed
Cil s'en partent: com qu'il estace
Those themselves-thence part how that-it may-stand
a ceus cui l'ost des Greus manace,
to those whom the-host of-the Greeks threatens
qui remainent en la cité,
who remain in the city
icil lor sont mais eschapé;
these from-them are more escaped
totes ont de guaaing lor vies.
all they-have of gain their lives
S'il sojornassent les treis dies,
If-they had-stayed the three days
mort fussent tuit e detrenchiez,
dead they-would-be all and cut-to-pieces
ja d'eus toz nen eschapast piez.
ever of-them all not would-have-escaped foot

Vait s'en li reis Philemenis
Goes himself-thence the king Philemenis
mout angoissos e mout pensis:
very anguished and very pensive
de dous mil chevaliers de pris
of two thousand knights of prize
n'en meine que nuef cenz e dis.
not-thence he-leads but nine hundred and ten
Cist en conduit Panthesilee,
This-one thence conducts Penthesilea
que tant fu proz e honoree
who so-much was valiant and honored
que, desci qu'a la fin del mont,
that until to the end of-the world
sor totes celes qui naistront
over all those who will-be-born
sera retraite sa proëce
will-be recounted her prowess
e sa valor e sa hautece.
and her valor and her highness
En un bel curre emperial
In a fair chariot imperial
d'or e de pierres a esmal,
of-gold and of stones with enamel
qui plus valeit de dous citez,
which more was-worth than two cities
fu li cors mis bien embasmez:
was the body put well embalmed

ne por esté ne por chalor
nor for summer nor for heat
n'en poëit eissir male olor.
not-thence could go-out evil smell
De ses puceles honorees,
Of her maidens honored
dont ele aveit mil amenees,
whereof she had thousand brought
n'en tornerent que quatre cent
not-thence turned but four hundred
e trente set, mien esciënt:
and thirty seven to-my knowledge
celes font duel desmesuré.
those make grief measureless
En un des plus lons jorz d'esté,
In one of-the most long days of-summer
nos porreit l'om pas aconter,
not-to-you could one at-all recount
ainz que venist a l'enterrer,
before that it-might-come to the-burying
del cors ço qu'il en ot esté,
of-the body that which-there thereof had been
qu'onc ne fu nus tant regreté
that-ever not was any so-much mourned
ne plaint si dolorosement.
nor lamented so sorrowfully

Sepouture ot e monument
Burial she-had and monument
tel que, se Plines esteit vis
such that if Pliny were alive
ne cil qui fist Apocalis,
nor he who made Apocalypse
nel vos porreient il retraire:
not-it to-you could they recount
por ço, si m'en covient a taire.
for that so to-me-thereof it-behooves to be-silent
N'en dirai plus, quar n'osereie:
Not-thereof I-shall-say more for not-I-would-dare
trop haute chose envaïreie.
too high thing I-would-undertake
Philemenis, qui l'ot guardee
Philemenis who her-had kept
e en son païs amenee,
and into his country brought
en ot loier e guerredon
thereof had wage and reward
itel com nos le vos diron,
such as we it to-you shall-tell
qu'il, e sis heirs e sis lignages,
that-he and his heirs and his lineage
treis puceles beles e sages
three maidens fair and wise
avra mais par an del païs:
will-have more by year from-the country
ensi fu puis e iert toz dis.
thus it-was after and will-be all days

Ne vueil la chose porloignier:
Not I-wish the thing to-prolong
a l'endemain, senz plus targier,
at the-next-day without more delay
ont fait porter les saintuaires
they-have made carry the relics
defors les murs, en unes aires.
outside the walls into some threshing-floors
La sont aüné li Grezeis,
There are gathered the Greeks
s'i est eissuz Prianz li reis,
so-there is gone-out Priam the king
il e sa gent comunaument;
he and his folk in-common
la sont juré li sairement,
there are sworn the oaths
la sont retrait li covenant.
there are recounted the covenants
Diomedès jura avant,
Diomedes swore before
o Ulixès son compagnon,
with Ulysses his companion
par si faite condicion
by so made condition
que ço tiengent e en ço maignent,
that that they-may-hold and in that may-remain
que ja nel quassent ne nel fraignent,
that ever not-it they-may-shatter nor not-it may-break
qu'o Antenor ont porparlé:
which-with Antenor they-have plotted

ensi l'ont plevi e juré.
thus it-they-have pledged and sworn
Après jure Idomeneüs,
After swears Idomeneus
Thoas e reis Emelius;
Thoas and king Emelius
jura Nestor e Menelaus
swore Nestor and Menelaus
e reis Telamon Aïaus;
and king Telamonian Ajax
jura Neptolemus li proz,
swore Neoptolemus the valiant
e li autre riche rei toz.
and the other rich kings all
De ç'ert reis Jupiter guarant,
Of that-was king Jupiter warrant
e tuit li autre deu poissant,
and all the other gods mighty
soleiz e lune e terre e mer.
sun and moon and earth and sea
Iluec orent fait alumer
There they-had made light
dous sacrefises departiz.
two sacrifices parted
Faiz i erent e establiz
Made there they-were and established
por ço, que tuit cil qui juroënt
for that that all those who were-swearing
par entredous s'entrepassoënt:
through between-two passed

ço esteit signe e demostrance
that was sign and demonstration
qu'il tenissent la covenance.
that-they would-hold the covenant
Si firent il, quar Eneas
So did they for Aeneas
e Antenor, li vieuz Judas,
and Antenor the old Judas
l'orent en tel sen porparlé
it-had in such sense plotted
que pas ne se sont parjuré,
that at-all not themselves they-have perjured
ço cuident bien e lor est vis.
that they-think well and to-them it-is opinion
Après, ço que Greu ont requis,
After that which Greeks have required
ront a ceus dedenz fait jurer
again-they-have to those within made swear
que ço tendreient senz fauser:
that that they-would-hold without falsifying
içо firent seürement.
that they-did securely
Quant furent fait li sairement,
When were made the oaths
trestoz li pueples s'en fist liez:
all the people itself-thereof made glad
joïz se sont e embraciez;
feasted themselves they-have and embraced
li uns vers l'autre s'umelie.
the one toward the-other himself-humbles

Prianz li reis n'oblia mie
Priam the king not-forgot at-all
que d'Eleine — dont mout fist bien — 25855
that of-Helen whereof much he-did well
ne les preiast sor tote rien,
not them he-should-pray above all thing
e dit que sor celes del mont,
and says that above those of-the world
que sont nees ne que naistront,
who are born nor who will-be-born
la tient il a la plus senee.
her holds he for the most wise
Merveilles la lor a loëe, 25860
Marvels her to-them he-has praised
merveilles lor dit bien de li:
marvels to-them he-says well of her
«A toz,» fait il, «requier e pri
To all says he I-require and pray
«que ne li faceiz deshonor.»
that not to-her you-do dishonor
Li rei, li prince e li contor
The kings the princes and the counts
li ont preié, dit e requis, 25865
to-him have prayed said and required
qu'ainz qu'il torgent en lor pais,
that-before that-they turn into their country
face Minerve presenter
he-may-make to-Minerva present
un don qu'il li font aprester:
a gift which-they for-her make prepare

«Nostre evesque,» font il, «nos diënt
Our bishops say they to-us say
«e bien nos jurent e afiënt
and well to-us swear and pledge
«que toz nos neiereit tormenz,
that all us would-drown storm
«se ne li ert faiz li presenz.
if not to-her were made the present
«A nos iert proz e a vos maire,
To us it-will-be profit and to you greater
«quar c'est tel uevre e tel afaire,
for it-is such work and such affair
«par que Troie iert mais honoree:
by which Troy will-be more honored
«Onc, dès l'ore qu'el fu fondee,
Ever from the-hour that-she was founded
«n'i entra rien qu'a ço montast
not-there entered anything that-to that amounted
«ne dont ele tant essauçast.
nor whereby she so-much might-be-exalted
«Minerve vueut e quiert cest don:
Minerva wishes and seeks this gift
«O joie e o procession
With joy and with procession
«le recevez, qu'ensi li plaist.»
it receive for-thus to-her it-pleases
Prianz li reis a ço se taist:
Priam the king at that himself silences
ne respont rien ne mot ne sone.
not answers anything nor word not sounds

Mais Eneas l'en areisone
But Aeneas him-thereof addresses
e Antenor, qui li font faire:
and Antenor who to-him make it-do
otreié lor fu senz contraire.
granted to-them it-was without opposition
Ensi departirent le jor.
Thus they-parted the day
Mout par sont lié li traïtor,
Very very are glad the traitors
e li pueples comunaument:
and the people in-common
cuident de veir certainement
they-think of truth certainly
que par lor diz e par lor faiz
that by their sayings and by their deeds
seit la cité de Troie en paiz.
may-be the city of Troy in peace
Ha! las, com mar l'ont porparlee!
Ah weary how ill it-they-have plotted
Li Greu n'i font plus demoree,
The Greeks not-there make more delay
mais la merveille, n'en sai plus,
but the marvel not-thereof I-know more
qu'ot faite e dreciee Epius,
which-had made and erected Epeus
sor roës forz e granz e dures
on wheels strong and great and hard
ont sus levee les faitures,
they-have up raised the fashionings

li laz e li entravement.
the laces and the bindings
Adonc s'i prist tote la gent
Then itself-there took all the folk
comunaument, qu'uns ne s'en feint;
in-common that-one not himself-thereof feigns
chascuns i trait, bote e empeint.
each there draws pushes and thrusts
A mout grant peine est l'uevre traite
With very great pain is the-work drawn
qu'en forme de cheval est faite:
which-in form of horse is made
si est haute, si par est grant
so it-is high so very it-is great
que ne l'esguarde rien vivant
that not it-beholds anything living
que n'ait merveille e que ne die:
that not-may-have marvel and that not may-say
«Com si faite uevre fu bastie!»
How so made work was built
O sons, o estrumenz, o baus,
With sounds with instruments with dances
fu amenez jusqu'as portaus,
it-was brought until-to-the gateways
e cil dedenz refestivoënt,
and those within feasted-again
qui lor grant joie i esperoënt.
who their great joy there hoped

O merveillos dediëmenz
With marvelous dedications
e o granz sacrefiemenz
and with great sacrificings
li alerent encontre fors;
to-it they-went toward outside
mais tant ot grant e haut le cors
but so-much it-had great and high the body
que portes n'i valurent rien.
that gates not-there availed anything
E quant ço virent Troïien,
And when that saw Trojans
conseil pristrent que des terraus
counsel they-took that from-the earthworks
abatreient les granz muraus,
they-would-fell the great walls
les beaus, les genz, que Neptunus
the fair the noble which Neptune
ot fait, mil anz aveit e plus,
had made thousand years there-were and more
e qu'Apollo ot dediié.
and which-Apollo had dedicated
Ha! las, com se sont engeignié!
Ah weary how themselves they-have tricked
Com malement sont deceü!
How badly they-are deceived
Quant li mur furent abatu,
When the walls were thrown-down
s'a Ulixès parlé as suens:
so-has Ulysses spoken to-the his

«Dès or,» fait il, «est lieus e tens,
From now says he it-is place and time
«senz targier e senz demorer,
without delaying and without tarrying
«des aveirs querre e demander.
of-the goods to-seek and to-ask
«Dementres qu'ensi est l'afaire,
While that-thus is the-affair
«ne lor laisserons mais refaire
not to-them we-shall-let more remake
«les murs, n'enz tirer le cheval,
the walls nor-in to-draw the horse
«desci que tuit nostre vassal
until that all our vassals
«aient lor dons e lor loiers,
may-have their gifts and their wages
«que ja n'en faille uns sous deniers.»
that ever not-thereof may-fail one single penny
Ço fu crïé, ço fu requis.
That was cried that was required
Cil, qui sont fol e entrepris,
Those who are mad and caught
l'ont tot livré: c'est dueus e maus.
it-have all delivered it-is grief and ill
Adonc fu enz traiz li chevaus
Then was in drawn the horse
o si grant veneracion
with so great veneration
e o si grant procession
and with so great procession

qu'om ne set pas conter la joie
that-one not knows at-all to-tell the joy
que de lor mort font cil de Troie.
which of their death make those of Troy

The Sack of Troy

CIV

The fleet is refitted with Troy's tribute. The Greeks leave Helen out of the bargain and pretend to sail to Sigeum, burning their lodges. That night they return armed at Sinon's fire signal from within the horse, and enter the breached walls while the city sleeps. The slaughter spares neither mothers nor infants, and the traitors' houses are guarded. Cassandra flees to Minerva's temple. Antenor and Aeneas lead the Greeks into Ilion, and Pyrrhus kills Priam before Apollo's altar. Hecuba curses Aeneas and begs him to save Polyxena, and he carries her off. Menelaus takes Helen unharmed. Those in the temples are dragged out and killed, but Oilean Ajax spares Andromache and Cassandra, and the city is burned and leveled.

Entre tant dis fu li navies
Between so-much while was the fleet
rafaitiez e les nes guarnies.
refitted and the ships furnished
Li granz aveirs, li granz treüz,
The great goods the great tribute
qui de Troie lor est renduz,
which from Troy to-them is rendered
i est portez, chargiez e mis.
there is carried loaded and put
Un estrange conseil ont pris,
A strange counsel they-have taken

que Heleine pas ne prendreient
that Helen at-all not they-would-take
desci que la cité avreient
until that the city they-would-have
prise e guastee, arse e fondue;
taken and wasted burned and razed
quar, s'il l'aveient receüe,
for if-they her-had received
lait sereit puis e honte e tort
foul it-would-be after and shame and wrong
que il la livrassent a mort:
that they her should-deliver to death
e il vuelent qu'el seit dampnee.
and they wish that-she be damned
Ço desplaist mout e desagree
That displeases much and disagrees
a Menelau, ços di jo bien,
to Menelaus that-you I-say I well
mais il n'en puet faire autre rien:
but he not-thereof can do other anything
por lui n'en sereit plus ne meins.
for him not-thereof it-would-be more nor less
Mout en fu vers eus d'ire pleins.
Much thereof he-was toward them with-wrath full
A creire ont fait par coverçon
To believe they-have made by cover
al rei Priant qu'a Sigeön
to-the king Priam that-to Sigeum
conduireient lor compaignies,
they-would-lead their companies

totes lor genz e lor navies:
all their folk and their fleets
«Donc trametront por dame Heleine,
Then they-will-send for lady Helen
quar ne vuelent li chevetaine
for not wish the chieftains
que li pueples comuns la veie.
that the people common her may-see
N'i a nul haïr ne la deie,
Not-there is any hate not her may-ought
quar il ont par li perdu tant
for they have through her lost so-much
que soz ciel nen a rien vivant
that under heaven not there-is anything living
que de mort la poüst guarir,
that from death her could save
s'entre eus la poëient tenir.
if-among them her they-could hold
Celeement i trametront.»
Secretly there they-will-send
Ensi l'engignent, ensi font;
Thus him-they-trick thus they-do
ço vueut bien Prianz e otreie.
that wishes well Priam and grants
Dès or se metent a la veie.
From now themselves they-put to the way
Quant lor buens orent acompliz
When their pleasures they-had fulfilled
e li navies fu guarniz,
and the fleet was furnished

si ont les loges alumees:
so they-have the lodges lit
de Troie en veit om les fumees.
from Troy thence sees one the smokes
Mout i erent grant li atrait
Very there were great the gatherings
que il aveient de loinz fait.
which they had from far made
Mout s'i erent bien herbergié,
Much themselves-there they-were well housed
bien atorné e bien logié:
well arrayed and well lodged
volentiers i ont les feus mis,
willingly there they-have the fires put
si com dit Daires e Ditis.
so as says Dares and Dictys
Dès or n'i sont plus demoré:
From now not-there they-are more tarried
des porz se sont desaancré;
from-the ports themselves they-have unanchored
vont s'en a joie e a baudor.
they-go themselves-thence at joy and at gladness
Trei mile veiles de color
Three thousand sails of color
i pareissent sor maz dreciees,
there appear on masts raised
de dras de seie entreseigniees.
of cloths of silk emblazoned
Cil de Troie mout s'esjoïssent,
Those of Troy much rejoice

quant en mi la mer les choisissent:
when in midst the sea them they-espy
a Deu priënt qu'il les torment,
to God they-pray that-he them may-storm
qu'il les peceit, qu'il les cravent,
that-he them may-shatter that-he them may-crush
si que la mer toz les sorbisse
so that the sea all them may-swallow
e que nus nen eschat ne isse,
and that any not escape nor go-out
quar laidement les ont gregiez,
for foully them they-have grieved
morz e destruiz e eissilliez.
dead and destroyed and exiled
Quos en fereie lonc sermon?
Why-you thereof should-I-make long sermon
Le jor vindrent a Sigeön:
The day they-came to Sigeum
n'alerent plus, iluec tornerent;
not-they-went more there they-turned
de haut vespre s'i aancrerent.
of high evening themselves-there they-anchored
Mout sont joiant, mout sont haitié.
Very they-are joyful very they-are glad
La nuit, quant il orent mangié,
The night when they had eaten
si se resont apareillié,
so themselves again-they-are prepared
ariere as porz sont repairié.
back to-the ports they-are returned

Des nes eissirent as chans fors,
From-the ships they-went-out to-the fields outside
puis armerent mout bien lor cors
then they-armed very well their bodies
de bones armes maintenant.
with good arms now
Grant piece avant que li jaus chant,
Great while before that the cock sing
furent guarni e apresté;
they-were furnished and made-ready
puis chevauchent vers la cité.
then they-ride toward the city
Lor signe virent parissant:
Their sign they-saw appearing
c'ert un grandisme feu ardant,
it-was a very-great fire burning
que Sinon alumé aveit,
which Sinon lit had
qui dedenz le cheval esteit.
who within the horse was
Ensi li orent comandé,
Thus to-him they-had commanded
quant il orreit que la cité
when he would-hear that the city
sereit aseüree e queie:
would-be reassured and quiet
donc se metreient a la veie.
then themselves they-would-put to the way
C'ert o les traïtors empris.
It-was with the traitors undertaken

Haï! Prianz, dolenz, chaitis,
Ah Priam doleful wretch
com mal reguart prenez de vos!
how ill heed you-take of yourself
Par la vile furent joios
Through the town they-were joyful
de ço qu'alé s'en sont Grezeis:
of that that-gone themselves-thence are Greeks
n'ont mais ne crieme ne sospeis
not-they-have more nor fear nor suspicion
ne dotance de nule part;
nor doubt from any side
il n'i aveient pas reguart,
they not-there had at-all heed
a cele feiz, d'ome vivant.
at that time of-man living
Travail aveient eü grant,
Travail they-had had great
dolor e peine e esmaiance:
sorrow and pain and dismay
or por la pais, por l'alejance
now for the peace for the-relief
erent de dormir desiros
they-were of sleeping desirous
e de reposer coveitos.
and of resting covetous
O ço qu'assez beü aveient
With that that-enough drunk they-had
e que nule rien ne cremeient,
and that any thing not they-feared

s'erent couchié e endormi:
so-they-were lain-down and asleep
n'i aveit home resperi.
not-there was man awake
Greu troverent les murs fonduz
Greeks found the walls razed
e peceiez e abatuz,
and broken and thrown-down
por la merveille qu'i ert faite,
for the marvel which-there was made
qu'il orent enz tiree e traite.
which-they had in pulled and drawn
Vint mile d'eus i a entrez:
Twenty thousand of-them there are entered
partiz se sont e desevrez
parted themselves they-have and severed
e par mainz sens e par mainz lieus.
and through many directions and through many places
Oscure ert la nuit e li cieus:
Dark was the night and the heaven
signes se sont entredoné.
signs each-other they-have given
Ainz que del jor parust clarté,
Before that of-the day appeared brightness
en orent il dis mile ocis.
thereof had they ten thousand killed
Li grant palais de marbre bis
The great palaces of marble gray
sont envaï e peceié,
are assailed and broken

e cil dedenz tuit detrenchié:
and those within all cut-to-pieces
n'i esparnent a rien vivant,
not-there they-spare to anything living
ne a mere ne a enfant.
nor to mother nor to child
Li criz e la noise est levee.
The cry and the noise is raised
Ha! las, com fiere destinee!
Ah weary how fierce destiny
Com pesant nuit a ceus dedenz!
How heavy night to those within
Onc si faiz dueus ne teus tormenz
Ever so made griefs nor such torments
ne fu ne n'iert jusqu'a la fin.
not was nor not-will-be until-to the end
N'i remest povre n'orfelin,
Not-there remained poor nor-orphan
jovne ne vieil, cui il ataignent.
young nor old whom they reach
De l'ocise li palais teignent;
With the-slaughter the palaces are-dyed
tuit decorent li pavement:
all run the pavements
de sanc sont moillié e sanglent;
with blood they-are wet and bloody
n'i a rue, n'i a sentier
not-there is street not-there is path
ou n'ataigne jusqu'al braier.
where not-it-reaches until-the waist

Par les palais, par les veneles,
Through the palaces through the alleys
par les sales riches e beles,
through the halls rich and fair
par les maisons de marbre bis,
through the houses of marble gray
muerent dames as cors gentis:
die ladies with-the bodies noble
hauz criz criënt e angoissos.
high cries they-cry and anguished
Teus damages si doloros
Such harms so sorrowful
com pot estre sol porpensé!
as could be only conceived
Li portal furent bien guardé,
The gateways were well guarded
qu'uns n'en eissist ne eschapast,
that-one not-thence might-go-out nor might-escape
qu'om n'ocëist e detrenchast.
that-one not-would-kill and cut-to-pieces
Es braz as meres alaitanz
In-the arms to-the mothers suckling
ont detrenchiez les beaus enfanz.
they-have cut-to-pieces the fair children
Après font d'eles autretal:
After they-do of-them just-so
l'ocise est tote comunal.
the-slaughter is all common
Tote la nuit dura ensi,
All the night it-lasted thus

desci que l'aube resclarci.
until that the-dawn brightened
As forz maisons as traïtors
To-the strong houses of-the traitors
ont enveiez bons guardeors,
they-have sent good guards
qu'eles ne seient alumees
that-they not may-be set-alight
ne peceiees ne robees. 26090
nor broken nor plundered
Li temple furent despoillié,
The temples were despoiled
e cil tuit mort e detrenchié,
and those all dead and cut-to-pieces
qui por guarir foï i erent.
who for being-saved fled there were
Tot cerchierent e tot roberent:
All they-searched and all they-plundered
or e argent, pailes e dras, 26095
gold and silver brocades and cloths
bacins e copes e henas,
basins and cups and goblets
e autres aveirs precios
and other goods precious
e buens e beaus e delitos
and good and fair and delightful
i prenent tant que plus n'en quierent;
there they-take so-much that more not-thereof they-seek
par mil feiees se chargierent. 26100
through thousand times themselves they-loaded

Prianz li reis oï les criz:
Priam the king heard the cries
sot e conut qu'il ert traïz.
he-knew and recognized that-he was betrayed
Esbaïz fu e entrepris:
Amazed he-was and caught
l'eve li cort a val le vis;
the-water to-him runs down along the face
cent feiz se pasme de dolor.
hundred times himself he-swoons from sorrow
Ensi com me retrait l'Autor,
Just as to-me recounts the-Author
foïz s'en est mort receveir,
fled himself-thence he-is death to-receive
com cil qui n'a de vie espeir.
as he who not-has of life hope
Devant l'autel Apollinis,
Before the-altar of-Apollo
desor le marbre blanc e bis
upon the marble white and gray
se rest pasmez: faut en petit
himself again-he-is swooned it-fails by little
que il meïsmes ne s'ocit.
that he himself not himself-kills
L'uevre mortel e la destine
The-work mortal and the destiny
conoist Cassandra la devine:
knows Cassandra the prophetess

veit ço que tant a prononcié
she-sees that which so-much she-has pronounced
e pramis e prophetizié.
and promised and prophesied
S'ele a dolors, rien nel demant.
If-she has sorrows anything not-it may-ask
Tote sole s'en vait fuiant,
All alone herself-thence she-goes fleeing
que rien ne la conoist n'enterve,
so-that anything not her knows nor-recognizes
enz el riche temple Minerve:
right into-the rich temple (of-)Minerva
la se detuert, la se degete,
there herself she-writhes there herself she-tosses
o merveillos plainz se regrete.
with marvelous laments herself she-mourns
Ne sai quos alasse acontant:
Not I-know why-you I-should-go recounting
l'ocise par i fu si grant
the-slaughter very there was so great
que ainz ne puis ne fu onc maire
that before nor after not was ever greater
ne rien nel vos savreit retraire.
nor anything not-it to-you would-know-how recount
Dedenz la Chambre de Beautez,
Within the Chamber of Beauties
ou tant par est ors esmerez
where so very is gold refined
e chieres pierres precioses,
and dear stones precious

sont les dames si angoissoses
are the ladies so anguished
que ne se sevent conseillier.
that not themselves they-know to-counsel
Quant li jorz prist a esclairier,
When the day began to brighten
s'ont Greu asailli Ylion:
so-have Greeks assailed Ilion
n'i troverent defension.
not-there they-found defense
Antenor, li coilverz Judas,
Antenor the knave Judas
e Anchisès e Eneas
and Anchises and Aeneas
les i ont conduiz e menez,
them there have conducted and led
feus e cruëus e desfaez.
felon and cruel and faithless
Coment le puet lor cuers sofrir?
How it can their heart endure
A duel lor puisse il revertir!
To grief to-them may it return
Tant damage, tante dolor
So-much harm so-much sorrow
sont avenu par traïtor:
are happened through traitor
mais sor totes fu ço la maire,
but above all was that the greatest
ço me conte Ditis e Daire,
that to-me tells Dictys and Dares

que Pirrus a ocis Priant
that Pyrrhus has killed Priam
devant l'autel al Deu poissant.
before the-altar of-the God mighty
La li fist si le chief voler,
There to-him he-made so the head fly
l'autel fist tot ensanglenter.
the-altar he-made all bloody
Por tant en fu vers lui iriez
For that thereof he-was toward him angered
Reis Jupiter, li deus preisiez:
King Jupiter the god prized
par signe e par grant demostrance,
by sign and by great demonstration
en prist puis de son cors venjance.
thereof took after on his body vengeance
Sus el palais, qui d'or resplent,
Up in-the palace which with-gold shines
fu doloros l'ociement:
was sorrowful the-killing
rien n'i guarist ne n'a pardon,
anything not-there is-saved nor not-has pardon
rien n'i a de mort raençon.
anything not-there has from death ransom
Ecuba e Polixenain
Hecuba and Polyxena
foïrent vers un sozterrain.
fled toward an underground-place
A la mort fuient: ço que chaut?
To the death they-flee that which matters

Rien ne lor monte ne ne vaut.
Anything not to-them amounts nor not avails
Hauz criz criënt e angoissos:
High cries they-cry and anguished
onc nus n'oï si doloros.
ever any not-heard so sorrowful
La reïne veit Eneas:
The queen sees Aeneas
«Coilverz», fait ele, «Satanas,
Knave says she Satan
«vis e hontos e reneiez,
vile and shameful and renegade
«sor toz traïtors desleiez,
above all traitors disloyal
«come osastes ço porpenser,
how dared-you that conceive
«ne com le poëz endurer,
nor how it you-can endure
«que l'om ici, voz ieuz veant,
that one here your eyes seeing
«a detrenchié le rei Priant?
has cut-to-pieces the king Priam
«Il ne pert mie a vostre face
It not appears at-all in your face
«que il vos en peist ne desplace.
that it you thereof may-grieve nor may-displease
«Par vos est hui Troie eissilliee,
Through you is today Troy exiled

«nos mort e la haute ligniee
we dead and the high line
«que de Dardanus ert estraite.
which from Dardanus was drawn
«Haï! coilverz, quel l'avez faite!
Ah knave what it-you-have done
«A honte en poisseiz vos aler!»
To shame thereof may you go
Sor le marbre l'estut pasmer.
On the marble her-behooved to-swoon
Quant el revint e ot s'aleine,
When she came-to and had her-breath
si li a dit a mout grant peine:
so to-him she-has said with very great pain
«Coilverz, traïtre, reneiez,
Knave traitor renegade
«quant de mei ne vos prent pitiez
since of me not you takes pity
«ne de Troie, que si decline,
nor of Troy which so declines
«guardez seveaus ceste meschine,
keep at-least this girl
«si que Grezeis n'en seit saisiz.
so that Greek not-thereof be seized
«Ja mar de mei avront merciz:
Ever ill of me they-will-have mercy
«S'il ocire ne me voleient,
If-they to-kill not me would-wish
«s'ai jo dous mains que m'ocireient.»
so-have I two hands which me-would-kill

A tant rechiet pasmee a quaz.
At that she-falls-again swooned in-a heap
Eneas prent entre ses braz
Aeneas takes between his arms
Polixenain tote por morte;
Polyxena all as dead
isnelement o sei l'en porte,
swiftly with himself her-thence he-carries
qu'ele n'en set mot ne nel sent,
so-that-she not-thereof knows word nor not-it feels
ne de li n'ist espirement.
nor from her not-goes breathing
Menelaus est alez tot dreit
Menelaus is gone all straight
en la chambre ou Heleine esteit:
into the chamber where Helen was
ne la laidist, bat ne detire,
not her he-outrages beats nor tears
ne fait semblant de li ocire.
nor makes semblance of her to-kill
Esguart ont pris li Greu entre eus,
Decision have taken the Greeks among them
saveir qu'il fereient de ceus
to-know what-they would-do with those
qui es temples s'en sont entré.
who into-the temples themselves-thence are entered
A ço se sont tuit acordé,
To that themselves they-have all agreed
que l'om par force les en traie,
that one by force them thence may-draw

si n'aient ja de mort manaie.
so not-may-they-have ever from death mercy
Ensi firent: mal lor doint Deus! 26205
Thus they-did ill to-them may-give God
Onc ne les guaranti auteus,
Ever not them protected altars
e cil furent cerchié trestuit,
and those were searched all
qui s'esteient repost la nuit:
who themselves-had hidden the night
n'orent guarison li derier,
not-had safety the last
ne que orent tuit li premier. 26210
nor than had all the first
Andromacha, la proz, la bele,
Andromache the valiant the fair
e Cassandra, que ert pucele,
and Cassandra who was maiden
ont del temple ça fors sachiees;
they-have from-the temple here out drawn
mais nes ont mortes n'atochiees,
but not-them they-have killed nor-touched
quar reis Oïleus Aïaus, 26215
for king Oilean Ajax
cil les guari come vassaus.
he them saved as vassal
Des beles dames, des preisanz,
Of-the fair ladies of-the worthy
des puceles e des enfanz,
of-the maidens and of-the children

i ont mout retenu de vis.
there they-have much kept of living
Quant tot orent robé e pris,
When all they-had plundered and taken
s'ont la riche vile embrasee,
so-they-have the rich town set-afire
fraite, fondue e craventee.
broken razed and crushed
Toz est trebuchiez Ylion,
All is tumbled Ilion
les riches tors e li donjon
the rich towers and the keeps
e li riche palais marbrin,
and the rich palaces of-marble
les sales peintes a or fin.
the halls painted with gold fine
N'i remestrent mur ne portal:
Not-there remained wall nor gateway
tot firent plain e tot egual.
all they-made flat and all level
A ço faire mistrent grant tens.
At that doing they-put great time
Cil en qu'ot plus valor e sens
Those in whom-there-was most valor and sense
firent tot l'aveir amasser
made all the-goods gather
e ensemble tot ajoster:
and together all join

n'ot si hardi en tot l'empire
not-was so bold in all the-empire
qui rien en osast faire a dire;
who anything thereof dared make to say
amassez fu comunaument.
gathered it-was in-common
Trop par i ot or e argent
Very very there was gold and silver
e despueilles riches e chieres
and spoils rich and dear
e dras de cent mile manieres,
and cloths of hundred thousand manners
de seie e d'or faiz e teissuz:
of silk and of-gold made and woven
ja teus aveirs n'iert mais veüz.
ever such goods not-will-be more seen

The Deaths of Polyxena and Hecuba

CV

Agamemnon thanks the gods, and the Greeks keep their covenants with the traitors. Ulysses saves Helen from the death the princes demand, and Cassandra is given to Agamemnon. Antenor wins pardon for Andromache and Helenus; Pyrrhus keeps them and spares Hector's two sons. The spoils are shared. Storms keep the fleet in port until Calchas declares that Achilles's shade demands vengeance, and Antenor finds Polyxena hidden in an old tower. She goes proudly to her death, refusing to live as a captive, and Pyrrhus kills her on his father's tomb. Hecuba, maddened, attacks the kings and is stoned to death; her tomb at Abydos is called Engres.

Quant trestot fu aplaneié,
When all was leveled
e Greu furent resaziié
and Greeks were sated
e las de destruire e d'ocire,
and weary of destroying and of-killing
si josterent un grant concire
so they-gathered a great council
en la tor Minerve, en la grant,
in the tower (of-)Minerva in the great
si come en Daire truis lisant.
so as in Dares I-find reading
Agamennon la s'umelie:
Agamemnon there himself-humbles

toz les deus aore e mercie
all the gods adores and thanks
de ço qu'il lor ont consentu
for that that-they to-them have consented
que li Troïen sont vencu.
that the Trojans are vanquished
Les reis loë toz un e un
The kings he-praises all one and one
e tot l'autre pueple comun,
and all the-other people common
puis dit: «Seignor, ore entendez.
then says Lords now hear
«Bien seüstes e bien savez
Well you-knew and well you-know
«les covenanz e les otreiz
the covenants and the grants
«dont nos somes par les noz feiz
whereof we are by the our faiths
«o ceus qui nos ont faiz seignors
with those who us have made lords
«de la cité e des honors.
of the city and of-the honors
«Tot nos ont fait e acompli
All to-us they-have done and fulfilled
«ço dont o nos furent plevi:
that whereof with us they-were pledged
«Or si guardez quel la ferons,
Now so consider what there we-shall-do

«saveir se nos lor retendrons
to-know if we to-them shall-keep
«ço dont il ont noz seürtances,
that whereof they have our assurances
«noz sairemenz e noz fiances.»
our oaths and our pledges
A ço respondirent Grezeis:
To that answered Greeks
«N'en seit enfraite nostre leis;
Not-thereof be broken our law
«tot aient ço qu'om lor pramist
all may-they-have that which-one to-them promised
«e qu'om lor otreia e dist.»
and which-one to-them granted and said
Ensi fu de toz creanté.
Thus it-was by all agreed
Après furent tuit apelé:
After were all called
come a amis e bienvoillanz,
as to friends and well-wishers
lor ont renduz lor covenanz;
to-them they-have rendered their covenants
ne lor en fu onc fait boisdie
not to-them thereof was ever done guile
ne fauseté ne tricherie.
nor falseness nor trickery

Puis ront parlé e conseil pris
Then again-they-have spoken and counsel taken
com li aveir seront devis
how the goods will-be divided
e departi par tel eguance
and parted by such equality
qu'il n'i ait ire ne pesance.
that-they not-there may-have wrath nor sorrow
Mout fu destreiz danz Menelaus,
Much was distressed lord Menelaus
quar reis Telamon Aïaus
for king Telamonian Ajax
e li autre prince plusor
and the other princes many
vuelent que muire a deshonor
wish that she-may-die at dishonor
Heleine, senz aveir pardon;
Helen without having pardon
quar ço mostrent bien par reison,
for that they-show well by reason
que sor toz a mort deservie.
that above all she-has death deserved
Rien ne l'en poëit faire aïe,
Anything not her-thereof could make help
quant Ulixès s'en entremist,
when Ulysses himself-thereof took-charge

par la preiere que l'en fist
by the prayer which to-him-thereof made
Reis Menelaus. Granz jugemenz
King Menelaus Great judgments
e granz noises e granz contenz
and great noises and great strifes
tindrent de li treis jorz entiers;
they-held about her three days entire
mais Ulixès li bons parliers,
but Ulysses the good speaker
li sages e li engeignos,
the wise and the crafty
li a son cors de mort rescos.
to-her has her body from death rescued
Veant trestoz e sor lor peis,
Seeing all and against their weight
la rot danz Menelaus li reis;
her again-had lord Menelaus the king
quar cil, par son grant esciënt,
for that-one by his great knowledge
l'en fist saisir par jugement.
to-him-thereof made seize by judgment
Reis Agamennon tant refist
King Agamemnon so-much did-again
e tant reporchaça e quist
and so-much again-pursued and sought
que Cassandra li fu donee.
that Cassandra to-him was given
Merveilles l'aveit aamee;
Marvels her-he-had loved

sor tote rien la desirot:
above all thing her he-desired
sacheiz que pas ne s'en celot;
know that at-all not himself-thereof he-concealed
mout par ert de s'amor espris,
very very he-was with her-love inflamed
ço me reconte e dit Ditis.
that to-me recounts and says Dictys
Merveilles se tint a guariz,
Marvels himself he-held for saved
quant il de li se vit saisiz.
when he of her himself saw seized
Dous gentis dames, Climena,
Two noble ladies Clymene
e l'autre raveit non Ethra,
and the-other again-had name Aethra
donerent a dous riches reis:
they-gave to two rich kings
l'une a Demophon le corteis,
the-one to Demophon the courteous
e l'autre rot reis Acamas.
and the-other again-had king Acamas
Danz Antenor, danz Eneas
Lord Antenor lord Aeneas
resont el grant concire entré:
again-are into-the great council entered
assez furent al dei mostré.
enough they-were with-the finger shown
Premiers parla danz Antenor:
First spoke lord Antenor

«Sire,» fait il, «Agamennor,
Lord says he Agamemnon
«oëz, sos plaist, nostre reison
hear if-you pleases our reason
«e comandez que la dion.
and command that there we-may-say
— Dites, que bien sera oïe.»
Say for well it-will-be heard
E Antenor merci li crie
And Antenor mercy to-him cries
d'Andromacha e d'Elenus,
for-Andromache and for-Helenus
qu'il ne desvoustrent onc rien plus
who not rejected ever anything more
que la guerre que a esté:
than the war which has been
«Se fust par la lor volenté,
If it-were by the their will
«il n'en eüst ja esté rien.
it not-thereof would-have ever been anything
«Tot ço lor en pramistrent bien
All that to-them thereof they-promised well
«treis anz avant qu'el començast
three years before that-it began
«ne que Paris en Grece alast.
nor that Paris to Greece might-go
«Le cors Achillès firent rendre,
The body (of-)Achilles they-made render
«qu'il voleient a forches pendre.
which-they wished on gallows to-hang

«Mal ne noisance, engin ne art
Ill nor harm craft nor art
«ne vos vint onc de la lor part:
not to-you came ever from the their side
«N'ont deservi mort ne servage.
Not-they-have deserved death nor servitude
«Tant estes noble e franc e sage
So-much you-are noble and free and wise
«quos bosoigne que i guardeiz
that-you it-behooves that there you-may-look
«e, s'il vos plaist, ques delivreiz.»
and if-it you pleases that-them you-may-free
A ç'ot mainte response faite,
To that-was many-a answer made
mais, si com l'Uevre me retraite,
but so as the-Work to-me recounts
toz li comuns vuet lor quitance,
all the commons wishes their quittance
lor franchise, lor delivrance.
their freedom their deliverance
Quant Helenus fu delivrez
When Helenus was freed
e sis aveirs quites clamez,
and his goods quit declared
mout bonement en mercia
very kindly thereof he-thanked
ceus de Grece, puis lor preia
those of Greece then to-them he-prayed
que sa sororge li rendissent,
that his sister-in-law to-him they-might-render

por amor Deu ne l'oceïssent.
for love (of-)God not her-they-might-kill
L'uns le desvueut, l'autre l'otreie;
The-one it rejects the-other it-grants
mais Agamennon tant lor preie,
but Agamemnon so-much them prays
ço trovons nos e ço lison,
that find we and that we-read
qu'il li firent de mort pardon.
that-they to-her made of death pardon
Avuec sei les retint Pirrus,
With himself them kept Pyrrhus
e por Andromacha le plus
and for Andromache the more
fist les dous fiz Hector quiter,
he-made the two sons (of-)Hector quit
qu'il voleient a mort livrer.
whom-they wished to death to-deliver
Les gentis dames honorees
The noble ladies honored
furent quites e delivrees:
were quit and freed
par le comun esguardement
by the common decision
de l'ost des Greus comunaument,
of the-host of-the Greeks in-common
fu mis del tot en lor voleir
it-was put of-the all in their will
de l'aler o del remaneir.
of the-going or of-the remaining

O sorz e o devisions
With lots and with divisions
e o comunes partisons
and with common partitions
fu li granz aveirs asigniez:
were the great goods assigned
as plus riches, as plus preisiez
to-the most rich to-the most prized
fist om solonc ço qu'il esteient
did one according-to that which-they were
e que il deservi aveient;
and which they deserved had
solonc lor faiz e lor valors,
according-to their deeds and their valors
sonc ço donot om as plusors.
according-to that gave one to-the many
Departiz fu e devisez
Parted it-was and divided
a lor voleirs e a lor grez:
at their wills and at their pleasures
ço fu bien fait senz descordance,
that was well done without discord
senz haïne, senz mauvoillance.
without hatred without ill-will
Après parlerent de l'aler,
After they-spoke of the-going
mais si orrible fu la mer,
but so horrible was the sea

si hisdose, si reversant
so hideous so overturning
qu'en nul sen ne mostre semblant
that-in any sense not it-shows semblance
que il ja mais dedenz entrassent,
that they ever more within might-enter
qu'en es le pas tuit ne neiassent.
that-in right the step all not would-drown
Chascun jor ert si forz li venz
Each day was so strong the wind
e par la mer teus li tormenz,
and through the sea such the storms
nus n'i entrast qui ne fust morz
any not-there would-enter who not would-be dead
ne qui ja mais venist a porz.
nor who ever more would-come to port
Ço dura plus d'un meis entier,
That lasted more than-a month entire
tant qu'a toz prist a enoier:
until that-to all it-began to weary
Calcas distrent qu'il enqueïst
(to-)Calchas they-said that-he should-inquire
que ço esteit, si lor deïst.
what that was so to-them he-should-say
Ses respons prist, ses sorz geta,
His answers he-took his lots he-threw

e après si lor anonça
and after so to-them announced
que ja li venz n'abaissereit
that ever the wind not-would-lower
ne la mer ne s'apaisereit
nor the sea not itself-would-appease
desci que les enfernaus Fures
until that the infernal Furies
avreient eü lor dreitures
would-have had their rights
e l'ame Achillès vengement:
and the-soul (of-)Achilles vengeance
içо demande, içо atent.
that it-asks that it-awaits
Çо lor espeaut, ne meins ne plus.
That to-them he-spells not less nor more
Adonc s'est apensez Pirrus
Then himself-has bethought Pyrrhus
se cele ert morte, o el viveit,
if she was dead or she was-living
por cui sis pere morz esteit
for whom his father dead was
e en traïson fu ocis.
and in treason was killed
Demandé l'a mout e enquis.
Asked it-he-has much and inquired
Tuit diënt qu'il n'en sevent rien,
All say that-they not-thereof know anything

ainz aferment e jurent bien
rather they-affirm and swear well
que, quant la cité fu eüe,
that when the city was had
ne fu trovee ne veüe.
not she-was found nor seen
La parole fu essauciee
The word was raised
e demandee e empeschiee,
and asked and hindered
tant qu'Antenor en fu blasmez
so-long that-Antenor thereof was blamed
e mout aigrement acusez.
and very bitterly accused
Agamennon l'en fist l'apel,
Agamemnon him-thereof made the-call
cui il n'esteit ne buen ne bel.
to-whom it not-was nor good nor fair
Cil en parole o Eneas,
That-one thereof speaks with Aeneas
si li dist qu'il ne loot pas,
so to-him said that-he not advised at-all
s'il la saveit, qu'el fust celee,
if-he it knew that-she were hidden
quar trop sereit chier comparee.
for too she-would-be dear paid-for
Mout li prie que veir l'en die,
Much him he-prays that true to-him-thereof he-may-say

quar trop par fereit grant folie
for too very he-would-do great folly
des Greus faire vers eus marrir.
of-the Greeks to-make toward them grieve
Ne li voust onques descovrir
Not to-him he-wished ever to-uncover
ne dire qu'il en seüst rien,
nor say that-he thereof knew anything
mais Antenor, le vieil, le chien,
but Antenor the old-man the dog
l'a quise tant e nuit e jor
her-has sought so-much both night and day
qu'es chambres d'une vieille tor
that-in-the chambers of-an old tower
la trueve reposte e muciee.
her he-finds hidden and concealed
Par les dous braz l'en a sachiee;
By the two arms her-thence he-has drawn
al rei Agamennon la rent,
to-the king Agamemnon her he-renders
qui en a fait don e present
who of-her has made gift and present
al fil Achillès, al coilvert.
to-the son (of-)Achilles to-the knave
E Ulixès dit en apert
And Ulysses says in open
que l'om l'ameint isnelement
that one her-may-lead swiftly
al tombel e al monument
to-the tomb and to-the monument

ou Achillès gist, la l'ocie:
where Achilles lies there her-may-kill
«Donc iert la venjance acomplie
Then will-be the vengeance accomplished
«e li Enfernal apaié,
and the Infernal-ones appeased
«qui de l'aler nos font devié».
who from the-going us make prohibition
Creüz en fu: si le feront,
Believed thereof he-was so it they-will-do
mais griefment l'espeneïront,
but grievously it-they-will-expiate
ensi com vos m'orreiz conter,
just as you me-will-hear tell
anceis que vienge al definer.
before that it-may-come to-the ending
Quant li pueples sot la novele,
When the people knew the news
qu'ocire vuelent la pucele,
that-to-kill they-wish the maiden
tuit i corent, nus n'i remaint;
all there run any not-there remains
chascuns la plore e crie e plaint.
each her weeps and cries and laments
Chascuns qui remire sa face,
Each who gazes-at her face
ne puet muër ne li desplace
not can help not to-him may-displease
ço, qu'om la vueut a mort livrer:
that which-one her wishes to death to-deliver

a mil la veïsseiz plorer.
by thousand her you-would-have-seen weep
Pitié en ont, n'est pas merveille.
Pity thereof they-have not-is at-all marvel
Li lis e la rose vermeille
The lily and the rose vermilion
sont envers li descoloré.
are toward her discolored
Quant qu'ot Nature de beauté
As-much as-had Nature of beauty
mist ele en li par grant leisir.
put she in her at great leisure
De sa beauté m'estuet taisir,
Of her beauty me-behooves to-be-silent
quar ne la porreie pas dire
for not it I-could at-all tell
en demi jor trestot a tire.
in half day all at stretch
Las! quel damage e quel dolor!
Weary what harm and what sorrow
Ancore en fust li monz meillor,
Still thereof would-be the world better
se de li fussent heir eissu.
if from her had-been heirs issued
Ço qu'ert de bel i fu perdu:
That which-was of fair there was lost

sor autres fussent remirable
above others they-would-be admirable
e de beauté resplendissable
and with beauty resplendent
cil qui de li fussent estrait.
those who from her might-be drawn
Las! tant i ot doloros plait!
Weary so-much there was sorrowful plea
Com pesme mort e com haïe!
How worst death and how hated
El ne l'aveit pas deservie:
She not it-had at-all deserved
ço pesa li, el n'en pot mais,
that grieved to-her she not-thereof could more
quant Paris ocist Achillès;
when Paris killed Achilles
onques n'en fu a li parlé,
ever not-thereof was to her spoken
ne ne fu tot par le suen gré.
nor not it-was all by the her will
A la mort veit que l'om la meine:
To the death she-sees that one her leads
a eus parole a mout grant peine,
to them she-speaks with very great pain
quar de paor tremble e tressaut;
for from fear she-trembles and starts
li cuers li mue e change e faut:
the heart to-her shifts and changes and fails

«Seignor,» fait ele, «vil concire
Lords says she vile council
«avez tenu de mei ocire.
you-have held about me to-kill
«Onc ne fu mais venjance faite
Ever not was more vengeance made
«que en si grant mal fust retraite.
which in so great ill would-be recounted
«Haut home estes e riche rei
High men you-are and rich kings
«a faire tel chose de mei?
to do such thing with me
«N'ai mort ne peine deservie,
Not-I-have death nor pain deserved
«n'onques ne fis jor de ma vie
nor-ever not I-did day of my life
«par que jo fusse ensi traitiee.
by which I might-be thus treated
«Tant par sui de haute ligniee,
So very I-am of high line
«pucele jovne senz malice,
maiden young without malice
«que, sos pleüst, ceste jostice
that if-you had-pleased this justice
«deüst bien remaindre de mei.
ought well to-remain from me
«Ocis avez Priant le rei,
Killed you-have Priam the king

«ses fiz, ses freres, ses nevoz
his sons his brothers his nephews
«e ses autres bons amis toz:
and his other good friends all
«D'ocire e d'espandre cerveles
Of-killing and of-spilling brains
«e d'estre en sanc e en boëles
and of-being in blood and in bowels
«deüsseiz estre tuit saol,
you-ought to-be all sated
«e aveir en autel refol
and to-have in such surfeit
«qu'un meis entier avez esté
for-a month entire you-have been
«si cruëlment ensanglenté
so cruelly bloodied
«de l'ocise des cors dampnez
with the-slaughter of-the bodies damned
«que c'est merveille quos avez
that it-is marvel that-you have
«de ma mort faim ne desirier.
of my death hunger nor desire
«Volez vos vos resaziier
Wish you yourselves to-sate
«ancor de mei? Ço sacheiz bien,
still on me That know well
«que jo ne vueil por nule rien
that I not wish for any thing
«vivre après si faite dolor:
to-live after so made sorrow

«Ja ne verreie mais nul jor
Ever not I-would-see more any day
«chose que me reconfortast
thing which me might-comfort-again
«ne que leece me donast.
nor which gladness to-me might-give
«N'istra de mei fille ne fiz
Not-will-issue from me daughter nor son
«par quei seit vis n'abastardiz
by which be vile nor-bastardized
«li lignages dont jo sui nee.
the lineage whereof I am born
«Ne refus pas ma destinee:
Not I-refuse at-all my destiny
«O ma virginité morrai.
With my virginity I-shall-die
«Bel m'est, quant jo ne maumetrai
Fair to-me-it-is since I not shall-ill-treat
«la hautece de ma valor.
the highness of my valor
«Ne dei aveir ja mais amor
Not I-ought to-have ever more love
«a rien vivant: ja Deus nel doint!
for anything living ever God not-it may-give
«Or ne vueil pas qu'om me pardoint,
Now not I-wish at-all that-one me may-pardon
«qu'om m'asueille, mout le desvueil:
that-one me-may-absolve much it I-reject
«Trop plorassent sovent mi ueil.
Too-much would-weep often my eyes

«Que me vausist vivre en dolor
What to-me would-avail to-live in sorrow
«n'en mortel glaive ne en plor?
nor-in mortal blade nor in weeping
«Vienge la mort, ne la refus,
May-come the death not it I-refuse
«quar n'ai talent de vivre plus.
for not-I-have desire of living more
«Mon pucelage li otrei:
My maidenhood to-it I-grant
«Onc si bel n'ot ne cuens ne rei.
Ever so fair not-had nor count nor king
«Ne vueil pas que cil l'aient pris,
Not I-wish at-all that those it-may-have taken
«qui mon chier pere m'ont ocis.
who my dear father from-me-have killed
«Nel vochasse pas sauf en eus:
Not-it I-would-vouchsafe at-all safe in them
«Traïtors sont cruëus e feus.
Traitors they-are cruel and felon
«Mout sui liee, quant jo fenis
Very I-am glad since I end
«e quant jo d'eus me departis:
and since I from-them myself part
«Mout haïsse lor compaignie.
Much I-would-hate their company
«Tant a or porchacié Envie,
So-much has now pursued Envy

«que de ma beauté se plaigneit
who of my beauty herself complained
«e que tant me par haïsseit,
and who so-much me very hated
«qu'or n'iert ja mais por mei iriee.
that-now not-she-will-be ever more for me angered
«Ne fusse mie a mort jugiee,
Not I-would-be at-all to death judged
«se Envie nel feïst faire.»
if Envy not-it made do
Ço vos puis bien dire e retraire,
That to-you I-can well say and recount
ne fust criente la destinee,
not were-it feared the destiny
s'el poüst estre rachatee;
if-she could be ransomed
li comuns toz de l'ost Grezeis
the commons all of the-host Greek
la raensist d'or set cenz peis;
her would-ransom with-gold seven hundred weights
mais ço que Calcas lor enseigne,
but that which Calchas to-them teaches
par que la tormente remaigne,
by which the storm may-remain
covient faire. Las! quel damage!
it-behooves to-do Weary what harm

La bele, la pro e la sage
The fair the valiant and the wise
e de totes la mieuz preisiee
and of all the best prized
a Neptolemus detrenchiee
has Neoptolemus cut-to-pieces
sor la sepouture son pere.
upon the tomb (of-)his father
Tot ço vit Ecuba sa mere:
All that saw Hecuba her mother
del sanc de ses fines beautez
with-the blood of her fine beauties
fu li tombeaus ensanglentez.
was the tomb bloodied
De la reïne vos sai dire
Of the queen to-you I-know-how to-tell
qu'o ses dous mains se vueut ocire:
that-with her two hands herself she-wishes to-kill
de duel, d'angoisse e de haschiee
from grief from-anguish and from torment
ist de son sen tote enragiee,
she-goes out-of her sense all maddened
ensi desperse, ensi desvee,
so scattered so crazed
si estrange, si forsenee
so strange so raving
que rien ne la poëit tenir
that anything not her could hold
ne por batre ne por ferir.
nor for beating nor for striking

Les reis, les princes laidisseit
The kings the princes she-outraged
e tote jor les honisseit;
and all day them she-shamed
a eus lançot couteaus aguz
at them she-threw knives sharp
e pierres e bastons e fuz;
and stones and sticks and staves
sovent les mordeit o les denz.
often them she-bit with the teeth
Ne la porent sofrir les genz:
Not her could endure the folk
ço dit Ditis, le chevalier,
that says Dictys the knight
a forz peus la firent leier,
to strong stakes her they-made bind
puis la lapiderent a mort.
then her they-stoned to death
En Abidie, loinz del port,
In Abydos far from-the port
la li firent sa sepouture
there for-her they-made her burial
grant e haute, que ancor dure.
great and high which still lasts
Por ço qu'ensi faitierement
For that that-thus fashioned
se fist ocire laidement,
herself she-made kill foully
apelerent le lieu Engrès,
they-called the place Engres

por ço que le cuer ot porvers
for that that the heart she-had perverse
e senz amor e senz reison.
and without love and without reason
Ço distrent puis, e ço lison,
That they-said after and that we-read
qu'el se fist fole a esciënt
that-she herself made mad at knowledge
por receveir mort e torment:
for to-receive death and torment
ne voleit sor terre languir
not she-wished on earth to-languish
ne tel dolor longes sofrir;
nor such sorrow long to-endure
por ço voust faire e engeignier
for that she-wished to-make and contrive
que son cors feïst lapiier.
that her body she-might-make stone
Ço fu damage e grant dolor,
That was harm and great sorrow
qu'el morut a tel deshonor,
that-she died at such dishonor
quar en cest siegle trespassé
for in this world past
n'ot dame de si grant bonté,
not-was lady of so great goodness
plus preisiee ne plus amee
more prized nor more loved
ne de plus haute renomee.
nor of more high renown

The Dispute over the Palladium

CVI

Telamon, Diomedes, and Ulysses each claim the Palladium. Ulysses claims it for his counsel and his theft of it; Telamon answers with his conquests of Thrace, Phrygia, and many realms, his provisioning of the host, and Achilles's deeds, calls Ulysses a trickster, and boasts that he, not Ulysses, made peace with Chryses over his daughter. Diomedes withdraws in anger. Agamemnon and Menelaus give the Palladium to Ulysses for saving Helen, and the army protests. Telamon threatens the brothers, and at dawn he is found hacked to death; the Greeks blame Ulysses and the brothers. Pyrrhus mourns him and keeps his ashes in a gold urn. Ulysses, fearing for his life, flees by night, leaving the Palladium with Diomedes.

Ensi com jo vos ai conté
Just as I to-you have told
e come es Livres ai trové
and as in-the Books I-have found
avint de cest destruiement.
happened of this destruction
Dès ore orreiz com faitement
From now you-will-hear how fashioned
ravindrent lor grant encombrier
again-befell their great trouble
e lor damage grant e fier.
and their harm great and fierce
Dès ore orreiz lor destinees:
From now you-will-hear their destinies
quant jos vos avrai recontees,
when I-them to-you shall-have recounted

ne direiz pas qu'a nule gent
not you-will-say at-all that-to any folk
avenist onc plus malement.
it-happened ever more badly
Tuit alerent puis, ço lison,
All went after that we-read
a duel e a perdicion.
to grief and to perdition
Esguaré furent e destreit,
Bewildered they-were and distressed
saveir qui le Pallade avreit,
to-know who the Palladium would-have
puis que Achillès esteit morz:
since that Achilles was dead
ja, s'il fust vis, desdiz ne torz
ever if-he were alive denial nor wrong
ne l'en fust fait, ne contredit
not to-him-thereof would-be done nor gainsaying
qui fust de grant ne de petit.
whoever were of great nor of small
Ço dit Telamon Aïaus,
That says Telamonian Ajax
que il est si vaillanz e taus,
that he is so worthy and such
e tant a ja l'ost socorue
and so-much has already the-host succored
o sa trenchant espee nue,
with his cutting sword bare

tantes feiz l'a resaziiee
so-many times it-he-has sated
qu'ele esteit si mesaaisiee
that-it was so ill-at-ease
e sofraitose de vitaille,
and needy of victual
sofert en a tante bataille
suffered thereof he-has so-many-a battle
que, si come il dit e retrait,
that so as he says and recounts
bien est dreiz e reisons qu'il l'ait.
well it-is right and reason that-he it-may-have
Diomedès le redemande,
Diomedes it asks-again
e si prie a toz e comande
and so prays to all and commands
que il en facent dreit esguart,
that they thereof may-make right decision
quar par reison n'i a tel part
for by reason not-there has such share
nus come il: suens est quitement;
any as he his-own is quit
si mostre bien e dit coment
so he-shows well and says how
les granz esforz a maintenuz
the great efforts he-has maintained
e les morteus estors vencuz,
and the mortal fights vanquished
sis a rescos, par maintes feiz,
so-them he-has rescued through many times

si angoissos e si destreiz
so anguished and so distressed
que aler les en covenist,
that to-go them thence it-would-have-behooved
se il toz sous nes defendist.
if he all alone not-them had-defended
N'i a nul d'eus tant ait sofert:
Not-there is any of-them so-much may-have suffered
se il par jugement le pert,
if he by judgment it loses
sor tote rien l'en pesera,
above all thing to-him-thereof it-will-weigh
mais a sofrir li covendra.
but to endure to-him it-will-behoove
A cez requestes, ço lisons,
At these requests that we-read
ot granz noises e granz tençons.
was great noises and great quarrels
Reis Telamon mout s'i aïre:
King Telamon much himself-there angers
de granz orguieuz i prist a dire.
of great prides there he-began to say
Ne s'en retaist mie Ulixès:
Not himself-thereof keeps-silent at-all Ulysses
«Seignor,» fait il, «dès ore mais
Lords says he from now more
«me deit il bien estre a viaire
to-me ought it well to-be at seeming
«que n'avez mais de mei que faire.
that not-you-have more of me what to-do

«Sos bosoignassent mes conseiz,
If-you needed my counsels
«si come il ont fait autre feiz,
so as they have done other time
«quant jo vos trovai si afliz
when I you found so afflicted
«e si atainz e si guenchiz
and so stricken and so swerved
«que par force e par estoveir,
that by force and by necessity
«ne fust mon sens e mon saveir,
not were-it my sense and my wisdom
«vos en covenist toz aler, —
you thence it-would-have-behooved all to-go
«n'i eüst rien del plus ester, —
not-there would-have-been anything of-the more to-stand
«vos en parlisseiz autrement:
you thereof would-speak otherwise
«N'en sorsist ja vers mei content,
Not-thereof would-arise ever against me strife
«ne n'en escoutisseiz reison,
nor not-thereof you-would-hear reason
«coment jo del Palladion
how I of-the Palladium
«fusse par autre dessaisiz.
might-be by other dispossessed
«Sont ço li gré e les merciz
Are those the thanks and the mercies
«qu'ai deservi, que me rendez?
which-I-have deserved which me you-render

«Mauvaisement vos amembrez
Badly you remember
«de ço que vos ai porchacié
of that which to-you I-have pursued
«e fait e quis e engeignié,
and done and sought and contrived
«com vos estes venu a chief
how you are come to head
«de ço que tant ert pesme e grief.
of that which so-much was worst and grievous
«Par ma parole e par mes diz
By my word and by my sayings
«sont tuit vo voleir acompliz:
are all your wishes accomplished
«Se ne m'en meïsse en tel peine,
If not myself-thereof I-had-put in such pain
«ancor fust Troie entiere e saine;
still would-be Troy entire and sound
«ancore i fust l'or e l'argent
still there would-be the-gold and the-silver
«dont vos estes riche e manent;
whereof you are rich and wealthy
«ancor fussent li mur entier.
still would-be the walls entire
«E donc ne parlai jo premier
And then not spoke I first
«com li Pallades fust emblez,
how the Palladium might-be stolen
«senz voz seüz e senz voz grez?
without your knowledges and without your wills

«E donc nel porchaçai jo tot,
And then not-it pursued I all
«si qu'onques n'en seüstes mot
so that-ever not-thereof you-knew word
«desci qu'Antenor l'aporta
until that-Antenor it-brought
«e, por ço qu'il ne me trova,
and for that that-he not me found
«le vos bailla? Si vos di bien
it to-you he-handed So to-you I-say well
«qu'il l'en pesa sor tote rien:
that-it him-thereof grieved above all thing
«Mais n'i osot plus arester,
But not-there he-dared more to-stay
«qu'ariere l'en covint aler,
for-back him-thence behooved to-go
«que l'uevre ne fust coneüe,
so-that the-work not might-be known
«descoverte n'aparceüe.
uncovered nor-perceived
«Por ço que tuit bien saviëz
For that that all well you-knew
«que reison ert, ço veïez,
that reason it-was that you-saw
«qu'a ma herberge fust portez,
that-to my lodging it-should-be carried
«e mei bailliez e comandez,
and to-me handed and commended
«le m'enveiastes vos maneis.
it to-me-sent you forthwith

«Or si vuelent vostre Grezeis
Now so wish your Greeks
«qu'om le me toille e que jol rende!
that-one it from-me may-take and that I-it may-render
«N'est mie biens qu'o vos contende:
Not-is at-all good that-with you I-may-contend
«Mais, ço sacheiz, mei pesera,
But that know to-me it-will-weigh
«qui ensi m'en dessaisira.»
who thus me-thence will-dispossess
Telamon Aïaus respont:
Telamonian Ajax answers
«Fous deit estre cil qui fous tont.
Fool ought to-be he who fools shears
«Tost nos avriëz ja tonduz,
Soon us you-would-have already shorn
«se vos en estiëz creüz;
if you thereof were believed
«tonduz nos avriëz bien près,
shorn us you-would-have well near
«s'ensi vos remaneit en pais
if-thus to-you remained in peace
«li Pallades. Mais ço n'iert mie:
the Palladium But that not-will-be at-all
«Tant come el cors aie la vie,
As-long as in-the body I-may-have the life
«n'avrai ne force ne valor,
not-I-shall-have nor force nor valor
«ami, compaignon ne seignor,
friend companion nor lord

«ço sacheiz vos de fi por veir,
that know you of faith for true
«qui ci n'en face son poëir.
who here not-thereof may-do his power
«Trop est grant honte e grant viltance,
Too-much is great shame and great vileness
«dont vos ici faites vantance
whereof you here make boast
«ne dont vos tant cuidez valeir
nor whereof you so-much think to-be-worth
«que il vos deie remaneir.
that it to-you ought to-remain
«Por ço, se vos estes trichiere
For that if you are trickster
«e decevere e losengiere,
and deceiver and flatterer
«e por ço que, par vostre fait,
and for that that by your deed
«nos sera mais toz jorz retrait
to-us will-be more all days recounted
«que parjures somes e faus
that perjured we-are and false
«e mençongiers e desleiaus, —
and liars and disloyal
«bien nos avez apareilliez,
well us you-have prepared
«bien en devez estre preisiez,
well thereof you-ought to-be prized

«que ço que faire deüsson
that that which to-do we-ought
«par proëce, senz traïson,
by prowess without treason
«ço nos avez a ço torné
that to-us you-have to that turned
«dont toz jorz mais serons blasmé, —
whereof all days more we-shall-be blamed
«por c'est bien dreiz qu'il vos remaigne?
for that-is well right that-it to-you may-remain
«Cent dahez ait la vostre ovraigne!
Hundred curses may-have the your work
«Mais jo, qui Cherronese e Trace
But I who Chersonese and Tbrace
«conquis, n'i a un sol nel sace,
conquered not-there is a single not-it may-know
«e quin aportai le tresor
and who-thence brought the treasure
«e tot l'aveir Polimestor,
and all the-goods (of-)Polymestor
«qui me rendi Polidorus,
who to-me rendered Polydorus
«le menor des fiz Priamus,
the youngest of-the sons (of-)Priam
«qu'a norrir li aveit tramis,
whom-to nurse to-him he-had sent
«quar mout par esteit sis amis; —
for very very he-was his friend
«e quant jo l'en oi aporté,
and when I him-thence had brought

«por ço que pas a nostre gré
for that that at-all at our will
«ne faiseit pais le rei Priant,
not made peace the king Priam
«l'oceïmes, ses ieuz veant:
him-we-killed his eyes seeing
«Dou mile pierres i lançames,
Two thousand stones there we-threw
«mout près des murs le lapiames;
very near of-the walls him we-stoned
«Polimestor fist nostre aclin:
Polymestor made our submission
«Cent mil muiz, entre blé e vin,
Hundred thousand bushels between grain and wine
«m'a enveié puis senz desdit,
me-has sent after without denial
«dont aveient li plus petit
whereof had the most small
«autretel part com jo aveie; —
just-such share as I had
«se vos vantez la ou jo seie,
if you boast there where I may-be
«cent dahez ait iceste joie!
hundred curses may-have this joy
«E que feïssent Greu a Troie,
And what would-do Greeks at Troy
«se ne fussent li mien porchaz
if not had-been the my pursuits
«e la grant force de mes braz?
and the great force of my arms

«Ne conquis jo le rei de Frise,
Not conquered I the king of Phrygia
«dont l'aveir e la manantise
whose the-goods and the wealth
«fis venir a l'ost replenir,
I-made come to the-host to-replenish
«qu'il n'i aveit mais del foïr? —
for-it not-there had more of-the fleeing
«J'en i trovai mil engrotez
I-thence there found thousand sick
«e mil de faim neirs e enflez; —
and thousand from hunger black and swollen
«ne fis jo venir le froment,
not made I come the wheat
«la char, le vin, l'or e l'argent?
the meat the wine the-gold and the-silver
«Ne lor fis jo tot departir,
Not to-them made I all distribute
«que onc n'en vous rien retenir
so-that ever not-thereof I-wished anything to-keep
«fors la fille al rei, Tecmissa,
except the daughter of-the king Tecmessa
«que toz li comuns m'otreia,
whom all the commons me-granted
«que proz ert e de haut parage,
for valiant she-was and of high lineage
«franche, corteise, bele e sage?
noble courteous fair and wise
«N'esteient Greu si maubailliz,
Not-were Greeks so ill-treated

«si engrotez e si afliz
so sick and so afflicted
«qu'il n'osoënt en fuerre aler,
that-they not-dared in foraging to-go
«quant jo lor alai delivrer
when I for-them went to-free
«les regnes de ci environ? 26765
the realms from here around
«N'i ot rei, prince ne baron
Not-there was king prince nor baron
«qui pas m'i poüst contrester:
who at-all me-there could withstand
«A mainz en fis les chiés voler.
To many thereof I-made the heads fly
«La terre de Botrilancie,
The land of Botrilancie
«ou tant par aveit manantie, 26770
where so very there-was wealth
«conquis jo tot e delivrai,
conquered I all and freed
«si qu'onques home n'i laissai
so that-ever man not-there I-left
«qui puis damage nos feïst
who after harm to-us might-do
«ne a l'ost de rien forfeïst.
nor to the-host of anything might-trespass
«Gargare, Cepsim, Larissan, 26775
Gargarus Cepsim Larissa

«riches regnes, e Arisban
rich realms and Arisba
«conquis jo tot e despoillai,
conquered I all and despoiled
«e la richece en aportai;
and the riches thence I-brought
«e si sacheiz que rien vivant
and so know that anything living
«en si poi d'ore ne fist tant:
in so little of-time not did so-much
«S'est bien seü, jusqu'a cent anz
So-it-is well known until-to hundred years
«en seront riches noz enfanz.
thereof will-be rich our children
«Si grant plenté mis entre nos
So great plenty I-put among us
«qu'onc puis ne fumes sofraitos
that-ever after not we-were needy
«ne povre ne mesaaisié
nor poor nor ill-at-ease
«ne de gent defors damagié.
nor by folk outside harmed
«Ne conquis jo par mon travail
Not conquered I by my travail
«que nos eüssons l'averail,
that we might-have the-herd

«le grant, le fier, qui ert foï
the great the fierce which was fled
«es puiz d'Idee, ou jol sivi
in-the heights of-Ida where I-it followed
«el plus fort lieu qui el mont fust,
in-the most strong place which in-the world was
«ou om rien criembre ne deüst?
where one anything to-fear not ought
«Cent mile bestes engraissiees,
Hundred thousand beasts fattened
«que en l'ost ont esté mangiees,
which in the-host have been eaten
«en fis des granz puiz devaler;
thence I-made from-the great heights descend
«après les fis si deviser
after them I-made so divide
«qu'en l'ost n'ot si povre Grezeis,
that-in the-host not-was so poor Greek
«qui meins en ot, n'en eüst treis,
who least thereof had not-thereof might-have three
«o dis, o quinze, o vint, o cent.
or ten or fifteen or twenty or hundred
«Bien sevent tuit comunaument
Well know all in-common
«que tant ai fait que par reison
that so-much I-have done that by reason
«dei aveir le Palladion
I-ought to-have the Palladium
«en fine quitance e en pais.
in pure quittance and in peace

«Se dire vueut danz Ulixès
If to-say wishes lord Ulysses
«qu'il i ait greignor dreit de mei,
that-he there may-have greater right than me
«jol contredi e sil denei,
I-it gainsay and so-it deny
«qu'il n'est si vaillanz ne si proz;
for-he not-is so worthy nor so valiant
«si li proverai veant toz
so to-him I-shall-prove seeing all
«que nule part n'i deit aveir.
that any share not-there he-ought to-have
«Une chose puet bien saveir:
A thing he-can well know
«S'il l'a, ne l'avra pas en pais.
If-he it-has not it-he-will-have at-all in peace
«Jo cuit qu'il embrace tel fais
I think that-he embraces such burden
«qu'il ne porra guaires porter,
that-he not will-be-able much to-carry
«ne li covienge a comparer.
nor to-him may-behoove to pay-for
«Ne di, se Achillès fust vis,
Not I-say if Achilles were alive
«li proz, li vaillanz, li gentis,
the valiant the worthy the noble
«que jo ja jor part i clamasse
that I ever day share there would-claim
«ne que ja rien i demandasse:
nor that ever anything there I-would-ask

«Suens fust, c'est bien chose seüe.
His it-would-be it-is well thing known
«Par lui e par la soë aiuë
By him and by the his help
«somes nos de Troie seignor,
are we of Troy lords
«par lui somes nos venqueor;
by him are we victors
«par lui sont mort li fil Priant,
by him are dead the sons (of-)Priam
«li fort, li pro, li combatant.
the strong the valiant the fighting
«Nos n'eüssons or pas les vies,
We not-would-have now at-all the lives
«se il ne fust e ses aïes:
if he not had-been and his helps
«Ja uns toz sous n'en eschapast
Ever one all alone not-thence would-have-escaped
«que morz ne fust, s'il ne l'ostast.
that dead not would-be if-he not-him had-removed
«Par lui fu Lesbion asis,
By him was Lesbos besieged
«fonduz e ars, robez e pris.
razed and burned plundered and taken
«Par lui furent les granz citez,
By him were the great cities
«li chastel e les fermetez
the castles and the fortresses
«conquis de par tot cest païs,
conquered from through all this country

«tuit nostre nuiseor ocis.
all our harmers killed
«Par lui fu morz reis Forbanta,
By him was dead king Phorbas
«qui l'ost des Greus mout guerreia.
who the-host of-the Greeks much warred
«Sa fille Diomedean,
His daughter Diomede
«dont Patroclus traist maint ahan,
whereof Patroclus endured many-a toil
«en amena, gente pucele:
thence he-brought noble maiden
«Ancor n'a il soz ciel plus bele.
Still not-is there under heaven more fair
«Il prist Sire e Gerapolin,
He took Syria and Hierapolis
«ou il laissa maint orfelin
where he left many-a orphan
«des peres qu'il livra a mort;
from-the fathers whom-he delivered to death
«mais ne fu pas petit l'aport
but not was at-all small the-haul
«que il en fist en l'ost venir
which he thence made into the-host come
«por asazer et replenir:
for to-sate and to-replenish
«Onc hom ne vit si granz plentez
Ever man not saw so great plenties
«come il i ot par dous estez.
as he there had through two summers

«Il destruist toz noz maufaisanz,
He destroyed all our evildoers
«noz nuiseors, noz guerreianz.
our harmers our warriors
«Il nos conquist les granz treüz,
He for-us conquered the great tributes
«qui en l'ost nos erent renduz.
which in the-host to-us were rendered
«Il conquist le rei de Citare,
He conquered the king of Cythera
«dont il ot de besanz trei charre
whereof he had of bezants three carts
«e d'autres dons, al plus eschars,
and of-other gifts to-the most meager
«qui valeient dis mile mars.
which were-worth ten thousand marks
«En Cilicas conduist sa gent:
Into Cilicia he-led his folk
«De Linerse ot l'or e l'argent;
From Lyrnessus he-had the-gold and the-silver
«le rei ocist Earmoné,
the king he-killed Eetion
«qui mout esteit de grant fierté,
who very was of great fierceness
«riches e proz e averos
rich and valiant and greedy
«e hardiz e chevaleros.
and bold and knightly

«Del grant aveir qu'il li toli
Of-the great goods which-he from-him took
«charja ses nes si e empli
he-loaded his ships so and filled
«qu'a grant peine s'en pot venir
that-with great pain himself-thence he-could come
«senz tormenter e senz perir.
without storming and without perishing
«Sa femme, que mout ert preisiee
His wife who very was prized
«e bele e sage e afaitiee,
and fair and wise and well-bred
«Astinomen, fille Crisès,
Astynome daughter (of-)Chryses
«en amena danz Achillès.
thence brought lord Achilles
«Ne serveit pas de lobes traire,
Not he-served at-all of tricks to-draw
«ne d'estre fel ne de put aire,
nor of-being felon nor of base nature
«ne d'engeignier seducions,
nor of-contriving seductions
«murtres morteus ne traïsons.
murders mortal nor treasons
«Cil le deüst aveir senz part,
That-one it ought to-have without share

«mais trop vos sai assez coart
but too-much you I-know enough coward
«a retenir si grant honor;
to keep so great honor
* * *
(lacuna)
* * *
(lacuna)
«Mais cil qui des proz ert la flor,
But he who of-the valiant was the flower
«qui prist e conquist Pedason
who took and conquered Pedasus
«e la cité de Legeron, 26880
and the city of Lyrnessus
«dont Brisès esteit reis e sire,
whereof Briseus was king and lord
«a cui en apendeit l'empire,
to whom thereof belonged the-empire
«qui s'estrangla, qui se pendié
who himself-strangled who himself hanged
«par son mesfait, par son pechié,
by his misdeed by his sin
«por ço que tot veeit conquis 26885
for that that all he-saw conquered
«sei e sa terre e son païs:
himself and his land and his country
«D'Achillès ne se pot defendre,
From-Achilles not himself he-could defend
«ne a lui ne se voleit rendre;
nor to him not himself he-wished to-surrender

«por ço en fu si d'ire pleins
for that thereof he-was so with-wrath full
«qu'il se pendi o ses dous mains.
that-he himself hanged with his two hands
«Sis regnes fu robez e pris:
His realm was plundered and taken
«N'i remest or ne vair ne gris
Not-there remained gold nor vair nor gray
«ne vin ne blé ne autre aveir;
nor wine nor grain nor other goods
«en l'ost, oun ert grant estoveir,
in the-host where-one was great necessity
«le devisa e departi
it he-divided and distributed
«e largement l'ost repleni;
and largely the-host replenished
«e sa fille, que des gençors
and his daughter who of-the noblest
«esteit beauté e mireors,
was beauty and mirror
«la tres bele Ypodamia
the very fair Hippodamia
«en aconduist e amena.
thence he-conducted and brought
«Empor cest grant conquerement,
For this great conquest
«nos firent Greu comunaument
to-us did Greeks in-common
«si grant honor que de loriers,
so great honor that with laurels

«o fresches flors de balsamiers,
with fresh flowers of balsam-trees
«nos coronerent veant toz:
us they-crowned seeing all
«N'i ot si hardi ne si proz
Not-there was so bold nor so valiant
«en l'ost cui onques ço fust fait
in the-host to-whom ever that were done
«ne de cui il seit ja retrait.
nor of whom it be ever recounted
«Ceste pompe, ceste victoire
This pomp this victory
«e ceste honor e ceste gloire
and this honor and this glory
«conqueïmes nos autrement
conquered we otherwise
«que o hontos decevement
than with shameful deception
«ne que o lengues tricheresses
nor than with tongues tricking
«ne qu'o faire fauses pramesses.
nor than-with making false promises
«Danz Agamennon, que ci vei,
Lord Agamemnon whom here I-see
«qui si en estait mu e quei,
who so thereof stood mute and quiet
«set bien se jo di veir o non;
knows well if I say true or not
«quar cele o la gente façon,
for she with the noble fashion

«Astinomen, la pro, la sage,
Astynome the valiant the wise
«fille Crisès de grant aage,
daughter (of-)Chryses of great age
«li dona por s'amor aveir,
to-him he-gave for her-love to-have
«si l'en deüst grant gré saveir.
so to-him-thereof he-ought great thanks to-know
«Tot quant qu'il onques guaaigna,
All as-much as-he ever won
«tot departi, tot devisa,
all he-distributed all he-divided
«fors la bele Ypodamian
except the fair Hippodamia
«e solement Diomedan:
and only Diomede
«Icestes dous filles de reis
These two daughters of kings
«retint, par l'otrei des Grezeis.
he-kept by the-grant of-the Greeks
«Par lor otrei e par lor grez,
By their grant and by their will
«en fu puis trop a tort menez:
thereof he-was after too-much at wrong led
«E jol dirai, quar bien est dreiz.
And I-it shall-say for well it-is right
«Crisès, li vieuz, qui fu destreiz
Chryses the old-man who was distressed
«d'Astinomen, sa fille ainz nee,
for-Astynome his daughter first born

«que Agamennon fu donee,
who to-Agamemnon was given
«toz revestuz de ses tuniques
all reclothed in his tunics
«e toz chargiez de ses reliques,
and all loaded with his relics
«en vint en l'ost, si li requist
thence came into the-host so to-him required
«que por ses deus la li rendist.
that for his gods her to-him he-should-render
«Assez l'en fist de granz sermons
Enough to-him-thereof he-made of great sermons
«e de mout granz conjureisons,
and of very great conjurings
«mais n'en ot mie a icel tor:
but not-thereof he-had at-all at that turn
«Por ço en fist as deus clamor.
For that thereof he-made to-the gods outcry
«Bien l'oïrent, bien l'en vengierent:
Well it-they-heard well him-thereof they-avenged
«Nostre ost ensi endamagierent
Our host thus they-damaged
«que li cheval e les chameilles
that the horses and the camels
«li buef, les vaches, les oëilles
the oxen the cows the sheep
«e li home comunaument
and the men in-common
«moreient si faitierement
died so fashioned

«que, s'il durast dous meis o treis,
that if-it had-lasted two months or three
«destruiz fust toz li oz Grezeis.
destroyed would-be all the host Greek
«Fiere i ert la mortalité:
Fierce there was the mortality
«Trop dut estre chier comparé
Too-much it-had to-be dear paid-for
«li veemenz de la reïne;
the refusal of the queen
«la venjance que vint devine
the vengeance which came divine
«nos dut faire trestoz perir,
us had to-make all perish
«tant que Greu nel porent sofrir.
so-long that Greeks not-it could endure
«Calcas, que jo vei la ester,
Calchas whom I see there to-stand
«nos sot tres bien dire e mostrer
us knew very well to-tell and show
«que c'ert por la fille Crisès,
that it-was for the daughter (of-)Chryses
«que ja li deu n'avreient pais
that ever the gods not-would-have peace
«desci qu'ele li fust rendue.
until that-she to-him were rendered
«E quant la chose fu seüe,
And when the thing was known
«si fu requis par maintes feiz,
so he-was required through many times

«si qu'a tant torna li conseiz
so that-at so-much turned the counsel
«que la princé e la baillie
that the princedom and the bailiwick
«e trestote la seignorie
and all the lordship
«qu'aveit en l'ost li fust tolue,
which-he-had in the-host from-him should-be taken
«s'Astinomé ne fust rendue.
if-Astynome not were rendered
«Quant vit que faire l'estoveit,
When he-saw that to-do him-it-behooved
«contre reison e contre dreit,
against reason and against right
«si voust e quist e demanda
so he-wished and sought and asked
«qu'il eüst Ypodamia:
that-he might-have Hippodamia
««Celi rendreit, se ceste aveit;
That-one he-would-render if this-one he-had
««o autrement, n'a tort n'a dreit,
or otherwise not-at wrong nor-at right
««ne la partireit ja de sei.»
not her he-would-part ever from himself
«Puis en vi l'ost en tel esfrei
Then thereof I-saw the-host in such alarm
«que tant nos entrecorroçames
that so-much us we-angered-each-other
«que vint mil heaumes en laçames.
that twenty thousand helmets thereof we-laced

«E s'Achillès vousist li proz,
And if-Achilles had-wished the valiant
«nos nos entroceïssons toz;
we us would-have-killed-each-other all
«mais il ot merci de sa gent
but he had mercy on his folk
«e de tot l'ost comunaument:
and on all the-host in-common
«Mieuz voust la danzele livrer
Better he-wished the damsel to-deliver
«e si faite ocise eschiver
and so made slaughter to-avoid
«e apaier les granz periz
and to-appease the great perils
«des deus qui erent si marriz
of-the gods who were so grieved
«qu'il ne voleit qu'el en fust fait.
for-he not wished that-it thereof were done
«Grant tort e grant honte e grant lait
Great wrong and great shame and great outrage
«l'en fist l'om, ço est la vertez,
to-him-thereof did one that is the truth
«e trop en fu a tort menez.
and too-much thereof he-was at wrong led
«Tot fust a un, se il vousist.
All would-be at one if he had-wished

«Sacheiz de veir que tant en fist
Know of truth that so-much thereof he-did
«dont il dut aveir greignors grez
whereof he ought to-have greater thanks
«que vos qui ici vos vantez
than you who here yourselves boast
«de voz vis hontos parlemenz
of your vile shameful parleys
«e de voz vis decevemenz.
and of your vile deceptions
«Sol en ceste uevre, ço set om,
Only in this work that knows one
«conquist il le Palladion
conquered he the Palladium
«mieuz de vos, por quant que feïstes
better than you for as-much as you-did
«puis icele ore que nasquistes.
since that hour that you-were-born
«Ço sont uevres qu'om deit retraire:
Those are works which-one ought to-recount
«Mais vos vos devriëz bien taire
But you yourselves ought well to-silence
«d'iteus com ci vos oi parler,
of-such as here you I-hear speak
«que laides sont a escouter.
which foul are to hear
«Onc de faire d'eus dous la pais
Ever of making of-them two the peace
«ne vos meïstes en grant fais:
not yourselves you-put in great burden

«Mieuz amiëz la descordance
Better you-loved the discord
«que la pais ne la bienvoillance.
than the peace nor the goodwill
«Jo l'encerchai e jo l'enquis:
I it-searched-out and I it-inquired
«Tant preiai Crisès e requis
So-much I-prayed Chryses and required
«qu'il retorna sa fille ariere;
that-he turned his daughter back
«par mon fait e par ma preiere
by my deed and by my prayer
«a Agamennon la rendi,
to Agamemnon her he-rendered
«e quant jo l'en revi saisi,
and when I him-thereof saw-again seized
«si li fis rendre maintenant
so to-him I-made render now
«la bele o le cors avenant:
the fair with the body comely
«Par mei la reprist Achillès,
Through me her took-back Achilles
«cui ja jor ne la baillast mais.
to-whom ever day not her he-would-hand more
«Par mei e par mon loëment
Through me and through my counsel
«li en fist il un sairement:
to-him thereof made he an oath

«De sa main destre li jura
With his hand right to-him he-swore
«qu'o li ne jut ne n'atocha
that-with her not he-lay nor not-touched
«ne n'ot charnelment compaignie.
nor not-had carnally company
«Ço ne porparlastes vos mie:
That not plotted you at-all
«Iceste honor e icist dreiz
This honor and this right
«fu faiz e pris par mes conseiz.
was made and taken by my counsels
«La benestance fis d'eus dous:
The well-being I-made of-them two
«Onques n'en fu parlé a vos.
Ever not-thereof was spoken to you
«Plus amisseiz, n'en dot de rien,
More you-would-love not-thereof I-doubt of anything
«le mal eslire que le bien;
the evil to-choose than the good
«de vos n'eissi onques conseiz
from you not-went-out ever counsel
«qui fust leiaus, dreiz ne feeiz.
which were loyal right nor faithful
«Ne devez ja en lieu parler
Not you-ought ever in place to-speak
«o jo seie, ne demander
where I may-be nor to-ask
«chose ou jo bé. Ne vos hauceiz,
thing to-which I aspire Not yourselves raise

«quar ço n'est pas reisons ne dreiz.
for that not-is at-all reason nor right
«Triomphes ne vos tient de rien:
Triumphs not you holds of anything
«N'en parlez ja, si fereiz bien.»
Not-thereof speak ever so you-will-do well
Li conciles fu aïrié:
The council was angered
laidi se sont e manacié.
outraged themselves they-have and threatened
Partiz s'en est Diomedès
Parted himself-thence is Diomedes
e dit ja n'en parlera mais
and says ever not-thereof he-will-speak more
sor si faite desacordance:
over so made discord
grant ire en a e grant pesance.
great wrath thereof he-has and great sorrow
El covenir les en a mis:
In-the covenant them thereof he-has put
onc puis par lui ne fu requis.
ever after by him not it-was required
Ço dit Ditis, quil vit as ieuz,
That says Dictys who-it saw with-the eyes
si granz sorfaiz ne teus orguieuz
so great excesses nor such prides
ne furent mais pensé ne fait
not were ever thought nor done
come il se sont dit e retrait.
as they each-other have said and recounted

Mais Agamennon l'emperere
But Agamemnon the-emperor
e Menelaus li reis, sis frere,
and Menelaus the king his brother
l'ont a Ulixès otreié.
it-have to Ulysses granted
Mout en furent Greu corrocié,
Much thereof were Greeks angered
mout lor pesa, mout en parlerent; 27055
much to-them it-grieved much thereof they-spoke
por poi qu'o eus ne s'en meslerent:
for little that-with them not themselves-thereof they-fought
ço firent por l'amor Heleine,
that they-did for the-love (of-)Helen
ou il aveit mise tel peine
for-whom he had put such pain
que de mort l'aveit delivree.
that from death her-he-had freed
Grant fu la noise e la criee 27060
Great was the noise and the outcry
que fist li pueples comunaus.
which made the people common
Diënt «Telamon Aïaus
They-say Telamonian Ajax
le deüst aveir quitement,
it ought to-have quit
senz nul desdit, senz nul content;
without any denial without any strife
qu'il aduist le froment de Trace, 27065
for-he brought the wheat of Thrace

n'i a un sol qui bien nel sace;
not-there is a single who well not-it may-know
qu'il a porté le greignor fais
that-he has carried the greater burden
de l'ost, fors le cors Achillès;
of the-host except the body (of-)Achilles
guardez les a es granz bosoinz
kept them he-has in-the great needs
e socoruz e près e loinz.»
and succored both near and far
Bien remembrent le grant mestier
Well they-remember the great service
que lor aveit sis branz d'acier.
which to-them had his blade of-steel
Mout par se tienent a honiz,
Much very themselves they-hold for shamed
quant n'est del Pallade saisiz.
since not-he-is of-the Palladium seized
Les dous freres ont mout blasmez,
The two brothers they-have much blamed
mout laidiz e mout encusez:
much outraged and much accused
«Honte e vergoigne e tricherie
Shame and disgrace and trickery
«a sormonté chevalerie,»
has overcome chivalry
ço diënt tuit, nus ne s'en taist;
that say all any not himself-thereof silences
mout lor peise, mout lor desplaist.
much them grieves much them displeases

Telamon est toz enragiez:
Telamon is all maddened
angoissos est e si iriez
anguished he-is and so angered
que por un poi le sen ne pert.
that for a little the sense not he-loses
En audiënce e en apert
In audience and in open
les manace, senz porloignier,
them he-threatens without delaying
a toz les testes a trenchier:
to all the heads to cut
le sanc del cors lor espandra;
the blood from-the body to-them he-will-spill
ja autrement ne remandra.
ever otherwise not it-will-remain
Soz ciel n'est plaiz qu'il en feïst,
Under heaven not-is plea that-he thereof would-make
qu'a ses dous mains nes oceïst.
that-with his two hands not-them he-would-kill
Por poi que sempres nel comence:
For little that at-once not-it he-begins
o eus content e o eus tence,
with them he-contends and with them he-quarrels
tant que il se sont departi:
so-long that they themselves have parted
dès or sont mortel enemi,
from now they-are mortal enemies

dès or lor est tres bien mestier
from now to-them it-is very well need
qu'il se sachent escharguaitier.
that-they themselves may-know-how to-guard
Tuit veillierent par les ostaus;
All kept-watch through the lodgings
a chevaliers bons e vassaus
by knights good and vassals
firent la nuit lor cors guarder:
they-made the night their bodies guard
mout faiseit cil a redoter,
much was that-one to dread
qui d'eus s'ert malement partiz.
who from-them himself-had badly parted
Oëz que conte li Escriz:
Hear what tells the Writing
icele nuit, senz plus targier,
that night without more delaying
quant li jorz prist a esclairier,
when the day began to brighten
troverent Telamon ocis;
they-found Telamon killed
les braz, le cors e tot le vis
the arms the body and all the face
ot detrenchiez d'espees nues.
he-had cut-to-pieces by-swords bare
Ci ot assez paumes batues.
Here was enough palms beaten

Sor Ulixès, sor Menelaus
Upon Ulysses upon Menelaus
e sor les autres dous vassaus
and upon the other two vassals
fu sa mort mise: «Ç'ont il fait,»
was his death put That-have they done
ço di l'uns a l'autre e retrait.
that says the-one to the-other and recounts
Tant furent vers eus corrocié,
So-much they-were toward them angered
si haïnos e si irié
so hateful and so angered
qu'il n'i a el mais dels saisir,
that-they not-there is else but them to-seize
dels ocire, dels asaillir.
them to-kill them to-assail
Mout fu Telamon regretez
Much was Telamon mourned
e de trestoz plainz e plorez;
and by all lamented and wept
mout ont retraite sa proëce
much they-have recounted his prowess
e sa valor e sa noblece.
and his valor and his nobility
Onc gent ne fu plus angoissose,
Ever folk not was more anguished
plus iriee, plus dolorose:
more angered more sorrowful
toz est lor jois vertiz en plor.
all is their joy turned into weeping

Par plus de treze feiz le jor
Through more than thirteen times the day
s'armerent por aler requerre
they-armed for to-go to-attack
ceus qu'il heent de mortel guerre;
those whom-they hate with mortal war
par maintes feiz fu comencié:
through many times it-was begun
trop par erent vers eus irié.
too very they-were toward them angered
Neptolemus fait duel estrange:
Neoptolemus makes grief strange
d'ire pert tot le sen e change,
from-wrath he-loses all the sense and changes
quar mout l'amot de grant maniere.
for much him-be-loved of great manner
Le cors fait sevelir en biere
The body he-makes bury in bier
mout richement a grant honor,
very richly at great honor
si com furent si ancessor.
so as were his ancestors
La rez fu faite a lui ardeir,
The pyre was made for him to-burn
e si sacheiz de fi por veir
and so know of faith for true
que la poudre fu bien guardee,
that the dust was well kept
bien coillie e bien ajostee.
well gathered and well joined

En une juste de fin or,
In an urn of fine gold
qu'aveit Prianz en son tresor,
which-had Priam in his treasure
preciose d'estrange guise,
precious of-strange fashion
fu tote seelee e mise.
it-was all sealed and put
Après li fist faire un tombel
After for-him he-made make a tomb
ensi tres riche, ensi tres bel
so very rich so very fair
come il onques plus faire pot:
as he ever more make could
mostré li a que mout l'amot.
shown to-him he-has that much him-he-loved
Li rei, li prince e li baron
The kings the princes and the barons
i furent ovrier e maçon;
there were workmen and masons
si distrent tuit comunaument
so they-said all in-common
que s'il fust morz premierement
that if-he had-been dead first
que li plait fussent porparlé,
that the pleas were plotted
ja n'en fussent mais escouté,
ever not-thereof they-would-have-been more heard

ja cil dedenz nel se pensassent
ever those within not-it themselves would-have-thought
ne pais ne triuë ne rovassent;
nor peace nor truce not would-have-asked
s'il l'eüssent avant perdu,
if-they him-had before lost
ne fust ancor pas abatu
not would-be still at-all thrown-down
Ylion, ainz fust toz entiers.
Ilion rather it-would-be all entire
Dedenz les quatre jorz premiers
Within the four days first
que ço fu fait, fu en esfrei
that that was done was in alarm
e en si grant paor de sei
and in so great fear for himself
danz Ulixès qu'il ne dormeit
lord Ulysses that-he not slept
ne hore desarmez n'esteit.
nor hour unarmed not-was
Reguart aveit de sa caboce,
Heed he-had for his pate
n'il n'aveit mie si grant force
nor-he not-had at-all so great force
qu'il se poüst de toz defendre:
that-he himself could from all defend
ardeir o detrenchier o pendre
to-burn or to-cut-to-pieces or to-hang
le voleient sor tote rien.
him they-wished above all thing

Cil vit e sot e conut bien
That-one saw and knew and recognized well
qu'il n'i aveit rien de l'ester:
that-it not-there had anything of the-staying
foïz s'en est de nuit par mer,
fled himself-thence he-is by night by sea
ço truis lisant, en Ismaron.
that I-find reading into Ismarus
Laissié ot le Palladion
Left he-had the Palladium
a Diomedès, son ami,
to Diomedes his friend
son compaignon e son plevi.
his companion and his pledged
Ne dotot pas qu'il l'envaïssent
Not he-feared at-all that-they him-might-assail
ne que par force li tolissent:
nor that by force from-him they-might-take
por quant n'ert il pas si seürs
for how-much not-was he at-all so sure
que, quant li cieus esteit oscurs,
that when the heaven was dark
n'eüst treis cenz vassaus armez,
not-he-might-have three hundred vassals armed
chascune nuit, lez ses costez,
each night beside his sides
a lui guarder com lor seignor.
to him guard as their lord
Autretel refont li plusor.
Just-so do-again the many

Cassandra's Prophecies and Antenor's Exile

CVII

Cassandra foretells Agamemnon's murder at home and Ajax's doom for dragging her from Minerva's temple. Antenor reconciles the quarreling Greeks with a feast. Aeneas, who hid Polyxena, is exiled and given the twenty-two ships Paris sailed in. Helenus wins Hector's sons back from Pyrrhus. The Greeks mourn Telamon, disown Agamemnon and Menelaus as Plisthenids, and drive them away; Telamon's two young sons are entrusted to Teucer. With winter coming, the Greeks put to sea. Aeneas has Antenor recalled to rule the remnant, then has him refused; Antenor sails to the Adriatic, founds Corcyra Melaena under King Oenidus, and the surviving Trojans join him there.

Cassandra, la fille Priant,
Cassandra the daughter (of-)Priam
faiseit duel angoissos e grant.
was-making grief anguished and great
Veü l'aveit tot detrenchier,
Seen it-she-had all cut-to-pieces
après, sa mere lapiier;
after her mother stone
Polixenain sa suer, s'amie,
Polyxena her sister her-friend
veant ses ieuz, tolir la vie:
seeing her eyes take the life
s'ele aveit le cuer doloros,
if-she had the heart sorrowful
dolent ne triste ne ploros,
grieving nor sad nor tearful
ço esteit bien reisons e dreiz.
that was well reason and right

Replenie ert des hauz segreiz
Filled she-was with-the high secrets
de la soveraine esciënce
of the sovereign knowledge
que li deu ont en providence:
which the gods have in providence
mainz dueus, maintes aversitez
many griefs many-a adversities
a prononciez e destinez.
she-has pronounced and destined
Agamennon dit qu'il seit fiz
Agamemnon she-says that-he may-be certain
qu'en sa maison sera traïz:
that-in his house he-will-be betrayed
«Sa mort li ont apareilliee
His death for-him have prepared
li plus prochain de sa maisniee.
the most near of his household
Del rei Priant, qui fu ocis
Of-the king Priam who was killed
devant l'autel Apollinis,
before the-altar of-Apollo
riert tost li termes aproismiez
again-will-be soon the term approached
que il sera mout bien vengiez:
that he will-be very well avenged
Apollo vueut qu'ensi seit fait.
Apollo wishes that-thus it-be done
Honte li fist icil e lait,
Shame to-him did that-one and outrage

qui son autel ensanglenta:
who his altar bloodied
laidement l'espeneïra.
foully it-he-will-expiate
«Li reis Oïleus Aïaus
The king Oilean Ajax
«n'en reschapera mie ataus.
not-thence will-escape at-all thus
«Del temple Minerve m'osta;
From-the temple (of-)Minerva me-he-took
«mar m'i saisi, mar m'i tocha:
ill me-there he-seized ill me-there he-touched
«La deuesse quiert e espleite
The goddess seeks and brings-about
«com dueus li vienge e meschaeite.
how griefs to-him may-come and mishap
«Autretel ravront li plusor.
Just-so will-have-again the many
«A honte, a mal e a dolor
To shame to ill and to sorrow
«e a eissil e a torment
and to exile and to torment
«e a peril de tote gent
and to peril of all folk
«seront livré: li deu l'otreient,
they-will-be delivered the gods it-grant
«qu'ensi l'esguardent e porveient.»
who-thus it-consider and provide

A mainz en mist el cors esfrei:
To many thereof she-put in-the body alarm
chascuns dota e crienst de sei.
each feared and dreaded for himself
Icist estris dura assez,
This strife lasted enough
tant qu'Antenor o ses privez
so-long that-Antenor with his intimates
les vint preier mout de pais faire,
them came to-pray much of peace to-make
si lor sot bien dire e retraire
so to-them he-knew well to-tell and recount
que malement se baillisseient,
that badly themselves they-were-handling
quar teus ovraignes en sordreient,
for such works thereof would-arise
par qu'il sereient si destruit,
by which-they would-be so destroyed
lor heir, lor terres e lor fruit,
their heirs their lands and their fruit
que ja mais jusqu'al finement
that ever more until-the end
ne sereit d'eus restorement.
not would-be of-them restoration
Mout lor dit, mout lor amoneste.
Much to-them he-says much them he-exhorts
Après a fait d'eus mout grant feste:
After he-has made of-them very great feast

a mangier convia les reis
to eating he-invited the kings
e toz les princes des Grezeis,
and all the princes of-the Greeks
e sis servi mout richement.
and so-them he-served very richly
Après lor fist maint bel present:
After to-them he-made many-a fair present
de dons les a toz repleniz.
with gifts them he-has all replenished
Mais auques esteient marriz
But somewhat they-were grieved
o Eneas, qui, sor lor vié,
with Aeneas who against their prohibition
sor lor peis e senz lor congié,
against their weight and without their leave
aveit Polixenain celee,
had Polyxena hidden
prise e reposte e resconsee.
taken and hidden and concealed
Enfrait aveit son sairement:
Broken he-had his oath
de ço li firent jugement,
of that on-him they-made judgment
qu'il aveit le païs forfait.
that-he had the country forfeited
Ne vos en quier faire lonc plait:
Not you thereof I-seek to-make long plea
eissillié l'ont e senz reison,
exiled him-they-have and without reason

e por assez poi d'acheison,
and for enough little of-occasion
preié li ont qu'o eus s'en aille,
prayed to-him they-have that-with them himself-thence he-may-go
quar n'i a nul qui ja li faille:
for not-there is any who ever to-him may-fail
tot autretant de digneté,
all just-as-much of dignity
d'onor e de prosperité
of-honor and of prosperity
ait come uns d'eus, e neient meins.
may-he-have as one of-them and nothing less
Cil fu desvez e d'ire pleins:
That-one was maddened and with-wrath full
les vint e dous nes lor a quis
the twenty and two ships from-them he-has asked
o que en Grece ala Paris,
with which to Greece went Paris
ou il s'en aille e ses maisniees.
where he himself-thence may-go and his households
Totes li furent otreiees
All to-him were granted
e doné leisir e espace
and given leisure and space
qu'il les ratort e les reface.
that-he them may-rearray and them may-remake

Doucement requist Helenus,
Sweetly required Helenus
oiant toz les princes, Pirrus
hearing all the princes Pyrrhus
que les dous fiz Hector li rende:
that the two sons (of-)Hector to-him he-may-render
tant de retor e tant d'amende
so-much of return and so-much of-amends
li face de tot son damage.
to-him may-he-make of all his harm
Mout l'en trova fier e sauvage,
Much him-thereof he-found fierce and wild
mais tant preia cil humblement
but so-much prayed that-one humbly
les reis, les princes, l'autre gent,
the kings the princes the-other folk
que il li rendi ambedous:
that he to-him rendered both
mout en fu Helenus joios.
much thereof was Helenus joyful
Antenor, ço me dit Ditis,
Antenor that to-me says Dictys
guerpi le regne e le païs;
quitted the realm and the country
mais il ne me reconte mie
but he not to-me recounts at-all
ou il ala n'en quel partie.
where he went nor-in what part

Puis ra Neptolemus somons
Then again-has Neoptolemus summoned
les reis, les princes, les barons
the kings the princes the barons
qu'il feïssent duel, plors e criz
that-they might-make grief weepings and cries
por Telamon, qui ert mordriz.
for Telamon who was murdered
Iluec ou il fu enterré,
There where he was buried
l'ont par treis jorz plaint e ploré,
him-they-have for three days lamented and wept
que il ne furent deschaucié
so-that they not were unshod
ne desvestu ne despoillié.
nor unclothed nor stripped
Ço firent que gent ne fist mais:
That they-did which folk not did ever
res e tondu se sont a près;
shaved and shorn themselves they-have at near
iluec remestrent lor cheveus.
there remained their hair
Ço lor fist faire angoisse e dueus.
That to-them made do anguish and griefs
Agamennon e Menelaus
Agamemnon and Menelaus
ont mout apelez desleiaus.
they-have much called disloyal

Diënt que tant se sont honi
They-say that so-much themselves they-have shamed
que de la ligniee Atreï
that of the line of-Atreus
ne seront il mais apelez:
not will-be they more called
Plistenidas les ont nomez;
Plisthenidae them they-have named
c'est neient nobles en grezeis.
that-is nothing noble in Greek
Ainz que passast la fin del meis,
Before that might-pass the end of-the month
virent qu'o eus ne la guarraient
they-saw that-with them not there they-would-be-safe
ne autre pais n'i trovereient.
nor other peace not-there they-would-find
Mout ont requis, mout ont preié
Much they-have required much they-have prayed
que d'aler lor dongent congié:
that of-going to-them they-may-give leave
«Quant vers eus ont itel rancune,
Since toward them they-have such rancor
n'est mie dreiz qu'en lor comune
not-is at-all right that-in their commons
seient: laissent les en aler.»
they-may-be let-them them thence go
A ço estut mout demorer,
At that it-behooved much to-tarry
ainz qu'il en eüssent otrez.
before that-they thereof had grant

Lor navies fu mout tost prez.
Their fleet was very soon ready
Chacié vilment e deboté,
Chased vilely and thrust-out
se sont del port desaancré.
themselves they-have from-the port unanchored
Mout se firent joiant e lié,
Much themselves made joyful and glad
quant en mer se furent veilié:
when on sea themselves had sailed
por tot le regne de Baviere
for all the realm of Bavaria
ne retornassent il ariere.
not would-turn they back
Reis Telamon aveit dous fiz
King Telamon had two sons
assez jovnes, assez petiz,
enough young enough small
de dous gentis filles de reis:
by two noble daughters of kings
n'aveit mie esté sor lor peis,
not-had at-all been against their weight
que de lor bones volentez.
but of their good wills
Eantidès ert apelez
Aeantides was called
l'uns des vaslez, nez de Glauca:
the-one of-the youths born of Glauca
sor tote rien le resembla.
above all thing her he-resembled

L'autre aveit non Eurisacis,
The-other had name Eurysaces
e Tecmissa, ço m'est a vis,
and Tecmessa that to-me-is at opinion
sa mere: ensi l'apelot l'om.
his mother thus her-called one
Mout erent de gente façon,
Much they-were of noble fashion
mout erent bel e afaitié
much they-were fair and well-bred
e sor toz autres enseignié.
and above all others taught
A Teücer furent livré,
To Teucer they-were delivered
haut home riche e honoré,
high man rich and honored
qu'il les norrisse e les ait chiers,
that-he them may-nurse and them may-have dear
tant qu'estre puissent chevaliers.
until-that to-be they-may knights
Cil les reçut joiosement,
That-one them received joyfully
qu'il erent si prochain parent.
for-they were so near kin
Après que tot iço fu fait,
After that all that was done
que vos ai conté e retrait,
which to-you I-have told and recounted

virent Greu l'iver qui veneit
saw Greeks the-winter which was-coming
o vent e o pluie e o freit,
with wind and with rain and with cold
o granz orez e o tormenz.
with great storms and with tempests
Senz autres lons porloignemenz,
Without other long delays
pristrent conseil de mer passer:
they-took counsel of sea to-cross
n'i aveit rien del plus ester.
not-there had anything of-the more staying
L'iverz e li neirs tens felons,
The-winter and the black weather felon
cil qui despueille les boissons
that-one which strips the bushes
de lor beauté e de lor fueille,
of their beauty and of their leaf
qui la terre empalue e mueille,
which the earth bogs and wets
par que li oisel sont taisant
by which the birds are silent
de lor douz sons e de lor chant,
from their sweet sounds and from their song
qui l'ore douce mue e change,
which the-breeze sweet shifts and changes
e les manace e les estrange
and them threatens and them estranges
de mer passer o lor navei,
from sea crossing with their fleet

s'il n'en prenent prochain conrei.
if-they not-thereof take near array
O lor pesast, o lor fust bel,
Might-it to-them grieve might-it to-them be fair
por le defaut del tens novel,
for the want of-the time new
se mistrent en mer tenebrose,
themselves they-put on sea dark
orrible e laide e perillose.
horrible and foul and perilous
A Troie est Eneas remés,
At Troy is Aeneas remained
par le comandement as Gres,
by the command of-the Greeks
tant qu'il se seit apareilliez:
until that-he himself be prepared
puis s'en ira come eissilliez.
then himself-thence he-will-go as exiled
Ses nes atorne en la marine.
His ships he-arrays on the shore
Quant veit que tel est sa destine,
When he-sees that such is his destiny
s'a apelé le remanant
so-he-has called the remnant
qui de l'ocise laide e grant
who from the-slaughter foul and great
furent guari e eschapé
were saved and escaped
e si lor a dit e mostré:
and so to-them he-has said and shown

«Seignor,» fait il, «ensi nos vait:
Lords says he thus to-us it-goes
«Assez a ci doloros plait;
Enough there-is here sorrowful plea
«puis que li siegles comença,
since that the world began
«ne ja mais tant come il durra,
nor ever more as-long as it will-last
«ne sera gent plus maubaillie.
not will-be folk more ill-treated
«J'ai aprestee ma navie:
I-have made-ready my fleet
«Par estoveir, com de morir,
By necessity as of dying
«me covient Troie a deguerpir
me behooves Troy to quit
«e terre querre ou jo remaigne.
and land to-seek where I may-remain
«Cil qui vendront en ma compaigne
Those who will-come in my company
«sachent ja mais ne lor faudrai,
let-them-know ever more not to-them I-shall-fail
«tant com la vie el cors avrai:
as-long as the life in-the body I-shall-have
«Douz lor serai e dreituriers;
Sweet to-them I-shall-be and rightful
«amerai les e avrai chiers
I-shall-love them and shall-have dear
«e socorrai a lor bosoinz,
and shall-succor at their needs

«sonc mon poëir, e près e loinz.
according-to my power both near and far
«Cil qui voudront ci remaneir,
Those who will-wish here to-remain
«n'i a parent prochain ne heir
not-there is kin near nor heir
«de la ligniee Dardani
of the line of-Dardanus
«qui sor vos seit prince establi;
who over you may-be prince established
«les Marches sont de ci mout près,
the Marches are from here very near
«ou li home sont mout engrès
where the men are very fierce
«e maufaisant e robeor:
and evildoing and robbers
«Se vos estiëz senz seignor,
If you were without lord
«estre vos en porreit de pis.
to-be to-you thereof could of worse
«Jo ne vei pas ne jo ne truis
I not see at-all nor I not find
«conseil qui plus vos seit sauvables,
counsel which more to-you may-be saving
«plus vaillanz ne plus profitables,
more worthy nor more profitable
«que d'Antenor faire venir:
than of-Antenor to-make come
«Sages est e de grant aïr,
Wise he-is and of great force

«e mout par est vaillanz e proz;
and very very is worthy and valiant
«bien vos savra maintenir toz,
well you he-will-know to-maintain all
«guarder, defendre e conseillier.
to-guard to-defend and to-counsel
«Autre conseiz nos a mestier:
Other counsel us has need
«Pere vos sera e refui.
Father to-you he-will-be and refuge
«Faites tost enveier por lui,
Make soon send for him
«si vos seit seignor e chadel.»
so to-you may-he-be lord and chieftain
Ço plot a toz e lor fu bel:
That pleased to all and to-them was fair
por lui tramistrent maintenant.
for him they-sent now
Danz Antenor ot joie grant,
Lord Antenor had joy great
quant la chose li fu nonciee:
when the thing to-him was announced
isnelement o sa maisniee
swiftly with his household
est revenuz a grant espleit,
he-is come-back at great speed
mais fait li ont mal acoilleit.
but made to-him they-have ill welcome

Oëz quel conseil aveit pris
Hear what counsel had taken
danz Eneas entre tant dis:
lord Aeneas between so-much while
ne sereit pas cil recoilliz
not would-be at-all he received
ne sor eus princes establiz;
nor over them prince established
del païs vueut qu'il seit chaciez,
from-the country he-wishes that-he be chased
qu'en Troie ne mete les piez.
that-in Troy not he-may-put the feet
Demandé aveit e enquis,
Asked he-had and inquired
e tot por veir aveit apris
and all for true he-had learned
que par lui ert desheritez
that by him he-was disinherited
e descoverz e encusez
and uncovered and accused
por la fille le rei Priant.
for the daughter (of-)the king Priam
Bien en aveit esté semblant,
Well thereof had been seeming
quar, se sis cors ne la cerchast,
for if his body not her had-searched
ja uns des lor ne la trovast.
ever one of-the theirs not her would-have-found
Après aveient tot laissié,
After they-had all left

n'erent de rien vers lui irié,
not-they-were of anything toward him angered
desci qu'il les ot conjurez:
until that-he them had conjured
la fu li forfaiz remembrez,
there was the misdeed remembered
par que l'en estoveit aler;
by which him-thence it-behooved to-go
e s'il ne l'eüst fait mander,
and if-he not him-had made summon
o lui se meslast assez tost.
with him himself would-mix enough soon
Mandé li a bien que il s'ost
Sent to-him he-has well that he himself-may-remove
del païs e de la contree,
from-the country and from the country
que il n'i face demoree.
that he not-there may-make delay
Bien fu Antenor refusez
Well was Antenor refused
e de la terre congeez.
and from the land dismissed
Honte e vergoigne li ont fait;
Shame and disgrace to-him they-have done
mal gré en ait, se il s'en vait:
ill will thereof may-he-have if he himself-thence goes
ço prenge qu'il a deservi,
that may-he-take which-he has deserved
qu'or nen iert il de rien saisi.
for-now not will-be he of anything seized

Se ço est veir que nos lisons,
If that is true which we read
dou mile e cinc cenz compaignons
two thousand and five hundred companions
aveit en son seignorement,
he-had in his lordship
e si vos di certainement
and so to-you I-say certainly
que toz en fu li conseiz pris
that all thereof was the counsel taken
qu'ainz qu'il eississent del païs,
that-before that-they might-go-out from-the country
sereit asailliz Eneas.
would-be assailed Aeneas
Nel loërent si ami pas;
Not-it advised his friends at-all
distrent que merveilles fereient,
they-said that marvels they-would-do
se de rechief s'entrociëient.
if of afresh each-other-they-should-kill
Ensi remest: n'i ot plus fait
Thus it-remained not-there was more done
ne il n'i ot nul autre plait,
nor it not-there had any other plea
mais es nes entrent, si s'en vont.
but into-the ships they-enter so themselves-thence they-go
O eus en portent ço qu'il ont:
With them thence they-carry that which-they have

n'i laissent rien, que pas ne creient
not-there they-leave anything for at-all not they-believe
que ja mais la terre reveient.
that ever more the land they-may-see-again
Vont s'en plein d'ire e de rancune
They-go themselves-thence full of-wrath and of rancor
quel part ques vueut mener Fortune:
what way that-them wishes to-lead Fortune
ne sevent certe remanance,
not they-know certain abiding
ou aient pais ne seürtance;
where they-may-have peace nor assurance
ne se sevent en cui fiër,
nor themselves they-know in whom to-trust
mais mout entendent al sigler.
but much they-attend to-the sailing
Maint gort, maint gofre ont trespassé
Many-a whirlpool many-a gulf they-have passed
e maint torment e maint oré,
and many-a storm and many-a gale
tant qu'en mer Adriaticon
until that-in sea Adriatic
parvindrent, si com nos lison.
they-arrived so as we read
La furent asailli e pris,
There they-were assailed and taken
navré e robé e ocis;
wounded and plundered and killed
es mains a plusors genz chaïrent,
into-the hands of many folk they-fell

qui maint lait damage lor firent,
who many-a foul harm to-them did
maint mal, maint enui e maint tort.
many-a ill many-a vexation and many-a wrong
Par force sont torné a port:
By force they-are turned to port
ne se sorent vif conseillier,
not themselves they-knew alive to-counsel
mais tres desus un grant rochier
but very upon a great rock
fermerent une forterece
they-fortified a fortress
par grant bosoing e par destrece.
by great need and by distress
La place fu fort e li lieus:
The place was strong and the site
ne crient rien fors d'a mont des cieus;
not fears anything except of-at above from-the heavens
n'i covint faire esforcement,
not-there behooved to-make forcing
quar jusqu'al jor del finement
for until-the day of-the end
n'i porreit om faire un asaut.
not-there could one make an assault
La roche est plaine e dreite en haut;
The rock is smooth and straight on high
a treis costez batent les ondes
on three sides beat the waves
de mer hisdoses e parfondes;
of sea hideous and deep

de l'autre part li cort Tigris:
on the-other side to-it runs Tigris
c'est uns des fluns de Paradis,
that-is one of-the rivers of Paradise
qui mout est beaus, granz e pleniers.
which very is fair great and full
Ainz que passast sis meis entiers,
Before that might-pass six months entire
orent il faite tel cité
had they made such city
que mout par fu de grant beauté,
that very very was of great beauty
close de marbre de colors:
enclosed with marble of colors
bel sont li mur, beles les tors,
fair are the walls fair the towers
bel li temple, bel li palais.
fair the temples fair the palaces
Se sol dous anz aveient pais,
If only two years they-had peace
ja ne sereient mais conquis.
ever not they-would-be more conquered
La terre est riche e li païs,
The land is rich and the country
e plenteïve la contree.
and plentiful the country
N'i firent force ne meslee,
Not-there they-did force nor melee
pecei, arson ne roberie.
destruction burning nor robbery

Vers ceus del regne s'umelie
Toward those of-the realm himself-humbles
danz Antenor, ço sai de veir,
lord Antenor that I-know of truth
qui mout les sot bien toz aveir.
who much them knew well all to-have
Ne se fist pas d'eus escurdos
Not himself he-made at-all toward-them haughty
ne maufaisanz ne haïnos:
nor evildoing nor hateful
de ses chiers aveirs lor presente,
of his dear goods to-them he-presents
en ço met sa cure e s'entente,
in that he-puts his care and his-intent
qu'il ait d'eus pais e seürtance;
that-he may-have of-them peace and assurance
o plusors d'eus fait aleiance.
with many of-them he-makes alliance
Tant l'amerent, tant le joïrent
So-much him-they-loved so-much him they-feasted
qu'en lor demeine l'acoillirent;
that-into their domain him-they-received
tant par fu sages e discrez
so very he-was wise and discreet
que, ainz que li anz fust passez,
that before that the year were passed
ot si a son comandement
he-had so at his command
celui cui tot le regne apent.
that-one to-whom all the realm belongs

Apelez ert Oënidus;
Called he-was Oenidus
Reis esteit de Gerbene e dus
King he-was of Gerbene and duke
hauz e riches e honorez:
high and rich and honored
de celui par fu tant amez
by that-one very he-was so-much loved
que prince en fist de sa maison
that prince thereof he-made of his house
e de tote la region.
and of all the region
De tot le reiaume enterin
Of all the realm entire
furent a lui li home aclin,
were to him the men submitted
par le comandement le rei,
by the command (of-)the king
e Antenor li porta fei
and Antenor to-him bore faith
tant come il onques pot meillor;
as-much as he ever could best
bien le servi come seignor,
well him he-served as lord
senz vilanie e senz mauté.
without baseness and without wickedness
Bele e riche fu la cité:
Fair and rich was the city
Corcire Menelan ot non;
Corcyra Melaena it-had name

par tot en ala le reson.
through all thence went the renown
Renomee, que par tot vole,
Rumor who through all flies
en a tenue grant parole:
thereof has held great word
dit que mout est a cez bien pris;
she-says that very is to these well taken
cité ont riche e bon païs.
city they-have rich and good country
De l'ocise del remanant,
Of the-slaughter of-the remnant
de la contree al rei Priant,
of the country of-the king Priam
qui a Troie furent remés
who at Troy were remained
rechargierent puis onze nes:
again-loaded after eleven ships
tant espleitierent e siglerent
so-much they-sped and sailed
qu'a Corcire dreit ariverent.
that-at Corcyra straight they-arrived
Antenor les a receüz:
Antenor them has received
sacheiz mout furent bien venuz.
know very they-were well come
Li un les autres recoillirent:
The ones the others received
merveillose joie se firent.
marvelous joy each-other they-made

En poi d'ore e en poi de tens
In little of-time and in little of time
furent si creüz Troïens
were so increased Trojans
que, quis vousist adamagier
that who-them would-wish to-harm
e de la terre fors chacier,
and from the land out to-chase
ne fust mie legier a faire.
not would-be at-all easy to do

The Returns and the Vengeance of Nauplius

CVIII

A three-day storm in the Aegean scatters the fleet, and its treasure goes overboard; Oilean Ajax loses thirty-seven ships to lightning and swims ashore half dead, Minerva's vengeance for Cassandra. Nauplius, father of Palamedes, has learned how Ulysses destroyed his son: forged letters and gold hidden under his bed made Palamedes seem a traitor, and when that failed, Ulysses and Diomedes lured him into a well with a tale of treasure and stoned him there. To avenge him, Nauplius lights great fires on the cliffs of Euboea. The Greek ships run for them onto the rocks, where his men hurl boulders down on them; ten thousand drown before dawn, and the cries turn the rest away.

Dès or porreiz oïr retraire
From now you-will-be-able to-hear recount
coment cil de Grece espleitierent,
how those of Greece fared
qui en la haute mer nagierent,
who on the high sea sailed

s'orreiz a queus porz il tornerent,
so-you-will-hear at what ports they turned
les queus de lor nes amenerent;
the which of their ships brought
s'orreiz li quel furent chacié,
so-you-will-hear the which were chased
quel refusé, quel eissillié,
which refused which exiled
li quel robé, li quel ocis.
the which plundered the which killed
Tot ço que me retrait Ditis
All that which to-me recounts Dictys
voudrai continuër après:
I-shall-wish to-continue after
hom qui vive n'orra ja mais
man who may-live not-will-hear ever more
a nule gent ço avenir,
to any folk that happen
que vos porreiz hui mais oïr.
which you will-be-able today more to-hear
En mer erent, ou il sigloënt;
On sea they-were where they were-sailing
en lor terres s'en repairoënt
into their lands themselves-thence they-were-returning
haitié e joios e manant.
glad and joyful and wealthy

Des granz tresors al rei Priant
With-the great treasures of-the king Priam
e des aveirs de la cité
and with-the goods of the city
sont lor dromont plein e rasé.
are their dromonds full and brimming
Vent orent buen qui tost les meine:
Wind they-had good which soon them leads
ainz que trespassast la semaine,
before that might-pass the week
orent il siglé, ço lison,
had they sailed that we-read
desci qu'en la mer Egeon.
until that-into the sea Aegean
La lor est mout li tens changiez:
There to-them is much the weather changed
teus lor est sors e comenciez,
such to-them is arisen and begun
dont n'i avra nul ne s'en plaigne,
whereof not-there will-be any not himself-thereof may-complain
anceis qu'il s'apait ne remaigne.
before that-it itself-may-calm nor may-remain
L'airs oscurci e espessa;
The-air darkened and thickened
soleiz ne lune ne raia;
sun nor moon not shone
les nues d'a mont s'abaissierent,
the clouds of-at above themselves-lowered
que en mer burent e chargierent.
so-that in sea they-drank and loaded

Veant lor ieuz, li vent venterent,
Seeing their eyes the winds blew
qui tencierent e estriverent:
which quarreled and strove
tuit quatre se sont irascu.
all four themselves are angered
Adonc tona de tel vertu
Then it-thundered with such force
que toz li monz fu embrasez.
that all the world was set-afire
Fiers fu li venz e li orez.
Fierce was the wind and the gale
La mer fu grosse e tenebrose,
The sea was swollen and dark
laide e oscure e perillose:
foul and obscure and perilous
criot, braeit de tel aïr,
it-cried it-shrieked with such force
tot manaçot a transglotir;
all it-threatened to swallow
ondes reversent e escument.
waves overturn and foam
En plus de cinc mil lieus alument
In more than five thousand places light-up
les nes, que dedenz sont ataintes:
the ships which within are reached
mout sont cachiees e empeintes;
very they-are hunted and thrust

n'i remaint mast, funain ne tref
not-there remains mast rope nor sail
jaune, vermeil, ne pers ne blef.
yellow vermilion nor blue nor gray
Rompent utages e hobenc
Break halyards and shrouds
e li chaable e li grant drenc;
and the cables and the great beams
peceient verne e governail.
shatter yard and rudder
Mout ont honte, mout ont travail:
Much they-have shame much they-have travail
n'i a si sage marinier
not-there is so wise mariner
qui s'i sache vis conseillier.
who himself-there may-know alive to-counsel
Grosse pluie, sorversion
Heavy rain downpour
lor chiet d'a mont a tel foison
on-them falls of-at above at such abundance
qu'il n'i a cel si orgoillos
that-it not-there is that-one so proud
qui, o perdant un membre o dous,
who or losing a limb or two
ne vousist mieuz estre en Cartage.
not would-wish better to-be in Carthage
Icel torment, icel orage
That storm that tempest
lor a duré treis jorz entiers:
to-them has lasted three days entire

ainz que s'acoisast li tempiers,
before that itself-might-calm the weather
furent il si esparpeillié,
were they so scattered
si departi, si perillié
so parted so imperiled
que l'uns ne sot ou l'autre fu.
that the-one not knew where the-other was
Li grant aveir furent perdu:
The great goods were lost
geté furent en mer parfonde
thrown they-were into sea deep
por ester plus legier sor l'onde;
for to-stand more light on the-wave
mout petitet lor en remaint.
very little to-them thereof remains
Chascuns se muert, chascuns se plaint;
Each himself dies each himself laments
l'uns a l'autre conseil ne done.
the-one to the-other counsel not gives
Al secont jor, puis hore none,
At-the second day after hour nones
neia la flote des Grezeis.
drowned the fleet of-the Greeks
Oïleus Aïaus li reis
Oilean Ajax the king
s'en eschapa par aventure
himself-thence escaped by chance
noant, ço truis, par nuit oscure:
swimming that I-find by night dark

sis cors li fu bateaus e barge;
his body to-him was boat and barge
a grant dolor vint al rivage.
at great sorrow he-came to-the shore
Mainte onde ot anceis encontree:
Many-a wave he-had before met
tant a beü de mer salee,
so-much he-has drunk of sea salt
toz en est pleins, gros e enflez.
all thereof he-is full swollen and puffed
De grant peril est eschapez;
From great peril he-is escaped
a denz se gist sor le rochier.
on teeth himself he-lies upon the rock
Onc ne se pot sor piez drecier:
Ever not himself he-could on feet raise
si fu anceis prime de jor.
so it-was before prime of day
Cil pot aveir ire e dolor:
That-one could have wrath and sorrow
trente set nes i a perdues,
thirty seven ships there he-has lost
foudre de ciel li a tolues;
lightning from heaven from-him has taken
n'i ot celi que n'alumast
not-there was that-one which not-it-set-alight
e que al fonz de mer n'alast.
and which to-the bottom of sea not-went
Li home furent tuit peri,
The men were all perished

e cil qui de mort sont guari,
and those who from death are saved
c'est par lor braz e par lor mains,
it-is by their arms and by their hands
de qu'il firent goverz e rains:
of which-they made oars and branches
poi en estorst, c'est la verté.
few thereof escaped it-is the truth
Quant del jor parut la clarté,
When of-the day appeared the brightness
e il orent la mer rendue
and they had the sea given-back
qu'il aveient senz seif beüe,
which-they had without thirst drunk
si se resont tant esforciez
so themselves again-they-have so-much forced
qu'il se drecierent sor lor piez.
that-they themselves raised on their feet
Puis se quistrent par la marine:
Then each-other they-sought along the shore
sovent maudiënt lor destine.
often they-curse their destiny
Lor seignor truevent en l'areine,
Their lord they-find on the-sand
qui a eus puet parler a peine:
who to them can speak with pain
de la mer est gros e enflez.
from the sea he-is swollen and puffed
Mar fu li temples violez:
Ill was the temple violated

por Cassandra, qu'en fu sachiee,
for Cassandra who-thence was drawn
s'en est Minerve ensi vengiee.
herself-thence is Minerva thus avenged
Quant qu'il fussent riche e manant,
As-much as-they were rich and wealthy
or sont il povre e pain querant:
now are they poor and bread seeking
n'ont ou prengent un sol disner
not-they-have where they-may-take a single dinner
n'il ne sevent quel part aler.
nor-they not know what way to-go
Ço les grieve, ço les enserre,
That them grieves that them encloses
que pas ne conoissent la terre.
that at-all not they-know the land
La grant perte desmesuree
The great loss measureless
que il ont faite e recovree
which they have made and received
prisent mout poi, quant guari sont,
they-prize very little since saved they-are
e ne por quant grant duel en font.
and not for how-much great grief thereof they-make
Se Troïen sont eissillié,
If Trojans are exiled
e cist resont tuit perillié:
and these again-are all imperiled
n'en portent mie lor chataus.
not-thence they-carry at-all their chattels

Al rei Oïleus Aïaus
To-the king Oilean Ajax
avint ensi com vos ai dit.
it-happened thus as to-you I-have said
Or si oëz que dit l'Escrit.
Now so hear what says the-Writing
Nauplus esteit uns riches reis,
Nauplius was a rich king
proz e sages de totes leis;
valiant and wise of all laws
cent anz aveit tres bien e mais.
hundred years he-had very well and more
Cist ert pere Palamedès,
This-one was father (of-)Palamedes
a l'engeignos, al sage, al proz,
of the-ingenious of-the wise of-the valiant
qui emperere fu sor toz,
who emperor was over all
cui Greu donerent la maistrie,
to-whom Greeks gave the mastery
l'eslection, la seignorie
the-election the lordship
qu'Agamennon teneit al jor.
which-Agamemnon held at-the day
Cist Nauplus ert en grant dolor:
This Nauplius was in great sorrow

dit li aveit l'om e noncié —
told to-him had one and announced
ne sai com li fu enseignié —
not I-know how to-him it-was taught
que par merveille e par envie
that through marvel and through envy
orent son fil geté de vie.
they-had his son thrown from life
Ç'orent fait Greu en l'ost entre eus, 27685
That-had done Greeks in the-host among them
que Ulixès, qui tant ert feus,
for Ulysses who so-much was felon
le haeit mout tres mortelment,
him hated very very mortally
qu'il par ert de tel esciënt
for-he very was of such knowledge
qu'en l'ost ne feïssent ja rien,
that-in the-host not they-would-do ever anything
ne haute uevre, ne mal, ne bien, 27690
nor high work nor ill nor good
se ço non que il comandast,
if that not which he commanded
que il vousist e qu'il loast:
which he wished and which-he advised
por ço li ert cil haïnos
for that to-him was that-one hateful
e mauvoillanz e engeignos.
and ill-willing and crafty

Ore oëz quel seduction
Now hear what seduction
il fist de lui par traïson.
he did of him by treason
Dous briés escrist en dous semblances,
Two letters he-wrote in two semblances
e s'i aveit teus conoissances
and so-there there-was such acquaintances
o Troïens qu'il traïsseit,
with Trojans that-he was-betraying
por l'aveir que il en preneit,
for the-goods which he thereof was-taking
l'ost de Grece: ço ert escrit.
the-host of Greece that was written
Bien se guarda, bien se porvit
Well himself he-guarded well himself he-provided
qu'en tel sen fust la letre escrite
that-in such sense might-be the letter written
que ne poüst estre desdite:
that not could be denied
li termes i ert bien posez
the term there was well placed
e icil jorz toz devisez
and that day all devised
en que ço deveit estre fait.
in which that was-to be done
Oïr poëz estrange aguait.
Hear you-can strange ambush

Trestoz li ors e tot l'argent
All the gold and all the-silver
e tot l'aveir entierement 27710
and all the-goods entirely
qu'il en preneit e aveit pris
which-he thereof was-taking and had taken
ert en l'autre des seeaus mis.
was in the-other of-the seals put
Li covenant e li otrei
The covenants and the grants
e tuit li fait e li segrei
and all the deeds and the secrets
erent es briés. Puis atendi 27715
were in-the letters Then he-waited
que dit li fu e qu'il oï
until told to-him it-was and that-he heard
qu'en l'ost esteit uns hom tuëz.
that-in the-host was a man killed
Sor cel les a mis e posez
Upon that-one them he-has put and placed
celeement: rien nel conut,
secretly anything not-it knew
ne rien nel vit ne n'aparçut. 27720
nor anything not-it saw nor not-perceived
Puis rot tant quis e engeignié
Then again-he-had so-much sought and contrived
e tant parlé e porchacié
and so-much spoken and pursued
cist que vos di, danz Ulixès,
this-one whom to-you I-tell lord Ulysses

o un serjant Palamedès
with a sergeant (of-)Palamedes
qu'a metre consentu li ot
that-to put consented to-him he-had
l'aveir que li briés demostrot,
the-goods which the letter showed
trestot itant, ne plus ne meins.
all just-so-much not more nor less
Cil qui de traïson fu pleins
That-one who of treason was full
rot fait cerchier l'ome tüé:
again-had made search the-man killed
sor lui furent li brief trové.
upon him were the letters found
Tost furent lit e coneü
Soon they-were read and known
e par trestot l'ost bien seü;
and through all the-host well known
tost furent as princes mostré,
soon they-were to-the princes shown
un jor qu'il erent asemblé:
one day that-they were assembled
ensemble ert toz li comuns d'eus.
together was all the commons of-them
Quant Ulixès le sot, li feus,
When Ulysses it knew the felon
merveilla sei e fist semblant
marveled himself and made semblance
qu'il n'en seüst ne tant ne quant.
that-he not-thereof knew nor so-much nor how-much

Dist qu'il ne poëit pas cuider
He-said that-he not could at-all believe
que li venist sol en penser.
that to-him might-come only into thought
Diomedès grant plait en meine:
Diomedes great plea thereof leads
mout se porchace e mout se peine
much himself pursues and much himself takes-pains
come il le puisse a mort livrer,
how he him may to death deliver
baissier, honir e vergonder.
lower shame and disgrace
Li conciles fu fiers e granz,
The council was fierce and great
e Ulixès, li souduianz,
and Ulysses the deceiver
prist les briés, sis comence a lire,
took the letters so-them he-begins to read
oiant le barnage e l'empire.
hearing the baronage and the-empire
Ceste uevre fu a toz retraite,
This work was to all recounted
que cist aveit parlee e faite,
which this-one had spoken and done
li suen covenant e li lor:
the his covenants and the theirs
tuit le tindrent a traïtor.
all him held for traitor
Defendist s'en, mais il ne pot,
He-would-have-defended himself-thereof but he not could

quar li uns des briés demostrot
for the one of-the letters showed
l'aveir trestot, ou il esteit,
the-goods all where it was
e com bien il en i aveit:
and how much it thereof there had
«Desoz son lit,» ço dit la Letre.
Beneath his bed that says the Text
Il n'i voustrent autre trametre:
They not-there wished other to-send
cil i vont qui plus sont sachant,
those there go who most are knowing
plus fort, plus riche e plus vaillant,
most strong most rich and most worthy
e Ulixès les i conduit.
and Ulysses them there conducts
Trové l'ont, si quel veient tuit.
Found it-they-have so that-it see all
Denier a denier fu contez
Penny by penny it-was counted
e, veant toz, set feiz pesez:
and seeing all seven times weighed
ne menteit de rien li seeaus.
not lied of anything the seal
Ore a Ulixès ses aveaus.
Now has Ulysses his desires
Palamedès veit entrepris:
Palamedes sees-himself caught

angoissos est e si pensis
anguished he-is and so pensive
qu'il ne se set de ço defendre.
that-he not himself knows from that to-defend
Maintenant fu jugiez a pendre
Now he-was judged to hang
o a ardeir o a desfaire.
or to burn or to undo
Ne vos savreit nus hom retraire
Not to-you would-know-how any man recount
la tomoute ne la dolor
the tumult nor the sorrow
ne les granz criz ne le grant plor
nor the great cries nor the great weeping
que meinent cil de sa maisniee:
which make those of his household
mainte arme i ot apareilliee
many-a arm there was prepared
a lui defendre de maneis.
to him defend of forthwith
En l'ost n'ot si hardi Grezeis
In the-host not-was so bold Greek
semblant feïst de lui saisir:
semblance might-make of him to-seize
mout s'en poüst tost repentir.
much himself-thereof could soon repent
Nus n'i met main ne n'i adeise.
Any not-there puts hand nor not-there touches

As plusors desplaist mout e peise
To-the many it-displeases much and grieves
ço qu'il de rien est acusez;
that that-he of anything is accused
as autres fust voleirs e grez
to-the others it-would-be will and pleasure
qu'il fust destruiz, mais n'est quil face.
that-he were destroyed but not-is who-it may-do
Palamedès mout les manace;
Palamedes much them threatens
dit que mar fu fait ne pensé:
he-says that ill it-was done or thought
ancor sera chier comparé,
still it-will-be dear paid-for
s'il puet saveir qui ç'a basti.
if-he can know who that-has built
En tote l'ost n'ot si hardi
In all the-host not-was so bold
qui l'osast envaïr premiers.
who him-dared assail first
Plus de set mile chevaliers
More than seven thousand knights
en ont les haubers endossez;
thereof have the hauberks donned
e cil s'est si abandonez
and that-one himself-has so abandoned
qu'il s'en defendra maintenant
that-he himself-thereof will-defend now
encontre un d'eus, le plus vaillant,
against one of-them the most worthy

que il cele uevre ne parla
that he that work not spoke
ne ne fist ne ne porchaça,
nor not did nor not pursued
ne l'aveirs qu'i esteit trovez
nor the-goods which-there was found
ne li fu pramis ne donez,
not to-him was promised nor given
ne que par lui ne fu ja mis
nor that by him not was ever put
la ou il ert saisiz e pris;
there where it was seized and taken
e se il d'iço est vencuz,
and if he of-that is vanquished
bien otreie qu'il seit penduz.
well he-grants that-he be hanged
Nus ne s'en voust metre a itant.
Any not himself-thereof wished to-put at that
Quant Ulixès, le souduiant,
When Ulysses the deceiver
veit qu'autre chose n'en iert faite,
sees that-other thing not-thereof will-be done
mout l'en peise, mout s'en deshaite.
much him-thereof grieves much himself-thereof he-distresses
Tost rot pensé autre merveille:
Soon again-he-had thought other marvel
as princes dit, loë e conseille
to-the princes he-says advises and counsels
que ço remaigne, n'en seit al,
that that may-remain not-thereof be else

mais jurt e afit le vassal
but may-swear and pledge the vassal
que l'ost maintienge e aint e guart,
that the-host he-may-maintain and love and guard
si qu'il n'aient de lui reguart.
so that-they not-may-have from him fear
Içо reparla toz premiers,
That he-spoke-again all first
quant vit que maus ne encombriers
when he-saw that ills nor troubles
ne li porreit par ço venir.
not to-him could by that come
Merveilles porreiz ja oïr:
Marvels you-will-be-able now to-hear
mout li aïde par semblant;
much him he-helps by semblance
envers les reis se met en grant
toward the kings himself puts in eagerness
come il ait pais e benestance.
how he may-have peace and well-being
Ensi fu fait senz demorance.
Thus it-was done without delay
Si s'en sot Ulixès covrir
So himself-thereof knew Ulysses to-cover
que quant ço vint al departir,
that when that came to-the parting
que cil l'en mercia assez:
that that-one him-thereof thanked enough
les merciz en ot e les grez.
the thanks thereof he-had and the gratitude

Palamedès ne s'aparceit:
Palamedes not himself-perceives
pas nel dote ne nel mescreit;
at-all not-him he-fears nor not-him mistrusts
cuide mout li ait aïdé
he-thinks much him he-has helped
e mout se seit por lui pené;
and much himself he-has for him taken-pains
mout l'aime e sert e mout s'i fie.
much him-he-loves and serves and much himself-there trusts
E cil ne s'aseüre mie:
And that-one not himself-assures at-all
trestot içо laissa ester
all that he-let be
e remaneir e trespasser,
and remain and pass
tant qu'un jor est a lui venuz.
until that-one day he-is to him come
Semblant fait que mout seit sis druz;
Semblance he-makes that much he-may-be his friend
dit que il e Diomedès
he-says that he and Diomedes
ont un tresor trové mout près
have a treasure found very near
en un puiz: «la l'ont espiié,
in a well there it-they-have spied
la lor a esté enseignié.
there to-them has been shown
Dis mile mars i a vaillant;
Ten thousand marks there is worth

fors eus treis nel set rien vivant;
except them three not-it knows anything living
granz est li aveirs e pleniers:
great is the goods and full
vueut qu'o eus en seit parçoniers.»
he-wishes that-with them thereof he-be partner
Cil cuide bien que veir li die:
That-one thinks well that true to-him he-may-say
grant gré l'en set, si l'en mercie.
great thanks to-him-thereof he-knows so him-thereof he-thanks
A l'endemain, senz demorer,
At the-next-day without delaying
pristrent le terme de l'aler.
they-took the term of the-going
Monté furent en lor destrier:
Mounted they-were on their chargers
quant la lune prist a raier,
when the moon began to shine
s'apele l'uns l'autre e somont;
so-calls the-one the-other and summons
nus hom ne set quel part il vont.
any man not knows what way they go
Le puiz truevent senz demoree:
The well they-find without delay
la ont lor uevre devisee,
there they-have their work devised
qu'enz enterra Palamedès,
that-in will-enter Palamedes

e cil sostendreient le fais
and those would-sustain the burden
de l'aveir traire contre mont.
of the-goods drawing toward up
Ensi devisent, ensi font.
Thus they-devise thus they-do
O un funain fort bien cordé
With a rope strong well corded
l'ont el parfont puiz avalé;
him-they-have into-the deep well lowered
après li getent granz quarreaus.
after him they-throw great blocks
Del chief li espant li cerveaus;
From-the head to-him spills the brain
tot l'esquachent, tot le lapiënt:
all him-they-crush all him they-stone
ensi estrangement l'ociënt.
thus strangely him-they-kill
Puis fu en l'endemain trovez;
Then he-was on the-next-day found
e s'il fu plainz e regretez,
and if-he was lamented and mourned
nel demant om ja solement.
not-it may-ask one ever only
Trestot ensi faitierement
All thus fashioned
l'ot om Nauplus son pere dit.
it-had one (to-)Nauplius his father told

Quant il sot e conut e vit
When he knew and recognized and saw
que Greu de la s'en repairoënt
that Greeks from there themselves-thence were-returning
e en lor terres s'en raloënt,
and into their lands themselves-thence were-going-back
mout lor voust faire e honte e lait:
much to-them he-wished to-do both shame and outrage
oëz quel il le lor a fait.
hear what he it to-them has done
Ne vueut qu'uns en estorce vis
Not he-wishes that-one thence may-escape alive
ne qu'uns s'en raut en son païs,
nor that-one himself-thence may-go-back into his country
quant sis beaus chiers fiz la remaint,
since his fair dear son there remains
que il chascun jor plore et plaint.
whom he each day weeps and laments
Ne vueut qu'il sous seit damagiez;
Not he-wishes that-he alone be harmed
oëz com les a engeigniez.
hear how them he-has tricked
Vers eus aveit fiere haïne:
Toward them he-had fierce hatred
sor les roches de la marine
upon the rocks of the shore
a fait mout granz feus alumer,
he-has made very great fires light
que Greu les veient de la mer:
so-that Greeks them may-see from the sea

la prendront port e la corront
there they-will-take port and there they-will-run
de la grant tormente ou il sont.
from the great storm where they are
Ha! las, quel la lor apareille!
Ah weary what there for-them he-prepares
Fist onc mais rien si grant merveille?
Did ever more thing so great marvel
Trop par i sont grant li peril,
Too very there are great the perils
trop vueut vengier la mort son fil.
too-much he-wishes to-avenge the death (of-)his son
Quos ireie plus porloignant?
Why-you should-I-go more prolonging
Quant Greu virent le feu ardant,
When Greeks saw the fire burning
cuident qu'aient la gent pitié
they-think that-may-have the folk pity
d'eus, qu'il ne seient perillié.
on-them that-they not may-be imperiled
Li fiers tormenz, li enragiez,
The fierce storm the maddened
les aveit si treis jorz chaciez
them had so three days chased
qu'el n'i aveit mais de la mort.
that-else not-there had more but the death
Tot dreit as feus corent a port.
All straight to-the fires they-run to port
La nuit fu neire come il dut,
The night was black as it ought

quar merveilles venta e plut.
for marvels it-blew and rained
Eboëan li lieus ot non:
Euboea the place had name
la corurent por guarison.
there they-ran for safety
Par mi la mer sont li rochier,
Through midst the sea are the rocks
li destreit e li encombrier:
the straits and the obstacles
la s'embatent, la vont hurter;
there they-dash there they-go to-hit
la les covint a afonder.
there them behooved to founder
Descloënt ais, chevilles, bort:
Come-apart boards pegs planks
arivé sont a mauvais port.
arrived they-are at evil port
Neient, perissent a dolor;
Swimming they-perish at sorrow
grant sont li cri, grant sont li plor.
great are the cries great are the weepings
Ainz que del jor parust clartez,
Before that of-the day appeared brightness
en i ot dis mile afondez.
thereof there were ten thousand foundered
Sor les faleises ert Nauplus
Upon the cliffs was Nauplius
e de sa gent vint mile e plus:
and of his folk twenty thousand and more

a mout guariz se tient li reis,
at much healed himself holds the king
quant si se venge des Grezeis.
since so himself he-avenges on-the Greeks
Teus mil roches botent sor eus,
Such thousand rocks they-push upon them
que ne traisissent trente bues;
that not would-draw thirty oxen
e quant ç'avient qu'as nes ataignent,
and when that-happens that-to-the ships they-reach
totes les dequassent e fraignent.
all them they-shatter and break
Les premieres furent peries,
The first were perished
mais les autres sont resorties:
but the others are come-out-again
por les granz criz cui il oïrent,
for the great cries which they heard
ço que il porent, se guenchirent.
that which they could themselves they-swerved
E la clarté del jor revint:
And the brightness of-the day returned
c'est dont graindre proz lor avint.
it-is then greater profit to-them befell
Fuient la terre e les montaignes
They-flee the land and the mountains
e les periz e les enseignes
and the perils and the signs
des feus ardanz. Comparé l'ont,
of-the fires burning Paid-for it-they-have

mais ja a tant ne la guarront,
but ever at so-much not there they-will-be-safe
ainz iront de pis en sordeis.
rather they-will-go from worse to worse

The Exile of Diomedes and the Murder of Agamemnon

CIX

Oeax, brother of Palamedes, tells Diomedes's wife Aegiale that her husband brings home a new love, and Clytemnestra that Agamemnon means to destroy her. Aegiale has Argos refuse Diomedes, whom she blames for her brother Cassandrus's death in Telephus's land. Clytemnestra, who has married Aegisthus and borne Erigone, has Agamemnon murdered on his first night home, and Talthybius carries the young Orestes to Idomeneus. Teucer drives Diomedes from Salamis, and Demophon and Acamas are exiled too. Nestor dissuades the exiles at Corinth from a war of vengeance. Aeneas, besieged at Troy, sends for Diomedes, who rescues him; Aegiale takes Diomedes back, Aeneas sails for Lombardy, and the Greek cities receive their lords again.

Un fil aveit Nauplus li reis:
A son had Nauplius the king
Oëaus esteit apelez,
Oeax was called
frere Palamedès puis nez.
brother (of-)Palamedes after born
Cist fu sages e engeignos
This-one was wise and crafty
e de mal cerchier enartos:
and of evil seeking cunning
oëz come il ot espleitié.
hear how he had fared

Ainz que Greu fussent repairié,
Before that Greeks were returned
ot il parlé o Egial:
had he spoken with Aegiale
ço ert la femme al bon vassal,
that was the wife of-the good vassal
al fil Tydeüs, al preisié.
of-the son (of-)Tydeus of-the prized
Icist li a dit e noncié
This-one to-her has said and announced
que Diomedès vient de Troie
that Diomedes comes from Troy
o grant leece e o grant joie,
with great gladness and with great joy
quar amie a de haut parage,
for beloved he-has of high lineage
bele e corteise e pro e sage,
fair and courteous and valiant and wise
fille de rei, cui s'est donez:
daughter of king to-whom himself-has given
«Ja, tant come il seit vis ne nez,
Ever as-long as he be alive nor born
«n'amera mais rien se li non;
not-he-will-love more anything if her not
«dame sera de sa maison,
lady she-will-be of his house

«veant dis reis, li a juré
seeing ten kings to-her he-has sworn
«que ne gerra a son costé
that not he-will-lie at his side
«dame fors li mais a nul jor.
lady except her more at any day
«Tant par est espris de s'amor
So very he-is inflamed with her-love
27955 «qu'il ne fereit, n'a tort n'a dreit,
that-he not would-do nor-at wrong nor-at right
«se ço non qu'el comandereit.
if that not which-she would-command
«Noveles ra de vos oïes
News he-again-has of you heard
«bien estranges e esfreïes:
well strange and frightening
«N'avez rien fait dit ne li seit.
Not-you-have anything done said not to-him be-it-known
27960 «Mout vos manace, e si a dreit.
Much you he-threatens and so he-has right
«A esciënt vos en guarnis:
At knowledge you thereof I-warn
«Guardez tel conseil aiez pris
See-that such counsel you-may-have taken
«par que ne seiez engeigniee
by which not you-may-be tricked
«ne de vostre terre chaciee;
nor from your land chased

«quar a ço ne faudreiz vos mie,
for at that not will-fail you at-all
«s'aveir vos puet en sa baillie.»
if-to-have you he-can in his power
Oïr poëz estrange enjan.
Hear you-can strange trickery
Autretel dist Clitemestran,
Just-so he-said (to-)Clytemnestra
qu'Agamennon la destruireit:
that-Agamemnon her would-destroy
ja rien soz ciel ne l'en guarreit.
ever anything under heaven not her-thence would-save
C'ert sa femme: quant qu'ele a fait
That-was his wife as-much as-she has done
li a esté dit e retrait.
to-him has been said and recounted
Soz ciel n'a rien que il tant hee,
Under heaven not-is anything which he so-much may-hate
quar la vie qu'ele a menee
for the life which-she has led
li a esté trestote dite:
to-him has been all told
bien la porte en son cuer escrite.
well it he-carries in his heart written
Quos fereie autre demorance?
Why-you should-I-make other delay
Ço savons bien tuit senz dotance,
That we-know well all without doubt

qu'Egial ot tant porchacié
that-Aegiale had so-much pursued
e tant doné e tant preié
and so-much given and so-much prayed
que cil d'Arges li ont plevi
that those of-Argos to-her have pledged
que ja mais jor n'iert recoilli:
that ever more day not-be-will-be received
«Diomedès aillors ira,
Diomedes elsewhere will-go
ja mais lor sire ne sera.»
ever more their lord not be-will-be
Egial ert, ço dit Ditis,
Aegiale was that says Dictys
fille ainz nee Polinicis,
daughter first born of-Polynices
de la fille al rei Adrastus.
by the daughter of-the king Adrastus
Un frere rot, c'ert Tassandrus:
A brother she-again-had it-was Cassandrus
en tot le siegle trespassé
in all the world past
n'aveit eü de son aé
not-had been of his age
plus bel chevalier ne meillor.
more fair knight nor better
Ocis fu el premier estor
Killed he-was in-the first fight
que Greu firent vers nule gent:
which Greeks made against any folk

si vos dirai ou e coment.
so to-you I-shall-tell where and how
A l'aler orent mout siglé,
At the-going they-had much sailed
tant qu'il lor plot e vint a gré
until that-it to-them pleased and came to will
qu'a Eboëan tornereient,
that-at Euboea they-would-turn
port, vivre e sojor i prendreient.
port living and rest there they-would-take
Ço voustrent faire, n'i ot plus;
That they-wished to-do not-there was more
mais cil quin ert reis Telephus
but he who-thereof was king Telephus
la lor vea tant come il pot:
there to-them refused as-much as he could
fiere bataille e dure i ot;
fierce battle and hard there was
treis jorz dura, ço truis, entiers;
three days it-lasted that I-find entire
trop par i ot morz chevaliers.
too very there were dead knights
Cist Tassandrus, frere Egial,
This Cassandrus brother (of-)Aegiale
s'i contint bien come vassal;
himself-there bore well as vassal
merveille i fist, mout i fu proz:
marvel there he-did much there he-was valiant
sacheiz le pris en ot de toz.
know the prize thereof he-had of all

Mais Telephus, le fort, le grant,
But Telephus the strong the great
l'ocist d'un espié en lançant.
him-killed with-a spear in throwing
Se fust chose qu'a Troie alast
If it-were thing that-to Troy he-might-go
ne que il la armes portast,
nor that he there arms might-bear
redotee fust trop sa lance:
dreaded would-be too-much his lance
petit i eüst de s'eguance.
little there he-would-have of his-equal
Si ami e si bienvoillant
His friends and his well-wishers
e si prochain apartenant
and his near kinsmen
orent preié Diomedès,
had prayed Diomedes
cui parenz prochains il ert près,
whose kin near he was nearly
qu'il le guardast sor tote rien.
that-he him should-guard above all thing
Dit ot que si fereit il bien,
Said he-had that so would-do he well
ja n'avreit mal senz lui ne mort.
ever not-he-would-have ill without him nor death
S'il fu ocis, n'i ot nul tort:
If-he was killed not-there was any wrong

mout l'en pesa, bien fu seü
much him-thereof grieved well it-was known
e esprové e coneü,
and proved and known
quant enz en mi ses enemis,
when right in midst his enemies
la ou Tassandrus fu ocis,
there where Cassandrus was killed
l'ala chargier desus son col;
him-he-went to-load upon his neck
puis s'en dut bien tenir por fol,
then himself-thence he-had-to well to-hold for fool
quar, ainz qu'il fust fors de l'estor,
for before that-he were out of the-fight
ot il assez sofert dolor,
had he enough suffered sorrow
plaies morteus e cous pesanz.
wounds mortal and blows heavy
Li dueus qu'il en fist fu mout granz:
The grief which-he thereof made was very great
por quant sin fu il mout blasmez,
for how-much so-thereof was he much blamed
quar males genz distrent assez,
for evil folk said enough
por ço qu'il erent parçonier
for that that-they were partners
del regne, lui e sa moillier,
of-the realm he and his wife
voleit il bien qu'il fust feniz,
wished he well that-he were ended

por ço qu'il fust del tot saisiz.
for that that-he might-be of-the all seized
Ensi e por ço quos oëz
Thus and for that which-you hear
fu mout haïz, c'est la vertez.
he-was much hated it-is the truth
Sa femme, la suer Tassandrus,
His wife the sister (of-)Cassandrus
dist que sis sire n'iert il plus.
said that her lord not-will-be he more
Si com Ditis conte e retrait,
So as Dictys tells and recounts
trestot ensi le li ont fait:
all just-so it to-him they-have done
refusez fu e eissilliez
refused he-was and exiled
e de la terre fors chaciez.
and from the land out chased
Agamennon fu receüz,
Agamemnon was received
mais malement fu deceüz;
but badly he-was deceived
quar Clitemestra ot amé
for Clytemnestra had loved
un vassal riche e renomé
a vassal rich and renowned
qui n'esteit reis ne cuens ne dus:
who not-was king nor count nor duke
apelez esteit Egistus.
called was Aegisthus

Pris l'ot a noces, ço[s] sai dire,
Taken him-she-had in marriage that-you I-know to-say
e fait seignor de tot l'empire.
and made lord of all the-empire
Une fille en ot ja eüe
A daughter thereof she-had already had
que en grant chierté ert tenue:
who in great dearness was held
Erigona l'apelot om.
Erigone her-called one
Cist en murtre e par traïson
These in murder and by treason
l'ont la premiere nuit ocis
him-they-have the first night killed
qu'il ariva en son païs.
that-he arrived in his country
Sa moillier en ot pris conrei:
His wife thereof had taken care
porté li a estrange fei.
borne to-him she-has strange faith
Ensi avient qu'en lonc estage
Thus it-happens that-in long stay
a l'om sovent maint grant damage:
has one often many-a great harm
cist a mortelment comparee,
this-one has mortally paid-for
ç'avez oï, sa longue estee.
that-you-have heard his long sojourn
Mort l'ont, ço fu dueus e pechiez,
Slain him-they-have that was grief and sin

quar mout ert sages e preisiez
for very he-was wise and prized
e sor toz autres honorez.
and above all others honored
Ainz que toz seit liz n'achevez
Before that all be read nor-ended
li Livres, sera bien retraite
the Book will-be well recounted
la venjance que en fu faite.
the vengeance which thereof was made
Ceste dame Clitemestra,
This lady Clytemnestra
que si faitement espleita
who so fashioned fared
vers Agamennon son seignor,
toward Agamemnon her lord
aveit un fil, ço dit l'Autor:
had a son that says the-Author
ne plus ne meins n'aveit enfanz.
not more nor less not-she-had children
Cist ert petiz ne guaires granz,
This-one was small nor much great
beaus ert e de gente façon:
fair he-was and of noble fashion
Orestès sai qu'il aveit non.
Orestes I-know that-he had name
Al bon rei Idomeneüs
To-the good king Idomeneus
l'en a foï Taltibius;
him-thence has fled Talthybius

quar, s'Egistus en fust saisiz,
for if-Aegisthus of-him were seized
ja mais plus granz ne fust norriz.
ever more more great not he-would-be nursed
Nel voust sofrir Taltibius:
Not-it wished to-suffer Talthybius
a Corinte vint, n'en sai plus,
to Corinth he-came not-thereof I-know more
al rei de Crete o tot l'enfant.
to-the king of Crete with all the-child
De son seignor faiseit duel grant,
For his lord he-was-making grief great
qui en traïson ert ocis.
who in treason was killed
Son dameisel o le cler vis,
His squire with the clear face
son lige natural seignor,
his liege natural lord
li a livré o duel, o plor,
to-him he-has delivered with grief with weeping
qu'il le norrisse e qu'il l'ait chier,
that-he him may-nurse and that-he him-may-have dear
tant qu'il le face chevalier,
until that-he him may-make knight
qu'il puisse estre reis coronez
that-he may be king crowned
del reiaume dont il est nez,
of-the realm whereof he is born
qui li eschiet, qui li avient.
which to-him falls which to-him comes

Idomeneüs le retient
Idomeneus him keeps
mout volentiers e mout joios;
very willingly and very joyful
mais del pere fu angoissos,
but for-the father he-was anguished
qui si esteit morz laidement.
who so was dead foully
Senz nul autre porloignement,
Without any other delay
vint o l'enfant en son païs.
he-came with the-child into his country
Sa femme aveit non Therasis:
His wife had name Therasis
c'ert une dame mout preisiee
it-was a lady very prized
e sage e proz e enseigniee.
and wise and valiant and well-taught
Del rei aveit une pucele:
Of-the king she-had a maiden
c'ert Climena, que mout ert bele.
it-was Clymene who very was fair
Cil d'Athenes le recoillirent
Those of-Athens him received
e honorerent e servirent,
and honored and served
tant que ses nes ot rafaitiees,
until that his ships he-had refitted
que li tormenz aveit brisiees.
which the storm had broken

Diomedès fu eissilliez
Diomedes was exiled
e de sa terre fors chaciez.
and from his land out chased
Teücer esteit uns vassaus,
Teucer was a vassal
frere Telamon Aïaus,
brother (of-)Telamonian Ajax
plus jovnes de lui e puis nez.
more young than him and after born
Cist aveit oï dire assez
This-one had heard say enough
com faitement ocis l'aveient
how fashioned killed him-they-had
icil qui blasmé en esteient.
those who blamed thereof were
Diomedès cuidot vertir
Diomedes thought to-turn
a Salemine por guarir
to Salamis for being-saved
e por prendre engin e conrei,
and for to-take craft and aid
e par ses amis e par sei,
both by his friends and by himself
coment il recovrast son regne,
how he might-recover his realm
qu'Egial li toleit, sa femme:
which-Aegiale from-him was-taking his wife
mout i trova fier acoilleit,
much there he-found fierce welcome

quar Teücer, fust tort, fust dreit,
for Teucer were-it wrong were-it right
l'a en tel sen a reison mis
him-has in such sense to reason put
que por un poi ne l'a ocis.
that for a little not him-he-has killed
Dist, s'il vousist e ses aidis,
He-said if-he had-wished and his help
n'eüssent pas son frere ocis:
not-they-would-have at-all his brother killed
«Contenuz s'i esteit vilment,
Borne himself-there he-had vilely
quar, par reison, vers tote gent
for by reason toward all folk
li deüst estre socorables
to-him he-ought to-be helpful
e bons amis e aïdables».
and good friend and helping
Ço esteit bien dit e cuidé,
That was well said and thought
qu'il aveit al conseil esté
that-he had at-the counsel been
par qu'Ulixès l'aveit mordri.
by which-Ulysses him-had murdered
Mout a Diomedès laidi.
Much has Diomedes outraged

Li citeain de Salemine
The citizens of Salamis
l'ont si requis sor la marine
him-have so attacked on the shore
que, s'il ne se meïst en mer,
that if-he not himself had-put on sea
chier li feïssent comparer
dear to-him they-would-make pay-for
la mort de lor seignor demeine:
the death of their lord own
sacheiz qu'il lor estorst a peine.
know that-he from-them escaped with pain
Reis Demophon, reis Acamas
King Demophon king Acamas
ne se redurent paier pas,
not themselves again-had-to be-satisfied at-all
quar de lor regnes furent fors.
for from their realms they-were out
N'i ot si hardi ne si os
Not-there was so bold nor so daring
qu'i osast torner ne venir.
who-there dared turn nor come
Merveilles poüsseiz oïr:
Marvels you-could-have heard
deboté erent e chacié
thrust-out they-were and chased
e de lor terres eissillié.
and from their lands exiled

Cil qui esteient eschapé
Those who were escaped
del grant torment e de l'oré
from-the great storm and from the-gale
s'erent a Corinte assemblé,
themselves-were at Corinth assembled
irié, marri e trespensé.
angered grieved and troubled
Mal ont en terre e pis en mer,
Ill they-have on land and worse on sea
ne ne sevent quel part aler;
nor not they-know what way to-go
angoissos sont e deshaitié.
anguished they-are and distressed
A merveilles erent irié:
At marvels they-were angered
pris ont conseil e esguardé,
taken they-have counsel and considered
e ço vint mout a toz a gré,
and that came very to all to pleasure
qu'il s'aillent combatre a lor gent
that-they themselves-may-go to-fight with their folk
tuit ensemble comunaument,
all together in-common
s'ociënt femmes e maisniees:
so-may-they-kill women and households
«Seient destruites les ligniees,
May-be destroyed the lines
«n'i remaigne jovnes ne vieuz,
not-there may-remain young nor old

«que teus forfaiz ne teus orguieuz
for such misdeeds nor such prides
«ne fu onc mais dit ne retrait,
not was ever more said nor recounted
«come il ont tuit envers nos fait.
as they have all toward us done
«Chaciez nos ont, rechaçons eus.
Chased us they-have let-us-chase-again them
«Si lor seions cruëus e feus
So to-them let-us-be cruel and felon
«que ja n'i ait guardé parage
that ever not-there may-be regarded lineage
«ne amistié ne parentage,
nor friendship nor kinship
«qu'il ne seient a mort livré:
that-they not may-be to death delivered
«Desci que tot seit achevé,
Until that all be achieved
«n'aions ja mais repos ne bien».
not-may-we-have ever more rest nor good
Ço plot a toz sor tote rien.
That pleased to all above all thing
N'i aveit mais del comencier,
Not-there was but of-the beginning
quant Nestor le lor fist laissier,
when Nestor it to-them made leave
qui merveillose peine i mist:
who marvelous pain there put

mout lor mostra anceis e dist
much to-them he-showed before and said
que si grant damage fereient,
that so great harm they-would-do
ja Grece mais ne poplereient;
ever Greece more not they-would-people
gent d'autres terres i vendreient,
folk from-other lands there would-come
qui a lor ues la conquerreient:
who to their need it would-conquer
«Ja mais, desci qu'al finement,
Ever more until to-the end
«n'i avreit rien habitement
not-there would-be anything dwelling
«que de nos fust né ne estrait.
which from us were born nor drawn
«Guardez com ci avreit mal plait!
Consider how here there-would-be ill plea
«Seient requis li citeain,
May-be required the citizens
«li home e li parent prochain,
the men and the kin near
«si seient preié e blandi,
so may-they-be prayed and coaxed
«tant qu'il nos aient recoilli.
until that-they us may-have received
«Après, quant nos avrons noz fieus
After when we shall-have our fiefs
«e nos verrons qu'il sera lieus,
and we shall-see that-it will-be place

«si seient cil mort e honi
so may-be those dead and shamed
«qui vers nos l'avront deservi.
who toward us it-will-have deserved
«Nus hom qui ait discrecion,
Any man who may-have discretion
«ne en cui ait sen ne reison,
nor in whom may-be sense nor reason
«ne dira ja qu'el en faceiz
not will-say ever that-else thereof you-may-do
«ne que ensi les destruieiz.
nor that thus them you-may-destroy
«Tot ço covient laissier ester,
All that behooves to-let stand
«qu'en autre sen fait a mener
for-in other sense it-is to lead
«que par asaut ne par ocise.»
than by assault nor by slaughter
Si com la Letre nos devise,
So as the Text to-us relates
Eneas, qui esteit remés
Aeneas who was remained
a Troie a rafaitier ses nes,
at Troy to refit his ships
fu asailliz e nuit e jor.
was assailed both night and day
Li home des regnes entor
The men of-the realms around
le voleient a mort livrer:
him wished to death to-deliver

ne lor poëit pas eschaper.
not from-them he-could at-all escape
Soventes feiz fu asailliz.
Many-a times he-was assailed
Dès que Greu s'en furent partiz,
From that Greeks themselves-thence were departed
onc puis n'orent repos ne bien;
ever after not-they-had rest nor good
grevé erent sor tote rien.
grieved they-were above all thing
Toz les i estoveit morir:
All them there it-behooved to-die
il nel poëient mais sofrir,
they not-it could more endure
quant lor messages enveierent
when their messengers they-sent
e ço manderent e preierent
and that they-sent-word and prayed
Diomedès, qu'a eus venist
Diomedes that-to them he-should-come
e que por Deu les socorist
and that for God them he-should-succor
senz nul delai, senz nul sojor.
without any delay without any rest
Ço dit e reconte l'Autor,
That says and recounts the-Author
qu'Eneas torna delivrer:
that-Aeneas he-turned to-deliver
o tant de gent com pot joster,
with as-much of folk as he-could gather

a Troie vint, ço fu la veire,
to Troy he-came that was the truth
e si me fait Ditis a creire
and so me makes Dictys to believe
qu'il s'i combati par cinc jors,
that-he himself-there fought for five days
s'i trova mout de fiers estors
so-there he-found much of fierce fights
e de granz batailles champaus;
and of great battles in-the-field
mais il, com proz e com vassaus,
but he as valiant and as vassal
les a toz morz e detrenchiez,
them has all slain and cut-to-pieces
qu'a peines en eschapa piez.
so-that-with pains thereof escaped foot
Guaaing i fist estrange e fier.
Gain there he-made strange and fierce
Quant Egial l'oï noncier
When Aegiale it-heard announce
e cil qui son regne teneient,
and those who his realm were-holding
paor orent, mout s'en esfreient:
fear they-had much themselves-thereof they-frighten
criement que d'eus face autretal.
they-fear that of-them he-may-do just-so
Son message prist Egial,
Her messenger took Aegiale

si li mande concorde e paiz
so to-him she-sends concord and peace
e vrai pardon de ses mesfaiz:
and true pardon of his misdeeds
«A li vienge par acordance,
To her may-he-come by accord
ja mare avra de li dotance:
ever ill he-will-have of her fear
ço li prie, ço quiert e vueut.
that to-him she-prays that she-seeks and wishes
Plus l'amera mais qu'el ne sueut.»
More him-she-will-love more than-she not is-wont
Diomedès ensi le fist,
Diomedes thus it did
ço ne desvoust ne contredist:
that not he-rejected nor gainsaid
receüz fu par grant amor,
received he-was by great love
son reiaume rot e s'onor.
his realm he-again-had and his-honor
E Eneas s'en fu alez,
And Aeneas himself-thence was gone
ensi com vos oï avez,
just as you heard have
par mainte mer o sa navie,
through many-a sea with his fleet
tant qu'il remest en Lombardie.
until that-he remained in Lombardy

Cil de Grece ont la chose oïe:
Those of Greece have the thing heard
mout en fu la gent esfreïe.
much thereof was the folk frightened
Conseil pristrent quel la fereient,
Counsel they-took what there they-would-do
«quar defendre ne se porreient
for to-defend not themselves they-could
de ceus qui, par lor granz vertuz,
from those who by their great powers
ont Troïens pris e vencuz,
have Trojans taken and vanquished
e cui rien ne fait deshonor
and to-whom anything not does dishonor
qu'il n'en prengent dreit e retor.
that-they not-thereof may-take right and return
Mieuz est par amor les acueillent,
Better it-is by love them they-may-receive
qu'il les ociënt e esbueillent,
than-they them may-kill and disembowel
qu'a ço ne faudreient il mie,
for-at that not would-fail they at-all
se guaires durot la folie.»
if much lasted the folly
Plus par paor que par amor,
More by fear than by love
tramet chascuns por son seignor:
sends each for his lord
pardon requierent e merci.
pardon they-require and mercy

Par mainz lieus les ont recoilli;
Through many places them they-have received
les leis qui erent relenquies
the laws which were abandoned
ront asises e establies:
again-they-have set and established
a dreiture, reisnablement,
at right reasonably
ralerent puis lor jugement.
went-again after their judgment
A grant honor, ço dit Ditis,
At great honor that says Dictys
fu receüz en son païs
was received in his country
li reis de Crete Idomeneus,
the king of Crete Idomeneus
qui sire en esteit natureus,
who lord thereof was natural
e il o lui maiesmement,
and he with him especially
e si chevalier ensement:
and his knights likewise
mout par les ont toz celebrez
much very them they-have all celebrated
e essauciez e honorez.
and exalted and honored

Orestes Avenges His Father

CX

At fifteen Orestes takes a thousand knights from Idomeneus and as many from Athens. An oracle commands him to kill his mother with his own hands. Joined by Focensis of Trofion, whose daughter Aegisthus abandoned, he takes Mycenae, tears out Clytemnestra's breasts, and leaves her body to the dogs, then ambushes Aegisthus and hangs him. Greece debates the matricide. Menelaus reaches Crete, where crowds come to stare at Helen. At Athens the assembly absolves Orestes when Menestheus offers to defend him, and he is crowned at Mycenae. Erigone hangs herself. Menelaus is reconciled with Orestes and gives him his daughter Hermione.

Lonc tens furent puis en la terre
Long time they-were after in the land
en bone pais senz autre guerre,
in good peace without other war
tant qu'Orestès fu chevaliers,
until that-Orestes was knight
qu'il ot passé quinze anz entiers.
for-he had passed fifteen years entire
Le rei Idomeneu requist:
The king Idomeneus he-required
tant li preia e tant li dist
so-much to-him he-prayed and so-much to-him he-said
qu'il li bailla mil chevaliers
that-he to-him handed thousand knights
guarniz d'armes e de destriers.
furnished with-arms and with chargers
Contre Egistus voust chevauchier,
Against Aegisthus he-wished to-ride

son pere Agamennon vengier.
his father Agamemnon to-avenge
A Athenes premierement
To Athens first
conduist danz Orestès sa gent;
led lord Orestes his folk
la requist socors e aiuë:
there he-required succor and help
d'autretant rest sa gent creüe.
by-just-as-much again-is his folk grown
Dou mile sont, ço cuit, e plus,
Two thousand they-are that I-think and more
qui irié vont querre Egistus.
who angered go to-seek Aegisthus
N'i a nul d'eus, se il l'ataint,
Not-there is any of-them if he him-reaches
de lui ocire ne se peint:
of him killing not himself may-take-pains
ars iert, s'il pueent, o penduz.
burned he-will-be if-they can or hanged
Ainz que la fussent parvenuz,
Before that there they-were arrived
ot Orestès sacrefiié
had Orestes sacrificed
en un temple saintefiié.
in a temple sanctified
Respons ot pris de cest afaire,
Answer he-had taken of this affair
saveir a qu'il en porreit traire;
to-know at what-he thereof could draw

les deus preia chascun par sei.
the gods he-prayed each by himself
Ço li distrent li haut segrei
That to-him said the high secrets
que sa mere ocie o ses mains,
that his mother he-may-kill with his hands
e Orestès si seit certains
and Orestes so may-be certain
que il ja ainz n'avra l'onor
that he ever before not-will-have the-honor
ne del reiaume demi dor:
nor of-the realm half a-palm
traie a sa mere les mameles,
may-he-draw from his mother the breasts
e sin orra l'om les noveles;
and so-thereof will-hear one the news
que de li seit pris vengeison
that of her be taken vengeance
de la sanglente traïson
of the bloody treason
qu'el fist de son seignor mordrir,
which-she made of her lord to-murder
qu'ensi l'estuet a avenir.
for-thus it-behooves to happen
Orestès ot oï l'augure
Orestes had heard the-augury
e le respons, e la dreiture
and the answer and the right
que li deu vuelent que il face:
which the gods wish that he may-do

n'i entent rien que li desplace.
not-there he-hears anything which to-him may-displease
As suens l'a dit e reconté:
To-the his it-he-has said and recounted
ço plot a toz e vint a gré.
that pleased to all and came to pleasure
A Trofion, cité vaillant,
To Trofion city worthy
vindrent, si com jo truis lisant:
they-came so as I find reading
Focensis aveit non li sire
Focensis had name the lord
de la cité e de l'empire.
of the city and of the-empire
Cist haï de mort Egiston,
This-one hated of death Aegisthus
si vos en dirai l'acheison.
so to-you thereof I-shall-tell the-occasion
Une fille, cui il aveit,
A daughter whom he had
que de mout grant beauté esteit,
who of very great beauty was
pucele pro e gente e sage,
maiden valiant and noble and wise
li ot donee en mariage:
to-him he-had given in marriage
guerpie l'aveit e laissiee,
quitted her-he-had and left
por Clitemestran reneiee,
for Clytemnestra renegade

que son seignor aveit mordri.
who her lord had murdered
A Orestès dist e ofri
To Orestes he-said and offered
que il ireit a la venjance,
that he would-go to the vengeance
quar en son cuer a grant pesance
for in his heart he-has great sorrow
de la honte qu'il li a fait.
for the shame which-he to-him has done
Ne vos en quier faire lonc plait:
Not you thereof I-seek to-make long plea
o treis cenz chevaliers armez
with three hundred knights armed
se rest ensemble o eus jostez.
himself again-is together with them joined
N'i firent lonc porloignement:
Not-there they-made long delay
senz nul autre delaiement
without any other delaying
sont dreit a Miceines venu;
they-are straight to Mycenae come
mais n'i furent pas receü,
but not-there they-were at-all received
ainz lor clost om bien les portaus.
rather to-them closed one well the gates
N'i esteit mie li vassaus
Not-there was at-all the vassal
Egistus, li coilverz, li feus.
Aegisthus the knave the felon

La cité ont asise entre eus:
The city they-have besieged among them
asauz i firent granz e fiers,
assaults there they-made great and fierce
e mout i ot morz chevaliers;
and much there was dead knights
mais prise l'ont ainz la quinzaine.
but taken it-they-have before the fortnight
Cil reçurent tuit mortel peine,
Those received all mortal pain
qui lor aveient contendue
who to-them had contested
ne guarnie ne defendue.
nor furnished nor defended
Cil qui de la mort lor seignor
Those who of the death (of-)their lord
orent esté consenteor
had been consenters
furent tuit ars e tormenté
were all burned and tortured
e a forches haut presenté.
and on gallows high presented
Orestès a sa mere prise,
Orestes has his mother taken
e si n'i ot autre devise,
and so not-there was other parley
mais il meïsmes o ses mains,
but he himself with his hands
veant les ieuz as citeains,
seeing the eyes to-the citizens

li traist les mameles del cors.
from-her drew the breasts from-the body
Après la fist traïner fors,
After her he-made drag out
bien loinz des murs, es quarrefors,
well far from-the walls at-the crossroads
mangier a chiens e a voutors:
to-eat for dogs and for vultures
ne li plot mie ne n'ot cure
not to-him pleased at-all nor not-he-had care
que li cors eüst sepouture.
that the body might-have burial
Orrible fu trop la venjance,
Horrible was too-much the vengeance
e mout par traist grief peneance
and much very endured grievous penance
Clitemestra de son mesfait,
Clytemnestra for her misdeed
itel com jo vos ai retrait.
such as I to-you have recounted
Egistus ot la chose oïe:
Aegisthus had the thing heard
o estrange chevalerie
with strange chivalry
veneit socorre la cité,
he-was-coming to-succor the city
mais malement s'i a guardé,
but badly himself-there he-has guarded

quar Orestès li ot bastiz
for Orestes to-him had built
aguaiz de chevaliers esliz
ambushes of knights chosen
par la o il deveit venir.
by there where he was-to come
E cil l'alerent si ferir
And those him-went so to-strike
qu'en es le pas le desconfistrent.
that-in right the step him they-discomfited
Quos direie? Trestoz les pristrent.
Why-you should-I-say All them they-took
Ocis en ont e detrenchié
Killed thereof they-have and cut-to-pieces
bien les dous parz o la meitié.
well the two parts or the half
Pris e leiez fu Egistus:
Taken and bound was Aegisthus
veant mil chevaliers e plus,
seeing thousand knights and more
le fist Orestès traïner
him made Orestes drag
tot nu, senz braie e senz soller,
all naked without breeches and without shoe
par les rues de la cité.
through the streets of the city
Après fu as forches levé.
After he-was to-the gallows raised

Tant i estut, tant i pendi
So-long there he-remained so-long there he-hung
que par pieces en dechaï.
that by pieces thence he-fell
Par tote Grece fu retrait
Through all Greece it-was recounted
e dit ço qu'Orestès ot fait,
and said that which-Orestes had done
come il aveit sa mere ocise.
how he had his mother killed
Parlé en ont en mainte guise:
Spoken thereof they-have in many-a fashion
li un diënt qu'il aveit dreit,
the some say that-he had right
e li autre que nen aveit,
and the others that not he-had
«quar n'est reisons, n'a dreit, n'a tort,
for not-is reason nor-at right nor-at wrong
que fiz livre sa mere a mort;
that son may-deliver his mother to death
n'est mais dignes, par jugement,
not-he-is more worthy by judgment
que en terre ait seignorement:
that in land he-may-have lordship
aut s'en, dampnez de felenie,
may-he-go himself-thence damned for felony
en eissil mais tote sa vie.»
into exile more all his life
Ensi diseit la gent comune.
Thus was-saying the folk common

Si com le demenot Fortune,
So as it was-leading Fortune
ert reis Menelaus arivez
was king Menelaus arrived
en Crete mout desbaretez:
in Crete much routed
li forz tormenz e li orages
the strong storm and the tempests
li orent fait mout granz damages;
to-him had done very great harms
poi en failleit qu'il n'ert periz
little thereof it-lacked that-he not-was perished
e en mer parfonde sorbiz.
and into sea deep swallowed
Il ot apris a icel port
He had learned at that port
coment sis frere ot esté mort
how his brother had been slain
e la venjance qu'en ert faite:
and the vengeance which-thereof was made
tote li fu dite e retraite.
all to-him was said and recounted
Tote la gent de cest païs,
All the folk of this country
ço dit e reconte Ditis,
that says and recounts Dictys
veneient veeir dame Heleine,
were-coming to-see lady Helen
par cui li monz a trait tel peine,
through whom the world has endured such pain

par cui Grece est si apovrie
through whom Greece is so impoverished
de la noble chevalerie,
of the noble chivalry
par cui li siegles est peior,
through whom the world is worse
par cui li riche e li meillor
through whom the rich and the best
sont mort, vencu e detrenchié,
are dead vanquished and cut-to-pieces
par cui sont li regne eissillié,
through whom are the realms exiled
par cui Troie est arse e fondue.
through whom Troy is burned and razed
Si faite gent ne fu veüe
So made folk not was seen
come il la veneit remirer
as it her was-coming to-gaze-at
e a merveilles esguarder.
and at marvels to-behold
Fiere parole en ont tenue
Fierce word thereof they-have held
entre eus tote la gent menue.
among them all the folk small
Reis Menelaus grant duel faiseit
King Menelaus great grief was-making
d'Agamennon, qui morz esteit.
for-Agamemnon who dead was

Mainte rien ot dire e noncier
Many-a thing he-had to-tell and announce
que assez font a merveillier,
which enough make to marvel
e il reconte toz iriez
and he recounts all angered
com Teücer ert eissilliez
how Teucer was exiled
28445 e chaciez de son regne e res,
and chased from his realm and shorn
mais en Chipre s'esteit remés.
but in Cyprus himself-was remained
La ot une cité fondee
There he-had a city founded
que Salemine ert apelee,
which Salamis was called
bele e grant e close de murs:
fair and great and enclosed with walls
28450 bien i ert ja en pais seürs.
well there he-was now in peace secure
Dit e reconte un encombrier
He-tells and recounts a mishap
de Canopus, son marinier,
of Canopus his mariner
que serpent li aveient mort
that serpents to-him had slain
dreit a l'arivement d'un port,
straight at the-arriving of-a port

dont mout ot esté angoissos
whereof much he-had been anguished
e bosoignanz e sofraitos.
and needy and wanting
Après, ne tarja pas grantment,
After not he-delayed at-all greatly
dès qu'il orent oré e vent,
from that-they had breeze and wind
siglerent tant a hautes veiles
they-sailed so-much with high sails
e a la lune e as esteiles
and by the moon and by-the stars
qu'a Miceines ont dreit port pris:
that-at Mycenae they-have straight port taken
ço ert lor terre e lor païs.
that was their land and their country
Onc gent ne fu mais si joïe
Ever folk not was more so feasted
ne a tel honor recoillie:
nor at such honor received
dès or se pueent sojorner
from now themselves they-can rest
e grant richece demener,
and great riches lead
dès ore ont pro aise e leisor,
from now they-have enough ease and leisure
dès ore cessent lor labor.
from now cease their labor

Orestès fu mout deparlez
Orestes was much slandered
e de totes genz acusez
and by all folk accused
por sa mere, qu'ocise aveit.
for his mother whom-killed he-had
Reis Menelaus mout l'en haeit:
King Menelaus much him-thereof hated
maint grant engin e maint aguait
many-a great device and many-a ambush
li ot apareillié e fait.
to-him he-had prepared and done
A la parfin ont esguardé
At the end they-have considered
tuit li haut home e li ainz né
all the high men and the first born
qu'a Athenes ajostereient
that-at Athens they-would-gather
e la entre eus esguardereient,
and there among them would-consider
solonc ço qu'Orestès direit
according-to that which-Orestes would-say
e sonc ço qu'il s'espurgereit
and according-to that which-he himself-would-purge
de la merveille qu'il ot faite,
of the marvel which-he had done
que par tot le mont ert retraite,
which through all the world was recounted

sonc ço sereit fait jugement
according-to that would-be made judgment
si dreit, ja n'i avreit content,
so right ever not-there would-have strife
e tel, ja hom nel contredie,
and such ever man not-it may-gainsay
quar tel uevre ne covient mie
for such work not behooves at-all
ensi laissier qu'el n'en seit fait.
thus to-leave that-else not-thereof be done
Ne vos en quier faire lonc plait:
Not you thereof I-seek to-make long plea
tuit cil de Grece, li vaillant,
all those of Greece the worthy
li plus riche e li plus poissant
the most rich and the most mighty
assemblerent a cest afaire.
assembled at this affair
Qui lor diz vos voudreit retraire,
Who their sayings to-you would-wish to-recount
ne sereit pas hui achevé:
not would-be at-all today achieved
mais li conte furent conté,
but the accounts were told
por qu'Orestès l'aveit ocise
for which-Orestes her-had killed
e com li deu itel jostise
and how the gods such justice
l'en aveient comandé prendre.
him-thereof had commanded to-take

Menesteüs l'ofre a defendre
Menestheus him-offers to defend
vers toz ceus qui voudreient dire
against all those who would-wish to-say
qu'il ne fust dignes de l'empire
that-he not were worthy of the-empire
ne del reiaume governer:
nor of-the realm to-govern
qui quel vueille desleiauter,
whoever which may-wish to-make-disloyal
il l'en guarra vers tote gent.
he him-thereof will-warrant against all folk
En mi la cort son guage en tent,
In midst the court his gage thereof he-holds-out
que il por ço terre ne pert,
that he for that land not loses
ne qu'il n'i a ne n'i desert
nor that-he not-there has nor not-there deserves
eissil ne desheritement.
exile nor disinheritance
A ço n'ot mie grant content:
At that not-was at-all great strife
ne fu qui l'en contredeïst
not was-there who to-him-thereof might-gainsay
ne qui plus en rien l'en meïst.
nor who more in anything him-thereof might-put
Danz Orestès fu asoluz
Lord Orestes was absolved
e de cel crime defenduz:
and from that crime defended

comandé fu que icil faiz
commanded it-was that that deed
ne li fust mais en mal retraiz.
not to-him might-be more in ill recounted
Par l'esguart de la cort pleniere
By the-decision of the court full
li rendirent sa terre ariere
to-him they-rendered his land back
e toz ses dreiz e ses honors.
and all his rights and his honors
Si com reconte li Autors,
So as recounts the Author
a Miceines s'en repaira:
to Mycenae himself-thence he-returned
li dus d'Athenes l'i mena,
the duke of-Athens him-there led
quil fist coroner hautement
who-him made crown highly
en la presence de la gent.
in the presence of the folk
Riches reis fu e honorez.
Rich king he-was and honored
Une merveille oïr poëz:
A marvel hear you-can
Erigona, une pucele,
Erigone a maiden
fille Egistus, durement bele,
daughter (of-)Aegisthus very fair
suer Orestès de part sa mere,
sister (of-)Orestes on side his mother

ceste ot tel duel e tel misere
this-one had such grief and such misery
de ço qu'il esteit delivrez,
of that that-he was freed
qu'il n'ert eissilliez ne dampnez,
that-he not-was exiled nor damned
tant en fu sis cuers d'ire pleins
so-much thereof was her heart with-wrath full
qu'el se pendi o ses dous mains.
that-she herself hanged with her two hands

Quant Menelaus vit e conut
When Menelaus saw and recognized
qu'Orestès ot, si come il dut,
that-Orestes had so as he ought
son regne en pais e quitement,
his realm in peace and quit
vers lui requist acordement:
toward him he-required accord
li reis de Crete en fist tel pais
the king of Crete thereof made such peace
qu'il ne s'entreharront ja mais,
that-they not each-other-will-hate ever more
quar a femme li a donee
for to wife to-him he-has given
Hermiona, sa fille ainz nee,
Hermione his daughter first born
que dame Heleine aveit eüe
whom lady Helen had had
dous anz avant que fust tolue.
two years before that she-was taken

La dameisele fu mout sage,
The damsel was very wise
qu'Orestès ot en mariage;
whom-Orestes had in marriage
fille ert son oncle e sa germaine.
daughter she-was (of-)his uncle and his cousin
Les noces furent a Miceine,
The wedding was at Mycenae
granz e riches e merveilloses
great and rich and marvelous
e a ceus del regne joioses.
and to those of-the realm joyous

The Wanderings of Ulysses

CXI

Ulysses reaches Crete destitute and tells Idomeneus of his wanderings: the Lotus-eaters, the Sicilian kings Laestrygon and Cyclops and their sons Antiphates and Polyphemus, Elpenor's theft of Polyphemus's sister and the blinding of Polyphemus, the isles of Aeolus and the enchantresses Circe and Calypso, Circe left with child, an oracle of the dead, the Sirens, Scylla and Charybdis, and the Phoenicians who stripped him. Idomeneus sends him to King Alcinous, where he learns that thirty suitors besiege Penelope. Telemachus tells him who is there, and Ulysses kills the suitors at night as they lie drunk and is welcomed home. Telemachus marries Nausicaa, Idomeneus and his elder son die, and Nausicaa bears Poliporbus.

En icel tens, sempres après,
In that time at-once after
ariva en Crete Ulixès
arrived in Crete Ulysses
en dous granz nes a marcheanz,
in two great ships of merchants
qu'il ot loëes cent besanz,
which-he had hired hundred bezants
quar les soës aveit perdues;
for the his he-had lost
par force li erent tolues,
by force from-him they-were taken
e son aveir, le grant, le fier:
and his goods the great the fierce
le valissant d'un sol denier
the worth of-a single penny
ne l'en aveit om pas laissié;
not to-him-thereof had one at-all left

mout aveit esté dechacié.
much he-had been harried
Les genz Telamon Aïaus
The folk (of-)Telamonian Ajax
li orent fait assez granz maus,
to-him had done enough great ills
qui pris l'orent e desrobé;
who taken him-had and robbed
e s'il ne lor fust eschapé,
and if-he not to-them had escaped
morz fust e a forches penduz.
dead he-would-be and on gallows hanged
Ancor fu il plus mal venuz
Still was he more ill come
e cent itanz de la mort près,
and hundred times-so-much of the death near
quant li pere Palamedès
when the father (of-)Palamedes
l'ot pris e qu'il en fu saisiz:
him-had taken and that-he of-him was seized
bien en voleit vengier son fiz.
well thereof he-wished to-avenge his son
Ja hom de char qui seit vivant
Ever man of flesh who be living
n'eschapera mais de si grant.
not-will-escape more from so great
Qui contereit come il ovra
Who would-tell how he wrought
ne coment il lor eschapa,
nor how he from-them escaped

merveilles porriëz oïr.
marvels you-could hear
Sis tres granz sens e son avir
His very great sense and his wit
i fu tres bien aparissant.
there was very well apparent
Dès or porreiz oïr avant
From now you-will-be-able to-hear forward
la merveille de sa dolor,
the marvel of his sorrow
cui il endura par maint jor.
which he endured through many-a day
Li reis de Crete Idomeneus,
The king of Crete Idomeneus
quant vit qu'Ulixès ert iteus,
when he-saw that-Ulysses was such
si povre, si mesaaisiez
so poor so ill-at-ease
e si griefment endamagiez,
and so grievously harmed
demanda li que ço deveit,
asked him what that was-to-mean
que en si grant misere esteit,
that in so great misery he-was
e coment ço aveit esté,
and how that had been
que il en si grant povreté
that he into so great poverty
fust venuz de si grant richece.
were come from so great riches

Le bien de lui e la hautece
The good of him and the highness
veit, poi en faut, tote perie:
he-sees little thereof lacks all perished
mout li prie que veir l'en die.
much him he-prays that true to-him-thereof he-may-say
Danz Ulixès li a conté
Lord Ulysses to-him has told
tot en ordre la verité,
all in order the truth
com ç'a esté ne ou ço fu
how that-has been nor where that was
e com ço li est avenu;
and how that to-him is happened
com faitement enmanantiz
how fashioned enriched
esteit d'aveir e repleniz
he-was with-goods and replenished
e de bons compaignons aidanz
and with good companions helping
e de nes riches et vaillanz,
and with ships rich and worthy
forz, entieres e atornees,
strong entire and arrayed
d'or et d'argent totes comblees:
with-gold and with-silver all filled
ensi ert en Mirne arivez.
thus he-was at Smyrna arrived

La ne fu onques adesez
There not he-was ever touched
ne asailliz ne guerreiez
nor assailed nor warred
ne de neient endamagiez:
nor in nothing harmed
iluec ne fist pas lonc estage.
there not he-made at-all long stay
Tant costeierent le rivage
So-much they-coasted the shore
qu'a Lotophagos pristrent port:
that-at Lotus-eaters they-took port
la ne lor fist om mal ne tort.
there not to-them did one ill nor wrong
Puis li redit qu'en mer entrerent;
Then to-him he-says-again that-in sea they-entered
dous jorz nagierent e siglerent
two days they-rowed and sailed
o orage contralios,
with storm contrary
lait e oscur e tenebros,
foul and obscure and dark
qui en Secile les chaça:
which into Sicily them chased
a mauvais port les ariva
at evil port them landed
Fortune e Male Destinee.
Fortune and Evil Destiny
Dous reis aveit en la contree:
Two kings there-were in the country

Lestrigonain e Ciclopain;
Laestrygon and Cyclops
frere esteient andui germain.
brothers they-were both full
Cist virent l'aveir grant e fier:
These saw the-goods great and fierce
maint mul chargié e maint somier
many-a mule loaded and many-a sumpter
en pristrent la ou bon lor fu;
thence they-took there where good to-them it-was
ne lor pot estre defendu.
not from-them it-could be defended
Puis li retrait e li reconte
Then to-him he-recounts and to-him tells
que maint enui e mainte honte
that many-a vexation and many-a shame
li firent icil dui seignor:
to-him did these two lords
onc n'en porent aveir retor.
ever not-thereof they-could have return
«Après revindrent lor dous fiz,
After came their two sons
«qui chevaliers erent esliz,
who knights were chosen
«Antiphaz e Poliphemus:
Antiphates and Polyphemus

«Cent de noz compaignons e plus
Hundred of our companions and more
«nos detrenchierent e ocistrent
us they-cut-to-pieces and killed
«e ço roberent e ço pristrent,
and that they-plundered and that they-took
«que del nostre porent trover.
which of-the ours they-could find
«Ja n'orra mais nus hom parler
Ever not-will-hear more any man speak
«de gent que onc fust plus honie
of folk that ever was more shamed
«ne plus morte ne plus laidie.
nor more dead nor more outraged
«Pris furent tuit mi compaignon
Taken were all my companions
«senz merci e senz raençon:
without mercy and without ransom
«Un meis nos tindrent bien e plus.
A month us they-held well and more
«Merci en rot Poliphemus,
Mercy thereof again-had Polyphemus
«qui de chartre nos regeta
who from prison us threw-out
«e qui puis mout nos honora
and who after much us honored
«e sojorna a grant honor.»
and sojourned at great honor

Icist aveit une soror,
This-one had a sister
fille le rei Lestrigona.
daughter (of-)the king Laestrygon
Danz Alphenor tant l'aama,
Lord Elpenor so-much her-loved
qui compainz esteit Ulixès,
who companion was (of-)Ulysses
que por li ert de la mort près.
that for her he-was of the death near
Alphenor ert de haut parage
Elpenor was of high lineage
e chevalier vaillant e sage.
and knight worthy and wise
Danz Ulixès l'aveit mout chier,
Lord Ulysses him-had much dear
quar mout li aveit grant mestier; —
for much to-him he-had great service
bon compaignon aveit en lui; —
good companion he-had in him
mout s'entramoënt ambedui.
much each-other-loved both
Por Arenain le vit morir:
For Arene him he-saw die
ne s'en poüst ja mais partir
not himself-thence he-could ever more part
que morz ne fust senz nul retor,
that dead not he-would-be without any return
tant par ert espris de s'amor.
so very he-was inflamed with her-love

Ne poëit pas o li parler,
Not he-could at-all with her speak
quar bien la faiseient guarder
for well her they-made guard
sis pere e sis frere e sa gent.
her father and her brother and her folk
Retrait li fu com faitement
Recounted to-him it-was how fashioned
il s'en teneit a maubailli.
he himself-thereof held for ill-treated
Celui veeit mort e peri
That-one he-saw dead and perished
par bosoing e par estoveir:
by need and by necessity
par art e par son grant saveir,
by art and by his great wisdom
embla, ço dit, la dameisele,
stole that he-says the damsel
que merveilles par esteit bele.
who marvels very was fair
Fort chose fu a avenir.
Strong thing it-was to happen
Toz ses buens en pot acomplir
All his pleasures thereof could fulfill
danz Alphenor; si ot il fait,
lord Elpenor so had he done
ainz qu'il fust seü ne retrait:
before that-it were known nor recounted
sor tote rien la desirot.
above all thing her he-desired

Ço dit, que mout grant gré l'en sot,
That he-says that very great thanks to-him-thereof he-knew
com de la tres plus bele rien
as of the very most fair thing
que fust el siegle terriien:
which were in-the world earthly
de fille a rei corteise e sage
of daughter to king courteous and wise
li fist acomplir son corage.
to-him he-made fulfill his heart
«La chose sorent si parent
The thing knew her kin
«e sis pere, qu'en fu dolent;
and her father who-thereof was grieving
«duel en firent estrange e fier.
grief thereof they-made strange and fierce
«Poliphemus monta premier
Polyphemus mounted first
«o teus cinc cenz, n'i ot pas dous
with such five hundred not-there was at-all two
«qui ne nos fussent haïnos
who not to-us were hateful
«e desirant des chiés trenchier.
and desirous of-the heads to-cut
«Ne lor poümes esloignier:
Not from-them we-could distance-ourselves
«Ataint fumes, mais par veisdie,
Reached we-were but by cunning

«par artimaire e par maistrie
by magic and by mastery
«lor eschapames, n'en sai plus.
from-them we-escaped not-thereof I-know more
«Sa suer rescost Poliphemus;
His sister rescued Polyphemus
«l'ueil i perdi a tot le meins,
the-eye there he-lost at all the least
«que jo li crevai o mes mains:
which I to-him burst with my hands
«Ço fu par estrange aventure,
That was by strange adventure
«quar la nuit esteit mout oscure.
for the night was very dark
«Son pere la rendi ariere,
To-his father her he-rendered back
«qui sor tote rien l'aveit chiere,
who above all thing her-had dear
«despucelee e empreigniee.
deflowered and pregnant
«Mout en fu la danzele iriee,
Much thereof was the damsel angered
«e sis cuers marriz e ploros,
and her heart grieved and tearful
«de ço qu'el ne s'en vint o nos.»
of that that-she not herself-thence came with us

Après redit com faitement
After he-says-again how fashioned
le demena oré e vent
him led breeze and wind
par mi les isles d'Eoli:
through midst the isles of-Aeolus
la furent il bien recoilli,
there were they well received
quar dous reïnes i aveit,
for two queens there there-were
que nus si beles ne saveit.
that any so fair not knew
Dames esteient del païs,
Ladies they-were of-the country
de grant richece e de grant pris:
of great riches and of great prize
ço ert Circès e Calipsa.
that was Circe and Calypso
Ja mais nus hom parler n'orra
Ever more any man speak not-will-hear
de dous femmes de lor porchaz;
of two women of their dealings
nule mençonge nos en faz.
any lie not-to-you thereof I-make
Ço dit e conte li Autors,
That says and tells the Author
qu'eles n'aveient pas seignors,
that-they not-had at-all lords

mais li repaire des erranz
but the resort of-the wanderers
qui par mer erent trespassanz —
who through sea were passing
jo di reis, princes e demeines —
I say kings princes and lords
erent por eles en teus peines
were for them in such pains
que mieuz vousissent estre morz.
that better they-would-wish to-be dead
Des arz saveient e des sorz:
Of-the arts they-knew and of-the spells
al herbergier les convioënt,
to-the lodging them they-invited
après si les enchareoënt
after so them they-bewitched
que sempres erent si sorpris
that at-once they-were so overcome
e si de lor amor espris
and so with their love inflamed
qu'en eus n'aveit reison ne sen.
that-in them not-there-was reason nor sense
Se li tresors Oteviën
If the treasure (of-)Octavian
fust lor, si lor donassent il:
were theirs so to-them would-give they
ensi en ont servi a mil.
thus thereof they-have served to thousand
De partir d'eles ert neienz.
Of parting from-them it-was nothing

Trop par ert griés li lor tormenz.
Too very was grievous the their torment
Cil qui entre lor mains chaeit
He who between their hands fell
esteit sovent a mort destreit,
was often to death pressed
quar tant ert d'eles embeüz
for so-much he-was with-them soaked
e tant par esteit deceüz
and so-much very was deceived
qu'il ne pensast ja mais aillors.
that-he not would-think ever more elsewhere
Griefment vendeient lor amors.
Grievously they-sold their loves
Legiers esteit periz de mer
Light was peril of sea
avers le lor a trespasser.
toward the theirs to cross
Tot devoroënt, tot preneient;
All they-devoured all they-took
de rien vivant merci n'aveient,
on anything living mercy not-they-had
que maint riche home e maint manant
for many-a rich man and many-a wealthy
faiseient povre e pain querant.
they-made poor and bread seeking
O eles couchoënt plusor,
With them lay many
mais n'i esteit pas fine amor,
but not-there was at-all fine love

que traïson e decevance:
but treason and deception
grief esteit mout la desevrance.
grievous was much the parting
Içо retrait danz Ulixès,
That recounts lord Ulysses
que il chaï es mains Circès,
that he fell into-the hands (of-)Circe
mais ne li pot pas eschaper.
but not from-her he-could at-all escape
Bien en aveit oï parler,
Well of-her he-had heard speak
e el de lui, maint jor aveit:
and she of him many-a day had
quant de si grant beauté le veit,
when of so great beauty him she-sees
pense qu'o sei le retendra,
she-thinks that-with herself him she-will-keep
ja mais de li ne partira.
ever more from her not he-will-part
Ses sorceries, ses essaies
Her sorceries her charms
a fait por lui e ses charaies;
she-has done for him and her spells
fort sont li art e li conjure,
strong are the arts and the conjurations
auques le torne a sa mesure.
somewhat him she-turns to her measure

O sei le couche: mout li plaist
With herself him she-lays much to-her it-pleases
qu'il la joïsse e qu'il la baist;
that-he her may-enjoy and that-he her may-kiss
e si fait il, c'est la verté.
and so does he it-is the truth
Ainz que li meis fust trespassé,
Before that the month were passed
fu ele de lui grosse e preinz:
was she by him big and pregnant
fors sol adonc, ne puis ne ainz,
except only then nor after nor before
n'ot ele de nului enfant,
not-had she of anyone child
que l'om sache ne truist lisant.
that one may-know nor may-find reading
Cist fu en fiere hore engendrez
This-one was in fierce hour engendered
e en plus fiere refu nez:
and in more fierce again-was born
bien dirons al definement
well we-shall-tell at-the end
en quel sen ne com faitement.
in what sense nor how fashioned
Mais ici vos dirons après.
But here to-you we-shall-tell after
Com faitement danz Ulixès
How fashioned lord Ulysses
se departi de la reïne,
himself parted from the queen

que envers lui ert tote encline.
who toward him was all inclined
S'el sot des arz, il en sot plus,
If-she knew of-the arts he thereof knew more
si que il en fu al desus:
so that he thereof was at-the top
ne li sot rien bastir ne faire,
not to-him she-knew anything to-build nor to-do
dès qu'il bien voust, qu'il preisast guaire;
from that-he well wished that-he might-prize much
ses uevres, ses conjureisons,
her works her conjurings
ses charaies e ses poisons
her spells and her potions
ne li valurent pas dous auz;
not to-him availed at-all two garlics
sor li reverti li travauz
upon her turned-back the travail
e la grant peine e la dolor
and the great pain and the sorrow
qu'ele traist puis por lui maint jor.
which-she endured after for him many-a day
De son aveir, del fier, del grant,
Of her goods of-the fierce of-the great
ot il maint marc e maint besant.
had he many-a mark and many-a bezant
El nel pot mie retenir,
She not-him could at-all keep
dès que il li vint a plaisir.
from that he to-him came to pleasure

Donc conut bien e vit Circès
Then knew well and saw Circe
que poi sot envers Ulixès,
that little she-knew toward Ulysses
maistre a trové a sa mesure
master she-has found to her measure
tel qui ne crient sort ne conjure.
such who not fears spell nor conjuration
De son aveir en porte assez,
Of her goods thence he-carries enough
e si li laisse les costez,
and so to-her he-leaves the sides
ço cuit, toz pleins de vif enfant.
that I-think all full of living child
Al departir fu li dueus grant
At-the parting was the grief great
que fist Circès: nel pot muër,
which made Circe not-it she-could help
quant Ulixès en vit aler.
when Ulysses thence she-saw go
Bien li esta, mout fu guariz;
Well to-him it-stands much he-was healed
mais, fust de gré o a enviz,
but were-it by will or at unwillingness
avuec Calipsa la reïne
with Calypso the queen
redemora un grant termine.
again-he-tarried a great term

Cele li fist maint gieu parti
She to-him made many-a game divided
dont n'erent pas suen li choisi;
whereof not-were at-all his the choices
cele en fist auques son voleir,
she thereof did somewhat her will
quar trop esteit de grant saveir;
for too-much she-was of great wisdom
o sei le tint e demora
with herself him she-held and kept
grant piece, tant com li sembla;
great while as-long as to-her it-seemed
cele le fist creire en ses sorz,
she him made believe in her spells
si que mieuz vousist estre morz.
so that better he-would-wish to-be dead
Mais ne por quant de ç'alot bien,
But not for how-much of that-it-went well
que bele esteit sor tote rien:
that fair she-was above all thing
trop fust sis solaz delitables
too-much would-be her solace delightful
e trop fust sis cors agraables,
and too-much would-be her body agreeable
s'el nel vendist si chierement.
if-she not-it sold so dearly
Nel poüst pas faire autrement,
Not-it she-could at-all do otherwise
quar itel esteit sa nature.
for such was her nature

Par grant engin, par aventure,
By great craft by chance
s'en reschapa danz Ulixès:
himself-thence escaped lord Ulysses
onc tel paor, ço dit, n'ot mais
ever such fear that he-says not-he-had more
come de ço, qu'el le tenist,
as of that that-she him might-hold
que ja mais jor ne s'en partist;
that ever more day not himself-thence he-might-part
quar onc tant ne s'en sot pener
for ever so-much not himself-thereof he-knew to-strive
qu'il li poüst ses arz fauser
that-he to-her could her arts falsify
ne desfaire s'a peine non.
nor undo if-with pain not
Quant il fu fors de la prison,
When he was out of the prison
mout s'en fist liez, mout fu joios.
much himself-thereof he-made glad much he-was joyful
A uns oracles precios,
To some oracles precious
sainz e verais e si sacrez
holy and true and so sacred
que les devines poëstez
that the divine powers
i donoënt certains respons,
there gave certain answers
la vint o toz ses compaignons;
there he-came with all his companions

la firent sacrefiemenz,
there they-made sacrificings
si come il sorent, beaus e genz;
so as they knew fair and noble
la voust saveir que deveneient
there he-wished to-know what became
les ames que des cors eisseient.
the souls which from-the bodies went-out
Ço qu'il enquist sot e oï,
That which-he inquired he-knew and heard
e quant d'iluec se departi,
and when from-there himself he-parted
fier pas ot un a trespasser:
fierce pass he-had one to cross
ço sont les sereines de mer.
those are the sirens of sea
Soz ciel n'a rien, dès qu'il les veit,
Under heaven not-is anything from that-it them sees
ço set om bien, que morz ne seit.
that knows one well that dead not may-be
Des periz de mer c'est li maire:
Of-the perils of sea it-is the greatest
mout sont males e de put aire;
very they-are evil and of base nature
voiz ont cleres, angelieaus;
voices they-have clear angelic
sor trestoz chanz est li lor beaus.
above all songs is the theirs fair

Quis ot a el ne puet entendre
Who-them hears to other not can attend
ne ne se set d'eles defendre.
nor not himself knows from-them to-defend
Iluec ou om les ot chanter,
There where one them hears sing
sont tuit li encombrier de mer.
are all the obstacles of sea
Nus n'a crieme n'entencion
Any not-has fear nor-intention
de rien se d'eles oïr non.
of anything if of-them to-hear not
Lor cors perdent, sempres desveient,
Their bodies they-lose at-once they-go-mad
sempres afondent e peceient.
at-once they-founder and shatter
As nes se prenent a dreiture, —
To-the ships themselves they-take at right
teus est lor us e lor nature, —
such is their custom and their nature
sis afondent al fonz de mer.
so-them they-sink to-the bottom of sea
La covint Ulixès passer,
There behooved Ulysses to-pass
la en oï chanter cinc cenz;
there thereof he-heard sing five hundred
mais il fist teus enchantemenz,
but he made such enchantments

e si grant art e tel maistrie
and so great art and such mastery
que uns sous de sa compaignie
that one alone of his company
nes pot oïr ne n'i guarda
not-them could hear nor not-there regarded
ne por eles n'entroblia
nor for them not-forgot
son cors verai e dreiturier.
his body true and rightful
Plus en ocistrent d'un milier,
More thereof they-killed than-a thousand
que as nes sovent s'aerdeient
which to-the ships often clung
e que perillier les voleient.
and which to-imperil them wished
Cist periz lor dura assez,
This peril to-them lasted enough
mais par grant sen sont eschapez:
but by great sense they-are escaped
onc gent n'eschapa mais de tal.
ever folk not-escaped more from such
Dès or comence lor grant mal
From now begins their great ill
e lor martire e lor dolor:
and their martyrdom and their sorrow
ici ot assez duel e plor.
here was enough grief and weeping

Conte qu'il fu près de sa fin,
He-tells that-he was near of his end
entre Sillan e Caribdin,
between Scylla and Charybdis
la ou sont li nombril de mer,
there where are the navels of sea
que rien ne puet outre passer:
for anything not can beyond pass
de quinze liuës o de plus,
from fifteen leagues or from more
n'est rien que ne vienge al pertus,
not-is anything which not may-come to-the hole
al gofre e al sorbissement.
to-the gulf and to-the swallowing
Rien n'eschape d'icel torment:
Anything not-escapes from-that torment
la entre mer jusqu'en Abisme,
there enters sea until-into Abyss
e puis resaut sus par meïsme
and then leaps-again up by itself
de tel aïr que jusqu'as nues
with such force that until-to-the clouds
en sont les granz ondes venues.
thence are the great waves come
De quinze liuës, ço vos di,
From fifteen leagues that to-you I-say
vienent les nes al grant sousi,
come the ships to-the great dread

plus destendant que arbaleste
more unbending than crossbow
ne que quarreaus ne que saiete.
nor than bolt nor than arrow
Qui dedenz chiet, mal est bailliz,
Who within falls ill is handled
quar en petit d'ore est feniz.
for in little of-time he-is ended
Danz Ulixès o sa navie
Lord Ulysses with his fleet
e o tote sa compaignie
and with all his company
passa delez icez periz,
passed beside these perils
mais malement i fu traïz,
but badly there he-was betrayed
quar ne pot pas bien eschiver
for not he-could at-all well avoid
les lieus qui font a redoter.
the places which are to dread
Dedenz chaï tant de sa gent
Within fell so-much of his folk
dont il ot mout le cuer dolent:
whereof he had much the heart grieving
veant lui en sont perillié
seeing him thence are imperiled
bien les dous parz o la meitié;
well the two parts or the half

veant ses ieuz i sont sorbies
seeing his eyes there are swallowed
de ses nes bien les dous parties.
of his ships well the two parts
Paor ot grant e duel e ire
Fear he-had great and grief and wrath
plus qu'il ne puet conter ne dire.
more than-he not can tell nor say
O ceus qui li furent remés, —
With those who to-him were remained
il ne dist pas en quantes nes, —
he not says at-all in how-many ships
chaï es mains as guerreianz,
he-fell into-the hands to-the warriors
ou Fenices sont repairanz:
where Phoenicians are dwelling
c'est uns pueples qui Deu ne sert.
it-is a people which God not serves
Bien se retue e bien se pert,
Well himself kills and well himself loses
qui entre eus chiet: morz est senz faille.
who among them falls dead is without fail
Vers toz ceus ont guerre e bataille
Against all those they-have war and battle
cui de rien pueent sormonter;
whom in anything they-can overcome
ullague sont toz jorz par mer.
wanderers they-are all days by sea
Ço dist danz Ulixès por veir,
That said lord Ulysses for true

que cist orent si son aveir
that these had so his goods
qu'un sol denier ne li laissierent;
that-a single penny not to-him they-left
trop laidement le damagierent.
too foully him they-harmed
En lor chartre l'ont tant tenu
In their prison him-they-have so-long held
que puis en ont merci eü:
that after thereof they-have mercy had
«Fors nos ront mis de lor prisons,
Out us again-they-have put from their prisons
«entre mei e mes compaignons.
between me and my companions
«Ensi,» fait il, «m'est avenu,
Thus says he to-me-is happened
«ensi ai tot le mien perdu;
thus I-have all the mine lost
«ensi est alé de ma gent
thus is gone of my folk
«e de mon aveir ensement.
and of my goods likewise
«Ensi m'a demené Fortune,
Thus me-has led Fortune
«que mout m'a fait duel et rancune:
that much to-me-she-has done grief and rancor
«Trop m'a esté lonc tens orrible
Too-much to-me-she-has been long time horrible
«e trop averse e trop penible;
and too adverse and too painful

«poi m'a laissié, trop m'a toleit.
little to-me-she-has left too-much from-me-she-has taken
«Mout est fous qui en li se creit:
Much is mad who in her himself trusts
«Ja mais jor ne m'i fierai,
Ever more day not me-there I-shall-trust
«por tant de vie come avrai.»
for so-much of life as I-shall-have
Quant Ulixès a tot conté
When Ulysses has all told
la peine de s'aversité,
the pain of his-adversity
soz ciel n'a rien, se il l'oïst,
under heaven not-is anything if it it-heard
que a merveilles nel tenist.
which at marvels not-it would-hold
Li reis de Crete l'a joï
The king of Crete him-has feasted
e honoré e recoilli
and honored and received
e herbergié a grant honor:
and lodged at great honor
mout li dona riche sojor.
much to-him he-gave rich stay
Dous nes li fist apareillier,
Two ships for-him he-made prepare
quel hore qu'il voudra nagier;
what hour that-he will-wish to-sail

assez li dona guarnemenz
enough to-him he-gave equipments
e autres aveirs beaus e genz.
and other goods fair and noble
Conduit seür li a baillié,
Conduct sure to-him he-has handed
e si l'a tot dreit enveié
and so him-he-has all straight sent
a Alcenon, un rei vaillant,
to Alcinous a king worthy
qui mout li a fait bel semblant.
who much to-him has made fair semblance
De lui e de sa sapiënce,
Of him and of his wisdom
de son non e de sa loquence
of his name and of his eloquence
aveit toz jorz oï parler:
he-had all days heard speak
merveilles le voust celebrer.
marvels him he-wished to-celebrate
Mout hautement l'a herbergié
Very highly him-he-has lodged
e sor tote rien essaucié.
and above all thing exalted
Iluec a Ulixès apris
There has Ulysses learned
les noveles de son païs,
the news of his country
de Penelope sa moillier,
of Penelope his wife

que trente riche chevalier,
that thirty rich knights
haut home e fort d'autre contree,
high men and strong from-other country
ont puis requise e demandee:
have since sought and asked
chascuns la voleit esposer
each her wished to-wed
e en sa terre o sei mener.
and into his land with himself to-lead
Lonc tens l'en aveient preiee,
Long time her-thereof they-had prayed
mais ne s'ert a nul otreiee:
but not herself-was to any granted
n'en voleit parole escouter,
not-thereof she-wished word to-hear
quar dreite fei voleit porter
for right faith she-wished to-bear
a Ulixès, son chier seignor;
to Ulysses her dear lord
lui desirot e nuit e jor.
him she-desired both night and day
Adonc li fu noncié e dit
Then to-him it-was announced and said
d'itel qui o ses ieuz le vit
by-such who with his eyes him saw
que en sa maison trovereit
that in his house he-would-find
icez vassaus, se il voleit,
these vassals if he wished

qui Penelope vuelent prendre,
who Penelope wish to-take
mais ne li pueent faire entendre:
but not to-her can make understand
o li sojornent, peist o place,
with her they-stay let-it-grieve or please
quar poi redotent sa manace.
for little they-dread his threat
Mout l'avront longement preiee:
Much her-they-will-have long prayed
ço peise li, mout est iriee.
that grieves her much she-is angered
Ulixès oï les noveles,
Ulysses heard the news
que ne li furent de rien beles.
which not to-him were of anything fair
Al rei Alcenon merci crie
To-the king Alcinous mercy he-cries
qu'il li otreit sa compaignie,
that-he to-him may-grant his company
qu'il aille o lui ses torz vengier
that-he may-go with him his wrongs to-avenge
que l'om li fait de sa moillier:
which one to-him does about his wife
«N'i a mie mout a sigler,
Not-there is at-all much to sail
ne mout grant cors ne mout grant mer.»
nor very great course nor very great sea
Tant l'a preié, tant l'a requis,
So-much him-he-has prayed so-much him-he-has required

qu'o lui s'est a la veie mis.
that-with him himself-has to the way put
La vindrent, que qu'il ait targié.
There they-came whatever that-he may-have delayed
Ulixès a bien espiié
Ulysses has well spied
toz les estres de ses maisons;
all the parts of his houses
celer a fait ses compaignons.
hide he-has made his companions
Ot la grant joie que cil meinent
He-hears the great joy which those make
qui por Penelope se peinent:
who for Penelope themselves take-pains
tel noise font e tel deduit,
such noise they-make and such delight
toz li païs entor en bruit;
all the country around thereof is-in-uproar
sonent i harpes e viëles.
sound there harps and viols
Telemacus sot les noveles,
Telemachus knew the news
que sis pere esteit avenuz:
that his father was come
a lui est mout tost acoruz.
to him he-is very soon run
Joie li fait sor tote rien,
Joy to-him he-makes above all thing

puis li a dit qu'il taise bien
then to-him he-has said that-he may-keep-silent well
ço qu'il vueut faire, n'en sont mot.
that which-he wishes to-do not-thereof they-know word
E cil li a reconté tot,
And that-one to-him has recounted all
li quel i sont e li quel non.
the which there are and the which not
Ne sai quos i aloignisson:
Not I-know why-you there we-should-prolong
la nuit, quant se furent couchié
the night when themselves were lain-down
tuit enivré e tuit haitié,
all drunk and all merry
les a Ulixès decolez.
them has Ulysses beheaded
N'en est uns toz sous eschapez:
Not-thence is one all alone escaped
toz les a morz e detrenchiez.
all them he-has slain and cut-to-pieces
Ensi s'est d'eus la nuit vengiez.
Thus himself-has of-them the night avenged
Quant par la cité fu seü
When through the city it-was known
que lor sire esteit avenu,
that their lord was come
e par tot le regne environ,
and through all the realm around

o joie e o devocion
with joy and with devotion
e o grant esleecement
and with great rejoicing
l'ont receü comunaument.
him-they-have received in-common
Onc hom ne fu mais si joïz
Ever man not was more so feasted
ne a tel honor recoilliz,
nor at such honor received
ne onques mais a home né
nor ever more to man born
ne furent tel don presenté
not were such gifts presented
ne tant bon precios aveir.
nor so-much good precious goods
Totes li fist om a saveir
All to-him made one to know
les aventures d'en ariere.
the adventures from behind
Sa femme ama mout e ot chiere,
His wife he-loved much and held dear
quar merveilles bien l'en ont dit
for marvels well of-her-thereof they-have said
tuit ensemble grant e petit.
all together great and small
Sis biens fu mout montepleiez
Her good was much multiplied
e sis nons par tot essauciez;
and her name through all exalted

mout fu guarie e honoree,
much she-was kept and honored
mout fu de bone renomee;
much she-was of good renown
de fin cuer e de bone amor
with fine heart and with good love
ama toz jorz puis son seignor.
she-loved all days after her lord
Ulixès a tant espleitié
Ulysses has so-much fared
e tant a Alcenon preié
and so-much has Alcinous prayed
que sa fille a son fil donee,
that his daughter has (to-)his son given
que Nausica ert apelee.
who Nausicaa was called
Ne sai quos en deïsse plus:
Not I-know why-you thereof I-should-tell more
mariëz fu Telemacus.
married was Telemachus
Riche fu mout le mariage,
Rich was much the marriage
e la pucele proz e sage.
and the maiden valiant and wise
Ensi avint a Ulixès.
Thus it-happened to Ulysses
Dès or ra assez joie e pais,
From now he-again-has enough joy and peace
dès or n'a ire ne rancune;
from now not-he-has wrath nor rancor

dès or li est prospre Fortune,
from now to-him is prosperous Fortune
dès or li est joiose e liee,
from now to-him she-is joyful and glad
mais mout riert tost vers lui iriee:
but very again-she-will-be soon toward him angered
a ço ne puet aveir faillance
at that not can be failure
ne lonc terme ne demorance.
nor long term nor delay
Par li l'en recovient passer:
Through her him-thereof behooves-again to-pass
ja si ne s'en savra guarder.
ever so not himself-thereof he-will-know-how to-guard
En icel tens, si com jo truis,
In that time so as I find
fu sempres morz, ne tarda puis,
was at-once dead not delayed after
li reis de Crete Idomenés.
the king of Crete Idomeneus
A ses dous enfanz est remés
To his two children is remained
sis regnes, qu'il lor a livré
his realm which-he to-them has delivered
e departi e devisé:
and parted and divided
c'est Merion e Laerta.
it-is Merion and Laertes

Mais ainz li quinz jorz ne passa
But before the fifteenth day not passed
que morz en refu li ainz nez:
that dead thereof again-was the first born
poi a esté sire clamez;
little he-has been lord called
mout li avint tost sis obiz.
much to-him came soon his death
Plainz fu e li pere e li fiz.
Lamented was both the father and the son
C'ert bien dreiz: damages e maus
It-was well right harm and ill
est de perdre teus dous vassaus.
it-is of losing such two vassals
La fille Alcenon, Nausica
The daughter (of-)Alcinous Nausicaa
conçut un fil e enfanta:
conceived a son and bore
grant joie en ot Telemacus,
great joy thereof had Telemachus
e Ulixès cent itanz plus.
and Ulysses hundred times-so-much more
Poliporbus fu apelez
Poliporbus he-was called
le jor meïsme qu'il fu nez.
the day same that-he was born
Par lui fu puis mout essauciee,
By him was after much exalted
ço dit l'Estoire, sa ligniee.
that says the-Story his line

Pyrrhus Avenges Peleus

CXII

Pyrrhus refits his ships at Molossia and learns that Acastus has driven out his grandfather Peleus. His scouts hear the story from Assandrus, with an account of Peleus's wedding feast with Thetis. Storms drive Pyrrhus to Sepias, where he finds Peleus hiding in a cave. Disguised in rags, he joins the hunt of Acastus's sons Plisthenes and Menalippus and kills both, then kills their man Cinaras, dresses as a captive son of Priam, and tells Acastus that Pyrrhus sleeps nearby. Thetis, Acastus's daughter, begs her grandson to spare her father, and Pyrrhus agrees at Peleus's word. Acastus makes Pyrrhus his heir, and Peleus and Thetis end their days in peace.

Dès or voudrons retraire après
From now we-shall-wish to-recount after
coment li fiz dant Achillès
how the son (of-)lord Achilles
erra, qu'il fist ne qu'il devint.
fared what-he did nor what-he became
En dementres que ço avint,
In meanwhile that that happened
que del peril fu eschapez
that from-the peril he-was escaped
qui ariere vos est contez,
which back to-you is told
si vint a port a quel que peine
so he-came to port at what that pain
avuec la soë gent demeine.
with the his folk own
Poi i a nef que ne seit fraite:
Little there is ship which not be broken

ço peise lui, mout s'en deshaite.
that grieves him much himself-thereof he-distresses
A Molose fist rafaitier
At Molossia he-made refit
ses nes, dont il ot grant mestier.
his ships whereof he had great need
N'i aveit rien entier remés,
Not-there was anything entire remained
ne maz ne governauz ne tres;
nor masts nor rudders nor sails
perdu en esteient li rein
lost thereof were the oars
e derompu tuit li funain;
and broken all the ropes
frait en erent li bort entor.
broken thereof were the planks around
Tant dis come il ert a sojor,
So-much while as he was at rest
iluec oï que Acastus
there he-heard that Acastus
aveit eissillié Peleüs.
had exiled Peleus
Si aiuel erent ambedous,
His grandfathers were both
mais Acastus ert haïnos
but Acastus was hateful
vers lui e vers tot son lignage:
toward him and toward all his lineage
fait li aveit maint lait damage.
done to-him he-had many-a foul harm

Oï qu'il le faisait guaitier
He-heard that-he him was-making watch
por lui ocire e detrenchier.
for him to-kill and to-cut-to-pieces
Mout li pesa de Peleüs
Much to-him it-weighed for Peleus
e de sei autretant o plus.
and for himself as-much or more
Dit que cest desheritement
He-says that this disinheritance
sera comparé chierement:
will-be paid-for dearly
ja por paor ne por dotance
ever for fear nor for doubt
n'iert pardonee la venjance.
not-will-be pardoned the vengeance
Aler i vueut, mais conseil prent
To-go there he-wishes but counsel he-takes
qu'il i enveit premierement
that-he there may-send first
por veeir e por espiier
for to-see and for to-spy
come il porra mieuz espleitier,
how he will-be-able best to-fare
por saveir lor covines toz.
for to-know their designs all
Icil furent sages e proz,
Those were wise and valiant

qu'il i tramist: ço fu Crispus
whom-he there sent that was Crispus
e uns suens compainz Aratus.
and a his companion Aratus
Veziié, corteis e membré
Shrewd courteous and mindful
29120 furent andui e emparlé.
were both and eloquent
Dreit en Thesaille chevauchierent:
Straight into Thessaly they-rode
tant errerent, tant espleitierent
so-much they-traveled so-much they-sped
qu'il i vindrent. La ont trové
that-they there came There they-have found
un vassal riche e honoré:
a vassal rich and honored
29125 dant Assandrus l'apelot om,
lord Assandrus him-called one
ç'oï dire, par son dreit non.
that-I-heard say by his right name
Cist n'aveit onques consentu
This-one not-had ever consented
qu'a Peleüs fust mal venu;
that-to Peleus might-be ill come
iriez esteit e abosmez
angered he-was and cast-down
29130 de ço qu'il ert desheritez;
of that that-he was disinherited

Acastus e sa tirannie
Acastus and his tyranny
aveit haï tote sa vie:
he-had hated all his life
ja a faire ses cruëutez
ever at doing his cruelties
ne ses laides orribletez
nor his foul horribleness
n'eüst de lui aïdement. 29135
not-he-would-have of him help
Cil li enquierent doucement
Those him ask sweetly
qu'il lor die coment il vait.
that-he to-them may-tell how it goes
Oëz que Assandrus retrait.
Hear what Assandrus recounts
Conté a tote l'acheison
Told he-has all the-occasion
d'icele desheriteison, 29140
of-that disinheritance
une grant uevre e uns tribous
a great work and a tribulation
laiz e morteus e enoios.
foul and mortal and wearisome
Après dit com faitierement
After he-says how fashioned
il s'amerent premierement,
they each-other-loved first
entre lui e rei Peleüs, 29145
between him and king Peleus

bien a trente set anz e plus,
well there-are thirty seven years and more
e qu'il fu, quant il prist Thetis,
and that-he was when he took Thetis
en la maison dant Chironis,
in the house (of-)lord Chiron
ou tuit li rei qui erent né
where all the kings who were born
29150 furent somons e ajosté
were summoned and gathered
a festiver, a joie faire.
to feasting to joy making
De totes en fu cele maire,
Of all thereof was that-one greatest
quar come deus les celebrerent
for as gods them they-celebrated
e come deus les festiverent.
and as gods them they-feasted
29155 Conte des noces, del mangier,
He-tells of-the wedding of-the eating
com rien le pot apareillier,
how thing it could prepare
coment le pot rien porpenser
how it could thing conceive
ne establir ne deviser.
nor establish nor describe

Conte que tuit li rei en fin
He-tells that all the kings in end
e li poëte e li devin
and the poets and the diviners
qui la furent i querolerent
who there were there danced-in-rounds
e se deduistrent e chanterent
and themselves disported and sang
a voiz douces e a sonanz
with voices sweet and with sounding
e o estrumenz acordanz.
and with instruments agreeing
Les nons as damedeus des cieus
The names of-the lord-gods of-the heavens
s'entrapelerent en lor gieus.
each-other-they-called in their games
Les reïnes et les puceles
The queens and the maidens
e les preisiees dameiseles,
and the prized damsels
que treschierent e firent guas,
who danced and made jests
furent apelees Musas:
were called Muses
ne lor pot om graindre honor faire.
not to-them could one greater honor do

A mil anz savra l'om retraire
At thousand years will-know one to-recount
que ço fu le convive as deus:
that that was the banquet of-the gods
onc teus ne fu ne n'iert mais teus.
ever such not was nor not-will-be more such
Crispus e Aratus apristrent
Crispus and Aratus learned
quant que il voustrent e qu'il quistrent.
as-much as they wished and which-they sought
Après n'i ont fait lonc sojor:
After not-there they-have made long stay
repairié sont a lor seignor.
returned they-are to their lord
Conté li ont tot e retrait,
Told to-him they-have all and recounted
saveir come il l'aveient fait,
to-know how they it-had done
come il ont Assandrus trové,
how they have Assandrus found
qui tot lor a dit e conté
who all to-them has said and told
les covines e les aguaiz
the designs and the ambushes
que Acastus li aveit faiz.
which Acastus to-him had made
Neptolemus fu mout iriez,
Neoptolemus was much angered
quar laidement ert damagiez,
for foully he-was harmed

e mer e vent li sont contraire,
and sea and wind to-him are contrary
e li home mout de put aire
and the men very of base nature
des regions e des païs:
of-the regions and of-the countries
par tot a morteus enemis.
through all he-has mortal enemies
Totes veies rot sa navie
All ways again-he-had his fleet
auques ratornee e guarnie.
somewhat re-arrayed and furnished
En mer s'empeignent, mais l'iverz
In sea they-thrust but the-winter
lor est orribles e coilverz.
to-them is horrible and knavish
Lassé, chacié e tormenté,
Weary chased and tormented
resont a un port arivé
again-they-are at a port arrived
qui esteit apelez par non,
which was called by name
ço m'est a vis, Sepiadon:
that to-me-is at opinion Sepias
del lieu li esteit emposé,
from-the place to-it was imposed
qui de roches ert encombré.
which with rocks was encumbered

Por poi qu'a cel arivement
For little that-at that arrival
ne ra perdu tote sa gent:
not again-he-has lost all his folk
a grant peine s'i embatierent,
with great pain themselves-there they-dashed
merveille fu qu'il ne neierent;
marvel it-was that-they not drowned
le port pristrent a grant dolor,
the port they-took at great sorrow
maint home i perdirent des lor.
many-a man there they-lost of-the theirs
Pirrus se plaint e se demente:
Pyrrhus himself laments and himself bewails
grant mal li a fait la tormente.
great ill to-him has done the storm
Par mi le bois vait tot a pié,
Through midst the wood he-goes all on foot
mout corroços e mout irié;
very wrathful and very angered
une fosse a trové roonde,
a pit he-has found round
mout tenebrose e mout parfonde,
very dark and very deep
pleine d'espine e de coudreiz
full of-thorn and of hazel-thicket
e d'aiglantiers e d'olmereiz.
and of-eglantines and of-elm-groves

Enermie esteit e mossue
Wild it-was and mossy
e mout i ot petite eissue;
and very there was little exit
al fonz a chaves granz e lees
at-the bottom it-has caves great and wide
e desoz terre loinz menees.
and beneath earth far led
Oëz, seignor, com grant merveille,
Hear lords how great marvel
saveir qu'Aventure apareille.
to-know which-Adventure prepares
Son aiuel trueve iluec mucié,
His grandfather he-finds there hidden
qu'Acastus aveit dechacié:
whom-Acastus had harried
repoz s'i ert, maint jor aveit.
hidden himself-there he-was many-a day there-was
La desirot, la atendeit
There he-desired there he-was-awaiting
que sis niés repairast de Troie:
that his grandson might-return from Troy
quant il le vit, mout ot grant joie.
when he him saw much he-had great joy
Sor les faleises de la mer
Upon the cliffs of the sea
alot sovent pot esguarder
he-went often he-could look
s'il le veïst ne près ne loinz:
if-he him might-see nor near nor far

29230 ço li ert mestiers e bosoinz.
that to-him was need and want
Quant le conut, tant par fu liez
When him he-knew so very he-was glad
qu'a peine pot ester sor piez.
that-with pain he-could stand on feet
Plore de joie Peleüs,
Weeps for joy Peleus
cent feiz le baise e cent e plus.
hundred times him he-kisses and hundred and more
29235 Or li est vis qu'Achillès veie:
Now to-him it-is seeming that-Achilles he-may-see
quant son nevo tient e maneie,
when his grandson he-holds and handles
sa forme veit e sa semblance.
his form he-sees and his semblance
Dès ore a auques d'alejance;
From now he-has somewhat of-relief
or ne li chaut mais qu'il devienge
now not to-him matters more what-he may-become
29240 ne que il mais dot mort ne crienge.
nor that he more may-fear death nor may-dread
Longe parole a o lui faite:
Long word he-has with him made
tote l'uevre li a retraite,
all the-work to-him he-has recounted
come ele esteit e coment non.
how it was and how not
Pirrus n'i fist pas lonc sermon:
Pyrrhus not-there made at-all long sermon

quant l'afaire ot mout bien enquis
when the-affair he-had very well inquired
e toz les estres del païs,
and all the parts of-the country
si fist ses compaignons armer;
so he-made his companions arm
aler en voust senz demorer
to-go thence he-wished without delaying
ceus envaïr qu'il het de mort.
those to-assail whom-he hates to death
Ja esteient bien loinz del port,
Already they-were well far from-the port
quand dit li fu que Plistenès,
when told to-him it-was that Plisthenes
veneit chacier el bois mout près,
was-coming to-hunt in-the wood very near
e sis frere Menalipus:
and his brother Menalippus
cil esteient fil Acastus;
those were sons (of-)Acastus
oncle esteient al dameisel.
uncles they-were to-the squire
Quant il l'oï, mout l'en fu bel.
When he it-heard much to-him-thereof it-was fair
O ceus, s'il puet, s'acointera;
With those if-he can himself-will-acquaint
desci qu'a poi lor mosterra
until that-at little to-them he-will-show
qu'il n'aime point lor parenteis.
that-he not-loves at-all their kin

Son cors vesti sempres maneis
His body he-clothed at-once forthwith
d'uns dras mout povres depanez,
in-some cloths very poor tattered
puis si s'en est toz sous tornez.
then so himself-thence he-is all alone turned
Remaneir fist sa compaignie
Remain he-made his company
trestote ensemble a la navie:
all together at the fleet
n'en meine o sei un tot solet.
not-thence he-leads with himself one all alone
De fiere chose s'entremet.
In fierce thing himself-engages
Un glaive de fer aceré
A blade of iron steeled
a ceint, repost e esconsé:
he-has girded hidden and concealed
tant est hardiz que rien ne crient.
so-much he-is bold that anything not he-fears
A l'oïe des corz se tient,
To the-hearing of-the horns himself he-holds
par le bois vait toz sous a pié,
through the wood he-goes all alone on foot
vers ses dous oncles mout irié.
toward his two uncles very angered
Las est, mout par li grieve e coste:
Weary he-is much very to-him it-grieves and costs
tant a alé qu'o eus s'ajoste.
so-much he-has gone that-with them himself-joins

E cil li ont requis en eirre
And those to-him have asked in haste
coment il vait, coment il eirre,
how it goes how he travels
dont il est nez, de quel païs:
whence he is born from what country
tot son estre li ont enquis.
all his being from-him they-have inquired
Neptolemus dit e retrait
Neoptolemus says and recounts
que de Grece est, mais mal li vait,
that from Greece he-is but ill to-him it-goes
quar en la mer sont perillié
for in the sea they-are imperiled
a duel, a honte e a pechié:
to grief to shame and to sin
de set mile homes n'en est mie
of seven thousand men not-thence is at-all
guari la centisme partie;
saved the hundredth part
«e mei,» fait il, «par aventure
and me says he by chance
«geta la mer a terre dure.
threw the sea to land hard
«Dous jorz ai geü sor l'areine,
Two days I-have lain on the-sand
«onc de mei n'eissi funs n'aleine.
ever from me not-went-out vapor nor-breath
«Ne sui pas ancor del tot sain,
Not I-am at-all still of-the all sound

«quar de sause ai le ventre plein:
for of brine I-have the belly full
«Rendu en ai plus d'un sestier.
Given-up thereof I-have more than-a measure
«Voz corz oï de cest gravier,
Your horns I-heard from this gravel
«ça acorui por conseil querre:
here I-ran for counsel to-seek
«Ne sai ou sui ne en quel terre.
Not I-know where I-am nor in what land
«Mout ai a plaindre e a plorer:
Much I-have to lament and to weep
«Ne sai quel part jo puisse aler.»
Not I-know what way I may go
Cil li diënt qu'o eus s'en vienge
Those to-him say that-with them himself-thence he-may-come
e qu'o eus s'estace e se tienge:
and that-with them himself-may-stand and himself may-hold
bien li feront, n'i faudra mie.
well to-him they-will-do not-there it-will-fail at-all
E cil envers eus s'umelie.
And that-one toward them himself-humbles
Un cerf troverent maintenant
A stag they-found now
de dis ramors e fier e grant:
of ten tines and fierce and great
les muetes li ont descoplees
the packs on-him they-have uncoupled
baudes e bien entalentees.
eager and well keen

La chace començа si bele,
The chase began so fair
lais de rote ne de viële
lay of rote nor of viol
ne vausist tant a escouter:
not would-be-worth so-much to hear
la grant forest retentist cler.
the great forest resounds clear
L'uns des freres chaça premiers,
The-one of-the brothers hunted first
e li autre veneit deriers.
and the other was-coming behind
Delez lui s'acosta Pirrus:
Beside him himself-drew-near Pyrrhus
sempres l'a mort, jo n'en sai plus.
at-once him-he-has slain I not-thereof know more
Après ratainst le premerain:
After he-reached-again the first
a un tot sol coup de sa main,
with a all single blow of his hand
li a la teste fait voler.
to-him he-has the head made fly
Dès or s'en puet li cers aler:
From now himself-thence can the stag go
ne sera plus seüz par eus.
not it-will-be more followed by them

Trop a esté li siegles feus
Too-much has been the world felon
e sera tant come il durra:
and will-be as-long as it will-last
ja autrement ne finera.
ever otherwise not it-will-end
Quant Pirrus ot ses oncles morz,
When Pyrrhus had his uncles slain
ainz qu'il refust ariere as porz,
before that-he were-again back at-the ports
fu il d'aler a pié toz las.
was he of-going on foot all weary
Encontre lui vint Cinaras,
Toward him came Cinaras
qui li demande o grant esfrei
who him asks with great alarm
s'il a veü les fiz le rei;
if-he has seen the sons (of-)the king
error li prent e esmaiance.
error him takes and dismay
E Pirrus li dit senz dotance
And Pyrrhus to-him says without doubt
vienge desci qu'a lui parler:
he-should-come until to him to-speak
mieuz l'en venist fuiant torner.
better to-him-thence would-come fleeing to-turn
Tant fait Pirrus qu'as mains le tient.
So-much does Pyrrhus that-in-the hands him he-holds

Puis li demande dont il vient
Then him he-asks whence he comes
e queus noveles d'Acastus:
and what news of-Acastus
«Sire,» fait il, «jo n'en sai plus,
Lord says he I not-thereof know more
«mais or me departi de lui:
but now myself I-parted from him
«Ja sera ci, si com jo cui.
Already he-will-be here so as I think
«Jo ne sai pas par queus espies
I not know at-all by what spies
«queus noveles il a oïes,
what news he has heard
«mais ça en vient toz esfreez
but here thence he-comes all frightened
«e mout iriez e mout desvez.»
and very angered and very maddened
Tot maintenant en es le pas
All now in right the step
ra ocis Pirrus Cinaras:
again-has killed Pyrrhus Cinaras
il s'i mesfist, ço cuit e crei,
he himself-there misdid that I-think and believe
qu'il l'aveit fait venir a sei.
for-he him-had made come to himself
Tost se corut apareillier
Soon himself he-ran to-prepare
e icez mauvais dras changier.
and these bad clothes to-change

Son cors vesti de maintenant
His body he-clothed from now
com s'il fust uns des fiz Priant,
as if-he were one of-the sons (of-)Priam
que Pirrus en menast o sei
whom Pyrrhus thence led with himself
pris e chaitif en son navei.
taken and captive in his ship
Quant vestuz fu de meillors dras,
When clothed he-was in better clothes
contre Acastus en vait le pas.
against Acastus thence he-goes the pace
Nen ot mie grantment alé
Not he-had at-all greatly gone
qu'il l'a veü e encontré.
that-he him-has seen and met
Granz fu merveilles e membruz,
Great he-was marvels and big-limbed
de grant aé vieuz e chenuz,
of great age old and hoary
forz e despers e merveillos.
strong and wild and marvelous
Un glaive portot perillos.
A blade he-carried perilous
Cheveus ot blans, barbe e grenon:
Hair he-had white beard and mustache
onques ne lieparz ne lion
ever nor leopard nor lion
ne pot estre de sa fierté.
not could be of his fierceness

Neptolemus a esguardé:
Neoptolemus has looked
demanda li qui il esteit
asked him who he was
ne ou alot ne dont veneit.
nor where he-was-going nor whence he-was-coming
E cil li dist de maintenant
And that-one to-him said from now
qu'il ert de Troie, fiz Priant:
that-he was of Troy son (of-)Priam
«Pirrus m'en ameine en servage,
Pyrrhus me-thence leads in servitude
«qui dort laïs en cel rivage.
who sleeps there on that shore
«Las est d'aler par mer najant
Weary he-is of-going by sea sailing
«e del torment orrible e grant
and of-the storm horrible and great
«qui ses nes li a peceiees
which his ships to-him has shattered
«e quassees e perilliees.
and shaken and imperiled
«En une fosse la devant
In a pit there before
«s'en entra or, mes ieuz veant,
himself-thence he-entered now my eyes seeing
«de la mer lorz e estordiz;
from the sea dazed and stunned
«por lassece s'est endormiz.»
for weariness himself-has fallen-asleep

Acastus mue la color:
Acastus changes the color
d'ire trestremble e de dolor;
from-wrath he-trembles and from sorrow
el chief li alument li ueil.
in-the head to-him light-up the eyes
Iriez e fel e pleins d'orgueil,
Angered and felon and full of-pride
onques rien plus amerement
ever thing more bitterly
ne haï autre mortelment
not hated other mortally
qu'il plus Neptolemus ne hee.
than-he more Neoptolemus not may-hate
La cort, nue en son poing s'espee,
There he-runs bare in his fist his-sword
de lui ocire coveitos,
of him to-kill covetous
volenteris e desiros.
willing and desirous
Thetis esteit fille Acastus
Thetis was daughter (of-)Acastus
e femme espose Peleüs:
and wife wedded (of-)Peleus
iluec esteit a icel jor
there she-was at that day
venue querre son seignor.
come to-seek her lord
Ja saveit bien, que dit li ere,
Already she-knew well what told to-her was

que mort esteient si dui frere;
that dead were her two brothers
set que ja riert sis pere ocis:
she-knows that already again-will-be her father killed
l'eve li cort a val le vis.
the-water to-her runs down along the face
Crient e cuide que ja seit fait:
She-fears and thinks that already it-may-be done
la cort tot dreit e la en vait.
there she-runs all straight and there thence she-goes
Plore des ieuz, mout est marrie;
She-weeps from-the eyes much she-is grieved
quant el le veit, si li escrie:
when she him sees so to-him she-cries
«Coilvert,» fait ele, «desfaé,
Knave says she faithless
«la vostre grant maligneté
the your great malignity
«e vostre cruël felenie
and your cruel felony
«vos fera ja perdre la vie.
you will-make now lose the life
«Li vostre niés Neptolemus
The your grandson Neoptolemus
«vos a ocis Menalipus
for-you has killed Menalippus
«e Plistenès, voz fiz les genz:
and Plisthenes your sons the noble
«Les chiés trenchiez, morz e sanglenz,
The heads cut dead and bloody

«gisent en la forest oscure.
they-lie in the forest dark
«La vostre grant mesaventure
The your great misadventure
«ne vostre mort ne puet targier.
nor your death not can delay
«De vostre cors se vueut vengier:
On your body himself he-wishes to-avenge
«Il a grant dreit, quos feïsseiz
He has great right for-you would-have-done
«de lui, se fairel poüsseiz,
to him if to-do-it you-could
«tot autretel, il le set bien.
all just-so he it knows well
«Ne vos puet guarir nule rien.
Not you can save any thing
«Vez le venir: ja est mout près.
See him come already he-is very near
«Cent chevalier eslit e mais
Hundred knights chosen and more
«le sivent, prest de son buen faire:
him follow ready of his good doing
«Ici sera la force maire
Here will-be the force greater
«soë, ço cuit, bien est semblant.»
his that I-think well it-is seeming
Plore Thetis e fait duel grant.
Weeps Thetis and makes grief great

Acastus veit son desconfort,
Acastus sees his discomfort
set qu'il ne puet guarir de mort,
he-knows that-he not can escape from death
ot qu'il a perdu ses dous fiz:
he-hears that-he has lost his two sons
faut li li cuers e l'esperiz;
fails him the heart and the-spirit
pasmez chaï en mi la place.
swooned he-fell in midst the place
E Thetis son nevo embrace,
And Thetis her grandson embraces
les ieuz li baise e le menton;
the eyes to-him she-kisses and the chin
ne li puet dire n'o ne non.
not to-him she-can say yes nor no
Quant el le mire e el le veit,
When she him gazes-at and she him sees
ço li est vis qu'Achillès seit
that to-her is seeming that-Achilles it-may-be
toz autreteus come il meesme.
all just-such as he himself
De parler fait semblant e esme,
Of speaking she-makes semblance and aim
mais el ne puet, quant l'en sovient.
but she not can when her-thereof remembers
Ele l'acole e el le tient,
She him-embraces and she him holds

si se repasme e fait tel duel
so herself she-swoons-again and makes such grief
que ja chaïst morte, son vueul.
that now she-would-fall dead by-her will
A chief de piece, d'ire pleine,
At end of while with-wrath full
parole a lui a mout grant peine:
she-speaks to him with very great pain
«Beaus niés», fait ele, «douz amis,
Fair grandson says she sweet friend
«mes dous freres m'avez ocis.
my two brothers me-you-have killed
«Cist est Acastus vostre aiueus,
This is Acastus your grandfather
«qui tant n'iert ja cruëus ne feus,
who so-much not-will-be ever cruel nor felon
«se vos avez de lui merci,
if you have on him mercy
«qu'il ne vos pardoint autresi.
that-he not to-you may-pardon likewise
«Ses dous fiz li avez toleiz,
His two sons from-him you-have taken
«si sereit bien reisons e dreiz
so it-would-be well reason and right
«que de lui fust pais e de vos.
that of him might-be peace and of you
«Trop nos a esté haïnos,
Too-much to-us he-has been hateful
«trop nos a fait mal e enui;
too-much to-us he-has done ill and vexation

«totes veies sa fille sui:
all ways his daughter I-am
«S'il nos a fait e honte e tort,
If-he to-us has done both shame and wrong
«ne dei por ço voleir sa mort.»
not I-ought for that to-wish his death
Thetis vueut que il li pardoint,
Thetis wishes that he to-him may-pardon
mais que son regne li espoint:
provided that his realm to-him he-may-yield
«Beaus niés, tant par vos desiroë
Fair grandson so very you I-desired
«qu'a nule autre rien ne pensoë;
that-to any other anything not I-thought
«ne quereie que plus vesquisse,
nor I-sought that more I-might-live
«mais qu'a mes dous ieuz vos veïsse.
but that-with my two eyes you I-might-see
«De l'angoisse de vostre pere,
From the-anguish of your father
«dont j'ai esté en tel misere,
whereof I-have been in such misery
«me retendeie en vos mirer
myself I-was-sustaining in you gazing
«por ma dolor reconforter.
for my sorrow to-comfort
«Beaus niés, ci avra mal confort,
Fair grandson here will-be ill comfort
«se jo ci vei mon pere mort:
if I here see my father dead

«Mauvais confort me dorriëz,
Bad comfort to-me you-would-give
«se devant mei l'ocïiez.
if before me him-you-killed
«Ne tornez pas la joie en plor,
Not turn at-all the joy into weeping
«que j'ai de vos, ne en dolor.
which I-have of you nor into sorrow
«Pardonez lui, il pardoint vos:
Pardon him he may-pardon you
«Ensi sera mis cuers joios.»
Thus will-be my heart joyful
Ço li respont Neptolemus,
That to-her answers Neoptolemus
que fasse venir Peleüs,
that she-may-make come Peleus
e sin orra l'om son corage.
and so-thereof will-hear one his heart
Tost i trasmistrent un message.
Soon there they-sent a messenger
Venuz i est: merci li crie
Come there he-is mercy to-him he-cries
e dit «ne vueut pas qu'il l'ocie
and says not he-wishes at-all that-he him-may-kill
ne qu'il en lui mete la main,
nor that-he on him may-put the hand

quar de son sanc est si prochain
for to his blood he-is so near
que toz li siegles qui l'orreit
that all the world which it-would-hear
a merveille le li tendreit
at marvel it to-him would-hold
e a trop laide cruëuté,
and at too foul cruelty
come a home de son aé.
as to man of his age
Ne vueut que por lui se maumete:
Not he-wishes that for him himself he-may-misdo
sa bienvoillance li pramete,
his goodwill to-him he-may-promise
si li pardoint por eus sa mort
so to-him may-he-pardon for them his death
e si seient mais d'un acort.»
and so may-they-be more of-one accord
Qu'en direie? Lor volenté
What-thereof should-I-say Their will
lor otreia tote e lor gré:
to-them he-granted all and their pleasure
pardonee est la mauvoillance,
pardoned is the ill-will
faite est la pais e l'acordance.
made is the peace and the-accord
Tuit trei se sont entrebaisié:
All three themselves have kissed-each-other
chascuns en plore de pitié.
each thereof weeps for pity

Quant Acastus se veit guariz
When Acastus himself sees saved
e set qu'il a perduz ses fiz, —
and knows that-he has lost his sons
n'a mais enfant nul de sa femme
not-he-has more child any by his wife
qui après lui tienge le regne;
who after him may-hold the realm
vieuz e senz heir e senz amis
old and without heir and without friends
se veit, — senz conseil qu'en fust pris,
himself he-sees without counsel which-thereof were taken
done a Pirrus s'onor e rent
gives to Pyrrhus his-honor and renders
e trestot ço qu'il i apent.
and all that which-it thereto belongs
Son heir en fait: el bois foillu
His heir thereof he-makes in-the wood leafy
l'en a saisi e revestu,
him-thereof he-has seized and invested
non par force, qui par son gré.
not by force but by his will
Pirrus l'en a mout mercïé
Pyrrhus him-thereof has much thanked
e dit que ço sache il bien,
and says that that may-know he well

qu'a grant honor sor tote rien
that-at great honor above all thing
le tendra chier e guardera
him he-will-hold dear and will-keep
toz les jorz mais que il vivra.
all the days more that he will-live
Thetis ot joie e Peleüs.
Thetis had joy and Peleus
Ne sai que aloignasse plus:
Not I-know why I-should-prolong more
vont s'en ensemble baut e lié;
they-go themselves-thence together gay and glad
en Thesaille sont repairié.
into Thessaly they-are returned
La novele fu tost seüe
The news was soon known
e par le païs espandue;
and through the country spread
sempres le sot tote la gent.
at-once it knew all the folk
Mandé furent comunaument;
Summoned they-were in-common
ses homages lor fist refaire:
his homages them he-made do-again
nus ne s'osa de ço retraire;
any not himself-dared from that withdraw
tuit li ont faite feeuté,
all to-him have done fealty
qu'Acastus l'a bien comandé.
for-Acastus it-has well commanded

Veant trestoz fu coronez
Seeing all he-was crowned
e del regne sire clamez.
and of-the realm lord called
En bone pais l'ot e le tint:
In good peace it-he-had and it held
après orreiz com li avint.
after you-will-hear how to-him it-happened
Li fil al rei, dont jo vos dis,
The sons of-the king of-whom I to-you told
que danz Pirrus aveit ocis,
whom lord Pyrrhus had killed
furent en riches sarquieuz mis
were in rich coffins put
de marbre blanc e vert e bis.
of marble white and green and gray
En pais e en grant quiteé
In peace and in great quittance
rot reis Peleüs son regné.
again-had king Peleus his realm
Entre lui e dame Thetis,
Between him and lady Thetis
s'en ralerent en lor païs:
themselves-thence they-went-back into their country
iluec vesquirent puis maint jor
there they-lived after many-a day
a grant joie e a grant honor.
at great joy and at great honor

Toz lor aez i acheverent
All their ages there they-completed
en pais, jusqu'al jor qu'il finerent.
in peace until-the day that-they ended

The Burial of Memnon and the Death of Pyrrhus

CXIII

Memnon's sister, also named Helen, carries his bones home to her land of Palliotin and is never seen again. Pyrrhus carries off Hermione, Orestes's wife, and marries her. While he travels to Delphi to thank Apollo, Hermione, jealous of Andromache, summons Menelaus to kill Andromache and her son Laodamas, but the people protect them. Orestes kills Pyrrhus at Delphi and takes Hermione back. Peleus and Thetis mourn Pyrrhus at his tomb and take the pregnant Andromache and Laodamas to Thessaly. Pyrrhus's son Achillides is born at Molossia; he and Laodamas grow up as brothers, and through them the captive Trojans are freed and honored.

Ço que me reconte Ditis
That which to-me recounts Dictys
del rei Mennon, qui fu ocis,
of-the king Memnon who was killed
porreiz oïr, sel comandez.
you-will-be-able to-hear if-it you-command
Une soror ot bele assez
A sister be-had fair enough
e riche dame e honoree
and rich lady and honored
que Heleine esteit apelee.
who Helen was called

Ceste en fist duel, que mout l'ama,
This-one thereof made grief for much him-she-loved
e nuit e jor le regreta.
and night and day him she-mourned
Ne pot guarir ne reposer:
Not she-could be-healed nor rest
por lui querre se mist en mer.
for him to-seek herself she-put on sea
Assez ot o li compaignons:
Enough she-had with her companions
que o veiles, qu'o avirons,
what with sails what-with oars
ont tant siglé qu'il ont port pris
have so-much sailed that-they have port taken
la ou il ert en terre mis.
there where he was in earth put
Riche sarcueil aveit e bel
Rich coffin he-had and fair
d'or e d'argent fait a neel;
of-gold and of-silver made with niello
seveliz ert lez Troïlus.
buried he-was beside Troilus
Desterré l'ont, jo n'en sai plus.
Unearthed him-they-have I not-thereof know more
Trestoz curez ont les os pris,
All cleaned they-have the bones taken
sis ont en un vaissel d'or mis,
so-them they-have in a vessel of-gold put

e de la char plein un buat
and of the flesh full a jar
ovré d'un jagonce grenat.
wrought of-a jacinth garnet
Sacrefiié ont hautement
Sacrificed they-have highly
a toz les deus comunaument, 29560
to all the gods in-common
qu'il li facent verai pardon,
that-they to-him may-make true pardon
si que s'ame ait beneïçon.
so that his-soul may-have blessing
En mer entrerent: tant nagierent
On sea they-entered so-much they-rowed
que en lor terre repairierent.
that into their land they-returned
Palliotin ert apelee, 29565
Palliotin it-was called
de tote richece asazee
with all riches sated
e replenie de toz biens.
and replenished with all goods
Ne Sarrazins ne Crestiiens
Nor Saracens nor Christians
ne vit onques tel apareil
not saw ever such array
d'escharboncles e d'or vermeil 29570
of-carbuncles and of-gold vermilion
come el li fist apareillier:
as she for-him made prepare

trop par fu precios e chier.
too very it-was precious and dear
Mout fu Mennon vassaus e proz
Much was Memnon vassal and valiant
e richement jut desor toz.
and richly he-lay above all
Quant sa suer li ot içо fait,
When his sister to-him had that done
si com li Livres me retrait,
so as the Book to-me recounts
si ne sot nus qu'ele devint:
so not knew any what-she became
la gent a merveille le tint.
the folk at marvel it held
Parlerent en en maint semblant,
They-spoke thereof in many-a seeming
e si en distrent li auquant
and so thereof said the some
que a sa mere en ert alee,
that to her mother thence she-was gone
que ert, ne sai, deuesse o fee;
who was not I-know goddess or fairy
l'autre, que de forsenement,
the-other that from madness
d'angoissos duel, de marriment,
from-anguished grief from affliction
s'esteit por son frere perie,
herself-had for her brother perished

que ja veüe ne oïe
so-that ever seen nor heard
ne fust mais d'ome ne de femme,
not she-would-be more by-man nor by woman
ne plus n'eüst terre ne regne.
nor more not-she-would-have land nor realm
Puis refu dit qu'el fu emblee
Then again-it-was said that-she was stolen
e en lointain païs menee
and into distant country led
o aveir grant e merveillos.
with goods great and marvelous
Toz jorz en furent puis dotos:
All days thereof they-were after doubtful
onc verité n'en fu seüe,
ever truth not-thereof was known
com la chose fu avenue.
how the thing was happened
Après, ensi com nos lison,
After just as we read
de nuit, par consence, a larron,
by night by consent like thief
prist danz Pirrus Hermiona,
took lord Pyrrhus Hermione
femme Orestès, si l'en mena
wife (of-)Orestes so her-thence he-led
ensemble o sei en sa contree;
together with himself into his country
prise l'ot puis e esposee.
taken her-he-had then and wedded

Mout par l'ama de grant amor
Much very her-he-loved with great love
e mout li porta grant honor.
and much to-her he-bore great honor
Orestès en fu mout dolenz
Orestes thereof was much doleful
e mout hontos vers totes genz:
and much shamed toward all folk
mainz encombriers e mainz aguaiz
many troubles and many ambushes
li a apareilliez e faiz,
to-him he-has prepared and done
mais n'en poëit prendre venjance.
but not-thereof he-could take vengeance
Por tant en aveit grant pesance,
For that thereof he-had great sorrow
tant qu'il voust en Delfon aler
until that-he wished to Delphi to-go
toz les damedeus merciër,
all the lord-gods to-thank
e Apollo meesmement,
and Apollo especially
de ço qu'aveit pris vengement
for that that-he-had taken vengeance
des Troïens, del cors Paris,
on-the Trojans on-the body (of-)Paris
qui son pere aveient ocis.
who his father had killed

Quant son eirre ot apareillié
When his journey he-had prepared
e tot ot fait e pris congié,
and all he-had done and taken leave
si ot laissié Andromacha,
so he-had left Andromache
la femme Hector, que mout ama,
the wife (of-)Hector whom much he-loved
en sa maison o s'aversiere.
in his house with her-adversary
Ci ot haïne estrange e fiere
Here was hatred strange and fierce
e mauvoillance e grant envie:
and ill-will and great envy
ne se porent consentir mie.
not each-other they-could tolerate at-all
La fille Menelaus cuidot,
The daughter (of-)Menelaus thought
ço li ert vis, ço li semblot,
that to-her was opinion that to-her seemed
qu'el n'aveit mie fine amor
that-she not-had at-all fine love
ne verai cuer de son seignor:
nor true heart of her lord
en la femme Hector ert sa cure;
in the wife (of-)Hector was his care
celi amot a desmesure,
that-one he-loved beyond measure

cele aveit de lui bel semblant
that-one had of him fair seeming
e tot son buen e son talant.
and all her pleasure and her desire
Mout l'en haï Hermiona:
Much her-thereof hated Hermione
oëz qu'el li apareilla.
hear what-she for-her prepared
Si tost n'en fu Pirrus alé
So soon not-thence was Pyrrhus gone
come ele a son pere mandé.
as she has her father summoned
Venir l'a fait, a lui se claime
Come him-she-has made to him herself she-complains
e dit ne tant ne quant ne l'aime
and says nor so-much nor how-much not her-loves
danz Pirrus, bien s'en aparceit:
lord Pyrrhus well herself-thereof she-perceives
la femme Hector li a toleit;
the wife (of-)Hector from-her has taken
n'en a joie ne bel solaz;
not-thereof she-has joy nor fair solace
a tart la tient entre ses braz.
at late her he-holds between his arms
Dit li e prie qu'il l'ocie,
She-says to-him and prays that-he her-may-kill
quar trop par het sa compaignie,
for too very she-hates her company
neïs son fil Laudamanta,
even her son Laodamas

qu'Ector li coilverz engendra,
whom-Hector the knave engendered
e ja en cuide son heir faire,
and already of-him he-thinks his heir to-make
de l'ort, del chien, del de put aire:
of the-filthy of-the dog of-the of base nature
«Quel chaelet a aluchier
What puppy to settle
«honte li vienge e destorbier,
shame to-him may-come and trouble
«quar par son pere est eissilliee
for through his father is exiled
«e destruite nostre ligniee.»
and destroyed our line
Menelaus veit faire l'estuet
Menelaus sees to-do it-behooves
e que retraire ne s'en puet:
and that to-withdraw not himself-thence he-can
ne vueut sa fille mesoïr.
not he-wishes his daughter to-refuse
Ja voleit la chose envaïr,
Already he-wished the thing to-undertake
quant s'aparçut Andromacha.
when herself-perceived Andromache
En ses braz prist Laudamanta,
In her arms she-took Laodamas
o tot s'en fuit fors a la gent.
with all herself-thence she-flees out to the folk

Merci lor crie mout sovent
Mercy to-them she-cries very often
e force e socors e aïe,
and force and succor and help
que, por Deu, ne perde la vie:
that for God not she-may-lose the life
«Ne la laissent livrer a mort,
Not her may-they-let deliver to death
quar ço sereit pechié e tort.»
for that would-be sin and wrong
Hauz criz lor crie e merciables,
High cries to-them she-cries and piteous
que il li seient aïdables.
that they to-her may-be helpful
Li pueples comuns est sailliz
The people common is leapt-up
vers Menelau fel e marriz.
toward Menelaus felon and grieved
Por poi qu'entre eus ne l'ont ocis;
For little that-among them not him-they-have killed
a grant peine lor estort vis:
with great pain from-them he-escapes alive
ja rien nes dut mais retenir
ever anything not-them had-to more to-hold-back
jusqu'il l'eüssent fait morir.
until-they him-had made die

Bien ont la dame defendue
Well they-have the lady defended
e a si grant honor tenue
and at so great honor held
que tot son buen e son talant
that all her pleasure and her desire
firent de cel jor en avant.
they-did from that day on forward
Cez noveles sot Orestès,
These news knew Orestes
qui o Pirrus n'ot nule pais;
who with Pyrrhus not-had any peace
por sa femme grant mal li vueut
for his wife great ill to-him he-wishes
e porchace tant come il puet.
and pursues as-much as he can
Se il puet, ja ne s'en jorra
If he can ever not himself-thereof he-will-enjoy
de ço que toleite li a.
of that which taken from-him he-has
Anceis que Menelaus se mueve,
Before that Menelaus himself may-move
est la venuz. Quant il le trueve,
he-is there come When he him finds
si li dit, si li amoneste
so to-him he-says so him he-exhorts
que Andromacha trenst la teste:
that Andromache he-may-cut the head
«Se il trueve qui li contende,
If he finds who to-him may-contest

qui li viet ne qui li defende,
who to-him may-forbid nor who to-him may-defend
sis face toz a mort livrer,
so-them he-may-make all to death deliver
qu'il li est prez de l'aiuër.»
for-he to-him is ready of him-to-help
Ço fu tot de rechief empris.
That was all of afresh undertaken
Si com mei semble e m'est a vis,
So as to-me seems and to-me-is at opinion
ne l'oserent onc envaïr:
not her-they-dared ever assail
bien s'en poüssent repentir.
well themselves-thereof they-could repent
Danz Orestès entre tant dis
Lord Orestes between so-much while
ot enveié dous suens amis
had sent two his friends
après Pirrus por espiier
after Pyrrhus for spying
quant de Delfon dut repairier.
when from Delphi he-was-to return
Se tant est que faire le puisse,
If so-much it-is that to-do it he-may
qu'en nul lieu l'ataigne ne truisse,
that-in any place him-he-may-reach nor may-find
ocira le o ses dous mains.
he-will-kill him with his two hands
Quant Menelaus en fu certains,
When Menelaus thereof was certain

n'i voust estre: quis a congié,
not-there he-wished to-be sought he-has leave
a Parte s'en est repairié.
to Sparta himself-thence he-is returned
E cil qui en furent alé
And those who thence were gone
sont repairié e retorné.
are returned and turned-back
Eschiver voustrent, ço lison,
To-avoid they-wished that we-read
cel murtre e cele traïson:
that murder and that treason
juré li ont qu'en Delfon furent,
sworn to-him they-have that-at Delphi they-were
onc n'oïrent ne n'aparçurent
ever not-they-heard nor not-perceived
que Pirrus esteit devenuz.
what Pyrrhus was become
«N'aveit onc la esté veüz;
Not-he-had ever there been seen
ne al venir ne a l'aler,
nor at-the coming nor at the-going
n'en oïrent onques parler.»
not-thereof they-heard ever speak
O eus s'iraist mout Orestès
With them grew-angry much Orestes
e dit que ja nes creira mais,
and says that ever not-them he-will-believe more
qu'il li mentent, ço cuide e creit:
that-they to-him lie that he-thinks and believes

bien le conoist e aparceit.
well it he-knows and perceives
Alez i est: bien fu seü
Gone there he-is well it-was known
e par tot dit e espandu
and through all said and spread
qu'il l'i ocist, ço fu verté.
that-he him-there killed that was truth
Puis fu assez plaint e ploré.
Then he-was enough lamented and wept
Quant la chose fu descoverte
When the thing was uncovered
e a tote gent faite aperte
and to all folk made open
s'en ra danz Orestès menee
so-thence again-has lord Orestes led
Hermiona en sa contree;
Hermione into his country
a Miceines l'ot e la tint.
at Mycenae her-he-had and her held
Por li cist damages ravint:
For her this harm again-befell
morz en fu cil qui plus valeit
dead thereof was he who most was-worth
e qui de greignor pris esteit
and who of greater prize was
en tot le siegle a icel jor.
in all the world at that day

Reis Peleüs ot grant dolor
King Peleus had great sorrow
de cez noveles e Thetis.
of these news and Thetis
Ne sai que plus vos en devis,
Not I-know what more to-you thereof I-may-tell
mais en Delfon alerent dreit
but to Delphi they-went straight
si angoissos e si destreit,
so anguished and so distressed
por poi li cuer ne lor parteient.
for little the hearts not to-them broke
Ilueques truevent e si veient
There they-find and so they-see
la sepouture et le tombel
the burial and the tomb
a lor nevo Pirrus le bel.
of their grandson Pyrrhus the fair
Par treis jorz l'ont plaint e ploré,
For three days him-they-have lamented and wept
puis ont maint riche aveir doné
then they-have many-a rich goods given
al temple por amor de lui.
to-the temple for love of him
Sacrefiié ont ambedui
Sacrificed they-have both
granz sacrefices e pleniers.
great sacrifices and full
Griés lor fu mout li repairiers:
Grievous to-them was much the returning

ne lor puet rien faire confort;
not to-them can anything make comfort
chascuns d'eus vousist estre mort.
each of-them would-wish to-be dead
Enquise ont l'uevre e demandee:
Inquired they-have the-work and asked
ço distrent cil de la contree
that said those of the country
qu'Orestès i fu bien veüz
that-Orestes there was well seen
e de plusors d'eus coneüz.
and by many of-them recognized
Il s'en esteit mout escondiz,
He himself-thereof had much excused
mais ore en sont certains e fiz,
but now thereof they-are certain and sure
que ço aveit en murtre fait:
that that he-had in murder done
mout fu par tot en mal retrait.
much it-was through all in ill recounted
Mout fu tenuz por desfaez
Much he-was held for faithless
e mout en fu puis redotez.
and much thereof he-was after dreaded
Veient qu'il a quite en demeine
They-see that-he has quit in domain
Hermiona, la fille Heleine:
Hermione the daughter (of-)Helen
ç'a la chose del tot provee.
that-has the thing of-the all proved

Trop fu de male renomee,
Too-much he-was of evil renown
mais ne li chalut pas grantment,
but not to-him mattered at-all greatly
puis qu'acompli ot son talent.
since that-fulfilled he-had his desire
Par Thesaille s'en vint Thetis
Through Thessaly themselves-thence came Thetis
e Peleüs, ço dit Ditis.
and Peleus that says Dictys
Andromacha virent enceinte,
Andromache they-saw pregnant
jaune, la color pale e teinte:
yellow the color pale and tinged
de lor nevo est, sin ont joie.
by their grandson it-is so-thereof they-have joy
Avuec le fil Hector de Troie,
With the son (of-)Hector of Troy
Laudamanta, le jovencel,
Laodamas the youth
qui tant par sera pro e bel,
who so very will-be valiant and fair
les en meinent ensemble o eus,
them thence they-lead together with them
quar Orestès, li chiens, li feus,
for Orestes the dog the felon
e sa femme, que mout les het
and his wife who much them hates
tant come ele onques puet ne set,
as-much as she ever can nor knows

n'en seront mais poësteïs:
not-thereof they-will-be more powerful
que bone dame fist Thetis.
for good lady made Thetis
A Molose fu l'enfes nez
At Molossia was the-child born
qui de Pirrus fu engendrez.
who by Pyrrhus was engendered
Esmerez fu, sor autres beaus;
Refined he-was above others fair
en poi de tens fu granz toseaus.
in little of time he-was great lad
O le fil Hector ot amor:
With the son (of-)Hector he-had love
rien o autre n'ot onc greignor.
anything with other not-had ever greater
Sacheiz de veir bien resemblerent
Know of truth well they-resembled
la franche orine dont il erent,
the noble origin whereof they were
des bons peres, des ancessors.
of-the good fathers of-the ancestors
De toz enfanz fu ço la flors:
Of all children was that the flower
a eus n'ot mestier norreçon;
to them not-was need nurture
puis qu'il orent sen ne reison,
since that-they had sense nor reason
tot apristrent e tot conurent,
all they-learned and all they-knew

sor toz autres jovenceaus furent.
above all other youths they-were
Ne sont de neient forslignié:
Not they-are in nothing degenerate
mout furent sage e afaitié,
very they-were wise and well-bred
mout ot en eus bone atendance;
very there-was in them good expectation
chevalier furent, senz dotance,
knights they-were without doubt
hardi e pro e honoré
bold and valiant and honored
e coneü e renomé.
and known and renowned
Par eus refu puis la ligniee
Through them again-was after the line
tote resorse e essauciee,
all risen-again and exalted
e li chaitif, li eissillié
and the captives the exiled
fors de servage e conseillié.
out of servitude and counseled
Par eus dous lor vint li socors
Through them two to-them came the succor
dont il orent les granz honors
whereof they had the great honors
e les granz terres renomees
and the great lands renowned
que puis refurent d'eus poplees.
which after again-were by-them peopled

Par le fil Pirrus solement,
Through the son (of-)Pyrrhus only
Achillidès le pro, le gent,
Achillides the valiant the comely
furent puis li chaitif de Troie
were after the captives of Troy
a grant honor e a grant joie.
at great honor and at great joy
Son frere fist porter corone:
His brother he-made wear crown
si vait d'eür, cui Deus le done.
so goes of-fortune to-whom God it gives
D'eus vos porrions mout retraire,
Of-them to-you we-could much recount
mais dès or voudrai a chief traire
but from now I-shall-wish to head to-draw
de ceste uevre: nos merveilliez,
of this work not-you marvel
qu'auques sui las e travailliez.
for-somewhat I-am weary and travailed

The Death of Ulysses

CXIV

Ulysses dreams of a radiant figure that shows him a lance tipped with a little tower of fish bone and foretells that one of them will die by the other. The diviners warn him of his son, so he imprisons Telemachus and shuts himself in a remote fortress. Telegonus, his son by Circe, comes seeking his father, is refused entry, and kills the guards. Ulysses, thinking Telemachus sent him, wounds him with a lance; Telegonus strikes back with it and wounds his father mortally. Learning who he is, Ulysses forgives him, reconciles the brothers, and dies three days later. Telemachus reigns eighty years, Telegonus returns to Circe and reigns sixty, and the poet closes his book against its detractors.

Ore entendez ici après
Now hear here after

com faitement danz Ulixès
how fashioned lord Ulysses

fu morz e trespassez de vie:
was dead and passed from life

tel merveille n'iert mais oïe.
such marvel not-will-be more heard

Entrepris fu e angoissos,
Caught he-was and anguished

paoros, pensis e dotos
fearful pensive and doubtful

de songes e d'auguremenz.
by dreams and by-auguries

Assembler fist les sages genz
Assemble he-made the wise folk

e les devins de totes parz,
and the diviners from all sides

e ceus qui saveient les arz.
and those who knew the arts
Dist lor qu'en un lit ert couchiez
He-told them that-in a bed he-was lain
trestoz joios e toz haitiez:
all joyful and all merry
a vis li ert qu'une semblance
at opinion to-him it-was that-a semblance
de tel beauté, de tel poissance
of such beauty of such power
que forme, ymage ne peinture
that form image nor painting
ne chose d'umaine nature
nor thing of-human nature
ne pot estre de sa beauté, —
not could be of its beauty
bien poëit estre entre home e dé;
well it-could be between man and god
Nature humaine trespassot,
Nature human it-surpassed
mais as deus ne s'apareillot;
but to-the gods not itself-matched
meins beaus esteit, mais, ço sai bien,
less fair it-was but that I-know well
forme d'ome n'i montot rien;
form of-man not-there amounted anything
entre la nature devine
between the nature divine
e l'umaine ert la soë fine,
and the-human was the its end

resplendissant plus a merveilles
resplendent more at marvels
que li soleiz ne les esteiles; — 29840
than the sun nor the stars
«itel esteit, itel la vi:
such it-was such it I-saw
«Merveillai m'en e esfreï
I-marveled myself-thereof and was-frightened
«dont ço veneit si sodement
whence that came so suddenly
«en une hore e en un moment.
in an hour and in a moment
«A une part de la maison 29845
At one side of the house
«estot, ço m'ert en avison;
it-stood that to-me-was in vision
«ne s'aproismot pas près de mei:
not itself-approached at-all near of me
«Por tant en ere en tel esfrei
For that thereof I-was in such alarm
«que ço m'ert a vis maintenant,
that that to-me-was at opinion now
«de desirier e de talant 29850
from desire and from longing
«de lui embracier e tenir,
of it to-embrace and to-hold
«que me deüst li cuers partir.
that to-me ought the heart to-break
«Ambedous mes mains li tendeie;
Both my hands to-it I-was-stretching

«tant l'amoë, tant le voleie
so-much it-I-loved so-much it I-wished
«qu'onques rien tant ne desirai
that-ever anything so-much not I-desired
«ne rien el siegle tant n'amai.
nor anything in-the world so-much not-I-loved
«Mout doucement li depreioë
Very sweetly it I-was-beseeching
«qu'il m'embraçast: ço desiroë.
that-it me-might-embrace that I-desired
«De mei se traeit auques près,
Of me itself it-drew somewhat near
«e si me diseit: «Ulixès,
and so to-me it-said Ulysses
««saches ceste conjoncion,
know this conjunction
««cist voleirs, ceste assembleison,
this wish this assembly
««que de mei e de tei desires,
which of me and of thee thou-desirest
««ço sont duel mortel, plor e ires.
those are grief mortal weeping and wraths
««C'est chose de bien esloigniee,
It-is thing from good distanced
««maudite e escomeniiee.
cursed and excommunicated
««Onc plus dolorose asemblee
Ever more sorrowful assembly
««ne fu retraite ne contee.»
not was recounted nor told

«Des paroles ere destreiz;
By-the words I-was distressed
«preioë li par maintes feiz
I-prayed it through many times
«que ço m'enseignast a saveir
that that me-it-might-teach to know
«e m'en feïst aparceveïr:
and me-thereof it-might-make perceive
«A ço covint mout grant preiere.
At that behooved very great prayer
«Puis me mostrot une maniere
Then to-me it-showed a manner
«d'un signe itel com vos dirai:
of-a sign such as to-you I-shall-tell
«Bien m'en membre, bien l'avisai.
Well me-thereof I-remember well it-I-observed
«Dedesus le fer d'une lance —
Upon the iron of-a lance
«bien l'ai ancore en remembrance —
well it-I-have still in remembrance
«portot une torete ovree
it-bore a little-tower wrought
«d'os de peisson de mer salee:
of-bone of fish of sea salt
«Ço me mostrot, mais ne saveie,
That to-me it-showed but not I-knew
«ne autrement ne l'enquerreie,
nor otherwise not it-I-would-inquire

«que c'ert ne que senefiot
what that-was nor what-it signified
«ne que tel chose demostrot.
nor what such thing showed
«Puis me diseit al departir,
Then to-me it-said at-the parting
«o duel, o lermes, o sospir,
with grief with tears with sigh
«que c'ert d'empire conoissance
that that-was of-empire token
«e si aperte demostrance
and so open demonstration
«que par ço serions devis
that by that we-would-be divided
«e si tres morteus anemis
and so very mortal enemies
«que l'uns par l'autre perireit
that the-one by the-other would-perish
«e l'uns par l'autre fenireit.
and the-one by the-other would-end
«Tant me diseit, ne plus ne meins.
So-much to-me it-said not more nor less
«Angoissos fui e d'ire pleins,
Anguished I-was and with-wrath full
«que jo ne soi que ço voust dire.
that I not knew what that wished to-say
«Cil sera mis druz e mis sire,
That-one will-be my friend and my lord

«quil me savra entrepreter
who-it to-me will-know-how to-interpret
«senz deceveir e senz fauser.»
without deceiving and without falsifying
A ço n'ot nul delaiement:
At that not-was any delay
tuit li distrent comunaument
all to-him said in-common
que ço senefiot dolor,
that that signified sorrow
eissil, damage e deshonor.
exile harm and dishonor
Ensorquetot, sor tote rien,
Above-all above all thing
crensist son cors e guardast bien
he-should-fear for-his body and guard well
des aguaiz son fil, ço li diënt;
against-the ambushes (of-)his son that to-him they-say
mout l'en manacent e desfiënt.
much him-thereof they-threaten and defy
Ulixès fu sospeçonos,
Ulysses was suspicious
paoros, pensis e dotos
fearful pensive and doubtful
de l'augure des visions:
of the-augury of-the visions
son fil prist, si com nos lisons,
his son he-took so as we read

Telemacus, sil fist mener
Telemachus so-him he-made lead
en Cephalania sor mer.
into Cephallenia upon sea
La fu si fort emprisonez
There he-was so strongly imprisoned
e en si forz buies rivez,
and in so strong fetters riveted
e si guardez par tel maistrie
and so guarded by such mastery
de ceus en cui il plus se fie,
of those in whom he most himself trusts
si faitement, ja mais n'en isse
so fashioned ever more not-thence he-may-go-out
ne a lui adeser ne puisse
nor to him touch not he-may
en nes un sen ne en nul art.
in not-even one sense nor in any art
Rien ne crient mais de cele part:
Anything not he-fears more from that side
en si granz buies fu roilliez
in so great fetters he-was chained
e a teus guardes fu bailliez
and to such guards he-was handed
que ja mar en crembras nul jor.
that ever ill thereof thou-wilt-fear any day
Si ne fu onques graindre amor
So not was ever greater love
de pere a fil, ne n'iert ja mais,
of father to son nor not-will-be ever more

que aveit o lui Ulixès,
than had with him Ulysses
mais guarder vueut que ço n'avienge,
but to-guard he-wishes that that not-may-happen
que l'om li dit qu'il guart e crienge.
which one to-him says that-he may-guard and fear
Duel fait Telemacus li beaus,
Grief makes Telemachus the fair
quant en buies e en aneaus
when in fetters and in rings
veit qu'ensi est mis e fermez.
he-sees that-thus he-is put and shut
De son pere se plaint assez;
Of his father himself he-complains enough
dit que trop grant honte li fait,
he-says that too great shame to-him he-does
senz ço qu'il ait vers lui mesfait
without that that-he may-have toward him misdone
ne en penser ne en voleir:
nor in thought nor in will
mal li mostre qu'il seit son heir.
ill to-him he-shows that-he may-be his heir
Fiere parole en ont tenue
Fierce word thereof have held
par le regne la gent menue.
through the realm the folk small
Ulixès crienst mout e dota,
Ulysses feared much and doubted
que pas ne s'en aseüra.
so-that at-all not himself-thereof he-assured

Eschiver voust cez visions
To-avoid he-wished these visions
e cez entrepretacions;
and these interpretations
en un lieu sol, soutil de gent,
into a place lonely thin of folk
ou rien n'aveit conversement,
where anything not-had dwelling
29945 s'en ala tot por ceste ovraigne
himself-thence he-went all for this work
o mout escharie compaigne:
with very scant company
n'i ot home d'autre contree,
not-there was man from-other country
fors solement sa gent privee.
except only his folk intimate
El plus fort lieu qu'il pot choisir,
In-the most strong place which-he could choose
29950 n'ou faiseit plus mal a venir,
nor-where it-was more ill to come
fist ses maisons faire e fermer
he-made his houses make and close
e de bons murs avironer
and with good walls surround
sor granz fossez, sor granz terriers,
upon great ditches upon great earthworks
closes de murs e de viviers,
enclosed with walls and with fishponds

o heriçons, o plaisseïz
with hedgehogs with palisades
e o riches ponz torneïz,
and with rich bridges turning
o bretesches, o chaafauz
with brattices with scaffolds
armez e batailliez e hauz.
armed and battlemented and high
En tot le mont, mien esciënt,
In all the world to-my knowledge
n'ot tel repaire ne si gent.
not-was such dwelling nor so comely
Les portes a si comandees,
The gates he-has so commanded
les eissues e les entrees,
the exits and the entrances
que closes seient nuit e jor:
that closed they-may-be night and day
por parenté ne por amor
for kinship nor for love
qu'il ait o rien de char vivant,
that-he may-have with anything of flesh living
ne l'en laissent venir avant.
not him-thence they-may-let come forward
Cil l'agreent: ensi[l] feront.
Those it-agree thus-it they-will-do
Jurent que ja nes overront
They-swear that ever not-them they-will-open
ne si ne si, n'a tort n'a dreit,
nor so nor so nor-at wrong nor-at right

a rien nee que el mont seit.
to thing born which in-the world may-be
Dès ore est a vis Ulixès
From now it-is at opinion (to-)Ulysses
qu'il ne deie rien criembre mais;
that-he not ought anything to-fear more
mais ore orreiz la destinee
but now you-will-hear the destiny
que li esteit determinee.
which to-him was determined
Circès, icele que tant sot
Circe that-one who so-much knew
que les homes transfigurot
who the men transformed
e muöt en mainte semblance
and changed into many-a semblance
par estrange art de nigromance,
by strange art of necromancy
icele aveit un dameisel
that-one had a squire
d'Ulixès, sage e gent e bel,
by-Ulysses wise and comely and fair
qui nomez ert Telegonus:
who named was Telegonus
quinze ans aveit e neient plus.
fifteen years he-had and nothing more
Rien ne saveit ne loinz ne près
Anything not knew nor far nor near
qu'il fust sis fiz, fors sol Circès.
that-he were his son except only Circe

Quant cil sot entendre reison,
When that-one knew to-understand reason
qu'il ot sen e discrecion,
for-he had sense and discretion
si enquist mout e demanda
so he-inquired much and asked
queus pere fu qui l'engendra,
what father it-was who him-engendered
s'il ert bas hom o de haut pris
if-he was low man or of high prize
ne se il ert o morz o vis.
nor if he was or dead or alive
Ço ne mist mie en non chaleir,
That not he-put at-all in not caring
tant que sa mere l'en dist veir;
so-long that his mother to-him-thereof said true
la verité l'en descovri:
the truth to-him-thereof she-uncovered
quant mais n'en pot, ço pesa li.
since more not-thereof she-could that grieved her
Telegonus s'apareilla:
Telegonus himself-prepared
onc por rien nee nel laissa.
ever for anything born not-it he-left
D'ire e de duel pense morir
From-wrath and from grief she-thinks to-die
Circès, quant nel puet retenir.
Circe when not-him she-can hold
Enseigne li quel veie il tienge,
She-shows him what way he may-hold

e si li dit que tost revienge.
and so to-him says that soon he-may-return
A Ulixès, qui fu sis druz,
To Ulysses who was her friend
mande par lui cinc cenz saluz;
she-sends by him five hundred greetings
cent feiz se pasme al desevrer.
hundred times herself she-swoons at-the parting
Cil n'ot ne compaignon ne per:
That-one not-had nor companion nor peer
ne voust que nus o lui alast
not he-wished that any with him might-go
ne rien o lui s'acompaignast.
nor anything with him itself-might-accompany
Cotele ot longe e cort mantel
Tunic he-had long and short mantle
d'un vermeillon e freis e bel;
of-a vermilion both fresh and fair
gent fu vestuz endreit de sei,
comely he-was clad right of himself
come a resembler fil de rei.
as to resemble son of king
Les ieuz ot vairs e le chief blont;
The eyes he-had gray and the head blond
le nez e la boche e le front
the nose and the mouth and the brow
ot si bien estanz e si beaus
he-had so well standing and so fair
que flor ert d'autres dameiseaus.
that flower he-was of-other squires

Sor un grandisme chaceör,
On a very-great hunter
fort e isnel e coreör,
strong and swift and running
s'est tot dreit a la veie mis:
himself-has all straight to the way put
tost fu esloigniez del païs.
soon he-was distanced from-the country
A granz jornees trespassa
By great days he-passed
la terre par ont il ala.
the land through where he went
Un signe de peisson de mer,
A sign of fish of sea
por certe chose demostrer,
for certain thing to-show
dont il esteit, de quel contree,
whence he was from what country
en semblance de tor ovree,
in semblance of tower wrought
porta en une lance en son.
he-carried on a lance at top
Par tot le mont le faiseit om;
Through all the world it did one
ja hom n'eissist de son païs
ever man not-would-go-out from his country
qui ne fust morz, desfaiz o pris,
who not would-be dead undone or taken

se desor lui ne fust trovez
if upon him not were found
li signes dont il esteit nez.
the sign whereof he was born
Itel l'aveit Telegonus.
Such it-had Telegonus
Passé aveit mil anz e plus
Passed had thousand years and more
qu'en la terre n'ot autre eü:
that-in the land not-had other had
par maint païs ert coneü.
through many-a country it-was known
Cil eirre, qui point ne s'esmaie,
That-one travels who at-all not himself-dismays
tant que il vint dreit en Achaie.
until that he came straight into Achaea
La enquist mout e demanda,
There he-inquired much and asked
saveir quel part il trovera
to-know what way he will-find
Ulixès, cui tant a cerchié.
Ulysses whom so-much he-has sought
Plusor le li ont enseignié.
Many it to-him have shown
Cele part se rest aveiez,
That way himself again-he-has directed
si se fait mout joios e liez,
so himself he-makes much joyful and glad
quant il en set chose certaine.
since he thereof knows thing certain

Le premier jor de la semaine
The first day of the week
est la venuz; mais cil quil virent
he-is there come but those who-him saw
isnelement li defendirent
swiftly to-him forbade
l'entrer del pont e del portal.
the-entering of-the bridge and of-the gateway
E il lor dist: «Seignor vassal,
And he to-them said Lords vassals
«ne faites pas, laissiez m'aler:
not do at-all let me-go
«Ne me devez pas deveer
Not me you-ought at-all to-refuse
«que jo mon chier pere ne veie
that I my dear father not may-see
«e que hui mais o lui ne seie.
and that today more with him not I-may-be
«Si le verrai com jo dei faire:
So him I-shall-see as I ought to-do
«Ne m'en devreit estre contraire
Not to-me-thereof ought to-be contrary
«barre, defension n'escuz.
bar defense nor-shields
«Trop en devra estre irascuz,
Too-much thereof he-will-have-to be angered
«se vos ne m'i laissiez entrer:
if you not me-there let enter
«Dous meis a ne finai d'errer.
Two months there-are not I-ceased of-traveling

«Onc nel vi n'o lui ne parlai,
Ever not-him I-saw nor-with him not I-spoke
«mais dès or mais le conoistrai,
but from now more him I-shall-know
«si li serai amis feeiz,
so to-him I-shall-be friend faithful
«si come il est reisons e dreiz.»
so as it is reason and right
Cil nel vuelent laissier entrer,
Those not-him wish to-let enter
ainz li vuelent les huis fermer:
rather to-him they-wish the doors to-close
diënt ja n'i metra les piez.
they-say ever not-there he-will-put the feet
Telegonus fu mout iriez,
Telegonus was much angered
mout angoissos e mout destreiz:
very anguished and very distressed
preié lor a par maintes feiz
prayed them he-has through many times
qu'il l'acueillent, ne facent mie
that-they him-may-receive not they-may-do at-all
tel merveille, tel felenie:
such marvel such felony
«Ne fist onc mais nule gent nee
Not did ever more any folk born
qu'a fil deveast om l'entree,
that-to son should-refuse one the-entrance
qui son pere vousist baisier,
who his father would-wish to-kiss

joïr, acoler, embracier,
to-greet to-embrace to-clasp
qui de loinz le fust venuz querre
who from far him had come to-seek
d'autre reiaume e d'autre terre.»
from-other realm and from-other land
Ço qu'il lor dit ne monte rien,
That which-he to-them says not amounts anything
ainz diënt tuit e jurent bien
rather say all and swear well
que fil ne fille n'ot onc plus
that son nor daughter not-he-had ever more
fors solement Telemacus.
except only Telemachus
Cil jure, qui mout est marriz,
That-one swears who much is grieved
e dit por veir qu'il est sis fiz.
and says for true that-he is his son
N'en fu oïz ne escoutez,
Not-thereof he-was heard nor listened-to
ainz fu bien empeinz e botez.
rather he-was well thrust and shoved
Telegonus fortment s'iraist;
Telegonus greatly grows-angry
poëz saveir mout li desplaist:
you-can know much to-him it-displeases
s'il eüst un sol poi d'apui,
if-he had-had a single little of-support
volentiers lor feïst enui;
willingly to-them he-would-do vexation

e ne por quant ne puet muër,
and not for how-much not he-can help
ne plus sofrir ne endurer
nor more suffer nor endure
qu'il ensemble o eus ne la face.
that-he together with them not there may-do
Il ne lor fist pas grant manace,
He not to-them made at-all great threat
mais un en fiert si del poing clos
but one thereof he-strikes so with-the fist closed
que del col li desjoint les os;
that from-the neck to-him he-disjoins the bones
mort le trebucha a ses piez:
dead him he-tumbled at his feet
ensi fu li gieus comenciez.
thus was the game begun
Dous en saisi, sis ra botez
Two thereof he-seized so-them again-he-has shoved
enz es granz doves des fossez.
right into-the great banks of-the ditches
Cil neierent de maintenant,
Those drowned from now
qu'eve i aveit parfonde e grant.
for-water there there-was deep and great
Grant noise i sorst e grant meslee.
Great noise there arises and great melee
De l'un d'eus saisi une espee:
From the-one of-them he-seized a sword
fierement s'est o eus meslez,
fiercely himself-has with them mingled

les piz lor trenche e les costez.
the chests to-them he-cuts and the sides
Tant est hardiz e proz e forz,
So-much he-is bold and valiant and strong
plus de quinze lor en a morz.
more than fifteen of-them thereof he-has slain
Ne puet estre, ne jo nel di,
Not can be nor I not-it say
qu'il ne raient lui mout laidi
that-they not again-may-have him much outraged
e mout blecié e mout navré.
and much hurt and much wounded
Ne sai com lor est eschapé:
Not I-know how from-them he-is escaped
soz ciel n'a rien ne s'en merveit.
under heaven not-is anything not itself-thereof may-marvel
Par vive force e par destreit
By living force and by stress
se met o eus par mi le pont,
himself he-puts with them through midst the bridge
mais il n'a piz ne braz ne front
but he not-has chest nor arm nor brow
qui de sanc vermeil ne li rait:
which with blood vermilion not to-him streams
poëz saveir que mal li vait.
you-can know that ill to-him it-goes
O la grant noise e o les criz
With the great noise and with the cries
fu Ulixès mout esfreïz.
was Ulysses much frightened

Quant il oï e il entent
When he heard and he understands
qu'ensi li ocist l'om sa gent,
that-thus to-him kills one his folk
cuide Telemacus le face,
he-thinks Telemachus it may-do
qui ensi mortelment le hace
who thus mortally him hates
por ço qu'il l'a fait embuier
for that that-he him-has made fetter
emprisoner e ferleier;
imprison and chain
cuide de veir, e sin est fis,
he-thinks of truth and so-thereof he-is sure
que il celui i ait tramis
that he that-one there may-have sent
lui ocire de maintenant.
him to-kill from now
Prent une lance mout trenchant,
He-takes a lance very cutting
reide, forbie e aceree,
stiff burnished and steeled
que il aveit maint jor guardee;
which he had many-a day kept
a la meslee vint les sauz,
to the melee he-came the leaps
d'ire desvez, vermeiz e chauz.
with-wrath maddened red and hot
Le dameisel de loinz choisist, —
The squire from far he-espies

ne sot qu'il li apartenist;
not he-knew that-he to-him belonged
veit ses homes qu'il li a morz,
he-sees his men whom-he to-him has slain
de que li est granz desconforz;
of which to-him is great discomfort
cuide qu'il ait cuer e talant
he-thinks that-he may-have heart and desire
de faire de lui autretant; —
of doing to him just-so
d'ansdous les mains li a lanciee
with-both the hands at-him he-has thrown
la lance reide e aguisiee
the lance stiff and sharpened
de tel aïr que les costez
with such force that the sides
ot sempres toz ensanglentez.
he-had at-once all bloodied
Se il ne fust un poi guenchiz,
If he not had-been a little swerved
en petit d'ore fust feniz.
in little of-time he-would-be ended
Telegonus ot grant esfrei,
Telegonus had great alarm
grant crieme e grant paor de sei:
great fear and great dread for himself
en son cler sanc sovent se mueille,
in his clear blood often himself he-wets
ne trueve qui en pais l'acueille.
not he-finds who in peace him-may-receive

La lance a saisie a dous mains:
The lance he-has seized with two hands
toz forsenez e d'ire pleins,
all maddened and with-wrath full
son pere fiert par mi le cors,
his father he-strikes through midst the body
qui de maint peril ert estors
who from many-a peril was escaped
e de mainte bataille dure;
and from many-a battle hard
mais itel esteit s'aventure.
but such was his-adventure
A la terre jut toz envers,
To the earth he-lay all backward
ensanglentez, pales e pers.
bloodied pale and livid
Veit qu'il est morz: mout est haitiez
He-sees that-he is dead much he-is glad
e mout se fait joios e liez
and much himself he-makes joyful and glad
de ço que les devinemenz,
of that that the divinings
les songes, les auguremenz
the dreams the auguries
a engeigniez e sormontez
he-has tricked and overcome
e qu'il ne sont pas averez
and that-they not are at-all fulfilled
sor son chier fil Telemacus.
upon his dear son Telemachus

Nule rien ne quereit il plus,
Any thing not sought he more
ne mais que en lui n'enchaïst
nor more that in him not-he-might-fall
ne parrecide n'i feïst.
nor parricide not-there might-make
Joie a qu'il en est quite e sain
Joy he-has that-he thereof is quit and sound
e qu'autre hom a mis en lui main,
and that-other man has put on him hand
dès qu'ensi ert a avenir.
since that-thus it-was to happen
El n'i aveit mais del morir,
Else not-there had more of-the dying
quant il retint son esperit;
when he retained his spirit
a grant peine parole e dit:
with great pain he-speaks and says
«Qui iés,» fait il, «e dont es nez
Who art-thou says he and whence art-thou born
«n'en quel terre est tis parentez
nor-in what land is thy kindred
«ne quel non as ne dont venis,
nor what name hast-thou nor whence camest-thou
«qu'ensi as Ulixès ocis,
that-thus thou-hast Ulysses killed
«le tres sage, le coneü,
the very wise the known
«celui qui tanz biens a eu,
him who so-many goods has had

«tantes honors e tantes gloires,
so-many honors and so-many glories
«tantes desirees victoires?
so-many desired victories
«Jo ere en pais en mes osteus:
I was in peace in my lodgings
«Coment fus si estouz ne feus
How wast-thou so rash nor felon
«que ci me venis envaïr?
that here me thou-camest to-assail
«Bien t'en deüst mesavenir.
Well to-thee-thereof ought to-befall-ill
«Ja nen iert mais dit ne retrait
Ever not it-will-be more said nor recounted
«que tel damage ait esté fait
that such harm may-have been done
«par un home de ton aage.
by a man of thy age
«Proz puez estre, mais n'iés pas sage.»
Valiant thou-canst be but not-thou-art at-all wise
Telegonus veit e entent
Telegonus sees and understands
qu'il a espleitié malement,
that-he has fared badly
son pere a ocis par pechié:
his father he-has killed by sin
del tot se tient a engeignié,
of-the all himself he-holds for tricked
plore des ieuz e brait e crie,
he-weeps from-the eyes and shrieks and cries

requiert e vueut que l'om l'ocie.
he-requires and wishes that one him-may-kill
Ses cheveus blonz ront e detrait,
His hair blond he-tears and tears-out
tote la chiere se desfait;
all the face himself he-undoes
en mi la place chiet pasmez:
in midst the place he-falls swooned
onques nus hom de mere nez
ever any man of mother born
si doloros duel mais ne fist.
so sorrowful grief more not made
A Ulixès parla e dist:
To Ulysses he-spoke and said
«Sire dous, sire chiers, amis,
Lord sweet lord dear friend
«en si male hore vos ai quis
in so evil hour you I-have sought
«e en si estrange vos vei!
and in so strange you I-see
«Por quei ne part li cuers de mei,
For what not breaks the heart from me
«quant morir vos vei par mon fait?
when to-die you I-see by my deed
«Trop par a ci doloros plait.
Too very there-is here sorrowful plea
«Pere,» fait il a Ulixès,
Father says he to Ulysses
«vos m'engendrastes en Circès,
you me-engendered in Circe

«en la reïne, en la vaillant,
in the queen in the worthy
«en celi que vos ama tant.
in her who you loved so-much
«Vostre fiz sui Telegonus,
Your son I-am Telegonus
«mais jo ne quier or vivre plus,
but I not seek now to-live more
«quar ja mais joie nen avrai,
for ever more joy not I-shall-have
«dès que ensi ocis vos ai.»
since that thus killed you I-have
De l'isle dont il esteit nez
Of the-isle whence he was born
li a les entreseinz mostrez,
to-him he-has the tokens shown
puis se repasme e chiet a denz,
then himself he-swoons-again and falls on face
si que n'en ist espiremenz.
so that not-thence goes breathing
Ulixès sot qu'ensi esteit
Ulysses knew that-thus it-was
e que veir ert ço qu'il diseit.
and that true was that which-he was-saying
Tot reconoist: or sait de fi;
All he-recognizes now he-knows of faith
que cil n'aveient pas menti,
that those not-had at-all lied
qui les entrepretacions,
who the interpretations

les songes e les visions
the dreams and the visions
aveient averez e diz:
had confirmed and said
totes veies l'a mort sis fiz.
all ways him-has slain his son
Trop par en a le cuer dolent,
Too very thereof he-has the heart grieving
mais ne poëit estre autrement;
but not it-could be otherwise
itel esteit la destinee.
such was the destiny
Ainz que l'ame s'en fust alee,
Before that the-soul itself-thence were gone
ot mout joï Telegonus
he-had much greeted Telegonus
e acolé cent feiz e plus
and embraced hundred times and more
e conforté mout bonement.
and comforted very kindly
Dit que, senz nul porloignement,
He-says that without any delay
li seit cele uevre pardonee.
to-him be that work pardoned
Maneis, senz autre demoree,
Forthwith without other delay
refait Telemacus venir,
he-makes-again Telemachus come
que en prison faiseit tenir.
whom in prison he-was-making hold

L'uevre sot bien, dite li fu:
The-work he-knew well told to-him it-was
merveillos duel en a eü.
marvelous grief thereof he-has had
Tot desmembrast Telegonon
All he-would-dismember Telegonus
maneis, se por son pere non;
forthwith if for his father not
mais il en a fait l'acordance,
but he thereof has made the-accord
e la pais e la bienvoillance
and the peace and the goodwill
seüre e ferme, senz mal faire.
sure and firm without ill doing
Ne puet l'om dire ne retraire
Not can one say nor recount
l'estrange duel desmesuré
the-strange grief measureless
que font la gent de son regné
which make the folk of his realm
e sis chiers fiz Telegonus.
and his dear son Telegonus
Treis jorz vesqui e neient plus:
Three days he-lived and nothing more
ensi morut com vos oëz.
thus he-died as you hear
Mout par esteit granz sis aez,
Very very was great his age
maint jor e maint an ot vescu:
many-a day and many-a year he-had lived

por quant si ert de grant vertu
for how-much so he-was of great strength
e de grant force ancore al jor.
and of great force still at-the day
Seveliz fu a grant honor.
Buried he-was at great honor
En Achaie l'en ont porté:
Into Achaea him-thence they-have carried
la fu enoint e embasmé,
there he-was anointed and embalmed
la li firent un tel tombel
there for-him they-made a such tomb
qu'en tot le siegle n'ot si bel.
that-in all the world not-was so fair
A merveilles jut hautement;
At marvels he-lay highly
plainz e plorez fu longement.
lamented and wept he-was long
Telemacus reçut l'empire,
Telemachus received the-empire
après sa mort fu del tot sire;
after his death he-was of-the all lord
coronez fu a grant hautece.
crowned he-was at great highness
Grant valor ot e grant proëce;
Great valor he-had and great prowess
sages fu mout e dreituriers;
wise he-was much and rightful
quatre vinz anz regna entiers.
four score years he-reigned entire

Son frere tint Telegonus
His brother held Telegonus
ensemble o lui un an e plus;
together with him a year and more
de ses plaies le fist guarir:
from his wounds him he-made be-healed
mires ot buens a son plaisir.
physicians he-had good at his pleasure
Puis en fist chevalier novel:
Then thereof he-made knight new
meillor, plus sage ne plus bel
better more wise nor more fair
n'ot en nul lieu, ço sai de veir.
not-was in any place that I-know of truth
Puis eissirent de lui tel heir,
Then went-out from him such heirs
qui furent haut home e preisié
who were high men and prized
e el siegle mout essaucié.
and in-the world much exalted
Mout li dona a son plaisir
Much to-him he-gave at his pleasure
de ses aveirs al departir;
of his goods at-the parting
puis li bailla tel compaignie
then to-him he-handed such company
buene e leial, ou mout se fie.
good and loyal where much himself he-trusts
Ensi revint en son païs.
Thus he-came-back into his country

Circès, sa mere o le cler vis,
Circe his mother with the clear face
ot longement plaint e ploré:
had long lamented and wept
bien li esteit dit e conté
well to-her was said and told
com faitement l'uevre ert alee;
how fashioned the-work was gone
tote saveit la destinee.
all she-knew the destiny
Cremeit Telegonus fust mort:
She-feared Telegonus were dead
ne bien ne joie ne confort
nor good nor joy nor comfort
n'aveit eü, puis qu'elel sot.
not-she-had had since that-she-it knew
Quant el le vit, tel joie en ot,
When she him saw such joy thereof she-had
tote entroblia la dolor.
all she-forgot the sorrow
Por quant onc puis ne vesqui jor
For how-much ever after not she-lived day
que d'Ulixès ne li pesast
that for-Ulysses not to-her it-might-weigh
e qu'a ses dous ieuz nel plorast.
and that-with her two eyes not-him she-might-weep
Assez vesqui Telegonus;
Enough lived Telegonus
seisante anz tint l'empire e plus.
sixty years he-held the-empire and more

Mout ot, mout conquist, mout valut,
Much he-had much he-conquered much he-was-worth
mout s'essauça e mout s'escrut.
much himself-exalted and much himself-increased
Ci ferons fin, bien est mesure:
Here we-shall-make end well it-is measure
auques tient nostre livre e dure.
somewhat holds our book and lasts
Ço que dist Daires et Ditis
That which said Dares and Dictys
i avons si retrait e mis
there we-have so recounted and put
que, s'il plaiseit as jangleors,
that if-it pleased to-the slanderers
qui de ço sont encuseors,
who of that are accusers
qu'as autrui faiz sont reprenant
who-to-the others' deeds are reproving
e a trestoz biens enviant,
and to all goods envying
ne que ja rien n'avra honor
nor that ever anything not-will-have honor
qu'il n'en aient vie et dolor,
that-they not-thereof may-have envy and sorrow
cil se porreient mout bien taire
those themselves could very well silence
de l'uevre blasmer e retraire;
from the-work blaming and reproaching
quar teus i voudreit afaitier,
for such there would-wish to-improve

qui tost i porreit empeirier.
who soon there could spoil
Celui guart Deus e tienge en veie, 30315
That-one may-guard God and may-hold in way
qui bien essauce e montepleie.
who well exalts and multiplies
