OLD NORSE SERIES · VOLUME 31

Sverrir's Saga

Sverris saga

Sverrir's Saga

The Life of King Sverrir of Norway

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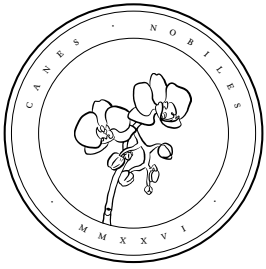
with a word-for-word interlinear English translation

preserving the original word order



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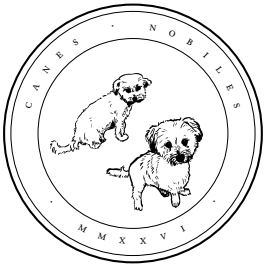

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CONTENTS

SVERRIS SAGA

Prologue 15
I · The Beginning of King Sverrir's Saga 17
II · Sverrir in the Faroes 19
III · Sverrir's Dream 20
IV · Of King Magnús and Erlingr 21
V · Sverrir's Parentage 22
VI · Sverrir's Dream 23
VII · Sverrir Sets Out for Norway 26
VIII · Of Sverrir and the Birkibeinar 31
IX · Sverrir's Dream 36
X · Sverrir Leaves Vermaland 39
XI · Of Sverrir's Journeys 42
XII · A Miracle Done for King Sverrir 44
XIII · Of King Sverrir's Journeys 47
XIV · King Sverrir's Victory 50
XV · Sverrir Given the King's Name at the Eyraþing 54
XVI · The Feast at Sástaðir 59
XVII · Of King Sverrir and the Sygnir 61
XVIII · Of King Sverrir's Journeys 63
XIX · King Sverrir's Speech 66

SVERRIS SAGA

(continued)

XX · Of the Farmers 70
XXI · Of Earl Erlingr 72
XXII · Of King Sverrir and His Army 74
XXIII · Sverrir Goes to Konungahella 76
XXIV · Sverrir Goes to Helsingjaland 78
XXV · Sverrir's Plans 82
XXVI · Archbishop Eysteinn's Speech 85
XXVII · The Slaying of Serkr and Twelve Men 89
XXVIII · The Battle at Hirtubrú 91
XXIX · A Fight in the Market-Town 94
XXX · Of King Magnús and the Earl 96
XXXI · Of Earl Erlingr 101
XXXII · Sverrir's Speech 103
XXXIII · Ívarr horti's Counsel 105
XXXIV · The Fall of Earl Erlingr and Many Others 108
XXXV · King Sverrir's Speech over Erlingr's Grave 110
XXXVI · Of Magnús and the Archbishop 114
XXXVII · Of King Sverrir and the Birkibeinar 115
XXXVIII · The Birkibeinar Kill Heklungar 119
XXXIX · Of Sverrir and King Magnús 122
XL · Of Sverrir and King Magnús 124
XLI · Preparations for Battle 125
XLII · King Sverrir Speaks to the Troop 126
XLIII · The Battle Begins 130
XLIV · The Fall of Páll Andresson 134
XLV · Of King Sverrir 138
XLVI · Of King Magnús 139
XLVII · Of Sverrir and King Magnús 140

SVERRIS SAGA

(continued)

XLVIII · Of King Sverrir and His Troop 143
XLIX · King Magnús's Speech 147
L · Of Hallvarðr gœla 151
LI · King Magnús Wounded in the Foot 152
LII · Prince Eiríkr's Ordeal 158
LIII · Of King Magnús and Sverrir: Talks of Peace 161
LIV · Sverrir Offers Peace 162
LV · Magnús's Speech 163
LVI · Of King Sverrir 169
LVII · The Defeat of the Birkibeinar and Many Slain 170
LVIII · The Riot of the Guests 176
LIX · The Þrœndir's Message to the King 177
LX · Of King Magnús 178
LXI · Of King Magnús and His Men 181
LXII · Óttarr's Warning 183
LXIII · Of King Magnús and Sverrir 186
LXIV · Of King Sverrir 189
LXV · The Slaying of Þorgils the Bailiff 191
LXVI · Of the Birkibeinar and the Heklungar 193
LXVII · The Fall of the Heklungar 197
LXVIII · Sverrir in Björgvin 201
LXIX · Of King Sverrir's Bailiffs 202
LXX · The Maríusúð Built 203
LXXI · King Sverrir Sails from the Market-Town 207
LXXII · King Sverrir Harries in Norway 209
LXXIII · Of King Magnús 212

SVERRIS SAGA

(continued)

LXXIV · More of King Magnús 213
LXXV · Of King Magnús's Sailings 215
LXXVI · Of King Magnús 218
LXXVII · Of King Sverrir 219
LXXVIII · King Magnús's Speech 225
LXXIX · Ásbjörn Jónsson's Speech 227
LXXX · The Battle in Sogn Begins 229
LXXXI · The Battle, and Prince Eiríkr's Attack 233
LXXXII · King Sverrir's Words 235
LXXXIII · The Fall of King Magnús 236
LXXXIV · The Slain 237
LXXXV · King Sverrir's Speech 238
LXXXVI · Arrangements for the Dead 241
LXXXVII · Pétr's Speech in Björgvin 243
LXXXVIII · Of King Sverrir 245
LXXXIX · King Magnús's Burial 246
XC · What Kind of Man King Magnús Was 248
XCI · King Sverrir's Speech 249
XCII · Of King Sverrir 254
XCIII · The Rise of the Kuflungar 255
XCIV · Of the Kuflungar 257
XCV · Of King Sverrir and His Army 259
XCVI · Of the Kuflungar 265
XCVII · Of the Kuflungar and the Birkibeinar 267
XCVIII · The Archbishop's Illness and the Reconciliation 270
XCIX · Of the Birkibeinar and the Kuflungar 272

C · Of Þorsteinn kúgaðr 274
CI · Of Sigurðr brennir 279
CII · Of Archbishop Eiríkr 281
CIII · Of Archbishop Eiríkr 283
CIV · Of Prince Eiríkr 285
CV · Eiríkr Given a Fief and the Earl's Name 286
CVI · The Rise of the Varbelgir 287
CVII · The Deaths of Earl Eiríkr and His Wife Ása 289
CVIII · Of Breiðskeggr 290
CIX · Of the Quarrels Between the King and the Archbishop 292
CX · Of Hallkell 295
CXI · The Rise of the Eyskeggjar 297
CXII · Of the Birkibeinar 298
CXIII · Of the Building of the Fort 299
CXIV · Of the Eyskeggjar 304
CXV · The King Urges On the Birkibeinar 305
CXVI · The Deaths of Many Men 308
CXVII · The Pope's Ban on Sverrir 310
CXVIII · Of the Pope's Legate and King Sverrir 311
CXIX · Of King Sverrir and Bishop Nikulás 313
CXX · Páll Consecrated Bishop of Skálaholt 315
CXXI · Of King Sverrir 316
CXXII · Of the Earl and the Bishop 317
CXXIII · Earl Haraldr's Speech 318
CXXIV · Of the Settlement of King Sverrir and Earl Haraldr 320
CXXV · Of Hreiðarr the Messenger 321

SVERRIS SAGA

(continued)

CXXVI · King Sverrir Freed by the Pope 322
CXXVII · Of Hreiðarr's Errand 323
CXXVIII · Of King Sverrir and the Baglar 325
CXXIX · Of the King and Bishop Nikulás 327
CXXX · Of a House-Assembly 329
CXXXI · Of the Baglar 330
CXXXII · King Sverrir's Levy 331
CXXXIII · King Sverrir Orders the Attack 334
CXXXIV · Bishop Nikulás Speaks to the Baglar 335
CXXXV · Of the Attack 337
CXXXVI · Of Young King Hákon 339
CXXXVII · Of King Sverrir 340
CXXXVIII · Of the Baglar 343
CXXXIX · Of King Sverrir 346
CXL · The Fight in the Town 349
CXLI · Of King Sverrir 350
CXLII · Of King Sverrir's Men 351
CXLIII · The Slaying of Jón magri 352
CXLIV · The Slaying of Baglar 354
CXLV · The Battle Begins 355
CXLVI · The King Breaks Off the Battle 358
CXLVII · The Baglar's Plans 359
CXLVIII · Of Sigurðr jarlsson 360
CXLIX · Of King Sverrir 364
CL · Of King Sverrir 367
CLI · Of a House-Assembly 369
CLII · The Battle of the Birkibeinar and the Baglar 371

SVERRIS SAGA

(continued)

CLIII · Of King Sverrir and a Bagler 373
CLIV · Of the Birkibeinar 375
CLV · Of the Baglar 377
CLVI · Of the Birkibeinar 378
CLVII · Of the Birkibeinar's Tricks 380
CLVIII · The Baglar Burn the Town of Björgvin 382
CLIX · Of the Dealings of the Birkibeinar and the Baglar 384
CLX · The King Goes North over Rauðafjall 389
CLXI · Of King Sverrir 391
CLXII · Of Þorsteinn kúgaðr 392
CLXIII · Of the Baglar 394
CLXIV · The King Asks the Farmers for Ships 395
CLXV · Of the Baglar and the Þrœndir 397
CLXVI · Of the Fitting of the Ships 404
CLXVII · Of the Baglar 406
CLXVIII · Of the Birkibeinar 409
CLXIX · Of the Battle of the Birkibeinar and the Baglar 410
CLXX · Of Erlendr the Priest and the Earl 416
CLXXI · The King Pursues the Baglar 417
CLXXII · The Fall of the Earl 418
CLXXIII · The Baglar Go North to Þrándheimr 420
CLXXIV · Of King Sverrir's Levies 422
CLXXV · Of the Slaying of Many Birkibeinar 423
CLXXVI · The Battle on the Rock 427
CLXXVII · King Sverrir's Speech 430
CLXXVIII · Of the Birkibeinar 432
CLXXIX · Of the King 434

SVERRIS SAGA

(continued)

CLXXX · Of the King's Sons and the Farmers 435
CLXXXI · The Battle on Valkaberg 436
CLXXXII · More of the Battle 440
CLXXXIII · The Battle on the Ice 442
CLXXXIV · The Birkibeinar Pursue the Baglar 446
CLXXXV · The Baglar on the Rock 447
CLXXXVI · Of King Sverrir 449
CLXXXVII · The Farmers Flee Before the Birkibeinar 450
CLXXXVIII · Of King Sverrir and His Men 452
CLXXXIX · Of King Sverrir's Levy 455
CXC · King Sverrir Besieges the Rock 457
CXCI · King Sverrir's Plans 458
CXCII · Of Sverrir 460
CXCIII · Of Ingi and the Baglar 461
CXCIV · Of the Ribbaldar 462
CXCV · King Sverrir's Plans 464
CXCVI · Of Those on the Rock 465
CXCVII · Of Hardship 466
CXCVIII · The Baglar's Tricks on the Rock 468
CXCIX · Of Jón and the Baglar 470
CC · The Birkibeinar Pursue the Baglar 471
CCI · Sverrir Besieges the Rock 472
CCII · The Baglar Give Up the Rock 473
CCIII · The Baglar Swear Oaths to King Sverrir 475
CCIV · Of King Sverrir's Illness 476
CCV · The Death of King Sverrir 480
CCVI · King Sverrir's Burial 481

Sverris saga

The Saga of King Sverrir

Prologus fyrir Sverris sögu

PROLOGUE

The book tells of King Sverrir, son of King Sigurðr Haraldsson, from events within living memory. Its first part follows the book Abbot Karl Jónsson wrote while Sverrir himself sat over him and chose what to write; the later part comes from men who saw and heard what happened, and nothing has been added.

Hér hefr upp ok segir frá þeim tíðendum, er nú hafa
Here begins up and tells from those tidings which now have
verit um hríð ok í þeira manna minnum, er fyrir hafa
been for a-while and in of-those men's memories who before have
sagt þessi bók, en þat er at segja frá Sverri konungi
told this book but that is to tell from Sverrir king
syni Sigurðar konungs Haraldssonar. Ok er þat upphaf
son of-Sigurd king Harald's-son And is that (the)-beginning
bókarinnar, er ritað er eptir þeiri bók, er fyrst ritaði
of-the-book which written is after that book which first wrote
Karl ábóti Jónsson, en yfir sat Sverrir konungr sjálfr, ok
Karl abbot Jon's-son but over sat Sverrir king himself and
réð fyrir hvat rita skyldi, ok er sú frásögn ekki langt
decided for what to-write should and is that account not far
framkomin. Er þar sagt frá nökkurum orrostum hans, ok
come-forward Is there told from some battles his and
svá sem á líðr, vex styrkr hans, ok segir sá styrkr fyrir
so as on passes grows strength his and tells that strength before
hina meiri hluti, kölluðu þeir þann hlut bókarinnar fyrir
the greater things called they that part of-the-book for
því grýlu. En síðari hlutr bókarinnar er ritaðr eptir þeim
that bugbear But (the)-latter part of-the-book is written after those
mönnum, er minni höfðu til, svá at sjálfir þeir höfðu
men who memory had to so that themselves they had

sét ok heyrt þessi tíðendi, en sumir þeir er verit höfðu í
seen and heard these tidings and some they who been had in
orrostunum. Sum þessi tíðendi váru svá í minni fest, at
the-battles Some these tidings were so in memory fixed that
menn rituðu þegar eptir, er nývorðin váru. En vera kann
men wrote at-once after when newly-happened were But be can
þat, ef þeir menn sjá bókina, er allkunnigt er um, at
that if those men see the-book whom well-known is about that
þeim þykki skyndiliga yfir farit í mörgum stöðum, ok mart
to-them seems hastily over gone in many places and much
þat eptir liggja, er frásagnar mundi vert þykkja, ok megu
that after lie which of-telling would worth seem and may
þeir enn láta þat rita, ef þeir vilja. En þó at hér sé sumir
they still let that write if they wish But though that here be some
hlutir annan veg sagðir, en mest líkendi muni á þykkja í
things other way told than most likelihood will on seem in
orrostum fyrir fjölmennis sökum, þá vitu þó allir sannendi
battles for of-numbers' sakes then know yet all truth
til, at þetta er eigi aukit. Ok þykkir oss at líkligra, at
to that this is not increased And seems to-us the likelier that
þær sögur muni með sannendum, er á bókum eru sagðar
those stories will with truth which on books are told
frá ágætismönnum, þeim er verit hafa í forneskju.
from excellent-men those who been have in olden-times

Upphaf sögu Sverris konungs

I · THE BEGINNING OF KING SVERRIR'S SAGA

Hrói was bishop in the Faroes, and his brother Unas the comb-maker married Gunnhildr, who in the days of Haraldr gilli's sons bore a son, Sverrir, called Unas's son. Before the birth she dreamed she bore a great snow-white stone whose sparks flew through the cloth she hid it under.

Hrói byskup var þann tíma í Færeyjum, bróðir hans var
Hroi bishop was that time in (the)-Faroes brother his was
kallaðr Unas kambari. Unas fékk konu þeirar, er Gunnhildr
called Unas Comb-Maker Unas got wife that who Gunnhild
er nefnd. Þat var ofarliga á dögum þeira brœðra, sona
is named It was late in days of-those brothers of-sons
Haralds gilla, Inga Sigurðar Eysteins. Gunnhildr gat son, er
of-Harald Gilli of-Ingi of-Sigurd of-Eystein Gunnhild bore a-son who
nefndr er Sverrir ok var kallaðr son Unas. Fyrir þeim sveini
named is Sverrir and was called son of-Unas Before that boy
birtust stórir draumar, sem jafnan kann verða fyrir stórum
appeared great dreams as often can happen before great
tíðendum. Gunnhildr móðir hans sagði einn draum, at
tidings Gunnhild mother his told one dream that
henni hafði birzt fyrir burð hans. Hon þóttist vera stödd
to-her had appeared before birth his She thought-herself to-be placed
í einu agætligu lopthúsi, ok þóttist hon léttari verða at
in one splendid loft-room and thought-herself she lighter become of
barni því er hon gékk með. En þjónostukona hennar sat
child that which she went with But serving-woman her sat
fyrir knjám henni ok skyldi taka við barninu, þegar fœtt
before knees to-her and should take with the-child as-soon-as born
var. En er henni þótti sem barnit væri fœtt, þá sló hrælzlu
was But when to-her seemed as the-child were born then struck fear

á konu þá, er yfir henni sat, ok kallaði ákafliga ok mælti:
on woman that who over her sat and called vehemently and spoke
Gunnhildr mín! Gunnhildr mín! þú hefir fœddan undarligan
Gunnhild my Gunnhild my you have born a-wondrous
burð ok ógurligan. Þrysvar kallaði hon með hinum sömum
offspring and a-terrible Thrice called she with the same
orðum. En er hon heyrði konuna kalla svá opt hit sama
words But when she heard the-woman call so often the same
með skjálfandi röddu, þá þóttist hon forvitnast til, hvat
with trembling voice then thought-herself she inquire to what
burð þat væri, er hon hafði fœtt. Henni sýndist sem þat
offspring that were which she had born To-her seemed as it
væri einn steinn vel mikill ok snjóhvítr at lit, en hann glóaði
were one stone well large and snow-white in color but it glowed
svá mjök, at alla vega gneistaði af honum sem af járni því,
so much that all ways sparked off it as off iron that
er rennr fyrir afli. Þá mælti hon við þjónostukonu
which runs before (the)-forge Then spoke she with serving-woman
sína: Gætum vit vandliga burðar þessa, ok látum engan
her Guard we-two carefully of-offspring this and let no
mann verða varan við, því at flestum mun undarligr þykkja,
man become aware with because to-most will wondrous seem
ef sjá. Síðan þótti henni, sem þær tœki steininn ok legði
if see Afterward seemed to-her as they took the-stone and laid
í stól einn mikinn ok huldu með fögru klæði. En þá
in chair one great and covered with fair cloth But then
er þær höfðu umbúit steininn, þá flugu þó gneistarnir
when they had wrapped the-stone then flew yet the-sparks
í gegnum klæðin ok um alt lopthúsit innan, ok hræddust
in through the-cloths and about all the-loft-room within and feared
þær af þessi ógn, er þar var af, ok síðan vaknaði hon.
they of this terror which there was of and afterward woke she

At five Sverrir went west to his foster-father Bishop Hrói, who set him to books and had him ordained priest. Grown, he was unruly; after he struck a man, Brynjólfr, who held the king's office in the islands, hunted him, and a woman hid him in an oven with a fire before it.

Unas ok Gunnhildr áttu son, er Híði hét, ok dóttur, er
Unas and Gunnhild had a-son who Hidi was-called and a-daughter who
hét ∗∗∗ er átti Svínastephán. Þeira son var Petr steypir.
was-called (lacuna) whom had Svinastephan Their son was Petr Steypir
Áttu þau Unas fleiri dœtr. Sverrir var 5 vetra, er hann fór
Had they Unas more daughters Sverrir was 5 winters when he went
or Noregi ok vestr til Færeyja, ok var hann þá með Hróa
out-of Norway and west to (the)-Faroes and was he then with Hroi
byskupi at fóstri, ok setti byskup hann til bœkr ok gaf
bishop at fostering and set (the)-bishop him to books and gave
honum vígslur, ok var hann vígðr til prests. En er hann
to-him orders and was he ordained to priest But when he
var roskinn maðr, þá samdi hann sik lítt við kennimanns
was a-grown man then suited he himself little with clergyman's
skap ok var heldr úeirinn. Hann varð úsáttr við Brynjólf son
temper and was rather unruly He became at-odds with Brynjolf son
Kálfs sendimanns, er þá hafði konungs sýslu í eyjunum;
of-Kalf (the)-messenger who then had (the)-king's stewardship in the-islands
hafði Sverrir lostinn mann, en þeir Brynjólfr veittu honum
had Sverrir struck a-man and they Brynjolf gave to-him
atför, en hann fór einn undan, ok varð svá nær farit með
attack but he went alone away and became so near gone with
þeim, at hann hljóp inn í stofu eina undan; kona ein
them that he ran in into room one away a-woman one

fal hann í ofni ok setti hellu fyrir munnann, en gerði eld
hid him in an-oven and set a-slab before the-mouth and made fire
fyrir utan. Þeir leituðu hans um stofuna ok fundu eigi. Mart
before outside They searched him about the-room and found not Much
þóttust menn nú síðan, er vissu at hverjum manni hann
thought men now since who knew to what man he
varð, hafa at merkjum, at hann þótti mikillar náttúru vera.
became have to signs that he seemed of-great nature to-be

Draumr Sverris

III · SVERRIR'S DREAM

Sverrir dreamed he became a bird whose beak reached the eastern end of Norway and whose wings covered the land. A wise man named Einarr thought it foretold some rule, perhaps an archbishopric; Sverrir thought himself unfit even to be a priest. He was twenty-four before he learned the truth about his father.

Sverri dreymdi drauma stóra, ok tóku sumir menn þat fyrir
Sverrir dreamed dreams great and took some men that for
hégóma ok höfðu at spotti. Hann sagði þann draum einn,
vanity and had to mockery He told that dream one
at hann þóttist vera í Noregi ok verða at fugli svá
that he thought-himself to-be in Norway and become into a-bird so
miklum, at nef hans tók austr til landsenda, en vélifjaðrar
great that beak his reached east to land's-end and tail-feathers
hans tóku norðr í Finnbúin, með vængjum huldi hann
his reached north into Finnbu with wings covered he
landit alt. Hann bar þann draum fyrir vitran mann, þann er
the-land all He bore that dream before a-wise man that who
Einarr hét, ok spurði hann, hvat þýða mundi. Einarr lét
Einar was-called and asked him what mean would Einar let

sér þat blint vera, en þótti líkligt, at sá draumr mundi
to-himself that blind be but thought likely that that dream would
boða fyrir ríki nökkut: ok þat kann verða, sagði Einarr, at
bode for realm some and that can be said Einar that
þú verðir erkibyskup. Sverrir svaraði: Þat þykki mér allúlíkligt,
you become archbishop Sverrir answered That seems to-me very-unlikely
at ek verða erkibyskup, at ek em allilla til færr at vera
that I become archbishop when I am very-badly to fit to be
prestr. Sverrir hafði 24 vetr, áðr hann yrði hins sanna
a-priest Sverrir had 24 winters before he became of-the true
víss um faðerni sitt. Einn vetr var hann síðan í Færeyjum.
aware about paternity his One winter was he after in (the)-Faroes

Frá Magnúsi konungi ok Erlingi

IV · OF KING MAGNÚS AND ERLINGR

Magnús and Earl Erlingr held Norway with the landed men and the commons behind them. The king was well liked, the earl powerful, wise, harsh, and victorious but envied, most of all in Þrándheimr; Archbishop Eysteinn was the king's close friend, and the people favored Sigurðr Jórsalafari's line over Haraldr gilli's.

Magnús konungr ok Erlingr jarl höfðu í þann tíma styrk
Magnus king and Erling earl had in that time strength
mikinn í Noregi af lendum mönnum ok allri alþýðu.
great in Norway from landed men and all (the)-common-people
Var konungr vinsæll, jarl var ríkr ok vitr, harðráðr ok
Was (the)-king popular (the)-earl was mighty and wise hard-ruling and
sigrsæll. Marga átti hann öfundarmenn bæði ríka ok úríka,
victorious Many had he enviers both mighty and unmighty
ok var þat mest um Þrœndi. Eysteinn erkibyskup var
and was that most about (the)-Thronds Eystein archbishop was

hinn mesti ástvin Magnús konungs. Konungr hafði með
the greatest dear-friend of-Magnus king (The)-king had with
sér alla hina stœrstu menn, er í váru landinu, suma
himself all the greatest men who in were the-land some
með hirðinni, en sumir sátu í veizlum hans; vildu allir
with the-bodyguard but some sat in revenues his wished all
hefja hann til ríkis, ok naut at því mest, at alt fólk vildi
raise him to realm and profited to that most that all folk wished
þjóna afkvæmi Sigurðar Jórsalafara heldr en Haralds gilla.
serve offspring of-Sigurd Jerusalem-Farer rather than of-Harald Gilli

Um faðerni Sverris

V · SVERRIR'S PARENTAGE

Gunnhildr went to Rome and confessed that Sverrir's father was a king, and the pope enjoined her to tell her son. She told him in the Faroes that he was King Sigurðr's son. He was troubled, but remembering how his dreams had been read, he set his mind on avenging his kin.

Þat varð til nýnæma, at Gunnhildr móðir Sverris fór af
It became to novelty that Gunnhild mother of-Sverrir went off
landi braut ok suðr til Rómaborgar. En er hon var fyrir
land away and south to Rome-city But when she was before
þeim manni, er henni veitti skriptir, þá sagði hon, at son
that man who to-her gave confession then said she that son
hennar var sá, at annarr var faðir at, en hon hafði sagt,
her was such that another was father to than she had said
ok var konungr faðir hans, ok var hann sjálfr því leyndr.
and was a-king father his and was he himself of-it kept-unknowing
En er þetta var borit fyrir páfann, þá var henni þat boðit
But when this was borne before the-pope then was to-her that bidden

í skript, at hon skyldi láta vita son sinn rétt faðerni sitt,
in penance that she should let know son her true paternity his
þegar hon fyndi hann. Hon gerði svá, fór þegar út til
as-soon-as she found him She did so went at-once out to
Færeyja ok sagði Sverri, at hann var son Sigurðar konungs.
(the)-Faroes and told to-Sverrir that he was son of-Sigurd king
Honum fékk þessi saga mikillar áhyggju, ok reikaði hugrinn
To-him gave this story of-great anxiety and wavered the-mind
mjök, þótti torbreytiligt at deila til ríkis í hendr þeim
much seemed hard-to-manage to contend for (the)-realm in hands to-those
feðgum; þótti ok lítilmannligt at hafast ekki at heldr en
father-and-son seemed also unmanly to do nothing to rather than
einn bóndason úbreyttr; ok er hann mintist á, hversu
one farmer's-son unchanged and when he remembered on how
draumar hans höfðu þýddir verit af vitrum mönnum, þá
dreams his had interpreted been by wise men then
herði þat heldr hug hans til hefndar eptir sína frændr.
hardened that rather mind his to revenge after his kinsmen

Draumr Sverris

VI · SVERRIR'S DREAM

Sverrir dreamed that Saint Ólafr was at strife with King Magnús. Ólafr let him wash in his own water, gave him a sword and his standard to bear from then on, and shielded him from seven armed men at the door; when Sverrir raised the standard against Magnús's battle-line, it gave way.

Svá hefir Sverrir sagðan draum þenna, at hann þóttist
So has Sverrir told dream this that he thought-himself
vera kominn til Noregs ok til nökkurrar tignar, ok þat helzt,
to-be come to Norway and to some rank and that most

at hann væri kosinn til byskups. Honum þótti vera úfriðr í
that he were chosen to bishop To-him seemed to-be war in
landinu, ok þótti honum sem hinn helgi Ólafr konungr ætti
the-land and seemed to-him as the holy Olaf king had
deiluna móti Magnúsi konungi, ok þóttist hann ætla í
the-quarrel against Magnus king and thought-himself he intend in
hug sér at fara til Ólafs konungs, en er hann kom þar,
mind to-himself to go to Olaf king and when he came there
var honum vel fagnat með mikilli blíðu. Ok er hann hafði
was to-him well welcomed with great kindness And when he had
þar eigi lengi verit, þá verðr sá atburðr einnhvern myrgin,
there not long been then happens that event one morning
at honum þótti sem þar væri fáir menn við konungi, 15 eða
that to-him seemed as there were few men with (the)-king 15 or
16, ok þósk konungr við trapizu í loptstofu einni. Ok
16 and washed-himself (the)-king at (the)-table in loft-room one And
er konungr var þveginn, þá vildi annarr maðr þvá sér í
when (the)-king was washed then wished another man wash himself in
því sama vatni, en konungr skaut við honum hendinni, síðan
that same water but (the)-king shot against him the-hand then
nefndi hann til Sverri Magnús, ok bað hann þvá sér í
named he forward Sverrir Magnus and bade him wash himself in
því sama vatni. Hann þóttist svá gera, sem konungr bauð.
that same water He thought-himself so do as (the)-king bade
Ok er hann þóttist þveginn vera, þá kom inn maðr
And when he thought-himself washed to-be then came in a-man
hlaupandi með bráðum tíðendum ok bað menn skjótt til vápna
running with sudden tidings and bade men quickly to weapons
taka, ok sagði, at úvinir konungs váru fyrir dyrum. Konungr
take and said that enemies of-(the)-king were before (the)-doors (The)-king
kvað ekki mundu til saka, ok bað menn taka höggvápn
said nothing would to harm and bade men take cutting-weapons

ok ganga svá út, en hann kvezt mundu hafa skjöld sinn
and go so out but he said-himself would have shield his
ok hlífa þeim öllum. Þeir gerðu sem konungr mælti. Þá
and shield them all They did as (the)-king spoke Then
tók konungr sverð eitt ok seldi þessum unga manni Sverri,
took (the)-king sword one and handed to-this young man to-Sverrir
ok síðan fékk hann honum merki sitt ok mælti: Taktu
and then gave he to-him standard his and spoke Take
nú merki mitt, herra, ok vit þat, at þú skalt jafnan mitt
now standard my lord and know that that you shall always my
merki bera héðan af. Hann þóttist við taka merkinu, ok
standard bear hence off He thought-himself with take the-standard and
þó hræddr. Nú tók konungr skjöldinn, ok géngu þeir út allir
yet afraid Now took (the)-king the-shield and went they out all
saman skyndiliga. Honum þótti vera fordyri langt, þar sem
together hastily To-him seemed to-be a-porch long there as
þeir géngu út, eigi skemra en sextugt, ok þótti honum eigi
they went out not shorter than sixty-long and seemed to-him not
mega bera allhátt merkit, meðan þeir váru inni í húsinu.
be-able bear very-high the-standard while they were inside in the-house
Ok er þeir váru at dyrunum komnir, þá kómu á mót
And when they were at the-doors come then came on against
þeim 7 menn með vápnum ok vildu höggva merkismanninn;
them 7 men with weapons and wished hew the-standard-bearer
en konungr gékk fyrir hann með skjöld sinn ok hlífði
but (the)-king went before him with shield his and shielded
honum ok öllum þeim, ok kómu síðan út á rúmlendit
him and all them and came then out onto the-open-land
ok á fagran völl. Þóttist hann þá reisa upp merkit
and onto a-fair field Thought-himself he then raise up the-standard
ok bera í fylking Magnús konungs, ok sýndist þegar sú
and bear into (the)-array of-Magnus king and seemed at-once that

fylking hrökkva fyrir. Þá vaknaði hann ok íhugaði draum
array recoil before Then woke he and pondered dream
sinn, þótti betri dreymdr en eigi, ok sagði vinum sínum, ok
his seemed better dreamed than not and told to-friends his and
var nær því ráðinn, sem síðan gafst. Ok er honum kómu
was near that interpreted as after turned-out And when to-him came
slíkir hlutir í hug, þá styrktist hann mjök við þat.
such things in mind then strengthened-himself he much with that

Sverrir hóf ferð sína til Noregs

VII · SVERRIR SETS OUT FOR NORWAY

In Norway Eysteinn had taken the king's name. Sverrir turned back from seeking the archbishop on learning how he had worked against his brothers, talked unknown with Earl Erlingr and the bodyguard at Konungahella, and spent Christmas with Earl Birgir brosa, who gave him little help. Lost a week in the forests of Vermaland, he learned that Eysteinn had fallen.

Sverrir býr nú ferð sína til Noregs. Ok er hann kom
Sverrir prepares now journey his to Norway And when he came
þangat, hafði sá maðr látið gefa sér konungsnafn, er
thither had that man let give to-himself king's-name who
Eysteinn hét, ok váru þeir bræðra synir. Sverrir gróf
Eystein was-called and were they of-brothers sons Sverrir dug
vandliga eptir þessa manns atferð, ok fannst honum þat
carefully after this man's conduct and found-itself to-him that
í, sem unglig væri mörg hans ráð. Þá gerði hann ferð
in as youthful were many his counsels Then made he journey
sína norðr í land, með því at Hrói byskup fóstri
his north into (the)-land with that that Hroi bishop foster-father
hans hafði þat ráðit honum at sœkja erkibyskups fund
his had that counseled to-him to seek (the)-archbishop's meeting

ok tjá fyrir honum sinn vanda. En er hann var á leið
and lay-out before him his difficulty But when he was on way
kominn, þá gerðist hann spurall við þá menn, er norðan
come then became he inquisitive with those men who from-north
kómu. Hann dvaldist í Selju um hríð, þvíat þar váru hans
came He stayed in Selja for a-while because there were his
kunnir menn fyrir, ok þar hitti hann prest einn, þann
known men before and there met he priest one that
er honum sagði inniliga slíkt, sem hann vildi. Ok þaðan
who to-him told intimately such as he wished And thence
af sér Sverrir, hversu mikill mótstöðumaðr erkibyskup hefir
off sees Sverrir how great opponent (the)-archbishop has
verit hans brœðrum, ok þótti sér lítillar uppreistar þaðan
been to-his brothers and seemed to-himself of-little advancement thence
ván, er brœðr hans féngu steyping. Vendir aptr ok fór or
hope as brothers his got overthrow Turns back and went out-of
landi með byrðingsmönnum til Túnsbergs, ok þaðan til
(the)-land with cargo-ship-men to Tunsberg and thence to
Konungahellu. Jafnan var hann á tali við sjálfan jarlinn,
Konungahella Always was he in talk with himself the-earl
ok fékkst svá leynzt fyrir honum, at eigi vissi jarl, hvat
and managed so hidden before him that not knew (the)-earl what
honum bjó í skapi. Hann var ok jafnan með hirðmönnum,
to-him lay in mind He was also always with (the)-retainers
ok var svá glaðr við þá, at þeim þótti hverrar stundar
and was so glad with them that to-them seemed of-every hour
gaman at hans málsendum. En þá gróf hann svá undir
sport at his speech-ends But then dug he so under
þeim, at hann varð margra hluta þeira víss af þeim, er
them that he became of-many things of-those aware from them which
þeir vildu gjarna eigi hafa í ljós látið, ef þeir hefði vitað,
they wished gladly not have in light let if they had known

við hvern þeir hefði talat. Hann íhugaði, ef alþýðan væri
with whom they had talked He pondered if the-common-people were
nökkut tvískipt í sínu orðlagi, þvíat engi grunaði hann, ok
somewhat divided in their speech because no-one suspected him and
virðist honum svá, sem alþýðan mundi velviljuð Magnúsi
seemed to-him so as the-common-people would well-disposed to-Magnus
konungi. Or Konungahellu fór hann til Ljóðhúsa, ok fékk
king Out-of Konungahella went he to Liodhus and got
vás mikit ok erfiði. Hann kom í Eystra-Gautland þrim
hardship great and toil He came into East-Gautland three
nóttum fyrir jól. Hann kom þá til Birgis jarls brosu, hann
nights before Yule He came then to Birgir earl Brosa he
átti Birgit föðursystur hans. Hann bar upp fyrir þau sinn
had Birgit father's-sister his He bore up before them his
vanda, ok tóku þau lítinn af hans máli til greiða. Báru til
difficulty and took they little of his case to furtherance Bore to
þess tveir hlutir, annarr sá, er Eysteinn frændi hans hóf
that two things (the)-one that that Eystein kinsman his raised
þaðan flokk sinn, ok vildu þau eigi efla annan, meðan
thence band his and wished they not strengthen another while
hann lifði, sá annarr, at þat var borit í eyru þeim, at
he lived that (the)-other that it was borne in ears to-them that
Erlingr jarl hefði gert hann til gabbs austr þanninn. Þar
Erling earl had made him for mockery east thither There
var hann um jólin ok tjáði jafnan fyrir jarli sinn vanda.
was he over the-Yule and laid-out always before (the)-earl his difficulty
En þat var enn þar, sem jafnan kann verða, at þar váru
But that was still there as always can happen that there were
við staddir þeir, er váru öfundar fullir meir en gœzku,
by present they who were of-envy full more than of-goodness
at þetta hagaði honum til mikils háska, þvíat margir
that this turned to-him to great danger because many

skammsýnir menn hugðu þessi tíðendi sönn ok vildu drepa
short-sighted men thought these tidings true and wished kill
hann. En jarl vildi þat eigi vera láta, nema nökkurar
him But (the)-earl wished that not be let unless some
væri brýnar sakir til, vildi hann heldr láta eptir leita, hvat
were pressing reasons to wished he rather let after search what
er títt væri. Var honum gefit vín at drekka, at hann yrði
that usual were Was to-him given wine to drink that he became
drukkinn, ok mætti nökkut orð þat finnast í hans munni,
drunk and might some word that be-found in his mouth
at hann þœtti sakbitinn vera eða dauða verðr. En með því
that he seemed guilty be or of-death worthy But with that
at Sverrir var á hverri stundu hugsjúkr um sitt mál, þá
that Sverrir was at every hour heart-sick about his case then
gaf hann lítinn gaum at miði eða víni, þótt honum væri
gave he little heed to mead or wine though to-him were
þess yfrin gnótt, heldr veitti hann því meiri viðsjá, sem
of-that ample plenty rather gave he the more wariness as
hann fann umsát annarra. Ok at afliðnum jólum sneri hann
he found ambush of-others And at past Yule turned he
til Vermalands, þvíat hann þóttist eigi þau andsvör fá af
to Vermaland because he thought-himself not those answers get from
jarlinum, at honum þœtti sér til uppreistar í því sinni.
the-earl that to-him seemed to-himself to advancement in that time
Ok eigi kom mikill vöxtr í hans föruneyti, þvíat hann
And not came great growth in his company because he
fór þaðan braut við annan mann. Í þeiri ferð fékk hann
went thence away with another man In that journey got he
mikit vás, var því líkast, sem í fornum sögum er sagt
great hardship was that likest as in old stories is told
at verit hafi, þá er konungabörn urðu fyrir stjúpmœðra
that been have then when kings'-children came under stepmothers'

sköpum, þvíat þat var sjau daga í samt, at hann fór
spells because it was seven days in together that he went
villr um merkr stórar ok þoldi bæði hungr ok kulda. En
lost about forests great and endured both hunger and cold But
er hann kom á Vermaland, þá mœtti hann þar þeim
when he came onto Vermaland then met he there those
mönnum, er komnir váru af Noregi. Kunnu þeir at segja
men who come were from Norway Could they to tell
honum þau tíðendi, at Eysteinn konungr hafði barizt austr
to-him those tidings that Eystein king had fought east
í Vík við Magnús konung ok fallit þar, ok mikill hluti
in (the)-Vik with Magnus king and fallen there and a-great part
liðs hans, en þat flýit á Vermaland, er undan komst,
of-troop his but that fled onto Vermaland which away got
eða suðr til Danmerkr. Þetta þótti Sverri nú enn mikit
or south to Denmark This seemed to-Sverrir now still much
auka harma sína, ok ferr nú fyrst til systur sinnar Ceciliu,
increase sorrows his and goes now first to sister his Cecilia
er þá hafði búit veizlu á mót honum. Ok er þau
who then had prepared a-feast on against him And when they
finnast, var hon honum fegin ok fagnaði sem bezt kunni
meet was she to-him glad and welcomed as best could
hon. Síðan töluðu þau syskin, hvat hann skyldi af taka. Var
she Then talked those siblings what he should of take Was
þá komin frétt til Noregs um hans mál, ok þótti þeim
then come news to Norway about his case and seemed to-them
þat líkast, at hann mundi sœkja verða á úkunn lönd
that likest that he would seek must onto unknown lands
ok bíða þar þeira tíðenda, er guð vildi honum senda.
and await there those tidings which God wished to-him send

Frá Sverri ok Birkibeinum

VIII · OF SVERRIR AND THE BIRKIBEINAR

Eysteinn's leaderless band, poor, wounded, and young, asked Sverrir to lead them; he sent them to Earl Birgir for one of his sons, and Birgir sent them back. When he refused again they threatened to kill him and all his kin, and at the beginning of the seven weeks' fast they bound their fellowship, seventy men swearing themselves to him the next day.

Nú spyrr þetta sá inn fátœki flokkr, er þá hafði mist
Now learns this that the poor band which then had lost
síns höfðingja, at son Sigurðar konungs var kominn á
its chieftain that son of-Sigurd king was come onto
Vermaland, en hverr er þat spurði, þá fór á hans fund, ok
Vermaland and each who that learned then went to his meeting and
báðu hann bindast fyrir sitt mál. Lið þat var með mikilli
asked him bind-himself for their cause Troop that was with great
neisu, sumir sárir mjök, en nær allir vápnlausir, allir
shabbiness some wounded much and near all weaponless all
ok svá miklir œskumenn, at honum sýndust ekki líkligir
also so great youths that to-him seemed not likely
til ráðagerða. Hann svaraði á þá leið: Þetta sýnist mér
to counsels He answered on that way This seems to-me
hvárigum allfýsiligt, erut þér menn snauðir, en ek félítill
to-neither very-desirable are you men destitute and I of-little-wealth
ok yðr úkunnigr, megu þér svá mæla, ef yðr mislíka ráð
and to-you unknown may you so speak if to-you displease counsels
mín, at þér vitið eigi, hverjum þér þjónið. Em ek ok þar
my that you know not whom you serve Am I also there
fœddr, er menn eru ekki vanir slíkum stórræðum, sýnist
born where men are not used to-such great-undertakings seems

mér, sem vér hafim fátt til félagskapar nema féleysi ok vanda.
to-me as we have little to fellowship except poverty and difficulty
Nú verð ek þess eigi búinn at kimbla yðrum vandræðum
Now become I of-that not ready to bundle your troubles
á mínar áhyggjur. Nú fyrir því at þér hafit minn fund
onto my cares Now for that that you have my meeting
sótt, þá vil ek gefa ráð til með yðr. Birgir mágr
sought then will I give counsel to with you Birgir kinsman-by-marriage
minn á sér þrjá sonu, ok eru þeir jafnkomnir til lands
my has to-himself three sons and are they equally-come to (the)-land
sem Magnús Erlingsson, farit þangat, ok biðit hann fá
as Magnus Erling's-son go thither and ask him get
yðr einnhvern af þeim til forstjóra. Hefi ek ok til hugsat
to-you one of them to leader Have I also to thought
vandliga um lið yðart, ok finnst mér þat eina, sem lítil
carefully about troop your and finds-itself to-me that alone as little
muni vera manngrein með yðr, sé ek ok stór forföll á váru
will be distinction with you see I also great hindrances on our
máli, ok mest fyrir sakir þess hlutarins, er hvárumtveggjum
case and most for sakes of-that thing which to-both
gegnir sízt at missa, en meiri ván at engi sé föngin í
suits least to lack and greater hope that none be the-means in
yðru föruneyti til svá mikils landráðs, sem þarf á móti
your company to so great land-rule as needs on against
þeim feðgum. Hefi ek ok lítt sét annarra manna siðu
those father-and-son Have I also little seen other men's customs
fyrr en nú, er ek kom í þessi lönd. Ganga hér ok allir
earlier than now when I came into these lands Go here also all
duldir um ætt mína, nema þat eina er ek segi frá einn
unknowing about kin my except that alone which I tell from alone
saman, kann vera, at þér mælit slíkt við mik sem við inn
together can be that you speak such with me as with the

fyrra höfðingja, at þér vitið eigi, hvat manna var, ok verðr
former chieftain that you know not what of-men was and becomes
yðr þá yðarr höfðingi at brigzlum, hvar sem þér mœtið
to-you then your chieftain to reproaches where as you meet
yðrum úvinum. Vitu ok allir ván sona Birgis, en mín engi.
your enemies Know also all hope of-sons of-Birgir but mine none
Þeir fóru til Birgis jarls með þessa málaleitan. Hann harmaði
They went to Birgir earl with this request He lamented
skaða þeira ok svaraði svá: Synir mínir eru börn at aldri ok
harm their and answered so Sons my are children in age and
kunnu ekki ráð at gera fyrir sér né öðrum, eru þeir ekki
know not counsel to make for themselves nor others are they not
til slíks fœrir, munu Noregsmenn ekki þola, at gauzkr herr
to such fit will Norwaymen not endure that a-Gautish host
ríði á land þeira. En þat ráð legg ek til með yðr, er mér
ride onto land their But that counsel lay I to with you which to-me
sýnist vænst, gefst sem guð vill. Son Sigurðar konungs
seems likeliest turns-out as God wills (The)-son of-Sigurd king
var við oss um jól, en nú mun hann vera á Vermalandi, taki
was with us over Yule but now will he be in Vermaland take
þér hann til höfðingja, hann er vænn til vits, biðit þér hann
you him to chieftain he is likely to wit ask you him
bindast fyrir yðart mál. Þeir svara: Hittum vér þann mann, ok
bind-himself for your cause They answer Met we that man and
vísaði hann oss af hendi sér. Jarl svarar: Þat segir mér
sent he us off hand from-himself (The)-earl answers That tells to-me
hugr um, at enga uppreist fái þér, ef eigi kemr þaðan, enda
mind about that no advancement get you if not comes thence and
skulu þér hans fund sœkja, ef þér vilit mín ráð hafa. Ok
shall you his meeting seek if you will my counsel have And
svá megu þér bera honum þau mín orð, at ek heit honum
so may you bear to-him those my words that I promise to-him

minni vináttu allri slíkri, sem ek má við komast, ok hann
my friendship all such as I may with come and he
skal hér hafa her sinn ok friðland, hvar sem hann kemr í
shall here have host his and peace-land where as he comes in
Svíaveldi. Gerit honum þann kost, at hann skipist við
(the)-Swedes'-realm Make to-him that choice that he arrange-himself with
nauðsyn yðra allra saman, eða ella munu þér hann af lífi taka.
need your of-all together or else will you him off life take
Þeir höfðu sett menn til at gæta hans, meðan þeir fóru til Birgis
They had set men to to watch him while they went to Birgir
jarls, þvíat hann hafði ætlat ferð sína út til Jórsala, þóttist
earl because he had intended journey his out to Jerusalem thought-himself
eigi vita þá menn í Noregi, at hann ætti trausts af ván. Svá
not know those men in Norway that he had of-support of hope So
höfðu þeir Magnús ok Erlingr grimmliga leikit alla þá hálfu.
had they Magnus and Erling grimly played all that side
Nú koma þeir aptr til Sverris, ok þangat váru menn sendir
Now come they back to Sverrir and thither were men sent
med bréfum Knúts konungs ok Birgis jarls, ok mæltu svá:
with letters of-Knut king and of-Birgir earl and spoke so
Sú er bœn vár, at þér skipizt við at hjálpa þessum
That is prayer our that you arrange-yourself with to help this
fátœkja flokki. Nú til þess at þér rœkit orð vár, þótt vér
poor band Now to that that you heed words our though we
tœkim lítinn fyrr af yðru máli, þá skulum vér nú, alt þat
took little before of your case then shall we now all that
sem vér megum við komast, yðart ríki styðja. En þó at
as we may with come your realm support But though that
þeir lokkaði hann með þvílíkum gœlingarorðum, þá sá hann
they enticed him with such coaxing-words then saw he
eigi at síðr vanefni sín til svá mikils stórræðis ok kvað
not the less lack-of-means his to so great undertaking and said

nei við. Þá mintust þeir ályktarorða Birgis jarls ok báðu
no to Then remembered they (the)-concluding-words of-Birgir earl and asked
hann kjósa um tvá kosti, hvárt hann vill heldr miskunna
him choose about two choices whether he will rather pity
þeira máli eða eiga ván af þeim skjótra vandræða, ok sögðu
their case or have hope from them of-swift troubles and said
á þá leið: Vér höfum þjónat frændum yðrum, látið feðr
on that way We have served to-kinsmen your lost fathers
vára ok frændr, ok svá friðlandit, fyrir sakar föður þíns, ok
our and kinsmen and so the-peace-land for sake of-father your and
höfum jafnan þjónat yðr frændum, nú bjóðumst vér allir
have always served to-you kinsmen now offer-ourselves we all
enn í vandann fyrir þik, en þú vill fyrirlíta oss. Nú skaltu
still into the-difficulty for you but you will despise us Now shall-you
víst vita, at vér skulum drepa yðr alla frændr ok kaupa
surely know that we shall kill you all kinsmen and buy
oss svá í frið við Magnús konung, ok vera nú yðr
ourselves so into peace with Magnus king and be now to-you
grimmastir, er áðr váru mér hollastir. Sverri þótti nú af
grimmest who before were to-me most-loyal To-Sverrir seemed now of
nýju vandast sitt mál, ok sá at þá mundi skjótast verða
new become-difficult his case and saw that then would swiftest become
aldauða þat kyn, ef hann hætti til þessa etjukosta, er þá
extinct that kin if he risked to of-these hard-choices which then
váru honum gervir. Tók hann þann af, at dróttinsdaginn
were to-him made Took he that off that the-Lord's-day
at sjau vikna föstu bundu þeir lag sitt saman, en
at seven weeks' fast bound they fellowship their together and
mánadaginn eptir géngu 70 manna til handa Sverri.
the-Monday after went 70 men to hands to-Sverrir

Draumr Sverris

IX · SVERRIR'S DREAM

That night Sverrir dreamed that in the Maríukirkja at Borg, where Magnús and Erlingr were and the townsfolk sought a king's son, an old white-haired man named himself the prophet Samuel, anointed his hands from a horn, and told him he would be king. His men rejoiced at the dream, and his temper changed after it.

Um nóttina næstu dreymdi Sverri, at hann þóttist vera
In the-night next dreamed Sverrir that he thought-himself to-be
staddr austr á Borg, þar sem Raumelfr fellr í sjó, ok
placed east at Borg there where Raum-River falls into (the)-sea and
þótti honum þar vera Magnús konungr ok Erlingr í bœnum.
seemed to-him there to-be Magnus king and Erling in the-town
Honum þótti vera kurr nökkurr um þat, at þar í bœnum
To-him seemed to-be murmur some about that that there in the-town
mundi vera nökkurr konungsson, ok þótti sem fólkit væri í
would be some king's-son and seemed as the-folk were in
eptirleitan, hvar hann mundi vera. Hann þóttist vita, at
search where he would be He thought-himself know that
þessi kurr var um hann sjálfan, ok þóttist fara leyniliga
this murmur was about him himself and thought-himself go secretly
or bœnum ok verða fyrir sér Maríukirkja. En er hann
out-of the-town and come before him Mary's-church But when he
þóttist biðjast fyrir í kirkjunni, þá þótti honum maðr
thought-himself pray before in the-church then seemed to-him a-man
ganga at sér, ok tók í hönd honum ok leiddi hann í stúku
go to him and took in hand to-him and led him into chapel
eina norðr frá sönghúsdyrum, ok mælti við hann: Gakk með
one north from choir-doors and spoke with him Go with
mér, bróðir, ek hefi leynt mál við þik. Hann þóttist
me brother I have secret matter with you He thought-himself

ganga með honum ok hyggja vandliga at yfirlitum hans, ok
go with him and heed carefully to looks his and
sýndist honum sá maðr afar gamall ok snjóhvítr af hæru,
seemed to-him that man very old and snow-white from gray-hair
skegg mikit hafði hann ok klæði allsíð, rjóðr í andliti ok
beard great had he and clothes very-long ruddy in face and
stutthárr ok heldr ógurligr. Hann þóttist vera íhugafullr,
short-haired and rather terrible He thought-himself to-be anxious
hvat er sá maðr mundi vilja, ok þat fann sá hinn gamli
what that that man would wish and that found that the old
maðr á honum ok mælti: Hræzt eigi þú, bróðir, þvíat guð
man on him and spoke Fear not you brother because God
hefir mik sendan. Þá þóttist hann hníga til jarðar fyrir
has me sent Then thought-himself he sink to earth before
honum ok spyrja: hvat manna ertu, herra, at ek mega víst
him and ask what of-men are-you lord that I may surely
vita, at guð hafi sendan þik. Þá segir hann í annat sinn,
know that God have sent you Then says he in a-second time
ok bað Sverri eigi óttast, ok sagði guð sik sendan hafa
and bade Sverrir not fear and said God himself sent have
til hans. Þá þóttist hann verða slíkt eða hræddari. Þá
to him Then thought-himself he become such or more-afraid Then
mælti hinn gamli maðr hit þriðja sinn: Friðr verði með þér,
spoke the old man the third time Peace be with you
ok hræzt eigi, bróðir, þvíat ek em Samuel spámaðr guðs, ok
and fear not brother because I am Samuel prophet of-God and
hefi ek guðs erendi þér til handa. Eptir þat tók hann horn
have I God's errand you to hands After that took he a-horn
or skreppu, er hann hafði á hálsi sér, ok þótti honum
out-of a-scrip which he had on neck himself and seemed to-him
sem krismi væri í horninu. Þá mælti hann við Sverri: Lát
as chrism were in the-horn Then spoke he with Sverrir Let

mik sjá hendr þínar, segir hann. Hann þóttist rétta fram
me see hands your says he He thought-himself stretch forward
hendrnar báðar. Hinn gamli maðr smurði báðar hendrnar
the-hands both The old man anointed both the-hands
ok mælti svá: Helgist hendr þessar ok styrkist til hatrs
and spoke so Be-hallowed hands these and be-strengthened to hatred
við úvini þína ok mótstöðumenn ok at stjórna mörgum lýð.
with enemies your and adversaries and to govern many people
Síðan kysti hann Sverri ok tók í hönd hans hina hœgri ok
Then kissed he Sverrir and took in hand his the right and
mælti við hann: Leitaðu nú or þröng þessi austr, þvíat þú
spoke with him Seek-you now out-of throng this east because you
skalt konungr vera. Ok þá enn kysti hann Sverri ok mælti:
shall king be And then still kissed he Sverrir and spoke
Styrkstu ok ver hraustr, þvíat guð mun fulltingja þér.
Strengthen-yourself and be valiant because God will help you
Því næst vaknaði hann ok sagði draum sinn þeim 12
Then next woke he and told dream his to-those 12
mönnum, er þar sváfu í herbergi hjá honum. Öllum þótti
men who there slept in (the)-lodging by him To-all seemed
draumrinn mikill ok merkiligr, ok urðu allir hans menn
the-dream great and remarkable and became all his men
þessum draumi fegnir. Ok er hann leitaði eptir, at nökkurr
of-this dream glad And when he searched after that someone
mundi ráða drauminn, þá bar engi traust á. Bað hann þá
would interpret the-dream then bore none trust on Bade he then
ok sína menn ekki um skepta, þótt slíkt hefði fyrir borit.
also his men not about trouble though such had before borne
Allir þóttust þeir finna þat, er við váru staddir, at
All thought-themselves they find that who by were present that
stórum skiptist hans lunderni eptir þenna draum. Var þat
greatly changed his temper after this dream Was that

mikil raun alt saman, er hann var í úkunnu landi ok við
great trial all together when he was in unknown land and with
úkunna þjóð. Er hann hafði við forræði tekit, varð hann
unknown people When he had with leadership taken became he
þegar at bera vanda fyrir öllum sínum mönnum, þvíat engi var
at-once to bear difficulty for all his men because no was
sá annarr, er ráð kynni gera utan hann sjálfr í þessu liði.
that other who counsel could make except he himself in this troop

Sverrir bjóst af Vermalandi

X · SVERRIR LEAVES VERMALAND

On Ash Wednesday Sverrir set out with seventy men, and at Saurbœir, now three hundred and fifty strong, they gave him the king's name against his wish. Many had come to plunder, and at Eiðaskógr only eighty of four hundred remained. He kept Easter in Vermaland and wrote to Þelamörk promising redress to any who joined him.

Miðvikudag, er vér köllum öskudag, hóf hann ferð sína
Wednesday which we call Ash-day began he journey his
af Hamri í Vermalandi, hafði hann þá 70 manna, ok fór
from Hamar in Vermaland had he then 70 men and went
í Víkina, ok á því méli dreif til hans svá mart manna, at
into the-Vik and on that while flocked to him so many men that
þá hafði hann hálft fjórða hundrað manna. Ok er hann kom
then had he half fourth hundred men And when he came
þar, sem Saurbœir heita, þá lét hann þings kveðja, ok
there where Saurbaeir are-called then let he an-assembly summon and
vildu hans menn gefa honum konungsnafn. Hann taldist
wished his men give to-him king's-name He excused-himself
undan ok lét betr hœfa, at hans mál væri birt áðr
away and said better befit that his case were made-known before

með nökkurum sannendum. En þeir létust þat eigi heyra
with some proofs But they said-themselves that not hear
vilja at þjóna honum svá, at hann bæri eigi hæra nafn en
would to serve him so that he bore not higher name than
þeir. Þat var dróttinsdaginn fyrsta í föstu, at þeir gáfu
they It was the-Lord's-day first in Lent that they gave
honum konungsnafn ok tóku við sverði hans. Eigi hafði hann
to-him king's-name and took with sword his Not had he
þeim flokki lengi stýrt, áðr hann sá þat, sem fyrr hafði
that band long steered before he saw that which before had
hann grunat, at eigi mundi hann mjök mega styðjast við
he suspected that not would he much be-able lean with
þeira ráðagerð. Hann hugði vandliga at háttum sinna manna,
their counsel He heeded carefully to ways of-his men
meðan hann var í Víkinni, sýndist honum þat fólk misjafnt
while he was in the-Vik seemed to-him that folk uneven
mjök, sumir góðir drengir ok spakir menn, sumir úspakir.
much some good fellows and peaceable men some unruly
Hann fór þá aptr á Vermaland, þvíat hann vildi eigi ræna
He went then back onto Vermaland because he wished not rob
í Víkinni, heldr vildi hann berjast til lands, sem hann átti
in the-Vik rather wished he fight for land as he had
burði til. Þaðan gerir hann ferð sína ok ætlar norðr í
birth to Thence makes he journey his and intends north into
land, ok fór þar til, er hann kom at Eiðaskóg, ok kannaði
(the)-land and went there till when he came to Eidaskog and inspected
þá lið sitt. Ok reyndist svá, at með litlum dyggleik höfðu
then troop his And proved so that with little loyalty had
margir honum til handa gengit, ok meir hugðust ránsmenn
many to-him to hands gone and more meant robbers
at vera heldr en konungi sínum til sœmdar. Hafði hann þá
to be rather than to-king their to honor Had he then

eigi meir en 80 manna af 400. Sá hann eigi efni sín til
not more than 80 men of 400 Saw he not means his to
þess, sem hann hafði ætlat, við svá lítið lið í gegn slíku
that which he had intended with so little troop in against such
ofrefli, sem fyrir var ván. Sá hann, at ekki var at stunda
odds as before was hope Saw he that nothing was to rely
á þat fólk, er eigi vildi fylgja honum norðr ok norðan.
on that folk which not wished follow him north and from-north
Þóttu þeir heldr vilja eggja alþýðu í höfuð sér
Seemed they rather would incite (the)-common-people into head to-themselves
af ránum ok úspekt, en fylgja sér í mannraunum. Var
by robberies and unruliness than follow him in trials Was
honum þá mjök angrsamt, þvíat hann var náliga nauðigr til
to-him then much grievous because he was nearly unwilling to
konungs tekinn, en veitt honum síðan eigi góða fylgð. Nú
king taken but given to-him since not good following Now
íhugaði hann sitt ráð, ok þóttist eigi efni sitt á sjá, at
pondered he his course and thought-himself not means his on see that
hann gæti við þá skilizt, fyrir því at þeir er helzt vildu
he could with them part for that that they who most wished
honum fylgja, gættu hans vandliga, síðan hann hafði við
him follow watched him carefully since he had with
konungsnafni tekit ok gerzt öllum kunnigr í landinu. Snýr
king's-name taken and become to-all known in the-land Turns
hann nú aptr á Vermaland ok hafði páskavist með presti
he now back onto Vermaland and had Easter-stay with priest
einum, er vegliga veizlu gerði á mót honum. Þá sendi
one who handsome feast made on against him Then sent
hann bréf sín í Noreg á Þelamörk, þvíat þeir váru missáttir
he letters his into Norway to Thelamark because they were at-odds
við Magnús konung ok Erling jarl, ok hét þeim nökkurri
with Magnus king and Erling earl and promised to-them some

réttarbót, ef þeir snerist til hans, ok vildi þeir koma norðr
law-amendment if they turned to him and wished they come north
í land til móts við hann eða honum nökkut lið veita.
into (the)-land to meeting with him or to-him some troop give

Af ferðum Sverris

XI · OF SVERRIR'S JOURNEYS

Finding the land guarded, Sverrir went north through the wilderness, forest after forest, to Járnberaland, heathen and under the Swedish king, whose people had never seen a king yet let him pass, and on to Herdalir. On one forest crossing his men ate only bark and berries from under the snow.

At liðinni páskaviku sá hann, at eigi mundi hann komast
At past Easter-week saw he that not would he get
norðr í land, nema hann tœki nökkura úkunna stigu
north into (the)-land unless he took some unknown paths
með erviði, fyrir því at svá stórr viðrbúnaðr var um alt
with toil for that that so great preparation was about all
landit, síðan menn spurðu, at flokkrinn hófst austr í landit.
the-land since men learned that the-band rose east in the-land
Máttu þeir hvergi þar komast í landit, er nökkurar váru
Could they nowhere there get into the-land where any were
stórbygðirnar fyrir, ok sneru þeir ferð sinni at Eystrasalti
the-great-settlements before and turned they journey their to (the)-Baltic
ok fóru yfir þann skóg hinn fyrsta, er var 12 rasta langr,
and went over that forest the first which was 12 leagues long
áðr hann kom í Eikisherað. Ok er þeir fóru þaðan, áttu
before he came into Eikisherad And when they went thence had
þeir þann skóg fyrir, er enn var svá langr, áðr hann kom
they that forest before which still was so long before he came

þar er heitir Mölungr. Þaðan fór hann enn 12 rasta skóg
there where is-called Molung Thence went he still 12 leagues' forest
til Járnberalands. Á þessum skógum var engi fœzla nema
to Jarnberaland In these forests was no food except
fugla hold ok elgja, ok í þessarri ferð gerðust margir hlutir
of-birds flesh and of-elks and in this journey happened many things
erfiðligir ok þungligir, þvíat þeir fóru um úbygðir mjök lengi
hard and heavy because they went about wildernesses very long
ok þoldu bæði hungr ok kulda, þvíat ekki mátti njóta hesta
and endured both hunger and cold because not might use horses
né annarra fararskjóta, þvíat í þann tíma váru verstar ferðir,
nor other mounts because in that time were worst travels
er snjó leysti af skógum ok ís af vötnum, fara stundum
when snow loosed off forests and ice off lakes go sometimes
um mosa eða mýrar stórar, þröngvar merkr ok brota stóra.
about mosses or marshes great narrow forests and windfalls great
Járnberaland er undir Svíakonung, ok var þá enn heiðit, ok
Jarnberaland is under (the)-Swedes'-king and was then still heathen and
höfðu þeir aldrigi enn sét konung fyrr koma í sitt land. Váru
had they never yet seen a-king before come into their land Were
þeir úvanir konunga yfirferð, ok mátti svá at kveða, at þann
they unused of-kings' passage and might so to say that that
mann fyndi trautt, er skyn kunni á konungsmönnum eða
man found hardly who knowledge had on king's-men or
vissi, hvárt þat váru menn eða dýr. Ok var þat mikil nauð at
knew whether that were men or beasts And was that great need to
flytjast millum svá fávíssa þjóða. En svá mikla miskunn gerði
travel among so ignorant peoples But so great mercy did
guð almáttigr ok heilug María við Sverri konung, at hann
God almighty and holy Mary with Sverrir king that he
fékk af því fólki mikinn fagnað ok leyfi til yfirferðar, þegar
got from that folk great welcome and leave to passage as-soon-as

þeir heyrðu orð hans. En optast var at fara um auðnir, merkr
they heard words his But most-often was to go about wastes forests
ok mosa, mýrar stórar ok stór stöðuvötn. Af Járnberalandi
and mosses marshes great and great lakes From Jarnberaland
fór hann yfir þann skóg, er var átján rasta, til heraðs þess,
went he over that forest which was eighteen leagues to district that
er Herdalir heita, þat var hans land. Þaðan fór hann þann
which Herdalir are-called that was his land Thence went he that
skóg, er var átta rasta langr hins fjórða tigar yfir. Á þeim
forest which was eight leagues long of-the fourth decade over In that
skógi var svá hörð reiðan þeira, at ekki var at eta nema
forest was so hard provision their that nothing was to eat except
börkr ok ber, þau er undir snjó höfðu legit um vetrinn.
bark and berries those which under snow had lain over the-winter

Ger jarteign Sverri konungi

XII · A MIRACLE DONE FOR KING SVERRIR

Crossing a wide lake on a log raft already awash, the king turned back for an exhausted straggler; the raft carried them all over and sank like a stone as he stepped off. After two more days without food the worn-out band crossed a river, and the king told them the settlements were near.

Sá atburðr gerðist, er Sverrir konungr skyldi fara yfir eitt
That event happened when Sverrir king should go over one
mikit vatn á einni eyðimörk, ok váru þar engir farskostir
great lake in one wilderness and were there no means-of-crossing
í nánd, nema menn gerði sér flota af viðum 3 eða 4,
in nearness except men made to-themselves a-raft of logs 3 or 4
eða svá sem þá mátti verða. Sá floti er konungr var á,
or so as then might be That raft which (the)-king was on

var eigi mikill, ok váru þar á 3 menn með honum, ok seig
was not great and were there on 3 men with him and sank
þegar, er þeir kómu frá landi, svá at þeim tók vatnit í
at-once when they came from land so that to-them reached the-water to
mitt bein á flotanum. Vatnit var hálfrar viku breitt. Í því
mid bone on the-raft The-lake was of-half sea-mile broad In that
bili kom maðr á vatnsbakkann, var sá þreyttr mjök af
moment came a-man onto the-lake-bank was that tired much from
göngu, þvíat þá váru þeir á hinni mestu mörkinni, ok hafði
walking because then were they on the greatest the-forest and had
áðr liðit alt verit tvá daga matlaust. Þá kallaði þessi maðr
before the-troop all been two days foodless Then called this man
á þá, er á flotanum váru, ok bað þá hjálpar ok kvezt
on them who on the-raft were and bade them of-help and said-himself
náliga vera farinn af mœði; annat liðit var þá komit mjök
nearly be gone from weariness other the-troop was then come much
yfir. Ok er konungr heyrði kall hans, þá sá hann, at þess
over And when (the)-king heard call his then saw he that of-that
manns bani lá við, ef þeir tœki hann eigi, en honum þótti
man's death lay with if they took him not but to-him seemed
flotinn trautt mundu bera þá. Konungr lét þó flotann at landi
the-raft hardly would bear them (The)-king let yet the-raft to land
ok tók manninn, at eigi væri fœriligt. Ok er þessi maðr
and took the-man though not were advisable And when this man
kom á flotann til þeira, þá tók vatnit yfir kné þeim, ok
came onto the-raft to them then reached the-water over knee to-them and
fóru við þat yfir vatnit ok lendu við lág eina, ok géngu
went with that over the-lake and landed by fallen-tree one and went
þar af flotanum. Fór konungr síðarst af, ok þegar hann sté
there off the-raft Went (the)-king last off and as-soon-as he stepped
af flotanum, þá sökk flotinn sem steinn, ok þótti öllum sá
off the-raft then sank the-raft as a-stone and seemed to-all that

atburðr stórum merkiligr ok þó undarligr. En nú er öllum
event greatly remarkable and yet wondrous But now is to-all
þat auðsýnt, at sá floti bar þann farm, er ætlaðr var til
that evident that that raft bore that cargo which destined was to
þeira stórvirkja, er þá váru eigi framkomin, ok hæri tignar,
those great-works which then were not come-forth and of-higher rank
en þá hafði hann, er hann flaut undir mannfarminum,
than then had he which it floated under the-man-cargo
en sökk, þegar menn váru af honum. Tvær nætr váru þeir
but sank when men were off it Two nights were they
síðan í auðn ok höfðu engi mat, nema átu þellisafa ok
then in (the)-waste and had no food except ate pine-sap and
sugu birkju við. En hinn þriðja daginn var alt liðit komit
sucked birch wood But the third day was all the-troop come
at þrotum, ok sóttu þeir þá mjök á eyðimörkina, váru þá
to exhaustion and pressed they then much on the-wilderness were then
skammar 14 rastir eptir. Þá fór liðit yfir á eina mikla,
short 14 leagues after Then went the-troop over river one great
ok lagðist niðr á árbakkanum, sem yfir kom ána, ok
and lay-down down on the-river-bank as over came the-river and
nentu þá eigi at ganga lengra fyrir mœði. Konungr fór með
cared then not to go farther for weariness (The)-king went with
þeim, er síðarst fóru, ok þeir þrír saman, ok rak þá langt
those who last went and they three together and drifted them far
ofan eptir ánni ok sveif at landi um síðir, ok tóku hvíld
down along the-river and swung to land at last and took rest
eptir þat. Konungr bað þá enn vel við herðast, sagði skamt
after that (The)-king bade them still well with harden said short
mundu vera í bygðina, ok kvað enn mundu nökkut rautt
would be to the-settlement and said still would something red
fyrir brenna, ef þeir kœmi til kristinna manna um síðir.
before burn if they came to Christian men at last

Frá ferðum Sverris konungs

XIII · OF KING SVERRIR'S JOURNEYS

In Jamtaland Sverrir sent Sigurðr of Saltnes ahead to take the Jamtar's ships, and they submitted. After five days without food or sleep he neared Niðaróss, but sixteen hundred townsmen came against his hundred and he drew back. He took the Selbúar's ships, watched the town from Vazfell, and met Rútr with eighty men from Þelamörk.

Nú kómu þeir til Jamtalands, ok vildu þeir honum á mót
Now came they to Jamtaland and wished they to-him on against
standa. Hann sendi þá fyrir Sigurð af Saltnesi, ok ætlaði,
stand He sent then before Sigurd of Saltnes and thought
sem reyndist, at þeir mundu miðr varast ráð vitrlig, meðan
as proved that they would less beware counsels wise while
eigi var kominn höfðinginn sjálfr. Sigurðr fékk nú skip þeira
not was come the-chieftain himself Sigurd got now ships their
öll, þau er þeir höfðu ætlat sér til landvarnar, ok
all those which they had intended to-themselves to land-defense and
þá er konungr kom, missa þeir skipanna, ok var þá sá
then when (the)-king came lack they the-ships and was then that
hinn bezti at ganga á hönd. Þar váru margir lendir menn
the best to go on hand There were many landed men
Magnús konungs, ok géngu allir til handa. Váru þar þá
of-Magnus king and went all to hands Were there then
veizlur búnar ok allr greiði við konung. Þeir féngu honum
feasts prepared and all hospitality with (the)-king They got to-him
40 manna. Þá byrjar hann ferð sína þaðan, ok fóru þá
40 men Then begins he journey his thence and went then
enn með svá miklu erviði, at 5 daga bergði engi maðr mat,
still with so great toil that 5 days tasted no man food

ok eigi heldr sváfu þeir, þvíat konungr vildi eigi láta fara
and not either slept they because (the)-king wished not let go
fyrir boð. Þá kom hann frjánott fyrir hvítadaga í nánd
before message Then came he Friday-night before Whitsun in nearness
við bœinn. Kaupangsmenn spurðu þat, ok fóru yfir ána
with the-town (The)-market-town-men learned that and went over the-river
Nið móti þeim við 16 hundruð manna. Þar var fyrir þeim
Nid against them with 16 hundred men There was before them
Sigurðr son Nikolás, Eiríkr Árnason, Ívarr horti, Ívarr selki,
Sigurd son of-Nikolas Eirik Arni's-son Ivar Horti Ivar Seal
Ívarr Gjafvaldsson. Ok er konungr varð varr við þetta, fór
Ivar Gjafvald's-son And when (the)-king became aware with this went
hann sjálfr á njósn við annan mann, er Jón hét, ok er
he himself on spying with another man who Jon was-called and when
konungr varð víss hins sanna um liðsmuninn, ok þótti
(the)-king became aware of-the truth about the-difference-in-troops and seemed
honum eigi fœri at berjast með hundrað manna á mót
to-him not chance to fight with hundred men on against
16 hundruðum manna, ok hurfu aptr at sinni. Þá höfðu
16 hundreds of-men and turned back at the-time Then had
Selbúar samnat fyrir honum 700 manna, en lið hans var
(the)-Selbu-men gathered before him 700 men but troop his was
þá svá mótt af vöku, at þeir urðu þá hvíld at taka. Þá
then so worn from waking that they must then rest to take Then
sendi konungr menn til Vígleiks á Digrini, at hann fœddi
sent (the)-king men to Vigleik at Digrin that he fed
lið hans, ok varð hann vel við. En er þeir fóru þaðan,
troop his and became he well with But when they went thence
þá greiddi guð svá konungs mál, at hann ok hans menn
then furthered God so (the)-king's case that he and his men
kómust milli samnaðarins ok skipa þeira, tóku þeir þá skip
got between the-gathering and ships their took they then ships

þeira Selbúanna ok fóru í bygðina ok bjoggu búin
of-those Selbu-men and went into the-settlement and managed the-farms
þeira, hversu sem þeim þótti. Kómu þeir þá heim, var þá
their however as to-them seemed Came they then home was then
engi annarr til en já því öllu, sem konungr vildi at væri.
no other to than yes to-that all which (the)-king wished that were
Konungr lagði á þá hálfs mánaðar vistagjald. Var þá konungr
(The)-king laid on them of-half month's provision-levy Was then (the)-king
í hólmi einum, er nú er Konungshólmr kallaðr. Þeir fóru
on islet one which now is King's-Islet called They went
þaðan um nótt, svá at engi maðr vissi nema þeir sjálfir, fóru
thence by night so that no man knew except they themselves went
þeir þá í fjallit Vazfell ok sá öll tíðendi til bœjarins.
they then into the-mountain Vazfell and saw all tidings to the-town
Gauldœlir höfðu ok mikinn samnað, ok er nökkura
(The)-Gauldal-men had also great gathering and when some
daga varð ekki vart við þá, slitu þeir samnaðinn. Þat sá
days became nothing aware with them broke they the-gathering That saw
Birkibeinar, ok slást þegar á hæla þeim ok kómu at úvörum
(the)-Birchlegs and strike at-once on heels to-them and came at unaware
öllum í bygðina. Urðu þeir þá undir þat alt at ganga,
to-all into the-settlement Must they then under that all to go
sem konungr krafði þá. Þetta spurðist brátt til bœjarins,
which (the)-king demanded them This was-learned soon to the-town
gerðu þeir þá enn lið or bœnum. Birkibeinar léttu enn
made they then still troop out-of the-town (The)-Birchlegs drew still
undan ok fóru í Sóknadal, ok er konungr kom þar, spurði
away and went into Soknadal and when (the)-king came there learned
hann, at Rútr ok 80 manna váru komnir af Þelamörk
he that Rut and 80 men were come from Thelamark

eptir ritum þeim, er fyrri var frá sagt. Þeim tíðendum
after letters those which earlier was from told At-those tidings
varð konungr feginn ok fór á mót þeim upp í Rennabú.
became (the)-king glad and went on against them up into Rennabu

Sigr Sverris konungs

XIV · KING SVERRIR'S VICTORY

The townsmen marched out twelve hundred strong under Ívarr horti, hiding seven hundred behind a fence and bearing Saint Ólafr's standard, whose bearer's horse bolted. Sverrir's archers routed them, two Ívarrs fell, and he carried the standard into the town. Warned of the Inner Prœndir, he took to cutters and stripped Ívarr's men as far as Mœrr.

Eptir þetta sneri konungr aptr við sínum mönnum, hafði
After this turned (the)-king back with his men had
hann þá 80 manna ok hundrað. Fóru þeir þá til Gaularóss
he then 80 men and hundred Went they then to Gaularos
ok fluttust þar yfir á eikjum, ok þá 20 menn, er fyrstir
and crossed there over on ferry-boats and those 20 men who first
fóru, sendi konungr á njósn, var þar fyrir Jón Guðrúnarson
went sent (the)-king on spying was there before Jon Gudrun's-son
af Saltnesi. Bœjarmenn höfðu sent á njósn sinna vegna 7
of Saltnes (The)-townsmen had sent on spying on-their behalf 7
menn. Þeir hittust á njósninni, ok váru bœjarmenn drepnir
men They met on the-spying and were (the)-townsmen killed
5 en einn handtekinn, einn komst undan, ok bar sá njósn
5 and one captured one got away and bore that report
til bœjarins. Þá fóru bœjarmenn út með fylktu liði sínu
to the-town Then went (the)-townsmen out with arrayed troop their
ok höfðu 12 hundruð manna. Þá mælti Ívarr horti: Nú
and had 12 hundred men Then spoke Ivar Horti Now

skulum vér beita þá brögðum, ok munum vér fela sumt
shall we use-on them tricks and will we hide some
lið várt, þvíat eigi munu þeir þora til at ráða, ef þeir sjá
troop our because not will they dare to to attack if they see
alt liðit. Síðan settu þeir 7 hundruð manna undir einn
all the-troop Then set they 7 hundred men under one
garð ok ætluðu, at þeir skyldu koma í opna skjöldu,
fence and intended that they should come into open shields
er saman lysti liðinu. Þeir tóku ok þá dirfð til, at þeir
when together clashed the-troops They took also that boldness to that they
tóku merki Ólafs konungs ok létu bera á mót Sverri
took (the)-standard of-Olaf king and let bear on against Sverrir
konungi, þar sem þeir váru lendir menn ok bœndr. Gafst
king there as they were landed men and farmers Turned-out
þat svá, sem nú megu þér heyra. Sá maðr var settr á
that so as now may you hear That man was set on
hestbak, er merkit bar, ok hleypir eptir liðinu ok fær
horseback who the-standard bore and gallops after the-troop and gets
eigi stöðvat hestinn, hleypir upp á tvá menn, ok fékk
not stopped the-horse gallops up onto two men and got
annarr þegar bana, en annarr örkumbl, svá at aldri varð
(the)-one at-once death and (the)-other maiming so that never became
heill síðan, en hann sjálfr féll af baki, ok féll niðr merkit.
whole since and he himself fell off back and fell down the-standard
Sverrir konungr fylkti liði sínu á mót 6 hundruðum manna,
Sverrir king arrayed troop his on against 6 hundreds of-men
hann skipaði saman bogmönnum sínum, ok neytti þá hverr
he arranged together bowmen his and used then each
sinna vápna. En þeir krustu undir garðinum meðan, ok
his weapons But they crouched under the-fence meanwhile and
urðu eigi fyrr varir við, en örvar flugu hvínandi yfir höfuð
became not earlier aware with than arrows flew whining over heads

þeim. Kómu þeir fyrstir á flótta, er Ívarr þóttist alt
to-them Came they first onto flight whom Ivar thought-himself all
traust undir eiga, þá rann hverr at öðrum, ok höfðu þeir
trust under have then ran each at other and had they
sigr, er úlíkara mundi þykkja. Féll þar Ívarr selki ok Ívarr
victory which unlikelier would seem Fell there Ivar Seal and Ivar
Gjafaldsson, ok meir en hundrað manna. Tóku þeir þá
Gjafald's-son and more than hundred men Took they then
merki hins helga Ólafs konungs ok báru í bœinn með
standard of-the holy Olaf king and bore into the-town with
fögrum sigri, en höfðingjar, þeir sem eptir váru, flýðu undan
fair victory but chieftains those who after were fled away
víðs vegar. Eiríkr Árnason varð handtekinn. Tóku menn
wide ways Eirik Arni's-son was captured Took men
þá grið af Sverri konungi, ok géngu þá margir menn
then truce from Sverrir king and went then many men
til handa honum með mjúklæti, þeir er áðr höfðu á mót
to hands to-him with meekness they who before had on against
honum gengit. En hann kunni þökk fyrir guði almátkum ok
him gone But he knew thanks for to-God almighty and
sælli Maríu ok hinum helga Ólafi konungi, ok gaf hverjum
to-blessed Mary and to-the holy Olaf king and gave to-each
manni grið ok frið, er þess krafði. Hann þóttist þat
man truce and peace who of-that asked He thought-himself that
vita, svá mart stórmenni sem undan hafði komizt, at þeir
know so many great-men as away had got that they
mundu svikum vilja at honum koma, ef hann sæi eigi við.
would by-treachery wish at him come if he saw not with
Þá sendi hann njósnarmenn út ok inn frá bœnum, váru
Then sent he spies out and in from the-town were
þeir þrjár nætr á brautu ok kómu aptr með þeim tíðindum,
they three nights on way and came back with those tidings

at Innþrœndir höfðu saman dregit 20 hundruð manna
that (the)-Inner-Thronds had together drawn 20 hundred men
ok váru á för komnir, en Ívarr hafði 50 skipa út við
and were on journey come and Ivar had 50 ships out by
Rauðabjörg. Konungr sá, at nú var eigi setuefni, féngu
Raudabjorg (The)-king saw that now was not a-sitting-matter got
þeir skútur 11 ok hljópu þar á. Ok er þeir kómu skamt
they cutters 11 and leapt there on And when they came short
út frá Hólmi, þá sá þeir flota þeira Innþrœnda. Fjórir
out from Holm then saw they (the)-fleet of-those Inner-Thronds Four
tigir byrðinga lágu við Rauðabjörg, ok váru þat ekki nema
tens of-cargo-ships lay by Raudabjorg and were that nothing except
kaupmenn, vildi konungr ekki við þá eiga, þvíat hann
merchants wished (the)-king nothing with them have because he
vildi aldri kaupmönnum mein gera, ef þeir kunnu sjálfir
wished never to-merchants harm do if they knew themselves
meta sik. Þar lágu ok 11 skútur ok langskip, er Ívarr
value themselves There lay also 11 cutters and longships which Ivar
hafði saman dregit, þeir flýðu þegar, er þeir sá Birkibeina.
had together drawn they fled at-once when they saw (the)-Birchlegs
Konungr fór út til Agðaness, ok hittu þar 9 skútur, ok
(The)-king went out to Agdanes and met there 9 cutters and
lagði konungr at þeim. Féngu þeir þesskonar kaupferð, at
laid (the)-king at them Got they that-kind trading-trip that
þeir seldu klæði sín ok vápn ok féngu á mót knúskun
they sold clothes their and weapons and got on against beating
ok illeikni, létu þeir laust alt, þat er þeir höfðu fémætt.
and ill-treatment let they loose all that which they had valuable
Þaðan fóru þeir til Fólsknar ok hittu þar byrðing, er Ívarr
Thence went they to Folskn and met there a-cargo-ship which Ivar
átti, ok var á til 6 marka gulls, ok tóku þeir þat fé.
owned and was on to 6 marks of-gold and took they that wealth

Þaðan fóru þeir suðr á Mœri ok hittu þar 13 skútur. Höfðu
Thence went they south to More and met there 13 cutters Had
þeir hina sömu kaupför ok hinir fyrri, þvíat hvárirtveggju
they the same trading-trip as the former because both
vildu til Ívars, ef eigi kœmi tröll millum húss ok heima.
wished to Ivar if not came trolls between house and home

Gefit Sverri konungs nafn á Eyraþingi

XV · SVERRIR GIVEN THE KING'S NAME AT THE EYRAÞING

The Eyraþing of the eight districts gave Sverrir the king's name. As Magnús and Erlingr came north he burned his ships and went to the Uplands, made the farmers of Haðaland submit, then had ships dragged overland on rollers into Mjörs, drove off the landed men there, and held a þing at Hamarr.

Eptir þat snýr konungr norðr til Þrándheims, ok gerðu
After that turns (the)-king north to Thrandheim and did
bœjarmenn sem sœmdi við konung, hringðu um allan
(the)-townsmen as befitted with (the)-king rang about all
bœinn ok géngu með processionem á mót honum. Síðan
the-town and went with procession on against him Then
lét hann kveðja Eyraþings ok nefndi til 12 menn or
let he summon Eyrar-assembly and named to 12 men out-of
fylki hverju þeira, er eru fyrir innan Agðanes. Á því
district each of-those which are on within Agdanes At that
þingi var Sverri gefit konungs nafn á átta fylkna þingi
assembly was to-Sverrir given king's name at eight districts' assembly
ok dœmt með vápnataki ok svarit honum land ok þegnar
and judged with weapon-taking and sworn to-him land and subjects
eptir fornum landslögum. Þau nýmæli fóru brátt ok kómu
after old land-laws Those news went soon and came

til eyrna Magnúsi konungi ok Erlingi jarli. Sömnuðu þeir
to ears to-Magnus king and to-Erling earl Gathered they
þegar liði ok fóru norðr með landi. Þat spurði Sverrir
at-once troop and went north along (the)-land That learned Sverrir
konungr ok vildi eigi bíða, ok tóku skip sín ok fóru
king and wished not wait and took ships their and went
út í Orkadal, settu þar upp skipin ok lögðu í eld ok
out into Orkadal set there up the-ships and laid in fire and
brendu upp. Síðan sneru þeir til Upplanda, ok er þeir
burned up Then turned they to (the)-Upplands and when they
kómu í Guðbrandsdala, áttu þeir þing, ok af þinginu
came into Gudbrandsdal had they an-assembly and from the-assembly
fóru þeir til vatns, þess er Mjörs heitir. En í Mjörs
went they to (the)-lake that which Mjors is-called But in Mjors
var samnaðr lendra manna, ok höfðu þeir 18 skip. Þar
was a-gathering of-landed men and had they 18 ships There
váru þrír lendir menn, Hallvarðr af Sástöðum, Sæbjörn
were three landed men Hallvard of Sastadir Saebjorn
Sindrason ok Ívarr gæslingr, þeir höfðu annan samnað á
Sindri's-son and Ivar Gosling they had another gathering on
landi 12 hundruð manna. Sverrir konungr hafði 2 hundruð
land 12 hundred men Sverrir king had 2 hundred
manna. Hann spurði þá eptir lið sitt, hversu hátta skyldi,
men He asked then after troop his how arrange should
ok vildu allir brjóta bág við ok berjast. Þá svaraði
and wished all break contention with and fight Then answered
konungr: Eigi sýnist mér þetta þanninn sem yðr. Ætla
(the)-king Not seems to-me this so as to-you Think
ek öðruvís vænna minna harma at hefna en brjótast við
I otherwise likelier my sorrows to avenge than break-myself against
þetta ofrefli. Eptir þat fóru þeir at úvilja sínum en ráði
these odds After that went they at unwill their but by-counsel

konungs tvær dagleiðir þaðan, ok sendi konungr á njósn
of-(the)-king two day's-journeys thence and sent (the)-king on spying
40 manna fram fyrir á Haðaland til vatns, þess er
40 men forward before onto Hadaland to (the)-lake that which
Rönd heitir, ok tóku öll skip, þau sem þar váru. En er
Rond is-called and took all ships those which there were But when
konungr kom, váru fyrir þrír samnaðir, 3 hundruð í tveim
(the)-king came were before three gatherings 3 hundred in two
stöðum en 5 hundruð í einum. Þá skipti konungr liði
places and 5 hundred in one Then divided (the)-king troop
sínu í helminga, hafði hann sjálfr hundrað manna, en
his into halves had he himself hundred men but
annat hundrað sendi hann til bús Özurar, ok tóku
(the)-other hundred sent he to (the)-farm of-Ozur and took
þeir þar vel til 20 marka gulls. En meðan þeir váru á
they there well to 20 marks of-gold But while they were on
brautu, þá vildi konungr eigi ekki at hafast, réð hann
way then wished (the)-king not nothing to do went he
þá til orrostu við þá, er fyrir váru, 3 hundruð, ok þegar
then to battle with those who before were 3 hundred and as-soon
er Birkibeinar ofruðu vápnum sínum, þá skaut þeim þegar
as (the)-Birchlegs raised weapons their then shot to-them at-once
skelk í bringu búandkörlum, ok tóku betra ráð, köstuðu
fright into breast to-the-farmers and took better counsel threw
vápnunum ok báðu sér griða. Konungr gerði nú sem
the-weapons and asked for-themselves of-truce (The)-king did now as
fyrr, gaf hverjum manni grið, er þess beiddist. Þeir sættust
before gave to-each man truce who of-that asked They reconciled
ok við konung, er í öðrum váru samnaðinum, ok jáðu
also with (the)-king who in (the)-other were the-gathering and yielded
þeir þá hlýðni, sem aldri var fyrr á Haðalandi. Var þar
they that obedience which never was before in Hadaland Was there

þing stefnt, ok skyldi konungr eiga sáttarfund. En
an-assembly summoned and should (the)-king have settlement-meeting But
sá fundr var eigi ætlaðr prettalauss af bóndum, þvíat þeir
that meeting was not intended trickless by (the)-farmers because they
sá, at konungr hafði lið lítið, ok ætluðu at veita honum
saw that (the)-king had troop little and intended to give to-him
atgöngu á þinginu. En þann dag er þingit skyldi vera,
attack at the-assembly But that day when the-assembly should be
kómu þar þeir, er tekit höfðu bú Özurar, var þá meira
came there they who taken had (the)-farm of-Ozur was then greater
konungs lið en bónda, urðu þeir þá öllu því at já, sem
(the)-king's troop than (the)-farmers' must they then to-all that to yes which
konungr vildi, at væri. Var þá kallat, at þeir væri sáttir.
(the)-king wished that were Was then called that they were reconciled
En þá reyndist sem fyrr, at skollr var í skapi bónda.
But then proved as before that a-fox was in temper of-(the)-farmers
Tóku þeir þat ráð, at þeir sendu orð Ormi konungsbróður,
Took they that counsel that they sent word to-Orm king's-brother
at hann færi utan or Víkinni, þvíat hann hafðist þar
that he went from-outside out-of the-Vik because he kept there
á skipum við. Lét Ormr þá draga stór skip or því vatni,
on ships with Let Orm then drag great ships out-of that lake
er Tyrvi heitir, ok ætlaði upp í Rönd at konungi. Sverrir
which Tyrvi is-called and intended up into Rond at (the)-king Sverrir
konungr var þar fyrir á skipum. Þá var svá gislum fyrir
king was there before on ships Then was so with-hostages before
skipat, at á Heiðmörk váru 14 skip í Mjörs. Alt þetta
arranged that in Heidmark were 14 ships in Mjors All this
spurði Sverrir konungr, hann lét þá sem hann mundi fara
learned Sverrir king he acted then as he would go
út á mót Ormi, ok sendi þangat alla njósn sína. Hann
out on against Orm and sent thither all spying his He

fór sjálfr á skóg við 40 manna, ok feldu viðu, ok vissi
went himself to (the)-forest with 40 men and felled timbers and knew
engi maðr, hvat þat skyldi. Hann hafði svá boðit sínum
no man what that should He had so bidden his
mönnum öllum, at þeir skyldu allir til hans koma, ok svá
men all that they should all to him come and so
gerðu þeir, ok váru allir samt um nóttina. Í dagan kváðu
did they and were all together over the-night In (the)-dawn sounded
við lúðrar, ok klæddist þá liðit alt, en engi vissi þá,
with trumpets and clothed-itself then the-troop all but none knew then
hvat konungr vildi at hafast. Konungr segir þá, at skip
what (the)-king wished to do (The)-king says then that ships
þau, sem í Rönd váru, skyldi draga eið mikit, þar sem
those which in Rond were should drag an-isthmus great there where
aldrigi var fyrr farit með skip. Þurfti þá eigi at spyrja, hvat
never was before gone with ships Needed then not to ask what
viðr sá skyldi, er hann lét fella fyrra dag í skóginum,
timber that should which he let fell former day in the-forest
váru þat þá hlunnar. Þeir léttu eigi fyrr, en þeir kómu
were that then rollers They ceased not earlier than they came
í Mjörs. En er þeir kómu þar, veittu þeir atróðr
into Mjors But when they came there gave they a-rowing-attack
ánu bráðara þeim lendum mönnum, sem þar váru fyrir.
of-expectation sooner to-those landed men who there were before
Þeira viðskipti lauk svá, at sá fékk gagn, er guð vildi.
Their dealings ended so that he got victory whom God willed
Rak Sverrir konungr á braut sína fjándmenn. Fór hann
Drove Sverrir king on away his enemies Went he
þá til Hamars kaupangs, ok átti hann þar þing. Mælti
then to Hamar's market-town and had he there an-assembly Spoke

þar þá engi maðr á mót hans vilja, lendir menn flýðu
there then no man on against his will landed men fled
undan suðr í vatnit, var þá langt á millum þeira.
away south into the-lake was then long in between them

Veisla á Sástöðum

XVI · THE FEAST AT SÁSTAÐIR

The Birkibeinar came uninvited to Hallvarðr's church-feast at Sástaðir, routed the landed men, and took the feast. Sverrir seized every ship on Mjörs and much wealth and now held the Uplands and Eystridalir; three hundred men joined him, and he moved on as Magnús and Erlingr gathered an army.

Hallvarðr á Sástöðum hafði mikla veizlu ok bauð mörgum til.
Hallvard at Sastadir had a-great feast and invited many to
Var þar þá kirkjumessa; þar váru 3 hundruð manna at því
Was there then church-mass there were 3 hundred men at that
boði, en þó kómu fleiri, en boðit var. Birkibeinar kómu ok
feast and yet came more than bidden was (The)-Birchlegs came also
til veizlunnar, bjoggust þá hvárirtveggju til bardaga ok
to the-feast prepared-themselves then both to battle and
géngust á móti, ok lauk svá, at lendir menn flýðu, ok féllu
went on against and ended so that (the)-landed men fled and fell
af þeim 6 menn, en 5 váru handteknir. Tóku þeir veizluna, er
of them 6 men and 5 were captured Took they the-feast who
úboðit kómu, en hinir braut eltir, er búa létu. Fóru þeir, er
unbidden came but those away chased who prepare let Went they who
flýðu, á fund Orms konungsbróður ok sögðu honum sínar
fled to (the)-meeting of-Orm king's-brother and told to-him their
úfarar. Konungr náði þá öllum skipum þeira, þeim er váru
mishaps (The)-king got then all ships their those which were

í Mjörs. Konungr fékk þar ok stórfé, er þeir höfðu leift
in Mjors (The)-king got there also great-wealth which they had left
honum hinir lendu menn. Sverrir konungr hafði nú eignazt
to-him the landed men Sverrir king had now won
Upplönd ok Eystridala, ok varð jafnan þeira hlutr betri, er
(the)-Upplands and Eystridalir and became always their lot better who
til hans hnigu, en hinna, er frá honum viku. Nú svá sem
to him inclined than of-those who from him turned Now so as
menn sá, at afli hans vóx, ok meir af vitrligum ráðum en
men saw that strength his grew and more from wise counsels than
af fjölmenni, þá þótti ok því fýsiligra til hans at stunda.
from numbers then seemed also the more-desirable to him to resort
Dróst honum þá svá liðit, at hann hafði aukin 3 hundruð
Drew to-him then so the-troop that he had increased 3 hundred
manna. Þá kómu þeir Magnús konungr ok Erlingr jarl í
men Then came they Magnus king and Erling earl into
Víkina ok heyrðu þessi tíðindi frá Birkibeinum, samna þeir
the-Vik and heard these tidings from (the)-Birchlegs gather they
nú liði miklu ok ætluðu at stefna at Birkibeinum. Ok er
now troop great and intended to head at (the)-Birchlegs And when
Sverrir konungr spyrr þetta, sá hann, at eigi var setuefni.
Sverrir king learns this saw he that not was a-sitting-matter

Af Sverri konungi ok Sygnum

XVII · OF KING SVERRIR AND THE SYGNIR

The saga promises to tell the hard with the pleasant. In Sogn farmers waited on the cliffs above a narrow track to drop stones and logs on the Birkibeinar; Sverrir climbed behind them and they fled. In Læradalr Özurr balli came with twenty-five ships but dared not land against them.

Nú býr Sverrir konungr ferð sína ofan í Sogn ok ætlar
Now prepares Sverrir king journey his down into Sogn and intends
til Björgynjar. Nú af því at almáttigr guð ok hin helga
to Bjorgvin Now for that that almighty God and the holy
mær María hafa margan fagran sigr gefit Sverri konungi,
maid Mary have many fair victory given to-Sverrir king
þá kann vera, at öfundarmenn eða fávísir vili eigi trúa
then can be that enviers or ignorant would not believe
várri frásögn, ok kalli, at vér munim eigi sannfróðir, ef vér
our account and say that we may not truly-informed if we
segjum hann ávalt hafa sigr haft. Nú skal hnekkja þeiri
say him always have victory had Now shall check that
tortrygð ok sýna einurð várrar frásagnar ok segja bæði ljúft
distrust and show candor of-our account and tell both pleasant
ok leitt, þvíat margan villistig varð hann at ganga ok
and unpleasant because many wrong-path must he to walk and
hans menn at troða, áðr hann hefði rekit sinna harma á
his men to tread before he had avenged his sorrows on
þeim feðgum. Ok þótt hann hefði jafnan þolat mikit vás
those father-and-son And though he had always endured great hardship
ok erviði, þá hafði hann þó aldri þvílíkt fyrr þolat fyrir
and toil then had he yet never such before endured for
margra hluta sakir, sem í þessi ferð, er nú munum vér
many things' sakes as in this journey which now will we

frá segja. Býr hann nú ferð sína ok ætlar til Björgynjar.
from tell Prepares he now journey his and intends to Bjorgvin
En er hann kom í Sogn, þá höfðu skjótara farit njósnir
But when he came into Sogn then had swifter gone spies
hans fjándmanna, ok mœtti hann þar miklum samnaði. Leið
of-his enemies and met he there a-great gathering Way
hans lá um einstigi nökkut, þar er á var á aðra
his lay through narrow-path some there where a-river was on (the)-other
hönd svá ströng, at öll féll hon forsum, svá at ekki
hand so strong that all fell it in-waterfalls so that nothing
komst yfir utan fuglar, á aðra hönd váru flugabjörg,
got over except birds on (the)-other hand were sheer-cliffs
þau er þar mátti ok engan veg komast. Svá var einstigit
those which there might also no way get So was the-path
þröngt, at einn maðr mátti í senn ganga. Bœndr sátu
narrow that one man might at once go (The)-farmers sat
þar yfir uppi á hömrunum, ok höfðu þar stórt grjót ok
there over up on the-crags and had there great stones and
stórviðu ok ætluðu at fella ofan á Birkibeina, ef þeir géngi
great-timbers and intended to fell down on (the)-Birchlegs if they went
þar undir. Ok er konungr sá þetta, lét hann ráð ráði
there under And when (the)-king saw this let he counsel to-counsel
mœta, ok mælti við sína menn: Nú skulu þér eigi svá fara,
meet and spoke with his men Now shall you not so go
at þeir megi yðr mein gera, en ek mun vita, ef ek koma
that they may to-you harm do but I will know if I bring
stökk í lið þeira. Fór konungr þá ok nökkurir menn við
leap into troop their Went (the)-king then and some men with
honum, þar sem hann mátti komast á fjallit upp, ok
him there where he might get onto the-mountain up and
kom þá á bak bóndum úvörum. Bœndr kómu þegar á
came then onto back to-farmers unaware (The)-farmers came at-once onto

flótta, en nökkurir menn urðu drepnir af þeim. Síðan fóru
flight and some men were killed of them Then went
þeir inn í Læradal. Um myrgininn urðu þeir eigi fyrr
they in into Laeradal In the-morning became they not earlier
varir við, en Özurr balli kom þar farandi með 5 skipum ok
aware with than Ozur Balli came there faring with 5 ships and
20. Birkibeinar tóku til vápna sinna ok géngu á mót, en
20 (The)-Birchlegs took to weapons their and went on against but
þótt Özurr hefði lið mikit, þá treystust þeir eigi upp
though Ozur had troop great then trusted-themselves they not up
at ganga, þvíat þeim þótti úhreint í höfninni fyrir, er
to go because to-them seemed unclean in the-harbor before where
Birkibeinar stóðu á landi með vápnum, ok héldu þeir frá.
(the)-Birchlegs stood on land with weapons and held they off

Frá ferðum Sverris konungs

XVIII · OF KING SVERRIR'S JOURNEYS

Making for Björgvin over the mountains, Sverrir beat off the men of Vörs, Harðangr, and Sunnhörðaland, but found the town too strong. Turning back in a terrible snowstorm, the band lost over a hundred horses, ate nothing but snow for four days and nights, and stood lost above cliffs, some urging that they kill themselves.

Nú sá konungr, at ekki mátti þar ná skipum, er alt var
Now saw (the)-king that not might there get ships where all was
njósn komin fyrir, ætlar nú at fara upp á Vörs ok koma
spying come before intends now to go up onto Voss and come
svá ofan í Björgyn. Þat var mikil háskaför á vetrardegi,
so down into Bjorgvin That was a-great dangerous-journey on a-winter's-day
þvíat þat er mikill fjallvegr, var þar ván mikilla snjóva.
because that is a-great mountain-road was there expectation of-great snows

Síðan fóru þeir upp á Vörs, ok brást þeim þar eigi
Then went they up onto Voss and failed to-them there not
margfaldr háski. Var sá einn, at þar hafði saman samnazt
manifold danger Was that one that there had together gathered
fjándmenn þeira, Vörsar, Harðengr ok Sunnhörðar, var
enemies their (the)-Voss-men (the)-Hardanger-men and (the)-South-Hords was
þat úvígr herr. Kom þat lið alt á úvara Birkibeina
that an-unconquerable host Came that troop all on unawares (the)-Birchlegs
Símuns messudag, er konungr sat undir matborði. Hljópu
Simun's mass-day when (the)-king sat under table Ran
þeir nú undan borðinu ok herklæddust. Skutu Birkibeinar
they now from-under the-table and armed-themselves Shot (the)-Birchlegs
á fylkingu, bœndr fylktu ok. En þótt Birkibeinar væri
onto array (the)-farmers arrayed also But though (the)-Birchlegs were
liðfæri, þá réðu þeir á eigi því síðr ok veittu svá harða
fewer then advanced they on not the less and gave so hard
atgöngu, at þegar hrökk fyrir fylkingarbroddrinn bónda,
attack that at-once recoiled before the-array's-point of-(the)-farmers
ok flýðu þeir yfir árgljúfr nökkur, ok skutust nú á, ok
and fled they over river-gorges some and shot now on and
fóru upp með ánni sínum megin hvárir, ok vildu bœndr
went up along the-river on-their side each and wished (the)-farmers
komast fyrir þá. Árgljúfrin váru því breiðari, sem ofar var,
get before them The-river-gorges were the broader as higher was
ok vatn at ofanverðum, var þeira ok því lengra á millum.
and a-lake at (the)-top was them also the longer in between
Tók þá ok at nátta, fal þá sýn millum þeira, svá at þá
Began then also to grow-dark hid then sight between them so that then
mátti ekki at hafast. Var þá ok komin njósn til bœjarins,
might nothing to do Was then also come report to the-town
ok var þá í Björgyn svá mikill styrkr fyrir fjölmennis
and was then in Bjorgvin so great strength for of-numbers'

sökum, at Birkibeinum var þat úfœrt. Nú vildi konungr,
sakes that to-the-Birchlegs was that impassable Now wished (the)-king
at nú sneri þeir aptr hina sömu leið, ok tók síðan tvá
that now turned they back the same way and took then two
leiðsögumenn, þá er vegvísastir váru, ok þess þurfti þá
guides those who most-way-wise were and of-that needed then
við, fyrir því at þá gerði veðrit svá mikit með snæfalli,
with for that that then made the-weather so great with snowfall
at þat var með fádœmum. Var þat skjótast frá at segja, at
that that was with rarity Was that swiftest from to tell that
þar létu þeir meir en hundrað hesta með gyltum söðlum ok
there lost they more than hundred horses with gilded saddles and
beislum ok öðrum margskonar gripum góðum, þeir vissu þá
bridles and other manifold treasures good they knew then
ok ekki til, hvar þeir fóru, ok svá váru þeir matlausir, at
also nothing to where they went and so were they foodless that
eigi heldr féngu þeir vatnit en annat. Þat var átta dœgr,
not rather got they the-water than other It was eight half-days
at þeir bergðu engu nema snjó. Þá gerði veðrit svá
that they tasted nothing except snow Then made the-weather so
mikit hinn næsta dag fyrir allra heilagra messu, sem úlíkligt
great the next day before of-all saints' mass as unlikely
mun þykkja, er frá er sagt, at af því fékk einn maðr
will seem which from is told that of that got one man
bana, er veðrit kastaði honum, ok brotnaði hryggrinn í
death when the-weather threw him and broke the-back in
þrim stöðum í honum, ok sá var einn þá til, er bylirnir
three places in him and that was one then to when the-squalls
kómu, at kasta sér í snjóinn ok halda skjöldunum yfir
came to throw themselves into the-snow and hold the-shields over
sik. Þá lögðust leiðsögumenninir fyrir, vissu þeir þá
themselves Then lay-down the-guides before knew they then

ekki til, hvar þeir váru komnir, var þá ok svá myrkt, at
nothing to where they were come was then also so dark that
ekki mátti fyrir sjá. Váru þeir þá ok svá farnir, at engir
nothing might before see Were they then also so gone that none
vildu fara lengra. Ok er helzt rauf í, sá þeir fyrir sér
wished go farther And when most broke in saw they before them
bratta hamra, þar sem þeir váru at komnir. Kom þá illr
steep crags there as they were at come Came then ill
kurr í lið konungs, sumir mæltu, at þeir mundu ganga
murmur into troop of-(the)-king some spoke that they would go
ofan fyrir hamra ok þola eigi lengr svá mikla kvöl, ok þá
down over crags and endure not longer so great torment and then
mundi skjótast um ráða; sumir sögðu svá: Atferðligra sýnist
would swiftest about decide some said so More-fitting seems
oss til fornra minna at taka ok gera eptir dœmum hvatra
to-us to old examples to take and do after examples of-bold
manna, er sjálfir bárust vápn á ok drápust, heldr en
men who themselves bore weapons on and killed-themselves rather than
þeir vildi nauðir þola. Var þá illr kurr með þeim.
they would distresses endure Was then ill murmur with them

Tala Sverris konungs

XIX · KING SVERRIR'S SPEECH

Sverrir called leaping from the cliffs heathen and had his men vow to God, Mary, and Saint Ólafr; the storm cleared, though twenty men died.

Nú tók konungr til orða ok beiddi sér hljóðs. Hann
Now took (the)-king to words and asked for-himself of-hearing He
mælti, sem guð kendi honum: Ek hefi athugat um hríð,
spoke as God taught him I have considered for a-while

sagði konungr, yðarri rœðu, ok sýnast mér auðsæ allmikil
said (the)-king your speech and seem to-me evident very-great
spjöll á yðarri ráðagerð, þvíat í þessi ætlan dugir ekki vetta.
flaws in your counsel because in this plan avails not a-whit
Ef þér gangit fyrir hamra ofan ok farit yðr sjálfir, eru þat
If you go over crags down and destroy you yourselves are that
ærra manna brögð, þeira er eigi kunnu fótum sínum forráð.
of-mad men tricks of-those who not know to-feet their control
En með því at þér vilit sjálfir vápn á berast, er þat
But with that that you will yourselves weapons on bear is that
heiðinna manna háttr, þeira er ekki vitu til guðs. En vér
of-heathen men custom of-those who nothing know to God But we
erum kristnir ok kristinna manna börn, ok vitum vér, at
are Christians and of-Christian men children and know we that
hverr sá maðr er sér rœðr bana, at hann á enga ván
each that man who to-himself causes death that he has no hope
til guðs. Nú er þetta fjánda áminning, ok skulum vér eigi
to God Now is this (the)-fiend's prompting and shall we not
gera hans vilja, heldr skulum vér snúast til guðs miskunnar.
do his will rather shall we turn to God's mercy
Látum oss þat í hug koma, þó at oss þykki strangr
Let us that into mind come though that to-us seems strong
bardagi guðs, þá mun hann þar eigi mikit á leggja, er
chastisement of-God then will he there not much on lay where
lítið er til gert. Nú iðrimst vér synda várra, ok vitim vér,
little is to done Now repent we of-sins our and know we
at af illífi váru erum vér barðir, en eigi af grimmleik
that for evil-life our are we beaten and not from cruelty
hans, er engi er til. Því skulum vér með mjúklæti ok
his which none is to Therefore shall we with meekness and
lítillæti til hans snúast, þvíat sjálfr mælti hann svá: Nemi
humility to him turn because himself spoke he so Learn

þér af mér, þvíat ek em mjúklátr ok lítillátr í hjarta, ok
you of me because I am meek and lowly in heart and
munuð þér finna hvíld öndum yðrum. Nú má hverr þat sjá,
will you find rest to-souls your Now may each that see
at betra er at lúta með góðum hlutum til guðs miskunnar
that better is to bow with good things to God's mercy
en hrapa með úráðum í fjándans hendr. Vil ek, at því
than rush with folly into the-fiend's hands Wish I that to-that
játi þér, at heit þat, er ek ræð upp at taka, skulu þér
agree you that vow that which I decide up to take shall you
allir undir ganga. Nú skulu vér allir kalla til guðs ok sællar
all under go Now shall we all call to God and blessed
Marie ok hins helga Ólafs konungs með bœnum helgum.
Mary and the holy Olaf king with prayers holy
Lauk konungr svá sínu máli, at þegar áttu þeir handfesti
Ended (the)-king so his speech that at-once had they handfast
at heitinu, ok allir skyldu undir þat ganga, sem konungr
to the-vow and all should under that go which (the)-king
sæi fyrir. En svá mikill ákafi var at hvassleik veðrsins, er
saw before But so great violence was in fierceness of-the-weather when
konungr tók at tala, at varla námu þeir, er næstir váru,
(the)-king began to speak that barely heard they who nearest were
ok þá er hann hafði fyrir skilt heitinu, þá gerði guð svá
and then when he had before declared the-vow then made God so
bráða miskunn, at engi þóttist vita, hvaðan vindrinnn var
sudden mercy that none thought-himself know whence the-wind was
á, gerði þá þegar heiðviðri ok sólskin ok svá blítt veðr, sem
on made then at-once clear-weather and sunshine and so mild weather as
um mitt sumarskeið væri. Kendu þeir þá ok, hvar þeir váru
in mid summer-time were Knew they then also where they were
komnir, ok höfðu þeir þvers farit frá því, sem þeir skyldu.
come and had they across gone from that which they should

Svá var þá lið hans dasat mjök, at þá féllu niðr 20 menn
So was then troop his exhausted much that then fell down 20 men
dauðir á skammri stundu. Nú herðust þeir vel við, þótt
dead in short while Now hardened-themselves they well with though
förin yrði sein, ok kómust til sætra nökkurra um síðir.
the-journey became slow and got to shielings some at last
Þá leituðu þeir við at taka sér eld, þvíat yfrin var
Then tried they with to take for-themselves fire because ample was
þörfin til, ef fást mætti. Þat var nær miðri nótt. Svá váru
the-need to if got might It was near mid night So were
þeir farnir mjök, at engi var til færr at taka eldinn. Var
they gone much that none was to able to take the-fire Was
þetta sem annat, at í einn stað var tilsjáin með guðs
this as other that in one place was the-providence with God's
miskunn, því at þar lá líf þeira við, ef eigi féngist eldrinn,
mercy for that there lay life their with if not were-got the-fire
ok tók sá eldinn, er mestri stýrði giptunni ok öll fylgði
and took he the-fire who greatest steered the-luck and all followed
ráðagerðin, en þat var sjálfr konungr, er eldinn tók við
the-counsel and that was himself (the)-king who the-fire took with
tinnu ok tendraði þar við kerti, ok fékk þá í hönd sínum
flint and kindled there with candle and gave then in hand to-his
mönnum. Gerðu þeir þá eld mikinn ok þurkuðu sik þar
men Made they then fire great and dried themselves there
við. Þar var einn lítill bœr skamt þaðan, ok fór konungr
with There was one little farm short thence and went (the)-king
þannin. Um myrgininn fór konungr á njósn við sumu
thither In the-morning went (the)-king on spying with some
liðinu, því sem frœknast var, þvíat einstigi var þat þar, er
the-troop that which boldest was because narrow-path was that there where
þeir váru allir hirðir, ef þess væri gætt. Var konungr á því
they were all safe if of-that were heeded Was (the)-king on that

varðhaldi tvær nætr. Vildi konungr þá fara í meiri bygð
guard two nights Wished (the)-king then go into greater settlement
við liðinu. Torfœra mikil var at fara millum bygðanna. Fór
with the-troop Obstruction great was to go between the-settlements Went
konungr þá upp á Valdres ok tók veizlur at búm sínum,
(the)-king then up onto Valdres and took feasts at farms his
ok þaðan í Guðbrandsdala, var honum búin hálfs mánaðar
and thence into Gudbrandsdal was to-him prepared of-half month's
veizla at konungsbúi á Steig ok öllum hans mönnum.
feast at (the)-king's-farm at Steig and to-all his men

Frá bóndum

XX · OF THE FARMERS

Twelve farmers of Heiðmörk each raised a hundred men under Þorgrímr. Sverrir came on Þorgrímr at night with four men, bound him, and took half a mark of gold. Feigning a march to Vermaland, he sent a hundred men on and came back with two hundred to eat the Yule feasts the farmers had then prepared.

Héðan ífrá var eigi um kyrt at sitja. Bœndr váru þeir 12
Hence from was not about quiet to sit Farmers were they 12
á Heiðmörk, er sömnuðust saman at því, at hverr þeira
in Heidmark who gathered together at that that each of-them
skyldi ráða fyrir hundraðs liði. Ok er konungr spyrr þetta,
should rule over hundred's troop And when (the)-king learns this
þá bjó hann ferð sína or dölunum, ok vildi eigi þar
then prepared he journey his out-of the-dales and wished not there
verða inni luktr, ef þeir kœmi fyrir dalsmynnit. Sá bóndi
be in locked if they came before the-dale-mouth That farmer
hét Þorgrímr, er mest var fyrir bóndunum ok oddr ok
was-called Thorgrim who most was over the-farmers and point and

œsir var fyrir þessum úráðum. Konungr bar skyndi at um
inciter was for these follies (The)-king bore haste to about
ferð sína, þvíat sjálfr vildi hann heldr bera njósn en aðrir
journey his because himself wished he rather bear report than others
fyrir honum. Konungr fór sjálfr við hinn fimta mann um
before him (The)-king went himself with the fifth man by
nótt til Þorgríms ok hitti hann heima við níunda mann,
night to Thorgrim and met him at-home with ninth man
ok varð fundr þeira með öðru móti, en Þorgrímr hafði til
and became meeting their with other manner than Thorgrim had to
hugat, því at guð skipti svá með þeim, at sá bar hæra
thought for that God divided so between them that he bore higher
hlut, er tignari var, ok var bóndi bundinn, en húskarlar
lot who nobler was and was (the)-farmer bound and house-carls
hans barðir. Lauk svá með þeim, at konungr tók þar
his beaten Ended so between them that (the)-king took there
mikinn fjárhlut, ok hér á ofan galt Þorgrímr konungi
great share-of-wealth and here on above paid Thorgrim to-(the)-king
hálfa mörk gulls, ok feginn, ef hann kœmi því við. Fór þá
half mark of-gold and glad if he came that with Went then
konungr aptr til móts við sína menn. Þá tóku þeir Harald
(the)-king back to meeting with his men Then took they Harald
Guðbrandsson, ok leysti hann sik 12 aurum gulls. Margir
Gudbrand's-son and freed he himself 12 with-ounces of-gold Many
Magnús konungs menn kómust af hlaupi undan ok létu
of-Magnus king's men got by running away and lost
fjárhluti mikla. Þá fór konungr í Eystridali ok kom þar
shares-of-wealth great Then went (the)-king into Eystridalir and came there
5 nóttum fyrir jól. Þat hugðu bœndr, at Birkibeinar mundu
5 nights before Yule That thought (the)-farmers that (the)-Birchlegs would
setjast í kosti þeira um jólin, ok bjoggu engir jólaveizlur
settle into provisions their over the-Yule and prepared none Yule-feasts

sínar. Konungr þóttist eigi at síðr þurfa jólavistina, at
their (The)-king thought-himself not the less need the-Yule-stay that
bœndr brygðist ekki á beina við hann, ok snýr hann
(the)-farmers failed nothing on hospitality with him and turns he
nú á braut þaðan, ok brá á þat, at hann mundi fara
now on away thence and pretended on that that he would go
austr á Vermaland. En er hann kom austr at Eiðaskógi,
east onto Vermaland But when he came east to Eidaskog
skildi hann lið sitt ok lætr fara hundrað manna austr yfir
divided he troop his and lets go hundred men east over
skóginn á Vermaland. En konungr snýr aptr við 2 hundruð
the-forest onto Vermaland But (the)-king turns back with 2 hundred
manna, þvíat hann þóttist þá vita, at bœndr mundu
men because he thought-himself then know that (the)-farmers would
hafa búnar jólaveizlurnar, þegar þeir Birkibeinar váru á
have prepared the-Yule-feasts as-soon-as those Birchlegs were on
brautu. Kómu þeir þá at jólum aptr í bygðina, ok varð
way Came they then at Yule back into the-settlement and became
þá öllum at vera jafnheimilt, hversugi sem vasikanpinum
then to-all to be equally-free however as to-the-wretch
þótti. Hafði konungr hinar beztu náðir um öll jól.
seemed Had (the)-king the best comforts over all Yule

Frá Erlingi jarli

XXI · OF EARL ERLINGR

Erlingr called out the levy after Christmas, meaning to pen the Birkibeinar in the Dales like sheep for slaughter, but Sverrir had feasted his way south and was in Vermaland before him. The Vermar blocked the forest with felled trees, and Erlingr turned back.

Erlingr jarl var nú í Víkinni ok spurði þessi tíðindi. Lét hann
Erling earl was now in the-Vik and learned these tidings Let he
þá bjóða út leiðangri á bak jólum ok hugðist Birkibeinum
then bid out (the)-levy on back of-Yule and thought to-the-Birchlegs
mundu koma dyn fyrir dyrr ok teppa þá inni í dölunum,
would come din before door and shut them in in the-dales
ok taka þá í kví sem sauði til skurðar. En þar mœtti ráð
and take them in fold as sheep to slaughter But there met counsel
ráði, ok hafði Sverrir konungr sét við því snemma, þvíat hann
counsel and had Sverrir king seen with that early because he
tók hinar fyrstu veizlur í norðanverðum dölum, ok sótti svá
took the first feasts in northern dales and pressed so
suðr at mynninu, sem á leið jólin, ok var hann fyrr austr á
south to the-mouth as on passed the-Yule and was he earlier east in
Vermalandi, en jarl kœmi upp þannig, ok áttu þeir at blístra
Vermaland than (the)-earl came up thither and had they to whistle
í spor honum. Erlingr lætr þá, at hann muni fara austr eptir
in track his Erling makes-out then that he will go east after
þeim Birkibeinum, en Vermar hnektu því, ok kváðu jarl
those Birchlegs but (the)-Vermar checked that and said (the)-earl
aldri verri ferð farit skyldu hafa en þá, ok feldu brota fyrir
never worse journey gone should have than then and felled windfalls before
hann á skóginum, ok við þat alt hvarf hann aptr í dala.
him in the-forest and with that all turned he back into (the)-dales

Frá Sverri konungi ok her hans

XXII · OF KING SVERRIR AND HIS ARMY

Sverrir rode into the Vík with five hundred men, took Símun's livestock at Skríksvík and burned his farm and ships. Símun gathered four hundred and twenty men and came on the king's scattered quarters by night; the Birkibeinar chose to fight, and before dawn a hundred and forty of Símun's men fell to seven of theirs.

Sverrir konungr samnar nú saman öllu liði sínu ok reið
Sverrir king gathers now together all troop his and rode
við 5 hundruð manna ofan í Víkina til bús Símunar
with 5 hundred men down into the-Vik to (the)-farm of-Simun
í Skríksvík, tóku upp búit en brendu bœinn ok öll
in Skriksvik took up the-farm and burned the-buildings and all
skip hans. Þeir ráku ok austr á Vermaland 40 nauta.
ships his They drove also east onto Vermaland 40 cattle
En er Símun spurði skaða sinn, samnaði hann liði miklu.
But when Simun learned loss his gathered he troop great
Símun var höfðingi mikill, ok þorði engi maðr á mót gera
Simun was chieftain great and dared no man on against do
því, sem hann vildi at væri. Dró hann saman á lítilli
to-that which he wished that were Drew he together in little
stundu 4 hundruð manna ok 20. Símun fór þá upp með
while 4 hundred men and 20 Simun went then up along
Gautelfi, er konungr var staddr í einni lítilli bygð, ok
(the)-Gaut-Elf where (the)-king was placed in one little settlement and
skipt liði hans til gistinga, vissi konungr þá ok eigi svá
divided troop his to lodgings knew (the)-king then also not so
bráðliga ván úfriðar. Konungi kom njósn um nóttina,
soon expectation of-war To-(the)-king came report in the-night
er vinir hans sendu honum af Gautlandi, at Símun var
which friends his sent to-him from Gautland that Simun was

nær kominn at honum með úvígjan her. Konungr klæðist
near come at him with unconquerable host (The)-king dresses
þá ok sendir boð öllum sínum mönnum á sinn fund.
then and sends message to-all his men to his meeting
Var þat seint, þvíat liðit var hér ok hvar. Konungr fór
Was that slow because the-troop was here and where (The)-king went
í skóg, þann er heitir Húfunesskógr, ok beið þar sinna
into a-forest that which is-called Hufunesskog and awaited there his
manna. Ok er liðit kom saman, spurði hann menn ráðs,
men And when the-troop came together asked he men of-counsel
hvat mönnum sýndist tiltækiligast, sagði ok svá, at honum
what to-men seemed most-advisable said also so that to-him
sýndist, sem þeim mundi um megn verða at berjast á
seemed as to-them would about strength be to fight on
móti Magnúsi konungi ok Erlingi jarli, ef þeir skyldi flýja
against Magnus king and Erling earl if they should flee
fyrir lendum mönnum, fyrr en þeir vissi, hvat fyrir væri,
before landed men earlier than they knew what before were
þótt þeir hefði meira lið. Allir kváðust heldr berjast vilja
though they had greater troop All said-themselves rather fight would
en flýja fyrir Símuni, ok ætluðu þó eigi jafnmikit liðit,
than flee before Simun and thought yet not as-great the-troop
sem var. Fóru síðan á mót Símuni ok fundu fyrir dag
as was Went then on against Simun and met before day
í svá miklu myrkri, at nær sá engir aðra. Var sú hríð
in so great darkness that near saw none others Was that onslaught
hörð ok ekki löng. Féllu af Símuni 40 ok hundrað, en af
hard and not long Fell of Simun 40 and hundred but of
konungi 7 menn. Símun flýði þá við öllum sínum mönnum.
(the)-king 7 men Simun fled then with all his men

Sverrir konungr fór til Konungahellu

XXIII · SVERRIR GOES TO KONUNGAHELLA

Sverrir took the goods of fugitives at Konungahella. Magnús and Erlingr gathered every landed man of the Vík, and the armies came within a quarter of a league without knowing it before Sverrir turned back to Vermaland, whose chief men promised to fight for him. Ormr was sent to guard the Uplands, and Sverrir talked his way through a barricade in Járnberaland.

Eptir þetta byrjar Sverrir konungr ferð sína til Konungahellu,
After this begins Sverrir king journey his to Konungahella
ok fékk þar fjárhluti mikla þeira manna, er flýit höfðu
and got there shares-of-wealth great of-those men who fled had
fyrir honum. Hann var þar þá eigi lengr en 2 nætr. Þaðan
before him He was there then not longer than 2 nights Thence
fór hann til Ljóðhúsa ok dvaldist þar nökkurar nætr. Þá
went he to Liodhus and stayed there some nights Then
drógu þeir Magnús konungr ok Erlingr jarl lið saman svá
drew they Magnus king and Erling earl troop together so
mikit, at alla lenda menn, þá er váru í Víkinni, höfðu
great that all landed men those who were in the-Vik had
þeir með sér, en þó bar svá til, at hvárigir vissu til
they with themselves but yet happened so to that neither knew to
annarra, ok fórust þó beint at móti. Þat var eina nátt, at
(the)-others and went yet straight at against It was one night that
eigi var lengra millum þeira náttstaða en röst, ok vissu þó
not was longer between their night-quarters than a-league and knew yet
hvárigir til annarra. Fóru þá enn hvárir móti öðrum, til þess
neither to (the)-others Went then still each against (the)-other to that
er millum þeira var einn fjórðungr. Þá varð Sverrir konungr
when between them was one quarter Then became Sverrir king

varr við ferð þeira feðga, snýr hann þá þegar aptr austr
aware with journey of-those father-and-son turns he then at-once back east
á Vermaland. Þá hafði hann stefnu við alla hina ríkustu
onto Vermaland Then had he a-meeting with all the mightiest
menn, ok spurði, ef þeir vildi eiga við hann samband, ok væri
men and asked if they wished have with him league and were
hann hlífskjöldr fyrir þeim. Þeir jáðu því gjarna at berjast
he shield-of-defense for them They agreed to-that gladly to fight
svá með honum, sem hann væri þeira konungr. Sunndœlir
so with him as he were their king (The)-Sunndal-men
mæltu ok slíkum orðum við konung. Þá er þeir Magnús
spoke also such words with (the)-king Then when they Magnus
konungr ok Erlingr jarl spurðu þetta, hurfu þeir aptr. Þá
king and Erling earl learned this turned they back Then
sendu þeir Orm konungsbróður á Upplönd, þvíat þar var
sent they Orm king's-brother to (the)-Upplands because there was
frændaafli hans allr, skyldi hann sitja þar fyrir Birkibeinum,
kinsmen's-strength his all should he sit there before (the)-Birchlegs
ef þeir kœmi þar fram. Sverrir konungr býr þá ferð sína alt
if they came there forward Sverrir king prepares then journey his all
í Eystrasalt ok hefir þá eigi meir en 2 hundruð manna. Ok
to (the)-Baltic and has then not more than 2 hundred men And
er hann kom til Járnberalands, feldu þeir brota fyrir hann
when he came to Jarnberaland felled they windfalls before him
ok vildu ekki, at hann fœri þar yfir. Konungr reið fram at
and wished not that he went there over (The)-king rode forward to
brotanum ok talaði við þá, ok lauk svá, at þeir leyfðu honum
the-windfall and talked with them and ended so that they allowed to-him
yfirferð, ok gerðu honum hinn mesta farargreiða at hvívetna.
passage and made to-him the greatest journey-help in everything

Sverrir fór í Helsingjaland

XXIV · SVERRIR GOES TO HELSINGJALAND

The Helsingjar barred Sverrir's way; at their þing he spoke of Christian peace and had two horses slaughtered for want of food, shaming them into feasting him. The Jamtar then surrounded him at night with twelve hundred men, but in the dark they fought one another, and at dawn the Birkibeinar killed nearly a hundred and laid tribute on them.

Þaðan fór konungr í Helsingjaland, ok er hann kom
Thence went (the)-king into Helsingjaland and when he came
þar, er Alftar heita, þá mœtti hann þar miklu fjölmenni,
there where Alftar are-called then met he there great multitude
ok var þat lið alt búit til bardaga. Þeir höfðu lagt við
and was that troop all ready to battle They had laid with
níðingsorð hverjum, er þeim leyfði yfirferð. Þat fylgði ok,
villain's-name to-each who to-them allowed passage That followed also
at þeir leyfðu engum manni á sitt þing at koma ok
that they allowed no man to their assembly to come and
ekki orð við þá at tala. Þat varð um síðir, at þeim
no word with them to speak It became at last that to-them
var leyft at koma á þingit ok heyra þar mál manna.
was allowed to come to the-assembly and hear there speech of-men
Konungr bað sína menn vera viðbúna, hvat sem þessi lýðr
(The)-king bade his men be ready what as this people
tœki bragðs. En er landslýðrinn sá þat, þá skaut þeim
took of-course But when the-land-people saw that then shot to-them
skelk í bringu. Var þá lofat konungi sjálfum at tala
fright into breast Was then allowed to-(the)-king himself to speak
nökkurum orðum. Þá mælti konungr: Eigi er oss kunnigt,
some words Then spoke (the)-king Not is to-us known

hverjar sakargiptir þér hafit við oss, en at því er yðr
what accusations you have with us but at that is to-you
hyggjanda, at vér eigum allir einn guð, ok köllum hann
to-be-considered that we have all one God and call him
várn föður, þá er oss þat nauðsyn, at hverr hafi frið
our father then is to-us that necessity that each have peace
við annan, ok gæti hverr annars, sem sjálfs síns, þvíat vér
with another and guard each other's as self's his because we
höfum yðr aldri mein gert. Hyggit nú at, hvat þér eigut
have to-you never harm done Consider now to what you have
at launa Magnúsi eða Erlingi. Síðan lét hann fram leiða
to repay to-Magnus or to-Erling Then let he forward lead
hross tvau ok kvað slátra skyldu, sagði þat á hvert land
horses two and said slaughter should said that onto every land
fara mundu, ef þeir sperði svá mat sinn, at kristnir menn
go would if they spared so food their that Christian men
þyrfti at eta hrossakjöt hjá þeim. Ok er konungr lauk máli
needed to eat horse-flesh by them And when (the)-king ended speech
sínu, þá bauð sá konungi til veizlu með 70 manna, er
his then invited he (the)-king to feast with 70 men who
áðr hafði níðingsorð við lagit, ef hann næði yfirför. Síðan
before had villain's-name with laid if he got passage Then
bjóða bœndr honum ok öllu liði hans á veizlur. Jamtr
invite (the)-farmers him and all troop his to feasts (The)-Jamts
spurðu, hversu Helsingjum hafði farit, ok taka þeir vel við
learned how to-the-Helsings had gone and take they well with
konungi. Fór hann at veizlum austan um landit, treystist
(the)-king Went he at feasts from-east about the-land trusted-himself
hann nú vel þeira ummælum ok sendir fyrir sér liðit
he now well their words and sends before himself the-troop
til gistinga í bygðina. Var þá eptir með konungi nær
to lodgings into the-settlement Was then after with (the)-king near

hundrað manna. Þat var eitthvert sinn um miðnætti, at
hundred men It was some time about midnight that
konungi var borin njósn, at Jamtr höfðu samnat austan
to-(the)-king was borne report that (the)-Jamts had gathered from-east
af landinu her miklum ok ætluðu at drepa hann ok alt
from the-land host great and intended to kill him and all
lið hans. Konungr klæddist þegar ok kvezt óttast mjök
troop his (The)-king dressed at-once and said-himself fear much
um menn sína, er í bygðina höfðu farit. Fór konungr
about men his who into the-settlement had gone Went (the)-king
á mót Jamtum við því liði, sem þá var með honum.
on against (the)-Jamts with that troop which then was with him
Þeir fóru í þrimr flokkum Jamtr ok kringðu svá um
They went in three bands (the)-Jamts and ringed so about
konung, at or sinni átt skyldu hverir at honum koma.
(the)-king that out-of their quarter should each at him come
Ok er konungr fór yfir vatnsvík nökkura á sundinu milli
And when (the)-king went over lake-bay some on the-sound between
Undurseyja ok meginlands, þá kom á mót honum herr
Undurseyjar and (the)-mainland then came on against him (the)-host
Jamta, ok var hringr sleginn um þá, ok höfðu Jamtr
of-Jamts and was a-ring struck about them and had (the)-Jamts
þá 12 hundruð manna. Þá mælti konungr við menn sína:
then 12 hundred men Then spoke (the)-king with men his
Hafit þér þat orðtak, sem þér heyrit, at Jamtr hafa, ok
Have you that watchword which you hear that (the)-Jamts have and
heimtumst þegar or her þeira, er vér megum, út í
gather-ourselves at-once out-of host their when we may out into
eyna, en veitum þeim fyrst harða árás, ok freistum, ef þeir
the-island but give to-them first hard onset and try if they
vikni fyrir. Birkibeinar œptu heróp ok runnu fram djarfliga,
yield before (The)-Birchlegs shouted war-cry and ran forward boldly

en Jamtr sóttu at þeim hvaðanæfa. Var þá mikill bardagi
but (the)-Jamts pressed at them from-every-side Was then great battle
ok hörð hríð. Svá var myrkt af nótt, at engi kendi
and hard onslaught So was dark from night that none knew
annan. Heimtust Birkibeinar þá or þys bónda ok
another Gathered-themselves (the)-Birchlegs then out-of throng of-farmers and
upp í eyna, var þá gengin hörð hríð. Bœndr fundu
up onto the-island was then gone hard onslaught (The)-farmers found
þetta eigi allskjótt, ok börðust lengi sjálfir, var þá ok nær
this not very-soon and fought long themselves was then also near
dagan. En er Jamtr fundu, at þeir drápust sjálfir,
dawn But when (the)-Jamts found that they killed-each-other themselves
þá hlaupa Birkibeinar á þá svá fast, at bœndr bugna
then leap (the)-Birchlegs on them so fast that (the)-farmers bend
fyrir, ok því næst flýðu þeir, en Birkibeinar fylgðu þeim
before and then next fled they but (the)-Birchlegs followed them
bjargvel ok drápu af þeim nær hundrað manna. En eptir
well and killed of them near hundred men But after
um myrgininn kom konungr saman öllum sínum mönnum.
in the-morning brought (the)-king together all his men
Leituðu Jamtr sér þá griða ok féngu konungi gísla
Sought (the)-Jamts for-themselves then of-truce and gave to-(the)-king hostages
ok sættust þá við konung. Lagði konungr á þá stór
and reconciled then with (the)-king Laid (the)-king on them great
gjöld, játa þeir þá honum hlýðni, fékk hann þeim þá
payments promise they then to-him obedience gave he to-them then
sýslumenn, ok festu þá þat mál með margra manna eiðum.
bailiffs and fastened then that matter with of-many men oaths
Ok er þetta gjald var alt lukt, skildust þeir við svá búit.
And when this payment was all paid parted they with so done

Ráðagerðir Sverris

XXV · SVERRIR'S PLANS

In Naumudalr Sverrir offered his men three courses: Hálogaland, Björgvin, or the western isles. They insisted on taking Niðaróss, against his dreams and will. He proposed sending one tented cutter to draw the townsmen out while the rest came by land and water, but Guðlaugr said the band was too small to split, and they resolved to row straight at the town.

Hér eptir býr Sverrir konungr ferð sína norðr um
Here after prepares Sverrir king journey his north over
fjall, ok kómu fram í Naumudal, ok fékk sér
(the)-mountains and came forward into Naumudal and got for-himself
þar skip, lögðu þá út í Skillingar. Konungr átti þar
there ships laid then out into Skillingar (The)-king had there
húsþing. Hann leitaði þá við liðit, hversu þeir skyldu
a-house-meeting He sought then with the-troop how they should
hátta ferðum sínum, sagði, at honum sýndust vera þrír
arrange journeys their said that to-him seemed to-be three
kostir á. Sá einn at fara norðr á Hálogaland ok hafa
choices on That one to go north onto Halogaland and have
þar slíkt, er féngist; annarr at fara til Björgynjar ok vita,
there such as were-got (the)-second to go to Bjorgvin and know
ef þeir féngi nökkut unnit á úvinum sínum; þá væri sá
if they got something won on enemies their then were that
til, at fara or landi ok vestr í eyjar, ok væri þess
to to go out-of (the)-land and west into (the)-isles and were of-that
meiri ván, at þeir féngi þaðan nökkurn liðsafla; eða herja
greater hope that they got thence some troop-strength or harry
þá til Írlands eða annarra Vestrlanda, lézt þat ætla, at
then to Ireland or other Western-lands said-himself that think that

því meiri mundi úvinsæld Erlings, sem hann væri lengr í
the greater would unpopularity of-Erling as he were longer in
Noregi. Liðit svaraði ok lézt vilja inn til bœjarins, ok
Norway The-troop answered and said-itself would in to the-town and
töldu ekki fyrir mundu verða at ná bœnum, sögðu hvárki
counted nothing before would be to take the-town said neither
til varnar konung né jarl, sögðu konung eiga þar fyrir marga
to defense king nor earl said (the)-king have there before many
vini. Konungr svaraði: Úfúss em ek þessa, hefir mik svá
friends (The)-king answered Unwilling am I of-this has me so
dreymt til; sýnist mér ráðligra, at þér víkit eptir mínum
dreamed to seems to-me more-advisable that you turn after my
vilja. Liðit vildi ekki annat en til bœjarins. Konungr
will The-troop wished nothing other than to the-town (The)-king
sagði þá ráða mundu. Ok fóru þeir at úvilja konungs suðr
said them decide would And went they at unwill of-(the)-king south
til Þrándheimsmynnis, ok er þeir kómu til Fólsknar, sagði
to Thrandheim's-mouth and when they came to Folskn said
konungr, at hann vildi um suðr ok vita, hversu þeim veitti
(the)-king that he wished about south and know how to-them went
tilræði at fara til Björgynjar. Allir vildu inn til bœjarins,
(the)-attempt to go to Bjorgvin All wished in to the-town
en eigi suðr, sögðu þeim ekki fyrir mundu verða at ná
but not south said to-them nothing before would be to take
bœnum, ok róa nú inn til Rauðabjarga ok lögðu þar at.
the-town and row now in to Raudabjorg and laid there to
Konungr lét þá kalla alt liðit af skipum ok spurði, hverja
(The)-king let then call all the-troop off ships and asked what
ætlan þeir hefði á í atlögu til bœjarins. Þeir kváðust ætla
plan they had on in attack to the-town They said-themselves intend
at róa inn at bryggjum ok vita, ef þeir næði þar uppgöngu.
to row in to (the)-wharves and know if they got there landing

Konungr svaraði: Ekki sýnist mér þat ráðligt mjök, hygg
(The)-king answered Not seems to-me that advisable much think
ek, at bœjarmenn muni eigi ljá oss bœinn til uppgöngu,
I that (the)-townsmen will not lend to-us the-town to landing
þvíat þeir munu engrar eirðar vænta af oss Birkibeinum
because they will no mercy expect from us Birchlegs
um rán ok fétökur. Er þat mitt ráð at gera eina skútu
about robbery and seizures Is that my counsel to send one cutter
inn á njósn, áðr en lýsa tœki, fœri þeir yfir fjörðinn
in on spying before than light began go they over the-fjord
fyrir innan Hólm, ok láta þá liggja undir Hlaðahamri svá
on within Holm and let them lie under Hladahamar so
utarliga, at þeir sæi or bœnum, er ljóst væri orðit, ok
far-out that they saw out-of the-town when light were become and
láta tjalda sem bezt. En menn allir gangi fyrir ofan Hlaðir
let tent as best But men all go on above Hladir
ok stefni á ísinn fyrir ofan brúna ok siti þar til lýsingar.
and head onto the-ice on above the-bridge and sit there till dawning
En vér róim inn til Flaðka ok svá inn með Gaularási, til
But we row in to Fladki and so in along Gularas till
þess er vér leggjum við Gullhamar. Þá varir mik þess,
that when we lay by Gullhamar Then expect I of-that
þegar þeir sjá or bœnum, at skip liggr við Hlaðhamar,
as-soon-as they see out-of the-town that a-ship lies by Hladhamar
at þeir muni þá róa or bœnum; munu þeir hyggja, at
that they will then row out-of the-town will they think that
þar sé lið várt alt. Mætti þá vera, at vér næðim bœnum
there be troop our all Might then be that we took the-town
ok ættim þeim hann at verja. Er þá enn vant at sjá,
and had to-them it to defend Is then still hard to see
hverjum bezt veitir, ef vér stöndum allir jafnhátt. Guðlaugr
to-whom best goes if we stand all equally-high Gudlaug

svaraði: Eigi mun oss þykkja lið várt of mart, þótt vér
answered Not will to-us seem troop our too many though we
tvískiptim því eigi. Fylgðu því ráði fleiri. Var þat afráðit,
divided it not Followed that counsel more Was that decided
at þeir skyldu róa at bœnum, þegar ljóst væri. Konungr
that they should row at the-town as-soon-as light were (The)-king
lézt vera mega þar, sem þeir váru, en kvað þeim illa
said-himself be may there as they were but said to-them ill
mundu gefast sín einræði á mót hans ráðagerðum ok vilja.
would turn-out their self-will on against his counsels and will

Tala Eysteins erkibyskups

XXVI · ARCHBISHOP EYSTEINN'S SPEECH

Archbishop Eysteinn urged the townsmen to resist Sverrir's thieves and lent his own ship. Beyond Hattarhamarr the Birkibeinar broke and ran ashore when it came up. Sverrir fell through the deck, was lifted by Helgi byggvömb, slipped on his cowl climbing the bank, and was wounded in the foot; Guðlaugr, axed and left for dead, survived.

Eysteinn erkibyskup var í bœnum ok hafði látið blása
Eystein archbishop was in the-town and had let blow
til móts annan daginn áðr, ok kvezt spurt hafa til
to meeting (the)-second day before and said-himself learned have to
Birkibeina, at þeir váru komnir ofan norðr í Naumudal:
(the)-Birchlegs that they were come down north into Naumudal
ok væntum vér at þeir muni vitja hingat fjarðarins, hafa
and expect we that they will visit hither the-fjord have
þeir lið lítið ok smá skip, en lið mótt ok vesalt. Er
they troop little and small ships and troop worn and wretched Is
þat úfallit bóndum ok kaupmönnum at gefa upp eignir
that unfitting to-farmers and to-merchants to give up properties

sínar fyrir þjófum ok illmenni, er Sverrir hefir saman
their before thieves and evil-men whom Sverrir has together
harkat. Nú viljum vér heldr veita yðr nökkurn styrk, ef
scraped Now will we rather give to-you some strength if
þér vilit halda vörn fyrir bœnum. Lézt til mundu leggja
you will hold defense for the-town Said-himself to would lay
sitt skip ok húskarla. Bœjarmenn tóku þat með þökkum,
his ship and house-carls (The)-townsmen took that with thanks
þeir höfðu 4 skip, en hit fimta byskups skip, var þat
they had 4 ships and the fifth (the)-bishop's ship was that
mest ok bezt skipat, fyrir því var Sigurðr son Özurar balla.
greatest and best manned over it was Sigurd son of-Ozur Balli
Bœjarmenn höfðu vitavörð á Digrmúla, ok er þeir sjá
(The)-townsmen had beacon-watch on Digrmuli and when they see
um myrgininn, at skipin váru við Rauðabjörg, þá slá
in the-morning that the-ships were by Raudabjorg then strike
þeir eldi í vitann. Ok er bœjarmenn sá þat, blésu þeir
they fire into the-beacon And when (the)-townsmen saw that blew they
til skipanna ok lögðu út or ánni. Birkibeinar reru inn
to the-ships and laid out out-of the-river (The)-Birchlegs rowed in
með Gaularási, en bœjarmenn út at móti. Þeir mœttust
along Gularas and (the)-townsmen out at against They met
á víkinni fyrir innan Hattarhamar. Sverrir konungr hafði
on the-bay on within Hattarhamar Sverrir king had
4 skip, ok var eitt tvítugsessa. Tókst þar bardagi mikill,
4 ships and was one a-twenty-bencher Began there battle great
veðr var gott, á landnyrðingr léttr ok hóf skipin inn
weather was good on north-east-wind light and lifted the-ships in
at landinu öll saman. Ok er þeir höfðu barizt um hríð,
to the-land all together And when they had fought for a-while
þá fór fram erkibyskups skip, þat hafði orðit seinna or
then went forward (the)-archbishop's ship that had become later out-of

bœnum. Birkibeinar sá þat ok þótti sér horfa úvænt,
the-town (The)-Birchlegs saw that and seemed to-themselves turn unpromising
þvíat áðr veitti þeim þungt. Brast þá flótti á Birkibeinum,
because before went to-them heavy Burst then flight on (the)-Birchlegs
ok hljópu á land af skipum sínum. Sverrir konungr var
and leapt onto land off ships their Sverrir king was
í kufli blám síðum, hann fór fram mjök snemma eptir
in cowl blue long he went forward very early along
skipinu ok ætlaði til landgöngu, ok er hann kom fram
the-ship and intended to land-going and when he came forward
um siglu, þá skauzt niðr þilja undir fótum honum, ok féll
past (the)-mast then shot down plank under feet to-him and fell
hann í rúmit. Menninir hljópu þá svá þykt yfir hann, at
he into the-hold The-men leapt then so thick over him that
hann mátti lengi ekki upp standa. Sá maðr fór í síðara
he might long not up stand That man went in later
lagi, er Helgi hét ok var kallaðr byggvömb. Helgi kendi
lot who Helgi was-called and was called Barley-Belly Helgi knew
konung ok mælti: Illa munum vér skiljast við várn konung.
(the)-king and spoke Ill will we part with our king
Hann fékk í öxl konungi ok studdi hann ok reisti hann
He took in shoulder to-(the)-king and supported him and raised him
upp or rúminu. Konungr mælti: Helgi! segir konungr,
up out-of the-hold (The)-king spoke Helgi says (the)-king
konungaðu nú eigi í meira lagi fyrst. Fóru þeir þá á
king-me now not in greater measure first Went they then onto
land báðir saman, ok er þeir kómu upp í fjöruna, kómu
land both together and when they came up onto the-shore came
þar at þeim 3 bœjarmenn. Helgi sneri á mót þeim, en
there at them 3 townsmen Helgi turned on against them but
konungr kleif upp í bakka einn brattan, ok er hann
(the)-king climbed up onto bank one steep and when he

var mjök kominn á upp, þá steig hann á kuflinn fyrir, ok
was much come on up then stepped he on the-cowl before and
skruppu honum fœtrnir, ok hrapaði hann niðr í fjöruna.
slipped to-him the-feet and tumbled he down into the-shore
Þá hljóp at honum einn maðr ok vildi höggva til hans.
Then leapt at him one man and wished hew to him
Helgi vinzt undan þeim, er áðr sóttu hann, ok hjó
Helgi wrenched-himself from those who before attacked him and hewed
þenna mann banahögg. Konungr leitar þá upp í annat
this man a-death-blow (The)-king tries then up in a-second
sinn. Konungr var orðinn sárr á fœti ok var skotinn
time (The)-king was become wounded on foot and was shot
með gaflaki í bardaganum. Þat sár veitti honum Serkr af
with javelin in the-battle That wound gave to-him Serk of
Rjóðum. Nú fóru þeir konungr ok Helgi ok fluttust upp um
Rjodar Now went they (the)-king and Helgi and moved up over
Gaularás, kom þá til þeira liðit. Konungr veik fram á
Gaularas came then to them the-troop (The)-king turned forward onto
fjallit ok hvíldist þar. Þeir heyrðu umrœðu bœjarmanna,
the-mountain and rested there They heard talk of-(the)-townsmen
hvárt Sverrir mundi fallinn. Þá svaraði Helgi hátt, svá at
whether Sverrir would fallen Then answered Helgi loudly so that
þeir heyrðu: Sverrir konungr gerir yðr enn harðari hríð,
they heard Sverrir king makes to-you still harder onslaught
áðr hann sé dauðr. Þar höfðu margir góðir drengir fallit:
before he be dead There had many good fellows fallen
Sigurðr af Saltnesi, Jón ketlingr, Vilhjálmr féll í fjörunni,
Sigurd of Saltnes Jon Kitten Vilhjalm fell on the-shore
Guðlaugr stallari varð sárr mjök ok komst upp í ásinn,
Gudlaug marshal became wounded much and got up onto the-ridge
hann var í skallatskyrtli. Þar mœtti hann bónda einum, ok
he was in scarlet-kirtle There met he farmer one and

þóttist hann sjá, at hann var af flóttamönnum. Bóndi
thought-himself he see that he was of fugitives (The)-farmer
hafði öxi í hendi ok hjó til Guðlaugs, þar sem mœttist
had an-axe in hand and hewed to Gudlaug there where met-each-other
háls ok herðar. Guðlaugr féll við höggit, ok þóttist
neck and shoulders Gudlaug fell with the-blow and thought-himself
bóndi hafa drepit hann, ok hjó á hann hrís ok fletti
(the)-farmer have killed him and hewed on him brushwood and stripped
af klæðum. Svá skildust þeir. Guðlaugr stóð upp litlu síðar
off clothes So parted they Gudlaug stood up little later
ok komst til eins litils bœjar, var þar vel við honum tekit.
and got to one little farm was there well with him taken
Fór hann síðan til móts við Sverri konung, ok greru sár
Went he then to meeting with Sverrir king and healed wounds
hans. Birkibeinar kölluðu hann síðan Guðlaug gnitaskör.
his (The)-Birchlegs called him since Gudlaug Nit-Hair

Dráp Serks ok 12 manna

XXVII · THE SLAYING OF SERKR AND TWELVE MEN

Some of the band killed Serkr, who had wounded the king, and eleven others. As Magnús and Ormr came after them, Sverrir told his men the battle at Niðaróss, fought against his will, had cost good men and the fear they had inspired; better to turn on Magnús himself and fall with honor than be chased about the land.

Hér eptir fara þeir á Upplönd, ok sumir koma ofan á
Here after go they to (the)-Upplands and some come down onto
Mœri til Serks ok drepa hann við tólfta mann. Síðan fara
More to Serk and kill him with twelfth man Then go
þeir austr til Víkr. En er þat spyrr Magnús konungr ok
they east to (the)-Vik But when that learns Magnus king and

Ormr konungsbróðir, búa þeir ferð sína at leita Birkibeina.
Orm king's-brother prepare they journey their to seek (the)-Birchlegs
Sverrir konungr talar við sína menn, ok sagði þat hafa verit
Sverrir king talks with his men and said that have been
gert mjök at úvilja hans, er þeir börðust við bœjarmenn í
done much at unwill his when they fought with (the)-townsmen in
Þrándheimi: höfum vér þar látið marga drengi góða, ok er
Thrandheim have we there lost many fellows good and when
menn hafa spurt várar úfarar, þá erum vér nú æ reknir
men have learned our mishaps then are we now ever driven
ok rjáðir, hvar sem vér komum, en áðr þessi orrosta væri,
and harried where as we come but before this battle were
höfðum vér jafnan sigr, óttuðust þá ok flestir at fara á
had we always victory feared then also most to go on
mót oss. Nú munuð þér spurt hafa, at Magnús konungr
against us Now will you learned have that Magnus king
ferr eptir oss með lið mikit, ok munum vér litla hríð
goes after us with troop great and will we little while
rekast undan honum, áðr bæði mun hata oss þegn ok
be-driven away-from him before both will hate us thane and
þræll, munum vér þá falla með litlum orðstír, sem þeir allir
thrall will we then fall with little renown as they all
er í flótta falla. Nú sýnist mér drengiligra, þótt vér hafim
who in flight fall Now seems to-me more-manly though we have
lið lítið, at snúast á mót úvinum várum: er oss betra at
troop little to turn on against enemies our is to-us better to
falla með orðstír miklum, ef vér berjumst við sjálfan Magnús
fall with renown great if we fight with himself Magnus
konung, en ef vér sigrumst á honum, þá mun þaðan af
king and if we win on him then will thence off
vaxa várr styrkr. En þess er eigi ván, at vér munim ganga
grow our strength But of-that is not hope that we will go

til lands þessa, ef vér sjám eigi eitthvert sinn á lopti
to land this if we see not some time on loft
merki Magnús konungs. Höfum vér nú ok hölzti lengi
(the)-standard of-Magnus king Have we now also too long
rekizt um landit fyrir úvinum várum. Konungr talaði þá
been-driven about the-land before enemies our (The)-king talked then
fyrir liðinu mörgum fögrum orðum ok eggjar þá mjök,
before the-troop with-many fair words and urges them much
lézt vel hugr um segja. Varð at máli hans mikill rómr.
said-himself well mind about say Became at speech his great acclaim

Bardagi við Hirtubrú

XXVIII · THE BATTLE AT HIRTUBRÚ

At the bridge over the Hirta the Birkibeinar sprang from the brushwood as Magnús and Ormr crossed, and both fled back wounded. Sverrir surprised Magnús at Konungahella and took tribute in the eastern districts. Riding with six men by night, he ambushed fifty drunken riders from both sides of the track, and eighteen lay dead by morning.

Eptir þetta fara þeir þar til, er þeir koma yfir brú á
After this go they there till when they come over a-bridge on
á þeiri, er Hirta heitir. Var þá Magnús konungr kominn
river that which Hirta is-called Was then Magnus king come
nær þeim. Lét Sverrir konungr fara liðit í kjörr nökkur
near them Let Sverrir king go the-troop into brushwood some
skamt frá brúnni. Magnús konungr ok Ormr hafa nú sanna
short from the-bridge Magnus king and Orm have now true
njósn af ferð þeira Birkibeina, ok er þeir koma at brúnni,
report of journey of-those Birchlegs and when they come to the-bridge
lét konungr þegar fara yfir merki sitt, ok fylgði sjálfr, ok
let (the)-king at-once go over standard his and followed himself and

svá Ormr. Birkibeinar hlaupa nú á þá, tekst þar bardagi
so Orm (The)-Birchlegs leap now on them begins there battle
harðr ok eigi langr. Féll mjök lið Magnús konungs,
hard and not long Fell much (the)-troop of-Magnus king
en hann sjálfr flýði aptr yfir brúna ok svá Ormr, ok
but he himself fled back over the-bridge and so Orm and
hvárrtveggi sárr. Lét Magnús konungr í þeiri orrostu mart
each wounded Lost Magnus king in that battle many
manna. Eptir þat skutust þeir á um ána þvera, ok síðan
men After that shot they at over the-river across and then
skiljast þeir. Fór Magnús konungr aptr til Túnsbergs til
part they Went Magnus king back to Tunsberg to
skipa sinna ok síðan austr með landi. En Sverrir konungr
ships his and then east along (the)-land But Sverrir king
ferr upp á Raumaríki ok austr hit efra til Ljóðhúsa, ok
goes up onto Raumariki and east the upper to Liodhus and
þá spyrr hann, at Magnús konungr var í Konungahellu,
then learns he that Magnus king was in Konungahella
ferr þá þangat, ok kom á úvart. Féllu þar nökkurir menn
goes then thither and came on unawares Fell there some men
af Magnúsi konungi. Hélt Magnús konungr ofan eptir
of Magnus king Held Magnus king down along
ánni. Sverrir konungr lét þar brenna skip nökkur. Magnús
the-river Sverrir king let there burn ships some Magnus
konungr fór þá inn í Osló ok sat þar um hríð. Sverrir
king went then in into Oslo and sat there for a-while Sverrir
konungr leggr nú undir sik allar hinar eystri sýslur ok
king lays now under himself all the eastern districts and
tók þar gjöld, váru þá í Víkinni hvárirtveggju, ok veittu
took there payments were then in the-Vik both and gave
hvárir öðrum árásir. Sverrir konungr fór eina nótt við
each to-other attacks Sverrir king went one night with

sjaunda mann á njósn at gildra enn til veiða, ef í hendr
seventh man on spying to snare still to catch if into hands
bæri. Konungr reið í einn skóg skamt frá Saurbœjum.
bore (The)-king rode into one forest short from Saurbaeir
Á þeiri sömu nótt fór einn sveitarhöfðingi af liði Magnús
On that same night went one company-leader of troop of-Magnus
konungs við 50 manna, ok vildi hann freista, ef hann féngi
king with 50 men and wished he try if he got
nökkut drepit af Birkibeinum. Nóttin var myrk. Þá heyrði
some killed of (the)-Birchlegs The-night was dark Then heard
Sverrir konungr reið þeira, þeir váru drukknir mjök, einn
Sverrir king riding their they were drunk much one
maðr mátti ríða senn. Sverrir konungr bað sína menn vera
man might ride at-once Sverrir king bade his men be
hljóðsama: ok höfum boga vára ok stöndum tveim megin
quiet and have bows our and stand on-two sides
götunnar, ok er þeir koma gegnt oss, þá skjóti hverr sem
of-the-path and when they come opposite us then shoot each as
má tíðast, ok kann vera, at þeir hyggi lið várt meira, en
may fastest and can be that they think troop our greater than
svá sem er. En ef vér verðum ofliði bornir, þá megum
so as is But if we become by-odds borne-down then may
vér forða oss. Nú skutu þeir sem tíðast eptir málinu
we save ourselves Now shot they as fastest after the-voice
hinna, en svá var myrkt, at hvergi sá frá sér, en þeir
of-the-others but so was dark that nowhere saw from themselves but they
er síðar riðu, vissu eigi, hverju sætti, er hinum fórst
who later rode knew not what meant when to-the-others went
svá úgreitt, er fyrri fóru, ok flyktust saman allir, ok vissu
so ill who before went and flocked together all and knew
eigi, hverju gegndi, en Birkibeinar skutu æ sem tíðast.
not what meant but (the)-Birchlegs shot ever as fastest

Hinir hugðu, at vera mundu margir menn á skóginum,
The-others thought that be would many men in the-forest
ok taka nú undan, en Birkibeinar sœkja eptir, meðan þeir
and take now away but (the)-Birchlegs press after while they
máttu. Um myrgininn, er ljóst var vorðit, ok þeir fóru
could In the-morning when light was become and they went
aptr, fundu þeir 18 menn drepna ok marga hesta.
back found they 18 men killed and many horses

Slag í kaupangi

XXIX · A FIGHT IN THE MARKET-TOWN

Sverrir beat Magnús's men in Niðaróss and took ten ships. In spring, off Staðr, Magnús, Erlingr, and Ormr bore down on him with a great fleet, Erlingr forbidding quarter. Sverrir prayed to Saint Ólafr and a thick fog fell; Erlingr sent the archbishop and Ormr south to Björgvin while he and Magnús turned north.

Um haustit fór Sverrir konungr norðr til Þrándheims, ok
In the-autumn went Sverrir king north to Thrandheim and
veitti slag í kaupangi mönnum Magnús konungs ok fékk
gave blow in (the)-market-town to-men of-Magnus king and got
sigr, tók þar 10 skip. Eptir um várit fór hann út eptir
victory took there 10 ships After in the-spring went he out along
firðinum með lið sitt ok suðr á Mœri. Hann fór útleið,
the-fjord with troop his and south onto More He went outer-way
er suðr sótti. Ok er þeir sigldu norðan at Staði, þá kom
when south pressed And when they sailed from-north to Stad then came
þar á mót þeim Magnús konungr ok Erlingr jarl, ok Ormr
there on against them Magnus king and Erling earl and Orm
konungsbróðir ok mart lendra manna, ok höfðu allmikinn
king's-brother and many of-landed men and had very-great

her ok stór skip. Sverrir konungr snýr nú á haf út þvers,
host and great ships Sverrir king turns now onto sea out across
gerðu bæði, at þeir sigldu ok reru. Slíkt sama gerðu Magnús
did both that they sailed and rowed Such same did of-Magnus
konungs menn, ok dró þegar saman með þeim. Erlingr jarl
king's men and drew at-once together with them Erling earl
eggjar nú sína menn í ákafa ok skipar til atlögu, sagði, at
urges now his men in vehemence and arranges to attack said that
þá mundi fund þeira saman bera ok Birkibeina, bað menn
then would meeting their together bear and of-the-Birchlegs bade men
þá minnast, hversu mart ilt þeir höfðu gert í manndrápum
then remember how much evil they had done in killings
ok ránum, bað menn þat varast, at gefa neinum grið, en
and robberies bade men that beware that give to-any truce but
vel kveðst honum þykkja, at þeir færði honum Sverri, ef
well said-himself to-him seem that they brought to-him Sverrir if
hann yrði handtekinn. Þessu jáðu allir, ok herða nú eptir
he were captured To-this agreed all and press now after
sem mest. En er Sverrir konungr sér, at miklu meira
as most But when Sverrir king sees that much more
ganga skipin Magnús konungs, sá hann engi orráð, þau er
go the-ships of-Magnus king saw he no resource that which
hlýða mætti, ef eigi veitti guð þeim miskunn framar, en
avail might if not gave God to-them mercy further than
þá mundi líkligt þykkja. Sverrir konungr hét þá á hinn
then would likely seem Sverrir king called then on the
helga Ólaf konung, ok mæltist fyrir með mörgum fögrum
holy Olaf king and spoke-himself before with many fair
orðum. Ok á þeiri stundu lagðist á sjóinn þoka svá þykk,
words And at that hour lay on the-sea fog so thick
at ekki skip sá frá öðru. Þeir Magnús konungr beita þá
that no ship saw from other They Magnus king tack then

inn undir land. Erlingr jarl mælti þá: Eigi fór þá svá, er
in under land Erling earl spoke then Not went then so as
vel vildi. Þeir koma nú saman herinum í Hereyjum. Jarl
well wished They come now together the-host in Hereyjar (The)-earl
kallaði þá höfðingja til tals við sik ok sagði svá, at
called then chieftains to talk with himself and said so that
hann þykkist eigi vita, hvárt Birkibeinar munu hafa beitt
he thinks-himself not know whether (the)-Birchlegs will have tacked
með landi norðr eða suðr, er þeir hafa lands leitað. Sýnist
along land north or south when they have land sought Seems
mér nú, sem hvárttveggja muni lið fyrir þurfa. Vil ek,
to-me now as both will troop for need Wish I
segir hann, at suðr fari til Björgynjar erkibyskup ok Ormr
says he that south go to Bjorgvin (the)-archbishop and Orm
konungsbróðir, ok aðrir lendir menn ok skipstjórnarmenn,
king's-brother and other landed men and ship-captains
þeir sem ek nefni til, en vit Magnús konungr munum
those whom I name to but we-two Magnus king will
snúa norðr. Ok var svá gert, sem Erlingr mælti.
turn north And was so done as Erling spoke

Frá Magnúsi konungi ok jarli

XXX · OF KING MAGNÚS AND THE EARL

Sverrir left Niðaróss and his ships at the wharves; Erlingr refused battle on three fields, and Sverrir crossed the Nið on a raft and the Gaul.

Ok er þeir Magnús konungr ok jarl koma á Norðmœri,
And when they Magnus king and (the)-earl come onto North-More
spyrja þeir, at Sverrir konungr hafði siglt af hafi utan at
learn they that Sverrir king had sailed from (the)-sea outside to

við Smjöl. Sverrir konungr fór alla leið norðr til kaupangs
by Smjol Sverrir king went all way north to (the)-market-town
ok lagði skipum sínum við bryggjur. Magnús konungr ok
and laid ships his by (the)-wharves Magnus king and
þeir Erlingr fara norðr eptir Birkibeinum, ok er Sverrir
they Erling go north after (the)-Birchlegs and when Sverrir
konungr sér segl þeira, áttu þeir þá skamt til bœjarins.
king sees sails their had they then short to the-town
Sverrir konungr lét þá blása sínum mönnum til tals ok segir
Sverrir king let then blow to-his men to talk and tells
þeim ætlan sína, at hann vill ganga frá skipum sínum ok
to-them plan his that he will go from ships his and
mælti, at engi skyldi svá djarfr, at flytti eptir sér fleira
spoke that none should so bold that carried after himself more
en vápn sín ok þau klæði, er hann stóð í. Eptir þetta
than weapons his and those clothes which he stood in After this
vœpndust Birkibeinar. Skipin flutu öll við bryggjur, húðföt
armed-themselves (the)-Birchlegs The-ships floated all by (the)-wharves hide-bags
lágu í rúmum, hálfrýmiskistur þeira stóðu á skipi, luklarnir
lay in berths half-berth-chests their stood on ship the-keys
váru settir í lokin. Ok er þeir Magnús konungr ok Erlingr
were set in the-lids And when they Magnus king and Erling
jarl reru utan í ána, þá géngu Birkibeinar upp um
earl rowed from-outside into the-river then went (the)-Birchlegs up over
brú. Ok svá hefir Sverrir konungr sjálfr sagt, at hann
(the)-bridge And so has Sverrir king himself said that he
mátti því helzt hœlast, at fá dœmi mundu til þess vera,
might of-that most boast that few examples would to that be
at flóttamenn hefði svá skilizt við fjárhlut sinn, sagði
that fugitives had so parted with share-of-wealth their said
enn eigi víst, nema ymsir neytti fjár eða klæða annarra.
still not certain unless each used wealth or clothes of-others

Magnús konungr ok Erlingr jarl lögðu at út við Bröttueyri
Magnus king and Erling earl laid to out by Brattaeyr
fyrir utan Skipakrók, ok géngu þar upp. Þar er jarl
on outside Skipakrok and went there up There where (the)-earl
hljóp á land, steyptist hann á knéin ok stakk niðr báðum
leapt onto land fell he on the-knees and thrust down both
höndunum ok mælti: Fall er farar heill. Fóru þeir þá
the-hands and spoke Fall is of-journey luck Went they then
upp um stræti, hverr með sína skipsögn, sem búinn varð.
up along (the)-streets each with his ship's-crew as ready became
Ok er jarl kom fyrir ofan byskupsgarð til brúarinnar,
And when (the)-earl came on above (the)-bishop's-yard to the-bridge
þá fór merki Sverris konungs ok stefndi þjóðleið
then went (the)-standard of-Sverrir king and headed (the)-highway
upp til Kleppabús. Jarl sótti nú upp á Sprotavöllu.
up to Kleppabu (The)-earl pressed now up onto Sprotavellir
Sverrir konungr lá í dal nökkurum skamt frá brúnni við
Sverrir king lay in dale some short from the-bridge with
sumu liðinu. Jarl vissi eigi, at konungr væri þar við
some the-troop (The)-earl knew not that (the)-king were there by
brúna. Birkibeinar hljópu þá upp, ok skutust þeir á um
the-bridge (The)-Birchlegs leapt then up and shot they at over
ána þvera. Jarl bað sína menn ganga or skotmáli ok
the-river across (The)-earl bade his men go out-of bowshot and
setjast niðr í Akrinum ok sjá, hvat Birkibeinar hefðist at.
sit-themselves down in the-Field and see what (the)-Birchlegs did to
Birkibeinar settust ok niðr í öðrum stað. Magnús konungs
(The)-Birchlegs sat also down in another place Of-Magnus king's
menn létu sœkja mungát ofan í bœinn. Margir bogmenn
men let fetch ale down into the-town Many bowmen
hvárratveggju skutust á mót, urðu þar sárir nökkurir
of-both shot on against became there wounded some

menn. Ok er á leið daginn, gékk Guðlaugr stallari til
men And when on passed the-day went Gudlaug marshal to
brúarsporðsins ok hafði skjöld fyrir sér ok kallaði á lið
the-bridge-end and had shield before himself and called on troop
Magnús konungs ok lézt vildu tala við þá. Ívarr horti
of-Magnus king and said-himself wished talk with them Ivar Horti
svaraði af liði Magnús konungs, ok bað hann tala slíkt,
answered from troop of-Magnus king and bade him speak such
sem hann vildi. Guðlaugr mælti: Sverrir konungr vill gera
as he wished Gudlaug spoke Sverrir king will make
Magnúsi konungi 3 kosti. Sá einn, at hann gangi yfir
to-Magnus king 3 choices That one that he go over
brúna, en hann gangi langt í frá, meðan fylki þeir liði
the-bridge but he go far in from while array they troop
sínu á Sprotavöllum, ok hafi sá gagn, er guð vill. Hinn
their on Sprotavellir and have he victory whom God wills The
býðr hann annan, at þeir berist út við borg ok búist
offers he second that they fight out by (the)-fort and prepare
þar við í ærnu tómi, ok látum skapat skera. Sá hinn
there with in ample leisure and let fate decide That the
þriði, at þeir fari út á Eyrar ok fylki þar, ok berist þar
third that they go out onto Eyrar and array there and fight there
til þrautar, ok berjast vill Sverrir konungr nú, ef hann má
to (the)-end and fight will Sverrir king now if he may
ráða, segir Guðlaugr. Þá gékk Ívarr í Akrinn til jarls
decide says Gudlaug Then went Ivar into the-Field to (the)-earl
ok segir honum þessi boð. Magnús konungr var sofnaðr hjá
and tells to-him these offers Magnus king was fallen-asleep by
jarli. Erlingr klappaði hendi sinni á bak honum ok bað
(the)-earl Erling patted with-hand his on back to-him and bade
hann vaka. Konungr spurði, hvat um væri at vera. Jarl
him wake (The)-king asked what about were to be (The)-earl

sagði konungi þessa kosti, er Sverrir prestr hafði þeim
told to-(the)-king these choices which Sverrir priest had to-them
boðit. Konungr bað hann kjósa. Jarl lézt engan kjósa
offered (The)-king bade him choose (The)-earl said-himself none choose
mundu, kvezt heldr skyldu gera honum kosti. Ívarr sagði
would said-himself rather should make to-him choices Ivar told
þá Guðlaugi svör jarls. Síðan sagði Guðlaugr Sverri
then to-Gudlaug answers of-(the)-earl Then told Gudlaug to-Sverrir
konungi. Eptir þat tóku Birkibeinar til göngu, stefndu þeir
king After that took (the)-Birchlegs to walking headed they
upp til Kleppabús. Þeir háttuðu svá göngunni, at hverr gékk
up to Kleppabu They arranged so the-walking that each went
eptir öðrum, þótti þá mikit at sjá liðit. áðr hinn síðarsti
after other seemed then great to see the-troop before the last
maðr gékk. Konungr fór til bœjar þess, er Kot heitir,
man went (The)-king went to farm that which Kot is-called
ok lét þar taka ofan hús ok gera af flota, fluttust þeir
and let there take down houses and make of a-raft crossed they
yfir Nið á flotanum. Síðan fóru þeir til Stafs ok fluttust
over (the)-Nid on the-raft Then went they to Staf and crossed
yfir Gaul á eikjum, ok er þeir váru yfir komnir, bað
over (the)-Gaul on ferry-boats and when they were over come bade
konungr menn hvílast ok lét sér vera höfugt. Konungr
(the)-king men rest and let to-himself be heavy (The)-king
sofnar skjótt, ok er komit var at náttmáli, þá kom þar
falls-asleep soon and when come was at night-meal-time then came there
bóndi einn ok fór með maltklyfjar ok ætlaði í bœinn með
farmer one and went with malt-packs and intended into the-town with
at fara. Konungr vaknaði ok spurði, hvat kœmi. Birkibeinar
to go (The)-king woke and asked what came (The)-Birchlegs
sögðu, at þar kom einn búandi. Þyrptust þeir at honum,
said that there came one farmer Thronged they at him

ok létu sem þeir mundu fala maltit. Konungr bað hann
and acted as they would bargain-for the-malt (The)-king bade him
fara, sem hann hafði ætlat: ok seg satt frá, at þú hittir
go as he had intended and say true from that you met
Birkibeina, ok þeir váru komnir yfir Gaul, ok ætla þeir
(the)-Birchlegs and they were come over (the)-Gaul and intend they
náttstað sinn at Meðalhúsum. At því skiljast þeir. Dveljast
night-quarters their at Medalhus At that part they Stay
þeir þar 4 nætr, áðr þeir sœkja til bœjarins annat sinn.
they there 4 nights before they press to the-town a-second time

Frá Erlingi jarli

XXXI · OF EARL ERLINGR

Sigurðr Nikulásson and Jón of Randaberg urged Erlingr to keep a watch, Jón adding that the earl cared more for drink than his troops. Erlingr angrily said Sverrir would not dare come, that he would keep watch himself, and went to bed with only the usual watch set.

Einn aptan er jarl var mettr, kom til hans Sigurðr
One evening when (the)-earl was fed came to him Sigurd
Nikulásson ok Jón af Randabergi. Þá mælti Sigurðr: Hvárt
Nikulas's-son and Jon of Randaberg Then spoke Sigurd Whether
eru greiddir útverðir, herra? Oss er sagt, at Birkibeinar
are arranged outposts lord To-us is said that (the)-Birchlegs
muni brátt vitja vár. Væri þat ráð at blása liði út til
will soon visit us Were that counsel to blow (the)-troop out to
borgar með vápnum, ok væri vér viðbúnir, ef þeir vitja vár
(the)-fort with weapons and were we prepared if they visit us
hingat í bœinn. Þá svaraði jarl: Ek vilda gjarna, at þat
hither into the-town Then answered (the)-earl I would gladly that that

sannaðist, at þeir kœmi hingat, þvíat þá munu þeir hafa
proved-true that they came hither because then will they have
skapnaðarerendi, en úhræddir munu vér sofa náttlangt fyrir
well-shaped-errand but unafraid will we sleep night-long for
Birkibeinum, þvíat þeir hafa snúit upp til fjalls, ok
(the)-Birchlegs because they have turned up to (the)-mountains and
eigi mun Sverrir þora at sœkja hingat at oss, ef vér verðum
not will Sverrir dare to press hither at us if we become
áðr varir við, sem nú er. Þá mælti Jón af Randabergi:
before aware with as now is Then spoke Jon of Randaberg
Þetta skyldi oss gott heit, er nú heitr jarl oss, at vér
This should to-us good promise which now promises (the)-earl to-us that we
þurfim ekki at varast Birkibeina, en mæltu þat sumir, at
need not to beware (the)-Birchlegs but spoke that some that
þér gefit meira gaum, herra, at gera yðr drukna af miði
you give more heed lord to make yourself drunk from mead
eða víni, en gera ráð fyrir liði yðru. Jarl reiddist ok
or wine than make counsel for troop your (The)-earl grew-angry and
mælti: Þat hefir verit sjaldan mælt við mik, at eigi hafa ek
spoke That has been seldom said with me that not have I
hölzti varr verit, en nú veit ek eigi, hvárt heldr er, at ek
too wary been but now know I not whether rather is that I
mun enga ætlan kunna fyrir liði þessu, eða munu þér vera
will no plan know for troop this or will you be
heldr hræddari, en þurfi. Nú skulu þér liggja úhræddir þessa
rather more-afraid than need Now shall you lie unafraid this
nótt, þvíat nú skal ek sjálfr halda vörð í nótt, ef þér
night because now shall I myself hold watch in (the)-night if you
trúit mér, ok hafði þat fyrr þótt nökkur hlít, ok áttum
trust me and had that before seemed some sufficiency and had
vér þá meira ofrefli en nú. Géngu þeir Jón ok Sigurðr þá
we then greater odds than now Went they Jon and Sigurd then

til skipa sinna, en jarl fór til hvílu sinnar ok lagðist
to ships their but (the)-earl went to bed his and lay-himself
niðr, ok alt lið hans, nema útverðir váru greiddir at vanda.
down and all troop his except outposts were arranged as usual

Tala Sverris

XXXII · SVERRIR'S SPEECH

At dawn on Steinbjörg Sverrir knelt in prayer and promised his men that whoever killed a landed man or a man of the bodyguard would take his rank, since Magnús and Erlingr were in the town, drunk and sleepy, and his dreams foretold victory. His men cheered and went down.

Nú er at segja frá Birkibeinum, at þeir koma í nætrelding
Now is to tell from (the)-Birchlegs that they come in dawn-light
utan á Steinbjörg. Segir konungr þá liðinu, at hann
from-outside onto Steinbjorg Says (the)-king then to-the-troop that he
ætlar í bœinn at jarlinum. Ok er hann kom á ásinn,
intends into the-town at the-earl And when he came onto the-ridge
þá steig hann af baki ok féll á kné ok baðst fyrir, ok eptir
then stepped he off back and fell on knee and prayed before and after
þat mælti hann nökkurum orðum fyrir liðinu ok bað þá
that spoke he some words before the-troop and bade them
vel fylgjast, þvíat nú munum vér fagran sigr vinna, ok eigi
well follow because now will we fair victory win and not
þarf at tjá fyrir yðr, í hverjum nauðum þér hafit verit
needs to lay-out before you in what straits you have been
staddir, áðr vér kómum í þetta land, en tekit lítið gott
placed before we came into this land but taken little good
upp hér til. Slíkt höfum vér upp tekit, sem vér höfum til
up here to Such have we up taken as we have to

stundat. Nú liggr nökkuru meira við en fyrr, er bœrinn er
striven Now lies somewhat more with than before when the-town is
í Niðarósi. Hér er nú ok fyrir í bœnum Magnús konungr
in Nidaros Here is now also before in the-town Magnus king
ok Erlingr jarl ok mart annarra ríkismanna, er nú eptir
and Erling earl and many other great-men is now after
meiri sœmd at sœkja, en optast mun fœri á gefa, munu
more honor to seek than most-often will chance on give will
vér fá sigr, at því sem mik hefir dreymt til. Sœkit nú
we get victory to that as me has dreamed to Press now
því fastara at, sem nú munu þér meira eptir taka en fyrr.
the faster at as now will you more after take than before
Skulut þér nú ok vita, til hvers þér skulut vinna. Sá er
Shall you now also know to what you shall win He who
lendan mann fellir með sönnum vitnum, sá skal lendr maðr
a-landed man fells with true witnesses he shall a-landed man
vera, ok þess kyns tignarmaðr skal hverr vera, sem hann
be and of-that kind rank-man shall each be as he
ryðr sér til rúms, sá hirðmaðr, er hirðmann drepr, ok
clears to-himself to room he retainer who a-retainer kills and
taka þar með aðra góða sœmd. Er nú um slíkt at leika,
take there with other good honor Is now about such to play
þvíat þeir munu enga hafa sanna njósn af várum ferðum,
because they will no have true report of our journeys
ok meiri ván, at þeir sé nú hamingjulausir, munum vér
and greater hope that they be now luckless will we
þá fá sigr, ok mun guð svá skipta með oss, þvíat þeir
then get victory and will God so share with us because they
hafa lengi yfir váru setið, er með röngu hafa fengit. Gerit
have long over ours sat which with wrong have got Make
nú sem harðasta hríðina fyrstu, ok mun þá vel duga,
now as hardest the-onslaught first and will then well avail

þvíat þeir munu vera mjöðdruknir ok syfjaðir, ok munu
because they will be mead-drunk and sleepy and will
eigi vita, hvat þeir skulu at hafast. En er hann lauk sínu
not know what they shall to do But when he ended his
máli, tóku allir því vel, ok fóru nú ofan um Steinbjörg.
speech took all it well and went now down over Steinbjorg

Tillaga Ívars horta

XXXIII · ÍVARR HORTI'S COUNSEL

Magnús's men, mostly drunk in the town, saw the Birkibeinar coming. Ívarr horti urged taking to the ships; Erlingr would not see the devil-priest take his son's seat, prayed at Christ Church, and in a red tunic tossed his drawn sword, saying the old man could still wield it. A Birkibeinn with only a cudgel said his weapons would come out of the town to meet him.

Menn Magnús konungs vöktu á Eyrum um nóttina, ok
Men of-Magnus king waked on Eyrar in the-night and
höfðu þar leik. Þeir sá lið Birkibeina, er þeir fóru utan
had there play They saw troop of-(the)-Birchlegs when they went outside
um Steinbjörg, var þá blásit. Lið Magnús konungs lá mart
about Steinbjorg was then blown Troop of-Magnus king lay much
uppi í bœnum, ok hafði verit dauðadrukkit um kveldit,
up in the-town and had been dead-drunk in the-evening
þvíat konungr hafði veitt þeim um daginn. Jarl stóð upp
because (the)-king had feasted them in the-day (The)-earl stood up
ok klæddist ok bað menn væpnast, þá kom Ívarr horti
and clothed-himself and bade men arm-themselves then came Ivar Horti
frændi jarls ok mælti: Lið várt er mart uppi í bœnum,
kinsman of-(the)-earl and spoke Troop our is much up in the-town
munu vér því eigi vel saman koma, er niðr hefir lagzt
will we therefore not well together come which down has lain

dauðadrukkit. Er þat mitt ráð at blása öllu liðinu til
dead-drunk Is that my counsel to blow all the-troop to
skipanna ok láta síga skipin frá bryggjum ok búast
the-ships and let sink the-ships from (the)-wharves and prepare-ourselves
um í tómi ok berjast, ef oss sýnist, ella róm vér braut,
about in leisure and fight if to-us seems else row we away
þvíat bœjarlýðr sjá mun oss vera útrúr. Þá svaraði jarl:
because (the)-town's-people this will to-us be untrue Then answered (the)-earl
Eigi veit ek, Ívarr, nema þetta væri ráð, en eigi má ek þat
Not know I Ivar unless this were counsel but not may I that
vita, at djöfulsprestr þessi Sverrir setist í rúm sonar míns.
know that devil's-priest this Sverrir set-himself in room of-son mine
Stóð jarl þá upp ok bað alla fylgja sér. Géngu þeir þá
Stood (the)-earl then up and bade all follow him Went they then
upp allir til Kristskirkju. Þar kom þá til móts við jarl
up all to Christ's-church There came then to meeting with (the)-earl
Magnús konungr við sínu merki ok Jón af Randabergi,
Magnus king with his standard and Jon of Randaberg
Ívarr horti, Sigurðr Nikulásson. Þeir lögðust allir niðr fyrir
Ivar Horti Sigurd Nikulas's-son They lay all down before
kirkjunni ok báðust fyrir. Þá snerist jarl frá kirkjunni
the-church and prayed before Then turned (the)-earl from the-church
ok mælti: Standit upp ok takit vápn yður, vera kann, at
and spoke Stand up and take weapons your be can that
sumum sé kostr at liggja hér um hríð. Erlingr jarl hafði
to-some be chance to lie here for a-while Erling earl had
rauðan kyrtil af fustani ok silkihúfu, spangabrynju, ok spent
red kirtle of fustian and silk-cap plated-mail and clasped
eigi til loks at sér fyrir, ok brugðit sverð, ok kastaði upp
not to closure at himself before and drawn sword and cast up
í hendi sér ok mælti: Enn skulu þér þat segja, at sjá hinn
in hand his and spoke Still shall you that say that this the

gamli skal kunna at beita sverðinu. Ok bað lúðrsveininn
old shall know to wield the-sword And bade the-trumpet-boy
blása, ok er þeir kómu út um stöpul, sá jarl á tvær
blow and when they came out past (the)-steeple saw (the)-earl on two
hendr sér ok mælti: Hvar erum vér nú allir? Sverrir konungr
hands his and spoke Where are we now all Sverrir king
hafði or Gaulardal 3 hundruð manna, var þat lið mart
had out-of Gauldal 3 hundred men was that troop much
lítt vápnat, þvíat bœndr höfðu gert heiman verkmenn sína,
little armed because (the)-farmers had sent from-home workmen their
þvíat þeir þorðu eigi at fara ok hræddust refsingar Erlings.
because they dared not to go and feared punishments of-Erling
En er þeir fóru utan um Steinbjörg, hljóp fram maðr
But when they went outside about Steinbjorg leapt forward man
einn mikill ok sterkr við lurk einn, en ekki vápn annat.
one great and strong with cudgel one but no weapon other
Þá mælti Özurr prestr: Hvert viltu, maðr? Hví hleypr þú
Then spoke Ozur priest Whither will-you man Why leap you
svá við trélurkinn, hvar eru vápn þín? Annan veg er at
so with the-wooden-cudgel where are weapons your Other way is to
berjast við Erling en þriskja korn, þar má hafa þúst til.
fight with Erling than thresh corn there may have flail to
Hann svaraði: Ek heiti Eyvindr, en vápn, þau er ek ætla
He answered I am-called Eyvind but weapons those which I intend
at berjast með, munu koma á mót mér or bœnum, ok
to fight with will come on against me out-of the-town and
jarls menn fara enn með þau. Þá mælti Hjarrandi hviða:
(the)-earl's men go still with them Then spoke Hjarrandi Gust
Mældu drengja heilastr, þú munt vera góðr maðr. Ok fékk
Speak-you of-fellows most-hale you will be good man And gave
honum spjót ok handöxi, ok bað hann þar berjast með.
to-him spear and hand-axe and bade him there fight with

Fall Erlings jarls ok margra annarra

XXXIV · THE FALL OF EARL ERLINGR AND MANY OTHERS

On the Akr the earl's standard-bearer planted the pole and his line fell back past it, confusing the attackers until Sverrir had it cut down. Erlingr, speared through the middle, slashed Özurr the priest across the face and fell with his men. Magnús escaped on the earl's ship Ruð; many landed men fell or drowned, and Sverrir took the Ólafssúð and his own ships back.

Nú fóru Birkibeinar utan at bœnum ok fundust á Akrinum
Now went (the)-Birchlegs outside to the-town and met on the-Field
fyrir ofan stöpul. Mundu þeir Magnús konungr ok Erlingr
on above (the)-steeple Would they Magnus king and Erling
jarl hafa aukin 5 hundruð manna. Varð þar hin snarpasta
earl have increased 5 hundred men Became there the sharpest
orrosta. Þórir spola bar merki Erlings jarls, ok féllu
battle Thorir Spool bore (the)-standard of-Erling earl and fell
menn af hvárumtveggjum ok meir af Magnúsi konungi. Var
men of both and more of Magnus king Was
þá fast sótt at merki Erlings jarls, ok er Þórir var
then hard pressed at (the)-standard of-Erling earl and when Thorir was
nauðuliga staddr, skaut hann niðr stönginni í Akrinn, svá
hard placed thrust he down the-pole into the-Field so
at hon stóð. Tók þá at síga aptr fylking jarls, svá
that it stood Began then to sink back (the)-array of-(the)-earl so
at merkit stóð á bak þeim Birkibeinum, er mest sóttu
that the-standard stood on back to-those Birchlegs who most pressed
fram. En þeir er síðar géngu, hugðu, at jarl mundi þar
forward But they who later went thought that (the)-earl would there
fylgja, váru þá margir búnir til at flýja. Ok er þetta fann
follow were then many ready to to flee And when this found

Sverrir konungr, lét hann höggva niðr merkit. Í þessu fékk
Sverrir king let he hew down the-standard In this got
Erlingr jarl lag af kesju, á hann miðjan. Þá mælti maðr:
Erling earl thrust from halberd on him middle Then spoke a-man
Hættligt lag, herra, sagði hann. Jarl svaraði: Fylgi vel
Dangerous thrust lord said he (The)-earl answered Follow well
merki Magnús konungs, ekki mun mik saka. Litlu síðar
(the)-standard of-Magnus king nothing will me harm Little later
gékk nær jarli Özurr prestr ok Helgi Þorfinnsson. Erlingr
went near (the)-earl Ozur priest and Helgi Thorfinn's-son Erling
jarl hjó Özur prest um andlitit þvert, ok var mikit sár ok
earl hewed Ozur priest over the-face across and was great wound and
ljótt mjök. Eptir þat féll Erlingr ok nær öll sú sveitin, er
ugly much After that fell Erling and near all that company which
næst honum gékk. Eptir þat flýði liðit. Magnús konungr
nearest him went After that fled the-troop Magnus king
flýði í bœinn, hann komst á Ruðina, er jarl hafði
fled into the-town he got onto the-Rud which (the)-earl had
stýrt ok fór með hana út or ánni. Þar féll á Akrinum
steered and went with it out out-of the-river There fell on the-Field
Sigurðr Nikulásson, Jón af Randabergi, Ívarr horti, Einarr
Sigurd Nikulas's-son Jon of Randaberg Ivar Horti Einar
litli lendr maðr, Bótólfr or Fjörðum ok synir hans
(the)-Little landed man Botolf out-of Firdir and sons his
tveir. Björn bukkr hljóp út á ána, hann var í brynju,
two Bjorn Buck leapt out onto the-river he was in mail
hann sökk niðr. Mart annarra manna hljóp á ána, ok
he sank down Many other men leapt onto the-river and
týndust þar margir. Ívarr Sveinsson féll þar ok Guthormr
perished there many Ivar Svein's-son fell there and Guthorm
snerill. Þessir váru allir lendir menn Magnús konungs. Þar
Snerill These were all landed men of-Magnus king There

féll 60 hirðmanna. Sverrir konungr tók þar Ólafssúðina,
fell 60 of-retainers Sverrir king took there the-Olafssud
er Magnús konungr hafði stýrt, ok mörg önnur. Þar tók
which Magnus king had steered and many others There took
hann þá ok öll sín skip, er hann hafði látit.
he then also all his ships which he had lost

Tala Sverris konungs yfir grepti Erlings

XXXV · KING SVERRIR'S SPEECH OVER ERLINGR'S GRAVE

Over the grave Sverrir said one man now stood for king, earl, and archbishop. He mocked Archbishop Eysteinn's promise that Magnús's fallen would reach paradise before their blood was cold, urged the townsfolk to pray for them instead, above all for Erlingr, who made his son king against Saint Ólafr's law, and forgave them all.

Lík Erlings jarls var borit til graptar fyrir sunnan kirkju,
Body of-Erling earl was borne to burial on south-of (the)-church
en nú er gröptr hans í kirkju. Sverrir konungr talaði
but now is grave his in (the)-church Sverrir king talked
yfir grepti hans ok mælti: Eigi hœfir, at þagat sé yfir
over grave his and spoke Not befits that silenced be over
grepti svá göfugs manns, sem nú stöndum vér. Aldaskipti
grave so noble man's as now stand we Change-of-ages
mikit er orðit, ok er nú einn maðr fyrir þrjá, einn fyrir
great is become and is now one man for three one for
konung, ok einn fyrir jarl, ok einn fyrir erkibyskup, ok em
king and one for earl and one for archbishop and am
ek sá. Hér eru nú mörg tíðindi at sjá ok vita, þau er
I he Here are now many tidings to see and know those which
mönnum eru þakkandi, eru hér nú bornir margir líkamir
to-men are to-be-thanked are here now borne many bodies

þeira manna, er fylgt hafa Magnúsi konungi. En þat er
of-those men who followed have to-Magnus king But that is
sem mörgum er kunnigt, at Eysteinn erkibyskup ok margir
as to-many is known that Eystein archbishop and many
aðrir lærðir menn hafa sagt optliga, at allir þeir er berðist
other learned men have said often that all they who fought
með Magnúsi konungi ok verði land hans ok létist með
with Magnus king and defended land his and lost-life with
því, at sálur þeira manna mundi fyrr í paradísu, en blóðit
that that souls of-those men would sooner in paradise than the-blood
mundi kalt á jörðunni. Nú megum vér fagna hér margra
would cold on the-earth Now may we rejoice here of-many
manna heilagleik. Þat megum vér ok ætla, hversu heilagr
men's holiness That may we also think how holy
vera mun Erlingr jarl, er í fyrstu réð því, er Magnús
be will Erling earl who in first decided that when Magnus
var til konungs tekinn, ok síðan flutt ok stutt hans ríki
was to king taken and then carried and supported his realm
alla stund hér til. Mun þat nú at sönnu verða mikil hjálp
all while here to Will that now in truth be great help
við guð hans árnaðarorð, ef eigi er þat, at erkibyskup
with God his intercession if not is that that (the)-archbishop
hafi nökkut vinhallr verit í várum málum. Hefir nú svá
have somewhat partial been in our cases Has now so
til skipt, at vér stöndum nú yfir þeim, er lengi hafa
to turned that we stand now over those who long have
ægishjálm yfir oss borit ok mörgum öðrum. Sé ek nú hér
terror-helm over us borne and many others See I now here
þann margan hryggvan standa, er fullkátr mundi, ef svá
that many sorrowful stand who quite-merry would if so
stœði yfir mínum grepti, þótt hann væri eigi jafnvirðuliga
stood over my grave though it were not as-worthily

búinn. Þat mál sýnist mér skamsýnligt ok eigi góðgjarnligt,
prepared That speech seems to-me short-sighted and not well-meaning
at því sem opt hefir tjáð verit, til hvers vér ættim hvárir
to that as often has told been to what we should each
at hyggja. Sýnist mér, sem oss megi mikill fagnaðr á vera,
to heed Seems to-me as to-us may great joy on be
er svá hefir til skipt um líf manna, ef vér mættim lifa
which so has to turned about (the)-life of-men if we might live
til nökkurs bata ok með minna ótta en hér til, þvíat eigi
to some bettering and with less fear than here to because not
munum vér nú þá óttast, er hér liggja dauðir. Nú íhugit
will we now them fear who here lie dead Now consider
þér fyrirheitit erkibyskups: er nú liðin sú stund, at blóðit
you (the)-promise of-(the)-archbishop is now passed that hour that the-blood
mun kalt orðit, ok þó at vér megim eigi jarteinum þeira
will cold become and though that we may not by-miracles their
fagna, þá mun nú þó orðit gott til kyksettra í bœnum í
rejoice then will now yet become good to food-store in the-town in
þessarri hríð, munut þér eigi þeira mist hafa, heldr munu
this onslaught will you not them lost have rather will
þeir yðr nú mikit gott gera, ef þér dýrkit þá sem helga
they to-you now much good do if you worship them as holy
menn, sem þér hafit hugat. En ef svá illa er, sem mér segir
men as you have intended But if so ill is as to-me says
hugr um, at um þat muni at leika, at brostit muni hafa
mind about that about that will to play that broken will have
þau hin fögru fyrirheitin, sem þeim váru heitin, þá munu
those the fair promises which to-them were promised then will
þeir yfrit lengi hafa goldit þeirar lygi ok loklausu, ok allir
they ample long have paid of-that lie and nonsense and all
þeir er því trúðu. Nú er þat mitt ráð, at þér skiptið á
they who that believed Now is that my counsel that you change in

aðra lund til, biðit heldr fyrir þeim, er fram eru liðnir, ok
other way to pray rather for them who forth are passed and
einkannliga fyrir Erlingi jarli, er hann tók svá mikla dirfð
especially for Erling earl when he took so great boldness
til, einn lendr maðr, at hann lét gefa konungs nafn syni
to one landed man that he let give king's name to-son
sínum, en drap niðr konungasonu ok allar konungaættir ok
his but killed down kings'-sons and all kings'-lines and
braut í því lög Ólafs konungs. Vér skulum ok biðja fyrir
broke in that (the)-law of-Olaf king We shall also pray for
alla þeira manna sálum, er látizt hafa í þessu vandræði
all of-those men's souls who lost-life have in this trouble
bæði nú ok fyrr, biðja þess guð, at hann fyrirgefi þeim
both now and before pray of-that God that he forgive them
sakar ok syndir ok bjargi sálum þeira. Fyrirgefa vil ek þeim
offenses and sins and save souls their Forgive will I them
fyrir guðs sakir alt þat, er þeir hafa við mik misgert. Nú
for God's sakes all that which they have with me wronged Now
geri hverr, sem sýnist, ok hann ætlar sér bezt gegna
do each as seems and he intends for-himself best avail
ok þeim, er fram eru liðnir, minnizt þér ok þeira, er svá
and those who forth are passed remember you also them who so
skjótt eru við heiminn skildir þjónostulausir ok með minna
quickly are with the-world parted unshriven and with less
viðrbúnaði ok grimmara hug, en nú mundu þeir kjósa. Vil
preparation and grimmer mind than now would they choose Will
ek þat ábyrgjast, at yðr skal at mikilli hjálp verða ok
I that warrant that to-you shall to great help become and
miskunn þat gott, er þér gerit fyrir sál þeira, heldr en
mercy that good which you do for soul their rather than
þat at þeir þurfi eigi bœna. Konungr sneri nú rœðunni
that that they need not prayers (The)-king turned now the-speech

eptir siðvanda, þakkaði fyrst kennimönnum sinn yfirsöng ok
after custom thanked first to-clerics their singing and
fagran formála, allri alþýðu ölúð ok bœnahald, ok
fair preface to-all (the)-common-people kindness and prayer and
bað hvern mann búa svá vandliga um sinn hugðarmann,
bade each man prepare so carefully about his beloved
sem hann vildi, en hann lézt mundu fá menn til at
as he wished but he said-himself would get men to to
búa gröpt þeira manna, er eigi yrði aðrir til. Lauk
prepare (the)-grave of-those men who not would-be others to Ended
hann svá sínu máli, at öllum varð hugþekk hans rœða,
he so his speech that to-all became pleasing his speech
ok gerðu margir at góðan róm at máli hans.
and made many at good acclaim at speech his

Frá Magnúsi ok erkibyskupi

XXXVI · OF MAGNÚS AND THE ARCHBISHOP

Magnús went to Björgvin and asked for help at a þing. Archbishop Eysteinn answered that all good men were glad of his safe return, and that many had found Erlingr overbearing; all swore they would rather die with Magnús than serve Sverrir. Magnús wintered in the Vík with many landed men.

Magnús konungr fór með liði sínu suðr til Björgynjar ok
Magnus king went with troop his south to Bjorgvin and
hitti þar Eystein erkibyskup ok Orm konungsbróður ok sagði
met there Eystein archbishop and Orm king's-brother and told
þeim þessi tíðindi. Litlu síðar átti hann þing almenniligt
to-them these tidings Little later had he an-assembly general
í bœnum ok sagði mönnum frá skaða sínum ok bað menn
in the-town and told to-men from loss his and bade men

fulltings. Þá svaraði erkibyskup máli konungs ok sagði alla
of-help Then answered (the)-archbishop speech of-(the)-king and said all
dugandi menn mundu vera honum velviljaða eptir öllu megni
able men would be to-him well-disposed after all might
sínu, hefir sá fundr svá farit, sem margir mundu vilja, at
their has that meeting so gone as many would wish that
þér erut heilir aptr komnir, er allr lýðr elskar. En þótt
you are whole back come whom all people loves But though
Erlingr væri maðr vitr ok ríkr, þá þótti mörgum hann
Erling were man wise and mighty then seemed to-many him
ofsamaðr mikill, ok hart undir at búa. At þessu varð
overbearing-man great and hard under to dwell At this became
rómr mikill, ok jáðu allir því, at heldr vildu deyja með
acclaim great and agreed all to-that that rather wished die with
Magnúsi konungi en þjóna Sverri. Fór þá Magnús konungr
Magnus king than serve Sverrir Went then Magnus king
austr til Víkr með liði sínu, ok sat þar um vetrinn með
east to (the)-Vik with troop his and sat there over the-winter with
miklu fjölmenni. Váru þá með honum margir lendir menn.
great multitude Were then with him many landed men

Frá Sverri konungi ok Birkibeinum

XXXVII · OF KING SVERRIR AND THE BIRKIBEINAR

After Erlingr's fall all Norway but Magnús's men called Sverrir king, and the name Birkibeinn, once a mockery, became an honor; former laborers wore the fine arms of Magnús's bodyguard. Magnús's men, who burned an old beggar-woman's cloak for its silver, were nicknamed Heklungar. Sverrir read his dream of eating a roasted man as Erlingr's fall and Magnús's escape, and made Þrándheimr his home.

Eptir fall Erlings óx svá mikit ríki Sverris konungs, at
After (the)-fall of-Erling grew so great power of-Sverrir king that
engi maðr var sá þá í Noregi, at eigi kallaði hann þá
no man was such then in Norway that not called him then
konung, nema Magnús ok hans menn. Þar til þótti ok
king except Magnus and his men There till seemed also
háðuligt, hvar sem ríkismenn váru staddir í kaupstöðum,
shameful where as great-men were placed in market-towns
ef Birkibeinn var maðr kallaðr, en þaðan frá þótti þat vera
if Birchleg was a-man called but thence from seemed that be
nafnbót, ok þeir mikils verðir, er svá hétu, ok þeir hinir
title-of-honor and they of-great worth who so were-called and they the
sömu, er verit höfðu verkmenn, en sumir ránsmenn eða
same who been had workmen but some robbers or
ribbungar, þeir báru nú skrúð eða skallat ok hin beztu vápn,
ruffians they bore now finery or scarlet and the best weapons
er áðr höfðu borit hirðmenn eða lendir menn Magnús
which before had borne retainers or landed men of-Magnus
konungs. Ok þó at menn kendi þá at syn, þá duldust
king And though that men knew them by sight then denied
við þó, at þeir mundu vera, er fyrr höfðu fátœkir verit,
with yet that they would be who before had poor been
ok varla kendu þeir sik sjálfir. Er þat ok mál manna,
and hardly knew they themselves themselves Is that also talk of-men
at eigi hafi frœknara lið verit í Noregi, en þá var með
that not have bolder troop been in Norway than then was with
Sverri konungi, ok þat váttaði hann sjálfr jafnan síðan ok
Sverrir king and that witnessed he himself always since and
gat hinna fornu Birkibeina, þá er honum þóttu menn slást
spoke of-the old Birchlegs then when to-him seemed men fall-to
í drykk, en gæta eigi varðhalds, eða þola eigi vás eða
in drink but heed not of-watch or endure not hardship or

erviði. Sverrir konungr gaf þá mála hirð sinni ok jók
toil Sverrir king gave then pay to-bodyguard his and increased
við þá nafnbœtr ok setti sýslumenn um allan Þrándheim.
with them titles-of-honor and set bailiffs about all Thrandheim
Þat hafði at borizt í Vík austr, at stafkerling nökkur
That had to happened in (the)-Vik east that old-woman some
hafði andazt. Hon átti eptir heklu eina, en þar fannst í
had died She had after cloak one but there was-found in
silfr mikit. Ok er þess urðu varir menn Magnús konungs,
silver much And when of-that became aware men of-Magnus king
þá tóku þeir hekluna ok brendu, en skiptu silfrinu með
then took they the-cloak and burned but divided the-silver with
sér. En er Birkibeinar spurðu þetta, þá kölluðu þeir
themselves But when (the)-Birchlegs learned this then called they
þá heklu arfa eða Heklunga.
them of-cloak heirs or Heklungs
Sverri konung dreymdi, áðr jarl féll, þann draum, er
Sverrir king dreamed before (the)-earl fell that dream which
hann þóttist þaðan af vita, hversu sóknin mundi fara
he thought-himself thence off know how the-campaign would go
með þeim. Hann þóttist sofa í lopti einu í bœnum, ok
with them He thought-himself sleep in loft one in the-town and
vissi hann at nóttin var ljós. Hann sá mann ganga inn í
knew he that the-night was light He saw a-man go in into
loptit ok mælti við hann: Rís upp, Sverrir, ok gakk með
the-loft and spoke with him Rise up Sverrir and go with
mér. Honum þótti standa af honum ógn mikil, þóttist
me To-him seemed stand from him terror great thought-himself
hann eigi öðru treystast, en fara með honum. Þeir géngu
he not other trust-himself than go with him They went
upp or bœnum ok þar at, sem eldr var fyrir þeim ok maðr
up out-of the-town and there to where fire was before them and a-man

steiktr á glóðunum. Þá mælti draummaðrinn, at Sverrir
roasted on the-embers Then spoke the-dream-man that Sverrir
skyldi niðr setjast ok matast, ok leggr síðan manninn fyrir
should down sit and eat and lays then the-man before
hann. Hann þóttist segja, at hann hefði aldri rækindi
him He thought-himself say that he had never carrion
etið. Þá svaraði draummaðrinn: Þú vill eta ok þú skalt eta,
eaten Then answered the-dream-man You will eat and you shall eat
ok svá vill sá, er öllu ræðr. Hann þóttist þá til taka
and so wills he who all rules He thought-himself then to take
ok eta holdit alt af beinunum, ok þótti hverr biti tregt
and eat the-flesh all off the-bones and seemed each bite hard
niðr ganga, ok svá lengi sem hann hafði at verit, þá þótti
down go and so long as he had at been then seemed
honum því minna fyrir, sem ofar var. Ok þá er hann kom
to-him the less for as higher was And then when he came
at höfðinu, vildi hann þat eta, en sá er hann leiddi þangat,
to the-head wished he that eat but he who him led thither
tók höfuðit til sín ok kvað þá hætta skyldu. Ok þótti
took the-head to himself and said then stop should And seemed
honum þá eigi minna fyrir frá at hverfa en til at taka
to-him then not less for from to turn than to to take
fyrir öndverðu, ok sagði þá hinn ríkri ráð. Géngu síðan
for (the)-beginning and told then the mightier counsel Went then
aptr í bœinn ok til sama innis. Ok er hann þóttist
back into the-town and to (the)-same lodging And when he thought-himself
kominn í hina sömu hvílu, þá sá hann leiðtoga sinn út
come into the same bed then saw he guide his out
ganga, ok eptir þat vaknaði hann. Hafði hann því svá mjök
go and after that woke he Had he it so much
eggjat, at hann þýddi svá drauminn, at maðr sá er á
urged that he interpreted so the-dream that (the)-man that who on

eldinum var, mundi vera Erlingr jarl, er þá tók at eldast,
the-fire was would be Erling earl who then began to grow-old
ok þeir mundu þá vera eldir at ráðum ok at þroti komnir,
and they would then be roasted at counsels and at end come
en konungr mundi undan komast, þar sem höfuðit var úetit.
but (the)-king would away come there as the-head was uneaten
Þá drifu til Sverris konungs margir auðgir menn ok
Then flocked to Sverrir king many wealthy men and
ættstórir, fal hann þá mjök trúnað sinn undir Þrœndi,
high-born placed be then much trust his under (the)-Thronds
þvíat þeir höfðu alla æfi verit lítt vingaðir Erlingi jarli. Sverrir
because they had all life been little friendly to-Erling earl Sverrir
konungr kallaði jafnan heimili sitt í Þrándheimi síðan, ok
king called always home his in Thrandheim since and
gerði þá sér kærsta af öllu landsfólki, sagði ok svá
made them to-himself dearest of all land-folk said also so
jafnan, at þeir hefði svá verit Sigurði konungi föður hans
always that they had so been to-Sigurd king father his
eða Hákoni bróður hans, ok höfðu jafnan þjónat undir hinn
or to-Hakon brother his and had always served under the
sama skjöld. Sverrir konungr sat þenna vetr í kaupangi.
same shield Sverrir king sat this winter in (the)-market-town

Birkibeinar drápu Heklunga

XXXVIII · THE BIRKIBEINAR KILL HEKLUNGAR

In spring Magnús called out the levy of the south and west and came north with Archbishop Eysteinn and the landed men, as a verse lists. Sverrir's band at Langlóar surprised Magnús on his way to a bathhouse at Steinn and killed nearly thirty men.

Um várit bauð Magnús konungr liði út sunnan or
In the-spring bade Magnus king troop out from-south out-of
landi, öllum almenningi austan frá Líðandisnesi ok norðr
(the)-land all levy from-east from Lidandisnes and north
um Agðir, Rogaland, Hörðaland, um Sogn ok Fjörðu,
through Agdir Rogaland Hordaland through Sogn and Firdir
Mœri hváratveggju ok um Raumsdal. Fór hann um várit
More both and through Raumsdal Went he in the-spring
með allan herinn norðr til Þrándheims. Þar var þá með
with all the-host north to Thrandheim There was then with
honum Eysteinn erkibyskup, Ormr konungsbróðir, Nikulás
him Eystein archbishop Orm king's-brother Nikulas
ok Philippus synir Árna konungsmágs, ok allir lendir menn
and Philippus sons of-Arni king's-in-law and all landed men
sunnan or landi. Þá var þetta kveðit:
from-south out-of (the)-land Then was this composed

Fylgðu ræsi
Followed (the)-ruler
Rygir ok Hörðar
Rygir and Hords
Filar ok Sygnir
Filir and Sygnir
sem Firða lið.
as Firdir's troop

Mœrir allir
(the)-More-men all
menn raumdœlskir
men of-Raumsdal
erkibyskup
archbishop
öll Þrœndalög.
all Throndlaw

Magnús konungr kom liði sínu norðr í Þrándheim ok
Magnus king came with-troop his north into Thrandheim and
lagði við bœinn at Steini sunnan at Nesi, ok lá þar nökkurar
laid by the-farm at Stein south at Nes and lay there some
nætr. Sverrir konungr var þá inn í kaupangi, hann gerði
nights Sverrir king was then in in (the)-market-town he sent
frá sér Þórólf rympil, Þjóstar svarta, Eyjólf Aflason, Hávarð
from himself Thorolf Rympil Thjostar (the)-Black Eyjolf Afli's-son Havard
lax, skyldu þeir gildra til veiða, höfðu þeir mikla sveit
Salmon should they snare to catch had they great company
manna. Þeir kómu á þann bœ, er heitir Langlóar. Þar varð
of-men They came onto that farm which is-called Langloar There was
dalr einn ofan til sjófarins, ok er viði vaxinn, þeir lágu þar.
dale one down to the-sea and is with-wood grown they lay there
Menn Magnús konungs urðu eigi fyrr varir við, en Birkibeinar
Men of-Magnus king became not earlier aware with than (the)-Birchlegs
kómu at þeim. Magnús konungr hafði gengit á land ok
came at them Magnus king had gone onto land and
ætlaði til baðstofu á bœinn Stein, ok er hann varð varr við
intended to bath-house on the-farm Stein and when he became aware with
þá, fór hann skyndiliga til skipanna. Birkibeinar drápu þar
them went he hastily to the-ships (The)-Birchlegs killed there

nær 30 manna, ok fóru síðan aptr til kaupangs. Eptir þat
near 30 men and went then back to (the)-market-town After that
lagði Magnús konungr inn til Hólms ok dvaldist þar um hríð.
laid Magnus king in to Holm and stayed there for a-while

Frá Sverri ok Magnúsi konungi

XXXIX · OF SVERRIR AND KING MAGNÚS

Magnús seized the farmer Afli and wrote to Afli's son Eyjólfr, a Birkibeinn, to come to him if he would save his father. Sverrir answered that if Afli were harmed, the fathers of three of Magnús's men would die the same death at Eyjólfr's hands. Magnús was furious at being told whom to kill, but released Afli at many men's asking.

Sverrir konungr bjóst við í bœnum. Magnús konungr
Sverrir king prepared-himself with in the-town Magnus king
sendi skip í brott frá sér, því stýrðu þeir Birgir görn ok
sent a-ship in away from himself it steered they Birgir Gut and
Þrándr hviða. Hann sendi eptir bónda þeim, er Afli hét,
Thrand Gust He sent after farmer that who Afli was-called
ok lét hann fœra sér. Eyjólfr son hans var með Sverri
and let him bring to-himself Eyjolf son his was with Sverrir
konungi. Hann sendi ok bréf inn til bœjar með þeim manni,
king He sent also letter in to (the)-town with that man
er Heðinn hét, ok setti hann þat á, ef hann vildi frelsa líf
who Hedin was-called and set he that on if he wished save life
föður síns, at hann skyldi koma á fund Magnús konungs.
of-father his that he should come to meeting of-Magnus king
Heðinn ferr í bœinn ok fær Eyjólfi bréfit. Honum þótti þetta
Hedin goes into the-town and gives to-Eyjolf the-letter To-him seemed this
vandi mikill ok fœrir Sverri konungi bréfit. Konungr mælti:
difficulty great and brings to-Sverrir king the-letter (The)-king spoke

Fáir færa mér slíkt. Vit skulum finna hér gott ráð til,
Few bring to-me such We-two shall find here good counsel to
ok leið hingat þann, er bréfit bar. Sverrir konungr lét gera
and lead hither him who the-letter bore Sverrir king let make
bréf annat ok sagði svá: Ef þú gerir, Magnús konungr, Afla
letter another and said so If you do Magnus king to-Afli
mein eða grand, þá skal drepa Eilíf eplastöng, Skrýðu-Eirik
harm or injury then shall kill Eilif Apple-Pole Skrydu-Eirik
ok Eindriða slandra fyrir yðr, þvíat synir þeira eru þar með
and Eindridi Slandri for you because sons their are there with
yðr. Þórir knappr var son Eindriða, Úlfr son Eiríks, Gunnarr
you Thorir Knob was son of-Eindridi Ulf son of-Eirik Gunnar
son Eilífs. Slíkan dauðdaga skulu þeir hafa, sem þér veitið
son of-Eilif Such death-manner shall they have as you give
Afla, þat skal Eyjólfr gera. Heðinn ferr nú með þessu erendi
to-Afli that shall Eyjolf do Hedin goes now with this errand
ok færir Magnúsi konungi bréfit, ok er hann sá, varð hann
and brings to-Magnus king the-letter and when he saw became he
reiðr mjök ok hljóp fram or lyptingunni ok mælti: Þat sé
angry much and leapt forward out-of the-raised-deck and spoke That see
ek, at þér ætlit at ráða, hvern drepa skal eða hvern lifa láta,
I that you intend to decide whom kill shall or whom live let
en eigi ek. Nú biðja menn fyrir Afla margir, ok þat fékkst
and not I Now pray men for Afli many and that was-got
um síðir af konungi. Ferr nú Afli heim til búa sinna.
at last from (the)-king Goes now Afli home to farms his

Frá Sverri ok Magnúsi konungi

XL · OF SVERRIR AND KING MAGNÚS

Talking across the water at Eyrar, Sverrir offered to divide the land and both be kings; Magnús refused. On the Monday of Rogation week the two kings agreed to meet the next morning and fight on the Íluvellir.

Menn Magnús konungs róa nú nökkura daga inn at Eyrum
Men of-Magnus king row now some days in to Eyrar
til tals. Sverrir konungr gékk ofan á móti ok bauð Magnúsi
to talk Sverrir king went down on against and offered to-Magnus
konungi, at þeir skyldu skipta landi í helminga ok vera
king that they should divide (the)-land into halves and be
báðir konungar. Var um þat mart talat, en þó vildi Magnús
both kings Was about that much talked but yet wished Magnus
konungr ekki á þat líta. Magnús konungr gerði ráð sitt ok
king not on that look Magnus king made counsel his and
hans menn, er þeir lágu við Hólminn, hversu þeir skyldu leggja
his men when they lay by the-Holm how they should lay
til bœjarins, ok hugðu, at Sverrir konungr mundi tregr at
to the-town and thought that Sverrir king would reluctant to
ganga or tréborginni. Marga ráðagerð höfðu þá menn Magnús
go out-of the-timber-fort Many plans had then men of-Magnus
konungs, er eigi var freistat. Mánadaginn í gagndögum
king which not was tried The-Monday in Rogation-days
reri Magnús konungr inn at Eyrum, eggja þá hvárir aðra til
rowed Magnus king in to Eyrar urge then each other to
orrostu. Magnús konungr bað Sverri ganga út af tréborginni ok
battle Magnus king bade Sverrir go out of the-timber-fort and
berjast við sik á Íluvöllum. Þá svaraði Sverrir konungr: Því
fight with him on Iluvellir Then answered Sverrir king To-that

munum vér já. Ok þetta festa konungar sín á millum, at
will we yes And this fasten (the)-kings themselves in between that
um myrgininn skyldu þeir finnast á Íluvöllum ok berjast þar.
in the-morning should they meet on Iluvellir and fight there

Búizt til bardaga

XLI · PREPARATIONS FOR BATTLE

Magnús landed under Steinbjörg and waited until the sun no longer faced his men. He set his bodyguard against the great standard he took for Sverrir's, but it was Guðlaugr's with the townsmen and levy, while Sverrir's own standard went along the rock; Úlfr of Laufnes held off the troop Nikulás Árnason led to take the Birkibeinar from behind.

Þá lét Magnús konungr blása til brautlögu frá Hólminum,
Then let Magnus king blow to departure from the-Holm
ok lögðu at við Ílu utan undir bergit ok géngu þar upp. Þá
and laid to by Ila outside under the-cliff and went there up Then
hafði Magnús konungr skeiðina miklu, ok var hon lögð út um
had Magnus king the-warship great and was it laid out at
akkeri, en skútur ok smæri skip reru at landi. Gékk Magnús
anchor but cutters and smaller ships rowed to land Went Magnus
konungr með öllu liðinu upp í Steinbjörg, ok settust þar
king with all the-troop up onto Steinbjorg and sat-themselves there
ok biðu, at sólin sótti á himininn, svá at eigi ætti þeir
and waited that the-sun moved on the-sky so that not should they
at sjá í gegn henni, síðan géngu þeir ofan ok fylktu liðinu.
to see in against it then went they down and arrayed the-troop
Sverrir konungr sótti þá ok út á völluna náliga undir
Sverrir king pressed then also out onto the-fields nearly under
bergit á mót þeim. Magnús konungr skipar hirð sinni ok
the-cliff on against them Magnus king places bodyguard his and

sínu merki í þann arminn, er vissi at sjónum, þvíat hann
his standard in that wing which faced to the-sea because he
sá merki Sverris konungs, hvar þat var mikit ok fagrt,
saw (the)-standard of-Sverrir king where it was great and fair
ok hugði, at þar mundi konungr undir vera. En þat merki
and thought that there would (the)-king under be But that standard
hafði Guðlaugr ok með honum bœjarmenn, heraðsmenn ok
had Gudlaug and with him townsmen district-men and
leiðangrslið. Sverrir lét fara merki sitt hit efra með berginu.
levy-troop Sverrir let go standard his the upper along the-cliff
Magnús konungr hafði sett til mikit lið at veita Birkibeinum
Magnus king had set to great troop to give to-the-Birchlegs
bakfall, var fyrir því liði Nikulás Árnason bróðir Inga konungs.
back-blow was over that troop Nikulas Arni's-son brother of-Ingi king
Sverrir konungr setti þar ok lið á móti, var þar höfðingi
Sverrir king set there also troop on against was there chieftain
fyrir því Úlfr af Laufnesi, ok kómu þeir Nikulás at engu
over that Ulf of Laufnes and came they Nikulas to no
gagni Magnúsi konungi. Sverrir konungr talaði fyrir sínum
use to-Magnus king Sverrir king talked before his
mönnum, áðr fylkingar gengi saman, ok hóf á þessa leið.
men before (the)-arrays went together and began on this way

Sverrir konungr talaði fyrir liðinu

XLII · KING SVERRIR SPEAKS TO THE TROOP

Sverrir told his men they had two good choices, victory or a brave death, and sent his bodyguard against Magnús's standard.

Hér er nú mikill herr saman kominn ok frítt lið, ok
Here is now great host together come and fine troop and
mun nú sýnast, at vér munum eiga at etja við mikit
will now seem that we will have to contend with great
ofrefli, er fylkingar þeira standa um alla völlu með gyltum
odds where arrays their stand about all fields with gilded
vápnum ok dýrum klæðum, væri þá vel sýslat, ef þér bærit
weapons and costly clothes were then well managed if you bore
hvárttveggja til bœjarins í kveld. Sé nú, góðir hálsar,
both to the-town in (the)-evening See now good fellows
gott er at eiga tvá kosti, sá er annarr at vega sigr, en
good is to have two choices that is (the)-one to win victory and
annarr at deyja með drengskap. Eigi er sem yðr sé vísat
(the)-other to die with valor Not is as to-you be directed
í skóg til timbrhöggs, er þér skulut jafna höggum við
into forest to timber-felling when you shall trade blows with
lenda menn Magnús konungs. Er þat skammlaust at þiggja
landed men of-Magnus king Is that shameless to take
ok veita stór högg. Kemr at því, sem skáldit kvað:
and give great blows Comes to that as the-skald said

> Era sem kolvið kljúfi
> *Is-not as firewood splits*
> karl sá er vegr at jarli.
> *a-churl he who slays at an-earl*

Svá sagði ok einn bóndi, er hann fylgði syni sínum til
So said also one farmer when he followed son his to
herskipa, bað hann vera hraustan í öllum mannraunum: Lifa
warships bade him be valiant in all trials Live
orð lengst eptir hvern, sagði hann. Eða hvernin mundir þú
words longest after each said he Or how would you

hátta, ef þú kœmir í orrostu ok vissir þú, at þú skyldir
behave if you came into battle and knew you that you should
þar falla? Hann svaraði: Hvat mundi þá við at sparast at
there fall He answered What would then with to be-spared to
höggva á tvær hendr? Karl mælti: Nú kynni þat nökkurr
hew on two hands (The)-churl spoke Now could that someone
at segja, at þú skyldir lifa. Hann svaraði: Hvat þyrfti þá at
to say that you should live He answered What needed then to
hlífast við at höggva á tvær hendr ok ganga fram sem
shield-oneself with to hew on two hands and go forward as
bezt? Karl mælti: Í hverri orrostu er þú ert staddr, þá
best (The)-churl spoke In every battle where you are placed then
mun vera annathvárt, at þú munt lifa eða deyja, ok ver þú
will be one-of-two that you will live or die and be you
fyrir því djarfr, at alt er áðr skapat, ekki kemr úfeigum í
for that bold that all is before shaped nothing brings (the)-unfated into
hel, ok ekki má feigum forða, í flótta er fall verst. Þat megu
death and nothing may (the)-fated save in flight is fall worst That may
þér ok vita, Birkibeinar, at ilt mun at leita griða undir þá
you also know Birchlegs that ill will to seek truce under those
Heklunga, er nú sá einn til at ljá þeim enskis framgangs,
Heklungs when now that alone to to grant them no advance
er yðr gott Birkibeinum at reyna sverðin á mjaðarístrunum
which to-you good Birchlegs to try the-swords on the-mead-bellies
þeira Víkverja. Vér höfum frítt lið, en þeir hafa ofrefli, svá
of-those Vik-men We have fine troop but they have odds so
at þeir munu ekki öllu í lóg koma, er þat þori af liði
that they will not all into use come is that most of troop
þeira, er betr væri fallit til brúðmanna en hermanna, hafa
their which better were fitted to bridesmen than warriors have
þeir meir vanizt miði en herskap. Hirð mín skal fara í
they more grown-used to-mead than to-war Bodyguard my shall go on

móti merki Magnús konungs, þvíat af hirð Magnús
against (the)-standard of-Magnus king because from (the)-bodyguard of-Magnus
konungs er oss ván snarpastrar orrostu ok atgöngu, en lendir
king is to-us hope of-sharpest battle and onset but landed
menn munu meir leita sér fœra, en bœndr munu leita
men will more seek for-themselves ways and farmers will seek
at hlífa sér, þvíat þeim er svá gefit, sem skáldit kvað:
to shield themselves because to-them is so given as the-skald said

Ætla ek mér hina mæru
Intend I for-myself the famous
munnfagra Jórunni,
fair-mouthed Jorunn
hvegi er fundr með frægjum
whichever is meeting with (the)-famous
ferr Magnúsi ok Sverri.
goes to-Magnus and to-Sverrir

Gangit nú vel fram, góðir hálsar! ok gæti guð til. Þessi mál
Go now well forward good fellows and guard God to These speeches
öll saman urðu þeim at mikilli frameggjan, ok treystust
all together became to-them to great urging and trusted-themselves
nú enn mjök á forsjá konungs, ok sagði gott hugr um.
now still much on foresight of-(the)-king and said good mind about
Þórólfr rympill ok bróðir hans Karl kjötlær ok þeir 12
Thorolf Rympil and brother his Karl Meat-Thigh and those 12
völdust til at ganga fyrir framan fylkingar í orrostunni.
were-chosen to to go before in-front-of (the)-arrays in the-battle

Upphaf orrostu

XLIII · THE BATTLE BEGINS

Magnús's line gave way before Sverrir's standard while Guðlaugr's men broke; Sverrir rode up, rallied them, and his bodyguard took the Heklungar from behind. Magnús fled to the ships. The wounded Brynjólfr nearly beheaded Sverrir as he offered quarter to Ívarr galli; many landed men fell. Magnús chained the ships across the Vágr at Björgvin and went to King Valdimarr in Denmark.

Nú sigu saman fylkingar, ok var þegar hin snarpasta hríð,
Now sank together (the)-arrays and was at-once the sharpest onslaught
ok enga orrostu höfðu Birkibeinar átt fyrr við jafnmiklu
and no battle had (the)-Birchlegs had before with equally-great
liði, ok var þó miklu meira lið Magnús konungs. Þar
troop and was yet much greater (the)-troop of-Magnus king There
er fram fór merki Sverris konungs, fylgði hirð hans
where forward went (the)-standard of-Sverrir king followed bodyguard his
ok gestir. Þar lét undan síga fylking Magnús konungs,
and guests There let away sink (the)-array of-Magnus king
ok brast þar brátt flótti á, en í öðrum stað þar sem
and burst there soon flight on but in other place there where
fram fór merki Magnús konungs, þá óku þar undan
forward went (the)-standard of-Magnus king then drove there away
fylkingar Guðlaugs, ok var þar at komit flótta, ok sumir
(the)-arrays of-Gudlaug and was there to come flight and some
á rás komnir. Sverrir konungr sat á hesti, ok er
onto running come Sverrir king sat on horse and when
hann sér úfarar sinna manna, hleypir hann at þeim ok
he sees mishaps of-his men gallops he to them and
kallar: Hví flýit þér? sjáit þér eigi, at Heklungar flýja til
calls Why flee you see you not that (the)-Heklungs flee to

skipanna? ok dugit nú mannliga, ok rekit flóttann hér
the-ships and do-your-best now manfully and drive the-flight here
sem bezt er rekinn. Snúa Birkibeinar nú þegar á móti.
as best is driven Turn (the)-Birchlegs now at-once on against
Ok er hirðin Sverris konungs sér flóttann, þá snúa
And when the-bodyguard of-Sverrir king sees the-flight then turn
þeir þar til er var merki hans ok koma nú á bak þeim.
they there to where was standard his and come now on back to-them
Verðr þar nú mikit mannfall. Þá mælti maðr: Flýr nú
Becomes there now great slaughter Then spoke a-man Flees now
Magnús konungr. Maðr einn svaraði: Eigi enn, sagði hann,
Magnus king A-man one answered Not yet said he
ok hljóp at hinum ok hjó hann banahögg. Ok var þat
and leapt at the-other and hewed him a-death-blow And was that
sjálfr Magnús konungr. Flýr hann nú ok alt liðit til
himself Magnus king Flees he now and all the-troop to
skipanna. Þar féll Philippus Árnason ok Brynjólfr blanda
the-ships There fell Philippus Arni's-son and Brynjolf Blanda
son Eindriða Jónssonar. Ívarr galli varð sárr mjök, ok þá
son of-Eindridi Jon's-son Ivar Galli became wounded much and then
er flóttinn var rekinn, reið Sverrir konungr í valinn, ok
when the-flight was driven rode Sverrir king into the-slain and
kom at Ívari ok laut niðr á hestinum ok spurði, ef hann
came to Ivar and bent down on the-horse and asked if he
mundi vera grœðandi, ok bauð honum grið. Ívarr kvað þess
would be healable and offered to-him truce Ivar said of-that
meiri ván, at sár mundu grœdd verða, ef læknar tœki.
greater hope that wounds would healed be if leeches took
Þar var maðr skamt frá sárr mjök, þar var Brynjólfr
There was a-man short from wounded much there was Brynjolf
son Kálfs sendimanns, hann fœrðist á knéin ok hjó til
son of-Kalf (the)-messenger he moved-himself onto the-knees and hewed to

konungs með sverði ok stefndi á hálsinn. Hann brá við
(the)-king with sword and aimed at the-neck He started with
stálhúfubarminum, ok kom þar í blóðrefillinn, en sverðit
the-helmet-rim and came there into the-blood-groove but the-sword
tók eyrat, ok skeindist konungr á hálsinum. Kastaði hann
took the-ear and was-grazed (the)-king on the-neck Threw he
sér þá annan veg af hestinum, en sverðin ok kesjurnar
himself then other way off the-horse but the-swords and the-halberds
stóðu svá þykt á Brynjólfi, at hann mátti trautt falla
stood so thick in Brynjolf that he might hardly fall
fyrir. Þá var ok drepinn Ívarr galli ok Sigurðr skjómi
before Then was also killed Ivar Galli and Sigurd Gleam
frændi hans. Þessir féllu lendir menn á Íluvöllum, Nikulás
kinsman his These fell landed men on Iluvellir Nikulas
möndull, Jón kúla, Kolbeinn Gíslason, Eiríkr laukr. Nikulás
Mondul Jon Ball Kolbein Gisli's-son Eirik Leek Nikulas
möndull var manna sterkastr ok hafði brynju, þá er svá
Mondul was of-men strongest and had mail that which so
var sterk, at ekki festi vápn á, hann féll loks af mœði.
was strong that no weapon fastened on he fell at-last from weariness
Fletta Birkibeinar hann þá brynjunni ok drápu hann síðan.
Strip (the)-Birchlegs him then of-the-mail and killed him then
Sverrir konungr tók skeiðina miklu ok mörg önnur skip.
Sverrir king took the-warship great and many other ships
Birkibeinar hljópu á skip ok sóttu út eptir þeim. Út við
(The)-Birchlegs leapt onto ships and pressed out after them Out by
Digrmúla náðu þeir skipi Eindriða kálfs, en hann komst
Digrmuli caught they (the)-ship of-Eindridi Calf but he got
undan. Annat skip tóku þeir fyrir innan Rauðabjörg, ok
away Another ship took they on within Raudabjorg and
tvá vistabyrðinga. Magnús konungr fór suðr til Björgynjar,
two provision-ships Magnus king went south to Bjorgvin

en sumir hans menn fóru landveg, ok tóku Björgynjarmenn
but some his men went land-way and took (the)-Bjorgvin-men
vel við honum, átti hann þá þing, ok báðu bœjarmenn,
well with him had he then an-assembly and asked (the)-townsmen
at hann dveldist þar, ok létu þó meiri ván, at Sverrir
that he stayed there and gave yet greater hope that Sverrir
konungr mundi þar koma skjótt. Buðu bœjarmenn at verja
king would there come soon Offered (the)-townsmen to defend
bœinn með honum. Þá lét Magnús konungr taka öll
the-town with him Then let Magnus king take all
skip, er í váru bœnum, ok leggja út frá Hólmi ok
ships which in were the-town and lay out from Holm and
yfir til Munkabryggju, ok strengði alt millum skipanna
over to Munkabryggja and stretched all between the-ships
ok bryggnanna, svá at ganga mátti um þveran Váginn.
and the-wharves so that walk might over across the-Vag
Menn konungs mæltu, at úráðligt væri at trúa svá vel
Men of-(the)-king spoke that unadvisable were to trust so well
Björgynjarmönnum at byrgja sik svá inni í Váginum. Þá
to-the-Bjorgvin-men to shut themselves so in in the-Vag Then
fór Magnús konungr suðr til Danmerkr á fund Valdimars
went Magnus king south to Denmark to meeting of-Valdimar
konungs frænda síns, ok dvaldist þar um hríð.
king kinsman his and stayed there for a-while

Fall Páls Andressonar

XLIV · THE FALL OF PÁLL ANDRESSON

Sverrir took Björgvin and that summer his men killed Páll Andresson. In Lent the men of Vörs and Norðrhörðaland under Jón kutiza rowed into the Vágr by night; the Birkibeinar, thinking Magnús had come, fled, Sverrir forcing a farmer to give up a wretched horse. At dawn he rallied them with his trumpet Andvaka, and they cut the farmers down like cattle.

Sverrir konungr fór um sumarit suðr til Björgynjar ok kom
Sverrir king went in the-summer south to Bjorgvin and came
þar at Pétrsvöku. Gaf hann þar grið öllum bœjarmönnum.
there at Peter's-wake Gave he there truce to-all townsmen
Tóku þeir við honum sœmiliga, sem vert var. Lagði hann
Took they with him honorably as worthy was Laid he
þá land alt undir sik. Þetta sumar drápu Birkibeinar Pál
then land all under himself This summer killed (the)-Birchlegs Pal
Andresson, hann ok mjök mart manna með honum. Hann
Andres's-son him and very many men with him He
var hinn mesti vin Magnús konungs. Þann sama vetr í
was the greatest friend of-Magnus king That same winter in
annarri viku langaföstu um nóttina eptir mánadaginn urðu
(the)-second week of-Lent in the-night after the-Monday became
varðmenn Sverris konungs varir við, at langskip reru á
watchmen of-Sverrir king aware with that longships rowed onto
Váginn, ok var þar reist merki á einu skipinu. Þeir heyrðu
the-Vag and was there raised a-standard on one the-ship They heard
ok vápnabrak mikit. Varðmenn létu við kveða lúðra, ok
also weapon-clash great Watchmen let with sound trumpets and
gerðist þegar brak mikit af Birkibeinum, ok fór sá kurr,
became at-once crash great from (the)-Birchlegs and went that rumor

at Magnús konungr mundi kominn vera með her sinn.
that Magnus king would come be with host his
Margir klæddust þar skyndiliga, sumir vápnaðir, en sumir
Many dressed there hastily some armed but some
ekki, en allir flýðu, sumir í kirkjur, sumir í fjallit
not but all fled some into churches some onto the-mountain
upp. Sverrir konungr var staddr úti í svölunum, þá er
up Sverrir king was placed out in the-gallery then when
hinn fyrsti kom herblástrinn. Þá mælti hann: Nú gæti
the first came the-war-blast Then spoke he Now guard
guð til ok hinn helgi Ólafr konungr! Hann hljóp inn eptir
God to and the holy Olaf king He ran in along
strætinu ok fann engan mann fyrir sér, fyrr en hann kom
the-street and found no man before him earlier than he came
upp til nunnusetrs, þá reið bóndi einn á mót honum.
up to (the)-nunnery then rode farmer one on against him
Konungr bað bónda fá sér hestinn. Bóndi vill eigi
(The)-king bade (the)-farmer give to-him the-horse (The)-farmer will not
láta. Konungr sagði þá búanda, at hann mundi þenna hest
let (The)-king said then to-the-farmer that he would this horse
láta sik svá mikit kosta, at hann mundi þenna hest með
let himself so much cost that he would this horse with
vápnum sœkja, ef hann fengi eigi ella. Svá mikil nauðsyn
weapons seek if he got not else So great need
var honum þá til at ríða, at hann þreytti með kappi til
was to-him then to to ride that he strove with zeal to
þess reiðskjóta, er eigi fyrir mikit gull mundi hann ríða
that mount which not for much gold would he ride
vilja þeim hesti nauðsynjalaust, þvíat opt sagði hann síðan,
wish that horse without-need because often said he since
at aldri hafði hann verra hesti riðit. Konungr reið þá
that never had he worse horse ridden (The)-king rode then

upp til Álreksstaða, ok fann þar nökkura Birkibeina. Kómu
up to Alreksstadir and found there some Birchlegs Came
þeir þá við neðan or bœnum tveir eða þrír, fim eða
they then with from-below out-of the-town two or three five or
sjau. Kom þá sá kvittr, at þetta væri bóndaherr en eigi
seven Came then that rumor that this were farmers'-host but not
Magnús konungr, ok svá var ok, at þat váru Vörsar ok
Magnus king and so was also that that were (the)-Voss-men and
Norðrhörðar. Jón kutiza réð fyrir þeim. Þeir höfðu róit at
North-Hords Jon Kutiza ruled over them They had rowed to
yfir við Jónsbryggju, ok géngu þar upp ok skutu á fylking
over by Jonsbryggja and went there up and shot onto array
inn á Jónsvöllum, ok kómu mjök svá inn at Vágsbotni. En
in on Jonsvellir and came very so in to Vagsbotn But
ekki varð af tilræði í bœinn. Sumu liðinu lendu þeir at
nothing became of attempt into the-town Some the-troop landed they at
Hólmi, ok géngu upp fyrir utan Krists kirkjugarð ok blésu
Holm and went up on outside Christ's church-yard and blew
ok œptu heróp. Hljópu sumir inn í konungsgarð, ok fóru
and shouted war-cry Ran some in into (the)-king's-yard and went
heldr údjarfliga. En fyrir því at myrkt var af nótt, svá
rather undaringly But for that that dark was from night so
at Birkibeinar sá ekki lið þeira, þá flýðu þeir fyrir því,
that (the)-Birchlegs saw not troop their then fled they for that
en ef þeir hefði vitað um þetta lið, sem var, þá mundu
but if they had known about this troop as was then would
þeir þessa hafa skjótt af sér rekit, þvíat þetta var miklu
they these have quickly off themselves driven because this was much
minni hluti bóndaliðsins, en þat er yfir var á völlunum.
smaller part of-the-farmers'-troop than that which over was on the-fields
En er Sverrir konungr varð hér víss hins sanna, þá lét
But when Sverrir king became here aware of-the truth then let

hann kalla saman sína menn alla, þá er þar váru komnir,
he call together his men all those who there were come
ok bað menn snúa aptr í bœinn, ok sagði þeim þegar
and bade men turn back into the-town and said to-them at-once
dragast mundu lið, er þeir heyrði til lúðrs hans Andvöku,
gather would troop when they heard to trumpet his Andvaka
sagði at lið þeira mart mundu hlaupit í kirkjur eða
said that troop their much would run into churches or
fólgizt hér ok hvar í bœnum. Ok er konungr sótti
hidden-themselves here and there in the-town And when (the)-king pressed
ofan at bœnum, þá dróst honum mjök liðit. En er
down to the-town then drew to-him much the-troop But when
konungr kom til Ólafs kirkju, lét hann blása Andvöku ok
(the)-king came to Olaf's church let he blow Andvaka and
reisa merkit. Þar hafði verit mart Birkibeina. Konungr
raise the-standard There had been many Birchlegs (The)-king
fylkti fyrir ofan Allra heilagra kirkju, ok bað Birkibeina
arrayed on above All Saints' church and bade (the)-Birchlegs
ganga nú djarfliga fram, sagði þeim mundu skamma raun
go now boldly forward said to-them would short trial
þat. Birkibeinar báðu þann aldri þrífast, er bœndr óttaðist,
that (The)-Birchlegs bade him never thrive who (the)-farmers feared
ok œptu þegar heróp ok hljópu or fylkingunni ok út á
and shouted at-once war-cry and leapt out-of the-array and out onto
völluna með ópi ok kalli. Bœndr sá á móti dagsbrúninni
the-fields with whoop and call (The)-farmers saw on against the-dawn-edge
merkit gnæfa yfir sér, ok skaut þeim skelk í bringu,
the-standard tower over them and shot to-them fright into breast
ok skaut hverr öðrum fyrir sik fram, ok því næst dundu
and thrust each other before himself forward and then next thundered
vápn Birkibeina á þá. Bœndr flýðu þá, en Birkibeinar
weapons of-(the)-Birchlegs on them (The)-farmers fled then but (the)-Birchlegs

fylgðu þeim bjargvel ok drápu þá niðr sem búfé. Sumir
followed them well and killed them down as cattle Some
bœndr flýðu til skipanna, sumir týndust á sundi. Konungr
farmers fled to the-ships some perished in swimming (The)-king
snýr þá inn á völluna með sumu liðinu. Kom þá mart
turns then in onto the-fields with some the-troop Came then many
bónda til hans, ok gaf hann öllum grið, er þess báðu.
farmers to him and gave he to-all truce who of-that asked
Gékk konungr þá út um bœinn ok mintist til allra
Went (the)-king then out through the-town and visited to all
kirkna, var þá ljóst af degi. Jón kutiza hafði eigi upp
churches was then light of day Jon Kutiza had not up
gengit af skipum, þvíat hann var maðr gamall ok hrumr
gone from ships because he was man old and infirm
mjök ok þungfœrr. Bœndr reru þegar út or Váginum,
much and slow-moving (The)-farmers rowed at-once out out-of the-Vag
er þeir kómust á skipin, ok þótti, sem var, at aldri varð
when they got onto the-ships and seemed as was that never became
verri ferð farin en sú við jafnmiklu liði, sem þeir höfðu.
worse journey gone than that with equally-great troop as they had

Frá Sverri konungi

XLV · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir went with his cutters through Harðangr and Hörðaland and took heavy fines from the farmers who had joined Jón's army; some fled east to Magnús.

Sverrir konungr fór litlu síðar suðr með landi við skútnaliði
Sverrir king went little later south along (the)-land with cutter-troop
ok inn í Harðangr ok mjök víða um Hörðaland, ok
and in into Hardanger and very widely about Hordaland and

tók af bóndum gjöld stór, þvíat í þenna her, er Jón
took from (the)-farmers payments great because into this host which Jon
hafði saman dregit, höfðu margir til samnazt. Tók hann
had together drawn had many to gathered Took he
af öllum stórfé, þeim er á hans fund sóttu; en sumir
from all great-wealth those who to his meeting sought but some
stukku undan austr til Víkr á leit Magnús konungs.
fled away east to (the)-Vik on search of-Magnus king

Frá Magnúsi konungi

XLVI · OF KING MAGNÚS

Magnús wintered with King Valdimarr in Denmark while Ormr and others held the Vík, and in Lent they went to meet him. Sverrir, leaving Björgvin after Easter, said he carried the loyalty of all Magnús's landed men but Nikulás kúfungr in his purse: they had all sent him secret letters seeking peace.

Magnús konungr var þann vetr í Danmörk með Valdimar
Magnus king was that winter in Denmark with Valdimar
konungi frænda sínum í góðum fagnaði, ok hafði menn sína í
king kinsman his in good welcome and had men his in
sýslum um Víkina. Optast var Ormr konungsbróðir í Víkinni
districts about the-Vik Most-often was Orm king's-brother in the-Vik
ok nökkurir aðrir lendir menn, en sumir váru í Danmörk með
and some other landed men but some were in Denmark with
konungi. Höfðu þeir allir saman mikit fjölmenni, ok er á
(the)-king Had they all together great multitude and when on
leið langaföstu, fóru þeir Ormr suðr á mót konungi. Sverrir
passed Lent went they Orm south on against (the)-king Sverrir
konungr sat í Björgyn fram um páska, bjóst síðan á
king sat in Bjorgvin forward till Easter prepared-himself then on

braut ok hafði frítt lið ok mikit, stór skip. Þá mælti Sverrir
away and had fine troop and great large ships Then spoke Sverrir
konungr fyrir mönnum sínum, at hann hefði einurð allra
king before men his that he had (the)-loyalty of-all
lendra manna Magnús í pungi sínum, nema Nikulás kúfungs.
landed men of-Magnus in purse his except of-Nikulas Whelk
En þat var reyndar, at allir lendir menn Magnús konungs
But that was in-truth that all landed men of-Magnus king
höfðu sent Sverri konungi leyndarbréf ok leituðu til hans
had sent to-Sverrir king secret-letters and sought to him
griða ok vináttu, ok þau bréf hafði konungr í pungi sínum.
of-truce and friendship and those letters had (the)-king in purse his

Frá Sverri ok Magnúsi konungi

XLVII · OF SVERRIR AND KING MAGNÚS

In Salteyjarsund Sverrir saw Magnús's fleet coming; Hávarðr jarlsson urged flight, since the Vík was worse than heathen land for them. In the skirmish a man leapt with Nikulás kúfungr's young son Páll into a cutter and cut it loose, and Nikulás got his son back. Sverrir slipped out through a narrow sound and ran for Björgvin, Magnús pursuing with a great host.

Sverrir konungr fór or Björgyn nökkuru eptir páskaviku
Sverrir king went out-of Bjorgvin somewhat after Easter-week
ok austr með landi, ok gékk alt fólk undir hann, hvar sem
and east along (the)-land and went all folk under him where as
hann fór. Hann fór alt austr til Víkr, ok lá nökkurar nætr
he went He went all east to (the)-Vik and lay some nights
í Salteyjarsundi. Þat var einn dag, at Sverrir konungr gékk
in Salteyjarsund It was one day that Sverrir king went
upp í eyna til varðmanna sinna. Þeir sá segl mörg sigla
up onto the-island to watchmen his They saw sails many sail

austan. Konungr sagði, at þat váru hermenn, lét hann þá
from-east (The)-king said that that were warriors let he then
blása öllu liðinu til landgöngu. Þá mælti Sverrir konungr:
blow all the-troop to land-going Then spoke Sverrir king
Hér ferr Magnús konungr með her sinn at oss, munum vér
Here goes Magnus king with host his at us will we
Birkibeinar eiga enn við ofrefli at skipta. Vil ek nú taka
Birchlegs have still with odds to deal Will I now take
ráð af vitrum mönnum, svá sem er Hávarðr jarlsson eða
counsel from wise men such as is Havard earl's-son or
Úlfr af Laufnesi, ok margir aðrir várir menn, hvárt þér vilit,
Ulf of Laufnes and many other our men whether you wish
at vér leggim til orrostu við Heklunga, eða skulum vér
that we lay to battle with (the)-Heklungs or shall we
undan norðr í land, þangat sem vér munum eiga nökkura
away north into (the)-land thither where we will have some
vini, en hér eru engir. Tökum nú at guðs vilja gott ráð
friends but here are none Take now at God's will good counsel
ok skjótt. Þá svaraði Hávarðr: Skjótt mun ek birta minn
and quick Then answered Havard Quickly will I make-clear my
vilja. Göngum út á skip, rekum af oss tjöld ok róm út
will Go out onto ships drive off us awnings and row out
or þaularvági þessum, ok siglum norðr undan, ok berjumst
out-of narrow-bay this and sail north away and fight
eigi hér við Magnús konung, þvíat þetta landsfólk er oss
not here with Magnus king because this land-folk is to-us
verra fyrir at hitta, ef vér látum skip vár, en hit versta
worse for to meet if we lose ships our than the worst
heiðit fólk, því at hér á engi lífs ván, ef kemr á vald
heathen folk for that here has none of-life hope if comes into power
Heklunga eða Víkverja. Þá varð rómr mikill at máli hans,
of-(the)-Heklungs or Vik-men Then became acclaim great at speech his

ok líkaði þat öllum vel. Drógu Birkibeinar þá upp segl sín.
and pleased that to-all well Drew (the)-Birchlegs then up sails their
Þá renna skip Magnús konungs sunnan or sundunum.
Then run ships of-Magnus king from-south out-of the-sounds
Eyjólfr Aflason stýrði skútu, er Refan hét, ok gékk
Eyjolf Afli's-son steered a-cutter which Refan was-called and went
á skip Úlfs flýs, ok bundu þar við skútuna. Þar var
onto (the)-ship of-Ulf Flea and bound there with the-cutter There was
á skipinu Úlfs Páll fliða son Nikulás kúfungs, hann höfðu
on the-ship of-Ulf Pal Flatfish son of-Nikulas Whelk him had
þeir litlu áðr tekit, ok fóstra hans með honum. Páll var
they little before taken and foster-father his with him Pal was
barn at aldri. Þessi maðr greip sveininn í fang sér ok
a-child in age This man grabbed the-boy into embrace his and
hljóp ofan í skútuna, hjó þegar festina milli skipanna,
leapt down into the-cutter hewed at-once the-mooring between the-ships
rak frá skútuna. Tóku hana menn Magnús konungs, tók
drove off the-cutter Took it men of-Magnus king took
þá Nikulás kúfungr við syni sínum. Hvárirtveggju urðu
then Nikulas Whelk with son his Both became
sárir af skotum, ok féllu nökkurir menn. Sverrir konungr
wounded from shots and fell some men Sverrir king
var á skútu ok sagði fyrir sínum mönnum, hversu þeir
was on a-cutter and told before his men how they
skyldu aka seglunum. Hann bað þá hleypa skipunum í
should handle the-sails He bade them run the-ships into
eitt þröngt sund millum eyjanna, ok svá gerðu þeir. Menn
one narrow sound between the-islands and so did they Men
Magnús konungs stefndu í mitt leiðarsundit, ok gáðu
of-Magnus king headed into mid the-fairway-sound and heeded
eigi, at Birkibeinar hefði út snúit millum eyjanna. Magnús
not that (the)-Birchlegs had out turned between the-islands Magnus

konungr hafði þá Skeggjann, hann var 6 rúm ok 20. Mörg
king had then the-Skeggi it was 6 rooms and 20 Many
höfðu þeir önnur stórskip. Sverrir konungr siglir nú hafleið
had they other great-ships Sverrir king sails now sea-way
norðr um Foldina, ok fóru sem ákafast, þar til er
north across the-Fold and went as most-vehemently there till when
þeir kómu til Björgynjar. Var þat í vikunni fyrir hvítadaga.
they came to Bjorgvin Was that in the-week before Whitsun
Dvaldist hann þar um hríð. Magnús konungr fór skyndiliga
Stayed he there for a-while Magnus king went hastily
austan um Víkina. Urðu honum allir menn fegnir. Hann
from-east about the-Vik Became to-him all men glad He
kom til Túnsbergs ok dvaldist þar litla hríð, sneri norðr
came to Tunsberg and stayed there little while turned north
síðan ok hafði úgrynni liðs, fór dag ok nótt norðr eptir
then and had countless troop went day and night north after
Sverri konungi, lá þat eina í höfnum, er andviðri váru.
Sverrir king lay that alone in harbors when contrary-winds were

Frá Sverri konungi ok liði hans

XLVIII · OF KING SVERRIR AND HIS TROOP

On the Sunday after Whitsun scouts reported over thirty of Magnús's sails against Sverrir's sixteen. His men leaned toward flight, but Sverrir said their band had fared worst while fleeing, put the cause to God, Saint Ólafr, and Saint Sunnifa, and promised victory; they cheered, and rowed out past Norðnes without lashing their ships.

Sunnudag hinn næsta eptir hvítadaga var Sverrir konungr
Sunday the next after Whitsun was Sverrir king
í Björgyn með liði sínu. Skip hans lágu öll við bryggjur
in Bjorgvin with troop his Ships his lay all by (the)-wharves

búin ok víggyrðluð. Sverrir konungr stóð upp snemma ok
ready and battle-girded Sverrir king stood up early and
gékk upp á Bakka til Ólafs kirkju, ok þá til varðmanna
went up onto Bakki to Olaf's church and then to watchmen
sinna. Þá sá þeir, at reri á Váginn ein skúta, ok lögðu
his Then saw they that rowed onto the-Vag one cutter and laid
at í Hólmi ok runnu upp þegar. Konungr sneri ofan á
to at Holm and ran up at-once (The)-king turned down on
mót þeim ok kendi, at þat var njósn hans. Ok þegar er
against them and knew that that was spying his And as-soon as
þeir höfðu kvaddan konunginn, kváðust þeir hafa sét segl
they had greeted the-king said-themselves they have seen sails
Magnús konungs, mikit á fjórða tigi, ok sigldu nú sunnan
of-Magnus king much in fourth ten and sailed now from-south
um Harðsæ. Þá svaraði Sverrir konungr: Ok hölzti nær oss.
across Hardsae Then answered Sverrir king And too near us
Konungr bað lúðrsveininn blása. Gékk konungr þegar á
(The)-king bade the-trumpet-boy blow Went (the)-king at-once onto
skip sitt ok bað þá róa út á Váginn. Slíkt sama gerðu
ship his and bade them row out onto the-Vag Such same did
allir hans menn, lögðu saman skipunum. Þá mælti Sverrir
all his men laid together the-ships Then spoke Sverrir
konungr: Hér mun Magnús konungr koma brátt at vitja
king Here will Magnus king come soon to visit
vár. Hefir hann nú, sem þér munut spurt hafa, meir en 30
us Has he now as you will learned have more than 30
skipa, en vér höfum eigi meir en 16. Nú mun yðr eigi
ships but we have not more than 16 Now will to-you not
þykkja ván vár líklig at berjast á móti svá miklum her, en
seem hope our likely to fight on against so great host but
at öðrum kosti munum vér verða at flýja norðr í land.
at other choice will we must to flee north into (the)-land

Vil ek leita ráðs við yðr, hvárt þér vilið berjast við því liði,
Will I seek counsel with you whether you wish fight with that troop
er vér höfum, eða flýja undan. Ok þótti mér þá stund
which we have or flee away And seemed to-me that while
fara verst várr flokkr, er vér höfðum flýit fyrir Hattarhamri,
go worst our band when we had fled before Hattarhamar
ok þar til er vér vágum sigr við Hirtubrú. Nú flýðu vér
and there till when we won victory by Hirtubru Now fled we
fyrir Magnúsi konungi austr í Vík, ok vænti ek, ef vér
before Magnus king east into (the)-Vik and expect I if we
flýjum enn orrostulaust, at litil ógn þykki af oss standa.
flee still battle-less that little terror seems from us to-stand
Þá svöruðu mjök margir menn, at fúsari væri at flýja
Then answered very many men that more-willing were to flee
undan, en báðu konung ráða, ok gerðist kurr mikill í
away but bade (the)-king decide and became murmur great in
liðinu. Þá mælti Sverrir konungr hátt: At guðs vilja ok hins
the-troop Then spoke Sverrir king loud At God's will and the
helga Ólafs þá búizt þér nú svá við, at nú skulum
holy Olaf's then prepare-yourselves you now so with that now shall
vér berjast við Magnús konung, ok rekast eigi lengr fyrir
we fight with Magnus king and be-driven not longer before
land fram, ok þótt vér hafim lið færa, þá höfum vér þó
land forward and though we have troop fewer then have we yet
stórskip. Vænti ek, at Heklungum skal enn vera minnisamt,
great-ships Expect I that to-the-Heklungs shall still be memorable
hversu þeir Birkibeinar kunnu at beita sverðunum, áðr vér
how they Birchlegs knew to wield the-swords before we
skilim, ok látum þá hafa hina sömu raun nú sem fyrr,
part and let them have the same trial now as before
þvíat enn munu þeir úfúsir at ganga undir vápn yður, ef
because still will they unwilling to go under weapons your if

þér horfit við vel. Nú vænti ek, at vér munim bera sigr
you face with well Now expect I that we will bear victory
af þeim, hefir yðr þat sjaldan rofizt, þá er ek hefi þat
from them has to-you that seldom broken then when I have that
sagt yðr. Er nú enn sem fyrr, at várt traust er alt undir
said to-you Is now still as before that our trust is all under
guði ok helgum mönnum hans, en eigi undir liðsfjölda, skýt
God and holy men his but not under troop-numbers refer
ek nú mínu máli til guðs ok hins helga Ólafs konungs ok
I now my case to God and the holy Olaf king and
hinnar helgu Sunnifu, bið ek, at þessi fundr fari svá okkar
the holy Sunniva pray I that this meeting go so of-us-two
á millum Magnús konungs ok mín, sem guð veit, at
in between Magnus king and mine as God knows that
málaefni okkur eru til. Þá varð rómr mikill at máli hans,
cases of-us-two are to Then became acclaim great at speech his
ok sögðu svá: Mæl þú allra konunga heilastr! þat hefir oss
and said so Speak you of-all kings most-hale that has to-us
aldri brugðizt, er þú hefir sigrinum heitið oss, ok verði
never failed when you have the-victory promised to-us and become
sá at níðingi, er eigi berst nú, sem hann er í fœrum
he to villain who not fights now as he is in ability
um. Þá mælti konungr: Hafit nú mikla þökk fyrir af
about Then spoke (the)-king Have now great thanks for from
guði ok af mér fyrir svörin, ok verit nú öruggir á móti
God and from me for the-answers and be now steadfast on against
úvinum várum. Róm nú á mót þeim, ok leggi svá hverr
enemies our Row now on against them and lay so each
fram sitt skip, sem hann er drengr til, ok ekki munum
forward his ship as he is a-fellow to and not will
vér tengja skip vár. Þeir reru þá út fyrir Norðnes. Magnús
we lash ships our They rowed then out on Nordnes Magnus

konungr kom þá at með sínum skipum. Hlóðu þeir þá
king came then at with his ships Lowered they then
seglunum, var þá blásit til samlögu öllum skipunum. Þá
the-sails was then blown to joining all the-ships Then
talaði Magnús konungr fyrir liðinu ok mælti svá.
talked Magnus king before the-troop and spoke so

Tala Magnús konungs

XLIX · KING MAGNÚS'S SPEECH

Magnús called the Birkibeinar thieves and robbers and forbade quarter; Ormr advised clearing their small ships first. Nine great ships beset the Ólafssúð, but their stem-on attack kept them from hand blows. Sverrir, in a white cowl with a red shield, stood on the rigging and prodded Guðlaugr's ship forward with a spike-staff, while the guests' ship fought Magnús's guests to a standstill.

Nú megum vér sjá skip Birkibeina. Munu vér nú ná at
Now may we see (the)-ships of-(the)-Birchlegs Will we now get to
berjast, þótt þeir hafi lengi undan rekizt. Verum vér nú
fight though they have long away been-driven Be we now
minnisamir, ok munim lát frænda várra, er Birkibeinar
mindful and remember (the)-loss of-kinsmen our whom (the)-Birchlegs
hafa niðr drepit, eða þær svaðilfarar, er vér höfum fyrir
have down killed or those hard-journeys which we have before
þeim farit. Nú mun þykkja vænt til stefnt, at þeir muni
them gone Now will seem likely to aimed that they will
fá af oss slíkt, sem þeir hafa fyrir löngu til stundat. En
get from us such as they have for long to striven But
þó eru vár viðrskipti úmaklig, þvíat vér höfum til móts
yet are our dealings unequal because we have to meeting
göfugmenni ok góðmenni, en þeir hafa ekki utan þjófa ok
noblemen and good-men but they have nothing except thieves and

ránsmenn ok önnur illmenni, sem guð steypi þeim. Ok eigi
robbers and other evil-men as God overthrow them And not
er at heldr hefnt göfugra frænda várra, þó at vér drepim
is the more avenged noble kinsmen our though that we kill
þá alla, en brigzlalaust er oss at gera þat. Verði engi svá
them all but reproachless is to-us to do that Be none so
djarfr minna manna, at neinum þeira gefi grið. Vér höfum
bold of-my men that to-any of-them give truce We have
frítt lið ok mikit, gerum þeim þá hina fyrstu hríð, at
fine troop and great make them then the first onslaught that
þeir þurfi eigi aðra. Þeir hafa lið lítið, ok sé þess guð
they need not another They have troop little and be of-that God
lofaðr, mun nú kominn endadagr lífs þeira, munu þeir
praised will now come (the)-end-day of-life their will they
brátt blotna fyrir yðr. Þá mælti Ormr konungsbróðir: Þat
soon soften before you Then spoke Orm king's-brother That
er mitt ráð, at vér búimst svá til þessar hríðar, at
is my counsel that we prepare-ourselves so to this onslaught that
Birkibeinar munu móti horfa ok veita oss harða viðtöku,
(the)-Birchlegs will against face and give us hard reception
þótt þeir hafi lið minna, en yfrin er nauðsyn til, at
though they have troop smaller and ample is need to that
hverr dugi sem má. Væri þat mitt ráð at hrjóða fyrst
each do-his-best as may Were that my counsel to clear first
hin smæri skip þeira, þvíat eigi munu þeir undan oss róa
the smaller ships their because not will they away from-us row
á stórskipunum. Konungr hafði Skeggjann, Ormr Grágásina,
on the-great-ships (The)-king had the-Skeggi Orm the-Gray-Goose
Höfðabúzuna höfðu þeir Narfi af Sástöðum ok Steinfinnr
the-Hofdabuza had they Narfi of Sastadir and Steinfinn
frændi hans. Þessi 3 lögðu at Ólafssúðinni. Þar var ok með
kinsman his These 3 laid at the-Olafssud There was also with

Magnúsi konungi Ásbjörn Jónsson, Nikulás kúfungr, Páll
Magnus king Asbjorn Jon's-son Nikulas Whelk Pal
smáttauga, Jón ok Munan synir Gauts af Ænesi. Þeir höfðu
Narrow-Eye Jon and Munan sons of-Gaut of Aenes They had
12 skip ok 20. Þeir greiddu þá atróðrinn. Birkibeinar
12 ships and 20 They made then the-rowing-attack (The)-Birchlegs
reru á mót þeim fulldjarfliga. Með Sverri konungi váru
rowed on against them very-boldly With Sverrir king were
þessir lendir menn: Úlfr af Laufnesi, Úlfr flý, Hávarðr
these landed men Ulf of Laufnes Ulf Flea Havard
jarlsson, Bárðr Guthormsson, Ívarr selki, Guðlaugr vali.
earl's-son Bard Guthorm's-son Ivar Seal Gudlaug Vali
Hárknífrinn var 3 rúm ok 20, er gestir höfðu, ok stýrði
The-Harknif was 3 rooms and 20 which (the)-guests had and steered
því Auðbjörn, Fjarðakolluna höfðu húskarlar, ok stýrði því
it Audbjorn the-Fjardakolla had house-carls and steered it
Ásgeirr hamarskalli. Í atróðrinum fór Ólafssúðin utarst, á
Asgeir Hammer-Skull In the-rowing-attack went the-Olafssud outermost on
útborða henni lögðu at 9 stórskip. Var sú orrosta bæði löng
outboard to-it laid at 9 great-ships Was that battle both long
ok hörð, sótti Magnús konungs menn fast at Ólafssúðinni,
and hard pressed of-Magnus king's men hard at the-Olafssud
en fyrir því at þeir stungu stöfnum at, þá kómu þeir ekki
but for that that they thrust prows at then came they not
höggum við. Var þá svá mikill vápnaburðrinn, at þar er
blows with Was then so great the-weapon-hail that there where
3 váru í hálfrými menninir á Ólafssúðinni, þá stóð einn
3 were in half-room the-men on the-Olafssud then stood one
upp, en sumstaðar engi. Þá er Magnús konungs menn
up but in-some-places none Then when of-Magnus king's men
þraut grjót ok skotvápn, ok þeir ætluðu upp at ganga, þá
failed stones and missiles and they intended up to go then

tóku Birkibeinar til vápna sinna ok eggjuðust til varnar.
took (the)-Birchlegs to weapons their and urged-themselves to defense
Reis þá upp margr, sá er áðr var fallinn fyrir grjóti ok
Rose then up many he who before was fallen before stones and
skotvápnum, ok dugði þá hverr, sem mátti. Sverrir konungr
missiles and did-his-best then each as might Sverrir king
hljóp upp á viðuna, hann hafði hvítan kufl, ok vel byrt
leapt up onto the-rigging he had white cowl and well fitted
undir, ok rauðan skjöld, hann eggjaði mjök sína menn.
under and red shield he urged much his men
Hann leit þá á bakborða Ólafssúðinni, þar lá Guðlaugr
He looked then on larboard of-the-Olafssud there lay Gudlaug
stallari, hann hafði eigi lengra fram lagt en til eptra
marshal he had not further forward laid than to (the)-aft
austrúms. Þá kallaði konungr á Guðlaug ok bað hann aldri
bailing-room Then called (the)-king on Gudlaug and bade him never
þrífast, er svá illa legði fram hálfþrítugu skipi. Guðlaugr
thrive who so ill laid forward a-twenty-five-bench ship Gudlaug
kvezt eigi ráða mega. Konungr tók einn pálstaf ok stakk
said-himself not decide may (The)-king took one spike-staff and thrust
við kinnunginum á skipi Guðlaugs, hét á sína menn,
at the-bow on ship of-Gudlaug called on his men
at þeir drœgi þá fram með skipinu. Ok þeir gerðu svá,
that they pull then forward along the-ship And they did so
kómu þeir þá til fremra austrúms. Ok litlu síðar var engi
came they then to (the)-fore bailing-room And little later was none
sá á skipi Guðlaugs fyrir framan siglu, at eigi blœddi.
he on ship of-Gudlaug on in-front-of (the)-mast that not bled
Auðbjörn gestahöfðingi lagði at gestaskipi Magnús konungs,
Audbjorn guests'-leader laid at (the)-guest-ship of-Magnus king

ok hafa menn gert at ágætum, hversu djarfliga þeir sóttust,
and have men made at renown how boldly they pressed
þóttist þat engi maðr vita, hvárir þar mundu efri verða.
thought-himself that no man know which there would upper be

Frá Hallvarði gœlu

L · OF HALLVARÐR GŒLA

The archer Hallvarðr gœla missed with his first three arrows and was mocked for it; then he loosed a dozen into Magnús's ship and hit a man each time, broke his bow underfoot, and went to fight with sword and shield, saying he had freed his hands by shooting.

Hallvarðr gœla hét maðr víkverskr, ok skaut manna bezt.
Hallvard Gaela was-called a-man Vik-man and shot of-men best
Hann skaut öru til skips Magnús konungs, ok fló fyrir ofan
He shot arrow to (the)-ship of-Magnus king and flew on above
skipit, annarri skaut hann niðri í borðit, hinni þriðju undir
the-ship another shot he below into the-board the third under
kjölinn. Þá mælti maðr: Beinna skauztu í sumar, þá er fé
the-keel Then spoke a-man Straighter shot-you in summer then when wealth
lá við, ok settir silfr við hvert beinskeyti, ok tókt þú þá upp
lay with and set silver by each straight-shot and took you then up
silfrit ok sýndir atgervi þína. Hallvarðr svaraði: Þykki þér
the-silver and showed accomplishment your Hallvard answered Seems to-you
eigi gegnt skotið? Þá svaraði sá: Engi skýtr jafnilla á váru
not fitly shot Then answered he None shoots equally-ill on our
skipi. Síðan tók Hallvarðr tylft örva ok skaut einni á skip
ship Then took Hallvard dozen of-arrows and shot one onto (the)-ship
Magnús konungs, ok hœfði þann mann, er hann skaut til,
of-Magnus king and hit that man whom he shot to

unz allar váru uppi, ok hœfði mann í hvert sinn. Ok er sjá
till all were up and hit a-man in each time And when that
tylft var uppi, þá lagði hann bogann undir fót sér ok braut
dozen was up then laid he the-bow under foot his and broke
í sundr. Þá mælti konungr: Hví fórtu nú svá við boganum?
in pieces Then spoke (the)-king Why went-you now so with the-bow
hin sama er oss enn liðsþörf sem fyrr. Hallvarðr svaraði:
the same is to-us still troop-need as before Hallvard answered
Leyst hefi ek nú hendr mínar með skotum, ok enn skal ek
Freed have I now hands my with shots and still shall I
verja rúm mitt sem einnhverr annarra. Tók hann þá skjöld
defend room my as anyone of-others Took he then shield
ok sverð ok gékk út á borð ok barðist manna djarfligast.
and sword and went out onto board and fought of-men most-boldly

Magnús konungr fékk fótarsár

LI · KING MAGNÚS WOUNDED IN THE FOOT

A sword pierced Magnús's foot and he fell; Ormr, hearing the king was down, cut loose and fled ashore, scattering silver to delay the pursuers. The Birkibeinar took eighteen ships off Norðnes, a battle men called the hardest ever fought. Spurred by Bishop Eirík of Stafangr, Magnús came back north, and Sverrir's weary men withdrew to Þrándheimr, Eyjólfr Aflason slipping past the fleet.

Magnús konungr var fram á skipi sínu ok barðist í
Magnus king was forward on ship his and fought in
fyrirrúminu. Hann gékk svá nær Birkibeinum, at hann
the-fore-room He went so near (the)-Birchlegs that he
hljóp öðrum fœti út á borðit ok ætlaði at ná með
leapt with-other foot out onto the-board and intended to reach with
sverði til eins manns. Birkibeinar kendu hann at vápnum
sword to one man (The)-Birchlegs knew him by weapons

ok klæðum ok báru þykt vápn at honum. Einn maðr
and clothes and bore thick weapons at him One man
skaut sverði í gegnum ristina á honum. Konungr brást við
thrust sword in through the-instep on him (The)-king started with
hart ok skriðnaði á þiljunum ok féll á bak aptr. Þat sá
hard and slipped on the-decks and fell on back aft That saw
Birkibeinar ok œptu sigróp. Þá mælti maðr á skipi Orms
(the)-Birchlegs and shouted victory-cry Then spoke a-man on ship of-Orm
konungsbróður: Þar féll nú Magnús konungr. Skipt mun þá
king's-brother There fell now Magnus king Divided will then
löndunum, sagði Ormr, ok höggvi tengslin ok rói undan.
the-lands said Orm and hew the-lashings and row away
Ok þá gerði svá hverr at öðrum. Magnús konungr hljóp
And then did so each after other Magnus king leapt
upp ok bað þá eigi flýja ok kvað sik ekki saka. En þá
up and bade them not flee and said himself nothing harm But then
lét engi, sem heyrði. Birkibeinar hruðu Höfðabúzuna með
acted none as heard (The)-Birchlegs cleared the-Hofdabuza with
stöfnum. Steinfinnr stóð einn upp at lyktum, ok féngu þeir
prows Steinfinn stood alone up at last and got they
eigi fyrr sóttan hann, en þeir tóku ás einn ok lustu
not earlier overcome him than they took beam one and struck
hann þar með. Féll hann þá við mikinn orðstír. Ormr
him there with Fell he then with great renown Orm
konungsbróðir lagði at landi út við Grafdal, fyrir því at
king's-brother laid to land out by Grafdal for that that
hann hafði skip mikit ok þungt undir árum. Hljóp hann þar
he had ship great and heavy under oars Leapt he there
á land við öllum sínum mönnum. Birkibeinar sóttu eptir
onto land with all his men (The)-Birchlegs pressed after
þeim. Ormr var þungfœrr, ok leiddu hann 2 menn. En er
them Orm was slow-moving and led him 2 men But when

Birkibeinar drógu eptir, þá spretti Ormr fésjóð digrum
(the)-Birchlegs drew after then ripped Orm money-purse thick
ok lét hlaupa niðr silfrit. Gestir nökkurir fóru honum næstir
and let run down the-silver Guests some went to-him nearest
af Birkibeinum, tóku þeir silfrit ok lásu upp. Dró Ormr
of (the)-Birchlegs took they the-silver and picked up Drew Orm
þá undan í fjallit, ok skildi þar með þeim. Gaf Sverrir
then away into the-mountain and parted there with them Gave Sverrir
konungr þeim mikit skak fyrir gestunum, er Ormr hafði
king to-them great shaking for the-guests when Orm had
undan komizt ok kropit þar at nökkurum silfrpenningum.
away got and crept there at some silver-pennies
Þeir tóku þar 18 skip af Magnúsi konungi, ok fluttust
They took there 18 ships from Magnus king and moved
menn á þeim inn til bœjarins. Sverrir konungr lét þá halda
men on them in to the-town Sverrir king let then keep
njósnum um ferðir Heklunga. Þat var ávarp manna, at
spies about journeys of-(the)-Heklungs That was estimate of-men that
fyrir Norðnesi mundi eigi færa falla en 3 hundruð manna.
on Nordnes would not fewer fall than 3 hundred men
Magnús konungr fór við liði sínu suðr í Stafangr. Eiríkr
Magnus king went with troop his south into Stavanger Eirik
byskup tók vel við Magnúsi konungi ok eggjaði mjök, at
bishop took well with Magnus king and urged much that
konungr sneri aptr til Björgynjar, lézt þess ván, at
(the)-king turned back to Bjorgvin said-himself of-that hope that
Birkibeinar mundi nú lítt viðrbúnir. Konunginum líkaði þetta
(the)-Birchlegs would now little prepared To-the-king pleased this
ráð vel. Fékk byskup þeim lið mikit ok fór sjálfr með
counsel well Gave (the)-bishop to-them troop great and went himself with
húskörlum sínum. Konungr fékk mikit lið or heruðum ok
house-carls his (The)-king got great troop out-of districts and

fór norðr til Björgynjar fám nóttum síðar, ok sóttu mjök
went north to Bjorgvin few nights later and pressed much
leiðina. Eyjólfr Aflason var á njósn með skútu nökkura, ok
the-way Eyjolf Afli's-son was on spying with cutter some and
fundu eigi fyrr, en herr Magnús konungs var í sundinu
found not earlier than (the)-host of-Magnus king was in the-sound
fyrir þeim, þá mæltu þeir, at þeir hefði hættliga róit.
before them then spoke they that they had dangerously rowed
Eyjólfr bað þá róa fram hit beinsta ok láta, sem þeir væri
Eyjolf bade them row forward the straightest and act as they were
Heklungar, ok þat hugðu þeir ok, at þeira menn mundu
Heklungs and that thought they also that their men would
vera, þannin sem fóru. En er þeir Eyjólfr váru mjök komnir
be so as went But when they Eyjolf were much come
at flotanum, kiptu þeir hjá fram ok lustu við fast árunum.
to the-fleet jerked they by forward and struck with hard the-oars
Heklungar sá ok þá, at þetta váru Birkibeinar, ok reru eptir
(The)-Heklungs saw also then that these were Birchlegs and rowed after
sem mest ok féngu eigi tekit þá. Eyjólfr stefndi til hafs ok
as most and got not caught them Eyjolf headed to sea and
svá hit ytra til Björgynjar, ok báru Sverri konungi njósn
so the outer to Bjorgvin and bore to-Sverrir king report
ok sögðu honum þessi tíðindi, er þeir höfðu svá skýrt sét.
and told to-him these tidings which they had so clearly seen
Sverrir konungr leitaði þá ráðs við menn sína, hversu hátta
Sverrir king sought then counsel with men his how arrange
skyldi. Allir váru nú úfúsir at berjast, vildu heldr norðr
should All were now unwilling to fight wished rather north
undan leita, ok kölluðust illa vera viðrbúnir bæði sárir ok
away seek and said-themselves ill be prepared both wounded and
móðir, kölluðust margir, at fyrir Norðnesi væri svá nauðuliga
weary said-themselves many that on Nordnes were so hard

staddir, at þeir vildu gjarna hafa flýit, ef þeir hefði lausari
placed that they would gladly have fled if they had looser
við verit. Rézt þat af, at fara norðr undan sem hvatligast.
with been Decided-itself that off to go north away as quickest
Skiptu menn þá liðinu millum skipanna, svá at öll mætti fara
Divided men then the-troop between the-ships so that all might go
með nökkuru móti. Stýrði Eyjólfr Aflason þá Höfðabúzunni.
with some manner Steered Eyjolf Afli's-son then the-Hofdabuza
Eyjólfr kom um kveldit í bœinn. Sverrir konungr fór um
Eyjolf came in the-evening into the-town Sverrir king went in
myrgininn braut or bœnum með flest alt liðit. Höfðu
the-morning away out-of the-town with most all the-troop Had
þeir svá lítt skipat, at þeir fluttust á bátum milli skipanna
they so little manned that they moved on boats between the-ships
at reisa viðurnar ok draga seglin. Um nónskeið fór Eyjólfr
to raise the-rigging and hoist the-sails In mid-afternoon went Eyjolf
or bœnum, ok er þeir höfðu uppdregit segl sitt, þá fór
out-of the-town and when they had hoisted sail their then went
Magnús konungr sunnan fyrir Hvarfnes. Heklungar sá skip
Magnus king from-south past Hvarfnes (The)-Heklungs saw (the)-ship
Eyjólfs ok þóttust vita, at þat mundi vera Birkibeinar,
of-Eyjolf and thought-themselves know that that would be Birchlegs
ok sigla eptir þeim 5 skipum ok ráku þá alt norðr í
and sail after them with-5 ships and drove them all north into
Furusund. Þat var Birkibeinum hit mesta vandræði alt fyrir
Furusund That was to-the-Birchlegs the greatest trouble all on
sunnan Stað, hvar sem þeir skyldu njósnum halda, þá stund
south-of Stad where as they should spies keep that while
er deilan stóð millum þeira Magnús ok Sverris, þá var
when the-strife stood between them Magnus and Sverrir then was
þat at jafnaði, hvar sem þeir hittu bœndr, kaupmenn eða
that at usual where as they met farmers merchants or

fiskimenn, at þeir mundu aldri satt til Magnús konungs
fishermen that they would never true to Magnus king
segja eða hans manna, þótt eitt annes eða leiti væri í
say or his men though one headland or hill were in
millum, en allir sögðu satt til Birkibeina, hvar sem þeir
between but all told true to (the)-Birchlegs where as they
váru. Horfði Birkibeinum þetta jafnan til líftjóns, þvíat þat
were Turned to-the-Birchlegs this always to loss-of-life because that
mæltu allir, at Birkibeinar bæri hölzti djarfliga njósnirnar,
spoke all that (the)-Birchlegs bore too boldly the-reports
ok rekast þá jafnan undan, er engi ván þótti mönnum
and were-driven then always away when no hope seemed to-men
lífs. Þat var mál manna, at engi orrosta hafi verit snarpari
of-life That was speech of-men that no battle have been sharper
en sú, er var fyrir Norðnesi, ok úsýnna væri, hvernin
than that which was on Nordnes and more-uncertain were how
hníga mundi, áðr en hamingjan skipti sigrinum. Ok eigi
incline would before than the-luck allotted the-victory And not
sóttu Magnús konungs menn údjarfligar, alt þar til er þeir
pressed of-Magnus king's men more-undaringly all there till when they
flýðu, ok þeir þóttust mundu vinna sigrinn í fyrstu,
fled and they thought-themselves would win the-victory in first
þvíat þeir hugðu, at Birkibeinar mundu ekki vel kunna at
because they thought that (the)-Birchlegs would not well know to
berjast á skipum, þvíat eitt sinn er þeir höfðu á skipum
fight on ships because one time when they had on ships
barzt, flýðu þeir fyrir Hattarhamri. Sverrir konungr fór
fought fled they before Hattarhamar Sverrir king went
norðr leið sína alt til Þrándheims, ok tóku Þrœndir vel við
north way his all to Thrandheim and took (the)-Thronds well with
honum. Lét konungr setja upp skip sín ok bjóst um
him Let (the)-king set up ships his and prepared-himself about

í bœnum. Var þá vel upphaldit tréborginni út við Íluvöllu,
in the-town Was then well maintained the-timber-fort out by Iluvellir
er Eysteinn erkibyskup hafði látið gera. Sverrir konungr
which Eystein archbishop had let make Sverrir king
lét gera kraka utan frá borg hit fremra með sjónum.
let make palisade outside from (the)-fort the fore along the-sea

Skírsla Eiríks konungssonar

LII · PRINCE EIRÍKR'S ORDEAL

Eiríkr, who called himself King Sigurðr's son and said he had carried a burning candle out of the Jordan, asked to prove his birth by ordeal. Sverrir allowed it but warned he would yield neither name nor realm to a brother; Eiríkr carried the iron for his own paternity alone, came through clean, and was made a chief in the bodyguard.

Þat sama vár kom til Sverris konungs Eiríkr, sá er
That same spring came to Sverrir king Eirik he who
kallaðist son Sigurðar konungs Haraldssonar, ok hafði lengi
called-himself son of-Sigurd king Harald's-son and had long
verit utanlands, hann hafði verit út til Jórsala ok farit í
been abroad he had been out to Jerusalem and gone into
ána Jórdan, ok hafði kerti í hendi loganda, ok var þat
the-river Jordan and had candle in hand burning and was that
hans sögn ok manna hans, at áðr hann steig í ána,
his account and of-men his that before he stepped into the-river
þá mælti hann, at guð skyldi láta koma loganda kertit
then spoke he that God should let come burning the-candle
upp or ánni, ef ek em, sagði hann, son Sigurðar konungs,
up out-of the-river if I am said he son of-Sigurd king
ok þat sögðu þeir, er honum fylgðu, at hann gengi upp
and that said they who him followed that he went up

með loganda kertit. Eiríkr hafði verit með mörgum tignum
with burning the-candle Eirik had been with many noble
mönnum, hann var maðr kurteiss ok margs vel kunnandi,
men he was man courtly and of-much well knowing
lítill vexti ok ekki fríðr sýnum. Hann beiddist þess, at
little in-growth and not handsome in-looks He asked of-that that
konungr léti hann ná at færa fram skírslur, svá at hann
(the)-king let him get to bring forward ordeals so that he
fœrði sik í ætt. Sverrir konungr bar þetta mál fyrir sína
brought himself into kin Sverrir king bore this matter before his
menn, var þetta talat á hirðstefnum, féngust þar þau svör
men was this talked at bodyguard-meetings were-got there those answers
af Birkibeinum, at þeir vildu engum manni þjóna nema
from (the)-Birchlegs that they wished no man serve except
Sverri konungi, en þó var þat ráð manna, at unna Eiríki
Sverrir king but yet was that counsel of-men to grant to-Eirik
sanns um faðerni sitt. Þá mælti Sverrir konungr til Eiríks:
truth about paternity his Then spoke Sverrir king to Eirik
Með ráði vina minna vil ek gefa þér orlof til þess, at
With counsel of-friends mine will I give to-you leave to that that
þú flytir skírslur, til þess at guð sanni faðerni þitt, en þó
you perform ordeals to that that God prove paternity your but though
at svá berist til, at þú verðir sannr bróðir minn, þá hefir
that so happens to that you become true brother my then has
mik svá mikit kostat ríki þetta með konungsnafni, at eigi
me so much cost realm this with king's-name that not
þér ok engum annarra vil ek uppgefa konungsnafn eða þetta
to-you and to-none of-others will I give-up king's-name or this
ríki, er ek hefi. Nú máttu taka þenna kost með sætt
realm which I have Now may-you take this choice with reconciliation
ok orlofi mínu af mér, en at öðrum kosti skaltu fara braut
and leave my from me but at other choice shall-you go away

héðan í griðum, svá sem þú komt higat. Eiríkr þakkaði
hence in truce so as you came hither Eirik thanked
konungi með fögrum orðum þat, er konungr lofaði honum
(the)-king with fair words that which (the)-king allowed to-him
skírslur, lézt þann kost gjarna vilja, en eiga þaðan í
ordeals said-himself that choice gladly wish but have thence in
frá alt í guðs valdi ok konungs. Eptir þat fastaði Eiríkr til
from all in God's power and (the)-king's After that fasted Eirik to
járns ok þá er hann skyldi bera járnit, skildi konungr
(the)-iron and then when he should carry the-iron declared (the)-king
fyrir eiðstafnum ok mælti svá: Til þess leggr þú hönd á
for the-oath-formula and spoke so To that lay you hand on
bók ok helga dóma ok því skýtr þú til guðs, at svá láti
book and holy relics and that refer you to God that so let
hann hönd þína heila koma undan járninu, sem þú ert son
he hand your whole come from the-iron as you are son
Sigurðar konungs Haraldssonar ok bróðir minn. Eiríkr mælti:
of-Sigurd king Harald's-son and brother my Eirik spoke
Svá láti guð mik heila hönd bera frá járni þessu, at ek em
So let God me whole hand bear from iron this as I am
son Sigurðar konungs, en eigi vil ek þetta járn bera fleirum
son of-Sigurd king but not will I this iron bear for-more
mönnum til faðernis en mér. Ok eptir þessum eiðstaf bar
men to paternity than for-me And after this oath-formula bore
hann járn, ok varð vel skírr. Sverrir konungr tók þá vel við
he iron and became well cleared Sverrir king took then well with
frændsemi Eiríks ok setti hann höfðingja innan hirðar.
kinship of-Eirik and set him chieftain within (the)-bodyguard
Var Eiríkr vinsæll maðr ok hélt manna bezt sveit sína.
Was Eirik popular man and kept of-men best company his

Frá Magnúsi konungi ok Sverri, sœtta umleitan

LIII · OF KING MAGNÚS AND SVERRIR: TALKS OF PEACE

Magnús lay off Hólmr waiting for the farmers to go home. The kings talked daily, Sverrir again offering to halve the land; Nikulás Árnason spoke for Magnús, and the men of both sides, many of them kinsmen, sat drinking together on Brattaeyrr.

Magnús konungr kom til Björgynjar ok dvaldist þar nökkura
Magnus king came to Bjorgvin and stayed there some
hríð. Um sumarit fór hann norðr til Þrándheims ok kom til
while In the-summer went he north to Thrandheim and came to
kaupangs með liði sínu at Ólafsmessu hinni síðari. Sverrir
(the)-market-town with troop his at Olaf's-mass the later Sverrir
konungr var fyrir í bœnum. Magnús konungr lá mjök
king was before in the-town Magnus king lay very
lengi út við Hólm, þvíat honum þótti bœrinn torsóttligr við
long out by Holm because to-him seemed the-town hard-to-attack with
mannfjölda þann, sem í bœnum var, ok vildi bíða þess, er
multitude that which in the-town was and wished await that when
bœndr fœri heim ok lokit væri gildistíð. Ok í þeiri biðstund
(the)-farmers went home and ended were guild-time And in that waiting-time
töluðust konungar við nökkura stund á hverjum degi. Bauð
talked-together (the)-kings with some while on each day Offered
Sverrir konungr enn at skipta landi í helminga við Magnús
Sverrir king still to divide (the)-land in halves with Magnus
konung, en því var hvárki játað né neitað af Magnúsi
king but that was neither agreed nor refused by Magnus
konungi. Varð at þessu mikill rómr í bœnum, urðu því
king Became at this great acclaim in the-town became of-that
margir fegnir, ef friðr yrði innan lands, en konungar sættist.
many glad if peace became within land and (the)-kings reconciled

Magnús konungr reri þá inn at Eyrum til tals á einni skútu,
Magnus king rowed then in to Eyrar to talk on one cutter
en Sverrir konungr sat uppi á einum hesti á Eyrum, ok var
but Sverrir king sat up on one horse on Eyrar and was
með honum fjöldi manna, er forvitni var á, hvat konungar
with him multitude of-men who curiosity was on what (the)-kings
talaði. Nikulás Árnason talaði þar fyrst af hendi Magnús
talked Nikulas Arni's-son talked there first on behalf of-Magnus
konungs, ok horfði sú rœða líkliga til sátta. Menn Magnús
king and turned that speech likely to settlement Men of-Magnus
konungs höfðu róit nökkurum skútum upp í ána, en
king had rowed some cutters up into the-river but
Birkibeinar géngu ofan á móti ok létu bera ofan or bœnum
(the)-Birchlegs went down on against and let bear down out-of the-town
mungát, ok settust allir saman á Bröttueyri ok drukku
ale and sat-themselves all together on Brattaeyr and drank
ok töluðust við, ok þótt þeir væri í tvennum flokkum,
and talked-together with and though they were in two bands
þá váru þar frændr eða mágar, eða höfðu fyrrum verit vinir.
then were there kinsmen or in-laws or had formerly been friends

Sverrir bauð sœtt

LIV · SVERRIR OFFERS PEACE

Sverrir offered to share the land equally, as Magnús berbeinn's sons had, Norway having often had more than one king; the farmers applauded.

Þá mælti Sverrir konungr, at hann væri fúss, at þeir sættist
Then spoke Sverrir king that he were willing that they reconciled
en landit friðaðist, bauð hann þá enn, at þeir skipti landi
and the-land were-pacified offered he then still that they divide (the)-land

at jafnaði ok væri báðir konungar, svá sem verit höfðu synir
at equality and were both kings so as been had sons
Magnús konungs berbeins, ok sagði þat, síz Magnús konungr
of-Magnus king Barelegs and said that since Magnus king
góði hafði miðlat Haraldi föðurbróður sínum hálfan Noreg,
(the)-Good had shared to-Harald father's-brother his half Norway
hefði jafnan verit fleiri konungar en einn. Bœndr gerðu
had always been more kings than one Farmers made
góðan róm at máli Sverris konungs ok kölluðu þat vel mælt.
good acclaim at speech of-Sverrir king and called that well spoken

Tala Magnús

LV · MAGNÚS'S SPEECH

Magnús answered that shared kingship always ended in enmity, that his coronation oath bound him, that Sverrir had killed his father and seventeen landed men, and that he had no royal blood. Sverrir listed the kin Magnús's side had killed. Challenges to battle, a fight of three ships each, and single combat were traded, and the meeting broke up in skirmishing; Magnús wintered in Björgvin.

Þá mælti Magnús konungr ok tók fyrst stilliliga til orða
Then spoke Magnus king and took first calmly to words
ok sagði svá: Þat er mér sagt um Noregs konunga, þar
and said so That is to-me told about Norway's kings there
er þér takit til dœma, at tveir hafi senn konungar
where you take to examples that two have at-once kings
verit, þá hefir sú miðlan ger verit með blíðu millum
been then has that division made been with friendliness between
brœðra eða annarra náfrænda, ok hefir þó jafnan skilit
brothers or other near-kinsmen and has yet always parted
með fjándskap eða aldrtila, ok berr þat næst nú hingat
with enmity or death and bears that nearest now hither

váru minni, er mín vandræði ok úgipta hefir nú orðit
to-our memory when my troubles and ill-luck has now become
svá mikil í láti frænda minna ok vina; þá veit ek þat,
so great in loss of-kinsmen my and friends then know I that
þótt ek ganga at nökkurum nauðasættum, at ekki mun
though I go to some forced-settlements that not will
okkr, Sverrir, hirðirnar hægjar þessar at hafa í einum
to-us-two Sverrir the-bodyguards easy these to have in one
kaupstað eða í einni málagjöf at þvílíkum sökum, sem hér
market-town or in one pay-giving at such cases as here
eru manna á millum. Mun þat skammr friðr, þótt þess sé
are men in between Will that short peace though of-that be
freistað. Þá svaraði Sverrir konungr: Þat er satt er þér
tried Then answered Sverrir king That is true which you
segit, Magnús konungr, at vera kann of friðinn, þótt vit
say Magnus king that be can over the-peace though we-two
haldim, at þó rjúfi aðrir. Nú heldr en okkur úgipta verði
keep that yet break others Now rather than our-two ill-luck become
svá margra manna mein, þá vil ek fara braut or landi
so many men's harm then will I go away out-of (the)-land
með mínum mönnum, ef þér vilit binda þat svardögum, at
with my men if you will bind that with-oaths that
ek skal hafa hálft land ok setja þar yfir mína menn í friði
I shall have half land and set there over my men in peace
ok frelsi, ok mun ek braut vera 3 vetr, en er ek kem
and freedom and will I away be 3 winters but when I come
aptr, þá skulu þér ok yðrir menn rýma land fyrir oss aðra
back then shall you and your men clear land for us other
3 vetr með þvílíkum kosti, sem vér gerum áðr. Þá mælti
3 winters with such terms as we make before Then spoke
Magnús konungr: Þann kost vil ek, at þú, Sverrir, ok
Magnus king That choice wish I that you Sverrir and

þér, Birkibeinar, farit braut or landi ok komit aldri aptr.
you Birchlegs go away out-of (the)-land and come never back
Ek var vígðr ok kórónaðr af legata af Rómaborg ok at
I was consecrated and crowned by (the)-legate from Rome-city and at
ráði alls landsfólks, ek svarða þess í vígslu minni, at ek
counsel of-all land-folk I swore that in consecration my that I
skylda halda landslög ok verja með sverði því, er ek tók
should hold land-laws and defend with sword that which I took
í vígslu minni, land þetta fyrir úfriði vándra manna, ek
in consecration my land this against unpeace of-wicked men I
hét ok því at láta heldr lífi mínu en ganga á þenna
promised also that to lose rather life my than go against this
eið, nú ráði guð fyrir, hversu langt mitt líf skal vera. Ek
oath now decide God for how long my life shall be I
hefi nú látið fyrir þér, Sverrir, hundrað tiginna hirðmanna
have now lost before you Sverrir hundred noble retainers
ok 17 lenda menn, ok þann hinn átjánda, er mér er meiri
and 17 landed men and that the eighteenth who to-me is greater
sakni at en þessa alla aðra, er var Erlingr jarl faðir minn.
loss at than these all others who was Erling earl father my
Ok enn er mér þat úgeranda at miðla þér ríkit, Sverrir,
And still is to-me that not-to-be-done to share to-you the-realm Sverrir
þeim manni er ek hygg, at enga ætt eigi til þess at
to-that man whom I think that no lineage has to that to
vera konungr hvárki hér né í öðrum stöðum, skal ok vera
be king neither here nor in other places shall also be
annathvárt, at ek skal vinna aptr allan Noreg eða láta hann
one-of-two that I shall win back all Norway or lose it
allan, ok þar lífit með. Þá mælti Sverrir konungr: Þess
all and there the-life with Then spoke Sverrir king That
eina minnist þú nú, Magnús, hverr yðarr skaði er vorðinn
alone remember you now Magnus what your loss is become

í várum skiptum, en þér lítið eigi á, hvat ek hefi látið
in our dealings but you look not on what I have lost
fyrir yðrum frændum, er meira er at telja ok stœrra,
from your kinsmen which more is to count and greater
en þat er þér hafit nú talit. Þat fyrst er faðir minn
than that which you have now counted That first that father my
Sigurðr konungr var feldr suðr í Björgyn, því næst Eysteinn
Sigurd king was felled south in Bjorgvin then next Eystein
föðurbróðir minn í Vík austr. En eptir fall Inga var
father's-brother my in (the)-Vik east But after (the)-fall of-Ingi was
Hákon til konungs tekinn bróðir minn um land alt, þá
Hakon to king taken brother my about land all then
reisti Erlingr skakki flokk á mót honum ok feldi hann
raised Erling Crooked band on against him and felled him
suðr á Mœri, ok með honum marga lenda menn. Harald
south at More and with him many landed men Harald
bróður minn lét Erlingr hengja suðr á Hvarfnesi sem einn
brother my let Erling hang south on Hvarfnes as one
krákuunga; Sigurðr bróðir minn var höggvinn í Björgyn,
crow's-chick Sigurd brother my was beheaded in Bjorgvin
Eystein brœðrung minn feldu þeir á Ré. Nú ætla ek þat at
Eystein cousin my felled they at Re Now intend I that to
mæla, sem þér mæltut við mik, at ek mætta eigi konungr
say as you said with me that I might not king
vera í Noregi, ef ek skipta yðr af minni föðurleifð, fyrir
be in Norway if I shared to-you of my patrimony for
því at þat varð enn aldri fyrr í Noregi, at sá maðr
that that that happened still never before in Norway that that man
væri konungr kallaðr, er eigi var konungs son. En vera
were king called who not was king's son But be
skal enn hit sama boð sem fyrr, gakk þú upp með liði
shall still the same offer as before go you up with troop

þínu á Íluvöllu ok fylk þar, en vér Birkibeinar munum
your onto Iluvellir and array there and we Birchlegs will
koma þar á mót yðr, ok munut þér fara þar slíkar farar,
come there on against you and will you go there such journeys
sem þér fórut þar fyrr, eða verri. Magnús konungr svaraði:
as you went there before or worse Magnus king answered
Eigi munum vér nú optar ganga upp á blótvöll þinn,
Not will we now oftener go up onto sacrifice-field your
Sverrir, gakk heldr á skip þín, ok leggjum út or ánni
Sverrir go rather onto ships yours and lay out out-of the-river
ok berjumst þá. Konungr mælti: Skip vár eru nú uppsett
and fight then (The)-king spoke Ships our are now set-up
ok búin ekki til bardaga, en þó má ek fá 3 skip, en
and ready not to battle but yet may I get 3 ships and
þú skipa önnur 3, ok leggim þau saman. Magnús konungr
you man other 3 and lay them together Magnus king
mælti: Ek ætla hitt nú munu bezt fallit at týna eigi fleirum
spoke I think that now will best fitting to lose not more
mönnum í þessi þrætu, fyrir því at þat er satt, er þér
men in this quarrel for that that that is true which you
segit, Sverrir, at ek hefi jafnan vorðit skyndiliga at fara
say Sverrir that I have always become hastily to go
fyrir yðrum mönnum, en þú, Sverrir, liggr þá í fylsknum
before your men but you Sverrir lie then in hiding-places
eða hreysum, hvert sinn er bardagar skulu vera. Nú ef
or cairns each time when battles shall be Now if
þú þorir, þá gakk einn saman með vápnum þínum, en
you dare then go alone together with weapons your and
ek mun koma einn á móti þér, ok skiptumst þá við
I will come alone on against you and exchange then with
höggum, ok hafi þá sá land ok konungdóm, er sigr fær.
blows and have then he land and kingship who victory gets

Þá svaraði Sverrir konungr: Hölzti auðsæ er okkur úgipta
Then answered Sverrir king Too evident is our-two ill-luck
öðrum mönnum, þótt eigi berimst vit sjálfir, eru til þess
to-other men though not fight we-two ourselves are to that
settir menn okkrir at berjast fyrir okkr í okkrum orrostum,
set men our to fight for us in our battles
er þat ok úkonungligt at berjast í einvígjum sem kenpur.
is that also unkingly to fight in single-combats as champions
En með því, Magnús konungr, ef þú vill heldr berjast við
But with that Magnus king if you will rather fight with
mik einn saman, en fleiri menn sé við staddir, fá þér hest,
me alone together than more men be by present get you a-horse
en ek mun annan, ok ríðum í turnreið, fyrir því at þat er
and I will another and ride in tournament for that that that is
ríkismanna siðr. En svá sem á leið tal þeira, þá reigðust
great-men's custom But so as on passed talk their then stiffened
því meir við menn þeira, þeir er samdrykkjuna höfðu.
the more with men their they who the-joint-drinking had
Géngu nú allir Heklungar á skip ok reru út or ánni.
Went now all Heklungs onto ships and rowed out out-of the-river
Sverrir konungr lét draga skútur út yfir Eyrar á sjáinn,
Sverrir king let drag cutters out over Eyrar onto the-sea
ok hljópu þar í menn ok lögðu út at þeim Heklungum,
and leapt there into men and laid out at those Heklungs
ok skutust þeir á um hríð. Þar fékk banasár Karl kjötlær,
and shot they at for a-while There got death-wound Karl Meat-Thigh
en hvárirtveggju urðu sárir. Fám nóttum síðar fór Magnús
but both became wounded Few nights later went Magnus
konungr braut or Þrándheimi ok suðr til Björgynjar, ok sat
king away out-of Thrandheim and south to Bjorgvin and sat
þar um vetrinn. Magnús konungr hafði þá allar tekjur suðr frá
there over the-winter Magnus king had then all revenues south from

Þrándheimsmynni, en Sverrir konungr hafði þá ekki annat sínu
Thrandheim's-mouth but Sverrir king had then nothing other for-his
liði til framflutningar, en þat sem hann fékk í Þrándheimi.
troop to support than that which he got in Thrandheim

Frá Sverri konungi

LVI · OF KING SVERRIR

Leaving his brother Eiríkr and Kolr Ísaksson in Þrándheimr, Sverrir went over the Uplands, where his men killed Özurr Jónsson and Eyvindr dýri, then went down to Osló and set bailiffs throughout the Vík.

Nú er Sverrir konungr spyrr, at Magnús konungr er
Now when Sverrir king learns that Magnus king is
kominn suðr um Stað, þá byrjar hann ferð sína hit efra til
come south past Stad then begins he journey his the upper to
Upplanda, en setr eptir í Þrándheimi Eirík bróður sinn ok
(the)-Upplands but sets after in Thrandheim Eirik brother his and
annan Kol Ísaksson ok mart lið með þeim. Sverrir konungr
another Kol Isak's-son and much troop with them Sverrir king
fór nú til Upplanda ok gerði menn í bygðina at gildra
went now to (the)-Upplands and sent men into the-settlement to snare
til veiða, ef í hendr bæri af Heklungum eða fé þeira.
to catch if into hands bore of (the)-Heklungs or wealth their
Þar drápu þeir Özur Jónsson ok Eyvind dýra ok mjök
There killed they Ozur Jon's-son and Eyvind Deer and very
mart annarra manna. Sverrir konungr fór ofan til Oslóar ok
many other men Sverrir king went down to Oslo and
setti menn í allar sýslur um Víkina, en Heklungar flýðu
set men in all districts about the-Vik but (the)-Heklungs fled

undan, sumir austr, en sumir norðr til móts við Magnús
away some east but some north to meeting with Magnus
konung, ok sögðu honum um farar Sverris konungs.
king and told to-him about journeys of-Sverrir king

Úsigr Birkibeina ok dráp margra

LVII · THE DEFEAT OF THE BIRKIBEINAR AND MANY SLAIN

Magnús came north before Martinmas; the townsmen fled, Kolr Ísaksson fell, and Eiríkr escaped. Men were dragged from Christ Church and killed, and Guðlaugr vali was tortured to reveal where Sverrir's wealth and son were, and died silent. Magnús took the Ólafssúð and thirty-three ships, and Hallr Snorrason praised his return in two stanzas.

Magnús konungr skipti nú liði sínu ok sendi mestan
Magnus king divided now troop his and sent greatest
hlut austr til Víkr með Ormi konungsbróður, en Magnús
part east to (the)-Vik with Orm king's-brother but Magnus
konungr fór sjálfr með 7 skipum, ok skútu hit átta, kom
king went himself with 7 ships and cutter the eighth came
hann til Þrándheims litlu fyrir Marteinsmessu. En er þeir
he to Thrandheim little before Martinmas But when they
Eiríkr ok Kolr Ísaksson sá, at skipin sigldu utan fyrir
Eirik and Kol Isak's-son saw that the-ships sailed outside past
Digrmúla, þá var þegar blásit öllu liði á mót ok settar
Digrmuli then was at-once blown all troop on against and set
fylkingar, önnur út á Eyrum, en önnur uppi við Skipakrók,
arrays one out on Eyrar but (the)-other up by Skipakrok
ok var þar fyrir Eiríkr konungsson, en hinni stýrði Kolr
and was there over Eirik king's-son but the-other steered Kol
Ísaksson, ok var sumt bæjarfólkit með honum. Magnús
Isak's-son and was some the-townsfolk with him Magnus

konungr lagði saman öllum skipum sínum inn frá Hólmi,
king laid together all ships his in from Holm
ok lágu þar mjök langa hríð dags, fyrir því at Magnús
and lay there very long while of-day for that that Magnus
konungr hafði þá ráðagerð við sína menn. Hagbarðr muntari
king had then counsel with his men Hagbard Muntari
gékk þá at brullaupi sínu í bœnum, hann kallaði á
went then to wedding his in the-town he called on
Magnús konung ok lézt vildu bjóða honum til brullaups
Magnus king and said-himself wished invite him to wedding
síns ok öllu liði hans. Var þat gert við spott. Um nónskeið
his and all troop his Was that done with mockery In mid-afternoon
leystu þeir konungr flota sinn ok greiða atróðrinn, róa
loosed they (the)-king fleet his and make the-rowing-attack row
4 skip inn til árinnar, en önnur 4 at Eyrum. Konungr reri
4 ships in to the-river but other 4 at Eyrar (The)-king rowed
í ána ok lagði at, þar er fyrir var merki Eiríks
into the-river and laid at there where before was (the)-standard of-Eirik
konungssonar, ok var þar hörð viðrtaka ok skömm, þvíat
king's-son and was there hard reception and short because
bœjarmenn flýðu í bœinn. Létu Birkibeinar þá sígast,
(the)-townsmen fled into the-town Let (the)-Birchlegs then sink-back
þvíat þá váru Heklungar miklu fleiri. Magnús konungs menn
because then were (the)-Heklungs much more Of-Magnus king's men
fylgja þá bjargvel. Féll þá mart af Birkibeinum, en nær
follow then well Fell then many of (the)-Birchlegs but near
allir urðu sárir. En þeir er út leggja at Eyrum, hlaupa
all became wounded But they who out lay at Eyrar leap
þegar fyrir borð, svá at sjórinn tók undir hendr þeim, ok
at-once over board so that the-sea reached under arms to-them and
ganga upp, en Birkibeinar á móti. Tókst þar harðr bardagi.
go up but (the)-Birchlegs on against Began there hard battle

Þá mælti maðr: Upp eru Heklungar nú komnir í ánni.
Then spoke a-man Up are (the)-Heklungs now come in the-river
Þá mælti Kolr: Flýja munu vér þá verða. Mun nú eigi
Then spoke Kol Flee will we then must Will now not
of seinat? sagði Heklungr einn. Kolr snaraðist á mót ok
too late said Heklung one Kol turned-swiftly on against and
mælti: Þar eru þeir nú komnir djöflarnir. Ok hjó hvárr
spoke There are they now come the-devils And hewed each
til annars. Heklungar sumir snerust nú út á Eyrar, þá
to other Heklungs some turned now out onto Eyrar then
er Eiríkr flýði, ok kómu þeim Kol í opna skjöldu, lauk
when Eirik fled and came to-them Kol into open shields ended
þar svá, at Kolr féll, ok mart manna með honum, en alt
there so that Kol fell and many men with him but all
flýði, þat er því kom við. Eiríkr flýði út til Gaularáss við
fled that which it came with Eirik fled out to Gaularas with
mikla sveit manna, sumt flýði upp um brú, sumt í
great company of-men some fled up over (the)-bridge some into
kirkju, ok váru þeir flestir drepnir, fyrir því at þá hélt
(the)-church and were they most killed for that that then held
engi kirkja mönnum, ok þá var þat gert, er aldri var fyrr,
no church for-men and then was that done which never was before
at menn váru dregnir ok drepnir or Kristskirkju. Eyvindr
that men were dragged and killed out-of Christ's-church Eyvind
skrápr hét forn Birkibeinn mikill ok sterkr, hann tóku
Scrape was-called old Birchleg great and strong him took
þeir í kórinum í Kristskirkju, ok drógu þeir hann út ok
they in the-choir in Christ's-church and dragged they him out and
lögðu hann á kjálka, ok drógu hann út á Eyrar ok drápu
laid him on a-sledge and dragged him out onto Eyrar and killed
hann þar. Guðlaug vala tóku þeir í kirkju ok píndu til
him there Gudlaug Vali took they in (the)-church and tortured to

sagna, hvar Sverrir konungr hefði hirt lausafé sitt eða
answers where Sverrir king had hidden movable-wealth his or
hvar vera mundi Lávarðr son Sverris konungs, er Guðlaugr
where be would Lavard son of-Sverrir king whom Gudlaug
hafði fóstrat. Hann sagði til hvárskis, ok var honum þat
had fostered He said to neither and was to-him that
vel borit. Var Guðlaugr drepinn. Magnús konungr tók þar
well borne Was Gudlaug killed Magnus king took there
Ólafssúðina ok allan skipastól Sverris konungs, 13 skip ok
the-Olafssud and all fleet of-Sverrir king 13 ships and
20, lét fram setja öll þau ok búa, er þeir máttu með
20 let forward set all those and fit which they might with
komast, en brenna öll önnur. Magnús konungr bjóst
get but burn all others Magnus king prepared-himself
skyndiliga or bœnum, ok er þeir fóru út eptir firðinum,
hastily out-of the-town and when they went out along the-fjord
sendi hann til menn at taka upp bú fyrir Afla á Ástum
sent he to men to take up (the)-farm from Afli at Astar
ok fyrir Tosta á Ystum, þriðja fyrir Helga á Ryðási.
and from Tosti at Ystar (the)-third from Helgi at Rydas
Eindriði torvi var eptir einskipa í Orknarósi. Þann dag
Eindridi Torvi was after single-shipped in Orknaros That day
kom Bárðr Guthormsson með 30 manna or Hefni sunnan
came Bard Guthorm's-son with 30 men out-of Hefni from-south
ok á hlíðina fyrir ofan Tungu. Þá sá hann langskip,
and onto the-slope on above Tunga Then saw he a-longship
hvar lá, ok þóttist vita, at Heklungar mundu vera ok
where lay and thought-himself know that (the)-Heklungs would be and
treystist eigi til at ráða, váru þar um nóttina. Hann sendi
trusted-himself not to to attack were there over the-night He sent
menn til bœjarins til Ceciliu konungsdóttur at spyrja tíðinda.
men to the-town to Cecilia king's-daughter to ask of-tidings

Hon sagði þeim mart á laun. Menn Bárðar vildu ráða til
She told them much in secret Men of-Bard wished attack to
Heklunga, en Bárðr vildi þat eigi. Fóru Heklungar braut um
(the)-Heklungs but Bard wished that not Went (the)-Heklungs away in
daginn eptir, en Bárðr fór inn til kaupangs ok dvaldist
the-day after but Bard went in to (the)-market-town and stayed
þar um hríð. Þar kómu þá Birkibeinar nökkurir til móts
there for a-while There came then Birchlegs some to meeting
við Bárð, Helgi Þorfinnsson, Óttarr knerra, Eyjólfr Aflason.
with Bard Helgi Thorfinn's-son Ottar Knerra Eyjolf Afli's-son
Eiríkr fór austr til Víkr á fund Sverris konungs ok sagði
Eirik went east to (the)-Vik to meeting of-Sverrir king and told
honum sínar úfarar. Magnús konungr fór suðr til Björgynjar.
to-him his mishaps Magnus king went south to Bjorgvin
Þá var með honum Hallr Snorrason, hann kvað þá vísu:
Then was with him Hall Snorri's-son he recited then a-verse

Glymvöllu rístr gulli,
Din-fields cuts with-gold
góð er stillis för, róða
good is of-ruler journey of-the-yards
Ólafssúð und auði,
the-Olafssud under wealth
auðgrimms, búin rauðu.
of-wealth-fierce adorned with-red

Berr fyrir Hólm, þar er harri,
Bears past Holm there where lord
hlýrs fagrgota, stýrir,
of-bow fair-steed steers
stál bruna rauð á reyðar
prows rush red on of-whale
rymvöll und gram snjöllum.
roar-field under prince bold

Nú er ægr or för frægri,
Now is terrible from journey famous
fellr húfr í svig dúfu
falls hull into bend of-wave
sveldr, með sœmð ok mildi
swollen with honor and generosity
siklingr kominn hingat.
prince come hither
Frægr er með fremð ok sigri,
Famous is with renown and victory
fólkbráðr konungr háði
host-hasty king held
darra þing við drengi,
of-spears assembly with warriors
döglingr kominn hingat.
prince come hither

Gesta hark

LVIII · THE RIOT OF THE GUESTS

At Magnús's Yule feast in Björgvin the guests, given ale while the sworn men drank mead, attacked the king's hall drunk on the eighth night; the thrall Bárðr skjöldr was killed in the doorway. The next day Magnús had the ringleaders' feet or hands cut off.

Magnús konungr lét búa til jólaveizlu sér í Björgyn,
Magnus king let prepare to Yule-feast for-himself in Bjorgvin
hann veitti hirðmönnum sínum í hirðstofunni miklu, en
he feasted to-retainers his in the-bodyguard-hall great but
gestum í Sunnifustofu. Gestum líkaði illa, er þeir drukku
to-guests in Sunniva's-hall To-(the)-guests pleased ill that they drank
mungát, en handgengnir menn mjöð. Hit átta kveld jóla,
ale but sworn men mead The eighth evening of-Yule
er gestir váru mjök druknir, hljópu þeir til vápna ok
when (the)-guests were much drunk ran they to weapons and
géngu at konungsstofunni ok vildu upp höggva. Var þá
went at the-king's-hall and wished up hew Was then
sagt konungi. Hann hljóp skyndiliga út til dyranna ok vildi
told to-(the)-king He ran hastily out to the-doors and wished
stöðva þá. Bárðr skjöldr þræll hans hljóp fyrir hann út í
stop them Bard Shield thrall his ran before him out into
forstofuna, var hann þegar drepinn. Konungr sneri þá inn
the-porch was he at-once killed (The)-king turned then in
aptr. Þá hljópu þeir fyrir stofudyrin, er haldit höfðu fylgð
back Then ran they before the-hall-doors who held had company
um daginn, þvíat þeir einir höfðu vápn inni, sumir börðu út
in the-day because they alone had weapons inside some beat out
ofngrjóti í forstofuna. Ok er bœjarmenn urðu varir við ok
oven-stones into the-porch And when (the)-townsmen became aware with and

húskarlar konungs, ganga þeir at stofunni, hrökkva gestir
house-carls of-(the)-king go they to the-hall recoil (the)-guests
þá frá. Urðu þar margir menn sárir. Eptir um myrgininn lét
then off Became there many men wounded After in the-morning let
konungr taka gestina, þá er mest höfðu fyrir verit, lét hann
(the)-king take the-guests those who most had before been let he
suma fóthöggva, en suma handhöggva, en fáir váru drepnir.
some foot-hew but some hand-hew but few were killed

Orðsending Þrænda til konungs

LIX · THE ÞRŒNDIR'S MESSAGE TO THE KING

Eiríkr asked Sverrir to go north, since the Þrændir feared Magnús's vengeance; Sverrir rebuked them for their folly and would not go until after Christmas.

Þá er Eiríkr kom á fund Sverris konungs með sínum
Then when Eirik came to meeting of-Sverrir king with his
mönnum, bað hann konunginn fara norðr til Þrándheims,
men bade he the-king go north to Thrandheim
sagði Þrœndi hafa honum til þess orð sent, at hann mundi
said (the)-Thronds have to-him to that word sent that he would
vera hlífskjöldr þeira, fyrir því at Magnús konungr hafði
be shield-of-defense their for that that Magnus king had
því þeim heitið, at hann skyldi gjalda þeim dróttinssvik,
that to-them promised that he should repay them lord-treason
þegar hann ætti tóm til, ok vélræði þau, sem honum
when he had leisure to and wiles those which to-him
þóttu Þrœndir hafa haft við sik ok við Erling jarl föður
seemed (the)-Thronds have had with him and with Erling earl father
hans. Konungr kveðst ekki fara mundu at kalli þeira,
his (The)-king said-himself not go would at call their

talði þeim úvitrliga hafa til tekizt, ok veitti þeim harðar
counted for-them unwisely have to taken and gave to-them hard
átölur, sem ilt var til mótmæla. Lézt hann ekki þaðan
reproofs as ill was to gainsay Said-himself he not thence
fara mundu, fyrr en á bak jólum, ok svá gerði hann.
go would earlier than on back of-Yule and so did he

Frá Magnúsi konungi

LX · OF KING MAGNÚS

Magnús fell on Niðaróss in Lent; Eyjólfr and Óttarr escaped in a cutter, and in Orkadalr Sverrir's men killed Magnús's bailiffs.

Magnús konungr bjóst eptir jólin norðr til Þrándheims.
Magnus king prepared-himself after the-Yule north to Thrandheim
Fór hann or bœnum eptir kyndilmessu. Hann hafði hirð
Went he out-of the-town after Candlemas He had bodyguard
sína ok vildarlið, var skorat á skipin 8 hundruð manna.
his and chosen-troop was counted on the-ships 8 hundred men
Hann fór skyndiliga, ok kómu þeir til Þrándheims á úvart
He went hastily and came they to Thrandheim at unawares
ok róa inn til bœjarins. Þat var laugardaginn í annarri
and row in to the-town It was the-Saturday in (the)-second
viku langaföstu. Þeir skipuðu svá atróðrinum, at sum skipin
week of-Lent They arranged so the-rowing-attack that some the-ships
lögðu at út við borg, sum at Eyrum, sum reru upp
laid to out by (the)-fort some at Eyrar some rowed up
í ána, ok hljópu þar upp í bœinn. Birkibeinar váru
into the-river and leapt there up into the-town (The)-Birchlegs were
margir í baðstofum, en allir úbúnir við úfriðinum. Bárðr
many in bath-houses and all unready with the-war Bard

Guthormsson hljóp upp um brú, ok allir hans menn.
Guthorm's-son ran up over (the)-bridge and all his men
Óttarr knerra ok Helgi Þorfinnsson hljópu til skútu, er
Ottar Knerra and Helgi Thorfinn's-son ran to a-cutter which
flaut fyrir konungsgarði. Eyjólfr Aflason hafði gengit til baðs
floated before (the)-king's-yard Eyjolf Afli's-son had gone to bath
á Grjóti, hann heyrði barn eitt mæla: Hér fara Heklungar.
at Grjot he heard child one speak Here go (the)-Heklungs
Eyjólfr tók þá klæðin öll í fang sér ok hljóp upp hjá
Eyjolf took then the-clothes all into embrace his and ran up by
Krosskirkju, síðan hljóp hann ofan til skútu á bryggjurnar,
Cross-church then ran he down to (the)-cutter on the-wharves
ok þeir fleiri saman, ok létu frá bryggjunum. Sumir sveipuðu
and they more together and let from the-wharves Some swept
buklörum, sumir sverðum, ok kómust yfir ána. Ok er
with-bucklers some with-swords and got over the-river And when
þeir kómu fyrir ofan Erlendshaug, þá gékk hvergi skipit,
they came on above Erlendshaug then went nowhere the-ship
hugðu þat sumir, at kominn væri á þá herfjöturr, ok þeir
thought that some that come were on them war-fetter and they
mundu allir feigir. Hitt var raunar, at akkeri hékk fyrir
would all fated Other was in-fact that an-anchor hung over
borðit, ok höfðu þeir eigi gáð at draga upp í skipit, ok
the-board and had they not heeded to draw up into the-ship and
hélt þeim þat, er gryntist yfir at landinu. Hjoggu þeir þá
held them that when shallowed over to the-land Hewed they then
strenginn, ok sveif þá þegar at landi, ok hljópu á land.
the-cable and swung then at-once to land and leapt onto land
Þeir fóru báðir samt Óttarr ok Eyjólfr. Snjór var fallinn
They went both together Ottar and Eyjolf Snow was fallen
mikill. Heklungar koma nú á móti þeim, þeir er við Bakka
much (The)-Heklungs come now on against them those who by Bakki

höfðu lent. Heklungar váru þrír, en þeir Óttarr tveir, ok
had landed (The)-Heklungs were three but they Ottar two and
réðu hvárigir á aðra. Sneru þeir þá upp um Kleppabú ok
attacked neither on other Turned they then up past Kleppabu and
svá upp um Sóknadal ok stefndu svá til fjalls, ok er
so up through Soknadal and headed so to (the)-mountains and when
þeir kómu í Hjarðkinn, þá kom þar á móti þeim Sverrir
they came into Hjardkinn then came there on against them Sverrir
konungr. Ok er þeir hittu konunginn, sögðu þeir honum
king And when they met the-king told they to-him
frá sínum úförum. Birkibeinar, þeir er með konunginum
from their mishaps (The)-Birchlegs they who with the-king
váru austan komnir, létu hæðiliga yfir þeira ferð, riðu þeir
were from-east come let mockingly over their journey rode they
allir, er með konunginum váru austan komnir, ok vildi
all who with the-king were from-east come and wished
engi þeira miðla sinn hest við þá, er norðan váru komnir.
none of-them share his horse with those who from-north were come
Gékk Bárðr Guthormsson ok allir hans menn. Þar var þá
Walked Bard Guthorm's-son and all his men There was then
með honum Bjarni Kálfsson, hann kvað vísu:
with him Bjarni Kalf's-son he recited a-verse

Fant sé ek hvern á hesti,
Fellow see I each on horse
hér er nú siðr hinn versti,
here is now custom the worst
leið eigum vér langa,
way have we long
en lendir menn ganga.
but landed men walk

Hirðmenn skulu hlaupa,
Retainers shall run
hér era gott til kaupa,
here is-not good to bargain
munka ek mörgu kvíða,
will-not I much fear
en matsveinar ríða.
but cooks ride

Sverrir konungr fór ofan til Orkadals, ok á þeim bœ, er
Sverrir king went down to Orkadal and at that farm which
Grjótar heita, váru sýslumenn Magnús konungs Sigurðr ok
Grjotar is-called were bailiffs of-Magnus king Sigurd and
Hákon. Birkibeinar tóku hús á þeim ok drápu þá ok alla
Hakon (The)-Birchlegs took house on them and killed them and all
sveitunga þeira. Einn maðr komst undan, er hét Óttarr
comrades their One man got away who was-called Ottar
gási, þeir hleyptu eptir honum hestum, ok dró hann þó
Goose they galloped after him with-horses and drew he yet
undan, svá at þeir náðu honum eigi at sinni.
away so that they caught him not at the-time

Frá Magnúsi konungi ok hans mönnum

LXI · OF KING MAGNÚS AND HIS MEN

Magnús's men killed many Birkibeinar in the town. At a þing in Orkadalr he demanded three years of levies and the dues already paid to his enemies; Hrói of Kjarrastaðir won a fortnight's delay.

Nú er at segja frá Magnúsi konungi ok hans mönnum,
Now is to tell from Magnus king and his men
at þeir sveima um bœinn ok drepa mart af Birkibeinum,
that they swarm about the-town and kill many of (the)-Birchlegs
ok eru þar um helgina. Konungr sendi orð út í Orkadal,
and are there over the-holy-day (The)-king sent word out into Orkadal
at hann mundi þar koma miðvikudaginn ok eiga þing
that he would there come the-Wednesday and have an-assembly
við Orkdœli. Hann sendi ok orð Gauldœlum, at þeir
with (the)-Orkdal-men He sent also word to-(the)-Gauldal-men that they
skyldu koma til bœjarins frjádaginn. Magnús konungr fór út
should come to the-town the-Friday Magnus king went out
til Orkadals með öllu liði sínu. Ok er þing var stefnt,
to Orkadal with all troop his And when (the)-assembly was summoned
stóð konungr upp ok mælti: Langt mun yðr þykkja á
stood (the)-king up and spoke Long will to-you seem on
at minnast, at vér áttum næst samþinga, hafa nú svá liðit
to remember that we had last joint-assembly have now so passed
þrír vetr, at þér hafit engar skyldir mér gervar, skulut þér
three winters that you have no dues to-me done shall you
nú greiða allan almenning, þann er þér hafit átt at gjalda
now pay all levy that which you have had to pay
á þessum tólf mánuðum, ok þar með tvenna aðra, ok hér
in these twelve months and there with two others and here
með skulu þér greiða landskyldir ok sakeyri, er þér hafit
with shall you pay land-dues and fines which you have
nú áðr greitt fjándmönnum várum, ok hafit fyrir þat guðs
now before paid to-enemies our and have for that God's
reiði ok mína. Ok þaðan af varð hann svá reiðr, at hann
wrath and mine And thence off became he so angry that he
bannaðist um. Hugðu bœndr um skeið, at konungr mundi
cursed about Thought (the)-farmers for a-while that (the)-king would

veita þeim atgöngu. Hrói hét maðr á Kjarrastöðum,
give to-them attack Hroi was-called a-man at Kjarrastadir
er svaraði konungi nökkurum orðum ok beiddi bóndum
who answered to-(the)-king some words and asked for-(the)-farmers
fresta um gjaldit. Konungr lagði þeim hálfs mánaðar
delays about the-payment (The)-king laid to-them of-half month's
stefnu, at þá skyldi komit inn til bœjar alt gjaldit. Var
summons that then should come in to (the)-town all the-payment Was
þá dœmdr konungi leiðangr. Fór konungr þá inn til bœjar.
then judged to-(the)-king levy Went (the)-king then in to (the)-town

Hersaga Óttars

LXII · ÓTTARR'S WARNING

Óttarr gási warned Magnús that the Birkibeinar were coming, and the king put out to Hólmr, though his men drifted back to the town. On a rainy Saturday the Birkibeinar fell on them there, and Magnús, with eight hundred men against three hundred and fifty, fled south to Björgvin without a fight. Sverrir set a catapult on Brattaeyrr and a tower at the bridge.

Frjádaginn, er lokit var formessum í bœnum, þá kom
The-Friday when ended was early-masses in the-town then came
ekki bónda til þingsins. Sá þeir þá fara nökkura menn utan
no farmer to the-assembly Saw they then go some men outside
um Steinbjörg með viðarhlöss nökkur. Magnús konungr var
about Steinbjorg with wood-loads some Magnus king was
at herbergi í garði Eiríks Árnasonar. Í því bili kom
at lodging in (the)-yard of-Eirik Arni's-son In that moment came
til bœjarins Óttarr gási, er fyrr var nefndr, stefndi hann
to the-town Ottar Goose who before was named headed he
í garðinn Eiríks. Hirðmenn nökkurir váru í garðinum ok
into the-yard of-Eirik Retainers some were in the-yard and

spurðu, ef hann vissi nökkut til Birkibeina, er hann hljóp
asked if he knew something to (the)-Birchlegs when he ran
svá mikinn. Hann svaraði: Ekki segi ek yðr til þess, eða
so much He answered Not tell I to-you to that or
hvar er Magnús konungr? Þeir svara: Uppi í Kristskirkju á
where is Magnus king They answer Up in Christ's-church at
stefnu. Óttarr fór þá þannig. Litlu síðar hljóp konungr í
meeting Ottar went then thither Little later ran (the)-king into
garðinn ok bað menn taka vápn sín sem skjótast, hér fara
the-yard and bade men take weapons their as quickest here go
Birkibeinar at oss. Því næst var blásit, hljópu menn þá mjök
(the)-Birchlegs at us Then next was blown ran men then much
af skyndingu til skipanna ok lögðu út til Hólms. Ok er
in haste to the-ships and laid out to Holm And when
á leið daginn, kómu ekki Birkibeinar, ok ekki Gauldœlir
on passed the-day came not (the)-Birchlegs and not (the)-Gauldal-men
til þingsins. Þat þótti mönnum nú líkast, at engu mundi
to the-assembly That seemed to-men now likeliest that nothing would
gegna um ferðir Birkibeina, en hann hélt á sinni sögn,
mean about journeys of-(the)-Birchlegs but he held to his story
var hann á konungsskipinu. Margir báðu konung orlofs
was he on the-king's-ship Many asked (the)-king of-leave
at fara inn til bœjar, kölluðust þar hafa átt eptir vápn
to go in to (the)-town said-themselves there have had after weapons
ok klæði, sumir áttu konur í bœnum. Konungr latti alla
and clothes some had wives in the-town (The)-king dissuaded all
at fara ok lofaði nær engum, en margir fóru eigi at síðr.
to go and allowed near none but many went not the less
Birkibeinar lágu uppi á ásinum ok sá öll tíðindi í bœinn.
(The)-Birchlegs lay up on the-ridge and saw all tidings into the-town
Laugardaginn vildu Birkibeinar í bœinn, en konungr vildi,
The-Saturday wished (the)-Birchlegs into the-town but (the)-king wished

at þeir biði þar til, er menn væri í baðstofum, en
that they waited there till when men were in bath-houses but
liðsmenn váru heldr veiðibráðir ok fóru snemma í bœinn,
troopers were rather prey-eager and went early into the-town
ok var á mikit regn. Þar varð eigi fyrr vart við, en
and was on great rain There became not earlier aware with than
þeir kómu í bœinn, varð þar engi viðrtaka, drápu menn
they came into the-town became there no resistance killed men
þar mart manna. Þar féll Einarr skipstjórnarmaðr Magnús
there many men There fell Einar ship-captain of-Magnus
konungs, sumir kómust undan á bátum. Þegar fór Magnús
king some got away on boats At-once went Magnus
konungr braut, er hann vissi, at Sverrir konungr var
king away when he knew that Sverrir king was
kominn í bœinn, fór hann alla leið suðr til Björgynjar.
come into the-town went he all way south to Bjorgvin
Þat var mál manna, at þá þótti mjök sýna, hversu Magnús
That was speech of-men that then seemed much show how Magnus
konungr ok hans menn váru úfúsir at ganga í fylkta
king and his men were unwilling to go into arrayed
orrostu móti Sverri konungi ok hans liði, er þeir flýðu
battle against Sverrir king and his troop when they fled
orrostulaust or bœnum við átta hundruð manna, en Sverrir
battle-less out-of the-town with eight hundred men but Sverrir
konungr hafði hálft fjórða hundrað manna, ok þat þó at
king had half fourth hundred men and that yet to
auk, at betra var at verja bœinn við hálfu minna lið en
addition that better was to defend the-town with half smaller troop than
til at sœkja. Í þann tíma hafði Magnús konungr einn allan
to to attack In that time had Magnus king alone all
skipastólinn, hafði hann fyrir því alt landit fyrir sunnan
the-fleet had he for that all the-land on south-of

Þrándheimsmynni at sköttum ok skyldum, nema þat eina er
Thrandheim's-mouth for taxes and dues except that alone which
Birkibeinar skutust suðr á Mœri. Birkibeinar höfðu jafnan
(the)-Birchlegs darted south onto More (The)-Birchlegs had always
sveitir sínar í Vík austr eða um Upplönd. Heklungar
companies their in (the)-Vik east or about (the)-Upplands (The)-Heklungs
veittu þeim opt árásir, ok höfðu ymsir betr, væri þar mart
gave them often attacks and had each better were there much
frá at segja, en þó munum vér heldr rita þá atburði, er
from to tell but yet will we rather write those events which
sjálfir konungar hafa við verit. Sverrir konungr lét setja
themselves kings have with been Sverrir king let set
valslöngu út á Bröttueyri ok gera kastala uppi við brú.
catapult out on Brattaeyr and make castle up by (the)-bridge

Frá Magnúsi konungi ok Sverri

LXIII · OF KING MAGNÚS AND SVERRIR

Magnús returned in spring, burned the bridge over the Nið, and camped on the Íluvellir. One night the Birkibeinar sallied from the fort, routed the watch at their fires, and cut down the men who came ashore to help; the dead lay thick on the field at dawn, and Magnús went back to Björgvin.

Magnús konungr bjóst um várit or Björgyn, ok
Magnus king prepared-himself in the-spring out-of Bjorgvin and
dróst honum þá enn mikill herr. Fóru þeir norðr til
drew to-him then still great host Went they north to
Þrándheims, lagði konungrinn herinum inn um Hólm ok
Thrandheim laid the-king the-host in past Holm and
lá þar nökkurar nætr. Sverrir konungr sat í bœnum. Þá
lay there some nights Sverrir king sat in the-town Then

fór Magnús konungr inn í Þrándheim ok tók þar alla
went Magnus king in into Thrandheim and took there all
leiðangra, fór síðan út til bœjarins. Hann lá hina fyrstu
levies went then out to the-town He lay the first
nótt fyrir innan Depil, en um myrgininn var svá mikill
night on within Depil but in the-morning was so great
sælægr mjörkvi, at ekki mátti sjá meir en stafna á
sea-hanging mist that nothing might see more than prows in
millum á skipunum. Magnús konungr reri þá inn til
between on the-ships Magnus king rowed then in to
Hólms. Ok er Sverrir konungr heyrði róðrinn, þá hugði
Holm And when Sverrir king heard the-rowing then thought
hann, at þeir mundu at leggja, ok lét blása öllu liðinu út
he that they would to lay and let blow all the-troop out
á Eyrar. Magnús konungr lá um nóttina við Hólm. Um
onto Eyrar Magnus king lay over the-night by Holm In
myrgininn lögðu þeir inn at Íluvöllum ok géngu þar upp
the-morning laid they in at Iluvellir and went there up
með mestum hluta hersins. Birkibeinar sóttu út á mót
with greatest part of-the-host (The)-Birchlegs pressed out on against
þeim, ok skutust þeir á um hríð. Magnús konungr hugðist
them and shot they at for a-while Magnus king thought
mundu banna þeim allar tilflutningar til bœjarins bæði á
would forbid to-them all supplies to the-town both on
sjó ok landi, þeir brendu brúna á Nið. Sverrir konungr
sea and land they burned the-bridge on (the)-Nid Sverrir king
sótti út til borgar með sínu liði ok lét þar gera tvær stofur
pressed out to (the)-fort with his troop and let there make two rooms
ok setti við borgina, ok sátu nú svá hvárirtveggju um hríð.
and set by the-fort and sat now so both for a-while
Heklungar skiptust við sveitum at vaka út við borg um
(The)-Heklungs divided with companies to watch out by (the)-fort in

nætr, ok höfðu þar jafnan fjölment. Höfðu þeir elda stóra
nights and had there always many-men Had they fires great
um nætr út á völlunum. Þat sá Birkibeinar. Þat var á
in nights out on the-fields That saw (the)-Birchlegs It was on
einni nótt, at Birkibeinar vápnast ok ganga út af borginni
one night that (the)-Birchlegs arm-themselves and go out of the-fort
ok veita Heklungum árás, finna þeir eigi fyrr, en örvarnar
and give to-(the)-Heklungs attack find they not earlier than the-arrows
hvína hjá þeim öllum megin. Var þá eigi langt at bíða, at
whine by them on-all sides Was then not long to wait that
spjótunum var skotið. Síðan neyttu Birkibeinar höggvápna
the-spears was shot Then used (the)-Birchlegs cutting-weapons
sinna ok drápu um nóttina mikit lið, en alt flýði, þat er
their and killed in the-night great troop but all fled that which
því kom við. En þegar þeir verða varir við þetta, er á
it came with But as-soon-as they become aware with this who on
skipunum váru, hlaupa þeir á land ok vilja duga sínum
the-ships were leap they onto land and will help their
mönnum, en fyrir því at myrkt var, finna þeir eigi fyrr,
men but for that that dark was find they not earlier
en flóttamenninir hlaupa upp á þá, ok þar næst mœttu
than the-fugitives leap up onto them and there next met
þeir sverðshöggum Birkibeina. Flýðu þeir nú sem mest
they sword-blows of-(the)-Birchlegs Fled they now as most
til skipanna, er áðr höfðu óðast eggjat uppgöngunnar.
to the-ships who before had most-madly urged of-the-landing
Þar féll mart manna, en sumt hljóp á kaf ok náði svá
There fell many men but some leapt into deep and reached so
skipunum. Sverrir konungr fór aptr til landtjalda sinna, höfðu
the-ships Sverrir king went back to land-tents his had
þeir fengit mikit hlutskipti í vápnum ok klæðum, gulli ok
they got great booty in weapons and clothes gold and

silfri. Ok er lýsti um myrgininn, þá sá Birkibeinar út
silver And when (it)-dawned in the-morning then saw (the)-Birchlegs out
á völluna, at Heklungar lágu þar þykt ok bleiktu þar við
onto the-fields that (the)-Heklungs lay there thick and whitened there with
síðurnar. Þeir Magnús konungr reru út til Hólms, ok fám
the-sides They Magnus king rowed out to Holm and few
nóttum síðar fóru þeir suðr til Björgynjar. Var þeim þat
nights later went they south to Bjorgvin Was to-them that
mikil skaðaferð. Magnús konungr sat um vetrinn eptir í
great loss-journey Magnus king sat over the-winter after in
Björgyn, en Sverrir sat við sínum mönnum í Þrándheimi.
Bjorgvin but Sverrir sat with his men in Thrandheim

Frá Sverri konungi

LXIV · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir built a fort on Steinbjörg and the ship Maríusúð, of thirty-two rooms. Telling the hungry townsmen and farmers that his men were tired of tightening their belts, he made ready horses as if for Vermaland; Magnús sent his men to their districts, and Sverrir, sailing south after Christmas, met a headwind off Mærr and, thinking word of him had gone ahead to Björgvin, turned back to winter in Þrándheimr.

Þann vetr lét Sverrir konungr efna til borgargerðar út á
That winter let Sverrir king provide to fort-building out on
Steinbjörgum, ok váru konungs herbergi búin í öndverða
Steinbjorg and were (the)-king's lodgings ready in beginning
langaföstu. Fór konungr þá út í borgina, ok var þar jafnan
of-Lent Went (the)-king then out into the-fort and was there always
um várit með sumu liðinu. Þann vetr lét hann reisa skip
over the-spring with some the-troop That winter let he raise a-ship

í Þrándheimi í bœnum, var þat miklu meira en þau skip
in Thrandheim in the-town was that much greater than those ships
önnur, er þá váru í landi, þvíat þat var 2 rúm ok þrítugt
other which then were in (the)-land because it was 2 rooms and thirty
ok mikit í sér at því, þat var kallat Maríusúðin. Þat var á
and great in itself to that it was called the-Mariusud It was in
öndverðum vetri, er Sverrir konungr hafði þing einn dag
beginning of-winter when Sverrir king had an-assembly one day
í bœnum. Konungr talaði þá ok mælti svá: Mikit vandræði
in the-town (The)-king talked then and spoke so Great trouble
höfum vér nú haft um hríð, vér ok bœjarmenn, ok slíkt
have we now had for a-while we and townsmen and such
sama bœndr í heraði, er hér nú sultr ok seyra, sem ván
same farmers in (the)-district is here now hunger and want as expected
er, höfum nú hér setið 2 vetr, síz vér mistum skipa várra,
is have now here sat 2 winters since we lost ships our
er oss hafa öll þyngsl af staðit. Eru hér nú innan fjarðar
which to-us have all burdens of stood Are here now within (the)-fjord
fá skip, þau er herfœr eru, ok ef vér Birkibeinar féngim nú
few ships those which war-fit are and if we Birchlegs got now
nökkurn skipakost, þá mundim vér Heklungar enn ymsir at
some ship-supply then would we Heklungs still each to
róast. Nú með því at mínum mönnum leiðist beltadráttrinn
row Now with that that to-my men wearies belt-pulling
þessi, þá munum vér snúast til Upplanda ok þaðan austr
this then will we turn to (the)-Upplands and thence east
á Vermaland. Eptir um myrgininn váru skúaðir 20 hestar,
to Vermaland After in the-morning were shod 20 horses
ok búizt dag frá degi. Þetta spurðist af kaupmönnum,
and prepared day from day This was-learned from merchants
þeim er norðan kómu ok fóru suðr til Björgynjar. Magnús
those who from-north came and went south to Bjorgvin Magnus

konungr lét þá fara menn í sýslur sínar, er hann
king let then go men into districts his when he
spurði þetta, þvíat áðr hafði hann ætlat at fara norðr at
learned this because before had he intended to go north at
Birkibeinum. Sverrir konungr dvaldist í kaupangi fram
(the)-Birchlegs Sverrir king stayed in (the)-market-town forward
um jólin, en eptir jól fór hann suðr með skútur nökkurar
till the-Yule but after Yule went he south with cutters some
á Mœri ok fékk þá andviðri, sneri hann aptr norðr til
to More and got then contrary-wind turned he back north to
Þrándheims, þvíat hann þóttist þá vita, at njósn mundi
Thrandheim because he thought-himself then know that spying would
komin fyrir hann suðr til Björgynjar. Hvarf hann þá aptr
come before him south to Bjorgvin Turned he then back
norðr til Þrándheims ok sat þar um vetrinn ok um várit.
north to Thrandheim and sat there over the-winter and over the-spring

Dráp Þorgils sýslumanns

LXV · THE SLAYING OF ÞORGILS THE BAILIFF

The eighteen-year-old Viðkunnr Erlingsson of Bjarkey, offered a landed man's name by Magnús, ambushed Sverrir's bailiff Þorgils in Œgisfjörðr and killed him and eleven others for the wealth of his Finnish journey. Sailing south unwary in the Gullbringa with his sisters, Viðkunnr was caught at Steigarberg by Bárðr Guthormsson and Ívarr selki and fell with nearly all his men.

Þorgils hét sýslumaðr Sverris konungs, hann hafði sýslu
Thorgils was-called bailiff of-Sverrir king he had district
norðr á Hálogalandi í nörðstu þinghá, hann hafði
north in Halogaland in (the)-northernmost assembly-district he had
ok finnferð. Þá bjó í Bjarkey Viðkunnr Erlingsson, manna
also Finn-journey Then dwelt on Bjarkey Vidkunn Erling's-son of-men

mestr ok fríðastr, hann var þá 18 vetra ok hafði nýtekit
greatest and handsomest he was then 18 winters and had newly-taken
við föðurleifð sinni. Magnús konungr sendi Viðkunni orð, at
with patrimony his Magnus king sent to-Vidkunn word that
hann skyldi koma á hans fund ok sœkja þangat lends manns
he should come to his meeting and seek thither landed man's
nafn. Viðkunnr átti tvær systr fríðar, þá var ok úgipt systir
name Vidkunn had two sisters fair then was also unmarried sister
Magnús konungs Ragnhildr. Viðkunnr fór um vetrinn inn
of-Magnus king Ragnhild Vidkunn went in the-winter in
í fjörðu ok njósnaði til Birkibeina. Ok þá er Þorgils var
into (the)-fjords and spied to (the)-Birchlegs And then when Thorgils was
kominn af fjalli ok hafði fengit allmikit fé, þá sat
come from (the)-mountains and had got very-great wealth then sat
Viðkunnr fyrir honum inn í Œgisfirði ok drap þar Þorgils
Vidkunn for him in in Aegisfjord and killed there Thorgils
við tólfta mann, ok tók alt féit ok hafði heim með sér í
with twelfth man and took all the-wealth and had home with him to
Bjarkey. Um várit fór Viðkunnr norðan ok hafði tvítugsessu,
Bjarkey In the-spring went Vidkunn from-north and had a-twenty-bencher
þat skip var kallat Gullbringan, hann hafði ok vistabyrðing
that ship was called the-Gullbringa he had also provision-ship
annat skip. Þar váru með honum systr hans báðar ok Jón
a-second ship There were with him sisters his both and Jon
drumbi móðurbróðir hans. Þeir Viðkunnr ugðu ekki at sér,
Drumbi mother's-brother his They Vidkunn feared not for themselves
höfðu skjöldu við stafna en brynjur í kistum. Sverrir konungr
had shields by prows but mail in chests Sverrir king
spurði, hvat Viðkunnr hafðist at, ok sendi á mót honum Bárð
learned what Vidkunn did to and sent on against him Bard
Guthormsson ok Ívar selka með 7 skútum. Þeir fundust norðr
Guthorm's-son and Ivar Seal with 7 cutters They met north

við Steigarberg, lögðu Birkibeinar at á bæði borð ok veittu
by Steigarberg laid (the)-Birchlegs at on both boards and gave
harða atsókn. Sneri brátt mannfallinu á þá Viðkunn, þar féll
hard attack Turned soon the-slaughter onto them Vidkunn there fell
Viðkunnr ok nær öll sveit hans. Tóku Birkibeinar Gullbringuna
Vidkunn and near all company his Took (the)-Birchlegs the-Gullbringa
ok alt þat er á var, ok höfðu suðr til Þrándheims ok
and all that which on was and had south to Thrandheim and
færðu Sverri konungi, ok lofaði hann mjök þeira ferð.
brought to-Sverrir king and praised he much their journey

Frá Birkibeinum ok Heklungum

LXVI · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR AND THE HEKLUNGAR

Sverrir kept his plans hidden, then sailed south with twenty cutters past Staðr and let his men choose Björgvin. Taking the Heklung scout boats and the beacon on Háey by stealth, he learned that the whole army slept in the town with its ships tented at the wharves, and set Eiríkr, himself, and Úlfr of Laufnes to attack from three sides.

Um várit eptir páska átti Sverrir konungr opt þing
In the-spring after Easter had Sverrir king often an-assembly
við menn sína ok gerði fyrir þeim ymsa ætlan, ok varð
with men his and made before them various plan and became
ekki staðfast um, ok þar kom, at engi þóttist vita,
nothing fixed about and there came that none thought-himself know
hvat konungr barst fyrir. Stundum mælti hann þat, at
what (the)-king bore-himself for Sometimes spoke he that that
þeir mundu fara austr til Víkr, stundum þat, at þeir
they would go east to (the)-Vik sometimes that that they
mundu sigla vestr um haf. Magnús konungr sat í Björgyn
would sail west over (the)-sea Magnus king sat in Bjorgvin

ok spurði öll þessi tíðindi, ok dróst þar þá enn saman
and learned all these tidings and drew there then still together
herr mikill. Þat ráð tók Sverrir konungr, at hann sté
host great That counsel took Sverrir king that he stepped
á skútur ok hafði 20, ok sagði þat liðinu, at hann
onto cutters and had 20 and said that to-the-troop that he
vildi snúa norðr á Hálogaland. En er hann kom út or
wished turn north to Halogaland But when he came out out-of
Þrándheimsmynni, þá var á hvast veðr norðan, lét hann þá
Thrandheim's-mouth then was on sharp wind from-north let he then
blása liðinu til landgöngu. Konungr mælti: Þann kurr sem
blow the-troop to land-going (The)-king spoke That murmur which
ek hefi á gert um ferð vára, at vér mundim fara norðr á
I have on made about journey our that we would go north to
Hálogaland, þat hefi ek ekki mælt með alhuga, eru vér þar
Halogaland that have I not spoken with whole-mind are we there
komnir í botnholu fyrir þeim Heklungum. Nú sé ek, at
come into bottom-hole for those Heklungs Now see I that
inndælla mun vera at láta skúturnar svífa suðr með landi
pleasanter will be to let the-cutters glide south along (the)-land
um eyjasundin, ok er svá sem mælt er, at sá hefir, er
through the-island-sounds and is so as said is that he has who
hættir. Megu vér, ef þér vilit, snúa útleið ok svá til Víkr
risks May we if you wish turn outer-way and so to (the)-Vik
austr. Sigldu þeir þá í einni suðr um Stað. Konungr lét þá
east Sailed they then in one south past Stad (The)-king let then
saman leggja skipunum ok átti tal við sína menn ok mælti:
together lay the-ships and had talk with his men and spoke
Nú sýnist mér vel hafa ráðizt til um vára ferð hér til,
Now seems to-me well have turned-out to about our journey here to
ok mun nú ráðligast at snúa útleið austr til Víkr, þá
and will now most-advisable to turn outer-way east to (the)-Vik then

er til sá kostr at snúa til Björgynjar, ok er þat ekki mjök
is to that choice to turn to Bjorgvin and is that not much
ráðligt, en heita má þat Birkibeinum hvöt, en eigi vil ek
advisable but called may that to-the-Birchlegs incitement but not will I
þess einkum fýsa. Allir kuru at fara til Björgynjar. Þá gerði
of-that especially urge All chose to go to Bjorgvin Then sent
konungr skútur nökkurar inn í Úlfasund, en hann sjálfr
(the)-king cutters some in into Ulfasund but he himself
sigldi hit ytra. Birkibeinar tóku inn í Úlfasundi tvær skútur
sailed the outer (The)-Birchlegs took in in Ulfasund two cutters
af Heklungum, er verit höfðu á njósn, ok drápu þá
of (the)-Heklungs which been had on spying and killed them
flesta, en gáfu nökkurum mönnum grið ok höfðu tíðindi af.
most but gave to-some men truce and had tidings from
Þeir sögðu, at þrjár skútur lágu í Áleyjarsundi á njósn, en
They said that three cutters lay in Aleyjarsund on spying but
viti var suðr á Háeynni, en annarr á Fenhring, ok sér
a-beacon was south on Haey and another on Fenhring and sees
frá þeim inn til bœjarins. Þeir sögðu, at herrinn allr svaf í
from them in to the-town They said that the-host all slept in
bœnum, ok svá í hverjum garði ríkismenn sváfu, skip þeira
the-town and so in every yard great-men slept ships their
flutu öll tjölduð fyrir bryggjum. Kómu þeir nú með þessum
floated all tented before (the)-wharves Came they now with these
tíðindum til Sverris konungs. Konungr sendi nú lið fyrir
tidings to Sverrir king (The)-king sent now troop before
með þessum skútum, er Heklungar höfðu átt, fóru þær
with these cutters which (the)-Heklungs had owned went those
skútur fyrir suðr. En er þeir sigldu suðr frá Drifeyjum,
cutters before south But when they sailed south from Drifeyjar
þá sá Heklungar skúturnar ok kendu, ok svá skjölduna,
then saw (the)-Heklungs the-cutters and knew and so the-shields

ok hugðu sína menn vera mundu, ok er skúturnar kómu
and thought their men be would and when the-cutters came
at þeim, þá létu Birkibeinar ganga skotin, en Heklungar
at them then let (the)-Birchlegs go the-shots but (the)-Heklungs
hljópu á land, en sumir váru drepnir. Birkibeinar tóku
leapt onto land but some were killed (The)-Birchlegs took
nú skúturnar. ok alt þat er á var, ok biðu þar konungs.
now the-cutters and all that which on was and waited there for-(the)-king
Eptir þat fara þeir suðr leið sína. Konungr gerði enn suðr
After that go they south way their (The)-king sent still south
fyrir skúturnar, þær er Heklungar höfðu átt, ok biðr þá
before the-cutters those which (the)-Heklungs had owned and bids them
taka vitann á Háeynni. En Birkibeinar váru veiðibráðir ok
take the-beacon on Haey But (the)-Birchlegs were prey-eager and
reru skjótara eptir en konungr vildi, ok varð vitakarl
rowed faster after than (the)-king wished and became (the)-beacon-churl
varr við ok skaut eldi í vitann, en þó varð ekki vart
aware with and shot fire into the-beacon but yet became nothing aware
við til hins syðra vitans, þvíat Birkibeinar kómu skjótt ok
with to the southern beacon because (the)-Birchlegs came quickly and
tóku vitakarlinn ok brutu niðr vitann. Róa þeir suðr með
took the-beacon-churl and broke down the-beacon Row they south along
landinu, þvíat þar bar skugga af fjöllunum. Áðr þeir kómu
the-land because there bore shadow from the-mountains Before they came
at Holdhellu, mælti konungr: Engu höfum vér enn í spilt
to Holdhella spoke (the)-king Nothing have we yet in spoiled
um várt mál, megum vér enn láta fljóta suðr um bœinn
about our case may we still let float south past the-town
ok hlaupa svá um horn þeim. En allir létust fúsari
and leap so about horn to-them But all said-themselves more-eager
til bœjarins. Konungr kvezt þess ekki vildu letja, þvíat
to the-town (The)-king said-himself of-that not wished dissuade because

ek ætla þeim munu um felmt verða, ef vér komum þeim
I think to-them will about panic be if we bring to-them
dyn fyrir dyrr. Vér skulum svá hátta atlögunni, at Eiríkr
din before door We shall so arrange the-attack that Eirik
bróðir minn skal róa undir bergit ok 10 skútur, ok ganga
brother my shall row under the-cliff and 10 cutters and go
þar upp, ok láta fara hans merki utan um Kristskirkjugarð
there up and let go his standard outside about Christ's-church-yard
ok svá fram í konungsgarð, en ek mun róa inn fyrir
and so forward into (the)-king's-yard but I will row in before
bryggjur ok leita til skipanna, munum vér þegar upp ganga.
(the)-wharves and seek to the-ships will we at-once up go
Úlfr af Laufnesi skal róa inn í Vágsbotn ok gegna þeim,
Ulf of Laufnes shall row in into Vagsbotn and meet those
er þangat hlaupa, ok láta þar lúðra ganga.
who thither run and let there trumpets go

Fall Heklunga

LXVII · THE FALL OF THE HEKLUNGAR

The Birkibeinar cut loose the ships and stormed the yards; Magnús leapt from his balcony into the churchyard and escaped. Eiríkr's men and Sverrir's nearly fought one another before they knew each other, then took the hall; the archbishop's men lost thirty. Magnús's weaponless men would not turn back, and he fled through Harðangr while others went east.

Sverrir konungr greiðir nú atróðrinn, ok svá hverir, sem
Sverrir king makes now the-rowing-attack and so each as
ætlat er, ok þegar þeir koma fyrir bryggjurnar, höggva þeir
intended is and as-soon-as they come before the-wharves hew they
strengina ok hrinda út skipunum. Birkibeinar hlaupa upp
the-cables and push out the-ships (The)-Birchlegs leap up

á bryggjurnar ok œpa heróp, stefna í garðana, þar er
onto the-wharves and shout war-cry head into the-yards there where
þeir vissu ván Heklunga fyrir. Féll þá mart af þeim. Sverrir
they knew hope of-Heklungs before Fell then many of them Sverrir
konungr kom upp til Maríukirkju, var þar fyrir Jón Hallkelsson
king came up to Mary's-church was there before Jon Hallkel's-son
ok bað griða, ok gaf konungr honum grið ok sonum hans
and asked of-truce and gave (the)-king to-him truce and to-sons his
tveim Rögnvaldi ok Hallkeli. Konungr sneri nú út eptir
two Rognvald and Hallkel (The)-king turned now out along
strætinu, en sum sveitin inn eptir bryggjum, ok hjoggu út
the-street but some the-company in along (the)-wharves and hewed out
skipin bæði smá ok stór, var Vágrinn allr fullr af skipum.
the-ships both small and great was the-Vag all full of ships
Þeir Úlfr sóttu innan um strætit ok féngu enga viðrtöku.
They Ulf pressed from-within along the-street and got no resistance
Þeir Eiríkr konungsson fara utan um Kristskirkjugarð með
They Eirik king's-son go outside about Christ's-church-yard with
ópi ok lúðragangi. Magnús konungr svaf í höllinni ok
whoop and trumpet-going Magnus king slept in the-hall and
öll sveit hans. Konungr hafði verit í svölunum, er hit
all company his (The)-king had been in the-gallery when the
fyrsta kom herópit inn í bœnum, hljóp hann þá fram
first came the-war-cry in into the-town ran he then forward
eptir svölunum til Postolakirkju ok ofan í kirkjugarðinn,
along the-gallery to (the)-Apostles'-church and down into the-church-yard
ok er þat furðuliga hátt hlaup. Konungr stefndi upp um
and is that wondrously high leap (The)-king headed up through
byskupsgarð ok svá inn fyrir ofan Nikuláskirkju, kómu þar
(the)-bishop's-yard and so in on above Nicholas's-church came there
þá til hans mart Heklunga. Birkibeinar höfðu ekki rannsakat
then to him many Heklungs (The)-Birchlegs had not searched

bœinn. Þá er merki Sverris konungs fór innan í
the-town Then when (the)-standard of-Sverrir king went in into
konungsgarð, þá óð annat merki utan eptir garðinum,
(the)-king's-yard then waded another standard from-outside along the-yard
skutu hvárir at öðrum; ok var við sjálft, at þeir mundu
shot each at other and was with itself that they would
berjast, áðr þeir kendust; fór Eiríkr þar. Sneru þeir þá
fight before they recognized-each-other went Eirik there Turned they then
allir samt ofan at höllinni ok sóttu at fast, en menn Magnús
all together down to the-hall and pressed at hard but men of-Magnus
konungs vörðust. Var þat löng hríð, féll þar mart góðra
king defended-themselves Was that long onslaught fell there many good
drengja. En er þeir vissu, at eigi var konungrinn þar, þá
fellows But when they knew that not was the-king there then
lét Sverrir konungr gefa þar mörgum mönnum grið. Eysteinn
let Sverrir king give there to-many men truce Eystein
erkibyskup var við Jónsbryggjur með skipi sínu; hljópu upp
archbishop was by Jonsbryggja with ship his ran up
hans menn með vápnum ok fara inn á Jónsvöllu ok ætluðu
his men with weapons and go in onto Jonsvellir and intended
til liðs við Magnús konung, en Birkibeinar mœttu þeim ok
to help with Magnus king but (the)-Birchlegs met them and
drápu af þeim 30 manna, en ráku aptr alla aðra, váru þeir
killed of them 30 men but drove back all others were they
margir sárir, er undan kómust. Féllu þar frændr erkibyskups
many wounded who away came Fell there kinsmen of-(the)-archbishop
Ólafr langi ok Guðbrandr Þorbergsson. Í höllinni féllu
Olaf (the)-Long and Gudbrand Thorberg's-son In the-hall fell
þeir Hallvarðr marardráp ok Páll Eiríksson or Uppdal.
they Hallvard Mare-Slayer and Pal Eirik's-son out-of Uppdal

Þá er Magnús konungr var kominn upp um Nunnusetr, þá
Then when Magnus king was come up past (the)-Nunnery then
mœtti konungr þar mörgu liði sínu. Hann spurði, ef mönnum
met (the)-king there much troop his He asked if to-men
þœtti ráð at snúa aptr í bœinn ok bérjast, kvezt
seemed counsel to turn back into the-town and fight said-himself
hyggja, at Birkibeinar hefði ekki mikit lið. Allir svöruðu því,
think that (the)-Birchlegs had not great troop All answered that
at þat væri ekki ráð, þar sem margir váru nær vápnlausir,
that that were not counsel there as many were near weaponless
þeir höfðu ok engan lúðr ok ekki merki, ok af öllu þessu
they had also no trumpet and no standard and from all this
þóttust þeir ekki fœrir til bardaga, ok snerust þá til
thought-themselves they not fit to battle and turned then to
Strindarfjarðar ok þaðan í Harðangr, ok féngu sér þar
Strindarfjord and thence into Hardanger and got for-themselves there
skip, skútur ok ferjur margar, fóru síðan suðr með landi
ships cutters and ferries many went then south along (the)-land
bæði dag ok nótt, ok kom mart lið hans eptir honum, en
both day and night and came much troop his after him but
sumt, þat er seinna varð or bœnum, hafði snúit upp um
some that which later became out-of the-town had turned up past
Álreksstaði ok léttu eigi fyrr, en þeir kómu austr í Vík.
Alreksstadir and stopped not earlier than they came east into (the)-Vik

Sverrir var í Björgyn

LXVIII · SVERRIR IN BJÖRGVIN

Sverrir took Magnús's fleet, crown, golden scepter, and coronation robes. Archbishop Eysteinn, back from three years in England, was reconciled with him and returned to his see. Jón Hallkelsson and his sons swore Sverrir oaths a third time and soon went east to Magnús.

Sverrir konungr tók í Björgyn allan skipastól Magnús konungs.
Sverrir king took in Bjorgvin all fleet of-Magnus king
Þar tók hann alla hina ágætustu gripi hans, þar tók hann
There took he all the most-excellent treasures his there took he
kórónuna ok gullvöndinn, er Magnús konungr var vígðr
the-crown and the-gold-wand with-which Magnus king was consecrated
með, ok alt vígsluskrúð hans. Þar féngu ok menn mikit
with and all consecration-vestments his There got also men great
hlutskipti. Eysteinn erkibyskup hafði þat sama sumar komit
booty Eystein archbishop had that same summer come
vestan snemma ok hafði verit þrjá vetr á Englandi frá stóli
from-west early and had been three winters in England from see
sínum, ok þá sættist erkibyskup við Sverri konung, ok fór hann
his and then reconciled (the)-archbishop with Sverrir king and went he
um sumarit til stóls síns. Sverrir konungr bauð Jóni Hallkelssyni
in the-summer to see his Sverrir king offered to-Jon Hallkel's-son
ok sonum hans at fara til móts við Magnús konung. En Jón
and sons his to go to meeting with Magnus king But Jon
vildi heldr vera með Sverri konungi. Konungr kvezt þess
wished rather be with Sverrir king (The)-king said-himself of-that
vera úfúss, sagði, at hann hafði honum tysvar eiða svarit ok
be unwilling said that he had to-him twice oaths sworn and

haldit hváriga, en eigi at síðr svörðu þeir honum enn eiða hit
kept neither but not the less swore they to-him still oaths the
þriðja sinn, ok litlu síðar fóru þeir austr til Magnús konungs.
third time and little later went they east to Magnus king

Frá sýslumönnum Sverris konungs

LXIX · OF KING SVERRIR'S BAILIFFS

Magnús fled again to Denmark, and Sverrir set bailiffs in Rogaland and Hörðaland. At Christmas the men of Sóknadalr killed Ívarr dápi and his men.

Magnús fór um sumarit suðr til Danmerkr á fund Valdimars
Magnus went in the-summer south to Denmark to meeting of-Valdimar
Danakonungs, ok flýði þá landit annat sinn fyrir Sverri
Danes'-king and fled then the-land a-second time before Sverrir
konungi. Sverrir konungr skipaði þá sýslumönnum alt um
king Sverrir king placed then bailiffs all about
Rogaland ok Hörðaland. Inn í Sogn sendi hann Ívar dápa
Rogaland and Hordaland In into Sogn sent he Ivar Dapi
í sýslu. Um haustit fór konungr norðr til Þrándheims við
into district In the-autumn went (the)-king north to Thrandheim with
öllu liðinu, ok var þar um vetrinn. Þá er Sverrir konungr
all the-troop and was there over the-winter Then when Sverrir king
var norðr farinn, líkaði Sygnum ekki við sýslumennina. Þat
was north gone pleased to-the-Sygnir not with the-bailiffs It
var litlu fyrir jól, at sýslumenn kröfðu útgerða til jólaveizlu
was little before Yule that (the)-bailiffs demanded supplies to Yule-feast
sér, ok ætluðu at sitja í Lúsakaupangi. Kaupangsmenn
for-themselves and intended to sit in Lusakaupang (The)-market-town-men
vildu þat fyrir engan mun. Sókndœlir fara til kaupangs
wished that for no way (The)-Soknadal-men go to (the)-market-town

jólaaptan, snúast þá til með þeim kaupangsmenn ok veita
Yule-eve turn then to with them (the)-market-town-men and give
þeim atgöngu sýslumönnunum. Mest var fyrir þessu ráði
to-them attack to-the-bailiffs Most was over this counsel
Arnþórr af Hváli ok Ísak Þorgilsson, ok þeir synir Álgeirs
Arnthor of Hval and Isak Thorgils's-son and they sons of-Algeir
prests Gautr ok Karlshöfuð. Ívarr dápi bað griða ok bauð
priest Gaut and Karlshofud Ivar Dapi asked of-truce and offered
at fara á braut með alla menn sína. Bœndr vildu þat
to go on away with all men his (The)-farmers wished that
eigi, ok drápu sýslumennina ok nær alla sveit þeira, en af
not and killed the-bailiffs and near all company their but by
hlaupi kómust undan þeir er lífit þágu. Fóru þeir hit efra
running got away they who the-life received Went they the upper
norðr til Sverris konungs ok sögðu honum þessi tíðindi,
north to Sverrir king and told to-him these tidings
ok þat at Sygnir kölluðust hafa drepit þjófa ok illmenni,
and that that (the)-Sygnir said-themselves have killed thieves and evil-men
ok töldu þá úbótamenn.
and counted them unatonable-men

Ger Maríusúðin

LXX · THE MARÍUSÚÐ BUILT

Men mocked the Maríusúð, saying houses would have to be broken to launch it, but it slid out unharmed, though its seams opened where Sverrir had cut it apart to lengthen the keel. He gave it to the Virgin Mary with mass vestments fit for an archbishop at high feasts, set relics in its stem, and built the Hjálp and the Viðsjá that winter.

Þat sama sumar sem Sverrir konungr hafði tekin skipin í
That same summer as Sverrir king had taken the-ships in
Björgyn, var Maríusúðin alger, ok um haustit lét konungr
Bjorgvin was the-Mariusud all-made and in the-autumn let (the)-king
fram setja skipit. Þat var gert fyrir ofan bœinn, ok var þat
forward launch the-ship It was made on above the-town and was that
mál manna, at eigi mundi mega fram setja, nema garðar
speech of-men that not would may forward launch unless fences
væri brotnir til, ok töldu, at konungr lýsti í skipgerð
were broken to and counted that (the)-king showed in shipbuilding
þessi ágirnd ok ofsa, mæltu margir illa fyrir skipinu. En
this greed and arrogance spoke many ill for the-ship But
at hinu reyndist, þá er fram var sett, at konungr
to the-other proved then when forward was launched that (the)-king
hafði svá fyrir sét, at skipit gékk fram, ok þurfti hvárki at
had so before seen that the-ship went forward and needed neither to
brjóta hús né garða til. En er skipit hljóp af stokkunum
break houses nor fences to But when the-ship ran off the-stocks
ok fram á ána, þá bilaði í skarar nökkurar. Þat hafði
and forward onto the-river then gave-way in seams some That had
at borizt um vetrinn, þá er Sverrir konungr hafði farit
to happened in the-winter then when Sverrir king had gone
suðr á Mœri, þá var meðan reist skipit í kaupangi,
south to More then was meanwhile raised the-ship in (the)-market-town
ok komnar við níu sýjur hvárum megin, þá er konungr
and come with nine strakes on-each side then when (the)-king
kom aptr. En er konungr sá smíðit, mælti hann: Þetta
came back But when (the)-king saw the-work spoke he This
skip er miklu minna efnat, en svá sem ek vil, at sé, skal
ship is much less built than so as I wish that be shall
nú höggva í sundr skipit ok leggja í 12 álna kjöl langan.
now hew in two the-ship and lay in 12 ells keel long

Smiðrinn mælti á mót, en þó réð konungr, ok varð þat
The-shipwright spoke on against but yet decided (the)-king and became that
at skipinu, at samskarat varð mjök um botninn, ok hafði
to the-ship that joined became much about the-bottom and had
þar bilat at skörunum, þá er fram var sett. Sverrir
there given-way at the-seams then when forward was launched Sverrir
konungr stóð upp í skipinu, þá er á vatn var komit, ok
king stood up in the-ship then when on water was come and
mælti: Guð sé þess lofaðr ok hin helga mær María ok hinn
spoke God be of-that praised and the holy maid Mary and the
helgi Ólafr konungr, at þetta skip kom með heilu á vatn
holy Olaf king that this ship came with whole onto water
ok engum manni at meini, sem margir gátu, ok ræddu þar
and to-no man to harm as many guessed and talked there
um úvingjarnligum orðum til vár, ok guð fyrirgefi þeim
about with-unfriendly words to us and God forgive them
þat. Nú þykki mér þat vænt, at fáir menn muni sét hafa
that Now seems to-me that likely that few men will seen have
langskip meira, er þetta mikil landvörn fyrir úvinum várum,
longship greater is this great land-defense against enemies our
ef til þessa skips vill auðna falla. Vil ek þetta skip gefa á
if to this ship will luck fall Will I this ship give onto
traust ok trúnað hinnar helgu Maríu ok kalla þetta skip
trust and faith of-the holy Mary and call this ship
Maríusúðina, ok þar með þess biðja, at hin helga mær María
the-Mariusud and there with of-that pray that the holy maid Mary
sé vörn ok gæzla fyrir þessu skipi, ok hér til jartegna vil ek
be defense and keeping for this ship and here to tokens will I
gefa Maríu þá gripi, er meir skal hafa til guðs þjónostu,
give to-Mary those treasures which more shall have to God's service
en þat eru messuklæði, þau er erkibyskup er sœmiliga
than that are mass-vestments those in-which an-archbishop is honorably

búinn um hátíðir, þótt hann beri, ok vætta þar á mót, at
arrayed at high-feasts though he wear and expect there on against that
hon muni til líta þessarra gjafa allra saman ok veita sinn
she will to look of-these gifts all together and give her
styrk ok gæfu bæði skipinu ok öllum þeim, er á því fara.
strength and luck both to-the-ship and to-all those who on it go
Sverrir konungr lét grafa í ennispánuna fram ok aptr
Sverrir king let carve into the-forehead-plank forward and aft
helga dóma, hann skipti ok messuklæðunum, lét fara
holy relics he divided also the-mass-vestments let go
hökulinn til Maríukirkju, kantarakápu til Helgisetrs, en öll
the-chasuble to Mary's-church cantor's-cope to Helgisetr but all
önnur til Nunnusetrs á Bakka. Maríusúðin var ekki fagrt
others to (the)-Nunnery at Bakki The-Mariusud was not a-fair
skip, alt minna til skutanna en um mitt, ok voldi þat því,
ship all smaller to the-sterns than about middle and caused that it
er aukit hafði verit. Sverrir konungr lét gera um vetrinn
that added had been Sverrir king let make in the-winter
nökkur langskip. Þá var ger Hjálpin, er Þórólfr rympill
some longships Then was made the-Hjalp which Thorolf Rympil
hafði, ok var 6 rúm ok 20, þá var ok ger Viðsjáin, er
had and was 6 rooms and 20 then was also made the-Vidsja which
Úlfr hafði af Laufnesi, ok enn því nær mikil.
Ulf had of Laufnes and still that nearly great

Sigling Sverris konungs or kaupangi

LXXI · KING SVERRIR SAILS FROM THE MARKET-TOWN

After Easter Sverrir sailed south with twenty-three ships, himself in the Maríusúð with two hundred and eighty men, and four heavy chests of nails were carried aboard. The ship strained off Staðr. He turned into Sogn to claim compensation for his men, letting three ships under Svínapétr go on to Björgvin.

Um várit eptir páska bjóst Sverrir konungr norðan
In the-spring after Easter prepared-himself Sverrir king from-north
or kaupangi ok hafði 3 skip ok 20. Þar var þá með
out-of (the)-market-town and had 3 ships and 20 There was then with
honum Eiríkr bróðir hans, Úlfr af Laufnesi, Úlfr flý, Bárðr
him Eirik brother his Ulf of Laufnes Ulf Flea Bard
Guthormsson, Ívarr selki, Hávarðr Jarlsson, ok höfðu mikit
Guthorm's-son Ivar Seal Havard Earl's-son and had great
lið ok frítt. Konungrinn hafði Maríusúðna, ok váru á henni
troop and fine The-king had the-Mariusud and were on it
2 hunðruð manna ok 80. Konungr lét bera út á skipit
2 hundred men and 80 (The)-king let bear out onto the-ship
kistur 4, ok báru 4 menn hverja, ok þóttust menn eigi
chests 4 and bore 4 men each and thought-themselves men not
vita, hvat í mundi vera. Eiríkr konungsson hafði Óskmeyna,
know what in would be Eirik king's-son had the-Oskmey
ok var þat nær hálfþrítugt. Sverrir konungr fór með liði sínu
and was that near twenty-five-bench Sverrir king went with troop his
suðr með landi, ok höfðu mikit lið ok frítt. Konungr bað
south along (the)-land and had great troop and fine (The)-king bade
nú sína menn vera spaka ok friðsama, frétta vandliga, hvat
now his men be quiet and peaceful learn carefully what
væri í hverju um hvers manns rœður, hvárt sem væri meiri
were in each about each man's speeches whether as were greater

eða minni, ok kunna honum at segja allar nýlundur, þótt
or less and know to-him to tell all novelties though
þeim þœtti lítils um vert. Þeir féngu hvast veðr fyrir Staði,
to-them seemed of-little about worth They got sharp wind off Stad
varð Maríusúðin klökk mjök fyrir stálinu ok skaut mjök
became the-Mariusud weak much before the-stem and sprang much
lykkjunum. Konungr sneri inn til Úlfasunda, ok er hann lá
the-joints (The)-king turned in to Ulfasund and when he lay
þar, urðu menn varir við, hvat í þeim hinum miklum kistum
there became men aware with what in those the great chests
var, þar var or tekinn skipsaumr ok fœrðr í skipit. Konungr
was there was out taken ship-rivets and brought into the-ship (The)-king
fékk ok reksaum í hvert hálfrými. Konungr segir þá liðinu,
got also clench-nails into each half-room (The)-king says then to-the-troop
at hann vill fara inn í Sogn ok heimta gjöld eptir menn
that he will go in into Sogn and claim payments after men
sína. Þá beiddust menn at fara til Björgynjar, þeir er þannin
his Then asked men to go to Bjorgvin those who thither
áttu erendi. Konungr lofaði mönnum þat, þvíat hann vissi eigi
had errand (The)-king allowed to-men that because he knew not
þá vánir úfriðar svá bráðendis, ok fóru suðr 3 skip. Réð
then expectations of-war so sudden and went south 3 ships Ruled
fyrir því liði Svínapétr, skiptust menn þá millum skipanna.
over that troop Svinapetr divided men then between the-ships

Hernaðr Sverris konungs í Noregi

LXXII · KING SVERRIR HARRIES IN NORWAY

The farmers of Sóknadalr agreed to pay fifteen marks of gold, then fled to the mountains with their goods. Sverrir had Lúsakaupangr plundered and burned and sent his men through Sóknadalr to plunder but spare lives and churches; finding the valley empty, they burned a hundred farms, saving the church at Steðja with wet sails.

Sverrir konungr sneri nú inn í Sogn við 20 skipum,
Sverrir king turned now in into Sogn with 20 ships
lá fyrst í Ruslum ok sendi boð inn í Sóknadal, at
lay first at Rusl and sent message in into Soknadal that
bœndr kœmi til hans í Hvamsey, ef þeir vildi sættast
(the)-farmers came to him at Hvamsey if they wished reconcile
við hann. Fór þá konungr inn þannin, kómu þá bœndr
with him Went then (the)-king in thither came then (the)-farmers
ok festu konungi gjald. Konungr dœmdi á hendr þeim 15
and fastened to-(the)-king payment (The)-king judged on hands to-them 15
merkr gulls, skyldu þeir koma með gjaldit innan 3 nátta.
marks of-gold should they come with the-payment within 3 nights
Fóru bœndr heim ok una illa við, gera nú ráð sitt at
Went (the)-farmers home and abide ill with make now counsel their to
flytja fé sitt á merkr ok fjöll ok eyða alla bygðina.
move wealth their onto forests and mountains and waste all the-settlement
En er konungr fann, at þeir rufu stefnuna, þá siglir
But when (the)-king found that they broke the-summons then sails
konungr inn þar sem firðirnir skiljast, gerir hann þá frá
(the)-king in there where the-fjords part sends he then from
sér Úlf af Laufnesi ok Þórólf rympil með 6 skipum inn
himself Ulf of Laufnes and Thorolf Rympil with 6 ships in

til Lúsakaupangs, ok bað þá elda þar baðstofur bónda.
to Lusakaupang and bade them heat there bath-houses of-(the)-farmers
Ok er þeir kómu inn í Lúsakaupang, ræntu þeir þar fé
And when they came in into Lusakaupang robbed they there wealth
öllu, en brendu kaupstaðinn, ekki féngu þeir af mönnum.
all but burned the-market-town nothing got they of men
Sverrir konungr sneri inn í Nórafjörð 14 skipum, ok
Sverrir king turned in into Norafjord with-14 ships and
lagðist inn við Sóknadal; þat var óðinsdaginn at aptni.
lay in by Soknadal that was Odin's-day at evening
Þórsdags myrgininn bað konungr menn upp ganga, tvá menn,
Thor's-day's morning bade (the)-king men up go two men
þar er einn væri eptir, or hverju hálfrými af öllum
there where one were after out-of each half-room from all
skipunum. Hann bað menn ræna fé, en eigi drepa menn,
the-ships He bade men rob wealth but not kill men
utan bœndr sæti áhlaupum við yðr, en ef bœndr forðast
unless (the)-farmers set attacks with you but if (the)-farmers avoid
fund várn ok vilja eigi sættast við oss, þá skulu vér svá
meeting our and will not reconcile with us then shall we so
héðan fara, at bœndr skulu eiga þar smíðarkol, er nú
hence go that (the)-farmers shall have there smithy-coals where now
eru bœir þeira; látið þér aldri kot eptir standa, gætið þér til
are farms their let you never cottage after stand watch you to
um kirkjur, þar er svá má vera. Farit nú hermannliga, er
about churches there where so may be Go now warrior-like as
yðr er lofat. Þá lét konungr setja upp merki sitt ok sneri
to-you is allowed Then let (the)-king set up standard his and turned
á leið liðinu, þá þeystist allr múgrinn. Sá konungrinn, at
on way the-troop then rushed all the-throng Saw the-king that
fátt eitt var manna eptir at skipunum, kallaði hann þá, at
few one were of-men after at the-ships called he then that

menn skyldu eigi eyða skipin, en engi lét sem heyrði. Sneri
men should not empty the-ships but none acted as heard Turned
konungr þá sjálfr aptr til skipanna ok lét heimta skipin út
(the)-king then himself back to the-ships and let draw the-ships out
undir strengi. En er Birkibeinar géngu upp, urðu þeir ekki
under cables But when (the)-Birchlegs went up became they not
við menn varir, ok við engan búsmala, ok auð váru öll
with men aware and with no cattle and empty were all
hús. Géngu þeir um daginn ok um nóttina ok fundu einn
houses Went they in the-day and in the-night and found one
mann, þann er þeim sagði, at alt fólk var flýit á fjöll
man that who to-them said that all folk was fled onto mountains
ok merkr. Frjádaginn viku þeir Birkibeinar ofan ferð sinni
and forests The-Friday turned they Birchlegs down journey their
eptir dalnum, ok er þeir koma til efsta bœjar, þá skutu
along the-dale and when they come to (the)-highest farm then shot
þeir þar eldi í ok brenna, ok létu svá ganga ofan eptir
they there fire in and burn and let so go down along
bygðinni. Vindr var á lítill, brann náliga öll senn bygðin.
the-settlement Wind was on little burned nearly all at-once the-settlement
Síðarst brendu þeir á Steðju, ok dvöldust þeir þar mjök
Last burned they at Stedja and stayed they there very
lengi, þvíat eldinn vildi leggja at kirkjunni, en þeir báru fyrir
long because the-fire would lay at the-church but they bore before
segl vátt. Tíutigu bœja brendu þeir þar, ok var þat áðr
sail wet Ten-tens of-farms burned they there and was that before
allfögr bygð. Lét konungr þá braut leggja skipunum ok
very-fair settlement Let (the)-king then away lay the-ships and
yfir til Hugastrandar, ok lögðu þar at, er heitir Fimreiti.
over to Hugastrond and laid there to where is-called Fimreiti

Frá Magnúsi konungi

LXXIII · OF KING MAGNÚS

Ásbjörn Jónsson went ahead and urged Konungahella to welcome Magnús, who came from Denmark after Easter with twenty-four ships and was met with a procession; with him were Ormr, Munan, and Haraldr son of King Ingi. Three weeks later he went to Túnsberg.

Frá Magnúsi konungi er þat at segja, at hann var um vetrinn
From Magnus king is that to tell that he was in the-winter
í Danmörk, fór hann snemma um várit til Víkrinnar.
in Denmark went he early in the-spring to the-Vik
Fjórða dag páska kom Ásbjörn Jónsson af mönnum Magnús
Fourth day of-Easter came Asbjorn Jon's-son of men of-Magnus
konungs til Konungahellu. Var þá móts kvatt. Ásbjörn sagði
king to Konungahella Was then meeting summoned Asbjorn told
þá mönnum, at ván var til bœjarins Magnús konungs, bað
then to-men that expected was to the-town Magnus king bade
menn taka vel við honum, kvað öllum nauðsyn á at vingast
men take well with him said to-all need on to befriend
við hann, sagði konung góðs vænta af öllum mönnum austr
with him said (the)-king good expect from all men east
í land. Talaði langt ok snjalt, ok gerðu menn góðan róm
in (the)-land Talked long and eloquently and made men good acclaim
at máli hans. Dróttinsdaginn eptir páskaviku kom Magnús
at speech his The-Lord's-day after Easter-week came Magnus
konungr til bœjarins, hann hafði 4 skip ok 20, ok var ger
king to the-town he had 4 ships and 20 and was made
processía á mót honum, ok með miklum fagnaði var við
procession on against him and with great welcome was with
honum tekit. Drakk konungr í garði konu þeirar er
him taken Drank (the)-king in (the)-yard of-woman that who

Ragnhildr hét. Þar váru þá með honum margir mikils
Ragnhild was-called There were then with him many of-great
háttar menn, Ormr konungsbróðir, Munan Gautsson, Hallkell
rank men Orm king's-brother Munan Gaut's-son Hallkel
Jónsson, Ásbjörn Jónsson, Haraldr son Inga konungs, ok
Jon's-son Asbjorn Jon's-son Harald son of-Ingi king and
margir aðrir ágætir menn. Magnús konungr dvaldist í bœnum
many other excellent men Magnus king stayed in the-town
3 vikur ok fór þaðan til Túnsbergs. Af Konungahellu
3 weeks and went thence to Tunsberg From Konungahella
hafði hann 2 skip, hét annat Keip, en annat Vallabuza.
had he 2 ships was-called (the)-one Keip but (the)-other Vallabuza

Enn frá Magnúsi konungi

LXXIV · MORE OF KING MAGNÚS

At Túnsberg Magnús asked for help, saying his coronation oath forbade him to take a fief from King Valdimarr instead; men said they would rather die with him than serve Sverrir. His men sailed north in high spirits while he kept silent, and at Karmsund learned that Svínapétr held Björgvin with three ships.

Magnús konungr fékk góðar viðtökur í Túnsbergi. Kom þar
Magnus king got good receptions in Tunsberg Came there
mart manna til hans, átti hann þar húsþing ok mælti svá:
many men to him had he there house-meeting and spoke so
Kunnigt mun yðr vera, hversu mikit válk ok vandræði vér
Known will to-you be how great toil and trouble we
höfum þolat í ríkinu. Nú vil ek beiðast af yðr nökkurs
have endured in the-realm Now will I ask from you some
styrks, til þess at ek mætta ná ríki mínu; en því vil ek
strength to that that I might get realm my and that will I

yðr heita á móti, at þessa skyldu skal eigi opt héðan ífrá
to-you promise on against that this duty shall not often hence forward
þurfa á yðr at leggja. Er þat eigi undarligt, þótt mörgum
need on you to lay Is that not strange though to-many
leiðist at róa leiðangrinn með oss, því at mörgum verðr
wearies to row the-levy with us for that to-many becomes
hann skaðasamr; en fyrir því at ek var smurðr ok kórónaðr
it harmful but for that that I was anointed and crowned
til lands þessa, þá þori ek eigi fyrir guði at rjúfa svá eiða
to land this then dare I not before God to break so oaths
mína, er þar fylgðu, ok vil ek heldr sœkja til lands þessa
my which there followed and will I rather seek to land this
með oddi ok eggju, meðan mér vinnst líf til. En sé ek þat
with point and edge while to-me suffices life to But see I that
ráð fyrir mér, at meira væri hóglífi ok minni mannhætta,
counsel for me that greater were ease and less danger-to-men
at taka lén af Valdimar konungi frænda mínum. Menn gerðu
to take fief from Valdimar king kinsman my Men made
mikinn róm at máli hans, ok mæltu allir sem eins munni,
great acclaim at speech his and spoke all as of-one mouth
at honum vildu þjóna, ok betra þœtti at deyja með honum
that him wished serve and better seemed to die with him
en þjóna Sverri. Túnsbergsmenn féngu honum langskip
than serve Sverrir (The)-Tunsberg-men got to-him a-longship
alskipat. Konungrinn dvaldist þar hálfan mánað. Fóru þaðan
fully-manned The-king stayed there half month Went thence
norðr, ok byrjaði vel ok seint, lágu þeir 2 nætr eða 3 í
north and wind-favored well and slowly lay they 2 nights or 3 in
hinni sömu höfn. Þeir váru jafnan kátir mjök, váru jafnan í
the same harbor They were always merry much were always in
leikum, þar er þeir dvöldust. Konungr var optast fálátr. Í
games there where they stayed (The)-king was most-often taciturn In

Karmsundi féngu þeir sönn tíðindi af ferðum Sverris konungs.
Karmsund got they true tidings of journeys of-Sverrir king
Þá sendi Magnús fyrir norðr til Björgynjar Eilíf orra son
Then sent Magnus before north to Bjorgvin Eilif Grouse son
Klemets af Grafdal. Hann fór þriðju nótt viku ok kom aptr
of-Klemet of Grafdal He went third night of-week and came back
til konungs miðvikudaginn ok sagði, at Birkibeinar váru
to (the)-king the-Wednesday and said that (the)-Birchlegs were
þar í bœnum 3 skipum, ok væri Svínapétr fyrir þeim.
there in the-town with-3 ships and were Svinapetr over them

Frá siglingum Magnús konungs

LXXV · OF KING MAGNÚS'S SAILINGS

Magnús sailed into Björgvin in a rising wind, refusing to shorten sail, and the surprised Birkibeinar fled up the mountain, nearly thirty falling; he forbade their burial. At a þing the townsmen wished him well, and men said crows covered every rope of the king's ship as he left.

Magnús konungr bað menn reka af sér tjöldin, sagði,
Magnus king bade men drive off themselves the-awnings said
at Birkibeinar félagar þeira væri í Björgyn, ok mundu vilja
that (the)-Birchlegs fellows their were in Bjorgvin and would wish
hafa göngudrykkju við þá, ok mun þeim þykkja, sem nú
have parting-drink with them and will to-them seem as now
ættið þér at skenkja. Þessu urðu Heklungar fegnir ok sneru
should you to pour To-this became (the)-Heklungs glad and turned
út skipunum. Veðr var vátt ok þvert. Magnús konungr hafði
out the-ships Weather was wet and cross Magnus king had
Skeggjann, Ormr konungsbróðir Skjaldmeyna, Nikulás kúfungr
the-Skeggi Orm king's-brother the-Skjaldmey Nikulas Whelk

Erkisúðna, Munan Hreininn, gestir höfðu Fleyit mikla, þat
the-Erkisud Munan the-Reindeer guests had the-Fley great it
var austrfararskip. Á skipi Munans brotnaði tréit, ok varð
was east-voyage-ship On (the)-ship of-Munan broke the-mast and became
fyrir maðr ok dó þegar, tók þá veðrit at vaxa. Þóraldi
under a-man and died at-once began then the-weather to grow Thoraldi
þrymr hét maðr, er var á skipi Magnús konungs,
Thrym was-called a-man who was on (the)-ship of-Magnus king
hann mælti: Vátt gerir nú á þiljunum frammi, ok drífr um
he spoke Wet makes now on the-decks forward and drifts about
söxin, þœtti frambyggjum betra at sigla minna. Konungr
the-prows seemed to-forecastle-men better to sail less (The)-king
svaraði: Ek vissa eigi, at eld skyldi taka fram á þiljunum,
answered I knew not that fire should take forward on the-decks
ok bað eigi svipta, bað heldr bera at hvert reip sem harðast
and bade not reef bade rather bear to each rope as hardest
mátti. Þórsdaginn um miðmundaskeið sigldi konungr á
might The-Thursday about midday sailed (the)-king onto
Váginn, lögðu þegar at bryggjum ok hljópu upp. Birkibeinum
the-Vag laid at-once at (the)-wharves and leapt up To-the-Birchlegs
váru þeir hinir mestu vágestir, fyrir því at þeir höfðu ekki
were they the greatest woe-guests for that that they had not
spurt til Heklunga, hljópu allir upp or bœnum, þeir er
learned to (the)-Heklungs ran all up out-of the-town they who
lífit þágu. Svá var at sjá í fjallit upp sem logaði, er
the-life received So was to see onto the-mountain up as flamed when
roðaði af skjöldunum. Þar féllu nær 30 manna. Heklungar
reddened from the-shields There fell near 30 men (The)-Heklungs
flettu þá fullskjótt af klæðunum. Magnús konungr bað
stripped them very-quickly of the-clothes Magnus king bade
engan mann vera svá djarfan, at lík þeira grœfi, fyrr en
no man be so bold that bodies their buried earlier than

hann kœmi aptr til bœjarins, lét hitt þó vera bezt fallit,
he came back to the-town said the-other yet be best fitting
at þeir biði þar hunds ok hrafns. Konungr lét blása til
that they awaited there dog and raven (The)-king let blow to
þings ok talaði sjálfr ok mælti: Hér væntum vér oss
an-assembly and talked himself and spoke Here expect we for-ourselves
styrks ok fulltings í þeima bœ af býjarmönnum, hafi þér
strength and help in this town from town-men have you
svá jafnan gert við mik ok föður minn, var hér ok jafnan
so always done with me and father my was here also always
heimili várt, meðan vér áttum um kyrt at sitja, eru hér
home our while we had about quiet to sit are here
flestir frændr mínir ok fóstbrœðr. Nú mun ek leita fyrst, ef
most kinsmen my and foster-brothers Now will I seek first if
fundi vára Sverris mætti saman bera, en eptir skilnað várn
meeting our Sverrir's might together bear but after parting our
ætla ek mér hingat til bœjarins ok koma þá með friði
intend I for-myself hither to the-town and come then with peace
ok fagnaði öllum oss. Þá varð mikill rómr at máli hans,
and joy to-all us Then became great acclaim at speech his
ok mæltu allir: Guð láti yðr heila aptr koma, herra, ok þat
and spoke all God let you whole back come lord and that
alt fá í þessi ferð, sem þér vilit sjálfir. Konungr sneri þá
all get in this journey which you wish yourselves (The)-king turned then
til skipanna ok lét blása til brautlögu. En þat segja menn,
to the-ships and let blow to departure But that say men
at svá margar krákur væri á konungsskipinu, at hvert reip
that so many crows were on the-king's-ship that each rope
var þakit, ok eigi höfðu menn fyrr sét slík undr. Magnús
was covered and not had men before seen such wonders Magnus
konungr fór or bœnum um kveldit með öllu liðinu.
king went out-of the-town in the-evening with all the-troop

Frá Magnúsi konungi

LXXVI · OF KING MAGNÚS

The Sygnir rowed out to join Magnús with tales of the Birkibeinar's burnings, and Ívarr elda of Sýrströnd rose from his meal to come aboard. Magnús turned into the Nórafjörðr with twenty-six large, well-manned ships.

Magnús konungr sigldi norðr um sundin ok veik inn um
Magnus king sailed north through the-sounds and turned in through
Sognsæ, ok höfðu lítinn byr. En er Sygnir kendu ferð
Sognsae and had little fair-wind But when (the)-Sygnir knew journey
hans, þá reru margir menn á bátum til þeira ok géngu upp
his then rowed many men on boats to them and went up
á skipin ok slógust í ferð með þeim, ok sögðu slík
onto the-ships and joined-themselves in journey with them and told such
tíðindi, sem váru, um athæfi Birkibeina ok illvirki. Þessum
tidings as were about conduct of-(the)-Birchlegs and evil-deeds At-these
tíðindum urðu menn fegnir ok sögðu, at nú mundi þat í
tidings became men glad and said that now would that in
kaupast, at þeim væri steypt, er svá mart ilt hefði gert í
be-bought that they were overthrown who so much ill had done in
Noregi. Ívarr elda hét maðr, er bjó á Sýrströnd, hann
Norway Ivar Elda was-called a-man who dwelt on Syrstrond he
sat yfir matborði, þá er sén var sigling Magnús konungs,
sat over (the)-dinner-table then when seen was sailing of-Magnus king
hann stóð þegar upp ok rær út til flotans, ok gékk upp á
he stood at-once up and rows out to the-fleet and went up onto
konungsskipit. Konungr fagnaði honum vel. Magnús konungr
the-king's-ship (The)-king welcomed him well Magnus king
sigldi inn eptir firðinum, þar til er firðirnir skiljast, veik
sailed in along the-fjord there till when the-fjords part turned

hann þá inn í Nórafjörð ok hafði 6 skip ok 20, ok
he then in into Norafjord and had 6 ships and 20 and
yfrit stór ok allvel skipuð af mönnum ok vápnum.
very great and very-well manned with men and weapons

Frá Sverri konungi

LXXVII · OF KING SVERRIR

At Hugaströnd Sverrir's watch saw longship sails. With his force scattered, he put the choice of fighting or abandoning the ships to his men, who chose to fight; he told them they would send the king to his death. They put up battle-screens and ferried stones aboard, and Sverrir washed and dressed as for a feast before ordering the ships left unlashed.

Nú er at segja frá Sverri konungi, at frjádaginn eptir, er
Now is to tell from Sverrir king that the-Friday after when
þeir höfðu brent í Sóknadal, lá hann við Hugaströnd ok
they had burned in Soknadal lay he by Hugastrond and
mataðist at nóni, ok hafði þar 12 skip, en 2 lágu eptir
ate at nones and had there 12 ships but 2 lay after
inn í Sóknadal. En er menn höfðu matazt um hríð, þá
in in Soknadal But when men had eaten for a-while then
heyrði konungr, at varðmenninir mæltu, þeir er gegnt váru
heard (the)-king that the-watchmen spoke they who opposite were
konungsskipinu við sjónarvörðinn, at þeir sá mörg skip sigla
the-king's-ship by the-lookout that they saw many ships sail
utan eptir Sognsæ, váru stundum at sjá 6 eða 7, en þá
from-outside along Sognsae were sometimes to see 6 or 7 but then
er meir bar í sundr, sá þeir 10 eða 12. Varðmenn mæltu
when more bore in apart saw they 10 or 12 Watchmen spoke
sín á millum, hvat skipum vera mundi, ætluðu helzt,
themselves in between what ships be would thought most

at vera mundi ferjur, ok hafa samflot sunnan or Björgyn,
that be would ferries and have convoy from-south out-of Bjorgvin
sumum þótti vera líkara langskipa seglum. Konungr stóð þá
to-some seemed be likelier longships' to-sails (The)-king stood then
upp frá borðinu ok fór til lands ok til varðmanna. Drifu
up from the-table and went to land and to watchmen Flocked
þá menninir utan af skipunum, ok gat síns hverr til,
then the-men from-outside off the-ships and guessed his each to
hvat skipum vera mundi. Konungrinn stóð upp um hríð
what ships be would The-king stood up for a-while
ok horfði á ok mælti: Ekki þurfum vér at dyljast við, þat
and looked on and spoke Not need we to hide with those
eru víst langskipa segl. Lét konungr þá blása öllu liðinu
are surely longships' sails Let (the)-king then blow all the-troop
til landgöngu. Tók konungr þá til orða ok mælti svá: Enn
to land-going Took (the)-king then to words and spoke so Still
kann vera um oss Birkibeina, at verði sem fyrr, at vér
can be about us Birchlegs that become as before that we
eigim starf fyrir höndum, þvíat nú mun brátt koma Magnús
have work before hands because now will soon come Magnus
konungr at vitja vár. Ok er yðr þat nú öllum kunnigt, at
king to visit us And is to-you that now to-all known that
lið várt er farit á braut mikit, sumt suðr til Björgynjar, ok
troop our is gone on away much some south to Bjorgvin and
ráði guð fyrir, hvert þeira erendi er vorðit, mikit lið höfum
rule God for what their errand is become great troop have
mér sent inn til kaupangs at brenna þar; kemr oss þat
we sent in to (the)-market-town to burn there comes to-us that
lið nú ekki at haldi. Nú væntir mik, ef vér bíðum hér
troop now not to use Now expect I if we wait here
Magnús konungs, þó at oss hafi optliga þótt, þá er várir
for-Magnus king though that to-us have often seemed then when our

fundir hafa at borizt, sem vér hafim við mikinn liðsmun
meetings have to happened as we have with great difference-in-troops
átt fyrir fjölmennis sökum, þá þykki mér þat líkara, at vér
had for of-numbers' sakes then seems to-me that likelier that we
munim þó aldri átt hafa við jafnmikinn liðsmun sem
will yet never had have with as-great difference-in-troops as
nú. Nú vil ek, at vér gerim ráð várt, hvárt vér skulum
now Now wish I that we make counsel our whether we shall
veita viðrtöku með því liði, sem nú höfum vér, eða sýnist
give reception with that troop which now have we or seems
yðr at leifa skipin ok ganga á land; munum vér nú ekki
to-you to leave the-ships and go onto land will we now not
vel hafa vingazt við þá, er hér búa fyrir í Sogni, mun þá
well have befriended with those who here dwell before in Sogn will then
Magnús konungr ok hans menn fara eptir oss, ok þar með
Magnus king and his men go after us and there with
allr landsmúgrinn, hvar sem vér komum. Nú er yðr ok þat
all the-land-throng where as we come Now is to-you also that
at segja, at með svá miklu válki ok vandræði sem ek þolda,
to say that with so great toil and trouble as I endured
áðr ek fékk þessi skip, ok með því at nú láta ek þau,
before I got these ships and with that that now lose I them
þá mun ek eigi ráða optar til skipa í Noregi, ok mun þá
then will I not get oftener to ships in Norway and will then
verða hverr fyrir sér at sjá. Nú vil ek eigi með einræði
be each for himself to see Now will I not with self-will
mínu leiða yðr í svá mikinn háska, ef allir þykkjast
my lead you into so great danger if all think-themselves
sjá, at eigi mun hlýða, ek vil ok eigi æðrast at veita
see that not will avail I will also not take-fright to give
viðrtöku, ef liðsmönnum várum þykkir þat ráðligra. Ok
reception if to-troopers our seems that more-advisable And

er hann lauk málinu, þóttust menn finna, hvat hann
when he ended the-speech thought-themselves men find what he
vildi, þótti öllum einsætt at rœma svá, sem hans vili stóð
wished seemed to-all evident to applaud so as his will stood
til, en eigi þótti þeim vænt stefnt. Þá svöruðu allir náliga
to but not seemed to-them likely aimed Then answered all nearly
senn, kváðust heldr vildu víst berjast en flýja, sögðu,
at-once said-themselves rather wished surely fight than flee said
at ekki mundi til saka, létust opt hafa barizt við mikinn
that nothing would to harm said often have fought with great
liðsmun ok unnit þó sigr. Þá svaraði konungr: Nú
difference-in-troops and won yet victory Then answered (the)-king Now
hafit þér þat kerit, sem mér var skapfeldra, ok nú kann
have you that chosen which to-me was more-to-my-liking and now can
ek yðr þat at segja, ok verðit við at betr ok drengiligar,
I to-you that to tell and be with the better and more-manfully
at nú munu þér konunginn í hel setja. Þat orð fékk
that now will you the-king into death set That word gave
mörgum áhyggju, hvárr sá konungr mundi vera. Konungr
to-many anxiety which that king would be (The)-king
bað menn búast um á skipunum ok róa inn eptir
bade men prepare-themselves about on the-ships and row in after
liði váru í Sóknadal ok biðja þá koma til móts við oss.
troop our in Soknadal and bid them come to meeting with us
Var þá svá gert. Festu Birkibeinar þá svarðlykkjur innan í
Was then so done Fastened (the)-Birchlegs then hide-loops inside in
borðunum. Menn fluttu nú út grjót á smábátum, váru nú
the-boards Men moved now out stones on small-boats were now
allir í miklum starfa. Var þat auðsét á Birkibeinum, at
all in great work Was that evident on (the)-Birchlegs that
þeir váru vanir þessum starfa. Víggyrðluðu þeir nú skipin.
they were used to-this work Battle-girded they now the-ships

En þeir er konungr hafði inn sent eptir liði sínu, mœttu
But those whom (the)-king had in sent after troop his met
hinum, er þeir fóru innan, ok sögðu þeim þenna pata. En
the-others when they went from-within and told them this rumor But
þeir á langskipunum bregðast við, ljósta í árum ok róa sem
they on the-longships start with strike in oars and row as
mest, ok er þeir sœkja á mót liðinu, þá keppast þeir svá
most and when they press on against the-troop then strive they so
mjök um róðrinn ok róast svá nær, at þeir brjótast árarnar
much about the-rowing and row so near that they break the-oars
fyrir. Þá mælti konungr: Önnur efni eru nú í váru máli,
before Then spoke (the)-king Other matters are now in our case
en þér lemizt róðrinn fyrir, bað þá snúa at landi, sagði þá
than you beat the-rowing for bade them turn to land said then
þar skyldu bíða Magnús konungs. Var þá grjótit út flutt,
there should await Magnus king Was then the-stones out moved
sem þeir vildu, ok svá víggyrðluð skipin. Konungr bað upp
as they wished and so battle-girded the-ships (The)-king bade up
bera skutfestar á öllum skipum ok leggja árar til róðrar. Lá
bear stern-cables on all ships and lay oars to rowing Lay
konungsskipit utarst við ströndina. Vápnuðust menn þá ok
the-king's-ship outermost by the-shore Armed-themselves men then and
skipuðust í rúmin. Sverrir konungr gékk á land ok þar
placed-themselves in the-rooms Sverrir king went onto land and there
er var einn bekkr, lét hann þá gefa sér handlaug ok
where was one brook let he then give to-himself hand-washing and
lét strýkva klæði sín, svá sem hann skyldi ganga til veizlu
let smooth clothes his so as he should go to feast
nökkurrar. Hann hafði öll brúnuð klæði. Eptir þat gékk
some He had all brown clothes After that went
hann ofan á bergit, þar sem skip hans lá undir niðri, ok
he down onto the-cliff there where ship his lay under below and

mælti þá enn nökkurum orðum ok tók um skipstafninn.
spoke then still some words and took about the-ship's-prow
Menn tóku af hendr hans, þvíat bráð var eigi þurt á
Men took off hands his because pitch was not dry on
brandinum. Þá mælti konungr: Eigi munum vér tengja
the-prow-board Then spoke (the)-king Not will we lash
saman skip vár, þess munum vér njóta, ef hlýða skal, at
together ships our of-that will we enjoy if avail shall that
vér höfum borð há ok kœnt lið. Vér eigum einn útveginn,
we have boards high and able troop We have one way-out
þann er vér megim lífinu halda, þann einn at stíga yfir
that which we may the-life hold that one to step over
fjándmenn vára, þvíat hvárki dugir oss at flýja né friðar at
enemies our because neither avails us to flee nor peace to
biðja. Gætið vápna yðarra ok berit eigi fyrir borð at únýtu,
ask Guard weapons your and bear not over board to uselessness
hlífit yðr fyrst, gæti hverr annars, en guð allra vár. Váru
shield yourselves first guard each other but God all us Were
þá sett upp merkin. Lítið kleppurnes gékk fyrir utan hjá
then set up the-standards Little rocky-ness went before outside by
skipunum þeira, ok sá þeir nær ekki út á fjörðinn. Þá lét
the-ships their and saw they near nothing out onto the-fjord Then let
konungr róa út á fjörðinn skútu eina at sjá til Heklunga,
(the)-king row out onto the-fjord cutter one to see to (the)-Heklungs
ok er þeir höfðu fá vörru róit, þá reru þeir aptr hálfu
and when they had few strokes rowed then rowed they back half
ákafligar ok sögðu, at þar fór þá flotinn. Var þá blásit.
more-vehemently and said that there went then the-fleet Was then blown
Reru Birkibeinar þá út öllum skipunum á móti ok œptu
Rowed (the)-Birchlegs then out with-all ships on against and shouted
þegar heróp. Þórðr Finngeirs bróðir stýrði Maríusúðinni.
at-once war-cry Thord Finngeir's brother steered the-Mariusud

Tala Magnús konungs

LXXVIII · KING MAGNÚS'S SPEECH

Magnús lashed four great ships together and recalled that he had been named king at five and crowned at seven, too young to choose, and had had little ease in eight years of war; he said Sverrir was penned in the fjord like sheep. Ormr urged attacking the small ships first, but Magnús said all were won if the great one was.

Magnús konungr sótti nú inn í fjörðinn eptir Birkibeinum,
Magnus king pressed now in into the-fjord after (the)-Birchlegs
ok þá er þeir vissu, at skamt var í millum þeira,
and then when they knew that short was in between them
hlóðu þeir seglunum ok létu renna skipin at viðum. Váru
lowered they the-sails and let run the-ships to moorings Were
Heklungar þá ok herklæddir. Þá mælti Magnús konungr:
(the)-Heklungs then also armored Then spoke Magnus king
Kaupskip þessi hin stóru, er vér höfum, þau skal tengja í
Merchant-ships these the great which we have them shall lash in
millum skipa okkarra Orms, skulu vér flytjast at hinu mikla
between ships of-us-two Orm's shall we move to the great
skipinu ok festa þau saman; munda ek þat vilja, at þau
ship and fasten them together would I that wish that they
væri eigi í sundr leyst, fyrr en önnur hvár sé hroðin. Veit
were not in apart loosed earlier than either of-two be cleared Know
ek, at þat mun margra manna mál ok skaplyndi, at sá
I that that will of-many men speech and temper that that
orskurðr þœtti góðr, ef féngist, at vit Sverrir rerim eigi
verdict seemed good if were-got that we-two Sverrir rowed not
báðir fleiri leiðangra, ok nær er þat mínu hugboði. Ek var 5
both more levies and near is that to-my foreboding I was 5
vetra gamall, er landshöfðingjar gáfu mér konungsnafn, en
winters old when land-chiefs gave to-me king's-name but

7 vetra, þá er legatus af Róma ok Eysteinn erkibyskup
7 winters then when (the)-legate from Rome and Eystein archbishop
vígðu mik til konungs, ok með þeim allir lýðbyskupar. Var
consecrated me to king and with them all suffragan-bishops Was
ek þá svá bernskr, at ek kunna hvárki at ráða fyrir orði
I then so childish that I knew neither to rule over word
né eiði, ok betra þótti mér þá at vera í leik með öðrum
nor oath and better seemed to-me then to be in play with other
sveinum en sitja millum höfðingja. Eigi keptumst ek til
boys than sit among chieftains Not strove I to
konungdómsins, ok lítið hóglífi hefi ek haft innan lands. Nú
the-kingship and little ease have I had within land Now
hefi ek vetr 8 ok 20, ok á þessum 8, er nú hafa næstir
have I winters 8 and 20 and in these 8 which now have nearest
verit, hefir bæði orðit ríkit minn skaði ok annarra, en guð
been has both become the-realm my harm and others' but God
launi vinum mínum ástsamliga fylgð, er mér hafa veitt í
reward to-friends my loving following which to-me have given in
mörgum mannraunum. Er nú nauðsyn, at hverr dugi sem
many trials Is now need that each do-his-best as
mannligast, eru nú yfrin efni til, þvíat lið skortir oss ekki,
most-manfully are now ample matters to because troop lacks us not
ok sé guð þess lofaðr, þvíat hvar sem vér höfum við land
and be God of-that praised because where as we have to land
komit, hefir lið til vár komit; en Sverrir hefir dreift sínu
come has troop to us come but Sverrir has scattered his
liði hingat ok þingat, ok hefir nú fátt eptir, eru hér nú
troop hither and thither and has now few after are here now
ok luktir inni í firðinum, sem sauðir í kví. Láti guð svá
also locked in in the-fjord as sheep in fold Let God so
lúka þessum fundi, at vér megim síðan hafa frið ok frelsi
end this meeting that we may afterward have peace and freedom

fyrir úvinum várum, hvárt sem vér erum þá lífs eða liðnir.
from enemies our whether as we are then alive or dead
Þá varð mikill rómr at máli hans, ok mæltu allir: Mæl
Then became great acclaim at speech his and spoke all Speak
þú allra konunga heilastr, ok láti guð þik steypa úvinum
you of-all kings most-hale and let God you overthrow enemies
þínum! Þá mælti Ormr konungsbróðir: Þat væri mitt ráð,
your Then spoke Orm king's-brother That were my counsel
herra, at vér legðim at hinum smærum skipunum fyrst, ok
lord that we laid at the smaller ships first and
mun þar verða lítil viðrtaka, en hit mikla skipit ætla ek
will there be little resistance but the great ship think I
verða torunnit, meðan þeir hafa gnógan skipkost ok svá lið
be hard-won while they have ample ship-supply and so troop
hit sama af öðrum skipunum at fulltingja sér. Konungr
the same from other ships to help themselves (The)-king
svaraði: Mér þykkir sem öll skip þeira sé unnin, ef hit
answered To-me seems as all ships their be won if the
mikla er unnit. Var svá gert, sem konungr mælti, váru
great is won Was so done as (the)-king spoke were
samantengð þau 4 skip, fór konungsskipit næst suðrlandinu.
lashed-together those 4 ships went the-king's-ship nearest the-south-land

Tala Ásbjarnar Jónssonar

LXXIX · ÁSBJÖRN JÓNSSON'S SPEECH

Ásbjörn Jónsson said Sverrir was penned like a sheep, abandoned by the devil he trusted, his force scattered, and guilty now of burning a Christian land; he urged two or three men on each Birkibeinn and no care where the blows fell. The Heklungar lashed their ships, and Magnús, in a tunic half white and half red, carried the sword Fiskhryggr.

Ásbjörn Jónsson lagði fram sitt skip hjá Orms skipi ok
Asbjorn Jon's-son laid forward his ship by Orm's ship and
mælti: Nú er sá dagr kominn, er vér höfum langat til, at
spoke Now is that day come which we have longed to that
Sverrir ok þeir Birkibeinar eru nú hér fyrir oss teknir sem
Sverrir and they Birchlegs are now here for us taken as
sauðir í kví, er nú lokit brögðum hans ok slœgðum, þvíat
sheep in fold is now ended tricks his and wiles because
nú mun sá bregðast honum, er hann hefir öll ráð af
now will he fail him whom he has all counsel from
tekit, en þat er fjándinn, er hann trúir á, er hann svá vanr
taken and that is the-fiend whom he believes in is he so used
við sína vini at fá þeim framgang um hríð en bregðast
with his friends to give them advance for a-while but fail
á endadögum lífs þeira. Sverrir er nú ráðlauss; hann sendi
at end-days of-life their Sverrir is now counsel-less he sent
frá sér Svínapétr suðr til Björgynjar, höfðu þeir þangat
from himself Svinapetr south to Bjorgvin had they thither
skapnaðar erendi. Inn í Sogn sendi hann þá, er verstir eru
well-shaped errand In into Sogn sent he those who worst are
af þeim, fjándalimir gestirnir, ok sá er flest ilt hefir gert,
of them fiend's-limbs the-guests and he who most ill has done
Úlfr af Laufnesi þorparasonrinn. Sverrir hefir nú enn aukit
Ulf of Laufnes the-cottar's-son Sverrir has now still increased
illgerðir sínar, er hann hefir eytt með eldi kristit land, ok
evil-deeds his when he has wasted with fire Christian land and
þat eina ilt hefir hann áðr úgert, svá sem nú skal hann þess
that alone ill has he before undone so as now shall he of-that
gjalda. Sœkjum nú at Birkibeinum, tveir eða þrír at einum,
pay Press now at (the)-Birchlegs two or three at one
ef þat þykkir léttara, höggum stórt þat sem at oss horfir,
if that seems easier hew great that which at us faces

hirðum eigi um, hvar á kemr, úvant er at brjóta mat fyrir
heed not about where on comes not-hard is to break food for
hund ok hrafn, vísi Sókndælir sálum þeira. Mikill rómr
dog and raven guide (the)-Sokndal-men souls their Great acclaim
varð at máli hans, ok mæltu menn, at þat væri vel mælt. Þá
became at speech his and spoke men that that were well spoken Then
tengðu þeir saman skipin. Magnús konungr hafði hálfskiptan
lashed they together the-ships Magnus king had half-divided
kyrtil af skarlati, hálfr hvítr en hálfr rauðr. Með sama hætti
kirtle of scarlet half white but half red With same manner
ok lit hafði Magnús mangi son Eiríks stagbrells. Konungr
and color had Magnus Mangi son of-Eirik Stay-Trick (The)-king
hafði þat sverð, er Fiskhryggr hét, ok var sverða bezt.
had that sword which Fiskhrygg was-called and was of-swords best

Upphaf orrostu í Sogni

LXXX · THE BATTLE IN SOGN BEGINS

A storm of arrows met the Birkibeinar. Magnús's ships caught the turning Maríusúð flat against the shore, fourteen of them stem-on against her side, with stones from the Skíða. Sverrir rowed in a boat among his ships, arrows striking above his head and at his knees, and sent Eiríkr's ships round to attack the smaller Heklung vessels.

Nú er at segja nökkura atburði, þá er gerðust í fundi
Now is to tell some events those which happened in meeting
þeira tveggja konunga. Er þar til at taka, at Birkibeinar reru
of-those two kings Is there to to take that (the)-Birchlegs rowed
út á mót Heklungum, ok þegar sá þeir, at flotinn rendi
out on against (the)-Heklungs and at-once saw they that the-fleet ran
at þeim. Fyrir þessum flota var at sjá á sjónum sem stórt
at them Before this fleet was to see on the-sea as great

regn í logni. Þessi skúr leið skjótt yfir, ok var þat örvadrífa,
rain in calm This shower passed quickly over and was that arrow-drift
þurfti þá skjöldu við. Maríusúðin reist krók langan, er þeir
needed then shields with The-Mariusud raised turn long when they
skyldu snúa henni, ok áðr en henni væri fullsnúit, þá renna
should turn her and before than to-her were fully-turned then run
saman skipin. Koma skip Magnús konungs framan á hlýrit ok
together the-ships Come ships of-Magnus king in-front on the-bow and
sló Maríusúðinni flatri við; stafnar Magnús konungs skipa
struck to-the-Mariusud flat against prows of-Magnus king's ships
horfðu at, ok lá Skegginn at fremra austrúmi, en þá hvert
faced to and lay the-Skeggi at fore bailing-room but then each
at öðru fram ífrá, sem rúm höfðu. Varð þar mikil orrosta,
at other forward hence as room had Became there great battle
váru Heklungar allákafir, en Birkibeinar hlífðust meir við,
were (the)-Heklungs very-eager but (the)-Birchlegs shielded-themselves more with
ok sveif öllum saman flotanum inn með ströndinni. Úgreitt
and swung all together the-fleet in along the-shore Unready
tókst Birkibeinum atlagan í fyrstunni, varð Maríusúðin milli
went to-the-Birchlegs the-attack in first became the-Mariusud between
landsins ok skipanna Magnús konungs. Sverrir konungr hljóp
the-land and the-ships of-Magnus king Sverrir king leapt
þá á einn bát við annan mann ok reri til skips Eiríks
then onto one boat with another man and rowed to (the)-ship of-Eirik
konungssonar, kallaði konungr á þá ok sagði þá fara illa
king's-son called (the)-king on them and said them go ill
ok údjarfliga, bað þá róa út um hit mikla skipit ok leggja
and undaringly bade them row out round the great ship and lay
þar til, sem hin smæri væri skipin Heklunga, ok freista,
there to where the smaller were ships of-(the)-Heklungs and try
hvat þeir féngi þar at gert. Konungr reri millum skipanna
what they got there to do (The)-king rowed between the-ships

ok eggjaði sína menn, sagði, hvar þeir skyldu at leggja.
and urged his men said where they should to lay
Birkibeinar urðu vel við orðum konungs ok lögðu fram
(The)-Birchlegs became well with words of-(the)-king and laid forward
djarfliga, ok alt slíkt þágu þeir af öðrum. Konungrinn reri
boldly and all such received they from others The-king rowed
þá aptr til skipa sinna, ok var lostit öru í bátstafninn
then back to ships his and was struck with-arrow into the-boat-prow
yfir höfði honum, ok þegar annarri í borðit fyrir knjám
over head to-him and at-once another into the-board before knees
honum. Konungr sat ok brást ekki við, en sá mælti, er
to-him (The)-king sat and started not with but he spoke who
honum fylgði: Hættligt skot, herra! Konungr svaraði: Þá
him followed Dangerous shot lord (The)-king answered Then
kemr nær, er guð vill. Ok er konungr kom aptr til
comes near when God wills And when (the)-king came back to
skips síns, þá var svá mikill vápnaburðr yfir Maríusúðinni,
ship his then was so great weapon-hail over the-Mariusud
at hann komsta upp í skipit, sneri hann þá til lands.
that he got-not up into the-ship turned he then to land
Munan Gautsson lagði sitt skip at landi, ok báru út stórt
Munan Gaut's-son laid his ship at land and bore out great
grjót, ok báru svá á Maríusúðina alt um fyrirrúmit. Féngu
stones and bore so onto the-Mariusud all about the-fore-room Got
þeir allharða hríð, er þar bjoggu. Frambyggvar urðu
they very-hard onslaught who there dwelt (The)-forecastle-men became
mest fyrir atsókn Heklunga ok vápnaburðinum, ok mæltu
most for attack of-(the)-Heklungs and the-weapon-hail and spoke
þeir sín á millum, at fyrirrúmsmenn skyldu nú launa
they themselves in between that (the)-fore-room-men should now repay
konungi mjöðinn eða kyrtilsklæðin. Þá hétu skutbyggjar
to-(the)-king the-mead or the-kirtle-cloths Then called (the)-stern-men

á stjórnbyrðinga, at þeir skyldu fram róa. Gerðu þeir svá,
on (the)-starboard-men that they should forward row Did they so
drógu fram skipit, svá at Skegginn lá þá við eptra austrúm;
drew forward the-ship so that the-Skeggi lay then by aft bailing-room
höfðu þá allir bakbyrðingar yfrit at vinna, þvíat þá lágu 14
had then all larboard-men ample to do because then lay 14
skip á annat borð Maríusúðinni. Heklungar létu ganga skot
ships on other board to-the-Mariusud (The)-Heklungs let go shots
ok kesjur ok harðsteinagrjót, er þeir höfðu flutt austan
and halberds and hard-stones which they had brought from-east
or Skíðunni. Var þat hinn mesti mannsváði, eigi bar svá
out-of the-Skida Was that the greatest man-peril not bore so
nær, at þeir mætti höggum við koma. Birkibeinar hlífðu
near that they might with-blows with come (The)-Birchlegs shielded
sér ok máttu ekki öðru við koma, féllu þó margir, en
themselves and might nothing other with come fell yet many but
náliga allir sárir. Svá váru þeir Birkibeinar móðir ok barðir,
nearly all wounded So were they Birchlegs weary and beaten
at þeir váru sumir, er annattveggja váru lítt sárir eða
that they were some who either were little wounded or
ekki, ok váru þó dauðir af erviði. En fyrir þá sök dvaldist
not and were yet dead from toil But for that cause delayed
uppgangan Heklunga, at þeim var úhœgt við at komast,
the-boarding of-(the)-Heklungs that to-them was uneasy with to get
er þeir áttu um stafninn at sœkja, en ef þeir hefði síbyrt
when they had over the-prow to attack but if they had alongside
við, þá mundu miklu fyrr aðrirhvárir hafa upp gengit.
with then would much earlier one-or-other have up gone

Orrosta ok sókn Eiríks konungssonar

LXXXI · THE BATTLE, AND PRINCE EIRÍKR'S ATTACK

Eiríkr's thirteen loose ships fell on the outermost Heklung ships. His standard-bearer Benedikt was killed boarding, but a second onset took the standard, and the Heklungar fled from ship to ship until the great lashed ships sank under the crowd, Ormr's and Ásbjörn's among them.

Nú mun svá þykkja þeim, er til hlýða, sem eigi sé líkligt,
Now will so seem to-those who to listen as not be likely
er frá lyktum orrostu er sagt, en þó skal nú þat inna,
which from end of-(the)-battle is said but yet shall now that tell
hvat mest bar til með auðnunni, er svá snerist sigrinn, sem
what most bore to with the-luck when so turned the-victory as
úlíkara mundi þykkja. Eiríkr konungsson með þau 13 skip,
unlikelier would seem Eirik king's-son with those 13 ships
er laus fóru, reru út um hit mikla skip ok lögðu at þeim
which loose went rowed out round the great ship and laid at those
Heklungum, er yztir váru, lagði þar borð við borð, ok var
Heklungs who outermost were laid there board by board and was
þar hin snarpasta orrosta. Höfðu Birkibeinar stœrri skip ok
there the sharpest battle Had (the)-Birchlegs greater ships and
lið fleira, sóttu at hart ok vígmannliga. Heklungar tóku ok
troop more pressed at hard and warlike (The)-Heklungs took also
á mót röskliga, þóttust menn þat eigi vita, hvárt fyrr
on against bravely thought-themselves men that not know whether earlier
mundi um skipta með þeim eða mundi hit mikla skipit
would about change with them or would the great ship
vera hroðit. Margir bátar váru þar, er Sygnir áttu, ok
be cleared Many boats were there which (the)-Sygnir owned and
lágu þeir í skotmáli við Birkibeina ok skutu á þá. En er
lay they in bowshot with (the)-Birchlegs and shot at them But when

þeir Eiríkr höfðu haft höggorrostu um hríð, urðu Heklungar
they Eirik had had hewing-battle for a-while became (the)-Heklungs
ofrliði bornir, féllu sumir, en sumir eyddu hálfrýmin. Snerust
by-odds borne-down fell some but some emptied the-half-rooms Turned
Birkibeinar þá til uppgöngu. Benedikt hét sá maðr, er
(the)-Birchlegs then to boarding Benedikt was-called that man who
bar merki Eiríks konungssonar, hann gékk upp fyrst ok
bore (the)-standard of-Eirik king's-son he went up first and
þeir stafnbúar. En er Heklungar sá þetta, snerust þeir á
those prow-men But when (the)-Heklungs saw this turned they on
móti ok drápu Benedikt ok þá alla, er upp höfðu gengit.
against and killed Benedikt and those all who up had gone
Eiríkr eggjar nú Birkibeina, at þeir gangi upp í annat sinn,
Eirik urges now (the)-Birchlegs that they go up in a-second time
ok veita þeir nú harða atgöngu í annat sinn ok ná nú
and give they now hard onset in a-second time and get now
merkinu, veita nú svá harða atsókn, at Heklungar hrökkva
the-standard give now so hard attack that (the)-Heklungs recoil
nú undan, hlaupa þeir nú á þat skip, er næst þeim var.
now away leap they now onto that ship which nearest them was
Birkibeinar sœkja nú eptir fast. Var þá sem jafnan, þegar er
(The)-Birchlegs press now after hard Was then as always when that
flótti kemr á menn, at þeir verða sjaldan góðir aptrhvarfs,
flight comes on men that they become seldom good of-turning-back
þótt vaskir sé þess á milli. Varð hér nú minni viðrtaka en
though valiant be of-that in between Became here now less resistance than
á hinu fyrra skipi, ok hljópu nú allir af því skipi, ok svá
on the former ship and leapt now all off that ship and so
hvert at öðru, en Birkibeinar eptir þeim með ópi ok kalli,
each at other but (the)-Birchlegs after them with whoop and call
ok drápu alt þat er fyrir varð. En þá er múgrinn flóttans
and killed all that which before came But then when the-throng of-the-flight

geystist inn á stórskipin, þá hljópu þeir á kaf menn af
rushed in onto the-great-ships then leapt they into deep men from
konungsskipinu, þvíat þat lá næst landinu; en önnur fjögur,
the-king's-ship because it lay nearest the-land but other four
þau er stœrst váru, sukku niðr undir mannfarminum, þat
those which greatest were sank down under the-man-cargo that
var Orms skip ok Ásbjarnar ok gestafleyit.
was Orm's ship and Asbjorn's and the-guests'-fley

Rœður Sverris konungs

LXXXII · KING SVERRIR'S WORDS

From the shore Sverrir called to a cutter making for land that the enemy was fleeing, and it turned and fled too; asked whether he had known them, he said it was the right thing to say to either side. He sang a Kyrie for his victory on the poop.

Sverrir konungr var á landi, ok er hann sá þessi tíðindi,
Sverrir king was on land and when he saw these tidings
gékk hann ofan til bátsins, ok með honum Pétr son Hróa
went he down to the-boat and with him Petr son of-Hroi
byskups. Þá reri at utan skúta ein, ok ætluðu til
bishop Then rowed at from-outside cutter one and intended to
landgöngu. Konungr kallaði á þá: Snúit þér aptr, sé þér nú,
landing (The)-king called on them Turn you back see you now
at þeir flýja. En þeir á skútunni gerðu ok svá, sneru út
that they flee But they on the-cutter did also so turned out
aptr ok sá þá hin sömu tíðindi sem fyrr, lustu í árum ok
back and saw then the same tidings as before struck in oars and
sneru út eptir firði. Pétr mælti til konungs: Kendu þér þá,
turned out along (the)-fjord Petr spoke to (the)-king Knew you them

herra, eða fyrir hví mæltu þér svá? Konungr svaraði: Mundi
lord or for why spoke you so (The)-king answered Would
eigi þat eina til at mæla svá, hvárir sem væri? Konungr
not that alone to to speak so whichever as were (The)-king
fór þá út til skipsins ok gékk aptr í lyptingina ok hóf
went then out to the-ship and went aft into the-raised-deck and raised
kirial ok fagnaði sigri sínum, ok sungu allir með honum.
Kyrie and rejoiced-at victory his and sang all with him

Fall Magnús konungs

LXXXIII · THE FALL OF KING MAGNÚS

Magnús leapt overboard with all the men of his ship, and most were drowned; the Birkibeinar killed those who reached shore or were swimming, though all who came to the king were given quarter, and the landed men and captains spared their kinsmen and friends.

Magnús konungr hljóp fyrir borð af skipi sínu, ok alt þat
Magnus king leapt over board off ship his and all that
lið er á var því skipi, ok týndist þar allr fjöldi.
troop which on was that ship and perished there all (the)-multitude
Birkibeinar hljópu upp á land ok tóku við þeim í fjörunni,
(The)-Birchlegs leapt up onto land and took with those on the-shore
er til landsins leituðu, kom því engi fjöldi hersins á
who to the-land sought came for-that no multitude of-the-host onto
land. Nökkurar skútur reru út eptir firðinum ok kómust
land Some cutters rowed out along the-fjord and got
svá undan. Birkibeinar reru út sínum skútum ok drápu
so away (The)-Birchlegs rowed out with-their cutters and killed
Heklunga á sundi, en sumum gáfu þeir grið. Allir féngu
(the)-Heklungs in swimming but to-some gave they truce All got

þeir grið, er á konungs fund kómust; lendir menn ok
they truce who to (the)-king's meeting got landed men and
aðrir skipstjórnarmenn gáfu grið frændum sínum ok vinum.
other ship-captains gave truce to-kinsmen their and to-friends

Sagt frá mannfalli

LXXXIV · THE SLAIN

Haraldr son of King Ingi, Ormr, Ásbjörn, and many other chieftains fell with Magnús, and no fewer than eighteen hundred men in all. The battle was on the evening of Saint Vitus's day; the rout came at sunset and the killing ended at midnight.

Þar féllu með Magnúsi konungi þessir höfðingjar: Haraldr son
There fell with Magnus king these chieftains Harald son
Inga konungs, Magnús son Eiríks stagbrells ok var dótturson
of-Ingi king Magnus son of-Eirik Stay-Trick and was daughter's-son
Rögnvalds jarls, Ormr konungsbróðir, Ásbjörn Jónsson,
of-Rognvald earl Orm king's-brother Asbjorn Jon's-son
Rögnvaldr Jónsson, Páll smáttauga, Loðinn af Manvíkum,
Rognvald Jon's-son Pal Narrow-Eye Lodin of Manvikar
Ólafr Gunnvaldsson, Eindriði torvi son Jóns kutizu, Ívarr elda,
Olaf Gunnvald's-son Eindridi Torvi son of-Jon Kutiza Ivar Elda
Vilhjálmr af Torgum, Andres son Eiríks sonar Guðbrands
Vilhjalm of Torgar Andres son of-Eirik son of-Gudbrand
kúlu, Ívarr steig son Orms konungsbróður, Hallsteinn sinkr
Ball Ivar Steig son of-Orm king's-brother Hallstein Miser
frændi Magnús konungs, Ketill Lafranzson, Sigurðr hít, Ketill
kinsman of-Magnus king Ketill Lafrans's-son Sigurd Hit Ketill
fluga. Þar féll at flestra manna ætlan eigi færa en 18 hundruð
Fly There fell at most men's estimate not fewer than 18 hundred

manna. Þat var Vítusmessu at apni, er orrostan var, þat var
men It was Vitus-mass at evening when the-battle was it was
um sólarfallskeið, er meginflóttinn brast, en þat var um
about sunset-time when the-main-flight burst but it was about
miðnætti, er lokit var öllum manndrápum, ok Birkibeinar
midnight when ended was all slaughter and (the)-Birchlegs
höfðu flutt skip sín til lægis, ok þeir höfðu umbúizt.
had moved ships their to anchorage and they had made-ready

Tala Sverris konungs

LXXXV · KING SVERRIR'S SPEECH

Sverrir thanked God for the victory, ordered quarter kept, the wounded tended, and the bodies buried, and told his men to take the wealth of the gold-necks along the shore, with the best marriages and titles in the land. The men of Sóknadalr made peace. Ormr's body was found and laid in Hallvarðskirkja beside King Ingi and Sigurðr Jórsalafari.

Um myrgininn eptir árdegis lét konungr blása til húsþings,
In the-morning after early let (the)-king blow to house-meeting
stóð þá konungr upp ok talaði á þá leið: Guð sjálfan skulum
stood then (the)-king up and talked on that way God himself shall
vér lofa fyrir sigr várn, er hann hefir nú miklu berara en
we praise for victory our who he has now much more-clearly than
fyrr veitt oss sinn styrk ok krapt í þessi orrostu, ok fyrir því
before given us his strength and might in this battle and for that
at vér megum eigi kenna oss sigrinn annan veg, en þetta
that we may not ascribe ourselves the-victory other way than this
hafi farit eptir guðs vilja ok tilskipan. Ok veitum honum
have gone after God's will and ordinance And give to-him
hér í mót makliga þökk ok þægilig laun, ok er þat fyrst
here in return fitting thanks and pleasing reward and is that first

at halda vel grið vár við þá menn, er til griða eru gengnir
to keep well truce our with those men who to truce are gone
við oss. Veitum ok hjálp sárum mönnum, veitum ok gæzlu
with us Give also help to-wounded men give also care
líkum þeim, er vér megum ná, eptir siðvanda kristinna
to-bodies those which we may get after custom of-Christian
manna. Nú vil ek þat bjóða at skyldu mínum mönnum, at
men Now will I that bid to duty to-my men that
þeir leiti líka fyrir ströndinni, hverr með slíkum brögðum eða
they seek bodies along the-shore each with such means or
efnum, sem til hefir, er þat bæði þeim, er gera, þægiligt til
resources as to has is that both to-those who do pleasing to
guðs ok þó afli til fjár, fyrir því at allir munu nökkut fé
God and yet gain to wealth for that that all will some wealth
hafa haft á sér, en sumir mikit. Nú vænir mik, at vald
have had on themselves but some much Now expect I that power
lands þessa mun komit undir oss, hvárt sem vér viljum því
of-land this will come under us whether as we will it
stjórna vel eða illa, ok mun guði þökk á því vera, at vér
govern well or ill and will to-God thanks on that be that we
sém friðsamir ok réttir, ok þess munu ok margir þykkjast
be peaceful and just and of-that will also many think-themselves
þurfa. Nú er þat at mæla til yðar minna manna, at guð
need Now is that to speak to you my men that God
launi yðr ástsamliga fylgð, er þér hafit mér veitt, skal ek
reward to-you loving following which you have to-me given shall I
ok launa yðr með góðu ok eptir hinum beztum föngum, er
also reward you with good and after the best means which
ek hefi nú til. Gott er nú at vita þat, at þér eigit ok alt
I have now to Good is now to know that that you own also all
þat fé, er þessir hafa átt gullhálsarnir, er hér liggja fyrir
that wealth which these have owned the-gold-necks who here lie along

ströndinni, þat skulu þér hafa ok þar með hin beztu kvánföng,
the-shore that shall you have and there with the best matches
er til eru í landinu, ok þvílíkar nafnbœtr sem yðr líkar.
which to are in the-land and such titles-of-honor as to-you pleases
Þér hafit fleira aflat í þessi snertu, ok er þat sumt, er vér
You have more gained in this skirmish and is that some which we
höfum áðr œrit, þat eru öfundarmenn mínir, ok skulum vér
have before enough that are enviers mine and shall we
þar gæta vár fyrir, en guð gæti allra vár! At þessu máli
there guard ourselves for but God guard all us At this speech
varð mikill rómr, ok þökkuðu menn konungi vel sín orð.
became great acclaim and thanked men to-(the)-king well his words
Konungr lét þá róa öllum skipunum inn með ströndinni ok
(The)-king let then row all the-ships in along the-shore and
lagði þar við land, er eigi mátti kenna af valnum hrævadaun.
laid there by land where not might perceive from the-slain corpse-stench
Þá kómu til konungs Sókndœlir ok kaupangsmenn, ok
Then came to (the)-king (the)-Soknadal-men and (the)-market-town-men and
sættust þá við konung, mælti þá engi maðr á móti því,
reconciled then with (the)-king spoke then no man on against that
sem konungr vildi at væri. Kom þat þar fram, er mælt
which (the)-king wished that were Came that there forward which said
er, at margr kyssir á þá hönd, er hann vildi gjarna,
is that many-a-one kisses on that hand which he wished gladly
at af væri. Konungr skyldi þá bœndr til at flytja líkin
that off were (The)-king obliged then (the)-farmers to to move the-bodies
til graptar ok bað hvern um búa vel, sem hann vildi um
to burial and bade each about prepare well as he wished about
sinn hugðarmann. Fóru þá menn hvern dag á bátum at
his beloved Went then men each day on boats to
leita líkanna fyrir ströndinni. Einn dag fannst lík Orms
seek the-bodies along the-shore One day was-found (the)-body of-Orm

konungsbróður, ok tóku við því Víkverjar ok fluttu austr til
king's-brother and took with it (the)-Vik-men and moved east to
Oslóar, var hann lagðr í steinvegginn í Hallvarðskirkju hjá
Oslo was he laid in the-stone-wall in Hallvard's-church by
Inga konungi bróður sínum ok Sigurði konungi Jórsalafara.
Ingi king brother his and Sigurd king Jerusalem-Farer

Gert ráð fyrir líkum

LXXXVI · ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DEAD

A boat drew up a body, and Sverrir told Ljótr Haraldsson it was King Magnús, his face still flushed and unstiffened. Sverrir had Magnús's former men view and witness it so no impostor could rise, and many wept and kissed it; he sent it to Björgvin, and the men of Sóknadalr paid their fifteen marks.

Sunnudaginn annan eptir, er á leið kveldit, fóru margir
The-Sunday second after when on passed the-evening went many
menn at leita líkanna, konungrinn kom ok til þeira á lítilli
men to seek the-bodies the-king came also to them on little
skútu. Ljótr hét maðr ok var Haralds son, hann reri á
cutter Ljot was-called a-man and was Harald's son he rowed on
báti ok tveir menn með honum, Árni Guðmundarson ok
a-boat and two men with him Arni Gudmund's-son and
Jón kollr. Konungrinn mælti til þeira: Siti þér hér á fiskinni
Jon Koll The-king spoke to them Sit you here at the-fishing
fast, eða hversu veiðist? Ok í því bili drógu þeir upp
fast or how is-caught And in that moment drew they up
lík. Þá mælti konungr: Dýran drógu þér þar at borði, ok
a-body Then spoke (the)-king Costly drew you there to board and
er yðr gipta í þessu. Ljótr svaraði: Á hefir þá bitið mjök
is to-you luck in this Ljot answered On has then bitten very

vel, herra, ef þetta er lík konungsins. Hann svaraði: Þetta
well lord if this is (the)-body of-the-king He answered This
er lík Magnús konungs. Var þá hafit í skútuna, þá
is (the)-body of-Magnus king Was then lifted into the-cutter that
er konungr var á, ok reru til lands með. Var líkit borit
which (the)-king was on and rowed to land with Was the-body borne
upp. Géngu þá margir til at kenna, ok var ekki brugðit
up Went then many to to recognize and was not changed
yfirbragðinu, ok roði í kinnum ok ekki stirðnat. Mánadaginn
the-countenance and red in cheeks and not stiffened The-Monday
var kista búin, ok áðr lík konungs væri sveipat, þá
was a-coffin prepared and before (the)-body of-(the)-king were shrouded then
lét konungr ganga til þá menn, er áðr höfðu verit menn
let (the)-king go to those men who before had been men
Magnús konungs, ok bað þá kenna lík ok bera síðan
of-Magnus king and bade them recognize (the)-body and bear then
vitni um, ef nökkurir menn slœgi því upp, at Magnús
witness about if any men spread that up that Magnus
konungr lifði, ok efldi með því nökkurn illgerðaflokk. Þeir
king lived and strengthened with that some evil-doers'-band They
géngu til ok máttu nær engir vatni halda, sumir kystu líkit
went to and might near none water hold some kissed the-body
ok géngu frá síðan. Síðan var líkit sveipat ok lagt í kistu,
and went from then Then was the-body shrouded and laid in coffin
lét konungr flytja suðr til Björgynjar. Mart var áðr fundit
let (the)-king move south to Bjorgvin Many were before found
líka stórmennis. Síðan bjóst konungr á braut, guldu
bodies of-great-men Then prepared-himself (the)-king on away paid
Sókndœlir honum þá 15 merkr gulls. Fór Sverrir konungr
(the)-Soknadal-men to-him then 15 marks of-gold Went Sverrir king
þá suðr til Björgynjar. Váru þá komin þessi tíðindi áðr þar.
then south to Bjorgvin Were then come these tidings before there

Tala Pétrs í Björgyn

LXXXVII · PÉTR'S SPEECH IN BJÖRGVIN

Svínapétr, driven from Björgvin days before, told the townsmen of Magnús's fall, mocked their grief, urged prayers and alms for the dead instead, and told them to receive Sverrir as their rightful, wise, and peaceful king, with a gentle bodyguard, and drive out traitors.

Þat var laugardaginn, er á leið, hinn næsta eptir orrostu,
It was the-Saturday when on passed the next after (the)-battle
at skip mikit kom til bœjarins, ok var þegar blásit til
that ship great came to the-town and was at-once blown to
móts ok sagt, at Svínapétr vildi þing hafa, ok kemr þar
meeting and said that Svinapetr wished assembly have and comes there
allr bœjarlýðr. Stendr Pétr upp ok mælti: Hér kemr at
all (the)-town-people Stands Petr up and spoke Here comes to
því, sem mælt er, opt hit sama svín í akri. Ek heiti ok
that as said is often the same swine in field I am-called also
Svínapétr, en skamt er á at minnast, at vér várum héðan
Svinapetr but short is on to remember that we were hence
keyrðir hæðiliga or þessum bœ, ok erum nú enn aptr
driven mockingly out-of this town and are now still back
komnir. Tíðindi höfum vér mikil at segja, fall Magnús
come Tidings have we great to tell (the)-fall of-Magnus
konungs ok Haralds Ingasonar ok margra annarra höfðingja,
king and of-Harald Ingi's-son and of-many other chieftains
en hingat er ván til bœjarins Sverris konungs, ok bað
but hither is expected to the-town Sverrir king and bade
þess, at þér skyldit vel við honum taka, sem tign hans
of-that that you should well with him take as rank his
byrjar ok hœfir, at sé. En hverju gegnir þetta, er allir
befits and suits that be But what means this when all

menn drepa niðr höfði eða beri klæði fyrir andlit sér, ok
men drop down head or bear clothes before face their and
þat veit guð, at aldri fyrr sá ek menn svá at undri verða,
that knows God that never before saw I men so to wonder become
en þat kann ek at segja yðr með sönnu, at aldri látið
but that can I to tell you with truth that never behave
þér nú svá illa eða snöktit ok syrgit, at eigi sé nú dauðr
you now so ill or sob and mourn that not be now dead
Magnús konungr ok allr herr hans, ok mun þeim sú
Magnus king and all host his and will to-them that
eptirgerð vænni vera, at þér látið hringja eða syngja yfir
after-service more-useful be that you let ring or sing over
sál þeira eða gefa fé fátœkjum mönnum eða klerkum til
souls their or give wealth to-poor men or clerics to
bœnahalds. Ekki týr yðr nú tauta eða tutla hann Sverri af
prayer-holding Not avails you now mumble or mutter him Sverrir off
konungdóminum, beygt hefir hann nú Sverrir konungr hálsa
the-kingship bent has he now Sverrir king necks
á stœrrum bukkum, en þér erut bœndr eða kaupmenn, hann
on bigger bucks but you are farmers or merchants he
kvíðir sér, hann kvíðir fé sínu. Takit nú við Sverri
fears for-himself he fears for-wealth his Take now with Sverrir
konungi, er guð hefir sent yðr, þá hafi þér höfðingja
king whom God has sent to-you then have you chieftain
réttan, vitran ok málsnjallan, mildan ok réttlátan, friðsaman
rightful wise and eloquent generous and just peaceful
ok griðsaman, ok ágætan sigrvegara, öruggan til landvarnar
and truce-keeping and excellent victor steadfast to land-defense
ok landsgæzlu. Brautu er sá Sverrir, er með hernaði fór
and land-keeping Away is that Sverrir who with harrying went
til kaupstaðanna, ok Birkibeinar þeir eru brautu, er hér
to the-market-towns and Birchlegs those are away who here

sveimuðu um bœinn ok sópuðu hirðslur bónda. Hér mun
swarmed about the-town and swept chests of-farmers Here will
nú koma með konungi várum hirð spök ok hógvær, er
now come with king our bodyguard peaceable and gentle which
vera skal láss ok lykill fyrir frelsi ok friði þessa kaupstaðar
be shall lock and key for freedom and peace of-this market-town
ok annarra. Látið þér á braut fara falsara ok dróttinssvika,
and others Let you on away go deceivers and lord-traitors
en gerizt nú hollir ok trúir konungi yðrum. Fari þeir ok
but become now loyal and true to-king your Go they also
allir braut, er sannir eru at svikræðum við konunginn ok
all away who proven are at treason-plots with the-king and
hans menn, alla gæti þeir sín við umrenningum konungs,
his men all guard they themselves with vagabonds of-(the)-king
þeir sjá ekki lengi í augu mönnum, ok vápn þeira eru
they see not long into eyes of-men and weapons their are
ekki ættfróð. Konungrinn býðr öllum mönnum grið ok frið,
not kin-wise The-king offers to-all men truce and peace
þeim er til hans koma ok þess leita, ok fyrir því mun guð
to-those who to him come and of-that seek and for that will God
honum feginn ok hann í frið leiða ok hans helgir menn.
to-him glad and him into peace lead and his holy men

Frá Sverri konungi

LXXXVIII · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir sailed into Björgvin arranging his fleet to look as large as possible, and was met with bells and a procession.

Sverrir konungr sigldi fagran byr suðr til Björgynjar, ok
Sverrir king sailed fair wind south to Bjorgvin and
áðr þeir sigldu fyrir bœinn, mælti konungrinn, at þeir
before they sailed past the-town spoke the-king that they
skyldi svá haga ferðinni, at bœjarmönnum þœtti sem mest
should so arrange the-journey that to-(the)-townsmen seemed as greatest
lið þeira at sjá. Ok svá gerðu þeir. En er konungr kom
troop their to see And so did they But when (the)-king came
til bœjarins, var hringt móti honum um allan bœinn ok
to the-town was rung against him about all the-town and
gengit með processíu á mót honum, ok tóku menn vel
gone with procession on against him and took men well
við konungi, ok dvaldist hann þar um hríð.
with (the)-king and stayed he there for a-while

Um gröpt Magnús konungs

LXXXIX · KING MAGNÚS'S BURIAL

Magnús was buried in Christ Church, where he had been crowned. Sverrir had men view the body so none could say Magnús fought him later, and seeing one of Magnús's guests kiss it in tears, said such men could hardly be trusted. Nikulás sultan spoke over the grave, and Sverrir had the tomb railed and covered.

Lík Magnús konungs var þá búit til graptar. Hann
(The)-body of-Magnus king was then prepared to burial He
var jarðaðr í Kristskirkju utar frá kórnum fyrir framan
was buried in Christ's-church out from the-choir on in-front-of
steinvegginn hinum syðra megin. Stóð yfir grepti hans Sverrir
the-stone-wall on-the southern side Stood over grave his Sverrir
konungr, Páll byskup ok öll alþýða manna, er í var
king Pal bishop and all common-people of-men which in was

bœnum. Ok áðr lík konungs væri lagit í steinþróna, þá
the-town And before (the)-body of-(the)-king were laid in the-stone-coffin then
kallaði konungr menn til at sjá likit, at eigi segði þeir, at
called (the)-king men to to see the-body that not said they that
sjá Magnús berðist síðan á mót honum. Géngu þá margir
that Magnus fought afterward on against him Went then many
til at sjá, ok einn af gestum Magnús konungs gékk til ok
to to see and one of guests of-Magnus king went to and
kysti líkit ok klökk við. Konungr leit eptir honum ok mælti:
kissed the-body and wept with (The)-king looked after him and spoke
Seint mun slíkum trúa mega. Þar váru töluð mörg fögr erendi
Late will such trust may There were spoken many fair speeches
yfir grepti hans. Nikkulás sultan móðurbróðir Sverris konungs
over grave his Nikulas Sultan mother's-brother of-Sverrir king
talaði langt erendi ok var allra manna snjallastr. Konungr talaði
talked long speech and was of-all men most-eloquent (The)-king talked
ok mörgum fögrum orðum. Sverrir konungr lét búa um
also with-many fair words Sverrir king let prepare about
leg Magnús konungs vandliga, gera grind um utan um
(the)-grave of-Magnus king carefully make railing about outside about
legsteininn, lét síðan breiða kögur yfir legsteininn. Magnús
the-gravestone let then spread fringed-cloth over the-gravestone Magnus
konungr hvílir í þeiri sömu kirkju, sem hann var vígðr í.
king rests in that same church as he was consecrated in

Hversu Magnúsi konungi var farit

XC · WHAT KIND OF MAN KING MAGNÚS WAS

Magnús was well loved, above all in the Vík, and never lacked followers however costly, since men preferred Sigurðr Jórsalafari's line to Haraldr gilli's. He was humble and merry, a great drinker and lover of women, agile, generous, eloquent, bold, and showy, tall and handsome but for his mouth.

Magnús konungr var vinsæll ok ástsæll við landsfólkit, hafði
Magnus king was popular and beloved with the-land-folk had
hann mest traust af Víkverjum. Var þat mark um vinsæld
he most trust from (the)-Vik-men Was that mark of popularity
hans, at svá skaðasamt sem varð at fylgja honum, at
his that so harmful as became to follow him that
hann skorti þó aldri liðit til fylgðarinnar, meðan hann
him lacked yet never the-troop to the-following while he
lifði, ok þat hélzt lengi síðan, at þeim varð gott til liðs,
lived and that held long since that to-them became good to troop
er af hans ætt kölluðust vera; naut þess mest at af
who of his kin called-themselves be profited of-that most to of
öllu landsfólki, er hann var frá Sigurði konungi Jórsalafara
all land-folk that he was from Sigurd king Jerusalem-Farer
kominn, en allir hötuðust við afkvæmi Haralds gilla. Magnús
come but all hated with offspring of-Harald Gilli Magnus
konungr var maðr lítillátr ok glaðr, var mjök í sið ungra
king was man humble and glad was much in manner of-young
manna, drykkjumaðr mikill ok mikill kvennamaðr. Hann var
men drinker great and great womanizer He was
umfram flesta menn at fimleik ok heldr sterkr maðr, örr
beyond most men at nimbleness and rather strong man generous
ok stórgjöfull, snjallr í máli, manna vápndjarfastr, skartsmaðr
and great-giving eloquent in speech of-men weapon-boldest dandy

mikill ok sundrgerðamaðr mikill at klæðum, heldr hár maðr
great and finery-man great at clothes rather tall man
á vöxt ok vel vaxinn, limaðr vel ok fagrliga, hann var
in growth and well grown limbed well and fairly he was
vel andlits sköpum, nema hann var munnljótr nökkut.
well of-face's shape except he was ugly-mouthed somewhat

Tala Sverris konungs

XCI · KING SVERRIR'S SPEECH

In the yard of Christ Church Sverrir quoted a psalm and spoke of God humbling the proud, from Lucifer to Saul, as Erlingr's line had risen without royal birth until God sent a small man from the outer skerries. He rebuked those who said he served the devil and taught children to wish his head under a stone, and ordered Magnús's men out of town within three days.

Sverrir konungr lét blása öllu bœjarfólki út í Kristkirkjugarð
Sverrir king let blow all town-folk out into Christ's-church-yard
ok hafði þar þing. Talaði Hávarðr jarlsson fyrst ok hlynti
and had there an-assembly Talked Havard earl's-son first and pleaded
fyrir konunginum, svá sem vandi er til, talaði hann langt
for the-king so as custom is to talked he long
ok snjalt, ok er hann hætti, þá stóð upp sjálfr Sverrir
and eloquently and when he stopped then stood up himself Sverrir
konungr ok litaðist um ok tók seint til orða ok hóf á
king and looked-around about and took slowly to words and began on
þá leið: Til þeira orða munu vér taka, er skáldit mælti:
that way To those words will we take which the-psalmist spoke
Miserere mei, deus, quoniam conculcavit me homo, tota die
Have-mercy on-me O-God for has-trodden me man all day
expugnans tribulavit me, þat segir svá, miskunnaðu mér,
fighting has-afflicted me that says so have-mercy-you on-me

guð, þvíat maðrinn trað mik undir fótum ok barðist allan
God because the-man trod me under feet and fought all
daginn í gegn mér ok kvaldi mik. Sú spásaga er nú
the-day in against me and tormented me That prophecy is now
framkomin á várum dögum, er spáð var fyrir mörgum
come-forth in our days which prophesied was before many
mannsöldrum, er Magnús konungr frændi minn barðist mér
men's-ages when Magnus king kinsman my fought me
á móti ok vildi tapa mínu lífi, en guð leysti mik nú sem
on against and wished destroy my life but God freed me now as
fyrr. Guði hefir ekki jafnleitt verit sem ofmetnaðarmenn, ok
before To-God has nothing so-hateful been as proud-men and
þat harðast refsat. Fyrst er hann rak frá sér engilinn, er
that hardest punished First when he drove from himself the-angel who
honum vildi jafnast ok varð at hinum versta djöfli, enda
to-him wished equal-himself and became to the worst devil and
síðan Adam, er hann gerði á mót guði, hinn fyrsti maðr,
then Adam when he did on against God the first man
var hann rekinn hingat í heim í þessa ánauð, en er
was he driven hither into (the)-world into this bondage and when
ríkin hófust ok Pharao þröngði guðs lögum, þá kómu
the-realms arose and Pharaoh oppressed God's laws then came
undr yfir landit, er slík hafa aldregi orðit í veröldinni,
wonders over the-land which such have never happened in the-world
svá ok er Saul konungr grimmaðist guðs lýð, þá flakkaði
so also when Saul king raged-against God's people then wandered
hann síðan með úhreinan anda. Hefir svá verit jafnan í
he afterward with unclean spirit Has so been always in
heiminum, kann vera, at yðr þykki enn nær borði vár
the-world can be that to-you seems still near board our
rœða hefjast. Svá hefir ok hér farit í landi, at þeir menn
speech rise So has also here gone in land that those men

hafa upphafizt, er ekki váru konunga ættar, sem var
have exalted-themselves who not were of-kings' line as was
Erlingr son Kyrpingaorms, lét gefa sér jarls nafn en syni
Erling son of-Kyrpinga-Orm let give to-himself earl's name but to-son
sínum konungs nafn, ok drápu niðr allar konungaættir, en
his king's name and killed down all kings'-lines and
tóku undir sik alt ríki konunga þeira, er ættbornir váru
took under themselves all realm of-those kings who born were
til, alt þar til er guð sendi utan af útskerjum einn lítinn
to all there till when God sent out from out-skerries one little
mann ok lágan at steypa þeira ofdrambi, en sá var ek. Eigi
man and low to overthrow their arrogance but that was I Not
tókum vér þat af oss sjálfum: guð sýndi, hversu lítit honum
took we that of us ourselves God showed how little to-him
var fyrir at steypa þeira drambi. Eigi var oss sakleysi við
was for to overthrow their arrogance Not was to-us blamelessness with
Magnús konung eða Erling jarl, sem margir mæla, ok eigi
Magnus king or Erling earl as many say and not
erum vér svá skamminnigir, at eigi munim vér, hvat af var
are we so short-memoried that not remember we what of was
gert við oss. Fyrst er Björgynjarmenn drápu Sigurð konung
done with us First when (the)-Bjorgvin-men killed Sigurd king
föður minn, síðan feldu þeir frá landi Hákon bróður minn,
father my then felled they from land Hakon brother my
síðan tók Erlingr jarl tvá bræðr mína ok festi annan upp
then took Erling earl two brothers mine and hanged (the)-one up
sem krákuunga, en lét höggva annan. Þetta má oss seint
as crow's-chick but let behead (the)-other This may to-us slowly
or hug ganga, ok jafnan hefir sú nauð á oss legit, at
out-of mind go and always has that need on us lain that
miklu værim vér fúsari at skiljast frá, ef eigi sæim vér
much were we more-eager to part from if not saw we

eymd á fólki váru, eða þeir dróttnaði, er eigi váru til
misery on people our or they lorded who not were to
bornir. Hér í staðinn látið þér koma fáheyrðan fjándskap.
born Here in the-stead let you come unheard-of enmity
Þetta mæla sumir: sigrsæll er Sverrir, vitr er Sverrir. Þá
This say some victorious is Sverrir wise is Sverrir Then
er svarat: hvat er þat kynligt, mikit hefir hann til unnit,
is answered what is that strange much has he to won
gefizt hefir hann fjándanum. Sumir segja, at ek sjá sjálfr
given-himself has he to-the-fiend Some say that I be myself
djöfullinn kominn af helvíti, ok sé hann lauss orðinn.
the-devil come from hell and be he loose become
Hyggit at sjálfum yðr, hverir þér erut þá; hvat megit
Consider about yourselves you who you are then what may
þér vera nema djöfuls þrælar, ef þér þjónit honum, ok því
you be except devil's thralls if you serve him and the
vesælli en alt fólk annat í veröldinni, at þér skulut
more-wretched than all folk other in the-world that you shall
honum þjóna nú, en brenna með honum í öðrum heimi.
him serve now and burn with him in other world
Eru eigi slíkir hlutir fólsligir at mæla við hvern sem einn
Are not such things foolish to say with each as one
ok allra helzt við konung sinn? Fól væri Sverrir þá, ef hann
and of-all most with king their Fool were Sverrir then if he
ynni þat til þessa vesæla ríkis, er á engarri stundu er í
gave that to this wretched realm which in no while is in
frelsi, er þó væri enskis vert, at með friði stœði, ok týna
freedom which yet were nothing worth that with peace stood and lose
þar í mót sálu sinni ok allri hjálpinni. Svá lízt mér, sem
there in return soul his and all salvation So seems to-me as
hér vaði saman kálfar ok úlfar, kann vera, at yðr þykki
here wade together calves and wolves can be that to-you seems

rúmborat sáld mitt. Margr lýtr sá nú hendinni, er hann
wide-holed sieve my Many-a-one bows he now to-the-hand who he
vildi gjarna at af væri, sá kallar nú frændann, er skömmu
wished gladly that off were he calls now the-kinsman who lately
kallaði fjándann. Þat hygg ek, ef nú mætti sjá hvers manns
called the-fiend That think I if now might see each man's
hug, er hér er kominn, ok stœði hverjum horn or enni,
mind who here is come and stood to-each a-horn out-of forehead
er mér hyggr illa, at hér mundi margr knýflóttr fram
who to-me thinks ill that here would many-a-one knob-browed forward
ganga. Þat mælir barnit, er þat gengr út ok hefir stein í
go That says the-child when it goes out and has stone in
hendi ok drepr á grjótit: hér skyldi höfuð Sverris undir.
hand and strikes on the-rocks here should (the)-head of-Sverrir under
Slíkt kennit þér yðrum börnum. Slíkt mælir griðkonan, er
Such teach you to-your children Such says the-maidservant when
hon gengr út ok hefir vífl í hendi ok lýstr á helluna:
she goes out and has beater in hand and strikes on the-slab
hér skyldi höfuð Sverris undir, segir hon. En vera má, at
here should (the)-head of-Sverrir under says she But be may that
Sverrir verði sóttdauðr eigi at síðr. Viti þat nú ok Magnús
Sverrir become sick-dead not the less Know that now also of-Magnus
konungs menn, þeir sem verit hafa á þessum fundi, at
king's men they who been have at this meeting that
þeir verði brautu or bœnum fyrir þriðju sól héðan ífrá.
they be away out-of the-town before third sun hence on
Hafi allir þökk várir vinir, þeir er hér hafa komit.
Have all thanks our friends those who here have come

Frá Sverri konungi

XCII · OF KING SVERRIR

After Magnús's fall, seven years after Sverrir took the king's name, he held all Norway and set bailiffs everywhere. He gave his men titles, fiefs, and rich marriages, marrying his sister Cecilia to Bárðr Guthormsson and making landed men of those who had followed him.

Eptir fall Magnús konungs fór Sverrir konungr austr í
After (the)-fall of-Magnus king went Sverrir king east into
Vík ok alt til landsenda, lagði hann þá land alt undir
(the)-Vik and all to land's-end laid he then land all under
sik ok skipaði sýslumönnum, mælti þá mangi á mót
himself and appointed bailiffs spoke then no-man on against
honum. Þá váru liðnir 7 vetr frá því, er honum var
him Then were passed 7 winters from that when to-him was
konungsnafn gefit, 5 síðan Erlingr jarl féll. Sverrir konungr
king's-name given 5 since Erling earl fell Sverrir king
gaf þá mönnum sínum nafnbœtr, sumum sýslur eða veizlur,
gave then to-men his titles-of-honor to-some districts or revenues
mörgum fékk hann góð kvánföng, gerði hann þá marga
to-many got he good matches made he then many
at ríkum mönnum, er engar áttu ættir til þess ok honum
to mighty men who no had lineages to that and him
höfðu fylgt til lands. Sverrir konungr gipti Ceciliu systur
had followed to land Sverrir king married Cecilia sister
sína Bárði Guthormsyni á Reini, Ívari selka gipti hann
his to-Bard Guthorm's-son at Rein to-Ivar Seal married he
Skjaldvöru dóttur Andres Skjaldvararsonar, Pétr rangi fékk
Skjaldvor daughter of-Andres Skjaldvor's-son Petr (the)-Wrong got
Ingibjargar, er átt hafði Ívarr elda. Mörg önnur kvánföng
Ingibjorg who had had Ivar Elda Many other matches

fékk hann sínum mönnum ok hóf þá at mörgu, ok váru
got he for-his men and raised then to much and were
þeir þá gervir gjaflendingar, er svá váru tilkomnir.
they then made landed-men who so were come-to

Upphaf Kuflunga

XCIII · THE RISE OF THE KUFLUNGAR

A year after Magnús's fall Sverrir married Margrét, daughter of King Eiríkr the Saint of Sweden; he already had two sons, Sigurðr lávarðr and Hákon, and two daughters. That winter a former monk of Höfuðey, called Jón son of King Ingi, was made king at the Haugaþing; the Birkibeinar named his band the Kuflungar, and they killed Símun skerfla at Túnsberg.

Einum vetri eptir fall Magnús konungs kvángaðist Sverrir
One winter after (the)-fall of-Magnus king married Sverrir
konungr ok fékk Margrétar dóttur Eiríks Svíakonungs
king and got Margaret daughter of-Eirik Swedes'-king
Jatvarðarsonar hins helga. Eiríkr konungr hvílir í skríni í
Jatvard's-son the holy Eirik king rests in shrine in
Svíþjóðu at Uppsölum. Margrét var systir Knúts Svíakonungs.
Sweden at Uppsala Margaret was sister of-Knut Swedes'-king
Sverrir konungr átti áðr tvá sonu, hét hinn ellri Sigurðr,
Sverrir king had before two sons was-called the elder Sigurd
er kallaðr var lávarðr, en annarr Hákon. Dœtr hans váru
who called was Lavard but (the)-other Hakon Daughters his were
þær Cecilia ok Ingibjörg. Þenna sama vetr hófst flokkr
those Cecilia and Ingibjorg This same winter rose a-band
í Vík austr, ok var sá höfðingi fyrir, er kallaðr var
in (the)-Vik east and was that chieftain over who called was
Jón son Inga konungs Haraldssonar. At því úráði hurfu
Jon son of-Ingi king Harald's-son To that folly turned

margir höfðingjar, Símun son Ölnukára, Nikulás son Bjarnar
many chieftains Simun son of-Olnukari Nikulas son of-Bjorn
bukks, Andres brasaðr, Jón kutiza, Bárðr sála. Þeir kómu
Buck Andres Brasad Jon Kutiza Bard Sala They came
ofan í Túnsberg ok stefndu Haugaþing, ok var Jón til
down into Tunsberg and summoned Hauga-assembly and was Jon to
konungs tekinn ok svarit honum land alt. Jón hafði áðr
king taken and sworn to-him land all Jon had before
verit munkr í Höfuðey. Birkibeinar kölluðu hann kuflung
been monk on Hofudey (The)-Birchlegs called him Kuflung
ok gáfu honum þat fyrir konungsnafn. Lið mikit dreif til
and gave him that for king's-name Troop great flocked to
þeira, ok fóru norðr með landi, fyrir því at Birkibeinar
them and went north along (the)-land for that that (the)-Birchlegs
sömnuðust saman í Víkinni, ok stukku Kuflungar því
gathered together in the-Vik and fled (the)-Kuflungs therefore
undan, lögðu þeir víða land undir sik, þar sem þeir
away laid they widely land under themselves there where they
fóru, þvíat þeir höfðu styrk mikinn. Þeir kómu ofan í
went because they had strength great They came down into
Túnsbergi ok drápu þar Símun skerflu, er þá hafði sýslu í
Tunsberg and killed there Simun Skerfla who then had district in
Túnsbergi. Þar féll með honum sveit hans, nær 30 manna.
Tunsberg There fell with him company his near 30 men

Frá Kuflungum

XCIV · OF THE KUFLUNGAR

The Kuflungar took Björgvin and wintered there; trying to launch the beached Maríusúð, they shook it apart and burned it. When they burst into the Stone Church at high mass after the bailiff Áskell ruza, a stone fell from the tower and killed one of them, and the rood sweated onto the altar. They drove the Birkibeinar out of the Vík.

Þá byrjuðu Kuflungar ferð sína norðr með landi. Gékk þá
Then began (the)-Kuflungs journey their north along (the)-land Went then
fólk undir þá, hvar sem þeir kómu. Þeir kómu til Björgynjar
folk under them where as they came They came to Bjorgvin
ok lögðu at bryggjum. Kuflungar tóku bœinn, ok gékk undir
and laid at (the)-wharves (The)-Kuflungs took the-town and went under
þá alt fólk, þeir drápu þar nökkura Birkibeina. Kuflungar
them all folk they killed there some Birchlegs (The)-Kuflungs
sátu þar um vetrinn. Sverrir konungr hafði látið setja upp
sat there over the-winter Sverrir king had let set up
Maríusúðna út í Hólmi, þá er hann fór innan or
the-Mariusud out on Holm then when he went from-within out-of
Sogni, ok lét gera yfir ráf, ok kom aldri á vatn síðan.
Sogn and let make over a-roof and came never onto water since
Kuflungar vildu fram setja skipit, ok var blásit til öllum
(The)-Kuflungs wished forward launch the-ship and was blown to all
bœjarlýð, ok gékk eigi or stað, en svá var skipit reist ok
town-people and went not out-of place but so was the-ship raised and
hrist, at sundr brotnuðu brandarnir, þá lögðu þeir í eld
shaken that apart broke the-prow-boards then laid they into fire
ok brendu upp. Kuflungar kómu þann tíma á Björgynjarvág,
and burned up (The)-Kuflungs came that time onto Bjorgvin-bay

er sungnar váru hámessur í bœnum. Áskell ruza hafði þá
when sung were high-masses in the-town Askel Ruza had then
bœjarsýslu, hann var at messu í Steinkirkju, hann varð eigi
town-stewardship he was at mass in Stone-church he became not
fyrr varr við, en Kuflungar kómu í kirkjuna með alvæpni.
earlier aware with than (the)-Kuflungs came into the-church with full-arms
Áskell hljóp upp í stöpulinn. Kuflungar hljópu eptir honum.
Askel ran up into the-steeple (The)-Kuflungs ran after him
Þá féll steinn einn mikill ofan or stöplinum í höfuð
Then fell stone one great down out-of the-steeple onto head
einum þeira, ok fékk sá þegar bana. Þá sveittist róðan helga,
of-one of-them and got he at-once death Then sweated the-rood holy
svá at draup á altarit ofan. Þeir Áskell ráku aptr stöpulinn
so that dripped onto the-altar down They Askel shut back the-steeple
ok héldu sik þar, til þess er bœjarmenn leystu þá út
and held themselves there till that when (the)-townsmen released them out
með fé. Kuflungar fóru austr til Víkr, þá er af leið
with wealth (The)-Kuflungs went east to (the)-Vik then when off passed
hávetrit. Sverrir konungr hafði sett til landsgæzlu í Víkinni
mid-winter Sverrir king had set to land-keeping in the-Vik
Úlf af Laufnesi ok Úlf fly, Hávarð jarlsson, Þórólf rympil, ok
Ulf of Laufnes and Ulf Flea Havard earl's-son Thorolf Rympil and
enn fleiri sveitarhöfðingja. Veittu hvárir öðrum árásir, en svá
still more company-leaders Gave each to-other attacks but so
óx Kuflungum lið, at Birkibeinar stukku or Víkinni allir.
grew to-the-Kuflungs troop that (the)-Birchlegs fled out-of the-Vik all

Frá Sverri konungi ok her hans

XCV · OF KING SVERRIR AND HIS ARMY

German wine was as cheap as ale in Björgvin, and drunken brawls followed: Germans and Norwegians fought over a pot of wine, and Sverrir's guests stormed his housecarls' ship. At a þing Sverrir thanked the English and island traders, told the Germans to leave, and spoke at length on how drink wastes wealth, memory, health, and the soul.

Um várit eptir fór Sverrir konungr norðan or Þrándheimi
In the-spring after went Sverrir king from-north out-of Thrandheim
með allmikinn her ok kom til Björgynjar um vaknaskeið.
with very-great host and came to Bjorgvin at rising-time
Var þar þá kominn múgr skipa til bœjarins, nær af öllum
Was there then come throng of-ships to the-town near from all
löndum. Suðrmenn höfðu þangat flutt vín mest, svá at þá
lands Southerners had thither brought wine most so that then
var eigi dýrra vín í Björgyn en mungát. Þat var eitt sinn,
was not dearer wine in Bjorgvin than ale It was one time
er menn sátu í víndrykkju nökkurir, at þeir vildu láta
when men sat in wine-drinking some that they wished let
taka meira vínit, en sveinn Suðrmanna vildi eigi taka, ok
take more the-wine but (the)-boy of-(the)-Southerners wished not take and
skilr þá eigi meira á en um einn vínpott, ok þrættu til
parts then not more on than about one wine-pot and quarreled to
þess, er Norðmenn vildu brjóta upp búðina. En Suðrmenn
that when (the)-Norwegians wished break up the-booth But (the)-Southerners
váru fyrir innan ok lögðu út sverðum, ok urðu hvárirtveggju
were on within and thrust out swords and became both
sárir. Ok því næst hljópu til vápna hvárirtveggju þýðverskir
wounded And then next ran to weapons both German

menn ok Norðmenn. Þýðverskir menn hljópu á skipin ok
men and (the)-Norwegians German men ran onto the-ships and
lögðu saman kuggunum, bœjarmenn bjoggust til atsóknar,
laid together the-cogs (the)-townsmen prepared-themselves to attack
ok um síðir varð griðum á komit. Mörg önnur úspekt var
and at last became truce on come Many other unrest was
þar ger um sumarit fyrir drykkju sakir. Einn Birkibeinn
there made in the-summer for drinking's sake One Birchleg
var svá vitlauss af víndrykkju, at hann hljóp or höllinni
was so witless from wine-drinking that he ran out-of the-hall
á millum ok konungsstofu, ok þóttist hlaupa á sund,
in between and (the)-king's-chamber and thought-himself run to swim
ok fékk bana; annarr hljóp af bryggju í konungsgarði ok
and got death another ran off (the)-wharf in (the)-king's-yard and
druknaði. En er Sverrir konungr var kominn í bœinn,
drowned But when Sverrir king was come into the-town
varð sá atburðr brátt, at tveir menn deildu druknir,
became that event soon that two men quarreled drunk
annarr gestr konungs en annarr húskarl, ok því næst vildi
(the)-one guest of-(the)-king but (the)-other house-carl and then next wished
hvárr veita öðrum tilræði, ok í því kom at Þórólfr rympill
each give to-other attack and in that came at Thorolf Rympil
gestahöfðingi, hann laust húskarlinn með stálhúfu, en hann
guests'-leader he struck the-house-carl with steel-cap but he
laust Þórólf á mót með handöxi. Eptir þat hélt maðr á
struck Thorolf on against with hand-axe After that held man on
manni, ok létu ganga þat er til höfðu í vígvölum, ok váru
man and let go that which to had in battle-clubs and were
allir ölóðir. Þórólfr sleizt or þrönginni ok fór til liðs síns
all ale-mad Thorolf tore-himself out-of the-throng and went to troop his
ok lét blása gestalúðrinum. Ok er gestir kómu saman, þá
and let blow the-guests'-trumpet And when (the)-guests came together then

bað Þórólfr þá vápna sik. Húskarlar váru samankomnir ok
bade Thorolf them arm themselves House-carls were come-together and
váru komnir á skip sitt, Ásgeirr hamarskalli réð fyrir þeim.
were come onto ship their Asgeir Hammer-Skull ruled over them
En er gestir kómu ofan á bryggjur, þá fleygði Þórólfr
But when (the)-guests came down onto (the)-wharves then flung Thorolf
sverðinu út á skipit, ok hljóp þar þegar eptir ok gat náð
the-sword out onto the-ship and leapt there at-once after and could reach
sverðinu ok barðist þegar. Gestir fylgðu honum, ok varð
the-sword and fought at-once (The)-guests followed him and became
þar orrosta mikil, ok létta þeir Þórólfr eigi fyrr en hroðit var
there battle great and ceased they Thorolf not earlier than cleared was
skipit. Féll mart af húskörlum, en flest hljóp á kaf. En er
the-ship Fell many of house-carls but most leapt into deep But when
konungr varð varr við, kom hann á griðum ok sætti þá.
(the)-king became aware with brought he about truce and reconciled them
Nökkuru síðar hafði konungr þing í bœnum ok talaði
Somewhat later had (the)-king an-assembly in the-town and talked
ok mælti: Þakka viljum vér hingatkvámu enskum mönnum,
and spoke Thank will we the-hither-coming to-English men
er hingat flytja hveiti ok hunang, flúr eða klæði, svá viljum
who hither bring wheat and honey flour or cloth so will
vér ok þakka þeim mönnum, er hingat hafa flutt lérept eða
we also thank those men who hither have brought linen or
lín, vax eða katla. Þá viljum vér ok til nefna, er komnir
flax wax or kettles Then will we also to name who come
eru af Orkneyjum, Færeyjum eða Íslandi, ok öllum þeim,
are from Orkneys (the)-Faroes or Iceland and all those
er hingat hafa flutt þá hluti, er eigi má missa ok land
who hither have brought those things which not may lack and land
þetta bœtist við. En um þýðverska menn, er hingat eru
this is-bettered with But about German men who hither are

komnir mikill fjöldi með mörgum skipum ok ætla héðan
come great multitude with many ships and intend hence
at flytja smjör ok skreið, er mikil landseyra er at
to carry butter and dried-fish which great land-impoverishment is at
þeira brautflutningu, en hér er komit vín, er menn hafa til
their carrying-away but here is come wine which men have to
lagzt at kaupa hvárirtveggju mínir menn ok bœjarmenn eða
taken to buy both my men and townsmen or
kaupmenn, hefir af því kaupi staðit mart ilt, en ekki gott;
merchants has from that buying stood much ill but nothing good
hér hafa týnt margir menn lífinu, sumir limunum, sumir
here have lost many men the-life some the-limbs some
bera annarskonar örkumbl allan sinn aldr, sumir svívirðing,
bear other-kind maiming all their age some disgrace
verit særðir eða barðir, ok veldr þessu ofdrykkja. Kann ek
been wounded or beaten and causes this over-drinking Know I
þeim Suðrmönnum fyrir sína ferð mikla úþökk; ok með því
those Southerners for their journey great unthanks and with that
at þeir vili halda lífinu ok fénu, verði þeir í brautu héðan
that they will keep the-life and the-wealth be they in away hence
sem fyrst, ok hefir þeira erendi vorðit oss úþarft ok ríki
as soonest and has their errand become to-us unprofitable and realm
váru. Þér megit á minnast, hvat efni ofdrykkjan er, eða
our You may on remember what matter over-drinking is or
hvers hon aflar, eða hverju hon týnir. Þat er hit fyrsta, er
what she gains or what she loses That is the first which
minnst er, at sá er þýðist ofdrykkjuna, þá fyrirlætr hann
least is that he who indulges the-over-drinking then neglects he
fjáraflann, þvíat ofdrykkjan týnir fénu ok glatar, þar til
the-wealth-getting because the-over-drinking loses the-wealth and wastes there till
er sá maðr, er fullsæll var at fé, verðr vesæll ok válaðr.
when that man who very-blessed was in wealth becomes wretched and needy

Sá er annarr hlutr ofdrykkju, at hann týnir minninu, ok
That is (the)-second thing of-over-drinking that he loses the-memory and
öllu því gleymir hann, sem honum væri skylt at muna. Þat
all that forgets he which to-him were bound to remember That
er hit þriðja, at þá girnist hann alla hina röngu hlutina,
is the third that then desires he all the wrong things
ok hræðist eigi at taka fé með röngu ok svá konur. Sá
and fears not to take wealth with wrong and so women That
er hinn fjórði hlutr ofdrykkju, at hon eggjar hann at þola
is the fourth thing of-over-drinking that she urges him to endure
engan hlut, hvárki orð né verk, gjalda á móti hálfu meira
no thing neither word nor deed pay on against half more
ilt, en til sé gert, ok enn umfram eggjar hon þess at
evil than to be done and still beyond urges she of-that to
leita lastmæla á þá, er úvaldir eru. Þá er sá einn hlutr,
seek slanders on those who unblamable are Then is that one thing
at hann þreytir líkamann til at þola vandræði, mœðast af
that he wearies the-body to to endure troubles weary-itself from
vökunum, týna blóðinu í öllum liðunum, ok spilla blóðinu
the-wakings lose the-blood in all the-limbs and spoil the-blood
til vanheilendis, ok þar með týna allri heilsunni. Ok þá
to sickness and there with lose all the-health And then
er farit er eigunni, heilsunni ok vitinu, þá eggjar hon þá
when gone is the-property the-health and the-wit then urges she them
at fyrirfara því, er úlógat er, en þat er sálan, eggjar þá
to destroy that which unlost is but that is the-soul urges them
at úrœkjast alla rétta siðsemi, girnast syndirnar en afhugast
to neglect all right morals desire the-sins and turn-from
guði ok öllu hinu rétta, minnast á engan hlut þann, er
God and all the right remember on no thing that which
hann hefir gert. Lítið þér nú á, ofdrykkjumenninir, þá er
he has done Look you now on over-drinkers then when

þér skilizt frá öllu í senn drykkjunni ok lífinu, hvat líkast
you part from all at once the-drinking and the-life what likeliest
er, hverr þá mun grípa við sálunni. Minnizt á, hversu úlíkt
is who then will grasp with the-soul Remember on how unlike
þetta athæfi er því, er vera skyldi, þvíat öllum hlutum skal
this behavior is to-that which be should because all things shall
stilling fylgja; hermenn skyldu vera hógværir í friði sem
moderation follow warriors should be gentle in peace as
lömb, en í úfriði ágjarnir sem leó; kaupmenn ok bœndr
lambs but in war eager as lions merchants and farmers
skyldu ok vera hógværir ok fara með sínu eðli, afla fjárins
should also be gentle and go with their nature gain the-wealth
með réttu ok þó með erfiði, gæta með vizku, en veita með
with right and yet with toil guard with wisdom but give with
mildi; en hinir, er minni eru, vera þakklátir ok þjóna
generosity but the-others who lesser are be thankful and serve
sínum yfirmanni með góðum vilja, hverr eptir sínum efnum.
their superior with good will each after his means
Konungr lauk svá málinu, bað sína menn vera siðsama
(The)-king ended so the-speech bade his men be well-mannered
ok friðsama við bœjarmenn, bœndr eða kaupmenn. Var
and peaceful with townsmen farmers or merchants Was
þetta mál vel rómat af vitrum mönnum. Sverrir konungr
this speech well acclaimed by wise men Sverrir king
fór norðr til kaupangs um haustit ok sat þar um
went north to (the)-market-town in the-autumn and sat there over
vetrinn, ok váru þar með honum flestir allir höfðingjar
the-winter and were there with him most all chieftains
hans. Kuflungar váru í Víkinni.
his (The)-Kuflungs were in the-Vik

Frá Kuflungum

XCVI · OF THE KUFLUNGAR

Sailing north, the Kuflungar took Niðaróss by night and killed many Birkibeinar while Sverrir sat with few men in the fort. Jón freed his prisoners from their oaths, trusting their word; that evening they all went over to Sverrir, who said Jón did not know how to lead. The Kuflungar took or burned Sverrir's ships and left.

Þat sama haust fóru Kuflungar ok ætluðu norðr at Sverri
That same autumn went (the)-Kuflungs and intended north at Sverrir
konungi. Ok er þeir kómu norðr til Agðaness, þá kvað
king And when they came north to Agdanes then recited
Nefari:
Nefari

Týnum Birkibeinum,
Let-us-destroy (the)-Birchlegs
beri Sverrir hlut verra,
let-bear Sverrir lot worse
látum randhœing reyndan
let-us-have shield-hewer tested
ríða hart ok tíðum;
ride hard and often
hœlumk minnst í máli,
let-us-boast least in speech
metumk heldr at val feldan,
let-us-reckon rather by slain felled
látum skipta guð giptu,
let-us-let share God fortune
gerum hríð, þá er þeim svíði.
let-us-make assault then when to-them smarts

Þeir kómu öndverða nótt inn til bœjar, ok kom engi njósn
They came beginning-of night in to (the)-town and came no report
fyrir þeim. Sverrir konungr sat uppi í borg á Steinbjörgum
before them Sverrir king sat up in (the)-fort on Steinbjorg
ok fátt lið með honum, en mestr hluti hirðarinnar var
and few troop with him but greatest part of-the-bodyguard was
í bœnum. Kuflungar tóku bœinn ok drápu mjök mart af
in the-town (The)-Kuflungs took the-town and killed very many of
Birkibeinum. Þar féll Brynjólfr Rögnvaldsson, Óttarr knerra,
(the)-Birchlegs There fell Brynjolf Rognvald's-son Ottar Knerra
Sigurðr dotafiðr, Andres krista, Andres bjúgi. Jón kuflungr gaf
Sigurd Dotafid Andres Krista Andres (the)-Bent Jon Kuflung gave
grið öllum Birkibeinum þeim, er handteknir váru, ok sagði, at
truce to-all Birchlegs those who captured were and said that
þeir skyldu vera hans menn. Kuflungr gaf þeim upp eiðana, ok
they should be his men Kuflung gave them up the-oaths and
sagði þá mundu vera svá góða drengi, at þeir mundu eigi verr
said them would be so good fellows that they would not worse
halda orð sín en eiða. Þegar um kveldit géngu Birkibeinar
keep words their than oaths As-soon-as in the-evening went (the)-Birchlegs
með vápn sín tveir eða þrír saman, stundum fim eða sex eða
with weapons their two or three together sometimes five or six or
enn nökkuru fleiri, upp til borgar á fund Sverris konungs,
still somewhat more up to (the)-fort to meeting of-Sverrir king
ok at morni váru þeir allir brautu frá Kuflungum, ok sögðu
and at morning were they all away from (the)-Kuflungs and told
konungi, hversu orðit var. Konungr sagði hann ekki mundu
to-(the)-king how become was (The)-king said him not would
kunna at vera höfðingja, lét þat sýnt hafa í þessu. Kuflungar
know to be chieftain said that shown have in this (The)-Kuflungs
tóku þar öll skip Sverris konungs, ok höfðu sum braut með sér,
took there all ships of-Sverrir king and had some away with them

en sum brendu þeir. Á einni nótt fóru þeir braut or bœnum,
but some burned they On one night went they away out-of the-town
er myrkt var orðit. Konungr sat þessa stund alla í borginni
when dark was become (The)-king sat this while all in the-fort
ok þóttist eigi hafa lið til at berjast við þá. Kuflungar
and thought-himself not have troop to to fight with them (The)-Kuflungs
fóru þá suðr til Björgynjar, en Sverrir konungr sat eptir.
went then south to Bjorgvin but Sverrir king sat after

Frá Kuflungum ok Birkibeinum

XCVII · OF THE KUFLUNGAR AND THE BIRKIBEINAR

The Kuflungar came north again, and Blakkr made a verse urging the Birkibeinar on. A storm scattered their cutters off Staðr, and Sverrir fell on five in Angr, though their crews escaped ashore. Úlfr of Laufnes and Híði fell on twenty Kuflung cutters at Hrott by night; thinking the king had come, they fled, losing two crews to the last man, and Blakkr made another verse.

Um várit fóru Kuflungar norðr til kaupangs ok lágu
In the-spring went (the)-Kuflungs north to (the)-market-town and lay
þeir við Hólm nökkurar nætr, fóru síðan aptr til Björgynjar.
they by Holm some nights went then back to Bjorgvin
Þat sama sumar fór enn norðr Jón kuflungr með mörgum
That same summer went still north Jon Kuflung with many

skútum ok ætlaði at koma á úvart Sverri konungi, en
cutters and intended to come at unawares on-Sverrir king but
konungr fór norðan á mót með miklu liði. Þá kvað Blakkr:
(the)-king went from-north on against with great troop Then recited Blakk

Reisum vé fyrir vísa,
Let-us-raise standard before (the)-ruler
verum þungir Kuflungum,
let-us-be heavy to-(the)-Kuflungs
látum brýndan hjör bíta,
let-us-let whetted sword bite
bolum tafn und kló hrafni;
let-us-heap prey under claw to-(the)-raven
stökkum fjánda flokki,
let-us-scatter of-fiends band
friðum land jöfurs brandi,
let-us-pacify land of-prince with-sword
rjóðum dörr í dreyra,
let-us-redden spears in blood
drepum meira hlut þeira.
let-us-kill greater part of-them

Skútur Kuflunga skildust um nótt fyrir Staði í ofviðri.
Cutters of-(the)-Kuflungs parted in night off Stad in storm
Kuflungar kómu fim skútum norðr í Angr. Þá kom Sverrir
(The)-Kuflungs came with-five cutters north into Angr Then came Sverrir
konungr at þeim með mörgum stórum skipum ok drap af þeim
king at them with many great ships and killed of them
nökkura menn, en Kuflungar kómust af hlaupi undan. Litlu
some men but (the)-Kuflungs got by running away Little
síðar kómu Kuflungar enn til Jóns ok fóru suðr til Björgynjar
later came (the)-Kuflungs still to Jon and went south to Bjorgvin

ok dvöldust þar litla hríð, ok fóru austr undan Sverri konungi,
and stayed there little while and went east away-from Sverrir king
en hann fór suðr til Björgynjar. Hann sendi austr á njósn Úlf
but he went south to Bjorgvin He sent east on spying Ulf
af Laufnesi ok Híða bróður sinn með 6 skipum. Þeir kómu
of Laufnes and Hidi brother his with 6 ships They came
um nótt suðr í Hrott, þar lágu Kuflungar fyrir 20 skútum,
in night south into Hrott there lay (the)-Kuflungs with 20 cutters
þeir Úlfr reru at þeim ok œptu þegar heróp. Kuflungar
they Ulf rowed at them and shouted at-once war-cry (The)-Kuflungs
ætluðu þar kominn konung, ok tóku þegar undan. Þeir Úlfr
thought there come (the)-king and took at-once away They Ulf
tóku af þeim tvær skútur ok drápu af hvert mannsbarn.
took from them two cutters and killed of each man's-child
Þar stýrðu þeir Erlendr Guðbrandsson ok Páll várskinn.
There steered they Erlend Gudbrand's-son and Pal Spring-Skin
En lið Kuflunga fór sér hvat. Kuflungr fór einskipa
But troop of-(the)-Kuflungs went for-itself what Kuflung went single-shipped
langa hríð, áðr liðit kom til hans. Þá kvað Blakkr vísu:
long while before the-troop came to him Then recited Blakk a-verse

Öld man hitt at hœldusk,
Men will-remember that that boasted
hvatir guldut þess skatnar
bold paid-not for-it men
fyrr or flokki þeira,
earlier out-of band their
foraðstungur Kuflunga.
monster-tongues of-(the)-Kuflungs

Nú kná bergs í björgum,
Now can of-rock in rocks
búk reiðir lá sjúkan,
body carries sea sick
mettr var hrafn í Hrotti,
sated was raven in Hrott
hóts annan veg þjóta.
of-threat other way rush

Um vanmátt erkibyskups ok sætt þeira konunga

XCVIII · THE ARCHBISHOP'S ILLNESS AND THE RECONCILIATION

Dying, Archbishop Eysteinn sent for Sverrir; they went over their quarrels and forgave each other everything, and he died after Saint Paul's day. Sverrir later said from the choir that Eysteinn had admitted opposing him more than was right before God, though other ties had bound him to Magnús.

Eptir um vetrinn urðu mikil tíðindi í Þrándheimi. Eysteinn
After in the-winter became great tidings in Thrandheim Eystein
erkibyskup fékk mikil vanheilendi þegar um haustit ok lá
archbishop got great illness at-once in the-autumn and lay
um vetrinn, til þess er leið jól. Ok þá er at leið mætti
over the-winter till that when passed Yule And then when to passed (the)-strength
erkibyskups, þá gerði hann orð Sverri konungi, at hann
of-(the)-archbishop then sent he word to-Sverrir king that he
kœmi til hans, ok svá gerði hann, ok rœddu þeir sín á
came to him and so did he and talked they themselves in
milli marga hluti, er fyrr höfðu verit í þeira skiptum, ok
between many things which before had been in their dealings and

at skilnaði bað erkibyskup, at konungr skyldi fyrirgefa honum
at parting bade (the)-archbishop that (the)-king should forgive him
alt, þat sem hann hefði oftekit við konung, ok sættust þeir
all that which he had overdone with (the)-king and reconciled they
með öllu, ok fyrirgaf hvárr öðrum alla þá hluti, er þeira
with all and forgave each to-other all those things which them
höfðu millum verit. Erkibyskup andaðist um nóttina næstu
had between been (The)-archbishop died in the-night next
eptir Pálsmessu, ok var búinn gröptr hans í skrúðhúsinu í
after Paul's-mass and was prepared grave his in the-vestry in
Kristskirkju. Nökkuru síðar talaði Sverrir konungr á kór uppi
Christ's-church Somewhat later talked Sverrir king in choir up
ok sagði, hversu farit hafði tal þeira erkibyskups hit síðarsta
and told how gone had talk of-those archbishop the last
sinn, ok svá þat, at hann hefði því jáð, at hann hefði
time and so that that he had to-that agreed that he had
meira af tekit um mótgang við Sverri, en svá at hann
more from taken about opposition with Sverrir than so that he
vissi, at þat væri guðréttligt, ok eigi hefði síðr aðrir hlutir til
knew that that were God-right and not had less other things to
þess borit, er hann þœttist eigi mega frá skiljast liðveizlu
that borne which he thought-himself not may from part help
við Magnús konung. Kuflungar sátu þann vetr í Víkinni.
with Magnus king (The)-Kuflungs sat that winter in the-Vik

Frá Birkibeinum ok Kuflungum

XCIX · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR AND THE KUFLUNGAR

At Björgvin the bishops chose Eiríkr of Stafangr as archbishop over Sverrir's doubts. At Túnsberg the Kuflungar, holding the rock, attacked Sverrir's five ships at the wharves by night, then fled overland to Niðaróss, where they killed Ívarr Klemetsson, broke into the fort, and had Jón given the king's name at the Eyraþing.

Eptir um várit fór Sverrir konungr suðr til Björgynjar við
After in the-spring went Sverrir king south to Bjorgvin with
öllu liði sínu, ok dvaldist þar lengi um sumarit. Var þar þá
all troop his and stayed there long in the-summer Was there then
byskupa fundr ok annarra höfðingja. Var þar þá rætt um
bishops' meeting and of-other chieftains Was there then talked about
erkibyskups kosning, ok var mest til nefndr Eiríkr byskup
archbishop's election and was most to named Eirik bishop
af Stafangri, fyrir því at Eysteinn erkibyskup hafði helzt
of Stavanger for that that Eystein archbishop had most
hann til nefnt. Sverrir konungr mælti heldr á móti ok fann
him to named Sverrir king spoke rather on against and found
til þess nökkura hluti, en þat varð um síðir, at Eiríkr var
to that some things but that became at last that Eirik was
kosinn, ok fór hann hit sama sumar or landi. Sverrir
chosen and went he the same summer out-of (the)-land Sverrir
konungr fór með liðinu austr til Víkr, hann lét eitt skip
king went with the-troop east to (the)-Vik he lost one ship
í ferð þeiri, sigldu upp á Ögðum á sker, ok braut þar.
in journey that sailed up at Agdir onto a-skerry and broke there
Konungr lét brenna skipit, þat kölluðu þeir Hreininn. Fóru
(The)-king let burn the-ship it called they the-Reindeer Went
þeir síðan leið sína. Kuflungar váru í Túnsbergi ok höfðu
they then way their (The)-Kuflungs were in Tunsberg and had

mikinn her. Kuflungar lágu skipum sínum við Hrafnabjörg
great host (The)-Kuflungs lay with-ships their by Hrafnabjorg
ok höfðu 16 skip. Sverrir konungr lagði sínum skipum út við
and had 16 ships Sverrir king laid with-his ships out by
eyna við Smjörberg. Hann lét fara 5 skip inn til bœjarins,
the-island by Smjorberg He let go 5 ships in to the-town
ok lágu þeir við bryggjur. Konungr hafði alls á fjórða tigi
and lay they by (the)-wharves (The)-king had in-all in fourth ten
skipa. Þeir lágu svá þrjár nætr. Vildi konungr fyrir því eigi
of-ships They lay so three nights Wished (the)-king for that not
at leggja, at Kuflungar höfðu her mikinn uppi á berginu,
to lay that (the)-Kuflungs had host great up on the-cliff
ok þótti honum þat úráðligt at leggja skip sín undir stórt
and seemed to-him that unadvisable to lay ships his under great
grjót, ef þeir bæri á þá. Eigi treystust Kuflungar ok at
stones if they bore on them Not trusted-themselves (the)-Kuflungs also to
honum leggja. Á hinni fjórðu nótt lögðu Kuflungar inn at
him lay On the fourth night laid (the)-Kuflungs in to
bryggjunum hljóðliga, þar sem Birkibeinar lágu fyrir fim
the-wharves quietly there where (the)-Birchlegs lay before with-five
skipum, en svá var myrkt, at eigi sá hvárir aðra, fyrr
ships but so was dark that not saw each other earlier
en skipin rendu at þeim ok á þá, er fyrir lágu, tókst
than the-ships ran at them and on those who before lay began
þar þegar bardagi mikill. Ok er Sverrir konungr varð varr
there at-once battle great And when Sverrir king became aware
við, at þeir börðust, ætlaði hann, at menn hans mundu
with that they fought thought he that men his would
vera illa staddir, lögðu til sem harðast. En Kuflungar vildu
be ill placed laid to as hardest But (the)-Kuflungs wished
eigi þeira bíða ok géngu á land upp; lágu þar menn
not them await and went onto land up lay there men

eptir af hvárumtveggjum. Kuflungar fóru þá landveg norðr
after of both (The)-Kuflungs went then land-way north
til kaupangs ok kómu þar litlu fyrir Mikjálsmessu. Þar
to (the)-market-town and came there little before Michaelmas There
var fyrir í bœnum Ívarr Klemetsson með skipsögn sína
was before in the-town Ivar Klemet's-son with ship's-crew his
nær 80 manna. Var þar blásit fyrir öllu liðinu í bœnum
near 80 men Was there blown for all the-troop in the-town
liðsmönnum ok bœjarmönnum út til borgar. Kuflungar höfðu
to-troopers and townsmen out to (the)-fort (The)-Kuflungs had
átta hundruð manna ok sóttu borgina, en bœjarmenn vörðu.
eight hundred men and attacked the-fort but (the)-townsmen defended
Kuflungar hjoggu upp borgina, ok er þeir kómu inn, flýðu
(The)-Kuflungs hewed up the-fort and when they came in fled
bœjarmenn. Þar féll Ívarr Klemetsson ok nær öll sveit
(the)-townsmen There fell Ivar Klemet's-son and near all company
hans, en Kuflungar tóku bœinn. Eptir þat var þing átt
his but (the)-Kuflungs took the-town After that was an-assembly held
út á Eyrum, ok gaf Björn Erlingsson Jóni konungsnafn.
out on Eyrar and gave Bjorn Erling's-son to-Jon king's-name

Frá Þorsteini kúgað

C · OF ÞORSTEINN KÚGAÐR

Threatening to hang Sverrir's uncle Nikulás sultan, the Kuflungar made Þorsteinn kúgaðr give up the fort on Steinbjörg, plundered it, and fined the town. Before Christmas Sverrir's fleet surprised them at Björgvin and Jón kuflungr fell aboard his ship. Sverrir refused to fight leaderless men, and had a man named Pétr identify the body by a scar as his son Ormr, so that no king's blood could be claimed.

Þorsteinn kúgaðr gætti borgarinnar, ok féngu Kuflungar
Thorstein (the)-Cowed guarded the-fort and got (the)-Kuflungs
þar ekki at gert. Þá tóku þeir í Kristskirkju Nikulás
there nothing to done Then took they in Christ's-church Nikulas
sultan móðurbróður Sverris konungs ok fluttu hann upp til
Sultan mother's-brother of-Sverrir king and moved him up to
borgar, ok reistu þar gálga ok sögðust þar skyldu hann
(the)-fort and raised there a-gallows and said-themselves there should him
hengja, en þessu veldr þú, Þorsteinn, sögðu þeir, en Nikulás
hang but this cause you Thorstein said they but Nikulas
skal hafa grið, ef þú gefr upp borgina, ok allir þér; en
shall have truce if you give up the-fort and all you but
ef þér haldit borgina, þá er þat bani Nikulás, ok fyrir þat
if you hold the-fort then is that death of-Nikulas and for that
sama mun Sverrir láta yðr alla hanga, ok er þat vel, skulut
same will Sverrir let you all hang and is that well shall
þér ok þess eiga ván af oss, þegar vér megum við
you also of-that have expectation from us as-soon-as we may with
komast. Þorsteinn óttaðist nú ok hugði, at þeir mundi satt
come Thorstein feared now and thought that they would truth
segja, at hann mundi illa kominn, hvára sem hann hitti, ef
say that he would ill come whichever as he met if
Nikulás væri drepinn. Réð hann þat af at gefa upp borgina.
Nikulas were killed Decided he that off to give up the-fort
Kuflungar gáfu nú Þorsteini grið ok öllu fé hans, lífs grið
(The)-Kuflungs gave now to-Thorstein truce and all wealth his life's truce
höfðu allir borgarmenn. Kuflungar tóku fé alt ok brendu
had all fort-men (The)-Kuflungs took wealth all and burned
borgina ok brutu. Kuflungar tóku þar margar gersimar Sverris
the-fort and broke (The)-Kuflungs took there many treasures of-Sverrir
konungs, var þar mikit hlutskipti. Kuflungar lögðu gjald
king was there great booty (The)-Kuflungs laid payment

mikit á bœinn, sögðust ella skyldu brenna upp allan ok
great on the-town said-themselves else should burn up all and
launa svá bœjarmönnum samnað ok mótstöðu. Bœjarmenn
repay so to-the-townsmen gathering and resistance (The)-townsmen
greiddu heldr gjaldit. Kuflungar dvöldust þar litla hríð ok
paid rather the-payment (The)-Kuflungs stayed there little while and
réðu sér þar til skipa, en bœjarmenn báðu þá vel fara,
decided for-themselves there to ships but (the)-townsmen bade them well fare
en vildu þó heldr, at þeim fœrist illa. Kuflungar bjoggu
but wished yet rather that to-them went ill (The)-Kuflungs prepared
nú skjótt skúturnar, þvíat kom á þá nökkurr kurr, at lið
now quickly the-cutters because came on them some murmur that troop
mikit fœri utan um Gularás. Réru Kuflungar þá drífanda út
great went outside past Gularas Rowed (the)-Kuflungs then driving out
or ánni, báðu bœjarmenn þá aldri aptr koma. Kuflungar
out-of the-river bade (the)-townsmen them never back come (The)-Kuflungs
fóru út eptir firði ok heldr úspakliga, ræntu byrðinga,
went out along (the)-fjord and rather unpeaceably robbed cargo-ships
hvar sem þeir fundu. Þeir tóku kaupskip eitt Íslandsfar, þat
where as they found They took merchant-ship one Iceland-farer it
var kallat Stangarfolinn, þeir ræntu þat hverjum peningi. Þá
was called the-Stangarfoli they robbed it of-every penny Then
fóru þeir suðr til Björgynjar, ok kómu þar litlu fyrir jól.
went they south to Bjorgvin and came there little before Yule
Kuflungar höfðu þing í bœnum ok kröfðu bœjarmenn
(The)-Kuflungs had an-assembly in the-town and demanded of-townsmen
jólaveizlu. En þeir töldust undan, en Kuflungar hétu
Yule-feast But they excused-themselves off and (the)-Kuflungs promised
afarkostum á mót, ok stóð við þann gnerr nökkura daga.
hard-terms on against and stood with that bickering some days
Litlu fyrir jól var þat einn myrgin í lýsing, at 14 langskip
Little before Yule was it one morning in dawning that 14 longships

ok heldr stór sigldu sunnan frá Hvarfnesi til bœjarins.
and rather great sailed from-south from Hvarfnes to the-town
Kuflungar urðu varir við þetta ok hljópu til vápna sinna,
(The)-Kuflungs became aware with this and ran to weapons their
ok nær allir upp or bœnum eða inn um Ólafskirkju. Jón
and near all up out-of the-town or in past Olaf's-church Jon
kuflungr lét blása liðinu til skipanna, hljóp hann á sitt
Kuflung let blow the-troop to the-ships ran he onto his
skip með sína sveit, sneru þeir þá yfir til Munkabryggju
ship with his company turned they then over to Munkabryggja
ok róa þar upp á sker, ok festi þar skipit á. Í því
and row there up onto a-skerry and fastened there the-ship on In that
bili renna skip Birkibeina at þeim, hlaupa Kuflungar fyrir
moment run ships of-(the)-Birchlegs at them leap (the)-Kuflungs over
borð ok svima til lands, en sumir týnast. Jón kuflungr féll
board and swim to land but some perish Jon Kuflung fell
á skipi sínu ok einn maðr með honum. Flettu Birkibeinar
on ship his and one man with him Stripped (the)-Birchlegs
lík þeira. En er Sverrir konungr varð varr við þessi
bodies their But when Sverrir king became aware with these
tíðindi, lét hann flytja líkin yfir til bœjarins ok lét bera
tidings let he move the-bodies over to the-town and let bear
upp til Maríukirkju ok leggja niðr undir suðrvegginn, lét
up to Mary's-church and lay down under the-south-wall let
breiða yfir vaðmál. Kuflungar fylktu inn við Ólafskirkju ok
spread over homespun (The)-Kuflungs arrayed in by Olaf's-church and
œptu á Birkibeina ok eggjuðu þá at berjast. Konungrinn
shouted at (the)-Birchlegs and urged them to fight The-king
bað sína menn ekki hirða um, hvat þeir segði, ok kvezt
bade his men not heed about what they said and said-himself
eigi vildu berjast við höfuðlausa menn, segit at höfðingi
not wished fight with headless men say that chieftain

þeira liggi hér undir Maríukirkju, ok skildust þeir illa við
their lies here under Mary's-church and parted they ill with
hann, var ok eigi góðs höfðingja at gæta. Kuflungar fóru
him was also not of-good chieftain to guard (The)-Kuflungs went
þá á braut at sinni. Sá maðr var þar í bœnum, er
then on away at the-time That man was there in the-town who
Pétr hét, er Birkibeinar kölluðu föður þess manns, er
Petr was-called whom (the)-Birchlegs called father of-that man who
Ormr hét, en Ástríði steig móður hans, ok þann sama
Orm was-called but Astrid Steig mother his and that same
Orm sögðu Birkibeinar at Kuflungar hefði kallat konung
Orm said (the)-Birchlegs that (the)-Kuflungs had called king
sinn Jón Ingason, ok sá sami Ormr lægi þar nú undir
their Jon Ingi's-son and that same Orm lay there now under
kirkjuveggnum. Báðu menn þá Pétr til ganga ok kenna, ok
the-church-wall Bade men then Petr to go and recognize and
segja áðr nökkur mörk á, en hann sæi líkit. Pétr sagði
say before some marks on than he saw the-body Petr said
þat til marka, ef hann væri hans son, at sveinninn hljóp á
that to marks if he were his son that the-boy ran onto
ljá ok skeindist mjök undir ilinni á hœgra fœti, nú er þat
scythe and was-cut much under the-sole on right foot now is that
víst, ef þat finnst eigi hér á, þá er hann eigi minn son, en
certain if that is-found not here on then is he not my son but
ef þat hittist, þá mun ek eigi við dyljast. Þá var dregin af
if that is-met then will I not with hide Then was drawn off
hosa líkinu, ok lézt Pétr þar kenna þat mark, er á
hose from-the-body and said-himself Petr there recognize that mark which on
hans syni hafði verit. Sverrir lýsti því fyrir bœjarmönnum
his son had been Sverrir declared that before townsmen
ok svá sínum mönnum, at Pétr kendi þar lík sonar
and so his men that Petr recognized there (the)-body of-son

síns, ok mun yðr bœjarmönnum vera þat kunnigt, sagði
his and will to-you townsmen be that known said
hann, hvárt Pétr ok þau Ástríðr eigu nökkura ætt til
he whether Petr and they Astrid have some lineage to
þess, at son þeira væri konungr yfir Noregi. Var þá jarðat
that that son their were king over Norway Was then buried
lík Kuflungs at Maríukirkju. Þá varð þat fyrsta sinni,
(the)-body of-Kuflung at Mary's-church Then became that (the)-first time
at Sverrir konungr kom svá til Björgynjar, at allr lýðr
that Sverrir king came so to Bjorgvin that all people
varð feginn, ok var nú Sverrir einn konungr yfir Noregi.
became glad and was now Sverrir sole king over Norway

Frá Sigurði brenni

CI · OF SIGURÐR BRENNIR

A band in the Markir under Sigurðr brennir, who claimed to be King Ingi's son, was trapped by farmers in a house. As his men fell, he told them they could boast to Sverrir of killing Ingi's son, but that he was Heðinn, son of Þorgrímr the horse-priest, an Icelander; he died bravely.

Austr á Mörkum var flokkr, sá er hlaupit hafði ofan í
East in (the)-Marches was a-band that which run had down into
Víkina ok gert þar mart ilt, drepit menn en rænt suma. Þar
the-Vik and done there much evil killed men and robbed some There
var sá maðr fyrir, er nefndr er Sigurðr brennir son Inga
was that man over who named is Sigurd Burner son of-Ingi
konungs Haraldssonar. Sigurðr brennir hafði fundit Jón kuflung
king Harald's-son Sigurd Burner had met Jon Kuflung
ok hafði hann tekit við frændsemi hans ok bauð honum til
and had he taken with kinship his and invited him to

sín. En Sigurði þótti þat lítilræði, ok vildi heldr fara við
himself But to-Sigurd seemed that small-matter and wished rather go with
sínum mönnum, hafði hann þrjú hundruð manna. Um sumarit
his men had he three hundred men In the-summer
eptir fall Jóns kuflungs fóru bœndr at Sigurði brenni ok
after (the)-fall of-Jon Kuflung went farmers at Sigurd Burner and
tóku hús á honum ok sóttu hann í stofu nökkurri. Þeir
took house on him and attacked him in room some They
vörðust karlmannliga, ok þá er menninir váru nær allir
defended-themselves manfully and then when the-men were near all
fallnir, þá kallaði Sigurðr brennir ok bað þá bœndr hlýða
fallen then called Sigurd Burner and bade those farmers listen
sér. En er hann fékk hljóð, mælti hann: Nú mun erendi
to-him But when he got hearing spoke he Now will errand
yðart verða slíkt hingat, sem þér vilit, munut þér segja Sverri
your become such hither as you wish will you tell to-Sverrir
konungi, at þér hafit feldan Sigurð brenni son Inga konungs.
king that you have felled Sigurd Burner son of-Ingi king
En þetta er miklu minni frásagnar vert, en þér hyggit, því
But this is much less of-telling worth than you think because
at ek heiti Heðinn, ok em ek son Þorgríms hrossaprests,
that I am-called Hedin and am I son of-Thorgrim Horse-Priest
íslenzkr maðr at allri ætt. Sóttu þeir þá at honum ok
Icelandic man in all lineage Attacked they then at him and
feldu hann, ok kalla menn, at maðrinn væri allhraustr.
felled him and call men that the-man were very-valiant

Frá Eiríki erkibyskupi

CII · OF ARCHBISHOP EIRÍKR

Archbishop Eiríkr came home to his see. The queen won Sverrir's consent for Nikulás Árnason, his former enemy, to become a bishop; Sverrir agreed but said they would both soon regret it. Nikulás took the see of Osló.

Um sumarit eptir fall Kuflungs kom Eiríkr erkibyskup í
In the-summer after (the)-fall of-Kuflung came Eirik archbishop into
land, fór hann norðr í Niðarós til stólsins. Þat sumar
(the)-land went he north into Nidaros to the-see That summer
andaðist Hávarðr jarlsson. Þat var kosning allra manna at
died Havard earl's-son That was choice of-all men to
velja til byskups í Stafangri Nikulás Árnason á Stoðreimi
choose to bishop in Stavanger Nikulas Arni's-son at Stodreim
konungsbróður. Konungr mælti á móti, en þá er Nikulás
king's-brother (The)-king spoke on against but then when Nikulas
varð þessa varr, þá sendir hann bréf Margrétu dróttningu,
became of-this aware then sends he letter to-Margaret queen
ok var þar mart talat fagrliga ok vingjarnliga til konungs
and was there much talked fairly and friendly to (the)-king
ok svá til hennar, ok talit frændsemi við hana. Dróttningin
and so to her and counted kinship with her The-queen
flytr þetta mál fyrir konungi, at hann leggi lof til,
brings this matter before (the)-king that he lay permission to
at Nikulás væri vígðr til byskups. Konungr kvezt þess
that Nikulas were consecrated to bishop (The)-king said-himself of-that
vera úfúss at gera hann at meira manni, en þá var hann,
be unwilling to make him to greater man than then was he
lézt þess ván þykkja, ef hann fengi nökkut ríki í Noregi,
said-himself of-that likely seem if he got some power in Norway

at hann mundi hafa hinn sama hug til hans, ok ekki mundi
that he would have the same mind to him and not would
trúleikr hans vaxa við hann, þótt hann fengi nafn hæra, en
loyalty his grow with him though he got name higher than
þá hafði hann. Dróttningin sagði, hversu mikit Nikulás hafði
then had he The-queen said how much Nikulas had
látit fyrir þeim Birkibeinum, ok sagði honum nú svá mega
lost for those Birchlegs and said to-him now so may
mest bœta, at gera hann tiginn mann innan lands, sagði hann
most amend to make him noble man within land said him
engan útrúleika mundu gera, ef hann legði vápn sín ok
no disloyalty would do if he laid-down weapons his and
gerðist kennimaðr. Konungr kvezt mundu veita henni þetta;
became cleric (The)-king said-himself would grant to-her this
en þess væni ek, at eigi muni héðan langt líða, áðr bæði
but of-that expect I that not will hence long pass before both
vit munum þessa iðrast ok margir aðrir. Eptir þat féngust
we-two will this regret and many others After that were-got
bréf konungs, at Nikulás væri vígðr til byskups, ok var svá
letters of-(the)-king that Nikulas were consecrated to bishop and was so
gert. Í þann tíma andaðist byskupinn í Osló, fór þá Nikulás
done In that time died the-bishop in Oslo went then Nikulas
þangat til stóls, en þá var vígðr Njáll byskup til Stafangrs.
thither to see but then was consecrated Njal bishop to Stavanger

Frá Eiríki erkibyskupi

CIII · OF ARCHBISHOP EIRÍKR

Archbishop Eiríkr preached harshly against the Birkibeinar. Sverrir demanded the old law between king and church, saying Erlingr had bought his son's crowning by letting Archbishop Eysteinn take unlawful fines from the farmers; Eiríkr answered that God's right should only grow.

Þá er Eiríkr kom til stóls í Niðarós, tóku kórsbrœðr vel
Then when Eirik came to (the)-see in Nidaros took (the)-canons well
við honum. En hann talaði á kór, þá er hann predikaði,
with him But he talked in (the)-choir then when he preached
ok mælti hörðum orðum til Birkibeina, lagðist þegar úmjúkt
and spoke with-hard words to (the)-Birchlegs lay-itself at-once unsoftly
með þeim. Urðu þegar margar greinir millum konungs ok
between them Became at-once many disputes between (the)-king and
erkibyskups, þvíat Magnús konungr hafði standa látit, meðan
(the)-archbishop because Magnus king had stand let while
hann réð ríkinu, þat alt, er Eysteinn erkibyskup hafði
he ruled the-realm that all which Eystein archbishop had
á komit við bœndr um sakeyri, sem fyrr var ritat. Sverrir
on brought with farmers about fines as earlier was written Sverrir
konungr beiddist, at standa skyldi allr hinn forni lagaréttr
king asked that stand should all the old law-right
millum konungs ok erkibyskups, en sagði Erling skakka ekki
between (the)-king and (the)-archbishop but said Erling Crooked not
mann til at brjóta lög hins helga Ólafs konungs, til þess
a-man to to break (the)-laws of-the holy Olaf king to that
at son hans væri vígðr til konungs, er eigi var at réttu
that son his were consecrated to king who not was by right
tilkominn, fyrir því at aldri fyrr hafði verit í Noregi, at sá
come-to for that that never before had been in Norway that he

væri konungr, er eigi var konungsson. Var þat kaup þeira,
were king who not was king's-son Was that bargain their
sagði konungr, Eysteins erkibyskups ok Erlings, at erkibyskup
said (the)-king of-Eystein archbishop and of-Erling that (the)-archbishop
skyldi vígja son hans til konungs, enda skyldi hann þá
should consecrate son his to king and should he then
fara fram þeim úlögum við bœndr, sem honum líkaði, ok
go forward with-those unlaws with farmers as to-him pleased and
lízt mér, sem hvárki muni þat gert at guðs lögum né lands
seems to-me as neither will that done by God's laws nor land's
lögum hér í landi. En ef þér, byskup, vilit miklu auka
laws here in land But if you bishop will much increase
yðarn rétt, þá viljum vér auka jafnmiklu konungsréttinn, ok
your right then will we increase equally-much the-king's-right and
ábyrgizt þér þá við guð ok allan landslýðinn, hversu réttliga
answer you then before God and all the-land-people how rightly
þá ferr stjórnin í landinu. Erkibyskup neitaði því ok
then goes the-government in the-land (The)-archbishop refused that and
sagði, at guðs réttr ætti jafnan at vaxa en aldri at þverra,
said that God's right should always to grow but never to wane
en þér, herra, sagði hann, hafit þau lög, sem þér hafit svarit
but you lord said he have those laws which you have sworn
til, ok ábyrgizt þér þat sjálfir, hvárt þér haldit þat eða
to and answer you that yourselves whether you keep that or
eigi, fyrir því at aldri hefir aukizt auralag á konungsrétti.
not for that that never has increased payment-scale in (the)-king's-right

Frá Eiríki konungsbróður

CIV · OF PRINCE EIRÍKR

Refused more than a landed man's rank, Sverrir's brother Eiríkr ran short of money and went raiding in the Baltic with five ships, plundering Estonia and two German cogs at Gotland, and returned with eleven ships the autumn the Kuflungar rose.

Eptir fall Magnús konungs leitaði Eiríkr konungsson
After (the)-fall of-Magnus king sought Eirik king's-son
við Sverri konung bróður sinn, ef hann vildi veita honum
with Sverrir king brother his if he wished give to-him
nafnbót meiri eða veita honum nökkut af ríki. Konungr
title-of-honor greater or give to-him some of realm (The)-king
bað hann vera innan hirðar ok hafa nafnbót sem lendir
bade him be within (the)-bodyguard and have title-of-honor as landed
menn ok vera þó mest metinn af þeim. Eiríki hugnaði þat
men and be yet most esteemed of them To-Eirik pleased that
lítt, ok stóð þá svá við um hríð. En með því at Eiríkr hélt
little and stood then so with for a-while But with that that Eirik kept
sveit mikla en hafði veizlur litlar, varð honum féfátt.
company great but had revenues small became to-him short-of-wealth
Ok vetri síðar bjóst hann or landi, hann hafði fim
And a-winter later prepared-himself he out-of (the)-land he had five
skip. Til þeirar ferðar rézt mart liðsmanna með honum, stýrði
ships To that journey joined many troopers with him steered
skipi Özurr prestr, öðru Þjóðólfr pík, Hermundr kváða
a-ship Ozur priest (the)-second Thjodolf Pik Hermund Kvada
hinu þriðja. Þeir héldu um sumarit í Austrveg ok herjuðu
the third They held in the-summer into (the)-East-Way and harried
um Eistland þar sem í Víkum heitir, féngu þar fé mikit,
about Estonia there where in Vikar is-called got there wealth great

ok sneru síðan undir Gotland, urðu þar missáttir við Saxa
and turned then under Gotland became there at-odds with Saxons
ok unnu af þeim kugga tvá, ok tóku þar úgrynni fjár, fóru
and won from them cogs two and took there countless wealth went
síðan til Svíþjóðar ok hittu þar Knút konung, gaf konungr
then to Sweden and met there Knut king gave (the)-king
Eiríki langskip at skilnaði. Fóru þeir aptr heldr úspakliga
to-Eirik a-longship at parting Went they back rather unpeaceably
bæði um Danmörk ok um Svíþjóð, kómu aptr um haustit
both through Denmark and through Sweden came back in the-autumn
ok höfðu þá 11 skip. Þat sama haust hófust Kuflungar.
and had then 11 ships That same autumn rose (the)-Kuflungs

Eiríki gefit lén ok jarlsnafn

CV · EIRÍKR GIVEN A FIEF AND THE EARL'S NAME

In the autumn of Hrafnabjörg, while in the Vík, Sverrir gave Eiríkr the land from Svínasund north to Rygjarbit with all the Uplands and the title of earl; Eiríkr took a bodyguard and became a great and good chieftain. His wife was Ása.

Hrafnabjarga haust, þá er Sverrir konungr var í Víkinni,
Hrafnabjorg's autumn then when Sverrir king was in the-Vik
skipti hann landi við Eirík bróður sinn ok gaf honum land
divided he land with Eirik brother his and gave to-him land
austan frá Svínasundi ok norðr til Rygjarbits, ok þar með
from-east from Svinasund and north to Rygjarbit and there with
öll Upplönd, hann gaf honum ok jarls nafn. Eptir þat
all (the)-Upplands he gave to-him also earl's name After that

fékk Eiríkr sér hirð ok gerðist mikill höfðingi ok
got Eirik for-himself bodyguard and became great chieftain and
góðr. Ása hét kona hans.
good Asa was-called wife his

Upphaf Varbelgja

CVI · THE RISE OF THE VARBELGIR

Former Kuflung chiefs joined Símun Kárason, who had a son of King Magnús with him, in Denmark and raided the Vík with sixteen ships. This band, called the Varbelgir, dared not attack Túnsberg; the townsmen pursued them and won at Bristeinn, Símun falling, and found the band's boy king hidden beneath the deck and killed him.

Símun Kárason ok Ölvir af Goðranni ok þeir sveitarhöfðingjar,
Simun Kari's-son and Olvir of Godrann and those company-leaders
er verit höfðu með Kuflungum, höfðu farit suðr til
who been had with (the)-Kuflungs had gone south to
Danmarkar, en sumir austr á Markir, ok dvöldust þar austr
Denmark but some east to (the)-Marches and stayed there east
eptir um sumarit. En þann vetr eptir, er á leið, sóttu þeir
after in the-summer But that winter after when on passed pressed they
í Danmörk ok hittu þar Símun Kárason. Hann hafði þar
into Denmark and met there Simun Kari's-son He had there
með sér son Magnús konungs Erlingssonar. Hófu þeir þar
with him a-son of-Magnus king Erling's-son Raised they there
flokk ok féngu fjölment, fóru um várit norðr í Víkina ok
a-band and got many-men went in the-spring north into the-Vik and
höfðu 16 skip, fóru úspakliga, ræntu bœndr ok kaupmenn,
had 16 ships went unpeaceably robbed farmers and merchants
fóru austan um Víkina. Þá sigldu þeir út yfir Foldina ok
went from-east about the-Vik Then sailed they out over the-Fold and

norðr á Agðir ok ræntu þar, sóttu svá inn til Túnsbergs.
north to Agdir and robbed there pressed so in to Tunsberg
Eiríkr jarl var uppi á landi, ok ekki var í Víkinni mart
Eirik earl was up on land and not was in the-Vik many
Birkibeina. Túnsbergsmenn samnast saman ok ætla at verja
Birchlegs (The)-Tunsberg-men gather together and intend to defend
bœinn, höfðu þeir skip fyrir bryggjum, bæði langskip ok
the-town had they ships before (the)-wharves both longships and
byrðinga, ok skipta þar liði á millum skipanna. Þenna flokk
cargo-ships and divide there troop in between the-ships This band
kölluðu menn Varbelgi. Þeir Símun treystast þar eigi at at
called men Varbelgs They Simun trusted-themselves there not to at
leggja ok snúa aptr yfir Foldina. Túnsbergsmenn snúa nú eptir
lay and turn back over the-Fold (The)-Tunsberg-men turn now after
þeim Símuni, ok réðu þeir þar fyrir liði Þorlákr Úlfgestsson,
them Simun and ruled they there over troop Thorlak Ulfgest's-son
Úlfr svarti ok Ásleifr bóndi. Þeir Símun fara austr undan,
Ulf (the)-Black and Asleif farmer They Simun go east away
en Túnsbergsmenn fara eptir at leita þeira ok hitta þá suðr
but (the)-Tunsberg-men go after to seek them and meet them south
við Bristein, lögðu at þeim, ok varð þar mikill bardagi,
by Bristein laid at them and became there great battle
höfðu bœndr skip stœrri ok borðmeiri. Snýr nú á hendr
had (the)-farmers ships larger and higher-boarded Turns now on hands
þeim Varbelgjum mannfallinu, ok lauk með því, at Símun
to-those Varbelgs the-slaughter and ended with that that Simun
Kárason féll ok Ölvir af Goðranni ok flest alt lið þeira,
Kari's-son fell and Olvir of Godrann and most all troop their
svá at fátt eitt komst undan. Á skipi Símunar fundu þeir
so that few one got away On (the)-ship of-Simun found they
undir þiljum niðri (Vikar) konung Varbelgja fára vetra gamlan
under decks below (Vikar) king of-Varbelgs few winters old

ok drápu hann þegar. Féngu Túnsbergsmenn í þessi ferð
and killed him at-once Got (the)-Tunsberg-men in this journey
hinn mesta orðstír ok mikit fé, ok fóru aptr við svá búit.
the greatest renown and great wealth and went back with so done

Andlát Eiríks jarls ok Ásu konu hans

CVII · THE DEATHS OF EARL EIRÍKR AND HIS WIFE ÁSA

In the year the Varbelgir fell, Eiríkr took ill at Túnsberg, became a monk, and died; Ása died the same day and their son Magnús two nights later, and many thought wicked men had worked their deaths. Sverrir again held the whole realm; Ívarr selki died about then.

Á því sama ári, er Varbelgir féllu, fékk Eiríkr jarl sótt ok
In that same year when (the)-Varbelgs fell got Eirik earl sickness and
andaðist, þá var hann í Túnsbergi. Ok er sóttin dró at
died then was he in Tunsberg And when the-sickness drew at
honum, þá gaf hann sik til munklífis ok tók munkaklæði,
him then gave he himself to monastery and took monk's-clothes
áðr hann andaðist. Þann sama dag andaðist Ása kona hans, ok
before he died That same day died Asa wife his and
enn tveim nóttum síðar andaðist son þeira, er Magnús hét,
still two nights later died son their who Magnus was-called
ok var þar allmargrætt um þau tíðindi. Var þat margra manna
and was there very-much-weeping about those tidings Was that many men's
mál, at vándir menn mundi hafa gert þeim svik ok líflát. Tók
speech that wicked men would have done them treachery and death Took
Sverrir konungr þá enn ríki alt. Því nær andaðist Ívarr selki.
Sverrir king then again realm all Then near died Ivar Seal

Um Breiðskeggja

CVIII · OF BREIÐSKEGGR

A former monk, Þorleifr breiðskeggr, said to be wise and eloquent, who claimed to be Eysteinn Haraldsson's son by a cross-shaped scar on his back, led a small band in the Markir. Farmers surprised and killed him in a forest; when men called him a saint, the poet Blakkr mocked the candles said to burn on his grave.

Þat sama sumar, er Eiríkr jarl andaðist, hófst flokkr á
That same summer when Eirik earl died rose a-band in
Mörkum austr ok sá höfðingi, er kallaðr var Þorleifr
(the)-Marches east and that chieftain who called was Thorleif
breiðskeggr, ok væri son Eysteins Haraldssonar, ok þat til
Broad-Beard and were son of-Eystein Harald's-son and that to
jartegna, at á milli herða honum var örr gróit í kross.
tokens that in between shoulders to-him was scar grown in cross
Þeir kómu í Víkina ok fóru spakliga, keyptu sér mat.
They came into the-Vik and went peaceably bought for-themselves food
Þorleifr hafði verit munkr. Var þessi flokkr með litlum styrk.
Thorleif had been monk Was this band with little strength
Þeim varð brátt féfátt, váru þeir þá sumir í flokkinum,
To-them became soon short-of-wealth were they then some in the-band
er stálu. Þat þóttust spyrja margir menn, at Þorleifr
who stole That thought-themselves learn many men that Thorleif
væri maðr svá vitr, at honum kœmi ekki á úvart, svá þat
were man so wise that to-him came nothing at unawares so that
at líf hans væri líkara munkum en hermönnum, svá ok at
that life his were likelier to-monks than to-warriors so also that
hann væri svá snjallr í máli, at engi maðr mætti honum
he were so eloquent in speech that no man might with-him
reiðr vera, sá er heyrði. Þetta alt var þó hinn mesti hégómi,
angry be he who heard This all was yet the greatest vanity

at því sem síðan reyndist. Þessi flokkr var uppi á Mörkum
to that as since proved This band was up in (the)-Marches
um vetrinn. Annat sumar eptir fóru bœndr at þeim, þar
over the-winter (The)-second summer after went farmers at them there
sem þeir lágu í skógi nökkurum um nótt. Reyndist þá,
where they lay in forest some in night Proved then
at hvárki var um Breiðskegg, at hann vissi fyrir um
that neither was about Broad-Beard that he knew before about
atferðina, ok ekki mælti hann þat, at lífi hans væri at
the-attack and nothing spoke he that that life his were the
borgnara. Var hann þar drepinn ok nær öll sveit hans.
safer Was he there killed and near all company his
Eptir fall Breiðskeggs var því upplostit, at hann væri
After (the)-fall of-Broad-Beard was that broached that he were
heilagr, en Blakkr skáld mælti því á mót ok kvað þetta:
holy but Blakk skald spoke that on against and recited this

Björt kveða brenna kerti
Bright they-say burn candles
Breiðskeggs yfir leiði;
of-Broad-Beard over grave
ljóss veit ek at mun missa
of-light know I that will lack
meir höfðingi þeira.
more chieftain their
Vitum at vánir betri,
We-know that hopes better
vér hugðumk því, brugðusk
we thought this failed
* * *
(lacuna)

Blakkr orti ok erfidrápu um Breiðskegg, var þat stef í:
Blakk composed also memorial-poem about Broad-Beard was that refrain in

Hafði hér meðan lifði
Had here while lived
hvártveggja Breiðskeggi,
both-kinds to-Broad-Beard
nú er friðspillir fallinn,
now is peace-spoiler fallen
fæst gott ok dul hæsta.
least good and conceit highest

Um greinir með konungi ok erkibyskupi

CIX · OF THE QUARRELS BETWEEN THE KING AND THE ARCHBISHOP

Sverrir held to Saint Ólafr's laws and the archbishop to Gullfjöðr; when Sverrir outlawed his armed men, Archbishop Eiríkr fled to Denmark.

Nú í þenna tíma urðu margar greinir millum erkibyskups
Now in that time became many disputes between (the)-archbishop
ok Sverris konungs. Skaut konungrinn jafnan sínu máli til
and Sverrir king Referred the-king always his case to
landslaga, þeira er sett hafði hinn helgi Ólafr konungr, ok
land-laws those which set had the holy Olaf king and
til lögbókar þeirar, er kölluð er Grágás, er rita hafði látit
to law-book that which called is Gragas which written had let
Magnús konungr Ólafsson. Erkibyskup bauð fram þá lögbók,
Magnus king Olaf's-son (The)-archbishop offered forth that law-book
er Gullfjöðr hét, er rita lét Eysteinn erkibyskup, ok
which Gullfjodr was-called which written let Eystein archbishop and

þar með lög rúmversk. Sú var ein grein millum þeira, at
there with laws Roman That was one dispute between them that
þat váru forn lög ok vani, at konungr ok bœndr skyldu
that were old laws and custom that (the)-king and farmers should
láta gera kirkju á bœjum sínum ok með sínum kostnaði,
let make church on farms their and with their cost
ef þeir vildi, ok skyldu þeir sjálfir ráða fyrir þeim kirkjum
if they wished and should they themselves rule over those churches
ok ráða presta til; en erkibyskup lagði sín forræði á hverja
and engage priests to but (the)-archbishop laid his authority on each
kirkju, þegar vígð var, ok á öllum þeim er hann lofaði
church as-soon-as consecrated was and on all those which he allowed
söng at. Konungr beiddist þar laga af, en erkibyskup neitaði.
singing at (The)-king asked there of-law of but (the)-archbishop refused
Þá lét konungr lesa upp lögbók á þingi, ok stóð þat
Then let (the)-king read up law-book at (the)-assembly and stood that
á bókinni, at erkibyskup skyldi hafa við sér, er hann fœri
in the-book that (the)-archbishop should have with him when he went
í sýslu, 30 manna ok 12 skjöldu hvíta, sagði erkibyskup
on circuit 30 men and 12 shields white said (the)-archbishop
ekki þurfa hirð at hafa eða hermenn eða alskjaldat skip,
not need bodyguard to have or warriors or fully-shielded ship
ok hefir erkibyskup hér eigi minna yfirburð en svá, at
and has (the)-archbishop here not less superiority than so that
hann ferr með snekkju alskipaða ok á tíutigu manna eða
he goes with warship fully-manned and has ten-tens of-men or
meir, ok alt skjaldat; munum vér Birkibeinar reka minni til,
more and all shielded will we Birchlegs recall memory to
at oss þótti erkibyskups skip œrit harðskipat, er hann lét
that to-us seemed (the)-archbishop's ship quite hard-manned when he let
leggja at oss undir Hattarhamri. Svá var ok í Björgyn, þá
lay at us under Hattarhamar So was also in Bjorgvin then

er vér sóttum skipin, þá var erkibyskups sveit skjótari
when we attacked the-ships then was (the)-archbishop's company quicker
á móti oss með vápnum heldr en konungssveitin. Væri
on against us with weapons rather than the-king's-company Were
erkibyskupi betra at hafa enga hirð, hafa heldr menn
to-(the)-archbishop better to have no bodyguard have rather men
í grjótflutningu eða steintálgu ok veita upphald musterinu,
in stone-carrying or stone-cutting and give upkeep to-the-minster
svá sem áðr er til stofnat. Erkibyskup svaraði: Pávinn í
so as before is to founded (The)-archbishop answered (The)-Pope in
Róma setti mik forráðsmann yfir staðinn, er þat guðs fé
Rome set me steward over the-see is that God's wealth
ok heilagra manna. En satt er þat, herra, at fleiri dugandi
and of-holy men But true is that lord that more able
mönnum mun betra þykkja at vera með mér í friði en
men will better seem to be with me in peace than
með yðr í illgerðum, þvíat fáir ná nú kyrrsætinu. En þó
with you in evil-deeds because few get now quiet-sitting But though
at mínir menn hafi vápn góð, þá er þat þeira eign ok
that my men have weapons good then is that their property and
engum peningi rænt til. Nú mun þat þykkja fáheyriligt,
from-no penny robbed to Now will that seem unheard-of
at erkibyskup skyli eigi vera sjálfráða, hverjum hann gefr
that (the)-archbishop should not be self-ruling to-whom he gives
mat sinn, en sýslumenn yðrir, þeir er þér hafit tekit af
food his but bailiffs your those whom you have taken from
stafkörlum, skulu hafa svá stórar sveitir, sem þeir vilja, ok
beggars shall have so great companies as they wish and
fara á hendr bóndum ok taka aflaga slíkt, er hann vill,
go on hands to-farmers and take unlawfully such as he wishes
ok skal þó sá, er á, því feginn, at hann þiggi lífit.
and shall yet he who owns of-that glad that he receives the-life

Sverrir konungr krafði þá laga ok þess, at bœndr dœmdi,
Sverrir king demanded then of-law and of-that that farmers judged
hversu marga húskarla erkibyskup skyldi hafa. Eptir þat
how many house-carls (the)-archbishop should have After that
lagði konungr fimtarstefnu þeim mönnum, er fleiri væri
laid (the)-king five-day-summons to-those men who more were
með erkibyskupi en skráin skýrði, at eptir fim daga skyldu
with (the)-archbishop than the-roll specified that after five days should
þeir fara útlaga ok hafa fyrirgert fé ok friði. En er
they go outlaws and have forfeited wealth and peace But when
erkibyskup spurði þetta, bjóst hann braut or bœnum
(the)-archbishop learned this prepared-himself he away out-of the-town
mjök af skyndingu ok hafði við sér alla sína menn. Fór þá
very in haste and had with him all his men Went then
erkibyskup suðr til Danmerkr á fund Absalons erkibyskups,
(the)-archbishop south to Denmark to meeting of-Absalon archbishop
ok tók hann vel við honum. Dvaldist hann þar lengi í
and took he well with him Stayed he there long in
góðum fagnaði. Eiríkr erkibyskup fékk þau vanheilendi, at
good welcome Eirik archbishop got that illness that
hann misti sýnar sinnar ok varð blindr.
he lost sight his and became blind

Frá Hallkeli

CX · OF HALLKELL

Hallkell Jónsson, married to Erlingr's daughter, plotted with Erlingr's bastard son Sigurðr and Ólafr, Earl Haraldr's kinsman by marriage, to raise up Sigurðr, called King Magnús's son. Ólafr took the boy to Orkney, where Earl Haraldr, Magnús's great friend, gave him a longship and leave to recruit.

Hallkell son Jóns Hallkelssonar átti Ragnhildi, dóttur Erlings
Hallkel son of-Jon Hallkel's-son had Ragnhild daughter of-Erling
jarls ok Kristínar konungsdóttur. Hallkell hafði ráð með
earl and of-Kristin king's-daughter Hallkel had counsel in
höndum, þat er fleiri menn váru samvitandi með honum.
hands that which more men were privy with him
Hallkell hafði tekit af Sverri lends manns rétt litlu áðr.
Hallkel had taken from Sverrir landed man's right little before
Sigurðr hét son Erlings jarls, hann var frilluson, hann
Sigurd was-called son of-Erling earl he was concubine's-son he
hafði þá verit með Sverri konungi lengi í góðu yfirlæti, hann
had then been with Sverrir king long in good favor he
vissi þetta ráð með Hallkeli. Ólafr mágr Haralds jarls var
knew this counsel with Hallkel Olaf in-law of-Harald earl was
enn í þessu ráði með þeim. Sigurðr er nefndr son Magnús
also in this counsel with them Sigurd is named son of-Magnus
konungs Erlingssonar ok son Gyríðar Dagsdóttur; Sigurðr var
king Erling's-son and son of-Gyrid Dag's-daughter Sigurd was
þá með Hallkeli. Þat var ráðagerð þeira, at þau féngu Sigurð
then with Hallkel That was plan their that they got Sigurd
í hendr Ólafi jarlsmág, hafði Ólafr hann um haustit með
into hands to-Olaf earl's-in-law had Olaf him in the-autumn with
sér vestr um haf. Þá váru liðnir 8 vetr frá falli Magnús
him west over (the)-sea Then were passed 8 winters from (the)-fall of-Magnus
konungs. Haraldr jarl tók vel við Sigurði konungssyni.
king Harald earl took well with Sigurd king's-son
Þat sama vár fór Hallkell vestr um haf á fund Haralds jarls.
That same spring went Hallkel west over (the)-sea to meeting of-Harald earl
Báru þeir þá upp fyrir jarl, ef hann vildi nökkurn styrk veita
Bore they then up before (the)-earl if he wished some strength give
syni Magnús konungs, er þar var kominn. Jarl stóð vel
to-(the)-son of-Magnus king who there was come (The)-earl stood well

undir hans mál ok gaf honum langskip gott, þvíat Magnús
under his case and gave to-him longship good because Magnus
konungr hafði verit hinn mesti vin jarls. Haraldr jarl lofaði
king had been the greatest friend of-(the)-earl Harald earl allowed
ok hverjum manni, er vildi fara með þeim af öllu ríki sínu.
also each man who wished go with them from all realm his

Upphaf Eyskeggja

CXI · THE RISE OF THE EYSKEGGJAR

The Eyskeggjar gave Sigurðr the king's name, killed Sverrir's cousin Jón at Túnsberg, took the Vík, and raided to the Trave in Denmark.

Hallkell ok Ólafr gáfu þá konungsnafn Sigurði. Gerðust
Hallkel and Olaf gave then king's-name to-Sigurd Became
þá honum handgengnir margir menn ok svörðu honum
then to-him sworn many men and swore to-him
trúnaðareiða. Dreif til hans múgr manns, Orkneyingar ok
oaths-of-loyalty Flocked to him throng of-men Orkneymen and
Hjaltar. Réðu þeir sér til skipa ok bjoggust vestan
Shetlanders Took they for-themselves to ships and prepared-themselves from-west
um sumarit. En er þeir koma við Noreg, sigla þeir austr
in the-summer But when they come by Norway sail they east
með landi til Víkrinnar ok kómu á úvart til Túnsbergs.
along (the)-land to the-Vik and came at unawares to Tunsberg
Þar var fyrir Jón systrungr Sverris konungs. Þeir drápu þar
There was before Jon cousin of-Sverrir king They killed there
Jón ok Helga bring, er fyrr hafði borit merki Sverris
Jon and Helgi Bring who before had borne (the)-standard of-Sverrir
konungs. Þar féll mart Birkibeina. Eptir þat áttu þeir
king There fell many Birchlegs After that had they

þing, var þá Sigurðr til konungs tekinn. Þessi flokkr var
an-assembly was then Sigurd to king taken This band was
kallaðr Eyskeggjar. Þeir fóru inn til Oslóar, ok gékk undir
called Island-Beards They went in to Oslo and went under
þá alt landsfólk nær um alla Víkina. Þeir fóru spakliga ok
them all land-folk near through all the-Vik They went peaceably and
létu hvern sínu ráða. En með því at þeir höfðu lið mikit,
let each his-own rule But with that that they had troop great
þá fóru þeir með öllu liðinu suðr til Danmerkr ok kómu
then went they with all the-troop south to Denmark and came
alt til Trafnar, ok unnu þar kaupskip ok tóku þar úgrynni
all to Trafn and won there merchant-ships and took there countless
fjár, ok sneru síðan aptr til Noregs, er haustaði.
wealth and turned then back to Norway when (it)-grew-autumn

Frá Birkibeinum

CXII · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR

Sverrir's chiefs gathered at Borg with fewer than three hundred men, but fled when the Eyskeggjar landed on the Elfr in battle order. The Eyskeggjar wintered in Björgvin and wanted to be called Gullbeinar.

En er Sverrir konungr spyrr þetta, var hann í Þrándheimi.
But when Sverrir king learns this was he in Thrandheim
Hann sendi þá lið hit efra til Víkrinnar, en sumir höfðingjar
He sent then troop the upper to the-Vik but some chieftains
váru þar áðr fyrir. En er þeir spurðu, at Eyskeggjar
were there already before But when they learned that (the)-Island-Beards
sóttu sunnan í Víkina, þá sömnuðust Birkibeinar saman í
pressed from-south into the-Vik then gathered (the)-Birchlegs together in

Borg. Váru þeir fyrir, Sigurðr lávarðr, Philippus son Birgis
Borg Were they before Sigurd Lavard Philippus son of-Birgir
jarls, Hákon galinn systurson Sverris konungs, Pétr steypir,
earl Hakon (the)-Mad sister's-son of-Sverrir king Petr Steypir
Hjarrandi hviða, þeir höfðu á hinu þriðja hundraði manna.
Hjarrandi Gust they had in the third hundred men
Eyskeggjar spyrja þetta ok halda upp eptir Elfinni, ganga
(The)-Island-Beards learn this and hold up along the-Elf go
á land ok fylkja liði sínu. Birkibeinar þykkjast eigi lið
onto land and array troop their (The)-Birchlegs think-themselves not troop
hafa til viðtöku ok flýja. Féngu Eyskeggjar enga viðtöku
have to resistance and flee Got (the)-Island-Beards no resistance
í Víkinni ok fóru um haustit norðr til Björgynjar, ok
in the-Vik and went in the-autumn north to Bjorgvin and
váru þar um vetrinn. Þeir vildu láta kalla sik Gullbeina.
were there over the-winter They wished let call themselves Gold-Legs

Frá borgargerð

CXIII · OF THE BUILDING OF THE FORT

The Birkibeinar held Sverrir's new fort at Björgvin all winter, a crossbow bolt pinning Ólafr's hand to a church post. In Lent Sverrir came south unannounced with small ships; Hallkell urged battle, and the Eyskeggjar lay at Flóruvágar. Sverrir rowed by night close enough to hear their plans, then marked his twenty small ships with linen on their stems against their fourteen large ones.

Sverrir konungr hafði látit gera borg í Björgyn á berginu
Sverrir king had let make a-fort in Bjorgvin on the-cliff
upp frá byskupsgarði, höfðu Birkibeinar þar í sveitir
up from (the)-bishop's-yard had (the)-Birchlegs there in companies
miklar um vetrinn, ok réð fyrir Sigurðr borgarklettr. Veittu
great over the-winter and ruled over Sigurd Fort-Crag Gave

Eyskeggjar opt borgarmönnum atsókn, ok féngu þeir
(the)-Island-Beards often to-the-fort-men attack and got they
jafnan hinn lægra hlut. Mart dreif manna um vetrinn til
always the lower lot Many flocked of-men in the-winter to
Eyskeggja ok gerðust handgengnir. Sigurðr jarlsson hafði
(the)-Island-Beards and became sworn Sigurd earl's-son had
hlaupit um haustit frá Birkibeinum til þeira, ok var
run in the-autumn from (the)-Birchlegs to them and was
hann þá sveitarhöfðingi ok var vitr maðr. Þat varð um
he then company-leader and was wise man That happened in
várit á langaföstu einn helgan dag, at Ólafr jarlsmágr
the-spring in Lent one holy day that Olaf earl's-in-law
stóð úti hjá Ólafskirkju á Bökkum ok hafði lagt höndina
stood out by Olaf's-church on (the)-Banks and had laid the-hand
upp á kirkjustoðna, ok einn maðr í borginni dró at
up on the-church-post and one man in the-fort drew at
lásboga ok setti í höndina, svá at broddrinn stóð fastr
crossbow and set into the-hand so that the-bolt stood fast
í stoðinni. Eyskeggjar sendu frá sér lið sitt í
in the-post (The)-Island-Beards sent from themselves troop their into
ymsa staði í sýslur. Sverrir konungr sat um vetrinn í
various places into districts Sverrir king sat over the-winter in
Þrándheimi ok hafði nefndir or heruðum, bjóst æ
Thrandheim and had levies out-of districts prepared-himself ever
svá við, sem Eyskeggjar mundu sunnan koma. Hann fór
so with as (the)-Island-Beards would from-south come He went
norðan um várit um langaföstu ok hafði engi skip stœrri
from-north in the-spring in Lent and had no ships greater
en tvítugsessur, ok þaðan af smæri. Hann fór mjök af
than twenty-benchers and thence off smaller He went very in
skyndingu suðr til Björgynjar, ok féngu Eyskeggjar enga
haste south to Bjorgvin and got (the)-Island-Beards no

njósn, áðr Sverrir konungr kom nær bœnum laugardaginn
report before Sverrir king came near the-town the-Saturday
næsta fyrir pálmadag. Höfðu Eyskeggjar þing í bœnum,
next before Palm-Sunday Had (the)-Island-Beards an-assembly in the-town
ok mælti Ólafr jarlsmágr fyrir liðinu: Nú höfum vér spurt
and spoke Olaf earl's-in-law before the-troop Now have we learned
um ferðir Sverris konungs at hann mun skjótt koma á
about journeys of-Sverrir king that he will soon come to
fund várn; skulum vér nú gera ráð várt, hvárt vér skulum
meeting our shall we now make counsel our whether we shall
bíða hér ok berjast við því liði, sem nú höfum mér, eða
wait here and fight with that troop which now have we or
vili þér, at vér takim annat ráð. Er nú Sigurðr jarlsson
wish you that we take other counsel Is now Sigurd earl's-son
suðr í Stafangri með sex skipum, Eysteinn korpr við þrim
south in Stavanger with six ships Eystein Raven with three
skipum í Sogni, mun oss nú þat lið koma lítt at haldi.
ships in Sogn will to-us now that troop come little to use
Þá svaraði Hallkell Jónsson: Þess eigum vér ván, sagði
Then answered Hallkel Jon's-son Of-that have we hope said
hann, at oss skorti ekki lið þetta sinn við Sverri, ef oss
he that us lack not troop this time with Sverrir if to-us
verðr eigi meir ráðfátt, eða vili eigi meir úauðna til falla
becomes not more counsel-lacking or will not more ill-luck to fall
með oss um vár skipti, en til sé stefnt, ráðin sýnast
with us about our dealings than to be aimed the-counsels seem
mér flestum bilat hafa við Sverri, ok þess varir mik, at
to-me most have failed with Sverrir and of-that expect I that
vér sigrimst á honum, nema vér rasim fyrir ráð fram, ok
we win on him unless we rush before counsel forward and
er þat at varast, fyrir því at vér erum til þess eigi úvænni
is that to beware for that that we are to that not less-likely

en þeir, er þat hefir hent. Géngu þeir þá til skipanna
than they whom that has befallen Went they then to the-ships
ok bjoggust um, ok lögðu út um kveldit í Flóruvága
and prepared-themselves about and laid out in the-evening into Floruvagar
ok lágu þar um nóttina. Sverrir konungr kom þann sama
and lay there over the-night Sverrir king came that same
aptan nær bœnum í Björgyn ok reri inn til bœjarins
evening near the-town in Bjorgvin and rowed in to the-town
á einni skútu, en annat lið hans reri suðr til Grafdals
on one cutter but other troop his rowed south to Grafdal
hit ytra. Konungr fékk þá sanna njósn af Eyskeggjum.
the outer (The)-king got then true report of (the)-Island-Beards
Konungr gékk upp til Kristskirkju, ok var þat þar tíðinda,
(The)-king went up to Christ's-church and was that there of-tidings
at Páll byskup hafði andazt um kveldit, ok stóð þá uppi
that Pal bishop had died in the-evening and stood then up
líkit þar í kirkjunni. Sverrir konungr fór upp til borgar
the-body there in the-church Sverrir king went up to (the)-fort
ok sagði borgarmönnum, at þeir skyldu fá honum lið
and told to-fort-men that they should give to-him troop
til orrostu. Konungr dvaldist litla hríð í bœnum ok reri
to battle (The)-king stayed little while in the-town and rowed
til liðs síns. Þá lögðu þeir liðinu suðr til Hvarfness, þá
to troop his Then laid they the-troop south to Hvarfnes then
fór Sverrir konungr á báti út til Flóruvága at skynja
went Sverrir king on a-boat out to Floruvagar to spy-on
vörð Eyskeggja, ok heyrði hann þar viðrœður manna ok
watch of-(the)-Island-Beards and heard he there talk of-men and
ætlan þeira Hallkels, at þeir skyldu berjast, ok þegar um
plan their Hallkel's that they should fight and at-once in
myrgininn er þat mitt ráð, sagði Hallkell, at tengja saman
the-morning is that my counsel said Hallkel to lash together

skip vár, mun þá lið várt bezt fylgjast, gerum þeim fyrst
ships our will then troop our best follow-together make them first
grjóthríð, en því næst látum ganga skotvápn, ok dugi
stone-shower but then next let go missiles and do-his-best
þá hverr sem mannligast, ok gæti þá guð til. Sverrir
then each as most-manfully and guard then God to Sverrir
konungr fór þá aptr til liðs síns ok sagði þeim fyrirætlan
king went then back to troop his and told them plan
Eyskeggja, munum vér, sagði konungr, brátt leggja at
of-(the)-Island-Beards will we said (the)-king soon lay at
þeim, ok yrði þeir vanbúnir við oss. Skulum vér nú, sagði
them and became they unready with us Shall we now said
hann, marka skip vár öll, knýta líndregla um fremra stafn,
he mark ships our all tie linen-strips about fore prow
ef vér leggjum svá at þeim, at eigi sé ljóst. Svá skulu
if we lay so at them that not be light So shall
vér ok vara oss í atlögunni, sem vér munim eiga við
we also beware ourselves in the-attack as we will have with
borðamun at deila, höfum laus við skipin vár fyrst, meðan
gunwale-difference to deal have loose with ships our first while
þeir eru óðastir; gætit yðar ok hlífit yðr fyrst, látit þá
they are most-furious guard yourselves and shield yourselves first let them
bera vápn sín fyrir borð; gæti menn ára sinna, þeira munu
bear weapons their over board guard men oars their them will
vér þurfa, hvárir sem sigrast. Sverrir konungr hafði 20 skip
we need whichever as win Sverrir king had 20 ships
ok heldr smá, en Eyskeggjar höfðu 14 skip ok flest stór.
and rather small but (the)-Island-Beards had 14 ships and most great

Frá Eyskeggjum

CXIV · OF THE EYSKEGGJAR

At dawn the Eyskeggjar rowed out abreast with cables between their ships, and in the dark Sverrir's ships were on them before they saw them; hauling their ships together, they broke one another's oars. The Birkibeinar lay unlashed under a roof of shields and let their ships drift, plainly used to the work.

Um myrgininn í dagan lágu Eyskeggjar tjaldlausir, ok því
In the-morning in dawn lay (the)-Island-Beards tentless and then
næst slógu þeir landfestum ok reru út or Váginum. Þeir lögðu
next struck they land-cables and rowed out out-of the-Vag They laid
strengi millum skipa sinna bæði fram ok aptr, reru öllum
cables between ships their both forward and aft rowed all
jafnfram ok ætluðu at leita þá Sverris konungs, en fyrir því at
abreast and intended to seek then Sverrir king but for that that
myrkt var, þá sá þeir eigi fyrr en skip Sverris konungs rendu
dark was then saw they not earlier than ships of-Sverrir king ran
at þeim, ok lustu þegar upp hvárirtveggju herópi. Þá gripu
at them and struck at-once up both war-cry Then grabbed
Eyskeggjar til strengjanna ok drógu saman skipin, en skipin
(the)-Island-Beards to the-cables and drew together the-ships but the-ships
rendu at viðum, ok rendi hvert á árarnar annars ok braut
ran at moorings and ran each on the-oars of-other and broke
í sundr. Þeir drógu skipin öll í tengsl, rendu þá at skip
in pieces They drew the-ships all into lashing ran then at ships
Birkibeina. Tókst þá þegar orrosta, sóttu Eyskeggjar í ákafa,
of-(the)-Birchlegs Began then at-once battle pressed (the)-Island-Beards in vehemence
en Birkibeinar skutu skjöldum yfir sik svá þykt, at hvergi sá
but (the)-Birchlegs thrust shields over themselves so thick that nowhere saw

þá bera. Þeir létu vakka við skipin ok höfðu í glett svá, var þat
them bare They let waver with the-ships and had in jest so was that
auðsýnt, at þeir váru vanir þessu starfi, svá fóru þeir kœnliga.
evident that they were used to-this work so went they skillfully

Frameggjan konungs við Birkibeina

CXV · THE KING URGES ON THE BIRKIBEINAR

When the Eyskeggjar tired, Sverrir urged his men to prove their name; the Eyskeggjar's stem-scythes took his ship's standard and cleared the ship to the mast before the Birkibeinar drove them back. Ólafr urged the Eyskeggjar to cut their lashings and pursue, but once loose they lost their oars and drifted; the fort's men came out in a longship, and the Birkibeinar cleared ship after ship and took back the standard Sigrfluga.

En er Eyskeggjar tóku at mœðast, ok rénaði hin snarpasta
But when (the)-Island-Beards began to tire and abated the sharpest
hríðin, þá eggjaði konungr Birkibeina ok mælti: Standit upp
assault then urged (the)-king (the)-Birchlegs and said Stand up
ok sannit nöfn yður ok verit nú Birkibeinar, ok látit sjá,
and prove names your and be now Birchlegs and let see
hversu yðr bíta vápnin. Þá rísa þeir upp undir skjöldunum
how to-you bite the-weapons Then rise they up under the-shields
ok gerðu aðra hríð, sumir grýttu, en sumir skutu, ok at
and made another assault some stoned but some shot and at
lögðu þeir skipin sín svá fast, at sumir lögðu en sumir
laid they the-ships their so fast that some thrust but some
hjoggu. Eyskeggjar tóku við þeim hreystimannliga, nutu
hewed (The)-Island-Beards took against them valiantly enjoyed
þeir þá borðamunar. Þeir kómu stafnljám á konungsskipit
they then gunwale-difference They got stem-scythes onto the-king's-ship

ok drápu stafnbúana, en tóku merkit, ok alt hruðu þeir
and killed the-stem-men and took the-standard and all cleared they
skipit mjök svá framan til siglu. En er þeir tóku
the-ship very so from-forward to (the)-mast But when they began
uppgönguna at greiða, þá eggjaði konungr sína menn. Sóttu
the-boarding to press then urged (the)-king his men Pressed
þá Birkibeinar fram at þeim svá frœknliga, at þá hrukku
then (the)-Birchlegs forward at them so boldly that then recoiled
Eyskeggjar undan, sumir váru drepnir, en sumir kómust
(the)-Island-Beards back some were killed but some got
aptr á skip sín. Féngu þá Birkibeinar leyst skip sín frá, ok
back onto ships their Managed then (the)-Birchlegs loosed ships their off and
höfðu eina ferð allir þeir, er svá nær höfðu lagt stórskipunum
had one course all those who so near had laid to-the-great-ships
ok Eyskeggjar féngu við festz, at þeir hruðu sum skip
and (the)-Island-Beards got against fastened that they cleared some ships
Birkibeina, ok var sjá hríð allmannskœð, ok féll miklu fleira
of-(the)-Birchlegs and was this assault most-deadly and fell much more
af konungi. Þá lögðu Birkibeinar frá skipin. Þá mælti
from the-king Then laid (the)-Birchlegs off the-ships Then spoke
konungr: Hafizt vel við, góðir hálsar, fár munu þeir
(the)-king Hold-yourselves well against good fellows few will they
slíkar hríðir gera oss, þvíat þeir munu eigi síðr tannsárir en
such assaults make to-us because they will not less tooth-sore than
vér. En er Eyskeggjar sá þat, at Birkibeinar lögðu frá, þá
we But when (the)-Island-Beards saw that that (the)-Birchlegs laid off then
hugðu þeir þá mundu vilja flýja. Þá mælti Ólafr jarlsmágr:
thought they them would wish to-flee Then spoke Olaf earl's-in-law
Dugum vér nú vel, þvíat nú bleyðast þeir, ok sé ek svá
Let-us-hold-out we now well because now turn-coward they and see I so
fara flesta, ef í ofreflit koma; fylgjum nú sigrinum, ok
go most if into the-overmatch come let-us-follow now the-victory and

höggvi tengslin, ok rekum þá karlmannliga. Allir váru þess
hew the-lashings and let-us-drive them manfully All were of-it
fúsir, ok svá var nú gert. En er skipin losnuðu í sundr,
eager and so was now done But when the-ships came-loose in asunder
ok þeir skyldu greiða atróðrinn, þá mistu þeir áranna, rak
and they should make the-rowing-attack then lost they the-oars drove
þá skipin fyrir straumi. Birkibeinar reru þá at ok lögðu
then the-ships before (the)-current (The)-Birchlegs rowed then at and laid
tvau skip eða þrjú at einu. Í því bili kómu þeir innan
two ships or three at one In that moment came those from-within
or bœnum borgarmenn, ok höfðu þeir langskip, ok váru
out-of the-town fort-men and had they a-longship and were
á 10 tigir manna, ok höfðu allir hringabrynjur. Kom þat
on-it 10 tens of-men and had all ring-mail-coats Came that
lið þá vel í þarfar, hruðust þá skipin Eyskeggja, ok
troop then well to need were-cleared then the-ships of-(the)-Island-Beards and
hvert sem hroðit var, þá géngu Birkibeinar af smáskútunum
each as cleared was then went (the)-Birchlegs off the-small-craft
ok á þau hin stœrri skipin. Eyskeggjar höfðu sett
and onto those the larger ships (The)-Island-Beards had set
upp merki Sverris konungs Sigrfluguna í stafninn á
up standard of-Sverrir king the-Victory-Fly in the-stem on
höfðingjaskipi sínu, ok sá Birkibeinar fullgerla, hvar eptir
chieftain's-ship their and saw (the)-Birchlegs fully where after
henni var at leita. Sóttu Birkibeinar þá þar til, er þeir
it was to seek Pressed (the)-Birchlegs then there till when they
náðu merkinu, ok því næst hruðu þeir skipit með stöfnum.
reached the-standard and then next cleared they the-ship with stems

Lát margra manna

CXVI · THE DEATHS OF MANY MEN

Sigurðr the king's son was killed swimming, and Ólafr, swimming for land, was killed by the Birkibeinar who waded out to meet him; Hallkell fell on his ship, and most of the Eyskeggjar fell. Sverrir had high mass wait for his return and showed Sigurðr's body to the crowd before burial. Men said no battle had been won against such a difference in gunwale height; Sigurðr jarlsson fled to Denmark.

Sigurðr konungsson hljóp fyrir borð ok var drepinn á sundi.
Sigurd king's-son leapt over board and was killed on swimming
Þá reru á braut á tveim skipum Loðinn son Páls smáttauga
Then rowed on away on two ships Lodin son of-Pal Narrow-Eye
ok Hallvarðr bratti. Ólafr jarlsmágr hljóp fyrir borð ok
and Hallvard (the)-Steep Olaf earl's-in-law leapt over board and
svam til lands. Birkibeinar óðu út á mót honum ok drápu
swam to land (The)-Birchlegs waded out on against him and killed
hann. Hallkell féll á skipi sínu ok nær öll sveit hans.
him Hallkel fell on ship his and nearly all company his
Þá féll mestr hluti liðs Eyskeggja, nema þeir er grið
Then fell greatest part of-troop of-(the)-Island-Beards except those who quarter
váru gefin. Konungr hafði mælt, at eigi skyldi syngja fyrr
were given (The)-king had said that not should sing earlier
hámessur í bœnum, en hann kœmi frá orrostunni. Reri
high-masses in the-town than he came from the-battle Rowed
konungr nú inn til bœjarins ok lét flytja inn öll skipin með
(the)-king now in to the-town and let bring in all the-ships with
sér. Var þá ok messumál, er konungr kom frá bardaganum,
himself Was then also mass-time when (the)-king came from the-battle
ok váru þá þegar sungnar messur. Litlu eptir orrostuna
and were then at-once sung masses Little after the-battle

andaðist Bárðr Guthormsson ok Benedikt litli ok enn
died Bard Guthorm's-son and Benedikt (the)-Little and yet
fleiri liðsmenn. En er líkin fundust Sigurðar ok Ólafs, þá
more troopmen But when the-bodies were-found of-Sigurd and of-Olaf then
lét Sverrir konungr sýna lík Sigurðar í fjölmenni, at þat var
let Sverrir king show body of-Sigurd in crowd that that was
lík höfðingja þess, er þessi flokkr hafði haft fyrir sér. Var
body of-chieftain that whom this band had had before itself Was
líkit jarðat fyrir sunnan sönghúsit í Maríukirkjugarð. Lík
the-body buried before south the-choir in Mary's-church-yard Body
Hallkels var jarðat í Kristskirkjugarði. Í Maríukirkjugarði var
of-Hallkel was buried in Christ's-church-yard In Mary's-church-yard was
ger gröf mikil, váru þar mörg lík Eyskeggja í lögð,
made grave great were there many bodies of-(the)-Island-Beards in laid
ok efst lík Ólafs jarlsmágs. Þat er mál manna, at eigi
and uppermost body of-Olaf earl's-in-law That is talk of-men that not
hafi sú orrosta verit, at menn hafi sigrazt við jafnmikinn
have that battle been that men have won-victory against as-great
borðamun, sem var í Flóruvágum. Gerði þar mikinn
gunwale-difference as was in Floruvagar Made there great
kœnleiks mun með þeim um atlöguna, en djarfir váru
of-skill difference between them about the-attack but bold were
Eyskeggjar við vápn en heldr úgætnir at hlífa sér. En
(the)-Island-Beards with weapons but rather careless to shield themselves But
er Sigurðr jarlsson spyrr þessi tíðindi, þá siglir hann suðr til
when Sigurd earl's-son hears these tidings then sails he south to
Danmarkar, fylgði honum sumt liðit, en sumt dreifðist ymsa
Denmark followed him some the-troop but some scattered various
vega, sumt gékk til griða. Eysteinn korpr sigldi vestr um haf.
ways some went to quarter Eystein Raven sailed west over sea

Stórmœli páva við Sverri

CXVII · THE POPE'S BAN ON SVERRIR

The archbishops Eiríkr and Absalon obtained a papal letter putting Sverrir under ban if Eiríkr was not given all he claimed, and Eiríkr proclaimed it in Denmark every Sunday. Sverrir called it a Danish fabrication, said the ban had blinded Eiríkr, and swore not to break Saint Ólafr's law for him.

Eiríkr erkibyskup ok Absalon erkibyskup sendu menn með
Eirik archbishop and Absalon archbishop sent men with
bréfum suðr til Róms á fund páva. Var þar ritat alt frá
letters south to Rome on meeting of-(the)-pope Was there written all about
Sverri konungi eptir vitnisburð Eiríks erkibyskups ok hans
Sverrir king after testimony of-Eirik archbishop and his
manna um öll þeira mál, áðr erkibyskup stökk frá stólinum.
men's about all their cases before (the)-archbishop fled from the-see
Féngust þau andsvör af páva, sem erkibyskupar höfðu orð til
Were-got those answers from (the)-pope as (the)-archbishops had word to
sent, at pávinn lýsti stórmælum yfir konunginum, ef hann
sent that the-pope proclaimed great-sentences over the-king if he
léti erkibyskup eigi ná því öllu, sem hann beiddist ok hann
let (the)-archbishop not get that all which he asked and he
kallaði til. Þessi bréf lét erkibyskup upp lesa í Danmörk, ok
claimed to These letters let (the)-archbishop up read in Denmark and
lýsti hvern sunnudag á kór uppi banni yfir Sverri konungi.
proclaimed each Sunday in choir up ban over Sverrir king
En er konungrinn spurði þetta, þá talaði hann opt á þingum
But when the-king heard this then spoke he often at assemblies
um þetta mál ok sagði, at þat var upplost Dana en eigi
about this matter and said that that was fabrication of-(the)-Danes but not
páva orð, ok kvezt ætla, at Eiríkr blindi mundi ekki
of-(the)-pope word and said-himself expect that Eirik (the)-Blind would not

fyrirljúga konungdómi hans, ok þat bann ok blótan, sagði
lie-away kingship his and that ban and cursing said
konungr, sem hann nefnir mik til, hefir nú drifit í augu
(the)-king which he names me to has now drifted into eyes
honum, ok er nú fyrir því blindr; munu þeir í banni, er
to-him and is now for that blind will they in ban who
bannsverk gera, en ek em konungsson ok réttkominn til lands
ban-works do but I am king's-son and rightly-come to land
þessa, ok haft áðr marga nauð fyrir, en ek næða. Fari
this and had already many hardship before than I got-peace Let-go
Eiríkr til stóls síns, þótt hann sé blindr, ef hann vill halda
Eirik to see his though he be blind if he will hold
landslög hér í landi; en þótt hann hefði þar bæði augu heil,
land-laws here in land but though he had there both eyes whole
er nú er hann báðum blindr ok svá hugskotinu, at sjá hit
which now is he on-both blind and so in-the-mind to see the
rétta, þá mun ek eigi brjóta lög hins helga Ólafs konungs
right then will I not break laws of-the holy Olaf king
fyrir hans sakir, þó at hann bannist um eða blótist.
for his sake though that he bans about or curses

Frá legata páva ok Sverri konungi

CXVIII · OF THE POPE'S LEGATE AND KING SVERRIR

At Konungahella Sverrir asked a papal legate to crown him. Clerics told the legate of Sverrir's quarrel with the archbishop, his ordination, and his two living wives, and the legate refused; Sverrir called him a swindler come for money and sent him away.

Þegar eptir páska fór Sverrir konungr austr með landi, hann
At-once after Easter went Sverrir king east along land he
fór alt austr í Konungahellu. Þá kom þar pávans sendimaðr
went all east to Konungahella Then came there the-pope's messenger
legatus ok hans förunautar. Hafði konungr þá nökkura
(the)-legate and his companions Had (the)-king them some
daga í boði sínu, ok ræddu þeir konungr marga hluti
days in feast his and discussed they (the)-king many things
sín á milli. Konungr leitaði þess við legatann, at hann
themselves in between (The)-king sought this with the-legate that he
mundi gefa konungi vígslu ok vígja hann undir kórónu.
would give to-the-king consecration and consecrate him under crown
Legati tók því líkliga. En er aðrir kennimenn urðu þessa
(The)-legate took it likely But when other clerics became of-this
varir, þá sögðu þeir legatanum, at konungr var í missætti
aware then told they to-the-legate that (the)-king was in discord
við erkibyskup, ok hann var frá stólinum, þeir sögðu ok
with (the)-archbishop and he was from the-see they said also
Sverri hafa verit vígðan fyrrum til prests, ok hann hefði
Sverrir have been ordained formerly to priest and he had
tekit eiginkonu ok átt áðr aðra lögfengna, ok lifðu þá
taken wife and had before another lawfully-wed and lived then
báðar. Marga hluti aðra féngu þeir til rógs við konung.
both Many things other got they for slander against (the)-king
En er Sverrir konungr kom næst á þetta tal við legatann,
But when Sverrir king came next on this talk with the-legate
þá synjaði hann konungi vígslunnar, bað hann sættast við
then refused he to-the-king the-consecration bade him be-reconciled with
erkibyskup, ok sagði hann eiga at vígja hann. Þá svaraði
(the)-archbishop and said him have to consecrate him Then answered
konungr: Sé ek, hvert þitt erendi mun vera hingat í land;
(the)-king See I what your errand will be hither into land

þat sama sem margir falsarar gera aðrir, þeir er hlaupa utan
that same as many falsifiers do other those who run outside
af löndum, vilja fá sér fé, en gera várt ríki at spotti ok
from lands wish get themselves money but make our realm to mockery and
háði, þá er þeir koma braut. Nú vil ek, at þú farir braut
scorn then when they come away Now wish I that you go away
héðan leiðar þinnar, vil ek eigi, at þú falsir fé af mínum
hence way your wish I not that you cheat money from my
mönnum hér í mínu landi. Eptir þat fór legatinn á braut.
men here in my land After that went the-legate on away

Frá Sverri konungi ok Nikulási byskupi

CXIX · OF KING SVERRIR AND BISHOP NIKULÁS

Sverrir charged Bishop Nikulás with having started Hallkell's treason; Nikulás denied it, then humbly offered amends. Marteinn, Sverrir's English court priest, became bishop of Björgvin, and on the feast of Peter and Paul the bishops, with Nikulás foremost, crowned Sverrir.

Sverrir konungr sneri nú aptr norðr í Víkina. Hann
Sverrir king turned now back north into the-Vik He
sendi menn eptir Nikulási byskupi. En er byskup kom á
sent men after Nikulas bishop But when (the)-bishop came on
konungs fund, þá heimti konungr byskup á eintal ok
king's meeting then called (the)-king (the)-bishop on private-talk and
sagði, at hann var þess víss orðinn, at öll þau svikræði,
said that he was of-this aware become that all those treacheries
er þeir Hallkell höfðu haft við konunginn, þá höfðu fyrst
which they Hallkel had had against the-king then had first
komit undan tungurótum byskupi, ok bar þat á hendr
come from-under tongue-roots to-the-bishop and bore that on hands

honum með jarteinum. Byskup synjaði ok mælti á móti.
to-him with tokens (The)-bishop denied and spoke on against
Konungr kvað þat ekki mundu tjóa, ok lézt áðr alt vita
(The)-king said that not would avail and said-himself already all know
hit sanna. Hét konungr byskupi hörðum afarkostum ok
the truth Threatened (the)-king to-the-bishop hard terms and
kallaði hann landráðamann. Byskup bað konunginn vægðar á
called him traitor (The)-bishop asked the-king of-mercy in
sínu máli ok lézt bœta vildu með öllu því, sem konungr
his case and said-himself amend wished with all that which (the)-king
vildi. Var byskup þá hinn mjúkasti. Sverrir konungr hafði
wished Was (the)-bishop then the meekest Sverrir king had
Nikulás byskup með sér til Björgynjar. Konungr sendi orð
Nikulas bishop with himself to Bjorgvin (The)-king sent word
Þóri byskupi af Hamarkaupangi, at hann skyldi koma til
to-Thorir bishop of Hamar that he should come to
Björgynjar, ok svá gerði hann. Þar kom ok Njáll byskup af
Bjorgvin and so did he There came also Njal bishop of
Stafangri. Þar var þá talat um kosning, hvern kjósa skyldi
Stavanger There was then talked about election whom choose should
í stað Páls byskups í Björgyn. Þar var til kosinn sá maðr,
in place of-Pal bishop in Bjorgvin There was to chosen that man
er Marteinn hét ok var hirðprestr Sverris konungs, hann
who Martein was-called and was court-priest of-Sverrir king he
var enskr at öllu kyni ok klerkr góðr, þeir vígðu hann
was English in all kin and clerk good they consecrated him
til byskups at ráði Sverris konungs. Nikulás byskup var
to bishop at counsel of-Sverrir king Nikulas bishop was
þá í miklum kærleikum við Sverri konung, ok var formaðr
then in great friendship with Sverrir king and was leader
með konunginum at öllum ráðum, þeim er konungr vildi
with the-king in all counsels those which (the)-king wished

láta fram fara. Þá var ok ger veizla mikil í konungsgarði,
let forward go Then was also made feast great in (the)-king's-residence
ok var þat ráðit, at þessir byskupar mundu vígja Sverri
and was that decided that these bishops would consecrate Sverrir
konung ok kóróna hann. Fór þat fram, at þeir vígðu
king and crown him Went that forward that they consecrated
hann á degi postola Pétrs ok Páls, tók hann kórónu, ok
him on day of-apostles Peter and Paul took he crown and
var Nikulás byskup höfuðsmaðr at vígslunni. Konungr gaf
was Nikulas bishop chief-man at the-consecration (The)-king gave
þeim öllum góðar gjafir, ok skildust þeir með kærleikum.
to-them all good gifts and parted they with friendship

Vígðr Páll byskup til Skálaholts

CXX · PÁLL CONSECRATED BISHOP OF SKÁLAHOLT

Bishop Þorlákr the saint had died, and Páll son of Jón Loptsson came from Iceland, wintered in Þrándheimr, and was consecrated by Archbishop Absalon in Denmark.

Um vetrinn áðr hafði andazt Þorlákr byskup hinn helgi, ok
In the-winter before had died Thorlak bishop the holy and
þat sama sumar kom utan af Íslandi Páll son Jóns Loptssonar.
that same summer came out from Iceland Pal son of-Jon Lopt's-son
Var hann um vetrinn í Þrándheimi, en fór um várit suðr til
Was he in the-winter in Thrandheim but went in the-spring south to
Danmerkr ok tók byskupsvígslu af Absalon erkibyskupi, ok
Denmark and took bishop's-consecration from Absalon archbishop and
fór aptr um sumarit til Noregs ok svá norðr til Björgynjar.
went back in the-summer to Norway and so north to Bjorgvin

Frá Sverri konungi

CXXI · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir summoned all the bishops to Björgvin to counsel him, since Archbishop Eiríkr had summoned them to himself; the year before he had meant to send a force against the Orkneymen for their treachery.

Sverrir konungr fór um várit norðr til Björgynjar, var þar
Sverrir king went in the-spring north to Bjorgvin was there
lögð stefna, at byskupar allir skyldu þar koma, þeir er
laid meeting that bishops all should there come those who
váru í Noregi, til umráða með konunginum, fyrir því at
were in Norway to counsel with the-king for that that
Eiríkr erkibyskup hafði þá sent bréf sín norðr í Noreg
Eirik archbishop had then sent letters his north into Norway
ok stefnt öllum byskupum á sinn fund. Kómu byskupar
and summoned all bishops on his meeting Came bishops
allir til Björgynjar. Kom þar þá Páll byskup. Hit fyrra
all to Bjorgvin Came there then Pal bishop The former
sumarit hafði konungr þat mjök í ætlan at senda lið
summer had (the)-king that much in intention to send troop
vestr í Orkneyjar ok gjalda Orkneyingum svikræði.
west to Orkneys and repay to-(the)-Orkneymen treachery

Frá jarli ok byskupi

CXXII · OF THE EARL AND THE BISHOP

Earl Haraldr came from Orkney with Bishop Bjarni and the best men of the islands. The chiefs agreed to send Bishop Þórir and Master Rikarðr to Pope Celestine with letters under the seals of Sverrir and all the bishops.

En er þetta spurðist vestr, þá býst jarl at fara
But when this was-heard west then prepares (the)-earl to go
vestan, ok með honum Bjarni byskup ok allir hinir beztu
from-the-west and with him Bjarni bishop and all the best
menn af Orkneyjum, kómu þeir at þessum byskupa fundi
men of Orkneys came they to this of-bishops meeting
til Noregs. Áttu þá höfðingjar stefnur sín í milli, ok
to Norway Had then (the)-chieftains meetings themselves in between and
var þat afráðit, at senda menn með bréfum á páva
was that decided to send men with letters on of-(the)-pope
fund; var fyrir þessi bréf sett innsigli Sverris konungs ok
meeting was before these letters set seal of-Sverrir king and
allra byskupa þeira, er þar váru. Rézt til þeirar ferðar
of-all bishops those who there were Undertook to that journey
Þórir byskup ok með honum Rikarðr svartameistari. Fóru
Thorir bishop and with him Rikard Black-Master Went
þeir með þessum erendum á fund Celestinus páva.
they with these errands on meeting of-Celestinus pope

Tala Haralds jarls

CXXIII · EARL HARALDR'S SPEECH

At a þing in the yard of Christ Church old Earl Haraldr said he had not led the revolt but could not make war on all his people, laid his case in Sverrir's hands, and fell at his feet. Sverrir said the raid had been a great one, but since the earl repented, he would grant the mercy he hoped for himself from God.

Þá kærðu þeir konungr ok jarl sitt mál, var þá þing
Then pleaded they (the)-king and (the)-earl their case was then assembly
út í Kristskirkjugarði, stóð hirðin um konungssætit, en
out in Christ's-church-yard stood the-bodyguard about the-king's-seat but
sumt sat frammi fyrir; þá stóð enn mart utan at, var
some sat out before then stood yet many outside at was
þar jarlinn. Hann tók til orða ok mælti: Hér er nú mikill
there the-earl He took to words and said Here is now great
fjöldi góðra manna, þyrfta ek at mínu máli góðan róm
multitude of-good men would-need I for my case good hearing
alþýðu. Ek em nú svá gamall sem á grönum má sjá,
of-(the)-commons I am now so old as on whiskers may see
hefi ek komit mörgum konungum fyrir kné, stundum með
have I brought to-many kings before knee sometimes with
kærleik, en opt með vandamálum. Nú er nýr vandi til handa
friendship but often with troubles Now is new difficulty to hands
kominn, reiði míns herra Sverris konungs; em ek þó minna
come anger of-my lord Sverrir king am I though less
af valdr því máli, en mér er kent, eigi réð ek uppreist
off cause of-that matter than to-me is imputed not counseled I uprising
flokksins, en þat var satt, at eigi börðumst ek á mót þeim,
of-the-band but that was true that not fought I on against them
eigi mátta ek hatast við allan lýð þar í landi, ok eigi láta
not could I be-at-feud with all people there in land and not let

Orkneyingar alt at mér, margir hlaupa ok herja á Írland eða
(the)-Orkneymen all at me many run and harry on Ireland or
Skotland, eða ræna kaupmenn, ok allir at úvilja mínum, en
Scotland or rob merchants and all at unwill my but
er þó þat mælt, at ek sjá refsingasamr. En ekki er hér
is though that said that I be given-to-punishing But not is here
um langt at tala, svá gert, sem nú er, ok svá mælt, legg ek
about long to talk so done as now is and so spoken lay I
á guðs vald ok yðart, herra. Gékk hann þá fram millum
on God's power and yours lord Went he then forward between
mannanna ok féll til fóta konunginum. Konungrinn litaðist
the-men and fell to feet to-the-king The-king looked
um ok tók seint til orða ok mælti: Mikit herhlaup gerðu
about and took slowly to words and said Great raid made
þér í Noreg, er svá styrkan flokk efldut higat í land,
you into Norway when so strong band raised hither into land
sem Eyskeggjar váru, ok þótti mér ok mínum mönnum
as (the)-Island-Beards were and seemed to-me and to-my men
þat mjök móti skapi. En nú er jarl hér kominn, sem þér
that much against mind But now is (the)-earl here come as you
megut sjá, ok iðrast nú þess, sem hann hefir af gert, ok
may see and repents now of-that which he has off done and
biðr nú miskunnar, ok hana vil ek veita honum, mun ek
asks now of-mercy and it will I grant to-him will I
þess þurfa af guði, at hann miskunni mér framar en ek
of-it need from God that he have-mercy to-me further than I
hefi til gert, ok statt upp, herra jarl, ok ver í guðs griðum
have to done and stand up lord earl and be in God's peace
ok mínum, en ek mun segja upp sætt okkra í meira tómi.
and mine but I will say up settlement our in more leisure

Um sætt Sverris konungs ok Haralds jarls

CXXIV · OF THE SETTLEMENT OF KING SVERRIR AND EARL HARALDR

Sverrir took the lands of men who fell at Flóruvágar, redeemable within three winters, took all Shetland, and left Haraldr Orkney with half the fines; the earl swore oaths. Sverrir warned the bishops that the Norwegian church was not their inheritance and that blind Eiríkr could give them little.

Sverrir konungr lét rita alla sætt, þá er hann gerði
Sverrir king let write all settlement that which he made
við Harald jarl, ok lét skrá eignir þær allar ok jarðir í
with Harald earl and let list properties those all and lands in
Orkneyjum ok Hjaltlandi, er fallit höfðu í konungsgarð,
Orkneys and Shetland which fallen had into king's-estate
ok þeir menn höfðu átt, er fallit höfðu í Flóruvágum.
and those men had owned who fallen had in Floruvagar
Hann lagði á þriggja vetra lausn, at frændr hinna dauðu
He laid on of-three winters redemption that kinsmen of-the dead
skyldu leyst hafa með lausafé; en ef eigi væri leyst
should redeemed have with chattels but if not were redeemed
innan þriggja vetra, þá féll alt at aldareðli í konungsgarð.
within three winters then fell all in perpetuity into king's-estate
Konungr tók undir sik Hjaltland alt með öllum skyldum,
(The)-king took under himself Shetland all with all dues
hann setti Harald jarl yfir Orkneyjar með þeim skildaga,
he set Harald earl over Orkneys with that condition
at konungr skal hafa hálfan allan sakeyri, ok setti þar
that (the)-king shall have half all fines and set there
sýslumenn yfir. Svarði þá jarlinn konunginum eiða at skilnaði
bailiffs over Swore then the-earl to-the-king oaths at parting
þeira. Sverrir konungr gékk á tal við byskupana, áðr þeir
their Sverrir king went on talk with the-bishops before they

skildust, þá mælti konungrinn: Þat er mitt ráð, góðir
parted then said the-king That is my counsel good
höfðingjar, at þér gætið með vizku ríkis þess, er guð hefir
chieftains that you guard with wisdom realm that which God has
yðr til sett, látið yðr þat í hug koma, at þat er ekki
you to set let to-you that into mind come that that is not
föðurleifð yður; svá ok ef Eiríkr blindi flæmir yðr af
father's-inheritance your so also if Eirik (the)-Blind drives you from
ríkinu, at hann mun lítit gott fá yðr í staðinn, er hann
the-realm that he will little good get to-you in the-place when he
má eigi fá sjálfum sér, hann hefir nú 10 sveina við sér,
may not get self himself he has now 10 lads with himself
ok þó alla á annars kostnaði, en ef þér haldit fast samband
and yet all on another's cost but if you hold fast bond
við mik, þá skal ek vera forstjóri fyrir allra vár máli. Þeir
with me then shall I be leader for of-all us case They
hétu góðu um at skiljast eigi við konungsins mál.
promised good about to part not from the-king's cause

Frá Hreiðari sendimanni

CXXV · OF HREIÐARR THE MESSENGER

Hreiðarr brought the Greek emperor's request for a thousand warriors; Sörkvir became king in Sweden, and Bishop Nikulás went to Denmark.

Hreiðarr hét maðr víkverskr, er þá hafði lengi verit af
Hreidar was-called man of-the-Vik who then had long been from
landi braut ok víða farit. Hann kom þetta sama sumar með
land away and widely fared He came this same summer with
bréfum ok innsigli því, er kallat var Gullbóluskrá; þat
letters and seal that which called was Gold-Bull-Writ that

innsigli hafði sent Kirialax Grikkja konungr Sverri konungi,
seal had sent Kirialax of-(the)-Greeks king to-Sverrir king
en þat stóð á bréfum, at Sverrir konungr skyldi senda
and that stood in letters that Sverrir king should send
Grikkja konungi 10 hundruð góðra hermanna. Sent hafði
of-(the)-Greeks to-king 10 hundreds of-good warriors Sent had
hann ok til Danmarkar Knúti konungi þann mann, er Pétr
he also to Denmark to-Knut king that man who Petr
hét, ok var kallaðr illska, ok með þvílíkum orðsendingum
was-called and was called Malice and with such messages
ok hinn þriðja mann til Svíakonungs. Var Hreiðarr með
and the third man to (the)-Swedes'-king Was Hreidar with
konunginum um vetrinn. Þat haust andaðist Knútr konungr
the-king in the-winter That autumn died Knut king
í Svíþjóð, ok tók þar konungdóm Sörkvir Karlsson. Þat
in Sweden and took there kingship Sorkvir Karl's-son That
sama haust fór Nikulás byskup suðr til Danmarkar á fund
same autumn went Nikulas bishop south to Denmark on meeting
erkibyskupa Absalons ok Eiríks ok sættist við þá.
of-archbishops Absalon and Eirik and was-reconciled with them

Sverrir konungr leystr af páva

CXXVI · KING SVERRIR FREED BY THE POPE

Bishop Þórir, Master Rikarðr, and a cardinal died suddenly in Denmark, poisoned, Sverrir said. Then a papal letter came freeing him and his realm from the ban.

Vetr þann kómu sunnan frá Rómi til Danmarkar Þórir
Winter that came from-the-south from Rome to Denmark Thorir
byskup ok Rikarðr meistari, ok með þeim kardinali af
bishop and Rikard master and with them a-cardinal from

Róma. Allir féngu þeir þar bráðasótt ok önduðust, ok kómu
Rome All got they there sudden-sickness and died and came
engi vísendi bráðliga til Noregs um þeira erendi, hvert orðit
no tidings quickly to Norway about their errand what become
var. Nökkuru síðar kómu danskir menn til Sverris konungs
was Somewhat later came Danish men to Sverrir king
ok fluttu honum bréf ok innsigli pávans. Lét Sverrir konungr
and brought to-him letters and seal of-the-pope Let Sverrir king
bréf þessi upp lesa á kór ok sýna þar pávans innsigli.
letters these up read in choir and show there the-pope's seal
Stóð þat á bréfum, at þegar pávinn vissi hit sanna, at
Stood that in letters that as-soon-as the-pope knew the truth that
konungrinn mælti réttara en erkibyskup, þá leysti pávinn
the-king spoke more-rightly than (the)-archbishop then loosed the-pope
hann ok alt hans ríki frá öllum stórmælum. Konungr kvezt
him and all his realm from all great-sentences (The)-king said-himself
ok spurt hafa með sannendum, at kardinali ok Þórir byskup
also heard have with truth that (the)-cardinal and Thorir bishop
hefði verit, ok allir þeir, í boði með presti nökkurum, ok
had been and all they at feast with priest a-certain and
um kveldit var kastat eitri í drykk þeira, ok dó þeir allir.
in the-evening was cast poison into drink their and died they all

Um erendi Hreiðars

CXXVII · OF HREIÐARR'S ERRAND

Sverrir would not send men to the Greek emperor while Denmark bred wolves against him, but let Hreiðarr take farmers' sons and merchants. At the market on Halaeyrr Bishop Nikulás and the men of the Vík, with Archbishop Eiríkr behind them, raised a new band around a boy called Magnús Erlingsson's son; they were called the Baglar.

Um várit eptir leitaði Hreiðarr við konung, hvert hans
In the-spring after sought Hreidar with (the)-king what his
erendi skyldi vera. Konungr svaraði svá: Ekki lízt mér
errand should be (The)-king answered so Not seems to-me
friðvænligt hér í landi. Spyr ek þat frá, at Danir munu
peace-likely here in land Hear I that from that (the)-Danes will
enn ala oss úlfa, sitja þeir ok sumir innan lands, at ek
yet rear to-us wolves sit they also some within land that I
trúi eigi vel; mun ek ekki senda mína menn frá mér at
trust not well will I not send my men from me at
svá búnu. Þá spurði Hreiðarr, ef konungr gæfi orlof til
so done Then asked Hreidar if (the)-king gave leave to
bóndasonum eða kaupmönnum at fara, ef þeir vildi. Konungr
farmers'-sons or to-merchants to go if they wished (The)-king
lézt þat gera mundu. Fékk Hreiðarr sér sveitar ok
said-himself that do would Got Hreidar for-himself a-company and
fór or landi um sumarit suðr til Danmarkar á Halaeyri,
went out-of land in the-summer south to Denmark to Halaeyr
þá er þar var markaðr. Þar kom Nikulás byskup ok fjöldi
then when there was market There came Nikulas bishop and multitude
Víkverja. Þeir Nikulás byskup höfðu þar með sér svein
of-Vik-men They Nikulas bishop had there with themselves lad
einn, er þeir kölluðu son Magnús konungs Erlingssonar;
one whom they called son of-Magnus king Erling's-son
þann kölluðu Birkibeinar danskan ok heita Þorgils þúfuskít.
him called (the)-Birchlegs Danish and be-called Thorgils Tussock-Dung
Þar á Eyrinni reisa þeir flokk, rézt þar til mikit fjölmenni.
There on the-Eyr raise they band joined there to great multitude
Til þeirar ferðar réð Eiríkr erkibyskup, þar var ok kominn
To that journey counseled Eirik archbishop there was also come
Sigurðr jarlsson ok margir aðrir, þeir váru kallaðir Baglar.
Sigurd earl's-son and many others they were called Baglers

Frá Sverri konungi ok Böglum

CXXVIII · OF KING SVERRIR AND THE BAGLAR

The Baglar landed at Salteyjarsund with five longships and a hundred small craft. Sverrir smashed their ships with a catapult from a rock, but by night they came along the reef, routed the catapult's guard under his son Sigurðr lávarðr, and broke the catapult; Sverrir reproached his son for keeping watch so badly.

Sverrir konungr var þá í Vík austr, ok er Baglar kómu
Sverrir king was then in (the)-Vik east and when (the)-Baglers came
í Salteyjarsund, þá varð Sverrir konungr varr við. Konungr
into Salteyjarsund then became Sverrir king aware of-it (The)-king
sjálfr fór á njósn ok Nikulás af Vestnesi, ok sýndist
himself went on spying and Nikulas of Vestnes and seemed
konungi afli þeira mikill. Fór konungr þá aptr til sinna
to-the-king strength their great Went (the)-king then back to his
manna. Baglar váru nú á landi, þar heita nú Múgavellir.
men (The)-Baglers were now on land there is-called now Mugavellir
Þeir höfðu þar dregit upp skip sín hjá sér, þeir höfðu
They had there drawn up ships their beside themselves they had
5 langskip ok hundrað smáskipa. Sverrir konungr hafði 30
5 longships and hundred of-small-ships Sverrir king had 30
skipa ok flest smá, en er konungr sá, at þeir höfðu múg
of-ships and most small but when (the)-king saw that they had throng
manna, þá lagði konungr sínum skipum undir eyna, ok lá
of-men then laid (the)-king his ships under the-island and lay
þar um hríð. Hann lét reisa valslöngu á bergi nökkuru gegnt
there for while He let raise catapult on rock a-certain opposite
skipum þeira Bagla, ok um kveldit, er valslöngvan var
ships of-them of-(the)-Baglers and in the-evening when the-catapult was
búin, þá slöngðu Birkibeinar um hríð ok brutu skipin fyrir
ready then slung (the)-Birchlegs for while and broke the-ships for

Böglum. En um kveldit er dimma tók, lét konungrinn gæta
(the)-Baglers But in the-evening when to-darken began let the-king guard
valslöngunnar Lávarð son sinn ok Eilíf rauða ok 80 manna
the-catapult Lavard son his and Eilif (the)-Red and 80 of-men
með þeim. Konungr bað þá svá við varast, at Baglar
with them (The)-king bade them so against beware that (the)-Baglers
mundu koma þar um nóttina. Gékk konungr þá til skipanna.
would come there in the-night Went (the)-king then to the-ships
Veðr var geysi kalt, ok niðamyrkr á sem mest. Rif gékk
Weather was terribly cold and pitch-dark on as most Reef went
milli lands ok eyjarinnar. Þeir Sigurðr lávarðr lögðust í
between land and the-island They Sigurd Lavard lay-down in
kös undir valslöngunni. Baglar géngu um nóttina at fjöru
heap under the-catapult (The)-Baglers went in the-night at low-tide
út eptir rifinu, hundrað manna. Fundu Birkibeinar eigi fyrr,
out along the-reef hundred of-men Found (the)-Birchlegs not earlier
þeir er undir valslöngunni váru, en spjótin stóðu á þeim.
those who under the-catapult were than the-spears stood in them
Hljópu þeir þá upp. Þá mælti Eilífr rauði: Rekum þá
Leapt they then up Then spoke Eilif (the)-Red Let-us-drive them
af oss, þeir hafa ekki um hönd fulla manna. Snerist hann
off us they have not about hand full of-men Turned he
þá við, ok fáir menn með honum, ok féllu þeir flestir.
then against and few men with him and fell they most
Lávarðr konungsson steyptist ofan fyrir kleif nökkura, ok
Lavard king's-son plunged down over cliff a-certain and
svá fóru þeir fleiri, stefndu þeir til skipanna. Þar létust af
so went they more headed they to the-ships There died of
Birkibeinum á þriðja tigi manna. Baglar brutu í sundr alla
(the)-Birchlegs on third ten of-men (The)-Baglers broke in asunder all
valslönguna. Konungr veitti hörð orð Lávarði syni sínum, ok
the-catapult (The)-king gave hard words to-Lavard son his and

sagði þat sem satt var: Annan veg hélt ek vörðinn, þá er
said that as true was Other way held I the-watch then when
ek gékk til lands mót Magnúsi konungi, ok vei verði þeim
I went to land against Magnus king and woe be to-that
konungssyni, er svá gætir sinnar sveitar, sem þú hefir gætt.
king's-son who so guards his company as you have guarded

Frá konungi ok Nikulási byskupi

CXXIX · OF THE KING AND BISHOP NIKULÁS

From a rock Bishop Nikulás taunted Sverrir to land and fight, saying his shield and sword were his vestments now, and dared him to come ashore alone against him alone; the Birkibeinar mocked back. Sverrir said that if he and Nikulás fought, it would be a meeting of two cowards.

Þat var einn dag, þá er konungr lá í Seimsfirði, at hann
That was one day then when (the)-king lay in Seimsfjord that he
reri á skútu inn undir landit. Baglar géngu fram á
rowed on a-cutter in under the-land (The)-Baglers went forward on
berg nökkut ok kölluðu á þá. Sigurðr jarlsson mælti: Hvárt
rock a-certain and called on them Sigurd earl's-son said Whether
er Sverrir matgjafi minn á skútunni? Þá svaraði Ljótr
is Sverrir food-giver my on the-cutter Then answered Ljot
Haraldsson: Hér er Sverrir konungr á skipinu, ok mun hann
Harald's-son Here is Sverrir king on the-ship and will he
eigi hafa verra manni mat gefit en þér, muntu nú þat sýna.
not have worse to-man food given than to-you will-you now that show
Þá mælti Nikulás byskup: Fyrir hví gengr þú eigi á land,
Then spoke Nikulas bishop For why go you not on land
Sverrir? Viltu nú eigi berjast, guðníðingrinn? Þér þykkir
Sverrir Will-you now not fight the-God's-traitor To-you seems

ekki jafngott lífi, sem ræna ok herja. Sé hér nú handlín
nothing as-good to-life as rob and harry See here now maniple
mitt — hann hélt upp skildinum — nú hefi ek mítr ok
my he held up the-shield now have I miter and
staf þann, er ek skal bera at pávans boði, þat er stálhúfa
staff that which I shall bear at the-pope's bidding that is steel-cap
ok sverð, þar til er þú ert drepinn eða rekinn or landi.
and sword there till when you are killed or driven out-of land
Birkibeinar skutu æ orðum í ok mæltu: Eigi þœtti oss
(The)-Birchlegs shot ever with-words in and said Not would-seem to-us
vandi um landgönguna, ef slíkir einir væri fyrir, sem þú
difficulty about the-landing if such alone were before as you
níðingrinn. Sumir mæltu svá: Illa muntu bera þín vápn, svá
the-wretch Some said so Ill will-you bear your weapons so
hefir þú fyrr borit. Byskup mælti: Opt frýit þér mér hugar,
have you before borne (The)-bishop said Often challenge you to-me of-courage
Birkibeinar! Nú gakktu, Sverrir, einn á land, en ek mun einn
Birchlegs Now go-you Sverrir alone on land and I will alone
ganga á móti þér, ok skal þá reyna, hvárt meira má veita
go on against you and shall then test whether more may grant
mér Pétr postoli ok hinn helgi Hallvarðr, eða hon kyflan
to-me Peter apostle and the holy Hallvard or she the-cowl
gauzka mun veita þér, er þú trúir á. Þá svaraði konungr,
Gautish will grant to-you which you believe in Then answered (the)-king
svá at hans menn heyrðu: Þat mundi mælt, ef vit Nikulás
so that his men heard That would said if we-two Nikulas
byskup berðimst, at þar væri greyja mót, er í hvárigum
bishop fought that there were of-bitches meeting when in neither
er hugrinn. Fór þá konungr braut ok til sinna manna.
is the-courage Went then (the)-king away and to his men

Um húsþing

CXXX · OF A HOUSE-ASSEMBLY

Nikulás of Vestnes said the men were starving and wanted to fight or go; Sverrir answered that the men inside fared no better. He buried his dead in the church at Salteyjarsund, sent many home, and wintered in Þrándheimr.

Um myrgininn eptir hafði konungr húsþing, ok spurði menn
In the-morning after had (the)-king house-assembly and asked men
ráðs. hvat til skyldi taka. Þá svaraði Nikulás af Vestnesi: Ilt
of-counsel what to should take Then answered Nikulas of Vestnes Ill
þykkir oss at liggja hér við matleysi, viljum vér nú leggja at ok
seems to-us to lie here with lack-of-food will we now lay at and
berjast, sigrast eða falla, en at öðrum kosti viljum vér á braut
fight win or fall but at other choice wish we on away
þangat, sem vér fám oss mat. Konungr svaraði: Hér segir
thither where we get ourselves food (The)-king answered Here say
þú nú mjök vilja allra liðsmanna; en svá ilt sem yðr þykkir
you now much will of-all troopmen but so ill as to-you seems
hér at liggja, þá þykkir þeim engum mun betra, er hér liggja
here to lie then seems to-them by-no degree better who here lie
fyrir innan hjá oss. Konungr lét þá flytja lík manna sinna til
before within beside us (The)-king let then carry bodies of-men his to
kirkju í Salteyjarsundi. Eptir þat fór hann norðr til Björgynjar
church in Salteyjarsund After that went he north to Bjorgvin
með öllu liðinu, ok gaf þá mörgum heimleyfi. Konungr fór
with all the-troop and gave then to-many home-leave (The)-king went
norðr um haustit til Þrándheims ok sat þar um vetrinn.
north in the-autumn to Thrandheim and sat there in the-winter

Frá Beglingum

CXXXI · OF THE BAGLAR

The Baglar made Ingi king at the Borgarþing and took the Vík and the Uplands; they plundered Sverrir's treasure from the Maríukirkja wall at Höfuðey and killed his bailiffs in Áldi.

Baglar sóttu norðr í Víkina, létu þeir þá stefna
(The)-Baglers made north into the-Vik let they then summon
Borgarþing. Var þar Ingi til konungs tekinn. Lögðu þeir þá
Borgarthing Was there Ingi to king taken Laid they then
undir sik alla Víkina ok um Upplönd. Nikulás byskup
under themselves all the-Vik and about Upplands Nikulas bishop
var um vetrinn í Osló at stóli sínum, en stundum suðr
was in the-winter in Oslo at see his but sometimes south
í Danmörk. Þá var vígðr til byskups í Hamarkaupang
in Denmark Then was consecrated to bishop in Hamar
Ívarr skjálgi. Þá kom til Bagla Hallvarðr af Sástöðum,
Ivar (the)-Squint Then came to (the)-Baglers Hallvard of Sastadir
Kolbeinn stránefr ok margir aðrir. Þann vetr tóku þeir
Kolbein Straw-Nose and many others That winter took they
Nikulás byskup ok Sigurðr jarlsson mikit fé or
Nikulas bishop and Sigurd earl's-son much money out-of
Maríukirkju vegg, er Sverrir konungr átti, í Höfuðey, ok
Mary's-church wall which Sverrir king owned in Hofudey and
höfðu með sér. Um várit eptir fóru þeir Nikulás byskup
had with themselves In the-spring after went they Nikulas bishop
ok Sigurðr upp á Heiðmörk. Þá gerðu þeir lið um fjall
and Sigurd up to Heidmork Then sent they troop over mountain
norðr, ok kom þat ofan í firði þeim er heitir Áldi inn
north and came it down into fjord that which is-called Aldi in

frá Rugsundi. Þar drápu þeir sýslumenn Sverris konungs
from Rugsund There killed they bailiffs of-Sverrir king
Þóri dara ok Einar lygru ok sveit við þeim. Fóru Baglar
Thorir Dart and Einar Lygra and company with them Went (the)-Baglers
aptr síðan til Upplanda ok þóttust hafa vel gengit.
back then to Upplands and thought-themselves have well gone

Útboð Sverris konungs

CXXXII · KING SVERRIR'S LEVY

Sverrir gathered over four thousand men at Björgvin. He told the unruly levy to stop plundering farmers, then set out his mother Gunnhildr's kindred before the assembly, saying Nikulás had a hare's heart and a fox's loyalty, and sailed for Osló.

Um vetrinn eptir jól átti konungr þing við bœndr ok
In the-winter after Yule held (the)-king assembly with (the)-farmers and
bauð út leiðangri um allan Þrándheim, Hálogaland ok
called out levy through all Thrandheim Halogaland and
Mœri hváratveggju. Hann stefndi snemma saman öllu liðinu.
More both He summoned early together all the-troop
At Hallvarðsmessu var hann kominn við öllu liðinu suðr til
At Hallvard's-mass was he come with all the-troop south to
Björgynjar, hafði hann þá nær 30 hundraða. Hann sat um
Bjorgvin had he then nearly 30 of-hundreds He sat in
sumarit í Björgyn fram til Margrétarmessu, dreif þá til
the-summer in Bjorgvin forward till Margaret's-mass flocked then to
hans lið mikit, mundi hann þá hafa á fimta tigi hundraða.
him troop great would he then have on fifth ten of-hundreds
Sigldi hann þá liðinu suðr í Grœningasund, ok þótti
Sailed he then the-troop south into Groningasund and seemed

mörgum kynligt, er hann fór eigi leið sína. Konungr hafði
to-many strange that he went not way his (The)-king had
jafnan þing við lið sitt. Hann hafði fjölda leiðangrsfólks,
always assemblies with troop his He had multitude of-levy-folk
var þat lið úspakt ok lítt stilt. Konungr talaði fyrir
was that troop unruly and little restrained (The)-king spoke before
fólkinu á einu þingi ok mælti svá: Úfallit er þat góðum
the-folk at one assembly and said so Unfitting is that to-good
bóndasonum at fara til þess or Þrándheimi eða Hálogalandi,
farmers'-sons to go to that out-of Thrandheim or Halogaland
eða þótt skemra sé at komnir, at berjast við búgögn
or though shorter be at come to fight against household-goods
bónda, keröld eða bús búhluti, er yðr þat engi snild,
of-farmer tubs or of-household utensils is to-you that no prowess
en hinum mein, er eigu; ræð ek yðr þat at gera þetta eigi
but to-those harm who own counsel I to-you that to do this not
lengr. Nú má ek eigi heita stjórnari lands þessa, nema ek
longer Now may I not be-called ruler of-land this unless I
taka af þessa úsiðu eða aðra; bið ek yðr til vinsamligum
take off these bad-customs or others ask I you to with-friendly
orðum, at þér látið af þessum úspektum, fyrir því at mér
words that you leave off these disorders for that that to-me
þykkir mikit fyrir at refsa yðr, en þat verðr þó at gera,
seems much for to punish you but that must though to do
ef eigi batnar við þetta. Svá þykkjumst ek ok fullkominn til
if not improves with this So think-myself I also fully-fit to
vera ríkisstjórnar lands þessa, þó at Nikulás byskup segi
be of-realm-rule of-land this though that Nikulas bishop say
þat eigi. En þat þykkjumst ek eigi vita, hvat Nikulás byskup
that not But that think-myself I not know what Nikulas bishop
finnr mér, er hann segir þat, at ek mega eigi konungr
finds to-me when he says that that I may not king

vera yfir Noregi. Þeir hafa margir borit konunga nöfn, er
be over Norway They have many borne of-kings names who
verit hafa ambáttar synir, en ek em sannr son Sigurðar
been have of-bondwoman sons but I am true son of-Sigurd
konungs ok Gunnhildar. Er þat nökkurum mönnum kunnigt,
king and of-Gunnhild Is that to-some men known
hver ætt hennar er, en ek má þat þó gera enn kunnara
what kin her is but I may that though make yet better-known
alþýðunni. Þá taldi konungr allar kynkvíslir hennar öllum
to-the-commons Then counted (the)-king all kin-branches her to-all
þingmönnum áheyranda, ok könnuðust þá margir menn við
assembly-men hearing and recognized then many men with
sína frændr, þeir er eigi vissu áðr skil á. Lauk hann svá
their kinsmen those who not knew before account on Ended he so
sínu máli, at engan kvezt hann vita betr til fallinn þá í
his speech that none said-himself be know better to fitted then in
Noregi, hvárki fyrir guði né mönnum, at bera konungsnafn
Norway neither before God nor men to bear king's-name
en sik, en þó at Nikulás byskup vili heldr annan hafa
than himself but though that Nikulas bishop will rather another have
en mik, þá munu vér Birkibeinar lítt at því fara nú heldr
than me then will we Birchlegs little at that go now rather
en fyrr. Konungr þarf at vera harðr ok ráðvandr, en oss
than before A-king needs to be hard and upright but to-us
sýnist Nikulás, þótt hann sé tungumjúkr maðr, hafa hera
seems Nikulas though he be tongue-smooth man have of-hare
hjarta en trygð sem refrinn, ok þótt vér telim upp allan
heart and loyalty as the-fox and though we count up all
afspring Ingiríðar, þá mun fár vera tryggr; eigi var Magnús
offspring of-Ingirid then will few be loyal not was Magnus
trúr eða Buriz, sem merki hafa á orðit. Nú látum þat
true or Buriz as marks have on become Now let-us-let that

vera kyrt, þvíat alt mun reynast um síðir, hverr hvergi er,
be still because all will be-proved in the-end who each is
munum vér nú fyrst sœkja á fund Bagla, ok mun þá
will we now first seek on meeting of-(the)-Baglers and will then
vita, hversu hvatr hvergi er, eða hversu fast skaufhali stendr
know how bold each is or how fast bushy-tail stands
þá fyrir oss Birkibeinum. Eptir þat var slitit þinginu, var
then before us Birchlegs After that was broken the-assembly was
þá ok skamt at bíða þess, er byrr rann á. Tóku þeir
then also short to wait of-that that fair-wind ran on Took they
þá til segls ok léttu eigi fyrr, en þeir kómu austr til
then to sail and stopped not earlier than they came east to
Oslóar, ok var þar fyrir Bagla herr mikill í bœnum.
Oslo and was there before of-(the)-Baglers host great in the-town

Sverrir konungr skipaði atlögu

CXXXIII · KING SVERRIR ORDERS THE ATTACK

At Höfuðey Sverrir planned three attacks on Osló: Hákon's cutters by the nunnery, the landed men by the Maríukirkja yard, and the main force with his standard at the wharves.

Jakobsmessu aptan lagði Sverrir konungr við Höfuðey. Gékk
On-James's-mass eve laid Sverrir king at Hofudey Went
hann upp um myrgininn ok hlýddi tíðum. Eptir messu átti
he up in the-morning and heard hours After mass held
konungr húsþing ok mælti: Baglar eru í bœnum með
(the)-king house-assembly and said (the)-Baglers are in the-town with
allmikit lið ok ætla at taka við oss; hugsit þér nú um
very-great troop and intend to take against us think you now about

vandliga, hvernin ek skipa til. Hákon son minn með allar
carefully how I arrange to Hakon son my with all
sínar skútur skal róa út á leiruna fyrir innan Nunnusetr,
his cutters shall row out on the-mudflat before within the-Nunnery
ganga þar upp ok svá í bœinn, veita þeim bakslettu,
go there up and so into the-town give to-those back-blow
er á bryggjunum eru; en lendir menn mínir, Gregorius
who on the-wharves are but landed men my Gregorius
Jónsson, Sigurðr af Móðastöðum, Eysteinn Rögnvaldsson
Jon's-son Sigurd of Modastadir Eystein Rognvald's-son
ok með þeim Mœrirnir, skulu leggja út at eyrunum við
and with them the-More-men shall lay out at the-gravel-banks by
Maríukirkjugarð ok ganga þar upp um Maríukirkjugarð
Mary's-church-yard and go there up through Mary's-church-yard
hjá syðra stræti; en alt annat lið skal fara með mínu
beside southern street but all other troop shall go with my
merki utan at bryggjum, þar mun vera meginlið þeira fyrir.
standard outside at wharves there will be main-troop their before
Var þá blásit þegar liðinu til brautlögu, greindust þá
Was then blown at-once to-the-troop to setting-off parted then
skipin hver, þannin sem konungrinn hafði fyrir mælt.
the-ships each so as the-king had before said

Tala Nikulás byskups fyrir Böglum

CXXXIV · BISHOP NIKULÁS SPEAKS TO THE BAGLAR

Nikulás set Sigurðr jarlsson and Hallvarðr of Sástaðir by the nunnery and the king's standard at the wharves, telling the Baglar that Sverrir's banned men could not bite with their swords; he watched from horseback before his residence.

Nikulás byskup talaði fyrir her þeira Bagla ok mælti svá:
Nikulas bishop spoke before host their of-(the)-Baglers and said so
Sigurðr jarlsson með sína sveit ok Hallvarðr af Sástöðum með
Sigurd earl's-son with his company and Hallvard of Sastadir with
Upplendinga skulu hafa eina fylking fyrir innan Nunnusetr
(the)-Upplanders shall have one battle-line before within the-Nunnery
ok gæta, at þeir komist eigi þar í bœinn, en þeir synir
and guard that they get not there into the-town and those sons
Önundar hlyns ok Kolbeinn stránefr skulu gæta til brúarinnar,
of-Onund Maple and Kolbein Straw-Nose shall guard to the-bridge
at þeir komist eigi þar í bœinn, en konungsmerkit ok mitt
that they get not there into the-town but the-king's-standard and my
lið ok bœjarmenn skulum verja bryggjurnar. Hefir Sverrir
troop and townsmen shall defend the-wharves Has Sverrir
miklu minna her en þér hyggit, er víða einn maðr í hverju
much smaller host than you think is widely one man in each
hálfrými, hafa þeir sett upp húðföt sín víða í rúmunum, eru
half-room have they set up hide-bags their widely in the-rooms are
Birkibeinar svá bannsettir, at sverð þeira bíta eigi, ok eigi
(the)-Birchlegs so banned that swords their bite not and not
munu þeir þora at leggja. Vérðit nú við vel, feigr mun
will they dare to lay-at Stand-you now against well doomed will
hann Sverrir, ef hann leggr at, kann vera, at hér fari hann
he Sverrir if he lays at may be that here fare he
sem í Seimsfirði. Byskup var á hesti ok klerkar nökkurir
as in Seimsfjord (The)-bishop was on horse and clerks some
með honum, ok var hann uppi á strætinu fyrir garði
with him and was he up on the-street before residence
sínum, þá er atlagan tókst. Œptu þá hvárirtveggju heróp.
his then when the-attack began Shouted then both-sides war-cry

Um atlögu

CXXXV · OF THE ATTACK

Bengeirr langi split an Englishman's face on the wharf. Seeing the swords bite, Nikulás fled saying the devil was loose, and Gregorius's men, driven back to their ships, landed again at Prælaberg.

Sverrir konungr lagði at svá fast, at byrðingar, þeir er fyrir
Sverrir king laid at so fast that cargo-ships those which before
lágu, brotnuðu. Baglar höfðu sökt nökkurum skipum fyrir
lay broke (The)-Baglers had sunk some ships before
bryggjum, máttu Birkibeinar því eigi vel ná atlögunni,
wharves could (the)-Birchlegs therefore not well reach the-attack
skutu þá hvárirtveggju. Birkibeinar sóttu þá yfir byrðingana.
shot then both-sides (The)-Birchlegs pressed then over the-cargo-ships
Bengeirr langi ok Bótólfr kómu fyrstir upp á bryggjurnar.
Bengeir (the)-Long and Botolf came first up on the-wharves
Einn enskr maðr hjó þegar til Bengeirs ok mælti, at eigi
One English man hewed at-once at Bengeir and said that not
skyldu þeir þar upp ganga. Bengeirr skelfði sverðit, hann
should they there up go Bengeir shook the-sword he
kunni manna bezt við sverð ok buklara, hann sló undir
knew of-men best with sword and buckler he struck under
skjöldinn ok kom á fyrir neðan nefit, ok tók þat í sundr
the-shield and came on before below the-nose and took it in asunder
andlitit. Birkibeinar sóttu þá margir upp á bryggjurnar, en
the-face (The)-Birchlegs pressed then many up on the-wharves but
Baglar tóku vel á móti, var þá hörð svipan. Einn maðr
(the)-Baglers took well on against was then hard clash One man
mælti til byskups: Herra, ríðit nú fram hart, þvíat nú þurfu
said to (the)-bishop Lord ride now forward hard because now need

várir menn, at þér treystit þá, þvíat svá lízt mér nú, sem
our men that you strengthen them because so seems to-me now as
Birkibeinum bíti sverðin. Þá mælti byskup: Ríðum undan,
to-(the)-Birchlegs bite the-swords Then said (the)-bishop Let-us-ride away
lauss er nú orðinn djöfullinn. Hleyptu þeir upp or bœnum
loose is now become the-devil Galloped they up out-of the-town
ok námu eigi fyrr stað, en þeir kómu upp á Gjöllurásinn,
and took not earlier stop than they came up on the-Gjolluras
ok biðu þar liðsins. Þeir Gregorius lögðu út við árósinn,
and waited there for-the-troop They Gregorius laid out by the-river-mouth
ok var þar útgrunt, en er skipin kendu niðr, hljópu þeir
and was there shallow-out but when the-ships touched down leapt they
fyrir borð ok óðu til lands ok géngu upp allhraustliga.
over board and waded to land and went up very-boldly
Baglar váru uppi við Geitabrú, ok veita þeir svá harða
(The)-Baglers were up by Geitabru and give they so hard
árás Birkibeinum, at þeir snúa undan til skipanna, féllu
onslaught to-(the)-Birchlegs that they turn away to the-ships fell
sumir, en sumir hljópu á kaf. En er þeir koma á skipin,
some but some leapt into deep But when they come onto the-ships
þá leggja þeir út til Þrælabergs, ganga þar á land ok sœkja
then lay they out to Thraelaberg go there on land and press
inn eptir völlunum. En er Baglar sá þat, sœkja þeir á
in along the-fields But when (the)-Baglers saw that press they on
móti, ok varð þar orrosta hörð með þeim í annat sinn.
against and became there battle hard between them in second time

Frá Hákoni konungi unga

CXXXVI · OF YOUNG KING HÁKON

Hákon's cutters ran ashore and his men broke the Baglar line; the Sigrfluga was raised on the wharves and the Baglar fled. Sverrir caught the rest on the fields, but most of their chiefs escaped.

Hákon konungsson lagði at inn á leirunni svá fast, at skúturnar
Hakon king's-son laid at in on the-mudflat so fast that the-cutters
allar rendu upp á þurt land, hljópu þeir þegar á fylking
all ran up on dry land leapt they at-once on battle-line
Bagla. Þeir höfðu sik skamma stund við ok flýðu upp
of-(the)-Baglers They held themselves short while against and fled up
fyrir norðan bœinn. Birkibeinar fylgðu ok drápu af þeim slíkt,
before north the-town (The)-Birchlegs followed and killed of them such
er þeir máttu; sumir sneru í bœinn ok veittu þeim bakslettu,
as they could some turned into the-town and gave to-those back-blow
er á bryggjunum váru. Var þá ok uppkomin á bryggjurnar
who on the-wharves were Was then also up-come on the-wharves
Sigrflugan merki Sverris konungs, ok í því flýðu Baglar ok
the-Victory-Fly standard of-Sverrir king and in that fled (the)-Baglers and
bœjarmenn, sumir upp or bœnum, sumir í garðana. Sverrir
townsmen some up out-of the-town some into the-yards Sverrir
konungr gékk upp eptir langstræti, ok er hann kom upp í
king went up along long-street and when he came up into
göturnar, sá hann, hvar þeir börðust út á völlunum. Sneri
the-lanes saw he where they fought out on the-fields Turned
hann þá út þannig, féngu Baglar þá hart slag, féllu þeir
he then out thither got (the)-Baglers then hard blow fell they
nær allir. Birkibeinar rannsökuðu þá bœinn ok brutu hús
nearly all (The)-Birchlegs searched then the-town and broke houses

til Bagla, ok drápu þá enn mart manna, en þó drógust
for (the)-Baglers and killed then yet many of-men but yet drew-off
undan þessu sinni flestir höfðingjar Bagla, en fjöldi féll.
away this time most chieftains of-(the)-Baglers but multitude fell

Frá Sverri konungi

CXXXVII · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir thanked God that his luck held and moved his fleet to Höfuðey for fear of a night attack. The plunder was divided; when Nikulás offered peace by letter, Sverrir said he would grant him quarter only if he came in person. He thrashed Sigvaldi karl with a stick for stripping the rigging from the ships he meant to buy.

Eptir þat lét Sverrir konungr blása öllu liðinu upp á
After that let Sverrir king blow to-all the-troop up to
Mörtustokka, ok átti þar tal við þá ok mælti svá: Guð
Mortustokkar and had there talk with them and said so God
sé þess lofaðr, er hann hefir eigi gert horfinheilla við
be for-it praised that he has not made luck-reversal with
oss Birkibeina um sigrinn nú heldr en fyrr; er mér þess
us Birchlegs about the-victory now rather than before is to-me of-it
ván, at varla muni Nikulás skaufhali með úhræddu hjarta
expectation that hardly will Nikulas bushy-tail with unafraid heart
nú hafa undan sótt. En ek vil þó þat segja yðr öllum
now have away made But I will though that say to-you all
saman, at skipum skal leggja öllum til Höfuðeyjar. Vil ek,
together that ships shall lay all to Hofudey Wish I
at vér fáim enga flögu af þeim eða skræmihlaupum þeira,
that we get no surprise from them or scare-runs their
þvíat eigi er úvænna, at nökkurir víki aptr til bœjarins,
because not is unlikelier that some turn back to the-town

er náttar, ann ek þeim ekki þess, at þeir komist þegar
when it-nights grant I to-them not of-that that they get at-once
á veðr mínu liði. Þá fóru menn til skipa ok gerðu sem
on wind to-my troop Then went men to ships and did as
konungr mælti. Upp var tekit í bœnum fé alt, áðr þeir
(the)-king said Up was taken in the-town money all before they
fœri braut, fyrir því at bœndr ok kaupmenn höfðu barzt
went away for that that (the)-farmers and merchants had fought
móti konunginum. Langskip, þau er til váru, tóku þeir
against the-king Longships those which to were took they
ok brendu flest, en höfðu með sér Bókaskreppuna, er
and burned most but had with themselves the-Book-Bag which
Nikulás byskup hafði haft. Tók Híði þá við Bókaskreppunni
Nikulas bishop had had Took Hidi then over the-Book-Bag
en brendi Viðsjána, er áðr hafði hann. Ok er konungr
but burned the-Vidsja which before had he And when (the)-king
lá við Höfuðey, lét hann menn bera upp hlutskipti á
lay at Hofudey let he men carry up booty onto
völl sunnan á eyna, síðan lét hann skipta í fjóra staði
field south on the-island then let he divide into four places
herfanginu. Eptir þat var blásit til húsþings, ok átti hann
the-plunder After that was blown to house-assembly and had he
tal við lið sitt ok lét menn ganga undir stöng, ok var
talk with troop his and let men go under pole and was
liðit skorat, ok váru þá á fimta tigi hundraða. Þá kom
the-troop tallied and were then on fifth ten of-hundreds Then came
maðr með bréfi frá Nikulási byskupi til konungs, ok var
man with letter from Nikulas bishop to (the)-king and was
þat á, at byskup vildi sættast við konung. Hann kvað
that in-it that (the)-bishop wished be-reconciled with (the)-king He said
hafa hann þat gert fyrr, ok efnt þó lítit af, en engi
have him that done before and fulfilled yet little of-it but no

kvezt konungi þykkja fremd í at láta drepa Nikulás, ok
said-himself to-the-king seem honor in to let kill Nikulas and
unna mun ek Nikulási griða, ef hann sjálfr kemr á minn
grant will I to-Nikulas of-quarter if he himself comes on my
fund, en hann kemr, ef honum sýnist. Þá beiddi konungr
meeting and he comes if to-him seems Then asked (the)-king
liðsmenn ok leiðangrslið, at hann vill hafa skip ok skipreiða
troopmen and levy-troop that he will have ships and ship-gear
allan saman, er fenginn var, at kaupi fyrir 15 merkr
all together which got was at purchase for 15 marks
gulls. En mönnum sýndist svá, sem þetta mundi eigi vera
of-gold But to-men seemed so as this would not be
þriðjungr til verðs þess, sem til mundi koma. Géngu þeir
third to worth of-that which to would come Went they
þá til Sigvaldi karl ok Sigurðr af Móðastöðum, Eysteinn
then to Sigvaldi Churl and Sigurd of Modastadir Eystein
Rögnvaldsson ok margir aðrir, ok drógu í sundr reiðann ok
Rognvald's-son and many others and dragged in asunder the-rigging and
seglin sem annat fé. Ok er konungr vissi þat, hljóp hann
the-sails as other goods And when (the)-king knew that leapt he
til með sviga ok lét ganga. Flestir köstuðu niðr því, er á
to with switch and let go Most cast down that which on
héldu, ok stukku undan, þvíat þeir sá, at konungr var reiðr.
held and sprang away because they saw that (the)-king was angry
Sigvaldi beið ok gékk eigi undan. Konungr laust tvau högg
Sigvaldi waited and went not away (The)-king struck two blows
um herðar honum. Sigvaldi vildi eigi á mót taka. Konungr
about shoulders to-him Sigvaldi wished not on against take (The)-king
hætti ok sagði þá illa gera, er þeir brutu ráð hans,
stopped and said them ill do when they broke counsel his
sagði, at hann vill hafa landvarnir, ok svá var. Var þá skipt
said that he will have land-defenses and so was Was then divided

síðan fénu með mönnum, sem tala rennr til, var þat
afterward the-goods among men as count runs to was that
eigi minna fé, er hverr maðr hlaut þar, en til tveggja
not less money which each man got there than to two
marka veginna. Lá konungr þar lítit skort hálfan mánuð.
marks weighed Lay (the)-king there little short half month

Frá Böglum

CXXXVIII · OF THE BAGLAR

The Baglar went north to Niðaróss and besieged the fort on Steinbjörg. Þorsteinn kúgaðr secretly let them in through a postern, the garrison was given quarter, and the Baglar burned the fort, choked its well with stones and a corpse, and burned Sverrir's longships.

Nú er at segja frá Böglum, er þeir hafa flýit, at þeir fara
Now is to tell about (the)-Baglers when they have fled that they go
hit efra um Upplönd ok svá norðr til Þrándheims ok svá
the upper through Upplands and so north to Thrandheim and so
í Niðarós. Ok er þeir kómu til borgarinnar á Steinbjörg,
into Nidaros And when they came to the-fort on Steinbjorg
settu þeir lið sitt umhverfum borgina. Þar var fyrir í
set they troop their around the-fort There was before in
borginni Þorsteinn kúgaðr ok Bjálfi skinnstakkr ok Ásgautr,
the-fort Thorstein (the)-Cowed and Bjalfi Skin-Coat and Asgaut
ok höfðu vel 80 manna. Baglar lögðu vistagjald á bœinn
and had well 80 of-men (The)-Baglers laid provision-tax on the-town
ok kröfðu bœndr leiðangra í heraði. Þeir létu menn ok
and demanded (the)-farmers of-levies in district They let men also
sverja sér trúnaðareiða ok konungi sínum, at menn
swear to-themselves oaths-of-fealty and to-king their that men

skyldu eigi vera mótstöðumenn þeira, þeir gerðu ok jafnan
should not be opponents their they made also constantly
harða skothríð borgarmönnum. Einn dag kallaði Nikulás
hard shooting to-the-fort-men One day called Nikulas
byskup á Þorstein í borgina ok mælti: Úráðligt er þér,
bishop on Thorstein in the-fort and said Unwise is to-you
Þorsteinn, at halda borgina ok vera í banni, ok láta muntu
Thorstein to hold the-fort and be in ban and lose will-you
meira í öðrum stað. Vér munum gera lið til búa þinna
more in other place We will send troop to farms your
ok ræna þar hvívetna en brenna bœina. Þorsteinn kallaði
and rob there everything and burn the-farms Thorstein called
Bjálfa til sín ok sagði, at úráðligt mundi at halda borgina
Bjalfi to himself and said that unwise would to hold the-fort
lengr, ef þeir sæti þráliga um. Lauk svá þeira viðrtali, at
longer if they sat stubbornly about Ended so their conversation that
þeir urðu á þat sáttir, at upp skyldi gefa borgina. Ekki
they became on that agreed that up should give the-fort Not
vissu aðrir borgarmenn til þessa. Laundyrr váru á borginni,
knew other fort-men to this Secret-doors were on the-fort
þar gékk Þorsteinn til, svá at hann mátti tala við Bagla.
there went Thorstein to so that he could talk with (the)-Baglers
Guðbrandr ungi gékk til móts við hann, ok gerðu þeir
Gudbrand (the)-Young went to meeting with him and made they
ráð millum sín, bað Þorsteinn þá ganga inn um nóttina
plan between themselves bade Thorstein them go in in the-night
þær sömu dyrr, en Guðbrandr hét á mót borgarmönnum
that same door and Gudbrand promised on against to-fort-men
öllum lífsgriðum, vápna ok klæða. Um nóttina géngu
all life-quarter of-weapons and of-clothes In the-night went
Baglar í borgina um þær sömu dyrr, sem Þorsteinn
(the)-Baglers into the-fort through that same door as Thorstein

hafði þeim heitit, at opnar skyldu vera. Fundu borgarmenn
had to-them promised that open should be Found fort-men
eigi fyrr, en Baglar höfðu fylt borgina af mönnum.
not earlier than (the)-Baglers had filled the-fort with men
Féngu menn þar lífsgrið ok höfðu ígangsklæði sín, fáir einir
Got men there life-quarter and had everyday-clothes their few only
vápn, en engir fé. Sneri Ásgautr ok Bjálfi út til heraðs,
weapons but none money Turned Asgaut and Bjalfi out to district
en Kúgaðr gerðist handgenginn þeim Böglum ok fór með
but (the)-Cowed became sworn-man to-those Baglers and went with
þeim. Baglar tóku fé þat alt, er í borginni var, síðan
them (The)-Baglers took money that all which in the-fort was then
brendu þeir hvert hús, er þar var. Þeir tóku einn dauðan
burned they each house which there was They took one dead
mann, er þar var, ok steyptu í brunninn, báru síðan í
man who there was and threw into the-well bore then in
grjót, þar til er fult var. Þeir stefndu til borgarmönnum
stones there till when full was They summoned to to-fort-men
at brjóta alla steinveggina, áðr þeir skildist við; þeir brendu
to break all the-stone-walls before they parted from they burned
ok öll langskip konungs, áðr þeir fœri á braut. Snerust
also all longships of-(the)-king before they went on away Turned
þá síðan til Upplanda ok þóttust hafa unnit vel til fjár.
then afterward to Upplands and thought have won well to money

Frá Sverri konungi

CXXXIX · OF KING SVERRIR

At an assembly at Fyrileif a farmer named Helgi persuaded Sverrir that the farmers there had had little part in the Baglar's band. On the Elfr Sverrir fined the farmers and had a man killed for urging the levy to break up; at Helgasund, hearing Sigurðr jarlsson had sailed south and fearing for Híði, he set out after Sigurðr with the light ships.

Þat er at segja frá Sverri konungi, at hann sneri til Goðmars
That is to tell about Sverrir king that he turned to Godmar
ok lagðist við suðrlandit, þar sem heitir Fyrileif, ok stefndi
and lay at the-south-land there where is-called Fyrileif and summoned
þar þing við bœndr. Bar konungr þat at þeim, at þeir
there assembly with (the)-farmers Bore (the)-king that at them that they
hefði verit móti honum í Seimsfirði ok hefði tekit konung
had been against him in Seimsfjord and had taken king
annan í höfuð honum. Helgi hét maðr, er svaraði rœðu
another in head to-him Helgi was-called man who answered speech
konungs ok mælti svá: Fáir menn í várum heruðum váru í
of-(the)-king and said so Few men in our districts were in
þeim flokki, ok þó með litlu ráði þeir er váru; erum vér ok
that band and yet with little counsel those who were are we also
svá gamlir ok runnir bitar upp, at fyrr kunnum vér við at
so old and run bits up that earlier know we against to
sjá, en vér komum í úfœruna; eru oss ok svá kunnig lög í
see than we come into the-impasse are to-us also so known laws in
Noregi ok ríkra manna réttr, at vér vitum, hvar lögkonung
Norway and of-mighty men right that we know where lawful-king
á at taka. Nú megut þér þat sjá, herra, at vér mundum
ought to take Now may you that see lord that we would

eigi svá heimskir vera, at fylla með álitaleysi þann flokk,
not so foolish be to fill with heedlessness that band
er eigi var réttligar til kominn ok þó gagnstaðligr yðr,
which not was more-rightly to come and yet opposed to-you
herra. Fór hann svá orðum um, at konungi hugnaði vel.
lord Went he so with-words about that to-the-king pleased well
Konungr fór þaðan alt austr til Elfar, ok lá þar allr
(The)-king went thence all east to the-Elf and lay there all
landsmúgr úti á skógum. Konungr sendi bóndum orð, at
land-throng out in forests (The)-king sent to-(the)-farmers word that
þeir kœmi til hans í griðum, ok stefndi við þá þing. En
they come to him in truce and summoned with them assembly But
er þeir vissu sik sakafulla við konung, þá frestuðu þeir
when they knew themselves guilty against (the)-king then put-off they
stefnulaginu ok dvöldu langa hríð. Konungsmönnum þótti ill
the-meeting and delayed long while To-king's-men seemed ill
dvöl þessi ok réðu um at rjúfa leiðangrinn. Ólafr beitstokkr
delay this and talked about to break the-levy Olaf Tack-Spar
hét maðr, er þetta talaði mest fyrir liðinu, ok þegar
was-called man who this spoke most before the-troop and as-soon
er konungr varð þessa varr, lét hann drepa Ólaf. Konungr
as (the)-king became of-this aware let he kill Olaf (The)-king
stefndi enn þing bóndum, en ef þeir kœmi eigi, lézt
summoned again assembly to-(the)-farmers but if they came not said-himself
hann mundu brenna bygðir þeira. Kómu bœndr þá ofan
he would burn settlements their Came (the)-farmers then down
ok áttu þing við konung, festu þeir þá gjald í konungs
and held assembly with (the)-king pledged they then payment into king's
vald, ok annan dag eptir kom ofan leiðangr ok liðagjald ok
power and second day after came down levy and troop-payment and
sakeyrir; váru þat mörg hundruð nauta ok mikit fé annat.
fines were that many hundreds of-cattle and much goods other

Fór konungr þá til Oslóar, þvíat honum var sagt, at Baglar
Went (the)-king then to Oslo because to-him was said that (the)-Baglers
ætlaði þannin, en þeir höfðu snúit norðr aptr til Þrándheims,
intended thither but they had turned north back to Thrandheim
þegar þeir spurðu, at konungr var í bœnum. Konungr fór
as-soon-as they heard that (the)-king was in the-town (The)-king went
þá út til Túnsbergs. Konungr sendi upp í Mjörs Philippus
then out to Tunsberg (The)-king sent up to Mjors Philippus
jarl son Birgis brosu, skyldi hann þar sitja fyrir Böglum. Híði
earl son of-Birgir Brosa should he there sit before (the)-Baglers Hidi
bróðir hans skyldi ok þangat fara, ok var hann eigi búinn.
brother his should also thither go and was he not ready
Konungr fór or Túnsbergi ok ætlaði til Björgynjar, góðan
(The)-king went out-of Tunsberg and intended to Bjorgvin good
byr hafði hann, er hann sigldi frá bœnum, en Híði var
wind had he when he sailed from the-town but Hidi was
eptir með sína sveit. Konungr sigldi norðr í Helgasund, þá
behind with his company (The)-king sailed north into Helgasund then
spurði hann, at Sigurðr jarlsson hafði norðan siglt, þótti
heard he that Sigurd earl's-son had from-the-north sailed seemed
honum Híði þá vera kominn háskasamliga. Lét konungr
to-him Hidi then be come perilously Let (the)-king
blása til húsþings um myrgininn ok sagði, at honum þótti
blow to house-assembly in the-morning and said that to-him seemed
horfa úvænt um þeira menn, mun Híða bróður mínum
look unpromising about their men will to-Hidi brother my
þykkja njósn sjá trú, er ek fer með allan her minn, ok
seem report this true when I go with all host my and
munu þeir nú ekki varast. Tók þá konungrinn öll léttiskip,
will they now not beware Took then the-king all light-ships
ok sté þar á sjálfr ok ætlaði at leita Sigurðar.
and stepped there on himself and intended to seek for-Sigurd

Slagit í bœnum

CXL · THE FIGHT IN THE TOWN

Sigurðr jarlsson slipped into Túnsberg by night and caught Sverrir's brother Híði drinking; betrayed by a vagabond he had bribed with a gold ring, Híði was killed with fifty men.

Sigurðr hafði haft ráð fyrir sér ok lagt út af leið. Fór
Sigurd had had counsel for himself and laid out off course Went
Sigurðr um nóttina inn til bœjarins, ok kómu alt á úvart
Sigurd in the-night in to the-town and came all on unawares
þeim Híða. Baglar hljópu þegar í bœinn ok urðu varir
to-them Hidi (The)-Baglers leapt at-once into the-town and became aware
við, hvar Birkibeinar váru; þeir váru í Ásleifsgarði ok drukku
of where (the)-Birchlegs were they were in Asleif's-yard and drank
þar í einni stofu, hljópu þeir út flestir vápnlausir. Híði
there in one room leapt they out most weaponless Hidi
hljóp suðr or stofunni ok upp undir skúrfjalarnar millum
leapt south out-of the-room and up under the-eave-boards between
húsanna. Baglar vöktu um nóttina ok gættu bœjarins, en
the-houses (The)-Baglers watched in the-night and guarded the-town but
um myrgininn rannsökuðu þeir bœinn ok drápu Birkibeina,
in the-morning searched they the-town and killed (the)-Birchlegs
hvar sem fundu. Hvítingr hét einn umrenningr Bagla,
where as found Hviting was-called one vagabond of-(the)-Baglers
hann fann Híða, ok bað Híði hann leyna sér ok gaf
he found Hidi and bade Hidi him hide himself and gave
honum til gullhring. Sveinninn hét góðu, en sagði þó
to-him for gold-ring The-lad promised good but told yet
þegar Böglum. Var þá Híði tekinn ok drepinn. Sigurðr
at-once to-(the)-Baglers Was then Hidi taken and killed Sigurd

fór þegar braut þann sama dag or bœnum. Þar féll með
went at-once away that same day out-of the-town There fell with
Híða 50 manna, ok váru mart hirðmenn.
Hidi 50 of-men and were many retainers

Frá Sverri konungi

CXLI · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir pursued Sigurðr across the Fold to Befja, where the Baglar fled over a bridge; the Birkibeinar broke it, took their ships, and the king wintered in Björgvin.

Sverrir konungr kom fyrst til Túnsbergs, ok varð þá
Sverrir king came first to Tunsberg and became then
sannfróðr at þeim tíðindum, sem þar höfðu gerzt. Hann segir
truly-informed of those tidings which there had happened He says
þá liðinu, at hann vill leita á fund Sigurðar. Heldr konungr
then to-the-troop that he will seek on meeting of-Sigurd Holds (the)-king
þegar austr yfir Foldina, spyrr konungr þá, at Sigurðr ferr
at-once east over the-Fold hears (the)-king then that Sigurd goes
austr undan. Verðr Sigurðr þá ok varr við ferðir konungs,
east away Becomes Sigurd then also aware of movements of-(the)-king
lagði Sigurðr þá upp í Befju. Konungr kom þar litlu síðar.
laid Sigurd then up into Befja (The)-king came there little later
Þeir Sigurðr hljópu á land upp ok yfir brú, er var á ánni,
They Sigurd leapt on land up and over bridge which was on the-river
ok hljópu þar saman. Birkibeinar hljópu þegar af skipunum,
and leapt there together (The)-Birchlegs leapt at-once off the-ships
ok gerðu hvárirtveggju skothríð. Birkibeinar brutu af brúna.
and made both-sides shooting (The)-Birchlegs broke off the-bridge
Hljópu þeir Sigurðr þá á land upp, þar féllu nökkurir
Leapt they Sigurd then on land up there fell some

menn af Böglum. Birkibeinar tóku skipin ok alt þat er á
men of (the)-Baglers (The)-Birchlegs took the-ships and all that which on
var, höfðu þeir sum með sér, en sum brendu þeir. Sneri
was had they some with themselves but some burned they Turned
þá konungrinn norðr til Björgynjar ok sat þar um vetrinn.
then the-king north to Bjorgvin and sat there in the-winter

Frá mönnum Sverris konungs

CXLII · OF KING SVERRIR'S MEN

Sverrir's great ships, sailing straight to Þrándheimr, surprised the Baglar in Niðaróss at dawn before Saint Andrew's day and killed nearly all of them, and the Birkibeinar held the town and its stewardships.

Um haustit þá er konungr hafði skilit við lið sitt í
In the-autumn then when (the)-king had parted from troop his in
Helgasundi, þá fóru þeir með stórskipunum norðr hit beinsta
Helgasund then went they with the-great-ships north the straightest
til Þrándheims. Þeir kómu fyrstir norðr á þrim skipum,
to Thrandheim They came first north on three ships
Eiríkr af Há, Eyjólfr Aflason ok Arni skaðareðr. Þeir spurðu,
Eirik of Ha Eyjolf Afli's-son and Arni Harm-Ram They heard
at Baglar váru í bœnum ok höfðu gert mörgum mönnum
that (the)-Baglers were in the-town and had done to-many men
skaða. Birkibeinar kómu til Hólms um lýsingar skeið. Reru
harm (The)-Birchlegs came to Holm about of-dawning time Rowed
þeir Eiríkr í ána tveim skipum, en Eyjólfr lagði at
they Eirik into the-river with-two ships but Eyjolf laid at
sandinum fyrir innan borg, ok stefndu þeir fyrir utan bœinn
the-sand before within (the)-fort and headed they before outside the-town

upp til brúar. Baglar urðu ekki varir við Birkibeina, fyrr
up to (the)-bridge (The)-Baglers became not aware of (the)-Birchlegs earlier
en þeir kómu í bœinn, ok lúðrarnir géngu. Hljópu þá
than they came into the-town and the-trumpets went Leapt then
Baglar sumir í kirkjur, sumir til brúar upp. Váru þeir nær
(the)-Baglers some into churches some to bridge up Were they nearly
allir drepnir, sumir féngu grið. Þetta var tveim nóttum fyrir
all killed some got quarter This was by-two nights before
Andresmessu. Birkibeinar létu upp setja skipin út á Eyrum,
Andrew's-mass (The)-Birchlegs let up set the-ships out on Eyrar
höfðu þeir þá bœinn til varðveizlu ok svá sýslur í heraði.
had they then the-town to keeping and so stewardships in district

Dráp Jóns magra

CXLIII · THE SLAYING OF JÓN MAGRI

The Baglar killed Jón magri at his own door, the dying Jón pinning his killer Sölvi under him. Hallvarðr of Sástaðir came north with the Baglar's king-to-be and killed Sverrir's men in Rennabú and Orkadalr; Gunnarr galinn was cut down setting fire to the longships, and the Baglar took Niðaróss, made Ingi king there, and raised a great host while the Birkibeinar hid in the woods.

Um vetrinn eptir jól drápu Baglar Jón magra með þeim
In the-winter after Yule killed (the)-Baglers Jon (the)-Lean in that
hætti, at þeir veittu honum heimsókn, gékk sá maðr til dyra,
manner that they made to-him home-attack went that man to door
er Sölvi hét, hann krafði dyra ok bað Jón út ganga, ok
who Solvi was-called he demanded door and bade Jon out go and
kvezt hafa tíðindi at segja honum. Góð skyldu þau vera,
said-himself have tidings to tell to-him Good should they be
sagði Jón, ok spretti lokunni frá ok lauk upp hurðunni. Sölvi
said Jon and sprang the-bolt off and opened up the-door Solvi

lagði þegar sverðinu í gegnum hann, svá at yddi út um
thrust at-once with-the-sword in through him so that pointed out through
bakit. Í því greip Jón um hálsinn Sölva ok greyfði honum
the-back In that gripped Jon about the-neck of-Solvi and bent him
undir sik, rann þá úmegin á Jón, ok dó hann þegar.
under himself ran then faintness on Jon and died he at-once
Hallvarðr af Sástöðum var þá á Upplöndum, hafði hann
Hallvard of Sastadir was then in Upplands had he
þá at varðveita konungsefni þeira Bagla, fóru norðr um
then to keep king-candidate their of-(the)-Baglers went north over
fjall eptir jól. Þeir fóru ofan um Rennabú ok drápu þar
mountain after Yule They went down through Rennabu and killed there
Ívar ármann ok Þorleif styrju. Þá fóru þeir í Orkadal ok
Ivar steward and Thorleif Sturgeon Then went they into Orkadal and
drápu þar Einar skitinbeina ok Skeggja á Eggju, fóru síðan
killed there Einar Dirty-Legs and Skeggi at Eggja went then
til bœjarins. Gunnarr galinn ok Eindriði rakki báru njósn til
to the-town Gunnar (the)-Mad and Eindridi Dog bore report to
bœjarins. Gunnarr fór út á Eyrar ok lagði eld í langskipin,
the-town Gunnar went out onto Eyrar and laid fire in the-longships
ok vildi heldr brenna upp, en Baglar nyti. Ok er hann
and wished rather burn up than (the)-Baglers enjoyed And when he
var þar at, kómu Baglar at honum ok drápu hann. Baglar
was there at came (the)-Baglers at him and killed him (The)-Baglers
tóku þá bœinn, ok varð engi viðrtaka, höfðu Birkibeinar
took then the-town and became no resistance had (the)-Birchlegs
farit braut, þegar þeir spurðu til Bagla. Sátu þeir þar
gone away as-soon-as they heard of (the)-Baglers Sat they there
um vetrinn. Þeir buðu út leiðangri um allan Þrándheim ok
in the-winter They called out levy through all Thrandheim and
hrundu skipum á vatn ok bjoggust til varnar. Birkibeinar
launched ships onto water and prepared for defense (The)-Birchlegs

lágu úti á mörkum ok skógum opt í illum búðum, sem
lay out in woodlands and forests often in bad booths as
ván mun á þykkja, væntu æ, at Sverrir konungr mundi
expectation will on seem expected ever that Sverrir king would
koma ok frelsa sína menn or ánauð. Þá var Inga gefit þar
come and free his men out-of bondage Then was to-Ingi given there
konungsnafn. Bárðr hét sá maðr, er þat gerði. Baglar
king's-name Bard was-called that man who that did (The)-Baglers
höfðu þá her mikinn ok allvel búinn. Um várit lögðu
had then host great and very-well equipped In the-spring laid
þeir liðinu út til Rauðabjarga nökkuru fyrir Hallvarðsmessu.
they the-troop out to Raudabjorg somewhat before Hallvard's-mass

Dráp Bagla

CXLIV · THE SLAYING OF BAGLAR

Sverrir sailed from Björgvin with cutters and light ships to take the Baglar unawares, and fell on three Baglar vessels by Agðanes, Hornbori, and Reinsvík, killing nearly every man on the last; he left its great longship behind as too slow for the cutters, and his men soon regretted it.

Sverrir konungr fór or Björgyn með skútur ok léttiskip,
Sverrir king went out-of Bjorgvin with cutters and light-ships
ok fór skyndiliga ok ætlaði at koma á úvart Böglum,
and went hastily and intended to come on unawares to-(the)-Baglers
sem hann hafði jafnan fyrr gert. Ok er hann kom inn um
as he had always before done And when he came in past
Agðanes, þá mætti hann þar einu skipi Bagla, ok drápu
Agdanes then met he there one ship of-(the)-Baglers and killed
þeir þar af mjök mart manna, en sumir kómust á land
they there of very many of-men but some got on land

undan. Inn hjá Hornbora mœttu þeir Baglaskútu einni; sneru
away In by Hornbori met they Bagler-cutter one turned
Baglar at landi ok hljópu upp, en sumir váru drepnir.
(the)-Baglers to land and leapt up but some were killed
Inn fyrir Reinsvík fundu þeir Bagla með mikit langskip,
In past Reinsvik found they (the)-Baglers with great longship
ok drápu þeir þar af nær hvert mannsbarn. Vildu liðsmenn
and killed they there of nearly each man's-child Wished troopmen
hafa skipit, en konungi þótti þat ekki samfœrt í róðri við
have the-ship but to-the-king seemed it not fit-to-go-with in rowing with
skúturnar, ok létu þeir eptir skipit ok iðruðust litlu síðar.
the-cutters and left they behind the-ship and regretted little later

Upphaf orrostu

CXLV · THE BATTLE BEGINS

The Baglar lashed seven great ships at Þórsbjörg. After a long exchange of shots Sverrir pulled back and told his men they were not the Birkibeinar of old; at the second onset Sölmundr systrungr boarded Guðbrandr's ship, and the Birkibeinar, held by stem-scythes and beaten by the height of the gunwales, pushed off with poles, losing Sölmundr and two cutters; Nikulás of Vestnes was shot through his steel cap.

En er Baglar sá róðr Birkibeina, ráku þeir af sér
But when (the)-Baglers saw rowing of-(the)-Birchlegs drove they off themselves
tjöldin ok lögðu saman skipin ok tengðu. Þeir höfðu sjau
the-awnings and laid together the-ships and lashed They had seven
skip ok öll stór. Þeir lágu við Þórsbjörg. Landnyrðingr var á
ships and all great They lay at Thorsbjorg North-easter was on
léttr sá innan or firðinum, rendu skip Bagla at viðum
light that from-within out-of the-fjord ran ships of-(the)-Baglers at moorings
fyrir vindi. Birkibeinar reru at, ok skutu hvárirtveggju, reru
before wind (The)-Birchlegs rowed at and shot both-sides rowed

Birkibeinar um hit ytra ok máttu vera, hvar sem þeir vildu.
(the)-Birchlegs about the outer and could be where as they wished
Birkibeinum þótti vera borðamunr mikill. Var þessi skothríð
To-(the)-Birchlegs seemed be gunwale-difference great Was this shooting
allhörð ok löng, féllu menn af hvárumtveggjum, ok mart var
very-hard and long fell men of both-sides and many were
sárt. En er konungr sá, at þeir sýsluðu ekki til frama,
wounded But when (the)-king saw that they wrought nothing to advantage
þá bað hann Birkibeina frá leggja. Gerðu þeir svá, lögðu
then bade he (the)-Birchlegs off lay Did they so laid
saman skipunum. Þá mælti konungr: Eigi eru Birkibeinar
together the-ships Then spoke (the)-king Not are (the)-Birchlegs
sem fyrrum, ekki lögðu þeir svá at sem þér með dragkyrtlana,
as formerly not laid they so at as you with the-trailing-tunics
höfðu þeir kyrtla styttri ok snæfrari ok hjörtu betri. En hvat
had they tunics shorter and keener and hearts better But what
er nú hér at liggja? róm inn til bœjar, en at öðrum kosti
is now here to lie let-us-row in to town but at other choice
verit drengir ok menn nökkurir, ok, róit svá at, at þeir viti,
be warriors and men somewhat and row so at that they know
hvárum sverðin bíti betr. Birkibeinar œptu þá, ok eggjaði
for-which the-swords bite better (The)-Birchlegs shouted then and urged
hverr annan, reru svá at í fyrstunni, at langskipin tóku
each other rowed so at in the-first that the-longships took
við skútunum. Veittu Birkibeinar þá svá harða atsókn með
against the-cutters Gave (the)-Birchlegs then so hard onslaught with
spjótalögum ok sverðshöggum, at Baglar hrökkva undan,
spear-thrusts and sword-blows that (the)-Baglers recoil back
svá at Sölmundr systrungr ok þeir 5 saman váru komnir upp
so that Solmund Cousin and they 5 together were come up
á skip Guðbrands unga. Þá hét Guðbrandr á sína menn,
on ship of-Gudbrand (the)-Young Then called Gudbrand on his men

at þeir skyldi reka þá ofan. Gerðu Baglar þá atgöngu svá
that they should drive them down Made (the)-Baglers then onset so
harða, at Birkibeinar hrukku ofan, en sumir féllu. Neyttu
hard that (the)-Birchlegs recoiled down but some fell Used
Baglar þá borðamunarins ok létu ganga á þá vápn ok grjót
(the)-Baglers then the-gunwale-difference and let go on them weapons and stones
svá stórt, at ekki hélzt við, féll þá mart af Birkibeinum.
so big that nothing held against fell then many of (the)-Birchlegs
Baglar færðu stafnljá á skip Birkibeina ok héldu þeim.
(The)-Baglers brought stem-scythes onto ships of-(the)-Birchlegs and held them
Birkibeinar tóku þá allir eitt ráð, ok þurfti engi at öðrum
(The)-Birchlegs took then all one counsel and needed none to from-other
at nema, at þeir ráku forka við stórskipunum ok leystust
to learn that they thrust poles against the-great-ships and loosed-themselves
frá braut, þeir kómu af stafnljánum af skipum sínum. Þar
off away they got off the-stem-scythes from ships their There
féll Sölmundr systrungr ok nær alt af skútu hans; hroðin var
fell Solmund Cousin and nearly all of cutter his cleared was
önnur skúta af Birkibeinum, ok náðu þeir hvárutveggja skipinu.
another cutter of (the)-Birchlegs and got they both the-ship
Nikulás af Vestnesi varð sárr, ok var skotinn framan í
Nikulas of Vestnes became wounded and was shot in-front in
stálhúfuna, ok gékk í gegnum, ok þótti þat lítit sár at sjá.
the-steel-cap and went in through and seemed that little wound to see

Konungr stöðvaði orrostu

CXLVI · THE KING BREAKS OFF THE BATTLE

Sverrir broke off, chased the Baglar off two ships at Þinarós, and made for the town; Ögmundr vágapungr's ship never joined the fight. The Baglar, thinking his small and wounded troop easy prey, lay off Hólmr but never attacked, doubting the levy they had taken from the Þrændalög.

Þá mælti konungr: Eigi skulum vér nú berjast við þá lengr at
Then said (the)-king Not shall we now fight with them longer at
sinni, skulum vér nú leggja inn til bœjar. Sá maðr hafði verit
this-time shall we now lay in to town That man had been
sýslumaðr Bagla, er Ögmundr hét vágapungr, ættaðr
bailiff of-(the)-Baglers who Ogmund was-called Bay-Purse descended
af Upplöndum, hann hafði þá sýslu út í Orkadal, hann
from Upplands he had then stewardship out in Orkadal he
stýrði þá skipi því, er Eyjólfr hafði þangat haft um haustit.
steered then ship that which Eyjolf had thither had in the-autumn
Hann hafði lagt út við Ingardal undir bergit, ok sá þaðan, er
He had laid out by Ingardal under the-rock and saw thence when
þeir áttust við Birkibeinar ok Baglar. Sló þar í þrætu með
they had-to-do with (the)-Birchlegs and (the)-Baglers Struck there into quarrel among
þeim, vildu sumir til ok duga sínum mönnum, en sumir vildu
them wished some to and help their men but some wished
heldr á land upp. Kom þat skip Böglum at engu gagni.
rather on land up Came that ship to-(the)-Baglers to no use
Sverrir konungr stýrði inn eptir firði, ok fyrir innan Þinarós
Sverrir king steered in along fjord and before within Thinaros
elti hann Bagla upp af tveim skipum, en síðan sneri hann
chased he (the)-Baglers up off two ships but then turned he
inn til bœjarins. Baglar sneru inn þannin, ok hugðu sér
in to the-town (The)-Baglers turned in thither and thought for-themselves

lítit mundu fyrir at veiða Sverri konung í bœnum, þar sem
little would for to catch Sverrir king in the-town there where
hann hafði lið lítit ok sárt nær alt, hafði ok mart fallit af
he had troop little and wounded nearly all had also many fallen of
hans mönnum fyrir Þórsbjörgum. Baglar lágu út við Hólm,
his men off Thorsbjorg (The)-Baglers lay out by Holm
þvíat þeim hugðist svá at, at leiðangrslið þat sem þeir höfðu
because to-them thought so at that levy-troop that which they had
haft or Þrœndalögum, at þat fólk mundi þeim ekki stöðugt,
had out-of Throndlaw that that folk would to-them not steadfast
þegar þeir kœmi á land, ok varð af því ekki af atlögunni þeira.
when they came on land and became of that nothing of the-attack their
Sverrir konungr var út á Eyrum, búinn viðrtöku, ef þeir legði at.
Sverrir king was out on Eyrar ready for-resistance if they laid at

Ráðagerð Bagla

CXLVII · THE BAGLAR'S PLANS

The Baglar resolved to go south and take Björgvin. Nikulás of Vestnes died of the wound he had made light of after bathing. Sverrir followed them south, paying no heed to their feints.

Baglar gera nú ráð sitt, sýnist þeim þat nú líkast at fara
(The)-Baglers make now plan their seems to-them that now likeliest to go
suðr til Björgynjar ok leggja nú land alt undir sik, þykkir
south to Bjorgvin and lay now land all under themselves seems
þeim sik engu skipta, hvar Sverrir konungr ferr með skútur
to-them themselves nothing matter where Sverrir king goes with cutters
sínar. Nikulás af Vestnesi lét ekki varðveita sár sitt, þótti lítils
his Nikulas of Vestnes let not tend wound his seemed of-little

um vert, fór í bað, þá laust verk í höfuðit, ok lá hann
about worth went into bath then struck pain into the-head and lay he
litla hríð, áðr hann andaðist, ok var þat mikill mannskaði.
little while before he died and was that great man-loss
Baglar fóru þá suðr með landi öllu liðinu ok héldu vel
(The)-Baglers went then south along land with-all the-troop and held well
saman, var æ ótti at Sverri, ok meiri at ráðum hans en
together was ever fear at Sverrir and more at counsels his than
skipafjölda, ok hugðu, at þeir mundu fá af honum nökkut
ship-number and thought that they would get from him something
ilt. Baglar lágu nökkura hríð í Angri. Sverrir konungr fór
ill (The)-Baglers lay some while in Angr Sverrir king went
or kaupangi suðr eptir þeim. Baglar sá þat ok létu,
out-of (the)-market-town south after them (The)-Baglers saw that and made-as-if
sem þeir mundu róa fyrir hann, en þat varð ekki. Konungr gaf
as they would row before him but that became nothing (The)-king gave
þeim engan gaum ok fór leiðar sinnar, en þeir muni síðar.
to-them no heed and went way his but they remember later

Frá Sigurði Jarlssyni

CXLVIII · OF SIGURÐR JARLSSON

Sigurðr jarlsson burned Sverrir's ships in Björgvin and built pyres against the fort, where Queen Margrét was; Aurapáll and Ásgautr burned them. Under the queen's seal Aurapáll wrote that the king had won in Prándheimr and would come next morning; the Baglar seized the letter and sailed away.

Sigurðr jarlsson hafði farit austan or Víkinni ok spurði,
Sigurd earl's-son had gone from-the-east out-of the-Vik and heard
at Sverrir konungr hafði farit norðr or Björgyn. Hélt
that Sverrir king had gone north out-of Bjorgvin Held

hann þá til Björgynjar, ok varð þar engi viðrtaka; þar
he then to Bjorgvin and became there no resistance there
brendi hann skip Sverris konungs Sygnabrandinn ok öll þau,
burned he ship of-Sverrir king the-Sogn-Brand and all those
er hann fékk. Hann tók í bœnum hús nökkur ok fœrði
which he got He took in the-town houses some and brought
upp til borgar, ok gerði bál mikit áviðris borginni. Ok
up to (the)-fort and made pyre great to-windward-of the-fort And
er borgarmenn sá þetta, segja þeir dróttningunni Margrétu.
when fort-men saw this tell they to-the-queen Margaret
Hon var þar í borginni, ok með henni til forráða Aurapáll.
She was there in the-fort and with her for management Aura-Pal
Henni var mikill ótti at þessu ok mörgum öðrum konum, er
To-her was great fear at this and to-many other women who
í váru borginni. Aurapáll fékk þat ráð, at þeir tóku tunnu
in were the-fort Aura-Pal got that counsel that they took barrel
eina ok báru í spánu ok næfrar, ok lögðu í eld ok slöngðu
one and bore in shavings and birch-bark and laid in fire and slung
í bálit fyrir þeim Böglum, fyrr en þeir hefði algert. En
into the-pyre before those Baglers earlier than they had wholly-made But
þar varð svá mikill logi af, at þeir féngu eigi fyrr slökt,
there became so great flame of-it that they managed not earlier quenched
en þat var alt uppbrunnit, er þeir höfðu áðr til ætlat. Var
than that was all burned-up which they had before to intended Was
þat mikil dvöl. En þó réðu þeir til í annat sinn ok báru enn
that great delay But yet set they to in second time and bore again
saman. Dróttningin bað þá heldr fyrir guðs sakir gefa upp
together The-queen bade them rather for God's sake give up
borgina, ok næði menn út at ganga heldr, en þar léki yfir
the-fort and could men out to go rather than there played over
eldr, kvað verra at láta alt saman, menn ok fé. Þá gerði
fire said worse to lose all together men and goods Then made

Páll þat ráð, at konur allar skyldu ganga út í hús þat,
Pal that plan that women all should go out into house that
er var yfir borgarhliðinu ok fyrr hafði verit myrkvastofa,
which was over the-fort-gate and before had been dark-room
ok sagði þeim mundu skamt til þá at ganga or borginni.
and said to-them would short to then to go out-of the-fort
Þær géngu þangat ok urðu fegnar, ef þess væri ván,
They went thither and became glad if of-it were expectation
ok er þær kómu í húsit, lét hann aptr skella hurðunni,
and when they came into the-house let he back slam the-door
setti fjötur fyrir utan. Ekki skorti þar til atvinnu þeim.
set fetter before outside Not lacked there to sustenance to-them
Ásgautr féhirðir fékk einn smörhlaup tóman, ok skar allan
Asgaut treasurer got one butter-tub empty and cut all
utan gluggum, bar í næfrar ok strý ok brennustein, ok
outside with-holes bore in birch-bark and tow and brimstone and
lagði þar í eld ok slöngði í bálit. Bálit var svá gert, at
laid there in fire and slung into the-pyre The-pyre was so made that
holt var innan, ok þá er eldrinn kom þar í, laust í loga
hollow was within and then when the-fire came there in struck into flame
svá miklum, at eigi varð slöktr, ok brann upp þegar alt at
so great that not became quenched and burned up at-once all to
köldum kolum. Þá fóru þeir í bœ ofan. En Páll gékk til
cold coals Then went they into town down But Pal went to
dróttningar ok spurði, hvat hon mundi vilja gefa honum til,
(the)-queen and asked what she would wish give to-him for
at þeir Baglar hyrfi frá borginni. Hon kvezt þar mundu
that those Baglers turned from the-fort She said-herself there would
mikit til vinna í fémunum. Páll bað hana fá sér innsigli
much to give in valuables Pal asked her give to-him seal
sitt, ok svá gerði hon. Síðan gerði hann bréf ok setti þar
her and so did she Then made he letter and set there

fyrir innsigli dróttningar. Þat var ritat til Auta prests ok
before seal of-(the)-queen That was written to Auti priest and
Jórdanar skinnpeitu, þat mælti svá: Þess væntum vér, at
Jordan Skin-Tunic it said so Of-this expect we that
þér munit þat virða mest, er til konungsins tekr, þótt
you will that value most which to the-king pertains though
þér sét nú vinhallir til Bagla. En vér höfum leyndarmál
you be now friend-leaning to (the)-Baglers But we have secret
yðr at segja, ok þó mikil tíðindi, er konungrinn hefir
to-you to tell and yet great tidings which the-king has
oss vita látit, at hann hefir fundit úvini sína norðr í
us know let that he has found enemies his north in
Þrándheimi, ok er því betr, at nú hefir farit sem fyrr, at
Thrandheim and is it better that now has gone as before that
konungrinn hefir sigrazt, en þó hefir hann látit góða menn,
the-king has won but yet has he lost good men
Nikulás af Vestnesi, Sölmund systrung ok marga aðra. Nú
Nikulas of Vestnes Solmund Cousin and many others Now
biðr konungr yðr í trúnaði, at þér mundit dvelja ferð
asks (the)-king you in trust that you would delay journey
Bagla hér í bœnum, en hann sjálfr mun koma á
of-(the)-Baglers here in the-town but he himself will come on
myrgin annathvárt snemma eða síð. Þar var sveinn einn
morning either early or late There was lad one
víkverskr í borginni ok kunningi Bagla, Páll réð
of-the-Vik in the-fort and acquaintance of-(the)-Baglers Pal persuaded
hann til at koma bréfunum í hendr prestunum. Honum
him to to bring the-letters into hands to-the-priests To-him
var fylgt or borginni, ok skildust þeir við hann undir
was escorted out-of the-fort and parted they from him under
steini einum. Þat sá Baglar, þeir er vörð héldu, ok stiltu
stone one That saw (the)-Baglers those who watch held and stole

at sveininum ok tóku hann höndum, en fyrir því at þeir
at the-lad and took him with-hands but for that that they
kendu hann, þá gáfu þeir honum grið ok spurðu, hvert
knew him then gave they to-him quarter and asked where
hann ætlaði at fara. Hann svaraði: Ek fer með bréf til Auta
he intended to go He answered I go with letter to Auti
ok Jórdanar prestanna, ok veit ek eigi, hvat á er. Baglar
and Jordan the-priests and know I not what on is (The)-Baglers
tóku bréfit ok færðu Sigurði jarlssyni, létu hann lesa upp
took the-letter and brought to-Sigurd earl's-son let him read up
bréfit, ok er hann sá, hvat á var, þá vætti hann skjótt
the-letter and when he saw what on was then expected he soon
úfriðar, lét hann um myrgininn í lýsing blása til brautlögu.
of-war let he in the-morning in dawn blow to setting-off
Tóku þeir fé mikit af prestunum, ok þótti sem þeir
Took they money much from the-priests and seemed as they
hefði útryggvir verit. Eptir þat fóru Baglar á braut. Þá
had disloyal been After that went (the)-Baglers on away Then
sagði Páll dróttningunni, at Baglar reru út or váginum.
told Pal to-the-queen that (the)-Baglers rowed out out-of the-bay
Dróttningin gékk út at sjá ok þakkaði vel Páli sína tiltekju.
The-queen went out to see and thanked well to-Pal his device

Frá Sverri konungi

CXLIX · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir passed through Björgvin and turned back when the Baglar sailed by. Finding the townsmen unwilling to help, he told them at a þing they had been his enemies from the start and would lose their goods, limbs, and lives unless they obeyed; they gave him a hundred men.

Sverrir konungr kom til bœjarins um myrgininn ok gékk
Sverrir king came to the-town in the-morning and went
þegar upp til borgar, ok hitti þar þá, er fyrir réðu, Sigurð
at-once up to (the)-fort and met there those who for ruled Sigurd
borgarklett ok Aurapál, ok sagði þeim frá sínum ferðum.
Fort-Crag and Aura-Pal and told to-them about his journeys
Konungr kvezt þar ekki mundu dveljast at sinni, en bað
(The)-king said-himself there not would stay at this-time but bade
Sigurð krefja liðs af bœjarmönnum, ok tak til þín þat
Sigurd demand of-troop from townsmen and take to yourself that
er þú fær, þvíat vera kann, at vér þurfim næst, er vér
which you get because be may that we need next when we
komum til bœjarins. Konungr hélt þegar suðr til Siggjarvágs.
come to the-town (The)-king held at-once south to Siggjarvag
Þann sama dag kómu Baglar með stórskipin til bœjarins,
That same day came (the)-Baglers with the-great-ships to the-town
lögðu þegar braut or bœnum at leita Sverris. Baglar
laid at-once away out-of the-town to seek for-Sverrir (The)-Baglers
sigldu um þá suðr, ok gáðu þeir eigi, hvar Birkibeinar váru.
sailed past them south and heeded they not where (the)-Birchlegs were
Konungr snýr þá aptr norðr sem skjótast til Björgynjar ok
(The)-king turns then back north as quickest to Bjorgvin and
upp til borgar, ok spyrr hve liðdrjúgr Sigurðr hafi orðit.
up to (the)-fort and asks how troop-rich Sigurd have become
Sigurðr kvað bœndr engan gaum vildu gefa at sínum
Sigurd said (the)-farmers no heed wished give to his
orðum. Var þá stefnt þing í bœnum, ok talaði konungr
words Was then summoned assembly in the-town and spoke (the)-king
þá reiðr mjök ok mælti svá: Enn geri þér bœjarmenn sem
then angry much and said so Yet do you townsmen as
fyrr úvingan til mín, ok er hér upphaf alls úfriðar við
before unfriendship to me and is here beginning of-all war against

mik, ok hefir svá jafnan verit, síz ek hóf ríkit, þá hafi
me and has so always been since I raised the-realm then have
þér verit í öllum fjándskap til vár. Var þat nökkur várkunn,
you been in all enmity to us Was that some excuse
meðan þeir lifðu Magnús ok Erlingr, en nú er ekki annat
while they lived Magnus and Erling but now is nothing other
en fullr fjándskapr ok sannr illvili at efla víkinga móti
than full enmity and true ill-will to strengthen vikings against
réttum konungi. Ok mun enn fara sem fyrr, at yðarr hlutr
rightful king And will yet go as before that your lot
mun því verri, sem þér gerit vára svívirðing meiri. Vitið
will the worse as you make our disgrace greater Know
ok allir vísa ván, at þér skulut láta féit ok svá
also all certain expectation that you shall lose the-goods and so
limarnar, ok líkara at þar fylgi lífit með, nema þér jáð
the-limbs and likelier that there follow the-life with unless you assent
mér öllu því, sem ek vil at sé. Þá svaraði Finnr forræði
to-me all that which I wish that be Then answered Finn Steward
konunginum, ok kom í sama stað niðr, at undandráttr
to-the-king and came in same place down that evasion
var í máli hans, en þó lauk svá, at þeir féngu honum
was in speech his but yet ended so that they gave to-him
hundrað manna, váru þat bœndr ok kaupmenn.
hundred of-men were that farmers and merchants

Frá Sverri konungi

CL · OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir met the Baglar at Salbirni but had the lower ships and drew back to Björgvin. The Baglar failed to storm the fort, raided Sogn, where Sverrir's bailiff Jón trín and other Birkibeinar went over to them, and paraded on Jónsvellir, mocking the Birkibeinar with their games.

Sverrir konungr hafði or bœnum 30 skútna, ok er hann kom
Sverrir king had out-of the-town 30 of-cutters and when he came
suðr í Salbirni, þá kómu Baglar þar mót þeim. Konungr
south into Salbirni then came (the)-Baglers there against them (The)-king
lagði áviðris þeim. Varð þar bardagi nökkurr af skotum
laid to-windward-of them Became there battle some of shots
ok grjóti. Konungr átti nú sem fyrr við mikinn borðamun.
and stones (The)-king had now as before against great gunwale-difference
Lagði konungr frá at sinni ok fór norðr til Björgynjar, ok
Laid (the)-king off at this-time and went north to Bjorgvin and
settu Birkibeinar skip sín upp undir borgina norðan. Þann
set (the)-Birchlegs ships their up under the-fort from-the-north That
sama dag kómu Baglar í bœinn um miðs dags skeið.
same day came (the)-Baglers into the-town about of-mid of-day time
Þeir leituðu uppgöngu ok kómust eigi, þvíat Birkibeinar
They sought ascent and got not because (the)-Birchlegs
vörðu. Konungr setti lið umhverfum borgina. Baglar lágu
defended (The)-king set troop around the-fort (The)-Baglers lay
nökkurar nætr við Norðnes, síðan fóru þeir inn í Sogn ok
some nights at Nordnes then went they in into Sogn and
drógu at sér vistir. Þeir tóku Jón trín sýslumann Sverris
drew to themselves provisions They took Jon Trin bailiff of-Sverrir
konungs ok gáfu honum grið, ok gerðist hann þeira maðr,
king and gave to-him quarter and became he their man

ok enn fleiri Birkibeinar fóru til Bagla. Baglar fóru aptr
and yet more Birchlegs went to (the)-Baglers (The)-Baglers went back
til Björgynjar, ok lögðu sunnan at Norðnesi ok géngu þar
to Bjorgvin and laid from-the-south at Nordnes and went there
upp, ok óttuðust ekki Birkibeina, ok þóttust hafa ráð
up and feared not (the)-Birchlegs and thought-themselves have fate
þeira í hendi ok glettust við þá, ok skutu hvárir at öðrum,
their in hand and teased with them and shot each-side at other
svá sem við kómust. Birkibeinar váru jafnan í bœnum,
so as against got (The)-Birchlegs were constantly in the-town
ok urðu mörg erendi þeira þannin. Baglar þorðu ekki at
and became many errands their thither (The)-Baglers dared not to
vera í bœnum, en jafnan géngu þeir upp á Jónsvöllu ok
be in the-town but constantly went they up onto Jonsvellir and
fylktu þar, ok sýndu Birkibeinum lið sitt ok frýðu þeim
drew-up there and showed to-(the)-Birchlegs troop their and challenged to-them
hugar; ok er þeir slitu fylkingina, þá géngu margir í
of-courage and when they broke the-battle-line then went many into
leika ok sýndu, at þeim þótti lítils vert um Birkibeina.
games and showed that to-them seemed of-little worth about (the)-Birchlegs
Höfðu Baglar þá allmikinn her ok vel búinn at vápnum.
Had (the)-Baglers then very-great host and well equipped in weapons

Um húsþing

CLI · OF A HOUSE-ASSEMBLY

Sverrir told his men the Baglar now thought their fate in their hands, and when they were silent, reproached them for it. He set out three choices: hold the fort until food ran out, flee to the mountains, or attack as of old; all chose to fight, and he had them slip down to the Ólafskirkja in small groups.

Sverrir konungr hafði húsþing á Bökkunum upp frá
Sverrir king had house-assembly on the-Banks up from
Nikuláskirkju, þá er Baglar váru á Jónsvöllum í leikunum.
Nicholas's-church then when (the)-Baglers were on Jonsvellir in the-games
Konungrinn talaði ok mælti svá: Þannin vill vera um oss
The-king spoke and said so So will be about us
Birkibeina, at nökkurr ótti er yfir oss, ok verðr skamt í
Birchlegs that some fear is over us and becomes short in
milli. Væntum vér enn af yðr sem fyrr góðrar fylgðar ok
between Expect we yet from you as before of-good following and
drengiligrar, sem ek veit fá dœmi munu til finnast, at menn
of-manly as I know few examples will to be-found that men
hafi betr fylgt sínum konungi. Er yðr Birkibeinum við þat
have better followed their king Is to-you Birchlegs with that
bezt at una, at þér erut yfir öðrum mönnum at hvatleik.
best to be-content that you are over other men in boldness
Þeir Baglar þykkjast nú hafa ráð yðart alt í hendi, en
Those Baglers think-themselves now have fate your all in hand but
mik væntir, at öðruvís mun gefast, ok eigi trúi ek, at
me expects that otherwise will turn-out and not believe I that
vér hafim þeira minni völd skamms bragðs. Nú ætla ek eigi
we have their less power of-short while Now intend I not
lengr at þola þeim spott ok háð, ef þér vilit sem ek, en
longer to endure to-them mockery and scorn if you wish as I but

hyggjum þó at allir saman, hvat ráðligast er. Kostr er at
let-us-consider yet at all together what most-advisable is Choice is to
berjast við Bagla, þegar er vill; segi nú hverr sinn vilja! En
fight with (the)-Baglers as-soon as will say now each his will But
allir þögðu. Þá mælti konungr: Eigi geri þér mér nú rétt,
all were-silent Then said (the)-king Not do you to-me now right
er þér þegit við, þá þjónostu eigit þér at veita konungi
when you are-silent against that service ought you to give to-king
yðrum, at svara rœðum hans ok segja honum hverr sinn vilja.
your to answer speeches his and tell to-him each his will
Þá báðu allir konung fyrir ráða. Hann svaraði: Þetta var vel
Then bade all (the)-king for decide He answered This was well
mælt, sem mér var ván. Ok enn mælti hann: Sá er kostr
said as to-me was expectation And yet said he That is choice
várr at setjast í borgina, ok er þat örugt vígi, meðan oss
our to settle in the-fort and is that safe stronghold while to-us
vinnst vist; en er þat þrýtr, þá mun ilt til viðrfanga.
lasts provision but when that runs-out then will ill to resources
Annarr er sá at flýja á fjöll upp, ok munu Baglar reka
Second is that to flee onto mountains up and will (the)-Baglers drive
oss ok henda af slíkt, er þeir vilja, ok fá þeir menn aldri
us and catch of-us such as they wish and get those men never
orðstír, er í flótta falla. Er ok sá til, er fyrr var tíðr
renown who in flight fall Is also that to which before was customary
Birkibeinum: veita þeim árás ok láta skipta odd ok egg,
to-(the)-Birchlegs give to-them onslaught and let decide point and edge
ok lízt mér enn várr kostr eigi úvænni, þegar vér stöndum
and seems to-me yet our choice not unlikelier when we stand
allir jafnhátt. Þeir svöruðu allir, at heldr vildu berjast en
all equally-high They answered all that rather wished fight than
flýja. Þá mælti konungr: Baglar munu sjá málstefnu vára,
flee Then said (the)-king (the)-Baglers will see meeting our

en vita eigi, hvat vér berumst fyrir. Skulum vér nú fyrst
but know not what we set-about for Shall we now first
ganga upp til borgar, þá skulu ganga í bœinn niðr tveir
go up to (the)-fort then shall go into the-town down two
ok tveir, stundum fjórir eða fim, sjau eða átta, ok finnast
and two sometimes four or five seven or eight and meet
allir inn við Ólafskirkju. Þeir gera nú svá. Ekki hugsuðu
all in by Olaf's-church They do now so Not thought
Baglar til þessa, þvíat Birkibeinar fóru jafnan þannin.
(the)-Baglers to this because (the)-Birchlegs went constantly thither

Um orrostu Birkibeina ok Bagla

CLII · THE BATTLE OF THE BIRKIBEINAR AND THE BAGLAR

Sverrir told his men not to form ranks but to run at the Baglar, who were greatest in talk like a fox in its tail. The Baglar levy fled at the sight of the swords; the Birkibeinar drove them to the ships, and Narfi of Sástaðir's ship grounded under its crowd and was cleared, Narfi falling with many men.

Þá er liðit var saman komit inn við Ólafskirkju, lét
Then when the-troop was together come in by Olaf's-church let
konungrinn setja upp merki sitt ok mælti: Ekki munum vér
the-king set up standard his and said Not will we
fylkja, rennum á þá sem harðast, ok hafi nú engi annan
draw-up let-us-run on them as hardest and have now none other
fyrir sér, ok dugi hverr sem bezt, ok mun litla hríð þurfa,
before himself and do each as best and will little while need
þvíat Baglar munu nú sem fyrr eigi fast standa, þegar
because (the)-Baglers will now as before not fast stand when
þeir sjá mannfallit hjá sér; ok eru þeir í málum mestir
they see the-man-fall beside themselves and are they in words greatest

sem refr í halanum. Illa munu þeir kunna hnögginum, er
as fox in the-tail Ill will they know the-blows who
heiman eru hlaupnir frá kirnuaskinum, ok sét aldri fyrr, hve
from-home are run from the-churn-bowls and seen never before how
Birkibeinum bíta sverðin, þá er þeir berjast. Hlaupit nú
to-(the)-Birchlegs bite the-swords then when they fight Run now
fram, góðir hálsar, ok gæti guð til! Birkibeinar hlaupa þá út
forward good fellows and guard God to (The)-Birchlegs run then out
á völluna; ok brá leiðangrsmönnum vá fyrir grön, er þeir
onto the-fields and drew to-levy-men woe before whiskers when they
sá Birkibeina; sá þeir at sverðin glituðu á lopti, flugu ok
saw (the)-Birchlegs saw they that the-swords glittered on air flew also
þegar kesjurnar, er ván þœtti, at taka mundu til þeira.
at-once the-halberds when expectation seemed that reach would to them
Baglar þyrptust ok saman ok skutu á fylking, var Sigurðr
(The)-Baglers thronged also together and shot into battle-line was Sigurd
jarlsson þar undir merkjum. Gafst þat lið, sem konungrinn
earl's-son there under standards Turned-out that troop as the-king
gat til, at Baglar flýðu brátt, þeir er fremstir stóðu, ok
guessed to that (the)-Baglers fled soon those who foremost stood and
eigi síðr hinir, er sá til. Féll þar mart manna, sem þeir
not less the-others who saw to Fell there many of-men as they
kómu saman. Birkibeinar fylgðu þá fullvel út um völluna. En
came together (The)-Birchlegs followed then full-well out over the-fields But
er Baglar váru þar komnir, þá snerust þeir við ok horfðu
when (the)-Baglers were there come then turned they about and faced
þá við um hríð. En er Birkibeinar beittu sverðunum,
then against for while But when (the)-Birchlegs plied the-swords
snerust Baglar undan, ok varð þeim þessi viðrtaka at miklu
turned (the)-Baglers away and became to-them this resistance to great
mannspelli. Birkibeinar ráku þá alt út til skipanna ok feldu
man-loss (The)-Birchlegs drove then all out to the-ships and felled

þá mikinn fjölda. Baglar hljópu þá á kaf, en flestir
then great multitude (The)-Baglers leapt then into deep but most
náðu þá skipunum. Narfi son Hallvarðar af Sástöðum stýrði
reached then the-ships Narfi son of-Hallvard of Sastadir steered
einu miklu skipi, á þat skip hljóp svá mikill mannfjöldi,
one great ship onto that ship leapt so great multitude
at skipit sé niðr á grunn ok festi. Ok kómu þar at
that the-ship sank down onto bottom and stuck And came there at
Birkibeinar, ok héldu sumir skipinu, en sumir veittu þeim
(the)-Birchlegs and held some the-ship but some gave to-them
atsókn, ok svá lauk, at Birkibeinar hruðu skipit. Féll þar
onslaught and so ended that (the)-Birchlegs cleared the-ship Fell there
Narfi ok fjöldi manns með honum, en sumt hljóp á kaf.
Narfi and multitude of-men with him but some leapt into deep

Frá Sverri konungi ok Beglingi

CLIII · OF KING SVERRIR AND A BAGLER

A Bagler threw two spears at Sverrir and both missed; Sverrir rode him down and killed him with his halberd. Nikulás set up a tent on Töluhólmr and said mass there, saying he would found a see.

Sverrir konungr reið hjá liðinu, þá er flóttinn var rekinn,
Sverrir king rode beside the-troop then when the-flight was driven
ok var kesja hans blóðug öll upp á skaptit, svá at blóðit
and was halberd his bloody all up on the-shaft so that the-blood
rann upp á hendr honum. Fyrir innan Jónskirkju snerist
ran up onto hands to-him Before within John's-church turned
Beglingr einn á mót honum, ok reið sá með tvær
Bagler one on against him and rode that-one with two

kesjur ok skaut báðum senn at konunginum. Konungr lét
halberds and shot with-both at-once at the-king (The)-king let
síga skjöldinn niðr fyrir hestinn, kom önnur kesjan í
sink the-shield down before the-horse came other the-halberd into
skjöldinn, en önnur fló undir kvið hestinum. En með því
the-shield but other flew under belly to-the-horse But with that
at hann sá, at eigi tók konunginn, þá fleygði hann
that he saw that not touched the-king then flung he
sverðinu eptir því spjótinu, er undir kviðinn flaug, hann
with-the-sword after that spear which under the-belly flew he
kastaði sér ok niðr ok greip spjótit or vellinum. Konungr
threw himself also down and gripped the-spear out-of the-field (The)-king
lagði til hans í öxlina, ok skar kesjan upp or þat er
thrust at him into the-shoulder and cut the-halberd up out that which
tekit hafði. Konungr reið á hann fram, svá at hann féll
taken had (The)-king rode on him forward so that he fell
fyrir, hélt konungr hestinum ok ætlar at troða hann undir
before held (the)-king the-horse and intends to tread him under
fótum, en hann laust upp liggjandi spjótskaptinu ok nam
feet but he struck up lying with-the-spear-shaft and touched
þat konunginn, en hestrinn œddist. Maðrinn hljóp upp
it the-king and the-horse bolted The-man leapt up
ok stefndi at kirkjugarðinum. Konungr rendi eptir honum
and headed at the-church-yard (The)-king ran after him
hestinum ok lagði í gegnum hann kesjunni, féll hann þar.
with-the-horse and thrust in through him with-the-halberd fell he there
Birkibeinar sóttu þá aptr í bœinn ok fóru til borgar upp,
(The)-Birchlegs made then back into the-town and went to (the)-fort up
en Baglar höfðust miðr á landi síðan, váru þeim útíðari
but (the)-Baglers kept less on land afterward were to-them less-frequent
leikarnir. Nikulás byskup lagði sínu liði út við Töluhólm ok
the-games Nikulas bishop laid his troop out by Toluholm and

lét ryðja hólminn, ok setti þar landtjald ok söng þar messu,
let clear the-islet and set there land-tent and sang there mass
hann sagði þar skyldu reisa höfuðstað ok gera kirkju. Sumt
he said there should raise see and make church Some
lið þeira lá við Norðnes, en sumt sunnar meir.
troop their lay by Nordnes but some south more

Frá Birkibeinum

CLIV · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR

The farmers drove their cattle to the Baglar at Laxavágr for protection. Sverrir came round by night, killed the two watchmen and fell on the Baglar, driving them to their ships, and drove off all the cattle.

Birkibeinar váru nú löngum í bœnum ok fóru á land
(The)-Birchlegs were now long in the-town and went on land
upp at föngum, þótti þá Sunnhörðum ok Harðengrum
up for provisions seemed then to-(the)-South-Hords and to-(the)-Hardanger-men
Birkibeinar sópa um tún ekki hagliga, er þeir fóru
(the)-Birchlegs sweep about home-fields not handily when they went
sér at matföngum; en bœndr höfðu áðr gert lið
for-themselves for food but (the)-farmers had before given troop
ok leiðangr Böglum. Bœndr sendu nú orð Böglum, at
and levy to-(the)-Baglers (The)-farmers sent now word to-(the)-Baglers that
þeir skyldu vera vernd fyrir eigum þeira ok búm. Baglar
they should be protection for property their and farms (The)-Baglers
báðu þá reka búin til sín, ok sögðust þá mundu gæta.
bade them drive the-livestock to them and said-they then would guard
Ráku bœndr fjölda nauta þangat, ok höfðu í Laxavági. Á
Drove (the)-farmers multitude of-cattle thither and had in Laxavag On

einni nótt stefndi Sverrir konungr at sér liði sínu, ok gékk
one night summoned Sverrir king to himself troop his and went
or borginni hit efra fyrir ofan fjall, ok kringir svá inn til
out-of the-fort the upper before above mountain and circles so in to
Álrekstaða ok út aptr með Álrekstaðavági til Laxavágs, sem
Alrekstadir and out back along Alrekstadavag to Laxavag where
Baglaherrinn var; þeir héldu á sér vörðu. Sverrir konungr
the-Bagler-host was they held on themselves watch Sverrir king
vissi, hvar vörðrinn var, hann sendi fyrir 6 menn, skyldu
knew where the-watch was he sent before 6 men should
þeir vita, ef þeir næði verðinum. Þeir fundu tvá menn á
they know if they reached the-watch They found two men on
verði, svaf annarr, en annarr vakti, ok kvað sá við í því,
watch slept one but other woke and cried that-one out in that
er kesjan stóð á honum ok í gegnum hann, drápu þeir
when the-halberd stood in him and in through him killed they
hvárntveggja. Baglar heyrðu viðkveð mannsins ok spurðu,
both (The)-Baglers heard outcry of-the-man and asked
hvat verðinum væri, er hann lét svá. Einn Birkibeinn svaraði
what to-the-watch were when he made so One Birchleg answered
ok kvað vera leik þeira. Þeir fóru þá aptr ok sögðu konungi,
and said be game their They went then back and told to-the-king
at vörðrinn var dauðr. Konungr sagði þá vera vel sýslat.
that the-watch was dead (The)-king said then be well done
Síðan fór konungr með liðinu at þeim, ok svá hljóðliga,
Then went (the)-king with the-troop at them and so quietly
at þeir vöknuðu eigi fyrr, en Birkibeinar drógu upp skipin
that they woke not earlier than (the)-Birchlegs drew up the-ships
undir þeim ok drápu þar mart manna af Böglum. En þessa
under them and killed there many of-men of (the)-Baglers But this
rostu ok vápnabrak heyrðu Baglar, þeir er firr lágu, ok
tumult and weapon-crash heard (the)-Baglers those who farther lay and

grunaði, at úfriðrinn mundi vera, þá hljópu þeir á land ok
suspected that the-war would be then leapt they on land and
ætluðu til atgöngu. En Birkibeinar biðu þeira ekki or stað,
intended to onset But (the)-Birchlegs waited for-them not out-of place
ok runnu á mót þeim ok veittu þeim þá hríð, at Baglar
and ran on against them and gave to-them that assault that (the)-Baglers
tóku undan til skipanna, ok lágu þó margir eptir áðr; margir
took away to the-ships and lay yet many behind before many
hljópu á kaf. Baglar leystu öll skip sín or landfestum.
leapt into deep (The)-Baglers loosed all ships their from land-cables
Birkibeinar keyrðu búit alt á braut ok inn til Álrekstaða.
(The)-Birchlegs drove the-livestock all on away and in to Alrekstadir

Frá Böglum

CLV · OF THE BAGLAR

Ashamed of their losses, the Baglar landed at the head of Álrekstaðavágr to avenge themselves, knowing the king had only a small band with him.

Baglar könnuðu skaða sinn ok fundu, at þeir höfðu látit
(The)-Baglers examined harm their and found that they had lost
mikit, ok þótti þetta vera skömm mikil, ok eggjuðust
much and seemed this be shame great and egged-each-other
á at hefnast. Þeir vissu þat, at konungrinn hafði riðul
on to avenge They knew that that the-king had band
einn manna, taka þeir þá róðr ok stefna inn í fjörðinn
one of-men take they then rowing and head in into the-fjord
ok upp í Álrekstaðavág, ok leggja at í vágsbotninum,
and up into Alrekstadavag and lay at in the-bay-bottom
hlaupa þar upp ok fylkja liði sínu. Var þá ljóss dagr.
leap there up and draw-up troop their Was then light day

Frá Birkibeinum

CLVI · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR

The Birkibeinar charged downhill; Eindriði ljoxa, the Baglar standard-bearer, fell to Bergsveinn langi, and the Baglar fled. Thereafter the Baglar kept from the fort, and fifty of them would flee to their ships before ten or twenty Birkibeinar when the king himself was with them.

Sverrir konungr sá her Bagla ok fann, at þeir váru
Sverrir king saw host of-(the)-Baglers and found that they were
enn eigi afhorfnir at veita honum atsókn. Konungr mælti þá:
yet not turned-off to give to-him onslaught (The)-king said then
Enn vænti ek, at verði fundr várr Bagla, göngum nú
Yet expect I that be meeting our of-(the)-Baglers let-us-go now
upp í brekkuna, ok hlaupum þaðan á þá, ok mun enn
up into the-slope and let-us-leap thence on them and will yet
sem fyrr, at þeir munu vikna fyrir oss Birkibeinum; gerum
as before that they will yield before us Birchlegs let-us-do
enn at vanda, rennum á djarfliga. Eindriði ljoxa hét sá
yet by custom let-us-run on boldly Eindridi Ljoxa was-called that
maðr, er bar merki þeira Bagla, hann var þrœnzkr at
man who bore standard their of-(the)-Baglers he was Throndish by
ætt, mikill ok sterkr. Hann bar merkit vel fram, svá at
kin big and strong He bore the-standard well forward so that
á móti honum kom Bergsveinn langi með merki Sverris
on against him came Bergsvein (the)-Long with standard of-Sverrir
konungs, géngust þeir svá nær, at þeir skiptust höggum
king went-at-each-other they so near that they exchanged blows
við, ok lauk svá, at Bergsveinn varð sárr, en Eindriði
with and ended so that Bergsvein became wounded but Eindridi
féll. Baglar flýðu þá, en Birkibeinar fylgðu. Þá í þeiri
fell (The)-Baglers fled then but (the)-Birchlegs followed Then in that

svipan féll mart af Böglum, ok þó flest af leiðangrsmönnum.
clash fell many of (the)-Baglers and yet most of levy-men
Sverrir konungr fór þá til borgar sinnar með búit ok
Sverrir king went then to fort his with the-livestock and
þakkaði guði sigr. Var nú ráðit vel til búðarvarðar, skorti
thanked to-God victory Was now provided well to booth-guard lacked
eigi vist, ok var drengiliga eptir sótt. Baglar firðust
not provision and was manfully after sought (The)-Baglers shunned
nú borgina ok bœinn, ok þótti eigi svá laust fyrir, sem
now the-fort and the-town and seemed not so loose before as
þeir hugðu. Opt var þat, at þeir géngu á land Baglar 50
they thought Often was that that they went on land Baglers 50
manna eða fleiri, ok sæi þeir Birkibeina 10 eða 20, ok væri
of-men or more and saw they (the)-Birchlegs 10 or 20 and were
konungr sjálfr í liðinu, þá flýðu þeir til skipanna. Þat var
(the)-king himself in the-troop then fled they to the-ships That was
ok stundum, at þeir Birkibeinar kómu at þeim úvörum,
also sometimes that those Birchlegs came at them unwary
ok féngu Baglar þá ilt af ok fóru þá hrapalliga til
and got (the)-Baglers then ill of-it and went then hastily to
skipa sinna með lítilli virðingu eða orðstír af mönnum.
ships their with little honor or renown from men

Frá brögðum Birkibeina

CLVII · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR'S TRICKS

On Saint John's eve Sverrir's men in choir copes and monks' cowls lay in wait for Bishop Nikulás coming to mass. A well-dressed Bagler wondered at monks in red hose and dandy's shoes, slipped out of his tunic in their hands, and ran to warn the bishop. Many went over to the Baglar that Björgvin summer.

Jónsvöku nótt fór Sverrir konungr með hundrað manna ofan
On-John's-wake night went Sverrir king with hundred of-men down
í bœinn. Þeir tóku kórkápur or kirkjum ok fóru í, ok
into the-town They took choir-copes out-of churches and went in and
géngu saman 5 eða 6 eða færi, ok heimtust svá saman yfir
went together 5 or 6 or fewer and gathered so together over
til munklífis, ok fóru í hlöðu nökkura ok heldr leyniliga,
to (the)-monastery and went into barn a-certain and rather secretly
þvíat konungr vætti, at Nikulás byskup mundi ganga á land
because (the)-king expected that Nikulas bishop would go on land
ok aðrir höfðingjar til messu um daginn. Nökkurir menn,
and other chieftains to mass in the-day Some men
þeir er á njósn váru, tóku munkakápur, ok höfðust þeir
those who on spying were took monks'-cowls and kept they
við úti í kirkjugarðinum. Sveinar Bagla fóru til lands
on out in the-church-yard Lads of-(the)-Baglers went to land
á bátum ok géngu upp at taka sér eldivið. Birkibeinar
on boats and went up to take themselves firewood (The)-Birchlegs
tóku hvern, er upp kom, drápu suma, en suma hömluðu
took each who up came killed some but some maimed
þeir. Prestr einn gékk upp, en Birkibeinar spentu hann, þeir
they Priest one went up and (the)-Birchlegs seized him they
spurðu, hvárt byskup mundi nökkut upp til messu. Prestrinn
asked whether (the)-bishop would at-all up to mass The-priest

sagði hann fara, þá er hann væri búinn. Litlu síðar gékk
said him go then when he were ready Little later went
upp maðr vel búinn. Þeir réðust á mót honum. Þessum
up man well dressed They set on against him To-this
manni þótti undarligt, er munkar höfðu lága skúa ok rauðar
man seemed strange that monks had low shoes and red
hosur, ok þveraðist við. Munkar spurðu, hve brátt byskup
hose and balked against Monks asked how soon (the)-bishop
mundi ganga til messu. Beglingr svaraði: Hann gengr, þegar
would go to mass (The)-Bagler answered He goes when
hann er búinn, eða hví hafa munkar spézskúa? Þeir svöruðu:
he is ready or why have monks dandy-shoes They answered
Ýmist tíðist nú. Þeir hlaupa at honum ok grípa hann
Various is-the-fashion now They leap at him and grab him
ok fletta hann af kyrtli góðum, ok vildu eigi spilla honum
and strip him of tunic good and wished not spoil it
í blóði, en er ermarnar skruppu af höndunum fram, brást
in blood but when the-sleeves slipped off the-hands forward started
hann við sem harðast ok skaut fótum undir sik, ok hljóp
he about as hardest and shot with-feet under himself and ran
svá til skipa, sem hann væri ærr. Sagði hann byskupi þá
so to ships as he were mad Told he to-the-bishop that
sögu, at hann var af tíðaferðinni. Hafði þessi maðr þat
story that he was off the-mass-going Had this man that
til jartegna, at hann hafði broddskot í fœti, ok sagði,
for tokens that he had spike-shot in foot and said
at honum þótti þat líkara sending Birkibeina en munka.
that to-him seemed that likelier sending of-(the)-Birchlegs than of-monks
Byskup var þá búinn til landgöngu ok margir aðrir. Sverrir
(The)-bishop was then ready for landing and many others Sverrir
konungr fór aptr til borgar, þegar hann fann, at Böglum
king went back to (the)-fort when he found that to-(the)-Baglers

var komin njósnin. Baglar váru nú enn varari um sik
was come the-report (The)-Baglers were now yet warier about themselves
héðan frá. Margar árásir höfðu þar hvárir á öðrum, en
hence from Many onslaughts had there each-side on other but
þó fær þat eigi alt ritat á einni bók. Fjöldi manna hljóp
yet can that not all written in one book Multitude of-men ran
til Bagla or héruðum, þeira sem áðr höfðu verit með
to (the)-Baglers out-of districts of-those who before had been with
Birkibeinum, sumir at vilja sínum, en sumir váru teknir
(the)-Birchlegs some at will their but some were taken
nauðgir. Þat kölluðu þeir Björgynjar sumar.
unwilling That called they Bjorgvin's summer

Baglar brendu kaupstaðinn í Björgyn

CLVIII · THE BAGLAR BURN THE TOWN OF BJÖRGVIN

On Saint Lawrence's eve the Baglar, on Bishop Nikulás's counsel, set Björgvin alight in three places, saying the Birkibeinar had defiled its churches. The town burned until the holy rood and Saint Sunnifa's shrine stopped the fire, while the Baglar shot at any who tried to fight it.

Lafranzvöku nótt varð þat ráð at framkvæmd, er áðr
On-Lawrence's-wake night became that plan to performance which before
höfðu Baglar heitazt. Þeir kölluðu Björgynjarmenn vera stoð
had (the)-Baglers threatened They called Bjorgvin-men be prop
ok styrk til þess, at Sverrir mætti haldast í borginni. Var þat
and strength to that that Sverrir could hold-out in the-fort Was that
ráð kent at upphafi Nikulási byskupi, kom þat ásamt með
plan ascribed at beginning to-Nikulas bishop came that agreed among
þeim, at eyða skyldi kaupstaðinn í Björgyn ok setja nökkur
them that destroy should the-market-town in Bjorgvin and set somewhat

annars staðar á Hörðalandi, ok sjá þá, fyrir hvat Sverri
of-other place in Hordaland and see then for what to-Sverrir
kœmi borgin. Byskup kallaði Birkibeina hafa saurgat kirkjur,
came the-fort (The)-bishop called (the)-Birchlegs have defiled churches
svá at þær væri eigi helgari en porthús önnur. Baglar reru
so that they were not holier than gate-houses other (The)-Baglers rowed
um nóttina inn fyrir bryggjur með tvær skútur hlaðnar af
in the-night in before wharves with two cutters laden with
viði. Þeir lögðu eld í hús í einum stað inn við Krosskirkju,
wood They laid fire in houses in one place in by Cross-church
í öðrum stað gegnt fiskabryggjum, í þriðja stað við
in second place opposite fish-wharves in third place by
Maríukirkju. Engi varð vörn af bœjarmönnum. Birkibeinar
Mary's-church No became defense from townsmen (The)-Birchlegs
urðu eigi fyrr varir við, en bœrinn tók at loga, sá þeir þá,
became not earlier aware of-it than the-town began to blaze saw they then
at ekki mátti at gera at hjálpa bœnum. Hræddust þeir þá
that nothing could to do to help the-town Feared they then
um borgina, at hon mundi brenna, ok báru út segl ok vættu
about the-fort that it would burn and bore out sails and wetted
á mót eldinum. Bœrinn brann alt innan frá Krosskirkju
on against the-fire The-town burned all from-within from Cross-church
ok til Sandbrúar út alt fyrir neðan stræti, en fyrir ofan stræti
and to Sandbru out all before below street and before above street
utan frá Sandbrú ok inn til Nikuláskirkju. Þá var róðan
from-without from Sandbru and in to Nicholas's-church Then was the-rood
helga borin á mót eldinum frá Steinkirkju, ok staðnaði þá
holy borne on against the-fire from Stone-church and stopped then
eldrinn. Sunnifu skrín var borit utan til Sandbrúar ok sett
the-fire Sunniva's shrine was borne out to Sandbru and set
þar, ok gékk eldrinn eigi lengra, ok var þat allbjört jartein.
there and went the-fire not farther and was that very-bright miracle

Baglar lágu með skúturnar á váginum út, ok skutu
(The)-Baglers lay with the-cutters on the-bay out and shot
upp í eldinn at þeim mönnum, ef nökkurir vildi bjarga
up into the-fire at those men if any wished save
húsunum eða slökkva eldinn. Bœjarmenn höfðu margir áðr
the-houses or quench the-fire Townsmen had many before
braut flutt fé sín öll í ymsa staði, þá er þeir heyrðu
away moved goods their all into various places then when they heard
áðr Bagla berast þetta úráð fyrir, sem nú kom fram.
before (the)-Baglers set-about this ill-deed for which now came forward

Frá viðskiptum Birkibeina ok Bagla

CLIX · OF THE DEALINGS OF THE BIRKIBEINAR AND THE BAGLAR

Björgvin never forgave Bishop Nikulás for the fire. With Sverrir away, the Baglar routed the Birkibeinar at the Ólafskirkja; Eindriði peini planted his standard and fought with both hands until he fell, and the Baglar burned the ships under the fort. Each side made a verse on the day.

Nikulás byskup var á skútunni þeiri, er með eldinn fór til
Nikulas bishop was on the-cutter that which with the-fire went to
bœjarins, ok sagði fyrir, hvar eldinum skyldi í skjóta. Varð
the-town and said before where the-fire should in shoot Became
hann af þessu verki allmjök úþokkaðr, ok var þess ván,
he from this work very-much disliked and was of-it expectation
gékk sá margr snauðr á braut, er áðr var fullríkr. Mintust
went that many-a-one destitute on away who before was full-rich Remembered
Björgynjarmenn þessa jafnan við Nikulás byskup. Þar brann
Bjorgvin-men this always against Nikulas bishop There burned
Maríukirkja ok 5 aðrar. Litlu síðar fór Sverrir konungr or
Mary's-church and 5 others Little later went Sverrir king out-of

bœnum með hundrað manna, þangat sem hann frá, at
the-town with hundred of-men thither where he heard that
hans menn höfðu samnat saman stórflokkum nauta. Ok er
his men had gathered together great-herds of-cattle And when
Baglar spurðu þat, at konungr var á brautu, þá géngu
(the)-Baglers heard that that (the)-king was on away then went
þeir á land með liði sínu, ok kómu ofan at Ólafskirkju á
they on land with troop their and came down at Olaf's-church on
Bökkum. Birkibeinar hljópu á móti þeim or borginni, nema
(the)-Banks (The)-Birchlegs ran on against them out-of the-fort except
30 manna váru út í Hólmi, at engir legði þar at. Baglar
30 of-men were out in Holm that none laid there at (The)-Baglers
fylktu liði sínu. Birkibeinar runnu á riðlum, sem þeir váru
drew-up troop their (The)-Birchlegs ran in bands as they were
vanir; hljópu þeir svá fast á annan fylkingararminn í fyrstu,
wont leapt they so fast on one battle-line-wing in first
at Baglar viku undan; veik þá annarr fylkingararmrinn
that (the)-Baglers gave way turned then other the-battle-line-wing
Bagla eptir ok urðu Birkibeinar þá innan í hringnum.
of-(the)-Baglers after and became (the)-Birchlegs then within in the-ring
Var nú allmikill liðsmunr. Birkibeinar sá nú eigi föng sín
Was now very-great troop-difference (The)-Birchlegs saw now not means their
til varnar lengr at sinni ok leita undan til borgarinnar,
to defense longer at this-time and seek away to the-fort
en Baglar sœkja eptir þeim hart. Þar féllu margir góðir
but (the)-Baglers press after them hard There fell many good
drengir, Sigurðr borgarklettr, Finnr færeyski, Þórðr loki ok
warriors Sigurd Fort-Crag Finn (the)-Faroese Thord Loki and
Ritakári, Einarr Bjarnason, Bengeirr langi, Eindriði peini
Ritakari Einar Bjarni's-son Bengeir (the)-Long Eindridi Peini
son Hallkels af Lói, merkismaðr Philippus jarls. Hann réð
son of-Hallkel of Lo standard-bearer of-Philippus earl He ruled

fyrir liði jarlsins ok var svá mikill hreystimaðr, at þá er
over troop of-the-earl and was so great valiant-man that then when
hann var svá sárr orðinn, at hann vænti sér engrar
he was so wounded become that he expected for-himself of-no
brautkvámu, þá stakk hann niðr merkinu í jörðina, en hann
escape then stuck he down the-standard in the-earth and he
spenti sverðit báðum höndum ok hjó á tvær hendr, ok
clasped the-sword with-both hands and hewed on two hands and
féll þar með hreysti mikilli. Baglar fylgðu þeim alt undir
fell there with valor great (The)-Baglers followed them all under
borgina, ok einn mann féngu Baglar at fótum, er inn vildi
the-fort and one man got (the)-Baglers by feet who in wished
í borgina, en Birkibeinar tóku í hendrnar ok vildu hjálpa
into the-fort but (the)-Birchlegs took in the-hands and wished help
honum, ok toguðust um. Þenna mann tvískiptu Baglar í
him and tugged about This man split (the)-Baglers in
sundr í miðju. Þat var Maríumessu aptan. Baglar höfðu
asunder in middle That was of-Mary's-mass eve (The)-Baglers had
at lagt skúturnar út í Hólmi, ok feldu þá Birkibeina
at laid the-cutters out at Holm and felled then (the)-Birchlegs
alla, er þar váru. Eptir þat lögðu Baglar eld í skipin,
all who there were After that laid (the)-Baglers fire in the-ships

þau sem þar váru undir borginni, fóru síðan aptr til skipa
those which there were under the-fort went then back to ships
sinna, þóttust nú hafa vel árnat. Þá kváðu þeir vísu þessa:
their thought now have well earned Then spoke they verse this

Mánadag kvaddi mildingr sína,
On-Monday summoned (the)-prince his
menn drifu hart til vápna sennu
men hastened hard to of-weapons strife
Inga, hirð, en upp réð ganga
of-Ingi bodyguard and up did go
ár morgin til Sverris borgar.
early morning to Sverrir's fort
Ýtar reistu merki á móti
Men raised standards on against
margar stengr, en börðusk lengi.
many poles and fought long
Baglar stóðu í brodda hagli,
(the)-Baglers stood in of-points hail
brunnu skip, þá er kappar runnu.
burned ships then when champions ran

En Birkibeinar kváðu þessa:
But (the)-Birchlegs spoke this

Mánadag kvaddi níðingr sína,
On-Monday summoned (the)-wretch his
menn drifu hart til vápna sennu,
men hastened hard to of-weapons strife
þúfuskítr þrífisk eigi,
Tussock-Dung may-thrive not
þann morgin til Sverris borgar.
that morning to Sverrir's fort
Ýtar reistu merki á móti
Men raised standards on against
margar stengr ok börðusk lengi.
many poles and fought long
Baglar standa í banni allir,
(the)-Baglers stand in ban all
brunnu skip, þá er kappar runnu.
burned ships then when champions ran

En er konungr kom aptr, þótti honum þetta orðit allmikit
But when (the)-king came back seemed to-him this become very-great
forsjáleysi.
improvidence

Konungr fór norðr um Rauðafjall

CLX · THE KING GOES NORTH OVER RAUÐAFJALL

Sverrir crossed Rauðafjall and learned the Baglar had killed his son-in-law Karl Sörkvisson at Berg. At a þing in Niðaróss Þorsteinn kúgaðr told the townsmen Sverrir had no ships left and that the false priest's deceit was now plain.

Litlu síðar fór konungr upp á Vörs, en setti eptir lið
Little later went (the)-king up to Voss but set behind troop
mikit í borginni. Konungr gékk þá annat sinn norðr um
great in the-fort (The)-king went then second time north over
Rauðafjall ok enn með miklu erviði, ok kom ofan í Sogn
Raudafjall and yet with great toil and came down into Sogn
ok svá í kaupang. Spurði hann þar þau tíðindi, er
and so to (the)-market-town Heard he there those tidings which
litlu áðr höfðu gerzt, at Baglar höfðu þar komit með
little before had happened that (the)-Baglers had there come with
þrim skútum, Kinnaðr Eldríðarson, Þorsteinn kúgaðr, Eiríkr
three cutters Kinnad Eldrid's-son Thorstein (the)-Cowed Eirik
þrœnzki. Þar hafði áðr verit í bœnum Karl Sörkvisson, er
(the)-Throndish There had before been in the-town Karl Sorkvir's-son who
þá átti Ingibjörgu dóttur Sverris konungs. Herra Karl hafði
then had Ingibjorg daughter of-Sverrir king Lord Karl had
fengit af nökkurn spraka af Böglum, ok fór um kveldit or
got of some inkling of (the)-Baglers and went in the-evening out-of
bœnum upp um brú ok var á bœ þeim um nóttina, er
the-town up over bridge and was at farm that in the-night which
Berg heitir. Baglar kómu um nóttina í bœinn ok féngu
Berg is-called (The)-Baglers came in the-night into the-town and got
njósn af ferðum herra Karls, koma þeir þar um nóttina ok
report of movements of-lord Karl come they there in the-night and

drepa Karl ok alla hans menn. Eptir þat höfðu þeir þing
kill Karl and all his men After that held they assembly
út á Eyrum, talaði Þorsteinn kúgaðr ok mælti svá: Þat
out on Eyrar spoke Thorstein (the)-Cowed and said so That
skulut þér vita, bœjarmenn, at Sverrir konungr mun yðr
shall you know townsmen that Sverrir king will to-you
nú verða seinn til landvarnar hér í Þrándheimi, sagði hann
now be slow to land-defense here in Thrandheim said him
eigi eiga svá mikit í skipum, at hann ætti einn bát, höfum
not own so much in ships that he owned one boat have
vér nú skipin ok mart annat, þat er Birkibeinar hafa um
we now the-ships and much other that which (the)-Birchlegs have for
hríð með farit. Þeir hafa nú ok svá látit um hríð, at
while with fared They have now also so made-out for while that
eigi væri úgildari einn Birkibeinn en sex Baglar. Þat skulu
not were less-worth one Birchleg than six Baglers That shall
þér nú ok vita, at nú hefir svá umskipt í sumar, at
you now also know that now has so changed in summer that
litlu höfum vér nú færi Birkibeina fengit, en þeir hafa
little have we now fewer of-Birchlegs got than they have
sjálfir eptir, ok munu þeir nú eigi veita yðr hjálp, eru
themselves left and will they now not give to-you help are
þeir nú engum mun verr staddir, þvíat nú þykkjast þeir
they now by-no difference worse placed because now think they
sjá, með hverju falsi Sverrir prestr hefir farit um hríð.
see with what falsehood Sverrir priest has fared for while
Baglar váru braut or firðinum, áðr konungr kom.
(The)-Baglers were away out-of the-fjord before (the)-king came

Frá Sverri konungi

CLXI · OF KING SVERRIR

The Baglar, short of food, scattered their host; Þorsteinn kúgaðr wrecked his ship on purpose and deserted them, and many Þrændir left them.

Sverrir konungr spurði vandliga allar þessar rœður. Honum
Sverrir king heard carefully all these speeches To-him
þótti mikill skaði at um Karl mág sinn. Baglar fóru nú
seemed great loss at about Karl in-law his (The)-Baglers went now
sunnan með allan herinn. Þeir lágu nú við Fólskn um
from-the-south with all the-host They lay now at Folskn for
hríð. Þeim varð ilt til matkaupa, fyrir því at þeir höfðu lið
while To-them became ill to food-buying for that that they had troop
mikit, dreifðu þeir þá flokkinum í bygðir, fór sumt liðit
great scattered they then the-band into settlements went some the-troop
á Mœri suðr. En er þeir sigldu fyrir Hefnarmynni, þá sigldi
to More south But when they sailed past Hefnarmynni then sailed
Þorsteinn kúgaðr skipi sínu á sker eitt fyrir annkost ok
Thorstein (the)-Cowed ship his onto skerry one on purpose and
vildi brjóta, sem var. Fluttust þar inn til lands, hljóp hann
wished to-break as was Moved-themselves there in to land ran he
á brot frá Böglum við þriðja mann um nótt ok yfir fjallit
on away from (the)-Baglers with third man in night and over the-mountain
ok kom fram í Orkadal. Margir menn hljópu frá Böglum,
and came forward in Orkadal Many men ran from (the)-Baglers
þeir er heima áttu í Þrándheimi ok eigi vildu vera með þeim.
those who home had in Thrandheim and not wished be with them

Frá Þorsteini kúgað

CLXII · OF ÞORSTEINN KÚGAÐR

Þorsteinn kúgaðr, granted quarter, fell at Sverrir's feet and denounced the Baglar; the Birkibeinar wanted him hanged, but Sverrir spared him.

Þorsteinn kúgaðr var nú heima á laun at búi sínu.
Thorstein (the)-Cowed was now home in secret at farm his
Hann gerði mann inn til bœjar til Gunnars grjónbaks, at
He sent man in to town to Gunnar Groat-Back that
hann skyldi leita honum griða við konung. Gunnarr talaði
he should seek for-him of-quarter with (the)-king Gunnar spoke
eitthvert sinn til konungs ok mælti: Herra, allsnjallan mann
some time to (the)-king and said Lord very-able man
höfum vér látit, þar er Þorsteinn kúgaðr er með Böglum,
have we lost there where Thorstein (the)-Cowed is with (the)-Baglers
ok gjarna vildim vér hann lokka til vár. Konungr svaraði:
and gladly would we him lure to us (The)-king answered
Ekki ætla ek Þorstein þess minna, at hann hafi oss þjónat,
Not reckon I Thorstein of-that less that he have to-us served
mun oss þat ok vera lítill skaði. Gunnarr mælti: Veit ek,
will to-us that also be little loss Gunnar said Know I
at Þorsteinn mun grið fá af yðr, ef vér nám honum.
that Thorstein will quarter get from you if we catch him
Þá mælti konungr ok hló við: Hvat er nú, Gunnarr?
Then said (the)-king and laughed at-it What is now Gunnar
er Þorsteinn nú á varnaði þínum? Grið mun hann hafa
is Thorstein now in keeping your Quarter will he have
af mér, en eigi veit ek, ef Birkibeinar mœta honum á
from me but not know I if (the)-Birchlegs meet him on
strætum úti, hvernug þá ferr hans mál. Gunnarr lætr nú
streets out how then goes his case Gunnar lets now

segja Þorsteini, hvar komit var hans máli. Þorsteinn kom til
tell to-Thorstein where come was his case Thorstein came to
bœjarins ok þó mjök af launungu. Eptir um daginn géngu
the-town and yet much in secrecy After in the-day went
þeir Gunnarr ok Þorsteinn til konungs, er hann var á
they Gunnar and Thorstein to (the)-king when he was at
stefnu. Þorsteinn hafði djúpan hatt á höfði, ok kendu menn
meeting Thorstein had deep hat on head and knew men
hann ekki, fyrr en hann kom fyrir konunginn. Hann féll
him not earlier than he came before the-king He fell
fram fyrir konunginum ok greip um fót honum ok kysti
forward before the-king and gripped about foot to-him and kissed
á ok mælti: Sæll em ek, herra minn, er ek em svá
on-it and said Blessed am I lord my that I am so
nær yðr kominn, at ek má taka á yðr, ok þess annars,
near you come that I may take on you and of-that other
er ek em kominn or höndum þeim djöfulsmönnum
that I am come out-of hands of-those devil's-men
Böglum, er bannsettir eru, þvíat þeir eru bæði ránsmenn
Baglers who banned are because they are both robbers
ok illgerðamenn, hatast þeir ok við þann manninn, er
and evildoers hate they also against that man who
beztr er, sem þér erut, herra! kórónaðr konungr, er allir
best is as you are lord crowned king to-whom all
ætti til at lúta, ef rétt gerði. Tak við mér, herra minn,
ought to to bow if right did Take with me lord my
ok lát mik aldri við yðr skiljast; ok ek veit eigi, hví sá
and let me never from you part and I know not why that
villubyskup hefir mik svá blindat, at ek skylda eigi sjá,
heresy-bishop has me so blinded that I should not see
með hverju falsi þeir fóru. Hví mundu þeir mér góðir,
with what falsehood they went Why would they to-me good

er níddust á konungi sínum? Birkibeinar kölluðu engan
who betrayed on king their (The)-Birchlegs called none
meira níðing en hann, sumir vildu, at hann færi út á
greater wretch than him some wished that he went out onto
Eyrar ok væri þegar hengdr. Þá mælti konungr: Statt upp,
Eyrar and were at-once hanged Then said (the)-king Stand up
Þorsteinn, þú skalt grið hafa ok segja oss frá siðum þeira
Thorstein you shall quarter have and tell to-us about customs their
Bagla. Þá mælti Þorsteinn: Sæll var ek þess, herra
of-(the)-Baglers Then said Thorstein Blessed was I of-that lord
minn, er ek sá augun yður, ok skal ek aldri skjoplast í
my that I saw the-eyes your and shall I never fail in
einurð við yðr; en frá Böglum má mart úfagrt segja, ok
loyalty to you but about (the)-Baglers may much unlovely tell and
þó yfrit satt. Váru þá Þorsteini grið gefin. Lét konungr
yet abundantly true Were then to-Thorstein quarter given Let (the)-king
hann jafnan tala á hirðstefnum ok segja frá háttum ok
him constantly speak at bodyguard-meetings and tell about ways and
siðum Bagla, ok svá talaði hann jafnan á þingum.
customs of-(the)-Baglers and so spoke he constantly at assemblies

Frá Böglum

CLXIII · OF THE BAGLAR

The Baglar plundered Mœrr, Raumsdalr, and Hálogaland. That autumn King Richard of England fell, and John Lackland took the throne.

Baglar tóku leiðangra ok allar útvinnur um Mœri
(The)-Baglers took levies and all dues through More
hváratveggju ok um Raumsdal, en ræntu í stöðum. Þá
both and through Raumsdal and robbed in places Then

rákust þeir alt norðr á Hálogaland, fóru þar í hvern
drove they all north to Halogaland went there into each
fjörð ok gerðu marga úspekt, ræntu þar úgrynni fjár ok
fjord and did many disorder robbed there countless of-money and
höfðu í flokk með sér alla hina beztu menn, þá er til
had in band with themselves all the best men those who to
váru, Þóri knapp, Guthorm í Mjólu, Brynjólf bróður hans,
were Thorir Knob Guthorm in Mjola Brynjolf brother his
Bjarna Marðarson, Halldór í Hjörleifsvík ok sonu hans,
Bjarni Mord's-son Halldor in Hjorleifsvik and sons his
Ívar nef, Gregorius kík, Erling í Þjóttu, Guzalín prest, ok
Ivar Nose Gregorius Kik Erling in Thjotta Guzalin priest and
fjölda annarra manna. Þat haust féll Rikarðr Englakonungr;
multitude of-other men That autumn fell Rikard English-king
þá tók konungdóm á Englandi bróðir hans Jón, er kallaðr
then took kingship in England brother his Jon who called
var sine terra, en Sverrir konungr sat í kaupangi.
was without land but Sverrir king sat in (the)-market-town

Konungr beiddi bœndr skipagerðar

CLXIV · THE KING ASKS THE FARMERS FOR SHIPS

Sverrir asked the farmers of Þrændalög to build a ship for each district, none under twenty-five rooms, so he could match the Baglar's gunwales; they agreed, and six great ships and the thirty-room Ógnarbrandr were built, with cargo ships lengthened.

Þat var eitt sinn, er konungr hafði þing við bœndr eptir
That was one time when (the)-king had assembly with (the)-farmers after
jól, hann beiddi þá þess, at þeir mundu gera honum skip
Yule he asked them of-this that they would make to-him ships

nökkur, ok mætti hann frelsa nökkut land sitt af hernaði
some and could he free somewhat land his from harrying
Bagla, er mér þess vís ván, sagði konungr, þegar
of-(the)-Baglers is to-me of-this certain expectation said (the)-king as-soon-as
várast, at þeir munu stefna hingat í fjörðinn, munu þeir
it-springs that they will head hither into the-fjord will they
gera yðr illar refjur, en vér Birkibeinar erum nú skiplausir
make to-you evil tricks and we Birchlegs are now shipless
ok ekki vel viðrlátnir at verja fé yðart ok fjör, megum vér
and not well placed to defend goods your and life may we
ekki svá skjótt renna um landit hit efra, sem þeir sigla hit
not so quickly run through the-land the upper as they sail the
ytra; nú þótt yðr þykki þetta nökkurr kostnaðr, þá mun
outer now though to-you seem this some cost then will
þat þó meira ilt, er Baglar gera yðr. Bœndr svöruðu
that yet more ill which (the)-Baglers do to-you (The)-farmers answered
hér vel um ok spurðu konung, hversu mörg skip eða stór
here well about and asked (the)-king how many ships or big
hann vildi at yrði. Konungr svaraði: Þat vilda ek, at bœndr
he wished that became (The)-king answered That would I that farmers
í Þrœndalögum í hverju fylki gegndi búnaði til eins skips,
in Throndlaw in each district met equipment to one ship
en bœjarmenn ok vér Birkibeinar gerum at hér umfram
and townsmen and we Birchlegs make at here beyond
slíkt, er vér megum; engi skulu skip smæri en hálfþritug
such as we may no shall ships smaller than of-twenty-five
ok þaðan af stœrri; leiddist mér fyrir Þórsbjörgum, er
and thence of bigger irked to-me off Thorsbjorg when
brandarnir á skipum Bagla stóðu í augum mér; mætti
the-prow-boards on ships of-(the)-Baglers stood in eyes to-me might
nú verða svá, at vér ættim nú þvílíkan borðamun við
now become so that we had now such gunwale-difference against

þá. Um myrgininn höfðu bœndr stefnu sín í milli í
them In the-morning had (the)-farmers meeting themselves in between in
Ólafskirkju ok hugsuðu um kostnað sinn, ok leizt þeim svá
Olaf's-church and thought about cost their and seemed to-them so
á, at ekki mikit mundi koma á hvers hlut, taka þat ráð
on that not much would come on each's lot take that counsel
at já konungi með blíðu at láta gera skipin. Lét konungr
to grant to-the-king with kindness to let make the-ships Let (the)-king
þá til ráða. Eptir páska váru reist sex skip út á Eyrum,
then to manage After Easter were raised six ships out on Eyrar
ok öll stór; þá var ok reist skip í konungsgarði, þat var
and all big then was also raised ship in (the)-king's-residence it was
30 rúmum, þat kölluðu þeir Ógnarbrandinn. Öll váru þessi
of-30 rooms it called they the-Terror-Brand All were these
skip borðmikil, at því sem þau váru róin til. Konungr lét
ships high-sided at that as they were rowed to (The)-king let
ok taka byrðinga nökkura ok höggva í sundr ok auka at
also take cargo-ships some and hew in asunder and lengthen at
kili ok róa at endlöngum borðum; búin váru þá öll skip í
keel and rivet at along boards fitted were then all ships in
bœnum, þau er herfœr þóttu vera, ok mjök af skyndingu.
the-town those which war-fit seemed be and much in haste

Frá Böglum ok Þrœndum

CLXV · OF THE BAGLAR AND THE ÞRŒNDIR

The Baglar returned at Whitsun, Nikulás saying Sverrir held no more than a headland. Their attack on the bridge at Niðaróss broke against the Birkibeinar and the tower; Sverrir drove their cutters off Brattaeyrr, Nikulás escaped Önundr's skiff only by fleeing in the Rauðsíða, losing his cap, and a raid on horseback killed nine Baglar at their cables.

Um várit bjoggust Baglar norðan af Hálogalandi
In the-spring prepared (the)-Baglers from-the-north from Halogaland
með öllu liði sínu, ok sóttu suðr til Þrándheimsmynnis ok
with all troop their and made south to Thrandheim's-mouth and
viku inn í fjörðinn. Þat var á hvítadögum. Þeir sigldu inn
turned in into the-fjord That was on Whitsun They sailed in
undir Hólm, ok leizt þar ekki auðsóttligt, fóru síðan inn í
under Holm and seemed there not easy-to-attack went then in into
Þrándheim ok herjuðu, fóru allan fjörðinn innan ok féngu
Thrandheim and harried went all the-fjord inward and got
sér fjár. Bœndr lágu fyrir í samnaði ok hendu af
themselves of-money (The)-farmers lay before in gathering and caught of
Böglum slíkt, er þeir féngu. Nikulás byskup talaði jafnan
(the)-Baglers such as they got Nikulas bishop spoke constantly
fyrir liðinu ok mælti svá: Sverrir hefir nú eigi meira af Noregi
before the-troop and said so Sverrir has now not more of Norway
en nes eitt, ok væri þat hófliga mikit, ef hann réði því
than headland one and were that moderately much if he ruled that
af Eyrunum, er fyrir utan er krakana, ok væri hann þar
of the-Eyrar which before outside is the-pole-stakes and were he there
hengdr á gálganum. En allítt ætla ek, at vér Baglar hirðim
hanged on the-gallows But very-little reckon I that we Baglers care
um, hvar hann ferr með hafhrúta sína, er hann lætr saman
about where he goes with sea-rams his which he lets together
reka í bœnum; væntir mik, at Þrœndir hafi fyrr kol allra
drive in the-town expects me that (the)-Thronds have before coals of-all
húsa sinna, en þeim komi þat at gagni; munum vér sveima
houses their than to-them come that to use will we roam
um fjörðinn, sem oss sýnist, af þessum sökum ok hræðast
about the-fjord as to-us seems for these reasons and fear
lítt, þvíat engan hafa þeir liðkost við oss. Baglar
little because no have they troop-strength against us (The)-Baglers

snerust nú innan með herinn or firðinum, þeir lögðu
turned now from-within with the-host out-of the-fjord they laid
at fyrir innan Hlaðhamra við Depil. Þeir gera þá ráð fyrir
at before within Hladhamrar at Depil They make then plan for
sér, at lið, þat er á stórskipum var, skal ganga upp hit
themselves that troop that which on great-ships was shall go up the
efra til brúar ok leita þar til bœjarins, en skútnaherrinn
upper to (the)-bridge and seek there to the-town but the-cutter-host
skal hit ytra til árinnar ok leita svá þar til uppgöngu.
shall the outer to the-river and seek so there to ascent
En Sverrir konungr hafði viðrbúnað í bœnum. Valslöngva var
But Sverrir king had preparation in the-town Catapult was
á Eyrum, en um var búizt á húsum uppi með endilöngum
on Eyrar and about was prepared on houses up along whole-length
bœnum. Konungr var sjálfr á Eyrum út ok hafði þar ekki
the-town (The)-king was himself on Eyrar out and had there not
mikit lið, en uppi við brúna var mestr hluti hirðarinnar.
much troop but up by the-bridge was greatest part of-the-bodyguard
Var fyrir því liði Hákon galinn ok Petr steypir. Skútur
Was over that troop Hakon (the)-Mad and Petr Steypir Cutters
Bagla lögðu at uppi við Skellingarhellu, ok réðu eigi til
of-(the)-Baglers laid at up by Skellingarhella and ventured not to
landgöngunnar, þvíat þeim þótti úhreint í höfninni, er þeir
the-landing because to-them seemed unclean in the-harbor when they
sá merkit Sigrfluguna á lopti. Þeir skutu á bœjarmenn,
saw the-standard the-Victory-Fly on air They shot at townsmen
en máttu hvergi nær koma fyrir grjóthríð þeiri, er ger var
but could nowhere near come for stone-storm that which made was
af húsunum. Baglar sóttu nú hit efra til brúarinnar, váru
from the-houses (The)-Baglers made now the upper to the-bridge were
þeir þar höfðingjar fyrir Ingi konungsefni, Nikulás byskup,
they there chieftains over Ingi king-candidate Nikulas bishop

Hallvarðr af Sástöðum; þeir veittu atgöngu þegar á brúna.
Hallvard of Sastadir they made onset at-once on the-bridge
Birkibeinar réðu þegar á mót þeim, ok mœttust á brúnni;
(The)-Birchlegs set at-once on against them and met on the-bridge
varð þar hörð svipan, féllu menn af hvárumtveggjum; óku
became there hard clash fell men of both-sides drove
Birkibeinar undan af brúnni, en Baglar sóttu eptir fast.
(the)-Birchlegs away off the-bridge but (the)-Baglers pressed after hard
Nökkurir Birkibeinar váru í kastalanum yfir brúarsporðinum,
Some Birchlegs were in the-tower over the-bridge-end
þeir báru ofan stórt grjót á Bagla, ok þá völdust enn
they bore down big stones on (the)-Baglers and then pressed yet
fram Birkibeinar. Baglar vildu þá eigi bíða, varð þá
forward (the)-Birchlegs (The)-Baglers wished then not wait became then
þröng mikil á brúnni, svá at út géngu af handriðin, féllu
crush great on the-bridge so that out went off the-handrails fell
Baglar þá margir á brúnni, en sumir stukku af út.
(the)-Baglers then many on the-bridge but some sprang off out
Baglar réðu eigi optar á brúna. Eptir þat géngu Baglar
(The)-Baglers ventured not oftener on the-bridge After that went (the)-Baglers
or skotmáli. Byskup bað þá leggja eld í brúna ok
out-of shot-range (The)-bishop bade them lay fire in the-bridge and
brenna hana, ok svá var gert þá, sagði hann, er Magnús
burn it and so was done then said he when Magnus
konungr sat um bœinn, er þeim þá engi útvegr annarr or
king sat about the-town is to-them then no out-way other out-of
bœnum nema út um borgina, ok skulum vér því skjótt
the-town except out through the-fort and shall we therefore quickly
fyrir setjast, skulu þeir þá svelta í bœnum, en at öðrum
before settle shall they then starve in the-town but at other
kosti ganga út undir vápn vár. Svá var gert, at þeir brendu
choice go out under weapons our So was done that they burned

brúna, en Birkibeinar vörðu eldinum ok féngu slökt, ok
the-bridge but (the)-Birchlegs defended against-the-fire and got quenched and
hélzt eitt lag við hit syðra landit. Síðan fóru þeir byskup
held one span by the southern the-land Then went they bishop
til Helgisetrs ok neyddu til príor ok aðra kanoka at berjast
to Helgisetr and forced to prior and other canons to fight
með sér, eða hann mundi ella brenna staðinn. Þeir fara síðan
with them or he would else burn the-house They go then
á braut með honum ok váru á hans skipi. Skútnamenninir
on away with him and were on his ship The-cutter-men
kómust ekki við orrostu, ok varð þeim bœrinn torsóttr,
got not at battle and became to-them the-town hard-to-attack
létu þeir svífa skúturnar ofan fyrir Bakka. Sverrir konungr
let they drift the-cutters down past Bakki Sverrir king
gékk upp af Eyrum til Smiðjubúða ok gaf Böglum kost
went up off Eyrar to Smidjubudir and gave to-(the)-Baglers choice
á at ganga upp á Bröttueyri, en Baglar æðruðust ok
on to go up onto Brattaeyr but (the)-Baglers took-fright and
réðu eigi til. En er konungr fann þat, þá þeysti hann
ventured not to But when (the)-king found that then drove he
lið sitt sem harðast fram, ok skutu á þá bæði örum
troop his as hardest forward and shot at them both with-arrows
ok spjótum. Baglar brugðu þá hart við ok sneru undan,
and spears (The)-Baglers started then hard about and turned away
ok varð fast eitt skip þeira á grunni, ok var við sjálft, at
and became fast one ship their on bottom and was at itself that
þeir mundu eigi af koma. Féll þar mart af Böglum. Reru
they would not off come Fell there many of (the)-Baglers Rowed
þeir þá út til stórskipanna; váru þeir þá ok þar komnir,
they then out to the-great-ships were they then also there come
er til brúarinnar höfðu farit, ok lágu þar um nóttina.
who to the-bridge had gone and lay there in the-night

Eptir um myrgininn reru Baglar skútunum fram um
After in the-morning rowed (the)-Baglers the-cutters forward past
Hlaðhamra ok lögðust þaðan við, sem at veit bœnum.
Hladhamrar and lay thence at as at faces the-town
Byskup reri yfir á Íluvík; þá hafði hann Rauðsíðuna, er
(The)-bishop rowed over to Iluvik then had he the-Red-Side which
allra skipa var skjótast. Hann hugði at, hvar honum þótti
of-all ships was swiftest He looked at where to-him seemed
bezt at at leggja, ef upp skyldi ganga. Sverrir konungr
best at to lay if up should go Sverrir king
kendi ferð hans ok tekr karfa einn, er Önundr átti,
recognized journey his and takes skiff one which Onund owned
lætr draga út um Eyrarnar þvers. Gékk mannfólkit svá
lets draw out over the-Eyrar across Went the-people so
þykt umhverfum, at ekki mátti sjá til skipsins; ok þegar
thick around that not could see to the-ship and as-soon-as
þat kom at sjánum, sá Nikulás byskup skipit ok bað sína
it came at the-sea saw Nikulas bishop the-ship and bade his
menn róa undan sem mest, ek gef yðr kyrtilsklæðin grœn
men row away as most I give to-you the-tunic-cloths green
ok rauð, ef þér róit vel. En ekki rói þér, sé þér eigi, at
and red if you row well But not row you see you not that
fjándrnir hlaupa galnir eptir oss, ok er sem skútan vár standi
the-fiends run mad after us and is as the-cutter our stand
kyrr hjá. Þá fleygði hann sér or lyptingunni ok fram
still beside Then flung he himself out-of the-poop and forward
eptir skipinu, fauk þá kveifin af höfði honum utan borðs.
along the-ship blew then the-coif off head to-him outside board
Hann hét enn á þá: dugit nú! sagði hann, minn fund
He called again on them do-your-part now said he my meeting
vilja þeir hafa. Í fyrstu er Baglar sneru Rauðsíðunni,
will they have In first when (the)-Baglers turned the-Red-Side

dró saman með þeim, en eigi þurfti byskup svá mjök
drew together between them but not needed (the)-bishop so much
at eggja sína menn róðrarins, þvíat öllum var þeim ærinn
to egg his men of-the-rowing because to-all was to-them ample
hugr á at róa undan. En er Baglar sá þetta af öðrum
mind on to row away But when (the)-Baglers saw this from other
skipunum, reru þeir til öðrum skútum ok vildu koma
the-ships rowed they to with-other cutters and wished come
millum lands ok Önundar. Önundr sá nú, at eigi mundi
between land and Onund Onund saw now that not would
honum hlýða svá búit, sneru þeir nú aptr ok féngu ekki
to-him do so done turned they now back and got nothing
fleira af byskupi en kveif hans, ok höfðu þat til jartegna.
more of (the)-bishop than coif his and had that for tokens
Eptir þat kom á landnyrðingr hvass, ok lágu skipin Bagla
After that came on north-easter sharp and lay the-ships of-(the)-Baglers
þau hin stóru áviðris. Sverrir konungr þóttist þat vita, at
those the great to-windward Sverrir king thought that know that
þeim mundi þar eigi gott við at haldast, ok lét flytja yfir
to-them would there not good against to hold and let move over
ána átta hesta. Þangat fór hann sjálfr, hann reið inn fyrir
the-river eight horses Thither went he himself he rode in before
ofan Hlaðir. Hann kom svá þar, at þeir höfðu gert báta sína
above Hladir He came so there that they had sent boats their
til lands at slá festum sínum, en þeir höfðu akkeri út fyrir
to land to strike cables their but they had anchors out before
skipunum ok heimtu sik út undir strengina. Þeir konungr
the-ships and hauled themselves out under the-cables They (the)-king
riðu at ok drápu þar níu menn, suma ráku þeir á kaf, sumir
rode at and killed there nine men some drove they into deep some

kómust út aptr til skipanna. Baglar hjoggu landfestarnar
got out back to the-ships (The)-Baglers hewed the-land-cables
ok sigldu út undir Rauðabjörg ok lágu þar tvær nætr.
and sailed out under Raudabjorg and lay there two nights

Um skipabúnað

CLXVI · OF THE FITTING OF THE SHIPS

Sverrir's men ambushed Baglar foragers in Orkadalr, many drowning in the Orkn; the Baglar drove off the Birkibeinar's cattle and hewed off a captive's foot, then lay in the Ásfjörðr while Sverrir hurried his new ships into the water.

Sverrir konungr gerði menn frá sér út í Orkadal, Eyjólf
Sverrir king sent men from himself out into Orkadal Eyjolf
Aflason, Bjálfa skinnstakk ok sveit með þeim. Baglar sigla
Afli's-son Bjalfi Skin-Coat and company with them (The)-Baglers sail
á einum degi út til Orkadals ok lögðu at við Róaberg, ok
on one day out to Orkadal and laid at by Roaberg and
jafnskjótt sem þeir kómu á land, hljópu þeir í mörkina
as-soon as they came on land ran they into the-woodland
ok leituðu sér at mat ok fé bæði til sætra ok
and sought for-themselves for food and goods both to shielings and
í bygðina. Birkibeinar gerðu sát fyrir þeim við bœinn
into the-settlement (The)-Birchlegs made ambush for them by the-farm
Holtar. Váru þar Baglar drepnir í túninu ok á leið til
Holtar Were there (the)-Baglers killed in the-home-field and on way to
árinnar Orknar. Margir géngu þar á kaf, svámu sumir yfir
the-river of-Orkn Many went there into deep swam some over
ána, sumir druknuðu; héldu Baglar aptr til skipanna.
the-river some drowned held (the)-Baglers back to the-ships

Baglar höfðu þá frétt af, hvar fyrir váru bú Birkibeina,
(The)-Baglers had then learned of where for were livestock of-(the)-Birchlegs
ok gerðu til þrjú hundruð manna, fóru eptir búinu ok
and sent to three hundreds of-men went after the-livestock and
ráku til strandar ok hjoggu á skip sín hverja klauf. Þeir
drove to shore and hewed onto ships their each hoof They
tóku einn Birkibein höndum við bœinn Roðar; hann duldist
took one Birchleg with-hands by the-farm Rodar he hid-himself
fyrir þeim ok lézt vera leiðangrsmaðr. Þeir hjoggu af
before them and said-himself be levy-man They hewed off
honum fót. Þar lágu þeir viku ok veittu ekki upprásir fleiri,
him foot There lay they week and made not raids more
þeir fóru þaðan inn til Hólms. Eptir þat gerðu þeir ráð
they went thence in to Holm After that made they plan
sitt at fara enn inn í herað at féföngum heldr en leita
their to go yet in into district for goods-getting rather than seek
til bœjarins. Fóru þeir þá inn í Ásfjörð í Hundeyjar, þar
to the-town Went they then in into Asfjord to Hundeyjar there
lágu þeir nætr nökkurar. Þá leið mjök at skipabúnaðinum
lay they nights some Then drew much toward the-ship-fitting
Sverris konungs, váru þá öll skip borin borði, en eigi váru
of-Sverrir king were then all ships borne with-board but not were
innan búin. Menn eggjuðu, at þegar skyldi flota, er ván
within fitted Men urged that at-once should float when expectation
þœtti, at þau þyldi mannfarminum. Var þá at öllu flýtt
seemed that they bore the-man-load Was then in all hurried
sem mátti um skipabúnaðinn ok þegar flotat, er svá þótti
as could about the-ship-fitting and at-once floated when so seemed
vera mega, var þá ok búit lið konungs, slíkt sem til var.
be may was then also equipped troop of-(the)-king such as to was

Frá Böglum

CLXVII · OF THE BAGLAR

On the Friday before Saint Botolf's wake Sverrir bade his men confess, eat, and keep their ships spread out. Bishop Nikulás would not wait for Sverrir's fleet and had the Baglar row out of the fjord; they turned as if to fight, then fled, and the Birkibeinar's light new ships flew after their heavy winter-sodden hulls.

Þat var á frjádegi næsta fyrir Bótólfsvöku snemma um
That was on Friday next before Botolf's-wake early in
myrgininn, at Sverrir konungr fór út or ánni með her
the-morning that Sverrir king went out out-of the-river with host
sinn, ok er alt kom liðit saman, þá stóð konungr upp á
his and when all came the-troop together then stood (the)-king up on
viðuna ok bað menn gefa gaum vandliga, hvat hann sagði.
the-rigging and bade men give heed carefully what he said
Konungr mælti svá: Hér er mikill herr saman kominn, ok
(The)-king said so Here is great host together come and
er þess ván, ef svá ferr, sem vér ætlum, at fund várn
is of-it expectation if so goes as we intend that meeting our
Bagla beri saman, at eigi munu þessir menn allir með
of-(the)-Baglers bear together that not will these men all with
lífi aptr koma, ok er þat nú öllum jafnnær, ok vari
life back come and is that now to-all equally-near and let-beware
hverr sjálfan sik. Þat er bœn mín ok vili, at menn gangi
each self himself That is prayer my and will that men go
til skripta, allir þeir er eigi hafa þat áðr nýliga gert; þat
to confession all those who not have that before newly done that
er ok mitt ráð, at menn snæði nökkut ok drekki sér
is also my counsel that men eat something and drink themselves
kyrningshjarta; megu menn vel skiptast við um róðr. En
calm-heart may men well change-about with in rowing But

ef vér finnum Bagla, ok vili þeir undan oss, þóat þeir
if we find (the)-Baglers and wish they away from-us though they
hafi eigi þat látit, þá förum dreift með skip vár, látum
have not that let-on then let-us-go scattered with ships our let-us-let
milli ördrag eða lengra, ok látum skútur várar fylgja vel
between bowshot or longer and let-us-let cutters our follow well
langskipunum. Þetta mundi vera um dagmála skeið, ok var
the-longships This would be about of-breakfast time and was
sólskin veðrs ok lítit vindgol utan á fjörðinn, svá
sunshine of-weather and little wind-breath from-without on the-fjord so
at hóf merkit frá stönginni. Róa Birkibeinar þá inn á
that lifted the-standard from the-pole Row (the)-Birchlegs then in on
fjörðinn. Var þat annan veg, en Baglar hugðu, þvíat skip
the-fjord Was that other way than (the)-Baglers thought because ships
þeira váru stórum árfljót, váru þau spánósa ok nýbrædd, en
their were greatly oar-swift were they shaving-new and new-tarred and
ekki á nema menn. Sverrir konungr steig á skútu ok hleypti
nothing on except men Sverrir king stepped on cutter and dashed
inn ok vildi njósna til Bagla. Þeir sá mann einn uppi á
in and wished spy to (the)-Baglers They saw man one up on
landit, þeir lögðu at ok spurðu bónda, ef hann vissi nökkut
the-land they laid at and asked (the)-farmer if he knew anything
til Bagla. Hann svaraði: Sé þér inn til Horna, þar liggr
of (the)-Baglers He answered See you in to Horn there lies
herr þeira allr við. Ok síðan bað hann konunginn vel fara.
host their all at And then bade he the-king well fare
Fór konungr aptr til liðs síns ok sagði, hversu stefna skyldi.
Went (the)-king back to troop his and said how head should
Ok er þeir höfðu nær hálfróit, þá fóru Baglar innan
And when they had nearly half-rowed then went (the)-Baglers from-within
undan Horna ok út til Tautru ok stefndu fyrir norðan
from-under Horn and out to Tautra and headed before north

eyna á fjörðinn. En er Baglar sá skip Birkibeina,
the-island onto the-fjord But when (the)-Baglers saw ships of-(the)-Birchlegs
þá var þat ráð ok vili Nikulás byskups ok Sigurðar jarls
then was that counsel and will of-Nikulas bishop and of-Sigurd earl
ok Hreiðars at róa út eptir firði ok eiga ekki við Sverri,
and of-Hreidar to row out along fjord and have nothing with Sverrir
sögðu hann ekki mundu róa eptir þeim með stórskipin. En
said him not would row after them with the-great-ships But
Hallvarðr af Sástöðum ok Philippus af Veigini vildu bíða
Hallvard of Sastadir and Philippus of Veigin wished wait
Sverris konungs, en byskup réð, at út var róit. Þá skiptust
for-Sverrir king but (the)-bishop decided that out was rowed Then changed
menn við stýrihömlurnar, steig byskup á Rauðsíðuna. Nú
men at the-oar-loops stepped (the)-bishop onto the-Red-Side Now
sá Birkibeinar, hvar Baglar reru, ok stefna fyrir þá fyrir
saw (the)-Birchlegs where (the)-Baglers rowed and head before them before
vestan Tautru á fjörðinn, ok sœkir þá saman með þeim,
west of-Tautra onto the-fjord and draws then together between them
ok var þat fyrir innan Ömburnes. Þá er stund var til
and was that before within Omburnes Then when space was to
þeira, meir en örskot, skutu Baglar upp árum sínum, ok
them more than arrow-shot shot (the)-Baglers up oars their and
œptu Baglar upp heróp ok sneru svá skipum sínum, sem
shouted (the)-Baglers up war-cry and turned so ships their as
þeir vildi berjast, en Birkibeinar váru ekki herklæddir, en þó
they wished fight but (the)-Birchlegs were not war-clad but yet
skutu þeir upp árum sínum ok hljópu í herklæði sín, ok
shot they up oars their and leapt into war-clothes their and
hugðu at Baglar mundu vilja berjast, en þeir vildu eigi
thought that (the)-Baglers would wish fight but they wished not
berjast ok viku undan. Þá mælti konungr: Þat óttumst ek
fight and turned away Then said (the)-king That fear I

nú, at þeir vili í bœinn, ok munu þeir gera illan bakeld
now that they wish into the-town and will they make evil back-fire
bœjarmönnum, áðr vér komum, ef þeir taka þat ráð. Þá
to-townsmen before we come if they take that counsel Then
spentu þeir árar hvárirtveggju, fjórir á konungsskipinu hverja,
clasped they oars both-sides four on the-king's-ship each
ok flaug svá fram sem fugl, ok hver ár var svá dregin,
and flew so forward as bird and each oar was so drawn
sem menn hugðu at hlýða mundi, en skip Bagla váru
as men thought that hold would but ships of-(the)-Baglers were
þung mjök, er legit höfðu á sjó allan vetrinn.
heavy much which lain had on sea all the-winter

Frá Birkibeinum

CLXVIII · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR

Hallvarðr of Sástaðir turned his small ships on Hákon's ship; Sverrir, in the Hugró, had his steersman make for Hallvarðr's Skálpinn.

Hallvarðr af Sástöðum sá nú, at Birkibeinar mundu ná
Hallvard of Sastadir saw now that (the)-Birchlegs would reach
öllum hinum stœrstum skipum Bagla, ok bað víkja aptr
all the biggest ships of-(the)-Baglers and bade turn back
öll skipin hjá Birkibeinum ok taka þau fyrst, er síðast
all the-ships beside (the)-Birchlegs and take those first which last
fœri. En því stýrði Hákon konungsson, er síðast fór, hafði
went But that steered Hakon king's-son which last went had
hann alllítt skipat. Viku þeir þá aptr á smáskipunum
he very-little manned Turned they then back on the-small-ships
öllum, en hin stóru skipin Bagla urðu ekki mjúkræs
all but the great ships of-(the)-Baglers became not nimble

hjá þeim, er Birkibeinar höfðu. Þá mælti konungr við
beside those which (the)-Birchlegs had Then said (the)-king to
Þórð Finngeirsbróður, hann stýrði þá konungsskipinu: Sér
Thord Finngeir's-brother he steered then the-king's-ship See
þú skip Hallvarðs? Hví mun ek eigi sjá, herra? sagði hann.
you ship of-Hallvard Why will I not see lord said he
Konungsskipit fór fyrst, ok eigi skemra frá öðrum en ördrag.
The-king's-ship went first and not shorter from others than bowshot
Þar skal nú, sagði konungr, þrifnaðrinn þinn við liggja, at
There shall now said (the)-king the-thriving your on lie that
þú hæfir skip Hallvarðs, þar skulum vér við leggja í dag,
you hit ship of-Hallvard there shall we at lay in day
þat er várt fœri. Hann svaraði: Eigi er vandi á, herra, svá
that is our chance He answered Not is difficulty on lord so
svífr, sem vill. Þetta skip, er konungr var á, kallaði hann
sweeps as wills This ship which (the)-king was on called he
Hugró, Hallvarðr hafði Skálpinn, Pétr steypir ok Eyvindr
Mind's-Ease Hallvard had the-Sheath Petr Steypir and Eyvind
prestsmágr höfðu Ógnarbrandinn, Hákon konungsson Viðsjána.
priest's-in-law had the-Terror-Brand Hakon king's-son the-Vidsja

Frá orrostu Birkibeina ok Bagla

CLXIX · OF THE BATTLE OF THE BIRKIBEINAR AND THE BAGLAR

The Birkibeinar cleared six great Baglar ships; the Rauðsíða, with the bishop and the king-candidate, fled, and afterward the prisoners were killed.

Síðan sveif saman konungsskipinu ok Hallvarðs, lá
Then swept together the-king's-ship and Hallvard's lay
konungsskipit á bakborða, en skúta Eiríks af Hæ hafði rent
the-king's-ship on larboard but cutter of-Eirik of Ha had run

aptr milli skipanna ok lá því eigi alla leið síbyrðis við.
back between the-ships and lay therefore not all way side-by-side against
Skip Philippus jarls fór nökkuru síðar ok gat varla vikit svá
Ship of-Philippus earl went somewhat later and could hardly turned so
skjótt, at hann gæti á stefnt á skipit Hallvarðs, ok krœktu
quickly that he could on headed on the-ship of-Hallvard and hooked
stafnbúar jarls til ljá, ok kom á höfuðit, ok gékk þat af
stem-men of-(the)-earl to scythe and came on the-head and went it off
skipi Hallvarðs, ok þótti skipit hrakligt eptir verða. Þá gátu
ship of-Hallvard and seemed the-ship wretched after become Then could
þeir vikit á jarlsskipinu, ok lögðu at á stjórnborða aptan
they turned on the-earl's-ship and laid at on starboard from-aft
til austrúms, lagði þá hvert at, sem eptir kom. Ok urðu
to bailing-room laid then each at as after came And became
þá sex stórskipin Bagla kringð innan í, en Birkibeinar
then six the-great-ships of-(the)-Baglers ringed within in but (the)-Birchlegs
lögðu utan um. Öll hin smæri skip Bagla lögðu lítt at
laid outside about All the smaller ships of-(the)-Baglers laid little at
skipum Birkibeina, þvíat þeir vildu eigi verða inni kringðir.
ships of-(the)-Birchlegs because they wished not become inside ringed
Ógnarbrandrinn, er þeir Pétr steypir stýrðu, varð eigi við
The-Terror-Brand which they Petr Steypir steered became not at
í öndverðum bardaganum, þvíat þeir gátu honum eigi svá
in beginning the-battle because they could it not so
brátt vikit, þóat allir reri á annat borð, en allir hamlaði
soon turned though all rowed on one side but all backed
á annat, ok reist svá rúman krókinn, at þeir féngu eigi
on other and cut so wide the-turn that they managed not
at vikit. En skútur Bagla firðust æ Ógnarbrandinn.
to turned But cutters of-(the)-Baglers shunned ever the-Terror-Brand

Þessi orrosta var bæði hörð ok löng, hófst at miðjum degi,
This battle was both hard and long began at mid day
en vannst til miðs aptans. Sverrir konungr hafði sagt sínum
and lasted to mid evening Sverrir king had said to-his
mönnum fyrir orrostuna: Ef svá ferr, sem mik væntir, at
men before the-battle If so goes as me expects that
vér sigrimst, þá minnizt nú þess, er Baglar sveltu yðr
we win then remember now of-that when (the)-Baglers starved you
í fyrra sumar í borginni, ok gefit engum manni grið
in former summer in the-fort and give to-no man quarter
nema þeim, er á minn fund kemr, þvíat með engu fá
except to-him who on my meeting comes because with nothing can
vér nú eytt fjándmönnum várum en oddi ok eggju.
we now destroyed enemies our than with-point and edge
Margan munut þér finna í dag með Böglum eiðrofann
Many will you find in day with (the)-Baglers oath-breaker
ok konungsníðinginn, ok skulu þeir nú þess gjalda. Skip
and king's-traitor and shall they now for-it pay Ship
byskups hafði eigi at lagt, hafði straumr dregit sundr
of-(the)-bishop had not at laid had current drawn apart
skipin, ok reru þeir at landi, ok hljópu á land allir menn,
the-ships and rowed they to land and leapt on land all men
þeir er færir váru. Sverrir konungr skaut um daginn af
those who able were Sverrir king shot in the-day with
lásboga af skipi sínu, ok svá Philippus jarl, ok var jarl
crossbow from ship his and so Philippus earl and was (the)-earl
skotinn undir brynstúkuna í arminn, ok kipti eigi or örinni
shot under the-mail-sleeve in the-arm and pulled not out the-arrow
fyrr en um kveldit. Rauðsíðan, er byskup var á ok
earlier than in the-evening The-Red-Side which (the)-bishop was on and
konungsefnit, lá eigi nærr bardaganum en svá, at þeir máttu
the-king-candidate lay not nearer the-battle than so that they could

sjá, hvárir sigraðist, ok þegar þeir sá, at Birkibeinum horfði
see which won and as-soon-as they saw that to-(the)-Birchlegs looked
vænna, þá reru þeir út eptir firði, sem mest máttu þeir.
better then rowed they out along fjord as most could they
En er liðit tók at falla á skipi Hallvarðs, þá géngu
But when the-troop began to fall on ship of-Hallvard then went
Birkibeinar upp af konungsskipinu ok af jarlsskipi, var þat
(the)-Birchlegs up off the-king's-ship and off earl's-ship was it
fyrst hroðit. Hallvarðr féll á skipi sínu fyrir aptan siglu.
first cleared Hallvard fell on ship his before aft mast
Sá maðr var aptr á skipi Hallvarðs fríðr sýnum, er hafði
That man was aft on ship of-Hallvard handsome in-looks who had
stálhúfu ok panzara, ok hvártveggja á gauzku, hann hafði
steel-cap and mail-jerkin and both in Gautish he had
fengit slag af flettiskeptu snemma orrostu, svá at nefit
got blow from flail-shaft early of-battle so that the-nose
var lamit, þessi maðr var kominn upp á viðuna hjá siglu.
was crushed this man was come up on the-rigging beside mast
Sá hirðmaðr gerist til, er Áskell hét, sterkr maðr ok
That retainer goes to who Askel was-called strong man and
í spangabrynju, hann fór upp at honum, ok sóttust þeir.
in plate-mail he went up at him and fought they
Sá hafði ekki vápn, er fyrir var, nema skjöld ok stein,
That-one had no weapon who before was except shield and stone
Áskell hafði sverð ok skjöld. Eitt tjald stóð millum þeira,
Askel had sword and shield One awning stood between them
ok munduðust þeir at um stund. Áskell hjó hart, ok kom
and feinted they at for while Askel hewed hard and came
í tjaldstuðilinn sverðit, svá at fast stóð í. Hinn neytti
into the-awning-post the-sword so that fast stood in The-other used
þess, ok sló hann með steininum, er hann hélt á. Rauk
of-that and struck him with the-stone which he held on Flew

Áskell af viðunni ofan. Mæltu margir, at sá mundi vel
Askel off the-rigging down Said many that that-one would well
verja rúm sitt, ef hann væri með þeim. Konungr lét, sem
defend room his if he were with them (The)-king made as
hann heyrði eigi. Því næst var hann lostinn með pálstaf
he heard not Then next was he struck with spike-staff
af konungsskipinu, hrapaði hann þá ofan. Áskell var þá
from the-king's-ship fell he then down Askel was then
uppstaðinn ok hafði þá öxi eina. Réðust þeir þá til, ok lauk
up-risen and had then axe one Set they then to and ended
svá, at Áskell varð sárr, en Beglingrinn féll. Hallvarðs skip
so that Askel became wounded but the-Bagler fell Hallvard's ship
var fyrst hroðit, en síðan var hvert hroðit at öðru þeira fim,
was first cleared and then was each cleared at other of-those five
er þar lágu. Baglar tóku þá undan öllum herinum, hleyptu
which there lay (The)-Baglers took then away with-all the-host dashed
sumir at landi ok hljópu þar upp, en flest öll léttiskipin
some to land and leapt there up but most all the-light-ships
tóku út eptir firði. Birkibeinar tóku öll þau skip, er til
took out along fjord (The)-Birchlegs took all those ships which to
lands leituðu. Þar féll fjöldi af Böglum. Reru Birkibeinar
land sought There fell multitude of (the)-Baglers Rowed (the)-Birchlegs
þá aptr til bœjarins, ok í ána at flóði um nóttina.
then back to the-town and into the-river at flood in the-night
En er liðit kom í bœinn, þá reyndist þat, at
But when the-troop came into the-town then proved that that
sveitarhöfðingjar höfðu grið gefit Böglum, frændum sínum
company-chiefs had quarter given to-(the)-Baglers kinsmen their
ok vinum. Sumir Birkibeinar mintust, hvat konungrinn hafði
and friends Some Birchlegs remembered what the-king had
mælt, ok drápu Bagla marga í stofu einni, en frændr þeira,
said and killed (the)-Baglers many in room one but kinsmen of-those

er grið höfðu gefit, géngu til konungs ok kærðu fyrir
who quarter had given went to (the)-king and complained before
honum. Konungr lézt sjá til gott ráð, ef þessir menn, er
him (The)-king said-himself see to good counsel if these men who
drepit höfðu frændr þeira, hefði grið gefit nökkurum sínum
killed had kinsmen their had quarter given to-some their
frændum, ok bað þá þar hefna. Eptir þat géngu sveitirnar um
kinsmen and bade them there avenge After that went the-companies through
bœinn, ok hendu þá hvárir annarra frændr, þar til er allir
the-town and caught then each-side of-other kinsmen there till when all
váru drepnir. Annan dag eptir hafði konungr þing út á Eyrum
were killed Second day after had (the)-king assembly out on Eyrar
ok sagði þá sínum mönnum, hvernin menn skyldu fjárskipti
and told then to-his men how men should division-of-goods
hátta: alt skyldi bera í postolakirkjugarð, lézt hann þar
arrange all should bear into apostles'-church-yard said-himself he there
mundu fá gæzlumenn til. Þá sendi hann menn sína norðr
would get keepers to Then sent he men his north
á Hálogaland eptir þeim, er þangat höfðu snúit. Birkibeinar
to Halogaland after those who thither had turned (The)-Birchlegs
tóku Bjarna Marðarson ok Brynjólf í Mjólu ok marga aðra
took Bjarni Mord's-son and Brynjolf in Mjola and many other
góða drengi, ok runsuðu búm þeira fast ok féhirðslum.
good warriors and ransacked farms their hard and treasuries

Frá Erlendi prest ok jarli

CLXX · OF ERLENDR THE PRIEST AND THE EARL

Earl Philippus seduced the young wife of Erlendr, a wise and powerful priest of the Krosskirkja, and kept her despite Sverrir's request; Erlendr began plotting against the king and all the Birkibeinar.

Erlendr hét maðr, hann var prestr ok söng at Krosskirkju,
Erlend was-called man he was priest and sang at Cross-church
hann var maðr vitugr ok snjallr ok var ráðamaðr mikill í
he was man wise and able and was counselor great in
bœnum. Prestrinn átti konu unga ok fagra, þá konu glapti
the-town The-priest had wife young and fair that wife seduced
Philippus jarl. En er konungrinn varð varr við, bað hann
Philippus earl But when the-king became aware of-it bade he
jarlinn fögrum orðum, at hann skyldi af því láta. Jarlinn
the-earl with-fair words that he should off that let The-earl
svarar um vel, en alt var samt. En er Erlendr varð
answers about well but all was same But when Erlend became
þessa varr, þá fyldist hann upp reiði mikillar bæði við
of-this aware then filled-himself he up of-anger great both against
konung ok jarl, ok bjó um svikræði við þá alla
(the)-king and (the)-earl and prepared about treachery against them all
Birkibeina. Þeir Sverrir konungr ok Erlendr prestr höfðu opt
Birchlegs They Sverrir king and Erlend priest had often
fyrr fast á benzt um mál Eiríks erkibyskups ok konungs.
before hard on bent about case of-Eirik archbishop and of-(the)-king

Konungr elti Bagla

CLXXI · THE KING PURSUES THE BAGLAR

Sverrir chased the Baglar into the Vík, whence they fled to Denmark, and wintered in Osló, fining the farmers of the Vík. Philippus kept the priest's wife at Akr, slipping there by night, though Sverrir forbade it and warned him it would bring them harm.

Þegar eptir bardagann fór konungr við liði sínu eptir Böglum,
At-once after the-battle went (the)-king with troop his after (the)-Baglers
en þeir rákust æ undan, unz þeir kómu austr í Vík, ok
but they drove ever away until they came east into (the)-Vik and
þaðan héldu Baglar suðr til Danmerkr. Konungr hafðist við
thence held (the)-Baglers south to Denmark (The)-king kept-himself at
í Víkinni um sumarit ok heimti gjöld af bóndum fyrir
in the-Vik in the-summer and claimed payments from (the)-farmers for
landráð, tók leiðangra ok settist um haustit í Osló ok bjó
treason took levies and settled in the-autumn in Oslo and prepared
þar til vetrsetu. Um haustit kom norðan frilla jarlsins
there for winter-quarters In the-autumn came from-the-north mistress of-the-earl
prestskonan, ok tók jarl þegar við henni. Konungr bannaði
the-priest's-wife and took (the)-earl at-once with her (The)-king forbade
þat. Jarl lét hana þá fara skamt á braut á þann bœ, er
that (The)-earl let her then go short on away to that farm which
Akr heitir, fór hann þangat jafnan leyniliga um nætr ok svaf
Akr is-called went he thither constantly secretly in nights and slept
þar. Konungr rœddi opt fyrir jarli, at hann fœri úvarliga: uggi
there (The)-king spoke often before (the)-earl that he went unwarily fear
ek, frændi! sagði hann, at þat muni oss draga til mikils skaða.
I kinsman said he that that will us draw to great harm

Fall jarls

CLXXII · THE FALL OF THE EARL

At Christmas Hreiðarr's Baglar surprised Earl Philippus at Akr; fleeing barefoot, he slipped on the frozen ground and was speared.

Baglar sigldu sunnan or Danmörk á öndverðum jólum
(The)-Baglers sailed from-the-south out-of Denmark at beginning Yule
með skútnaher, ok týndu þeir í siglingu einni skútunni, ok
with cutter-host and lost they in sailing one cutter and
stýrði þeiri Auðun býleistr, ok komst þar ekki mannsbarn
steered it Audun Byleist and got there no man's-child
af. En er þeir kómu fyrir Oslóarfjörð, viku þeir inn í
off But when they came off Oslofjord turned they in into
fjörðinn 15 skútum, réð þar fyrir Hreiðarr ok konungsefni,
the-fjord 15 with-cutters ruled there over Hreidar and king-candidate
en er þeir kómu undir Höfuðey, þá mælti Hreiðarr: Þat
but when they came under Hofudey then said Hreidar That
veit ek, at Birkibeinar hafa nú enga frétt af oss, en sægr
know I that (the)-Birchlegs have now no news of us but throng
mikill er í bœnum ok lið alt ölótt. Nú er þat snjallræði
great is in the-town and troop all drunk Now is that smart-counsel
at veita þeim áhlaup, mundi Sverrir svá gera, ef hann ætti
to give to-them attack would Sverrir so do if he had
várn hlut. Nú skulum vér róa hljóðliga inn at bryggjum;
our lot Now shall we row quietly in to wharves
veit ek ok ván til veiðar nökkurrar, Philippus jarl sefr
know I also expectation to of-hunting some Philippus earl sleeps
yfir á Ákri við fá menn. Allir létust þess fúsir vera.
over at Akr with few men All said-themselves of-it eager be
Reru þá þannin 5 skútur, en aðrir reru inn at bryggjum,
Rowed then thither 5 cutters but others rowed in to wharves

ok hlýddust um, ok var alt hljótt í bœnum, ok þó þorðu
and listened about and was all quiet in the-town and yet dared
þeir eigi upp at ganga, ok reru frá. En þeir er lent
they not up to go and rowed off But those who landed
höfðu í Akrshaganum, géngu upp til bœjarins. Varð jarl
had in the-Akr-pasture went up to the-farm Became (the)-earl
eigi fyrr varr við, en húsin váru tekin á honum. Hann
not earlier aware of-it than the-houses were taken on him He
komst út um laundyrr einar, hann var berfœttr ok í
got out through secret-door one he was barefoot and in
línklæðum einum. Þeyr var ok snælaust á jörðunni ok svað
linen-clothes only Thaw was and snowless on the-earth and slippery
á þelanum. Jarl var manna fóthvatastr. Baglar þeir er
on the-frozen-ground (The)-earl was of-men swiftest-footed Baglers those who
upp váru á húsunum, sá í myrkrinu, at maðrinn hljóp út.
up were on the-houses saw in the-dark that the-man ran out
Hljópu þeir þá eptir honum, ok í því skruppu honum fœtr,
Ran they then after him and in that slipped to-him feet
ok féll hann. Þá var hann skotinn spjóti, var þat hans
and fell he Then was he shot with-spear was that his
banasár. Hann féll í gerðum nökkurum skamt frá bœnum,
death-wound He fell in fences some short from the-farm
féllu þar ok tveir menn aðrir. Sveinn hans er nefndr Eiríkr
fell there also two men other Lad his is named Eirik
svagi, hann komst undan ok bar boð til bœjarins, hann
Svagi he got away and bore message to the-town he
kom í konungsgarð ok var svá móðr, at hann fékk
came into (the)-king's-residence and was so weary that he could
ekki mælt annat, en œpti á þá ok bað þá upp standa.
not said other than shouted on them and bade them up stand
Konungrinn varð skjótastr í klæðin ok út í garðinn.
The-king became quickest into the-clothes and out into the-yard

Hann spurði, hvat tíðinda væri. Sveinninn sagði jarl
He asked what of-tidings were The-lad said (the)-earl
fallinn, ok hafa Baglar drepit hann. Ofnær oss, sagði
fallen and have (the)-Baglers killed him Too-near us said
konungrinn, hann hugði jarlinn mundu hafa sofit í bœnum.
the-king he thought the-earl would have slept in the-town
Konungr bað lúðrsveininn blása. Hleypr þá upp hverr í
(The)-king bade the-trumpet-lad blow Leaps then up each in
sínu rúmi, ok væpnast. Þá var konunginum sagt, at jarl
his room and arms-himself Then was to-the-king said that (the)-earl
hefði fallit yfir á Akri. Vakti þá liðit alt með vápnum
had fallen over at Akr Woke then the-troop all with weapons
til dags. Þetta var um nóttina fyrir ellifta dag í jólum.
till day This was in the-night before eleventh day in Yule

Baglar fóru norðr í Þrándheim

CLXXIII · THE BAGLAR GO NORTH TO ÞRÁNDHEIMR

The Baglar killed Hallvarðr skygna in Niðaróss; the farmers of Gauldalr and Orkadalr besieged them and drove them out.

Baglar sóttu út eptir firði ok fóru alla leið norðr til
(The)-Baglers made out along fjord and went all way north to
Þrándheims. Í kaupangi var fyrir Hallvarðr skygna með
Thrandheim In (the)-market-town was before Hallvard (the)-Sharp-Eyed with
sveit sína, hann var bróðir Guthorms erkibyskups. Þeir váru
company his he was brother of-Guthorm archbishop They were
drepnir nær allir sveitungar. Baglar settust í bœinn ok höfðu
killed nearly all company-men (The)-Baglers settled in the-town and had
hálft sétta hundrað manna. Þá váru frost mikil ok íslög. Þá
half sixth hundred of-men Then were frosts great and ice-sheets Then

gerðu sýslumenn Sverris konungs ok bœndr í heraði þat ráð
made bailiffs of-Sverrir king and farmers in district that plan
at fara at Böglum. Var fyrir Gauldœlum Dýri af Gimsum, en
to go at (the)-Baglers Was over (the)-Gauldal-men Dyri of Gimsar and
fyrir Orkdœlum Eyjólfr Aflason. Þeir höfðu 15 hundruð manna.
over (the)-Orkdal-men Eyjolf Afli's-son They had 15 hundreds of-men
Baglar urðu eigi fyrr varir við, en þeir váru mjök komnir
(The)-Baglers became not earlier aware of-it than they were nearly come
at bœnum, ok héldu út til borgar á móti ok vörðu borgina.
at the-town and held out to (the)-fort on against and defended the-fort
Annan daginn áðr höfðu Baglar látit höggva ísinn alt frá
Second the-day before had (the)-Baglers let hew the-ice all from
borginni ok ofan um brú. Þeir skutust á um daginn,
the-fort and down past bridge They shot-at-each-other on in the-day
ok urðu margir menn sárir af hvárumtveggjum. Philippus af
and became many men wounded of both-sides Philippus of
Veigini var lostinn með öru. Fóru bœndr heim við svá búit
Veigin was struck with arrow Went (the)-farmers home with so done
ok féngu ekki at gert. Fám nóttum síðar fóru bœndr aðra
and got nothing to done By-few nights later went (the)-farmers second
för inn til bœjar; þá vildu Baglar eigi bíða ok héldu á
journey in to town then wished (the)-Baglers not wait and held on
braut. Baglar fóru þá suðr á Mœri til Borgundar, en sumir
away (The)-Baglers went then south to More to Borgund but some
til Þingvallar, höfðust þar við um várit fram til páska.
to Thingvoll kept-themselves there at in the-spring forward to Easter

Um álögur Sverris konungs

CLXXIV · OF KING SVERRIR'S LEVIES

Sverrir's new levy of a man from each troop and a pound and an ox stirred the Vík to revolt; Símun the lawman and others led the farmers, who killed every bailiff from Svínasund through Raumaríki.

Sverrir konungr lagði á bœndr um vetrinn leiðangr, at or
Sverrir king laid on (the)-farmers in the-winter levy that out-of
hverjum liða skyldi gera mann, ok umfram pund ok naut.
each troop should provide man and beyond pound and ox
Konungr gaf þá heimleyfi Þrœndum, en hann tók lið þar or
(The)-king gave then home-leave to-(the)-Thronds but he took troop there out-of
heruðum. Gerðist af þessum leiðangri kurr mikill í Víkinni.
districts Arose from this levy murmur great in the-Vik
Þeir gerðu svikræði við konunginn, fór þat svá undarliga
They made treachery against the-king went that so strangely
leynt, at allir váru í einu úráði austan frá Svínasundi ok
hidden that all were in one ill-plot from-the-east from Svinasund and
allir Vestrfyldir ok um alt Raumaríki. Hófust þeir allir upp
all Vestfold-men and through all Raumariki Rose they all up
með múginn at ákveðinni stundu ok höfðu uppi þegn ok þræl,
with the-throng at appointed hour and had up freeman and thrall
þeir drápu alla sýslumennina, hverja þar sem staddir váru. Þeir
they killed all the-bailiffs each there where placed were They
váru fyrir bóndum, Símun lögmaðr á Þufn, Ámundi burst,
were over (the)-farmers Simun lawman at Thufn Amundi Bristle
Þorviðr blindi, Þórðr Úlfgestsson, Þorlákr drafli, Jón kúla,
Thorvid (the)-Blind Thord Ulfgest's-son Thorlak Drafli Jon Ball
Grímr or Grettisvík, Hallkell or Angri. Þeir hófu ráðagerð
Grim out-of Grettisvik Hallkel out-of Angr They began plotting

þessa í Osló, ok áttu stefnu í Hallvarðskirkju ok bundu þar
this in Oslo and held meeting in Hallvard's-church and bound there
ráð sín saman fyrir álögur þær, er konungr hafði við þá.
counsels their together for imposts those which (the)-king had against them

Um dráp margra Birkibeina

CLXXV · OF THE SLAYING OF MANY BIRKIBEINAR

The farmers killed Sverrir's bailiffs in Lent. Warned of their gathering, Sverrir had the townsmen move their goods into churches, spied on the farmers' host on the ice of Sólangr by night, and drew his men onto the ice. Hearing of the Skeynir, Eynir, and others on Ryginaberg, he offered the townsmen a choice, and they promised help.

Miðvikudag í imbrudögum í langaföstu drápu þeir Benedikt
On-Wednesday in Ember-days in Lent killed they Benedikt
sýslumann í Túnsbergi ok alla hans sveit, Ólaf smjörkoll
bailiff in Tunsberg and all his company Olaf Butter-Head
ok alla hans menn, Pétr Lucasbróður í Aumorð ok þá
and all his men Petr Lucas's-brother in Aumord and them
níu saman, ok þar hverja, sem staddir váru. Þeir settu
nine together and there each where placed were They set
varðmenn á vegu alla, þá er lágu til bœjarins. Frjádaginn
watchmen on roads all those which lay to the-town On-the-Friday
kom kurr nökkurr á konunginn, at bœndr mundi hafa
came murmur some on the-king that (the)-farmers would have
samnað. Konungr lét þá rannsaka leiðangrsliðit, þat er
gathered (The)-king let then search the-levy-troop that which
með honum skyldi vera, ok var nær alt á brautu. Konungr
with him should be and was nearly all on away (The)-king
lét gera orð eptir þeim, ok kómu engir á laugardaginn né
let send word after them and came none on the-Saturday nor

sunnudaginn. Dróttinskveldit kom til konungs einn bóndi
the-Sunday On-the-Lord's-evening came to (the)-king one farmer
ok sagði honum, at herr samnaðist á hendr honum ok
and told to-him that host gathered on hands to-him and
mundi skjótt koma, annathvárt, herra! í nótt eða snemma
would soon come either lord in night or early
á myrgin. Konungr lét þá blása saman öllu liði sínu,
on morning (The)-king let then blow together to-all troop his
bœjarfólki ok kaupmönnum. Hann sagði þá þessi tíðindi
town-folk and merchants He told then these tidings
alþýðu, bað bœjarmenn ok kaupmenn liðsinnis, kvað þá
to-the-commons asked townsmen and merchants of-help said them
mundu eiga at verja fé sitt ok frelsi. Gerðu menn at góðan
would have to defend goods their and freedom Made men at good
róm at máli hans. Var þá skipt í sveitir öllu liði hans,
hearing at speech his Was then divided into companies all troop his
bað konungr menn þá snæða at náttverði, en síðan kvezt
bade (the)-king men then eat at supper but then said-himself
hann mundu blása saman öllu liðinu. Ok svá var gert.
he would blow together to-all the-troop And so was done
Þá fluttu bœjarmenn ok kaupmenn fé sitt alt í kirkjur.
Then moved townsmen and merchants goods their all into churches
Konungr gerði hestvörð frá sér alla vega. Um kveldit lét
(The)-king sent horse-watch from himself all ways In the-evening let
konungr blása öllu liðinu út á ísinn, er lá fyrir bœnum,
(the)-king blow to-all the-troop out onto the-ice which lay before the-town
ok alt út um Höfuðey lá íssinn. Stefndi konungr liðinu
and all out past Hofudey lay the-ice Headed (the)-king the-troop
yfir í Akrshagann, ok lágu þar um nóttina. Konungr reið
over into the-Akr-pasture and lay there in the-night (The)-king rode
við nökkura menn til Sólangrs ok lét standa hestana á
with some men to Solangr and let stand the-horses on

brekkunni, en hann gékk ofan til vatnsins. Á vatnsísinum lá
the-slope but he went down to the-lake On the-lake-ice lay
mikill bóndaherr, ok réðu ráðum sínum. Konungr hlýddi til,
great farmer-host and held counsels their (The)-king listened to
hvat þeir sögðu, ok gékk á brott síðan ok til hesta sinna
what they said and went on away then and to horses his
ok ríðr ofan á ísinn ok fyrir utan hagann ok inn til
and rides down onto the-ice and before outside the-pasture and in to
skipa sinna; dvaldist þar um hríð, ok fór þá enn aptr til
ships his stayed there for while and went then again back to
liðsins, var þá ok komit at degi. Lét hann þá blása liðinu
the-troop was then also come to day Let he then blow to-the-troop
ofan á ísinn milli Snældu ok meginlands. Konungr kvaddi
down onto the-ice between Snaelda and mainland (The)-king called-for
hljóðs ok mælti svá: Hér er nú mikit lið saman komit, ok
of-hearing and said so Here is now great troop together come and
þurfum vér skyldliga, at guð gæti vár. Flokkr hefir samnazt
need we dutifully that God guard us Band has gathered
á hendr oss, Þilir ok Markamenn, ok vænir mik nú,
on hands to-us (the)-Thilir and (the)-March-men and expects me now
at þeir hafi aptr snúit; eða hvárt eru þetta alt várir menn,
that they have back turned or whether are these all our men
eða eru nökkurir viðkomnir af bóndum? Honum var sagt,
or are some come-in of (the)-farmers To-him was said
at þetta var þeira lið. Þá skulum vér, sagði konungr, gæta
that this was their troop Then shall we said (the)-king guard
skipa várra, skal skipta til liði at höggva út ísinn fyrir
ships our shall divide to troop to hew out the-ice before
skipunum. Ok í því kom maðr ok sagði, at lið var komit
the-ships And in that came man and said that troop was come
austan af Langamosa ok þá fram á Ryginaberg, váru
from-the-east from Langamosi and then forward onto Ryginaberg were

þar Skeynir ok Eynir, Foldungar ok Heggnir. Þá svaraði
there Skeyn-men and Ey-men Fold-men and Hegg-men Then answered
konungr: Þá mun vera önnur vár ráðagerð. Hann var á
(the)-king Then will be other our plan He was on
hesti ok reið þannin, sem var lið bœjarmanna, ok mælti,
horse and rode thither where was troop of-townsmen and said
svá at hvárirtveggju heyrðu: Tvenn eru ráð fyrir höndum,
so that both-sides heard Two-fold are counsels before hands
annathvárt at flýja fyrir bóndum eða taka á móti, ilt mun
either to flee before (the)-farmers or take on against ill will
bœndr griða at biðja, munu þeir smæri fá móthöggin
(the)-farmers of-quarter to ask will they smaller get the-front-blows
en bakslögin. Þeir báðu hann ráða, sögðu nú sem fyrr
than the-back-blows They bade him decide said now as before
þat mundu bezt gegna enn sem fyrr. Þá spurði hann
that would best serve yet as before Then asked he
bœjarmenn, hvárt þeir vildi honum nökkut lið veita, eða
townsmen whether they wished to-him some help give or
vildi þeir, at hvárir véldi um sína kosti. Svá segjum vér
wished they that each ruled about their choices So say we
Birkibeinar nú til yðar, sem fornt orðtak er, at í þörf skal
Birchlegs now to you as old saying is that in need shall
vinar neyta. Bœndr ok bœjarmenn svöruðu, at þeir vilja
of-friend use (The)-farmers and townsmen answered that they will
vinna konungi til liðs slíkt, er þeir megu, ok svá gerðu þeir.
do to-the-king for help such as they may and so did they

Bardagi á berginu

CLXXVI · THE BATTLE ON THE ROCK

Páll belti's scouts on skis found the land swarming with farmers. Sverrir's men climbing Ryginaberg were shot at from above and fled, seventeen of the bodyguard falling; Sverrir cursed their running, then heartened them with his dream of a great loose book from which one quire was stolen.

Sverrir konungr talar nú fyrir liðinu ok mælti svá: Þat
Sverrir king speaks now before the-troop and said so That
er mitt ráð, at áðr en bóndamúgrinn gangi at oss öllum
is my counsel that before than the-farmer-throng go at us on-all
megin, þá leitum á fund þessa liðs, er hér liggr hjá oss
sides then let-us-seek on meeting of-this troop which here lies beside us
uppi á Ryginabergi; göngum upp fyrir norðan Nunnusetr,
up on Ryginaberg let-us-go up before north the-Nunnery
ok komi engi maðr í bœinn. Þá mælti konungr enn: Páll
and come no man into the-town Then said (the)-king yet Pal
belti ok yðr sveit Upplendinga, takit skíð ok skíðfœri ok
Belt and you company of-Upplanders take skis and ski-gear and
stígit á ok farit upp á bergit fyrir ofan þá, ok sét, hversu
step on and go up onto the-rock before above them and see how
mikit lið þeir hafa. Þeir gerðu svá, fóru upp á bergit fyrir
great troop they have They did so went up onto the-rock before
austan hjá þeim bóndum. Snjór var fallinn mikill, ok var
east beside those farmers Snow was fallen great and was
gott skreiðfœri, en svá ilt at ganga, at nær var kafhlaup,
good ski-going but so ill to walk that nearly was deep-wading
þegar út fór af veginum. Þeir Páll sá þau tíðindi, er þeir
when out went off the-road They Pal saw those tidings when they
kómu upp á bergit, at alt at sjá ofan frá Gjöllurási ok
came up onto the-rock that all to see down from Gjolluras and

alt hit nyrðra með Frysju ok svá alt út til Akrshaga flaut
all the northern along Frysja and so all out to Akrshagi swam
land alt af mönnum. Fóru þeir Páll aptr sem skyndiligast
land all with men Went they Pal back as hastiest
ok sögðu konungi þessi tíðindi. Konungr var þá kominn
and told to-the-king these tidings (The)-king was then come
upp á Mörtustokka ok gaf staðar ok hlýddi til frásagnar
up onto Mortustokkar and gave of-stop and listened to report
þeira. En merki hans ok ferðarbroddrinn sótti þá upp yfir
their But standard his and the-vanguard made then up over
dalinn ok þá næst upp í bergit; sóttu sumir upp eptir
the-dale and then next up into the-rock made some up along
akbrautinni, en sumir klifu upp svá bratta brekku, at hægt
the-cart-road but some climbed up so steep slope that easy
var at standa öðrum fœti á kné, þá er annarr var réttr.
was to stand with-one foot on knee then when other was straight
Bœndr lustu upp herópi ok hljópu fram á bergit, létu
(The)-farmers struck up war-cry and ran forward onto the-rock let
þá ganga skotvápn; var þeim hœgt at bera vápn undir
then go missiles was to-them easy to bear weapons under
fœtr sér niðr, ok þeir er stóðu vestr á bergit á hœgri
feet themselves down and those who stood west on the-rock on right
hlið Birkibeinum, skutu í opna skjöldu þeim. Vegrinn var
side to-(the)-Birchlegs shot into open shields to-them The-road was
eigi breiðari en fim máttu ganga jafnfram. Birkibeinar urðu
not broader than five could go abreast (The)-Birchlegs became
mjök sárir, en sumir féllu, greiddist þeim eigi uppgangan,
much wounded but some fell cleared to-them not the-ascent
ok féll þá sá, er merkit bar, ok varð þá hörð
and fell then that-one who the-standard bore and became then hard
svipan í, áðr Birkibeinar næði merkinu. Þá sá Birkibeinar,
clash in before (the)-Birchlegs got the-standard Then saw (the)-Birchlegs

at þeir höfðu eigi viðstöðu ok flýðu; þá runnu þeir, er
that they had not standing and fled then ran those who
fremstir stóðu, ofan á þá er neðar stóðu, ok fóru svá
foremost stood down on those who lower stood and went so
ofan á jöfnu, at hverr féll á annan; en bœndr sóttu
down onto level that each fell on other but (the)-farmers pressed
ekki eptir þeim, þvíat þeir sá, at meginherrinn Birkibeina
not after them because they saw that the-main-host of-(the)-Birchlegs
sótti þá upp at berginu. Sverrir konungr kom þá at ok
made then up to the-rock Sverrir king came then at and
mælti: Sví verði yðr æ svá rennandi! liggr hverr yðarr
said Shame be to-you ever so running lies each of-you
um þveran annan. Sé þér eigi, at engi maðr ferr eptir
about across other See you not that no man goes after
yðr? Þá lét hann blása liðinu aptr á Mörtustokka. Í
you Then let he blow to-the-troop back onto Mortustokkar In
Ryginabergi féllu 17 menn af Birkibeinum, ok alt hirðmenn
Ryginaberg fell 17 men of (the)-Birchlegs and all retainers
einir, margir urðu sárir. Þá mælti konungr: Hafizt
only many became wounded Then said (the)-king Hold-yourselves
nú vel við, góðir hálsar, þó at vér hafim fengit slag
now well against good fellows though that we have got blow
nökkut, opt verðr slíkt á sæ, kvað selr, var skotinn í auga.
some often happens such on sea said seal was shot in eye
Fengit hafa bœndr sigr á oss, þann sem þeir munu.
Got have (the)-farmers victory on us that as they will
Hér kom fram draumr, sá er mér birtist, at ek ætta
Here came forward dream that which to-me appeared that I had
bók, ok var laus öll ok mikil, svá at hon tók mikit af
book and was loose all and great so that it took much of
landinu, ok var stolit or einu kverinu, þar hafa bœndr
the-land and was stolen out-of one the-quire there have (the)-farmers

tekit menn vára. Hræðizt því eigi her bónda, þvíat þeir
taken men our Fear therefore not host of-farmers because they
fara því verrum förum, sem þeir eru fleiri.
go the worse journeys as they are more

Tala Sverris konungs

CLXXVII · KING SVERRIR'S SPEECH

Sverrir left Lávarðr and Hákon on Mörtustokkar and turned on the farmers coming over the ice from the north. Asked by Áli whether they should form ranks, he said the Birkibeinar ran at their foes in bands, and sent them forward as Christ's men and Saint Ólafr's.

Sverrir konungr mælti þá enn: Snúim vér hér upp eptir
Sverrir king said then yet Let-us-turn we here up along
vegnum ok þar á bergit, sem lægra er, fyrir austan þá. Ok
the-road and there onto the-rock where lower is before east them And
var svá gert. En er þeir kómu skamt upp, þá sá þeir yfir
was so done But when they came short up then saw they over
her bónda, ok var alt norðan ok út at sjá sem í skóg
host of-farmers and was all from-the-north and out to see as into forest
sæi. Þá mælti konungr: Þú Lávarðr ok Hákon son minn ok
saw Then said (the)-king You Lavard and Hakon son my and
ykrar sveitir, setit upp merki ok verit hér á Mörtustokkum
your-two's companies set up standards and be here on Mortustokkar
ok gegnit þeim, er uppi eru á berginu, at þeir veiti oss
and attend to-those who up are on the-rock that they give to-us
eigi bakslettu, en ek mun snúa norðr á mót því liðinu,
not back-blow but I will turn north on against that troop
er þaðan ferr. Þá viku þeir konungr norðr til Frysjubrúar,
which thence goes Then turned they (the)-king north to Frysja-bridge

var þar fyrir bónda herr. Þeir skutust á yfir brúna ok
was there before of-farmers host They shot-at-each-other on over the-bridge and
máttu ekki nærr gangast, ok urðu þar sárir menn nökkurir.
could not nearer go-together and became there wounded men some
Þá sneri konungr út til íssins, þvíat þá váru Vestrfyldir
Then turned (the)-king out to the-ice because then were (the)-Vestfold-men
þar komnir, ok Þilir ok Raumar. Drógust þeir þá saman,
there come and (the)-Thilir and (the)-Raumar Drew they then together
er áðr höfðu verit við brúna, ok var þar samankominn allr
who before had been by the-bridge and was there together-come all
meginherrinn, ok var furðuliga mikill, svá at úfœrt mundi
the-main-host and was wondrously great so that impassable would
þykkja á mót at ganga þeim, er eigi væri fullir hreystimenn.
seem on against to go to-those who not were full valiant-men
Áli hét maðr, hann var Hallvarðs son ok var lendr maðr
Ali was-called man he was Hallvard's son and was landed man
konungs, hann mælti svá: Skulum vér eigi fylkja, herra?
of-(the)-king he said so Shall we not draw-up lord
Konungr svaraði: Þann sið höfum vér Birkibeinar upptekit, at
(The)-king answered That custom have we Birchlegs taken-up to
fylkja ekki, þá er vér berjumst á landi, ok rennum at riðlum
draw-up not then when we fight on land and run at bands
saman, ok gerum dyninn sem mestan, þá má hverr vera svá
together and make the-din as greatest then may each be so
frammi, sem vill; gerum harða árásina, ok munu bœndr
forward as wills let-us-make hard the-onslaught and will (the)-farmers
bogna við, hefir oss nú farit, sem mælt er, at fall er farar
bend at-it has to-us now gone as said is that fall is of-journey
heill. Þá bað hann blása ok mælti: Nú fram allir Kristsmenn,
luck Then bade he blow and said Now forward all Christ's-men
krossmenn ok hins helga Ólafs konungs menn, ok förum dreift!
cross-men and of-the holy Olaf king men and let-us-go scattered

Frá Birkibeinum

CLXXVIII · OF THE BIRKIBEINAR

Sverrir rode in front in a red surcoat and a southern steel cap, and the farmers broke. When the men of Túnsberg landed on the ice, the Birkibeinar in spiked shoes cut them down as they fled on bare soles, lying thick as swaths.

Konungr sat á brúnum hesti, hann hafði góða brynju
(The)-king sat on brown horse he had good mail-coat
ok styrkan panzara um utan, ok yztan rauðan hjúp,
and strong mail-jerkin about outside and outermost red surcoat
víða stálhúfu, svá sem Suðrmenn hafa, ok brynkollu ok
wide steel-cap so as Southerners have and mail-hood and
panzarahúfu, sverð á hlið ok kesju í hendi; hann reið
jerkin-hood sword at side and halberd in hand he rode
í öndverðu liðinu, ok svá at hestrinn tók brjósti við
in front the-troop and so that the-horse touched with-breast against
skjöldum bónda. Birkibeinar þustu fram á tvær hliðar honum
shields of-farmers (The)-Birchlegs rushed forward on two sides to-him
með brugðnum sverðum ok veittu bóndum svá harða
with drawn swords and gave to-(the)-farmers so hard
atsókn, at þeir er fremstir stóðu, vildu nú gjarna vera firr
onslaught that those who foremost stood wished now gladly be farther
Birkibeinum, ok leituðu aptr millum mannanna. Birkibeinar
from-(the)-Birchlegs and sought back between the-men (The)-Birchlegs
neyttu þess, er þeir sá beran vápnastað á bóndum, ok því
used of-that when they saw bare weapon-place on (the)-farmers and then
næst kom hlaup í allan herinn, ok stefndu inn í Akrshaga.
next came running into all the-host and headed in into Akrshagi
Birkibeinar slógu þeim úþarfliga herðadrengi ok fylgðu þeim
(The)-Birchlegs struck to-them unkindly shoulder-blows and followed them

at landi inn; féll þar mart af bóndum. Túnsbergsmenn ok
to land in fell there many of (the)-farmers Tunsberg-men and
allir sjábyggvar fóru á skipum inn þangat ok lendu utan við
all sea-dwellers went on ships in thither and landed outside by
ísbrúnina ok géngu þar upp, ok var þat allmikill herr ok
the-ice-edge and went there up and was that very-great host and
vel búinn, váru þat bœndr or Túnsbergi ok kaupmenn.
well equipped were that householders out-of Tunsberg and merchants
Þeir sœkja inn eptir ísnum, ok er Birkibeinar sá lið
They press in along the-ice and when (the)-Birchlegs saw troop
þeira, þá snúa þeir þangat á móti. Þá mælti konungr:
their then turn they thither on against Then said (the)-king
Enn mun oss fást nýtt starf, ok verðr nú skamt á milli,
Yet will to-us be-got new work and becomes now short in between
munu þessir fara slíkum förum sem hinir eða verrum. Bað
will these go such journeys as the-others or worse Bade
konungr lúðrsveininn blása. Tók þá herrinn út eptir ísinum.
(the)-king the-trumpet-lad blow Took then the-host out along the-ice
Túnsbergsmenn þyrptust saman, er þeir sá, hvar Birkibeinar
Tunsberg-men thronged together when they saw where (the)-Birchlegs
fóru, urðu þar skjótir atburðir, runnu Birkibeinar at þeim ok
went became there quick events ran (the)-Birchlegs at them and
gáfu höggin, svá sem þeir váru vanir. Lágu Túnsbergsmenn,
gave the-blows so as they were wont Lay Tunsberg-men
þar sem þeir fundust, svá þykt sem unnvörp væri, en þeir tóku
there where they were-found so thick as swaths were but they took
á rás, er eptir lifðu; var þessi skömm viðrtaka. Birkibeinar
to running who after lived was this short resistance (The)-Birchlegs
ráku flóttann út eptir ísinum, féll þá fjöldi, þvíat Birkibeinar
drove the-flight out along the-ice fell then multitude because (the)-Birchlegs
váru á skóbroddum, en flóttamenn váru á berum sólum.
were on shoe-spikes but fleeing-men were on bare soles

Konungr reið nær þeim, ok váru þat hans handaverk, at
(The)-king rode near them and were that his handiwork that
hann veitti eitt spjótlag hverjum, en Birkibeinar veittu þeim
he gave one spear-thrust to-each but (the)-Birchlegs gave to-them
þá embætti eptir til dauða. Þar féllu margir góðir drengir,
then service after to death There fell many good warriors
Sigurðr tálgi ok margir aðrir. Þeir flýðu til skipa sinna, en
Sigurd Talgi and many others They fled to ships their but
sumir upp í hagann, dróst þar enn saman múgr manns.
some up into the-pasture drew there yet together throng of-men

Frá konungi

CLXXIX · OF THE KING

Sverrir's twenty-five hundred looked like a single ball against the farmers, and the battle broke up into fights by companies across the field; the saga tells mostly of where the king's standard went.

Konungr hafði í fyrstu hálfan þriðja tug hundraða, en þá
(The)-king had in first half third ten of-hundreds but then
er hann kom til móts við bœndr, þótti þat sem böllr einn
when he came to meeting with (the)-farmers seemed that as ball one
væri. Riðlaðist þá mjök liðit hvárratveggju, ok géngust
were Broke-ranks then much the-troop of-both-sides and went-at-each-other
at sveitum. Váru þar víða miklir bardagar, svá at mikillar
by companies Were there widely great fights so that of-great
frásagnar mundi vert þykkja, en því látum vér þat líða, at
telling would worth seem but therefore let we that pass that

eigi verðr alt ritat, ok er mest frá því sagt, hvat þar varð til
not becomes all written and is most about that told what there became to
tíðinda, er konungsmerkit fór ok hann sjálfr varð við staddr.
tidings where the-king's-standard went and he himself became at present

Frá konungssonum ok bóndum

CLXXX · OF THE KING'S SONS AND THE FARMERS

Sigurðr lávarðr's four hundred were overwhelmed by two thousand farmers and he fled into Hallvarðskirkja, while Hákon made for the king; the farmers went down into the town to plan their evening's drinking, spared the king's ships, and formed up again above Nunnusetr.

Nú er at segja frá konungssonum ok bóndum, þeim er lágu
Now is to tell about king's-sons and farmers those who lay
á Ryginabergi. Þeir sá, at Sverrir konungr átti eltur miklar
on Ryginaberg They saw that Sverrir king had chases great
á ísinum, ráðast þeir ofan af berginu ok ætla til móts við
on the-ice set they down from the-rock and intend to meeting with
sína menn. Sigurðr lávarðr snýr nú á mót þeim við sína
their men Sigurd Lavard turns now on against them with his
sveit. Var fyrst á milli þeira dalverpi nökkut, ok fundust
company Was first in between them hollow a-certain and met
þar í dalnum. Varð þar hörð orrosta, Birkibeinar höfðu
there in the-dale Became there hard battle (the)-Birchlegs had
fjögur hundruð manna, en bœndr nær 20 hundruð. Verða
four hundreds of-men but (the)-farmers nearly 20 hundreds Become
Birkibeinar bornir ofrliði, ok flýja þeir ofan í göturnar.
(the)-Birchlegs borne by-overmatch and flee they down into the-lanes
Lávarðr hleypti til þess, er hann kom inn í Hallvarðskirkju.
Lavard galloped till that when he came in into Hallvard's-church

Mart manna fór þannin með honum, en Hákon ok Svínapétr
Many of-men went thither with him but Hakon and Swine-Petr
ok sumt liðit stefndi fyrir ofan Nunnusetr ok svá á
and some the-troop headed before above the-Nunnery and so onto
ísinn til móts við konunginn. Bóndum fór ekki fimt
the-ice to meeting with the-king To-(the)-farmers went not nimbly
at reka flóttann, géngu þeir ofan í bœinn með fylktu ok
to drive the-flight went they down into the-town with drawn-up and
dreifðust þegar ok skipuðu til skytninga, hvar hverir skyldu
scattered at-once and arranged to drinking-feasts where which should
drekka um kveldit. Þeir géngu ok ofan til skipa konungs,
drink in the-evening They went also down to ships of-(the)-king
þar sem upp váru sett, vildu sumir brenna, en sumir mæltu
there where up were set wished some burn but some spoke
á mót ok kváðust eigi vildu spilla gersimum sínum,
on against and said-themselves not wished spoil treasures their
sneru síðan upp um Nunnusetr ok slógu fylking.
turned then up past the-Nunnery and struck battle-line

Bardagi á Valkabergi

CLXXXI · THE BATTLE ON VALKABERG

Sverrir routed the farmers again, then rebuked Lávarðr's men coming out of the church with a verse and with the memory of the Birkibeinar who had first followed him. He mocked the sudden piety of men kissing every church, and the farmers fled again from Valkaberg; many bodies were found only in spring.

Sverrir konungr sá fylking bónda, hét hann þá enn á sína
Sverrir king saw battle-line of-farmers called he then again on his
menn ok bað þá enn vel við hafast, þvíat alt mun spyrjast,
men and bade them yet well against hold because all will be-heard

sagði hann, hverir hraustastir eru. Mér lízt, sem bœndr, þeir
said he who bravest are To-me seems as (the)-farmers those
er vér fundum í myrgin, vili enn finna oss; er þat ok vel,
whom we met in morning will yet meet us is that also well
at vér minnimst við þá þeira svaðilfara, er þeir veittu
that we remind against them of-their hard-goings which they gave
oss, munu vér nú standa allir jafnhátt ok þurfa eigi at klífa
to-us will we now stand all equally-high and need not to climb
í berg upp at þeim. Sneri þá konungrinn at þeim við sínu
into rock up at them Turned then the-king at them with his
liði, tókst þar hörð orrosta, ok valt til vanda, svá at þeir
troop began there hard battle and rolled to wont so that they
flýðu upp fyrir norðan bœinn. Hákon konungsson fylgði þeim
fled up before north the-town Hakon king's-son followed them
ok drap af þeim mart manna. Sverrir konungr sneri suðr um
and killed of them many of-men Sverrir king turned south through
geilarnar hjá sútarabúðum ok svá fram til Hallvarðskirkju;
the-lanes by tanners'-booths and so forward to Hallvard's-church
þá hlaupa þeir Lávarðr út or kirkjunni. Konungr mælti til
then run they Lavard out out-of the-church (The)-king said to

hans: Þínar verða flestar jafnastar, litla ván eiga Birkibeinar
him Your become most most-even little expectation have (the)-Birchlegs
þar góðs höfðingja, er þú ert, ok er sem kveðit var:
there of-good chieftain where you are and is as spoken was

Úlíkr ertu
Unlike are-you
yðrum niðjum,
to-your kinsmen
þeim er framráðir
those who forward-minded
fyrri váru.
before were

Ok enn mælti hann til þeira Birkibeina, er í kirkjunni
And yet said he to those Birchlegs who in the-church
váru: Úlíkir eru þér þeim Birkibeinum, er gengu til lands
were Unlike are you to-those Birchlegs who went to land
með mér móti Magnúsi konungi; þeim þótta ek eigi nýtr til
with me against Magnus king to-them seemed I not useful to
at vera í orrostum með þeim, ok sögðu þeir þó, at varygð
to be in battles with them and said they yet that caution
gengi til, en allir aðrir sögðu mér bleyði til ganga, en
went to but all others said to-me cowardice to go but

Fár er hvatr
Few is bold
er hrörask tekr,
who to-wither begins
ef hann er í bernsku til blauðr.
if he is in childhood too soft

En nú í hvert sinn, er vér berjumst, þá em ek fyrstr, ok
But now in each time when we fight then am I first and
þykkja þeir nú snillingar, er jafnfram fara mér, ok vel vil ek
seem they now heroes who abreast go with-me and well will I
þeim þakka sína fylgð, en þér erut þeim úlíkir, sigrazt hafa
to-them thank their following but you are to-them unlike won have
þeir í dag, en þér hafit eltir verit; farit nú eptir bóndum ok
they in day but you have chased been go now after (the)-farmers and
gjaldit þeim bakslettu, ok hafa betri drengir, en þér erut, rekit
repay to-them back-blow and have better warriors than you are driven
þá á flóttann. Sneri konungr þá upp or kirkjugarðinum,
them on the-flight Turned (the)-king then up out-of the-church-yard
en margir menn mintust til kirknanna. Þá mælti konungr:
but many men kissed to the-churches Then said (the)-king
Miklu eru þér nú Birkibeinar trúrœknari en fyrr, þér látit nú,
Much are you now Birchlegs more-devout than before you make now
sem þér skulit hverri kirkju sleikja, er þér komit til, en þat
as you shall each church lick which you come to but that
er lengstum, at þér rœkit lítt kirkjurnar. Reið konungr þá
is mostly that you heed little the-churches Rode (the)-king then
upp um göturnar, ok fylgði honum mikit lið, hendu þeir
up through the-lanes and followed him great troop caught they
drjúgt af bóndum. Þá sá þeir norðr á Valkaberg, at þar riðu
plenty of (the)-farmers Then saw they north on Valkaberg that there swung
vápn á lopti. Sneri þá konungr þann veg, varð þar brátt
weapons on air Turned then (the)-king that way became there soon
mikit mannfall. Bœndr snúa þá enn undan ok renna, sem
great man-fall (The)-farmers turn then again away and run as
mest megu þeir, sumir eptir vegunum, sumir annan veg. Var
most may they some along the-roads some other way Was
svá optast um daginn, at þegar bœndr tóku undan með
so oftenest in the-day that as-soon-as (the)-farmers took away with

hrakhlaupinu, þá drógu þeir optast í braut, var þat mestr
the-rout then drew they oftenest in away was that greatest
þori múgsins, er undan setti, en þó féll svá mart, at þat var
bulk of-the-throng which away set but yet fell so many that it was
tortalt, þvíat mart fannst líkanna eigi fyrr en um várit.
hard-to-count because many was-found of-the-bodies not earlier than in the-spring

Enn um bardaga

CLXXXII · MORE OF THE BATTLE

While Sverrir's men rested, ate, and bound their wounds on Mörtustokkar, the farmers gathered once more at Akrshagi, saying the Birkibeinar were wounded and weary, and their chiefs bound themselves by handfast that none would run.

Sverrir konungr lét blása öllu liðinu ofan á Mörtustokka,
Sverrir king let blow to-all the-troop down onto Mortustokkar
ok er hann kom þar, mælti hann: Setist menn nú niðr
and when he came there said he Sit men now down
ok hvíli sik, ok þjónostusveinar fari ofan í bœinn ok
and rest themselves and service-lads go down into the-town and
taki mönnum snáð ok drykk. Ok svá var gert. Bundu þá
take for-men food and drink And so was done Bound then
margir menn sár sín, var þat um nónskeið. Þá sá þeir
many men wounds their was that about nones-time Then saw they
yfir í Akrshagann, at þar dróst saman lið mikit ok kom
over into the-Akr-pasture that there drew together troop great and came
hvaðanæfa til. Var þat enn bóndaherrinn. Bœndr flyktust
from-everywhere to Was that yet the-farmer-host (The)-farmers flocked
saman á austanverðum Akrshaga við ísinn ok höfðu þar
together on eastern Akrshagi by the-ice and had there

ráðagerðir sínar, vildu sumir heim snúast, en þeir er þrástir
plans their wished some home turn but those who stubborn
váru á sitt mál, vildu enn berjast, sögðu Birkibeina nú
were on their case wished yet fight said (the)-Birchlegs now
mundu vera svá sára ok vígmóða en marga fallna, at nú
would be so wounded and battle-weary and many fallen that now
mundi engi dugr í þeim vera, eða hví varð engum þat fyrir
would no grit in them be or why became to-none that before
at drepa konunginn, er hann reið í hendr oss? Þat veit
to kill the-king when he rode into hands to-us That knows
guð, ef hann ferr svá optar, at hann skal aldri braut komast,
God if he goes so oftener that he shall never away get
þvíat eigi munum vér komast í betra færi en nú; verðum
because not will we come into better chance than now let-us-stand
við vel, ok gæti hverr annars. Sveitarhöfðingjar bónda taka
against well and guard each other Company-chiefs of-farmers take
nú allir samband ok handfestu með sér, at engi skal
now all bond and hand-pledge among themselves that none shall
renna frá öðrum. Standa nú upp ok fylkja liðinu, skipa alt
run from other Stand now up and draw-up the-troop arrange all
til, hverir hlífa skulu eða hverir höggva skulu eða leggja,
to who shield shall or who hew shall or thrust
skipa ok saman bogmönnum sínum ok þykkjast nú öruggir.
arrange also together bowmen their and think-themselves now safe

Bardagi á ísinum

CLXXXIII · THE BATTLE ON THE ICE

Sverrir had his men throw away their bread and fall on the farmers' line on the ice, which broke. The farmers killed Áli Hallvarðsson, dressed like the king, and cried that Sverrir had fallen until his trumpet proved them wrong. Sverrir had the ships cut free from the ice and reached Björgvin on Easter Eve, where for the second time the whole town was glad to see him.

Þetta alt sér Sverrir konungr, ok stendr nú upp ok mælti:
This all sees Sverrir king and stands now up and said
Þat mun hér sannast um bœndr þessa, at seint þrýtr
That will here be-proved about farmers these that slowly runs-out
þann, er verr hefir. Mér lízt svá, sem þeir muni enn vera
that-one who worse has To-me seems so as they will yet be
búnir til bardaga, skulu vér þá láta enn engan bilbug finna
ready for battle shall we then let yet no faltering find
á oss, ok gerum þeim nú þá hríð, at þá fýsi heimleiðis.
on us and let-us-make to-them now that assault that them lust homeward
Er þat ráð at kasta klíningunum ok svá könnunni, látum
Is that counsel to cast the-buttered-bread and so the-can let-us-make
nú sem vér sém spányir. Lét hann þá blása herblástrinn ok
now as we be shaving-new Let he then blow the-war-blast and
snýr ofan með liðinu til íssins. Birkibeinar gera þá harða
turns down with the-troop to the-ice (The)-Birchlegs make then hard
árás. Bóndum varð þar þá mikill bardagi. Konungr
onslaught To-(the)-farmers became there then great fight (The)-king
sjálfr var jafnan fremstr sinna manna. Bœndr kendu hann
himself was constantly foremost of-his men (The)-farmers knew him
fullgerla, ok mælti hverr til annars: Drepi hann, höggvi
fully and said each to other Kill him hew

hann, leggi hann, drepi hestinn undir honum. Þetta var
him thrust him kill the-horse under him This was
mælt en eigi gert. En er orrostan hafði staðit um hríð,
said but not done But when the-battle had stood for while
þá raufst fylking bónda, lugu þá lindiskildirnir at þeim
then broke battle-line of-farmers lied then the-linden-shields to them
ok dugðu eigi fyrir kesjum Birkibeina. Bœndr höfðu
and served not against halberds of-(the)-Birchlegs (The)-farmers had
troðit gadd, þar er þeir höfðu fylkt, en er Birkibeinar
trodden crust there where they had drawn-up but when (the)-Birchlegs
kómu upp á gaddit hjá þeim, þá endist bóndum eigi
came up onto the-crust beside them then lasted to-(the)-farmers not
sambandit, þat er þeir mundi aldri skiljast, þvíat þá flýði
the-bond that which they would never part because then fled
sinn veg hverr, ok er allr bóndamúgrinn flýði, þá endust
his way each and when all the-farmer-throng fled then sufficed
þeim eigi vegirnir, ok dreifðist liðit alla vega á braut.
to-them not the-roads and scattered the-troop all ways on away
Birkibeinar sóttu þá ok fast eptir. Var fram í hagann
(The)-Birchlegs pressed then also hard after Was forward in the-pasture
kjarrskógr nökkurr. Áli Hallvarðsson hafði allan búnað með
brushwood some Ali Hallvard's-son had all gear in
sama móti ok konungrinn, hann reið fram í kjörrin við
same manner as the-king he rode forward into the-brush with
fátt manna, bœndr koma at honum svífandi ok drepa
few of-men (the)-farmers come at him sweeping and kill
hann, fékk hann slag utan undir húfuna á hálsinn, var
him got he blow outside under the-cap on the-neck was
þat hans banasár. Þá fletta þeir af honum vápnin, slá
that his death-wound Then strip they off him the-weapons strike
upp ópi miklu ok segja konunginn fallinn. Birkibeinum
up with-shout great and say the-king fallen To-(the)-Birchlegs

varð nú þegar úbráðara um eptirförna. Fór nú þessi kurr
became now at-once less-hasty about the-pursuit Went now this murmur
um allan herinn, drógust þá saman sveitir hvárratveggju.
through all the-host drew then together companies of-both-sides
Ok er konungr heyrði þetta, reið hann fram ok lét blása.
And when (the)-king heard this rode he forward and let blow
Fundu þá bœndr, at þeir mundu smæra steikt hafa en
Found then (the)-farmers that they would smaller roasted have than
haft konunginn á teininum. Sóttu Birkibeinar þá hart fram
had the-king on the-spit Pressed (the)-Birchlegs then hard forward
við berg nökkut, fundu þeir mikinn samnað bónda, varð
by rock a-certain found they great gathering of-farmers became
þar allmikit mannfall, leiddist bóndum þar staðan þá,
there very-great man-fall irked to-(the)-farmers there the-standing then
ok runnu þá á sína sundrung, hverr sem mest mátti.
and ran then on their asunder each as most could
Birkibeinar fylgðu þeim alt til nætr ok drápu fjölda af þeim.
(The)-Birchlegs followed them all till night and killed multitude of them
Sverrir konungr gaf grið um daginn hverjum, er beiddi.
Sverrir king gave quarter in the-day to-each who asked
Þar var tekinn Þorviðr blindi, ok gaf konungr honum
There was taken Thorvid (the)-Blind and gave (the)-king to-him
grið. Einn bóndi var sá, er þrim sinnum var tekinn um
quarter One farmer was that who three times was taken in
daginn, ok gaf konungr honum grið hvert sinn, en hann
the-day and gave (the)-king to-him quarter each time but he
hljóp til bónda hvert sinn, ok hit fjórða sinn var hann
ran to (the)-farmers each time and the fourth time was he
tekinn ok drepinn. Konungr fór um kveldit aptr í bœinn,
taken and killed (The)-king went in the-evening back into the-town
hann setti vörðu um nóttina alla vega. Um myrgininn eptir
he set watch in the-night all ways In the-morning after

hafði konungr þing ok þakkaði bœjarmönnum liðveizlu
had (the)-king assembly and thanked to-townsmen help
sína ok sínum mönnum fylgð ok föruneyti, talaði þar um
their and to-his men following and fellowship spoke there about
mörgum fagrligum orðum ok tók þeim góð dœmi. En þat
with-many fair words and took for-them good examples But that
er vili minn, sagði konungr, at íss sé höggvinn, svá at
is will my said (the)-king that ice be hewn so that
skipum várum megi flota; skulu fjórir menn höggva faðm
ships our may float shall four men hew fathom
á langann ok fjórir á breiðann, ok fægja vökina eptir
on long and four on broad and clear the-hole after
sér; svá skal höggva dag eptir dag, þar til er út kemr.
themselves so shall hew day after day there till when out comes
Lét konungr bera taum á ísinn, en skora liðit. Váru
Let (the)-king carry line onto the-ice and tally the-troop Were
at þessu verki bæði liðsmenn ok kaupmenn ok bœjarmenn.
at this work both troopmen and merchants and townsmen
Var þetta gert á fám dögum. Lét konungr flota skipunum,
Was this done in few days Let (the)-king float the-ships
þegar er mátti, ok hélt á braut or firðinum, þegar hann
as-soon as could and held on away out-of the-fjord as-soon-as he
var búinn. Hann kom páskaaptan til Björgynjar. Þá var
was ready He came on-Easter-eve to Bjorgvin Then was
þat annat sinni, er allir Björgynjarmenn urðu konunginum
that second time that all Bjorgvin-men became to-the-king
fegnir ok mest fyrir þá skyld, at þeim var sagt, at
glad and most for that cause that to-them was said that
Baglar mundi koma at finna þá.
(the)-Baglers would come to meet them

Birkibeinar eltu Bagla

CLXXXIV · THE BIRKIBEINAR PURSUE THE BAGLAR

On Easter Day the Baglar rowed into the Vágr thinking Sverrir's unrigged ships were merchantmen; seeing the standard and hearing the trumpet Andvaka, they fled. The Birkibeinar rowed two cutters keel-up and killed many, and the rest regathered in the Vík, where the farmers welcomed them.

Páskadaginn þá er sól var skamt farin, sá varðmenn skútur
On-Easter-day then when sun was short gone saw watchmen cutters
Bagla, er reru norðan fyrir Hegranes ok stefndu til
of-(the)-Baglers which rowed from-the-north past Hegranes and headed to
bœjarins. Varðmenn blésu ok vöktu herinn, ráku Birkibeinar
the-town Watchmen blew and woke the-host drove (the)-Birchlegs
þegar af sér tjöldin. Konungr bað þá eigi vera of veiðibráða
at-once off themselves the-awnings (The)-king bade them not be too hunt-hasty
ok láta Bagla róa inn á Váginn. Eigi váru viðurnar lagðar
and let (the)-Baglers row in onto the-Vag Not were the-rigging laid
á konungs skipum, ok hugðu Baglar, at kaupskip væri. En
on king's ships and thought (the)-Baglers that merchant-ships were But
er þeir reru á Váginn, þá brá þeim öðru fyrir grön, þvíat
when they rowed onto the-Vag then drew to-them other before whiskers because
þá þeystu Birkibeinar sem fastast út at þeim öll skipin; kendu
then drove (the)-Birchlegs as fastest out at them all the-ships knew
Baglar þá ok merkit ok svá lúðrinn Andvöku. Tóku þá
(the)-Baglers then also the-standard and so the-trumpet Andvaka Took then
allir eitt ráð, létu rísta árar á annat borð ok reru á annat,
all one counsel let back oars on one side and rowed on other
ok sneru svá undan suðr. En áðr Baglar féngi snúit öllum
and turned so away south But before (the)-Baglers could turned all
skipum sínum, þá reru Birkibeinar á tvær skútur, svá at
ships their then rowed (the)-Birchlegs onto two cutters so that

þegar vissi kjölrinn upp á báðum. Reru þá hvárirtveggju
at-once faced the-keel up on both Rowed then both-sides
sem mest. Baglar hleyptu at, sumir í Grafdal, sumir í
as most (The)-Baglers dashed at some into Grafdal some into
Gygisvík. Birkibeinar feldu af þeim mart manna, en höfðingjar
Gygisvik (The)-Birchlegs felled of them many of-men but chieftains
þeira drógust undan. Fór konungr aptr til bœjarins, en
their drew-off away Went (the)-king back to the-town but
Baglar heimtust enn saman ok rákust austr í Vík. Tóku
(the)-Baglers gathered again together and drove east into (the)-Vik Took
bœndr vel við þeim, ok bundu þeir saman enn sín vandræði.
(the)-farmers well with them and bound they together again their troubles

Baglar váru á berginu

CLXXXV · THE BAGLAR ON THE ROCK

At Túnsberg the Baglar under Hreiðarr held the rock with two castles, and Sverrir warned them they would come to hate it. The farmers of the Vík kept him from the mainland, but he made those of Konungahella and the islands submit, and the islanders lend him their horses.

Sverrir konungr dvaldist um hríð í bœnum ok stefndi at
Sverrir king stayed for while in the-town and summoned to
sér or heruðum mörgu liði, hann hafði ok mörg skip ok
himself out-of districts with-much troop he had also many ships and
stór; þá hafði konungr Höfðabuzuna. Hann fór þá suðr með
big then had (the)-king the-Head-Buss He went then south along
landi ok svá austr til Víkr; en er hann kom til Túnsbergs,
land and so east to (the)-Vik but when he came to Tunsberg
þá váru þar Baglar fyrir, þar var Hreiðarr sendimaðr með
then were there (the)-Baglers before there was Hreidar Messenger with

mikla sveit. Þeir höfðu sezt upp á Túnsberg ok gert þar til
great company They had settled up on Tunsberg and made there for
varna tvá kastala, annan norðr á bergit, en annan suðr yfir
defenses two castles one north on the-rock but other south over
götunni, er upp liggr frá Lafranzkirkju. Sverrir konungr
the-lane which up lies from Lawrence's-church Sverrir king
mælti, er þeir reru or bœnum: Svá gott sem yðr Böglum
said when they rowed out-of the-town So good as to-you Baglers
þykkir bergit, svá ilt skal yðr þat þykkja eitthvert sinn. Fór
seems the-rock so ill shall to-you it seem some time Went
þá konungr austr í Víkina. Bœndr höfðu alt samnað
then (the)-king east into the-Vik (The)-farmers had all gathered
fyrir, var þar kominn þegn ok þræll, mátti konungr hvergi
before was there come freeman and thrall could (the)-king nowhere
komast á meginland. Þar var þá með bóndum Sigurðr
get onto mainland There was then with (the)-farmers Sigurd
jarlsson, Hallvarðr bratti, Loðinn Pálsson, Ámundi burst, ok
earl's-son Hallvard (the)-Steep Lodin Pal's-son Amundi Bristle and
margir aðrir sveitarhöfðingjar. Sverrir konungr fór austr til
many other company-chiefs Sverrir king went east to
Konungahellu, stefndi hann þar þing við bœndr; ok með
Konungahella summoned he there assembly with (the)-farmers and with
því at konungr var fjölmennr, en bœndr þeir engir þar, er
that that (the)-king was well-manned but farmers those none there who
til Oslóar hefði farit, þá kómu bœndr til þings ok géngu
to Oslo had gone then came (the)-farmers to assembly and went
undir öll álög konungs. Veik þá konungr aptr ok hafði
under all imposts of-(the)-king Turned then (the)-king back and had
þing í Orðost við bœndr ok krafði þar alls hins sama,
assembly in Ordost with (the)-farmers and demanded there of-all the same
ok enn mælti hann: Ek vil biðja yðr bœndr láns um hesta
and yet said he I will ask you farmers of-loan of horses

þá alla, er hér eru í eynni, en þér fáit menn til, ef þér
those all which here are in the-island and you provide men to if you
vilit, at hafa aptr. Nú skulut þér hafa þökk fyrir, ef þér gerit
wish to have back Now shall you have thanks for-it if you do
þetta með góðum greiðskap, en hvárt sem er, þá verðum
this with good readiness but whether as is then must
vér at hafa. Bœndr létu til hestana, ok svá or Þjórn ok
we to have (The)-farmers let to the-horses and so out-of Thjorn and
öðrum eyjum, ok Birkibeinar fluttu æ eptir sér norðr
other islands and (the)-Birchlegs moved ever after themselves north
í Víkina, en bóndasamnaðrinn fór æ gegnt þeim á landi.
into the-Vik but the-farmer-gathering went ever opposite them on land

Frá Sverri konungi

CLXXXVI · OF KING SVERRIR

The Baglar and farmers held a þing at Fors church and resolved to fight the king, and Sigurðr raised his standard.

Þá er Sverrir konungr kom norðr til Sótaness, veik hann
Then when Sverrir king came north to Sotanes turned he
inn af leið. Þar var fyrir samnaðr Bagla. Baglar sóttu
in off course There was before gathering of-(the)-Baglers (The)-Baglers made
upp á land til móts við bóndasamnað, höfðu þeir þing uppi
up on land to meeting with farmer-gathering held they assembly up
við Fors kirkju ok réðu þar ráðum sínum. Eggjuðu bœndr at
by Fors church and held there counsels their Urged (the)-farmers to
fara á mót konungi ok berjast við hann, sögðu hann mundu
go on against (the)-king and fight with him said him would

brenna ella bygðir, ok tóku þat ráð með sér. Snúast
burn else settlements and took that counsel among themselves Turn
þeir þá allir samt til ferðar, reisti Sigurðr þar merki upp.
they then all together to journey raised Sigurd there standard up

Bœndr flýðu fyrir Birkibeinum

CLXXXVII · THE FARMERS FLEE BEFORE THE BIRKIBEINAR

Sverrir turned on the farmers at Skarfstaðir; Sigurðr's company fell around his standard, and the farmers fled and next day sued for peace.

Sverrir konungr gékk á land af skipum sínum ok sagði þá
Sverrir king went on land off ships his and said then
liðinu, at hann mundi leita á fund Bagla eða bónda,
to-the-troop that he would seek on meeting of-(the)-Baglers or of-farmers
hvárir sem fyrir yrði, lézt þá yfrit lengi hafa rekit fyrir
whichever as before became said-himself then overly long have drifted before
land fram ok fengit ekki af bóndum, þat er hann ætti;
land forward and got nothing of (the)-farmers that which he owned
eptir lét hann sumt liðit at gæta skipanna. Váru þá hafðir
behind left he some the-troop to guard the-ships Were then had
hestar, þeir sem til váru, en þorinn gékk, fóru um daginn,
horses those which to were but the-bulk walked went in the-day
ok höfðu bœndr eytt bygðina alla. Þat var um nónskeið,
and had (the)-farmers emptied the-settlement all That was about nones-time
at konungr var kominn á berg nökkut, ok þá mælti hann:
that (the)-king was come onto rock a-certain and then said he
Nú munu vér snúa ofan aptr, skal nú brenna bygðina. Ok
Now will we turn down back shall now burn the-settlement And
í þessu kom maðr til hans ok sagði, at bœndr fœri ofan
in this came man to him and said that (the)-farmers went down

fyrir norðan bergit. Konungr mælti: Þá munum vér fyrst
before north the-rock (The)-king said Then will we first
snúa til móts við þá. Ok bað lúðrsveininn blása. Sótti þá
turn to meeting with them And bade the-trumpet-lad blow Made then
liðit undir merkit; sneri hann þá norðr í dalinn, fór
the-troop under the-standard turned he then north into the-dale went
hans sveit fyrst. En er bœndr sá þetta, köstuðu þeir
his company first But when (the)-farmers saw this cast they
kössunum ok tóku til vápna sinna, fórust á mót, fundust
the-packs and took to weapons their went on against met
þar, er til annarrar handar var skógr nökkurr, en á aðra
there where to other hand was wood a-certain but on other
leirubekkr lítill. Konungr réð þegar á, er hann kom at.
mud-bank little (The)-king set at-once on when he came at
Váru þar fyrir sveitungar Sigurðar jarlssonar ok höfðu þar
Were there before company-men of-Sigurd earl's-son and had there
merki hans, en hann var þar hvergi í nánd. Varð þar hörð
standard his but he was there nowhere in nearness Became there hard
svipan, féll þar nær öll sveit Sigurðar, var þá ok merkit
clash fell there nearly all company of-Sigurd was then also the-standard
niðr höggvit. Váru bœndr þá ok allir fullráða at firrast
down hewn Were (the)-farmers then also all resolved to shun
Birkibeina. Slóst þá á flótta allr herr bónda, en Birkibeinar
(the)-Birchlegs Struck then into flight all host of-farmers but (the)-Birchlegs
fylgðu þeim ok drápu af þeim mikinn múg, sneru aptr til
followed them and killed of them great throng turned back to
skipanna um kveldit. Bardaginn var við bœinn á Skarfstöðum.
the-ships in the-evening The-battle was by the-farm at Skarfstadir
Eptir um daginn kómu bœndr ofan ok leituðu sér
After in the-day came (the)-farmers down and sought themselves

griða. Konungr gaf öllum grið, þeim er þess beiddust.
of-quarter (The)-king gave to-all quarter those who of-it asked
Kómu bœndr þá margir ofan ok fluttu stórgjöld konungi.
Came (the)-farmers then many down and brought great-payments to-the-king

Frá Sverri konungi ok mönnum hans

CLXXXVIII · OF KING SVERRIR AND HIS MEN

Sverrir burned the farms of the Hornesfjörðr when the farmers would not come in, but at a lad's plea spared his father's farm and stopped the burning, and the farmers submitted. He then took Sæbjörn limr's skiff, drove Baglar cutters ashore at Hellisvík, and killed more Baglar at Túnsberg and Osló.

Konungr snýr þá norðr í Víkina ok upp í fjörð þann,
(The)-king turns then north into the-Vik and up into fjord that
er heitir Hornesfjörðr, ok gerði bóndum boð, at þeir
which is-called Hornesfjord and sent to-(the)-farmers message that they
kœmi at sættast við hann. Kómu sumir, en sumir eigi,
come to be-reconciled with him Came some but some not
váru þeir miklu fleiri, er eigi kómu. En er konungr hafði
were they much more who not came But when (the)-king had
þar legit nökkurar nætr, þá gékk hann upp í bygðina á
there lain some nights then went he up into the-settlement on
norðrlandit, ok var þar alt fólk flýit or húsunum. Ok er
the-north-land and was there all folk fled out-of the-houses And when
þeir höfðu farit langa hríð ok á leið daginn, þá bað konungr
they had gone long while and on wore the-day then bade (the)-king
þá snúa aptr, skal Hákon son minn fara ofan öðrum
them turn back shall Hakon son my go down on-other
megin með bygðinni með sumu liðinu, en vér hér stefna
side along the-settlement with some the-troop but we here head

ofan, ok skulu hvárirtveggju brenna bygðina. Var þá skotit
down and shall both-sides burn the-settlement Was then shot
eldi í hús ok brent, hvar sem þeir fóru. Brunnu þar
with-fire into houses and burned where as they went Burned there
margir stórbœir, þeir brendu þar Dalinn mikla, er Hávarðr
many great-farms they burned there Dal the-Great which Havard
bóndi átti. Um kveldit hljóp sveinn einn or skóginum til
farmer owned In the-evening ran lad one out-of the-wood to
konungs ok mælti: Herra, fyrir guðs sakir lát eigi brenna
(the)-king and said Lord for God's sake let not burn
bœ föður míns hér fram. Konungr svaraði: Skal brenna víst
farm of-father my here forward (The)-king answered Shall burn surely
eigi, fyrir því er þú biðr, ok engi mundi brendr hafa verit,
not for that that you ask and none would burned have been
ef bœndr hefði heima verit ok beizt griða, ok seg þeim
if (the)-farmers had home been and asked of-quarter and tell to-them
svá, at nú skal engan brenna. Héðan af fór þá konungr
so that now shall none burn Hence from went then (the)-king
til skipa sinna. Um myrgininn kómu bœndr ofan ok festu
to ships his In the-morning came (the)-farmers down and pledged
gjald konungi. Gékk þar þá undir hann alt fólk. Eptir þat
payment to-the-king Went there then under him all folk After that
siglir konungr norðr yfir Foldina ok lá í Hafsteinssundum
sails (the)-king north over the-Fold and lay in Hafsteinssund
ok þaðan inn í Grindhólmasund. Um kveldit spyrr
and thence in into Grindholmasund In the-evening hears
konungr, at Baglar eru komnir út í Hafsteinssund ok
(the)-king that (the)-Baglers are come out into Hafsteinssund and
ráðit sér til skipa í Túnsbergi. Konungr reri þá at leita
got themselves to ships in Tunsberg (The)-king rowed then to seek
þeira fyrir norðan Tunnu, ok tók þá at myrkva. Lá konungr
them before north Tunna and began then to darken Lay (the)-king

um nóttina í Hrafnsvági, en Baglar litlu sunnar við
in the-night in Hrafnsvag but (the)-Baglers little south by
ströndina. Þegar í dagan reri konungr at leita með skútum.
the-shore At-once in dawn rowed (the)-king to seek with cutters
Baglar sigldu fyrir dag á haf út, en konungr eptir,
(The)-Baglers sailed before day onto sea out and (the)-king after
þegar þeir sá þá. En er Baglar sá, at meira géngu skip
as-soon-as they saw them But when (the)-Baglers saw that more went ships
Birkibeina, sneru þeir til lands. Þá fór karfi einn utan at
of-(the)-Birchlegs turned they to land Then went skiff one outside at
Tunnusögum, er stýrði Sæbjörn limr. Birkibeinar reru eptir
Tunnuskagar which steered Saebjorn Limb (The)-Birchlegs rowed after
þeim, Sæbjörn komst undan við annan mann. Birkibeinar
them Saebjorn got away with second man (The)-Birchlegs
tóku karfann ok alt, þat er á var. Baglar sneru inn
took the-skiff and all that which on was (The)-Baglers turned in
sjau skútum fyrir norðan Yxneyna ok inn í Sandafjörð
with-seven cutters before north the-Yxney and in into Sandafjord
ok á norðrlandit, þar sem heitir Hellisvíkr, lögðu þar at ok
and onto the-north-land there where is-called Hellisvik laid there at and
hljópu upp. Sverrir konungr lagði at þeim ok drápu af þeim
leapt up Sverrir king laid at them and killed of them
mjök mart, en tóku skipin ok alt, þat er á var. Baglar
very many and took the-ships and all that which on was (The)-Baglers
flýðu á land upp, en konungr sneri aptr til Túnsbergs.
fled on land up but (the)-king turned back to Tunsberg
Síðan fór hann leið sína norðr, en er hann kom norðr
Then went he way his north but when he came north
í Portyrju, þá sneri hann inn aptr í Víkina með skútur
to Portyrja then turned he in back into the-Vik with cutters
nökkurar ok ætlaði at taka af Böglum enn nökkut, ef hann
some and intended to take from (the)-Baglers yet something if he

féngi; fór nótt ok dag, ok er hann kom til Túnsbergs,
could went night and day and when he came to Tunsberg
drápu þeir þar sjau menn af Böglum. Þá fór hann inn
killed they there seven men of (the)-Baglers Then went he in
til Oslóar ok drap þar enn nökkura menn. Fór þá enn
to Oslo and killed there yet some men Went then again
aptr til liðsins ok hittu þá með stórskipin í Askeyjarsundi
back to the-troop and met them with the-great-ships in Askeyjarsund
norðr á Limgarðssíðu, urðu Birkibeinar honum allfegnir.
north on Limgardssida became (the)-Birchlegs to-him very-glad

Um leiðangr Sverris konungs

CLXXXIX · OF KING SVERRIR'S LEVY

After wintering in Björgvin, Sverrir brought the levy east, made the Vík submit, burning Skaun until the Skeynir came to terms, and besieged the Baglar on the rock at Túnsberg, ditching and staking his camp and quartering his guests at Gestabakki.

Sverrir konungr ferr nú norðr til Björgynjar með öllu liðinu,
Sverrir king goes now north to Bjorgvin with all the-troop
sat konungr þar um vetrinn. Baglar sátu í Víkinni ok
sat (the)-king there in the-winter (The)-Baglers sat in the-Vik and
höfðu þar skatta ok skyldir. Eptir um várit hafði Sverrir
had there taxes and dues After in the-spring had Sverrir
konungr úti leiðangr alt norðan or landi, ok fór með
king out levy all from-the-north out-of land and went with
mikit lið austr til Víkr. Hreiðarr sat á berginu í Túnsbergi
great troop east to (the)-Vik Hreidar sat on the-rock in Tunsberg
ok hafði tvau hundruð manna. Þar var Hallvarðr bratti
and had two hundreds of-men There was Hallvard (the)-Steep

ok mjök margir sveitarhöfðingjar, en konungsefni ok Sigurðr
and very many company-chiefs but king-candidate and Sigurd
váru á landi uppi við sumu liðinu. Konungr sigldi austr yfir
were on land up with some the-troop (The)-king sailed east over
Foldina, ok var þar um sumarit ok tók gjöld af bóndum.
the-Fold and was there in the-summer and took payments from (the)-farmers
Gékk þar alt fólk undir hann nema Skeynir. Þá fór
Went there all folk under him except (the)-Skeyn-men Then went
konungr upp til Borgar ok lét draga skútur upp um forsinn
(the)-king up to Borg and let drag cutters up past the-waterfall
Sarp, reru síðan upp eptir ánni, géngu þá upp á Skaun
Sarp rowed then up along the-river went then up onto Skaun
ok brendu þar alla bygðina. Géngu þá bœndr til sætta ok
and burned there all the-settlement Went then (the)-farmers to terms and
guldu gjöld. Fór þá konungr aptr til skipa sinna ok siglir
paid payments Went then (the)-king back to ships his and sails
til Túnsbergs. Þat var um Maríumessu síðari. Sverrir konungr
to Tunsberg That was about Mary's-mass later Sverrir king
settist um bergit ok bannaði Böglum af at ganga; hann
settled about the-rock and forbade to-(the)-Baglers off to go he
setti fyrir austan tjaldbúðir sínar bergit millum bœjarins ok
set before east tent-booths his the-rock between the-town and
norðrsjóvarins. Hann lét skera díki fyrir utan herbúðirnar alt
the-north-sea He let cut ditch before outside the-camp all
norðan frá váginum ok suðr til Skeljasteinssunds, settu
from-the-north from the-bay and south to Skeljasteinssund set
þar kraka alt fyrir innan díkit. Konungr lét upp setja skip
there stakes all before within the-ditch (The)-king let up set ships
sín ok um búa; hann skipti liðinu í umsátir, váru gestir
his and about prepare he divided the-troop into sieges were guests
norðr við götuna, er ofan liggr or Fróðási, var Pétr
north by the-lane which down lies out-of Frodas was Petr

steypir fyrir þeim. Tóku þeir hús í bœnum ok fluttu upp
Steypir over them Took they houses in the-town and moved up
þannug, ok er þat síðan kallat Gestabakki. Konungr svaf
thither and is that since called Gestabakki (The)-king slept
optast í bœnum, ok þar mart hans manna með honum.
oftenest in the-town and there many of-his men with him

Sverrir konungr sat um bergit

CXC · KING SVERRIR BESIEGES THE ROCK

An assault on the rock was beaten back with stones, and Sverrir saw that it could not be taken by storm; he sent his men through the districts for levies and provisions.

Sverrir konungr skipar nú sínum mönnum til atsóknar at
Sverrir king arranges now his men to attack at
berginu. Ferr konungsmerkit upp sunnan í kleifina, en
the-rock Goes the-king's-standard up from-the-south into the-cleft but
gestir sóttu at hinum nyrðra kastalanum. En er Birkibeinar
guests made at the northern the-castle But when (the)-Birchlegs
sóttu upp at berginu, þá báru Baglar á þá bæði skot ok
made up at the-rock then bore (the)-Baglers on them both shots and
grjót svá stórt, at ekki hélzt við, meiddust fyrir bæði skildir
stones so big that nothing held against were-maimed before both shields
ok stálhúfur. Hrukku Birkibeinar ofan í kleifina sárir ok
and steel-caps Recoiled (the)-Birchlegs down into the-cleft wounded and
barðir. Sá þá konungrinn, at þar var svá mikill vígismunr,
beaten Saw then the-king that there was so great stronghold-difference
at þar mundi ekki þannin mega vinna bergit. Baglar váru
that there would not so may win the-rock (The)-Baglers were
kátir ok stórorðir. Konungr sendi sína menn alt í heruð at
merry and big-worded (The)-king sent his men all into districts to

flytja til sín leiðangra ok vistir, ok greiddist þat alt vel,
bring to himself levies and provisions and went that all well
meðan Birkibeinum var hœgt at fara á skipum fyrir ísum.
while to-(the)-Birchlegs was easy to go on ships for ice

Ráðagerð Sverris konungs

CXCI · KING SVERRIR'S PLANS

Sverrir had church ladders lashed together to spy on the rock from a steeple, where Hreiðarr's arrows struck the knob beside the climber. Sveinn munki climbed the rock by night and tied a rope round a castle post, which a hundred men hauled until the rope broke, and he killed two sleeping watchmen.

Þat þótti konungi mein mikit, er hann vissi eigi umbúnað
That seemed to-the-king harm great that he knew not arrangement
þeira á berginu. Hann gerði þat ráð, at teknir váru allir
their on the-rock He made that plan that taken were all
kirkjustigar í bœnum, ok bundinn hverr við annan ok
church-ladders in the-town and bound each to other and
settir sunnan við stöpulinn í Lafranzkirkju; fór maðr þar
set from-the-south by the-steeple in Lawrence's-church went man there
upp eptir ok á ráfit, þat er frá vissi berginu, ok spenti
up along and onto the-roof that which from faced the-rock and clasped
höndunum um knappinn, ok sá hann þá öll tíðindi á
with-the-hands about the-knob and saw he then all tidings on
bergit. Baglar sá hann, ok þá skaut Hreiðarr at honum,
the-rock (The)-Baglers saw him and then shot Hreidar at him
ok hina fyrsta ör setti hann í knappinn, ok þegar aðra
and the first arrow set he into the-knob and at-once another
milli handa honum, í því er hann lét laust, en ráfit
between hands to-him in that when he let loose but the-roof

hlífði honum við fleirum örum. Fór hann þá ofan ok
shielded him against more arrows Went he then down and
sagði konungi þat, sem hann hafði sét. Baglar höfðu
told to-the-king that which he had seen (The)-Baglers had
dregit skútur nökkurar upp á bergit; skamt niðr frá hinum
dragged cutters some up onto the-rock short down from the
nyrðra kastalanum var brunnr þeira, ok höfðu þeir hvelft
northern the-castle was well their and had they vaulted
yfir skútu nökkurri, svá at þeir máttu ganga til af berginu.
over cutter a-certain so that they could go to from the-rock
Kastalarnir váru svá gervir, at stafir fjórir stóðu upp ok syllr
The-castles were so made that posts four stood up and sill
uppi á milli, ok þar arinn á, en niðri hurðir milli stafanna.
up in between and there platform on but below doors between the-posts
Þat var á einni nótt, at konungr gerði mann einn upp
That was on one night that (the)-king sent man one up
á bergit um haustit, ok var á niðamyrkr. Sá hét
onto the-rock in the-autumn and was on pitch-dark That-one was-called
Sveinn munki, hann hafði með sér einn kaðal ok tvau
Svein Monk he had with himself one rope and two
spjót; ok er hann kom á bergit, bar hann kaðalinn um
spears and when he came onto the-rock bore he the-rope about
einn kastalastafinn, en öðrum enda kaðalsins fylgðu meir en
one the-castle-post but other end of-the-rope followed more than
hundrað manna. Sveinn laust á kaðalinn ok bendi þeim, at
hundred of-men Svein struck on the-rope and signaled to-them that
þá var annarr endir fastr. Hljópu þeir þá á kaðalinn ok drógu
then was other end fast Leapt they then on the-rope and drew
fast. Tók þá kastalinn at ríða; en Baglar, þeir er í váru, urðu
hard Began then the-castle to sway but Baglers those who in were became
mjök óttafullir. Í því brast kaðallinn í sundr. Sveinn munki
much fearful In that burst the-rope in asunder Svein Monk

fann austr á berginu tvá varðmenn, ok sváfu báðir, setti hann
found east on the-rock two watchmen and slept both set he
spjótit í gegnum annan, en annarr hljóp upp, lagði Sveinn
the-spear in through one but other leapt up thrust Svein
þann standanda ok drap báða, fór síðan aptr til sinna manna.
that-one standing and killed both went then back to his men

Frá Sverri

CXCII · OF SVERRIR

Wicker shields carried under the rock did no good, and the daily shooting went in the Baglar's favor.

Sverrir konungr lét gera flaka af viðum ok undir
Sverrir king let make shields-of-wicker of timbers and under
digra stafi, ok lét þat bera undir bergit. Var því úhœgt við
thick posts and let that bear under the-rock Was it uneasy at
at koma, varð þeim þat ok at engu ráði. Jafnan géngu
to come became to-them that also to no use Constantly went
Birkibeinar í skotmál við Bagla, ok skutust þeir
(the)-Birchlegs into shot-range with (the)-Baglers and shot-at-each-other they
á jafnan, ok veitti Böglum jafnan betr.
on constantly and went to-(the)-Baglers constantly better

Frá Inga ok Böglum

CXCIII · OF INGI AND THE BAGLAR

To summon help, Hreiðarr lowered a small cutter down the rock by ropes, and ten men rowed past the Birkibeinar's watch to Ingi and Sigurðr, who reckoned Sverrir would give up once the snow and frost came.

Ingi höfðingi Bagla ok Sigurðr jarlsson, Árni byskupsfrændi
Ingi chieftain of-(the)-Baglers and Sigurd earl's-son Arni bishop's-kinsman
ok margir aðrir sveitarhöfðingjar váru á Upplöndum ok
and many other company-chiefs were in Upplands and
stundum í Víkinni. Höfðu þeir Hreiðarr þat við mælzt, at
sometimes in the-Vik Had they Hreidar that with agreed that
hvárir skyldi öðrum at liði koma. En við umsátir þær sem
each should to-other to help come But with sieges those which
Birkibeinar höfðu, þá þótti Hreiðari sein liðveizla af sínum
(the)-Birchlegs had then seemed to-Hreidar slow help from his
mönnum, en þóttist sitja í miklum háska, ok gerði þat
men and thought-himself sit in great danger and made that
ráð at senda menn til þeira Inga, ok með þessu tilstilli, at
plan to send men to them Ingi and with this contrivance that
á einni nótt tóku þeir skútu eina litla, er átta menn reru
on one night took they cutter one little which eight men rowed
á borð, ok drógu vestr á bergit, lögðu í árar ok báru
on side and dragged west on the-rock laid in oars and bore
festar á, höfðu til vægr ok vágu fram af berginu, ok géngu
cables on had to levers and heaved forward off the-rock and went
þar á menn tíu, Þórðr dokka var fyrir þeim, létu síga í
there on men ten Thord Dokka was over them let sink in
reipum skútuna ofan á sjó. Var þat þó hætting mikil, þvíat
ropes the-cutter down onto sea Was that yet risk great because

Birkibeinar lágu á skipum fyrir berginu ok héldu þar vörð
(the)-Birchlegs lay on ships before the-rock and held there watch
hverja nótt. Baglar ljósta í árum ok róa inn drífanda
each night (The)-Baglers strike in oars and row in drifting
um sundin hjá þeim, hljópu á land fyrir innan Smjörberg.
through the-sounds beside them leapt on land before within Smjorberg
Birkibeinar reru eptir þeim ok féngu skútuna tóma. Baglar
(The)-Birchlegs rowed after them and got the-cutter empty (The)-Baglers
fóru til þess, er þeir fundu Inga ok Sigurð ok sögðu þeim
went till that when they found Ingi and Sigurd and told to-them
orðsending Hreiðars. Baglar þóttust þat eina spyrja til
message of-Hreidar (The)-Baglers thought that only hear of
Sverris konungs, at þá langaði ekki til móts við Birkibeina,
Sverrir king that them longed not to meeting with (the)-Birchlegs
sögðu hann mundu frá hverfa, þegar er snjófa tœki ok frysta.
said him would from turn as-soon as to-snow began and freeze

Frá ribböldum

CXCIV · OF THE RIBBALDAR

Two hundred Ribbaldar sent by King John of England ravaged Þelamörk, killing every living thing; at the siege they shot it out with the Baglar.

Sverrir konungr varð þessa víss um myrgininn eptir, sem
Sverrir king became of-this aware in the-morning after as
Baglar höfðu hlaupit af berginu. Hann mælti: Svá leitt
(the)-Baglers had run off the-rock He said So loath
sem yðr er nú orðit at sitja um bergit, þá er hinum
as to-you is now become to sit about the-rock then is to-those
þó miklu leiðara þar at vera.
yet much loather there to be

Jón Englakonungr hafði áðr um sumarit sent Sverri konungi
Jon English-king had before in the-summer sent to-Sverrir king
tvau hundruð hermanna, þeira er ribbaldar váru kallaðir,
two hundreds of-warriors those who ribalds were called
þeir váru skjótir á fœti sem dýr ok váru bogmenn miklir
they were quick on foot as beasts and were bowmen great
ok spörðu eigi ilt at gera. Konungr gerði þá á Upplönd ok
and spared not ill to do (The)-king sent them to Upplands and
setti þann mann til höfðingja, er Híði hét ok var bróðir
set that man to chieftain who Hidi was-called and was brother
Sigurðar skjálga. Ribbaldar kómu ofan í Haddingjadal ok
of-Sigurd (the)-Squint (The)-Ribalds came down into Haddingjadal and
fóru hit efra um Sóknadal ok ofan á Þelamörk, en hvar
went the upper through Soknadal and down onto Thelamark and where
sem þeir kómu, drápu þeir menn alla, unga ok gamla, konur
as they came killed they men all young and old women
sem karla, ok búfé alt; þeir drápu ok hunda ok köttu ok
as men and livestock all they killed also dogs and cats and
alt, þat er kvikt var fyrir þeim; þeir brendu ok bygðir
all that which alive was before them they burned also settlements
allar, þar sem þeir fóru. En ef menn fóru at þeim, þá hljópu
all there where they went But if men went at them then ran
þeir á fjöll eða eyðimerkr, enda kómu þá þar fram, sem
they onto mountains or wastes and came then there forward where
sízt varði. Þeir kómu til Sverris konungs, þá er hann sat
least expected They came to Sverrir king then when he sat
um bergit, ok géngu opt djarfliga til móts við Bagla, ok
about the-rock and went often boldly to meeting with (the)-Baglers and
skutu hvárir at öðrum. Einn dag lustu Baglar einn ribbalda
shot each-side at other One day struck (the)-Baglers one ribald
með öru, svá at hann fékk bana af. Ribbaldar skræktu
with arrow so that he got death of-it (The)-Ribalds shrieked

hátt, er þeir sá þetta, hljópu stundum til, stundum frá, ok
loud when they saw this ran sometimes to sometimes from and
skutu at Böglum, ok litlu síðar skaut einn þeira Víking nefju
shot at (the)-Baglers and little later shot one of-them Viking Nose
í hóstinn til bana, hann hafði verit hinn mesti hermaðr.
in the-chest to death he had been the greatest warrior

Ráðagerð Sverris konungs

CXCV · KING SVERRIR'S PLANS

Sverrir planned a sham battle at night between his own men to lure the Baglar off the rock.

Böglum þykkir nú seinkast liðveizlan þeira Inga ok
To-(the)-Baglers seems now to-be-slow the-help of-them Ingi and
Sigurðar, ok er Sverrir konungr verðr þess varr, þá mælti
Sigurd and when Sverrir king becomes of-this aware then said
konungr við sína menn: Nú skulum vér gera einn prett við
(the)-king to his men Now shall we make one trick against
þá í nótt; nú skulu várir menn fara í nótt upp um Fróðaás
them in night now shall our men go in night up over Frodas
með miklu liði ok gæta, at hvárigir verði varir við Baglar
with great troop and take-care that neither become aware of-it Baglers
né bœjarmenn; en þeir Birkibeinar sem eptir væri, skyldu
nor townsmen and those Birchlegs who behind were should
hlýða til, er konungr léti blása, ok hlaupa til vápna; síðan
listen to when (the)-king let blow and run to weapons then
skulu hvárirtveggju fylkja liðinu ok láta, sem þeir berist, ok
shall both-sides draw-up the-troop and make as they fight and
þyrmit þó raunar, sem skylt er; en þeir er or bœnum koma
spare yet in-truth as due is but those who out-of the-town come

at, skulu falla fyrir hinum, er til sækja, ok gerit mikinn
at shall fall before those who to press and make great
ysinn, ok at lyktum snúizt þér allir á flótta. Þá munda ek
the-bustle and at end turn you all into flight Then would I
eigi vita, nema Baglar géngi af berginu. En ef þat væri, þá
not know unless (the)-Baglers went off the-rock But if that were then
skulu vér leyna liði váru sumu sem næst berginu, ok mætti
shall we hide troop our some as nearest the-rock and might
þeir koma milli húss ok bónda. Þessi ráðagerð fór fram.
they come between house and of-farmer This plan went forward

Frá þeim á berginu

CXCVI · OF THOSE ON THE ROCK

Hreiðarr saw that Sverrir's falling men sought dry ground and fell on their shields with no blood on their weapons, and would not leave the rock.

Um myrgininn er ljóst var orðit, sá varðmenn Bagla, at
In the-morning when light was become saw watchmen of-(the)-Baglers that
lið mikit fór ofan frá Fróðaási. Þeir sögðu þegar Hreiðari,
troop great went down from Frodas They told at-once to-Hreidar
at þar mundu fara þeira menn. Stóð Hreiðarr upp ok bað
that there would go their men Stood Hreidar up and bade
menn væpnast, ok géngu norðr til kastala. Þá sá þeir
men arm-themselves and went north to castle Then saw they
merki í hvárutveggja liðinu, því er ofan fór or Fróðaási,
standards in both the-troop that which down went out-of Frodas
ok svá því, er or bœnum kom, ok svá heyrðu þeir lúðra
and so that which out-of the-town came and so heard they trumpets
ganga, ok því næst féllu Birkibeinar, en sumir flýðu. Þá
go and then next fell (the)-Birchlegs but some fled Then

vildu Baglar af berginu ok veita sínum mönnum, ok láta
wished (the)-Baglers off the-rock and help their men and let
Birkibeina eigi komast inn aptr yfir díkit. Hreiðarr mælti:
(the)-Birchlegs not get in back over the-ditch Hreidar said
Sjám vér fyrst, hvernin þeir skiptast við; ef Birkibeinar
Let-us-see we first how they deal with if (the)-Birchlegs
rekast fram at díkinu, þá mun þeim seint verða at klífa
are-driven forward to the-ditch then will to-them slow be to climb
upp á krakana, ok munu þá várir menn drepa af þeim
up onto the-stakes and will then our men kill of them
slíkt, er þeir vilja. En undarliga ferr flótti þessi, mér sýnist,
such as they wish But strangely goes flight this to-me seems
sem þetta sé leikr nökkurr; sé þér, at þeir leita sér
as this be game some see you that they seek for-themselves
fallstaða, þar sem þurt er undir, ella ofan á skjöldu sína,
falling-places there where dry is under else down onto shields their
eða sjái þér nökkur blóðug vápn þeira eða klæði? Mun þetta
or see you any bloody weapons their or clothes Will this
vera prettr Sverris. Ok er konungr sá, at Baglar vöruðust
be trick of-Sverrir And when (the)-king saw that (the)-Baglers were-wary-of
þetta, sneri hann aptr til herbúða sinna, ok allir hans menn.
this turned he back to camp his and all his men

Um harðrétti

CXCVII · OF HARDSHIP

When the levy grumbled through the winter, Sverrir told them old heroes had eaten their sword-sheaths at sieges, and that they would stay until the Baglar were his.

Nú líðr á vetrinn, lagði nú á frost ok ísa. Gerðist
Now wears on the-winter laid now on frosts and ices Became
Birkibeinum þá verra at sópast at vistunum, gerðist þá kurr
to-(the)-Birchlegs then worse to sweep for the-provisions arose then murmur
mikill í liðinu, vildu þá gjarna heim leiðangrsmenninir.
great in the-troop wished then gladly home the-levy-men
Konungr hafði þá húsþing, hann mælti svá: Þat heyri ek
(The)-king had then house-assembly he said so That hear I
nú af mínum mönnum, at þessi seta þykki mjök úsynju,
now from my men that this sitting seems much needless
ok nú væri gott heima. Úhermannligt mál at kurra slíkt
and now were good at-home Unsoldierly speech to murmur such
at konungi sínum, þótt þér þenit eigi svá vömbina sem
at king their though you stretch not so the-belly as
verkmenn við þúst. Úlíkir eru þér þeim, er í forneskju
workmen at threshing Unlike are you to-those of-whom in antiquity
eru sögur af gervar, er veittu umsátir svá þrátt at eyða
are sagas of made who gave sieges so stubbornly to destroy
fjándmönnum sínum, ok svá mikinn hug lögðu þeir á, at
enemies their and so great mind laid they on that
fúnuðu af þeim klæðin, en þeir átu skálpana af sverðum
rotted off them the-clothes and they ate the-sheaths of swords
sínum ok yfirleðr af skóm sínum, ok léttu aldri fyrr en
their and upper-leather of shoes their and stopped never earlier than
þeir sigruðust. En þótt ek taka þessi dœmi, þá eigum mér
they won But though I take these examples then have we
skemra til at seilast, meira þrályndi sýna Baglar á berginu,
shorter to to reach more stubbornness show (the)-Baglers on the-rock
er þeir gefast eigi upp. Nú látit mik eigi lengr heyra þenna
when they give not up Now let me not longer hear this

kurr, þvíat hér skal nú sitja, hvárt er yðr þykkir ljúft eða
murmur because here shall now sit whether as to-you seems pleasant or
leitt, bjúgt eða bratt, þar til er vér höfum vald yfir Böglum.
loath crooked or steep there till when we have power over (the)-Baglers

Brögð þeira Bagla á berginu

CXCVIII · THE BAGLAR'S TRICKS ON THE ROCK

Hreiðarr sent a man on skis with letters to Ingi asking relief by Nikulásmessa; Sigurðr jarlsson refused to rush into an open hell and proposed raiding the north instead.

Nú minkaðist mjök vist á berginu, sá Hreiðarr, at nú
Now dwindled much provision on the-rock saw Hreidar that now
mundi verða at leita í nökkurra bragða, þvíat þeim kómu
would must to seek into of-some tricks because to-them came
engi andsvör frá Böglum, nema þat er Birkibeinar sögðu
no answers from (the)-Baglers except that which (the)-Birchlegs told
þeim hvern dag, at Ingi konungr þeira mundi brátt koma við
to-them each day that Ingi king their would soon come with
allmiklu liði at frelsa þá. En Böglum þótti þetta vera spottr
very-great troop to free them But to-(the)-Baglers seemed this be mockery
einn, sem var. Þá lét Hreiðarr gera bréf til Inga ok Sigurðar,
only as was Then let Hreidar make letter to Ingi and Sigurd
ok var þat sagt á, at þeir mundu haldast á berginu ok þó
and was that said on-it that they would hold-out on the-rock and yet
með hörðum kosti til Nikulásmessu, ok beðit með fögrum
with hard terms till Nikulas's-mass and asked with fair
orðum, at þeir mundu til koma at hjálpa þeim. Eptir um
words that they would to come to help them After in

nóttina gerði Hreiðarr einn mann með þessum bréfum norðr
the-night sent Hreidar one man with these letters north
af berginu. Hann hafði tvau skíð, hann skreiddist fram með
off the-rock He had two skis he glided forward along
landinu um díkit. Urðu Birkibeinar eigi fyrr varir við, en
the-land past the-ditch Became (the)-Birchlegs not earlier aware of-it than
þessi maðr var allr á brautu; fór hann leið sína ok kom
this man was all on away went he way his and came
til Inga með bréfum í Hamarkaupangi. Ingi átti stefnu við
to Ingi with letters in Hamar Ingi held meeting with
sveitarhöfðingja ok lét bréfit upp lesa. Sigurðr jarlsson svaraði
company-chiefs and let the-letter up read Sigurd earl's-son answered
svá: Vér höfum nú vafizt í flokkum um hríð, ok nú munum
so We have now wandered in bands for while and now will
vér eigi rasa í helina opna, þó at Hreiðarr vili þat. Munum
we not rush into the-hell open though that Hreidar wish that Will
vér gera annat ráð, förum vér norðr í fjörðu ok fám oss
we make other plan let-us-go we north into fjords and get ourselves
skip, ok mun Sverrir konungr þat til vár spyrja, at honum
ships and will Sverrir king that of us hear that to-him
mun þykkja þat meiri þörf at verja þar landit, en sitja þar
will seem that greater need to defend there the-land than sit there
um fá menn á berginu. Þetta lézt öllum þykkja höfuðráð.
about few men on the-rock This was-declared to-all seem head-counsel

Frá Jóni ok Böglum

CXCIX · OF JÓN AND THE BAGLAR

The Baglar came down into Raumsdalr and sailed south into Sogn, where they took Jón stál's cutter and Jón chased them; while he fetched help from Björgvin, they made Ingi king at Lúsakaupangr.

Baglar snerust þá til ferðar norðr í Dala ok kómu ofan
(The)-Baglers turned then to journey north into Dalir and came down
í Raumsdal, ok fá sér þar skútur ok rekast suðr með
into Raumsdal and get themselves there cutters and drift south along
landi. En er þeir koma suðr fyrir Sognsæ, víkja þeir þar inn
land But when they come south past Sogn-sea turn they there in
ok tóku mikinn andróða. Þeir kómu um nóttina inn í Vík
and took great head-wind They came in the-night in into Vik
ok tóku skútu undan Jóni stál, ok alt þat er á var; hann
and took cutter from Jon Steel and all that which on was he
komst á land upp ok í skóg ok allir hans menn. Um
got on land up and into wood and all his men In
daginn eptir fóru Baglar til Hofs 50 manna. Þat sá Jón stál,
the-day after went (the)-Baglers to Hof 50 of-men That saw Jon Steel
hann var uppi í fjallinu við átjánda mann. Jón hljóp heim
he was up in the-mountain with eighteenth man Jon ran home
á bœinn, en Baglar tóku undan, Jón fylgði þeim ofan til
to the-farm but (the)-Baglers took away Jon followed them down to
Aldinhaga ok drap þar einn mann. Annan dag snerist Jón suðr
Aldinhagi and killed there one man Second day turned Jon south
til Björgynjar á ferð hit efra. Hann fann í borginni Einar
to Bjorgvin on journey the upper He found in the-fort Einar
konungsmág ok Dagfinn, réðu þeir þá til skipa ok fara norðr
king's-in-law and Dagfinn went they then to ships and go north

til Sogns. Baglar höfðu þá sezt inn í Lúsakaupangi ok
to Sogn (The)-Baglers had then settled in in Lusakaupang and
átt þar þing við Sygni. Var þar Ingi til konungs tekinn,
held there assembly with (the)-Sogn-men Was there Ingi to king taken
Gunnþjófr hét búandi, sá er honum gaf konungsnafn.
Gunnthjof was-called farmer that-one who to-him gave king's-name

Birkibeinar eltu Bagla

CC · THE BIRKIBEINAR PURSUE THE BAGLAR

The Birkibeinar fell on the Baglar at Kaupangr and took their ships and weapons; a vagabond murdered Árni byskupsfrændi, and the Baglar fled to the Uplands.

Birkibeinar kómu um myrgininn snemma til Kaupangs ok
(The)-Birchlegs came in the-morning early to Kaupang and
lögðu við bryggjur, létu þá kveða við lúðra ok géngu upp
laid by wharves let then sound out trumpets and went up
alldjarfliga. Baglar sneru á flótta. Þar féllu nökkurir
very-boldly (The)-Baglers turned into flight There fell some
menn af þeim. Björn furulangr hét maðr, hann var
men of them Bjorn (the)-Fir-Long was-called man he was
umrenningr einn, hann hitti í selsætri einu í fjallinu Árna
vagabond one he found in shieling one in the-mountain Arni
byskupsfrænda, hann var sárr mjök ok hafði eigi komizt
bishop's-kinsman he was wounded much and had not got
lengra. Björn drap hann til klæða ok fjár ok myrði hann;
farther Bjorn killed him for clothes and money and murdered him
fundust hræ hans um várit. Birkibeinar tóku skip þeira ok
were-found remains his in the-spring (The)-Birchlegs took ships their and
mikinn þora vápna ok alt fé þeira. Baglar heimtust saman
great bulk of-weapons and all goods their (The)-Baglers gathered together

inn í Lystr ok sneru þar yfir fjallit ok ofan í Árdal.
in into Lystr and turned there over the-mountain and down into Ardal
Þá spurði Jón stál til þeira ok fór inn at þeim. Baglar
Then heard Jon Steel of them and went in at them (The)-Baglers
váru þá komnir upp um vatnit, ok um myrgininn eptir sneru
were then come up past the-lake and in the-morning after turned
þeir á fjallit upp á Valdres ok þaðan til Upplanda.
they onto the-mountain up to Valdres and thence to Upplands

Sverrir sat um bergit

CCI · SVERRIR BESIEGES THE ROCK

The relief Hreiðarr had awaited never came, and the men on the rock were boiling their hide ropes for food.

Sverrir konungr sitr um bergit, ok er nú liðin sú stund,
Sverrir king sits about the-rock and is now passed that time
er Hreiðarr hafði á kveðit á bréfum, at hann mundi
which Hreidar had on stated in letters that he would
haldast á berginu. Gerðist þá nú svá hörð reiðan þeira
hold-out on the-rock Became then now so hard the-provisioning their
á berginu, at þá var ekki annat til matarins, en þeir
on the-rock that then was nothing other for the-food than they
hjoggu svarðreiða sinn ok bjoggu þat til matar, ok var
hewed hide-rope their and prepared it for food and was
um þvílíkt at véla til jólavistar, ok þó eigi hálfœrit.
about such to contrive for Yule-provision and yet not half-enough

Beglingar gáfu upp bergit

CCII · THE BAGLAR GIVE UP THE ROCK

Hallvarðr bratti and many others came down and got quarter. Many Birkibeinar wanted no quarter given, but Sverrir said he forgave the Baglar for God's sake all their killings and insults, and they came down.

Á ofanverðum jólum á einni nótt hljóp Hallvarðr bratti af
At latter Yule on one night ran Hallvard (the)-Steep off
berginu með annan mann, ok kómust þeir á fund konungs,
the-rock with second man and got they on meeting of-(the)-king
ok gaf hann þeim grið. Birkibeinar urðu þessa vísir um
and gave he to-them quarter (The)-Birchlegs became of-this aware in
myrgininn, ok þótti þeim allþungt, er Baglar höfðu fengit
the-morning and seemed to-them very-heavy that (the)-Baglers had got
grið. Baglar urðu þessa vísir, ok þótti þeim þá nökkur
quarter (The)-Baglers became of-this aware and seemed to-them then some
ván sér griða. Hljópu þá margir af berginu til
expectation for-themselves of-quarter Ran then many off the-rock to
konungs, ok féngu allir grið. Konungr varð þá víss hins
(the)-king and got all quarter (The)-king became then aware of-the
sanna, at Baglar höfðu þá enga lífsván á berginu, ok þeir
truth that (the)-Baglers had then no life-hope on the-rock and they
váru þá allir at þrotum komnir af matleysi; hafði þá ok
were then all to end come from lack-of-food had then also
Hreiðarr látit segja konungi, at annan dag eptir mundi hann
Hreidar let tell to-the-king that second day after would he
ganga af berginu, ok þola heldr dauða af vápnum en af
go off the-rock and suffer rather death from weapons than from
sulti, en þiggja grið, ef þeira væri kostr, sér ok öllum
hunger but accept quarter if of-it were choice for-himself and for-all

félögum sínum. Sverrir konungr lét þá blása til húsþings;
fellows his Sverrir king let then blow to house-assembly
hann talaði ok mælti svá: Ek vil nú leita ráða af yðr,
he spoke and said so I will now seek of-counsel from you
hvernin skipa skal við Hreiðar ok hans menn, ef vér fám vald
how deal shall with Hreidar and his men if we get power
yfir þeim; ok ef svá verðr, þá munu því allir fegnir verða
over them and if so becomes then will of-that all glad become
várir menn, at slíti þessa þrásetu, ok þeir fegnastir, er
our men that end this stubborn-sitting and those gladdest who
verst létu í haust, er eigi skyldu þá í brott hverfa; eða
worst behaved in autumn when not should then in away turn or
skulum vér nökkurum mönnum grið gefa eða engum? Þá
shall we to-some men quarter give or to-none Then
svara margir: Svá lízt oss, sem þeir einir muni hér saman
answer many So seems to-us as they alone will here together
komnir á berginu, er flest ilt hafa gert; mun oss sá þykkja
come on the-rock who most ill have done will to-us that seem
hinn harðasti kostr, at hafa soltit í vetr fyrir þeira skyld, ok
the hardest choice to have starved in winter for their sake and
haft marga vásbúð, en nú skyli vér hér taka föðurbana vára
had many hardship but now should we here take father's-slayers our
eða bróður ok gefa grið ok skipa síðan í hálfrými með oss.
or brother's and give quarter and place then in half-room with us
Konungr mælti: Séð, góðir menn, hverr yðarr er sá, er
(The)-king said See good men who of-you is that-one who
mér þykkist ofstórr ok eigi vill þola at jafnast við mik;
to-me thinks-himself too-great and not will endure to equal-oneself with me
minnizt á, hvárt nökkurum mun þat vera brigzlat síðan, at
consider on whether to-any will that be reproached after to
hafa hér minn dóm. Hér í Túnsbergi feldu Baglar Híða
have here my judgment Here in Tunsberg felled (the)-Baglers Hidi

bróður minn, en í Osló Filippus jarl frænda minn ok marga
brother my and in Oslo Philippus earl kinsman my and many
aðra; í vetr munu þér heyrt hafa, at þeir hafa kallat Sverri
others in winter will you heard have that they have called Sverrir
bikkju ok mörgum öðrum illum nöfnum. Nú vil ek þat alt
bitch and with-many other evil names Now will I that all
fyrirgefa þeim fyrir guðs sakir, ok vænta þar á mót af
forgive to-them for God's sake and expect there on against from
honum fyrirgefningar þess, er ek hefi mót honum gert;
him of-forgiveness of-that which I have against him done
eigu þér ok eigi síðr sál en ek, ok skulu þér þess minnast;
have you also not less soul than I and shall you of-that remember
ok engi maðr mun yðr kalla fyrir þetta bleyðimenn. Jáðu nú
and no man will you call for this cowards Assented now
allir þessu, at konungr réði. Lét þá konungr gera orð til
all to-this that (the)-king decided Let then (the)-king send word to
Hreiðars, at þeir skyldu allir grið hafa; géngu þeir Hreiðarr
Hreidar that they should all quarter have went they Hreidar
þá af berginu um myrgininn eptir at dagverðarmáli allir.
then off the-rock in the-morning after at breakfast-time all

Baglar svörðu eiða Sverri konungi

CCIII · THE BAGLAR SWEAR OATHS TO KING SVERRIR

The Baglar swore oaths to Sverrir; near death after twenty weeks' siege, they fell sick and many died. Sverrir himself nursed Hreiðarr.

Sverrir konungr lét leiða þá fyrir sik, svörðu þeir honum
Sverrir king let lead them before himself swore they to-him
allir eiða. Síðan lét hann skipta þeim í sveitir, tók hann
all oaths Then let he divide them into companies took he

Hreiðar í sína sveit; hann bað menn mikinn hug á
Hreidar into his company he bade men great mind on
leggja at nœra þá, en svá var gert; bað hann þá ok fyrst
lay to nourish them and so was done bade he them also first
taka varliga mat ok drykk, en þeir gerðu þat allmisjafnt.
take carefully food and drink but they did that very-unevenly
En svá nær váru þeir komnir dauða, at allir féngu sjúkleik,
But so near were they come to-death that all got sickness
ok margir önduðust; margir krömdust lengi, þeir er lifðu.
and many died many languished long those who lived
Hreiðarr var lengi sjúkr, ok lagði konungr þar til mörg
Hreidar was long sick and laid (the)-king there to many
lækningarbrögð. Konungr sat um Túnsberg 20 vikur; en
healing-arts (The)-king sat about Tunsberg 20 weeks but
litlu síðarr bjóst hann á braut, en bergit var unnit.
little later prepared he on away than the-rock was won

Um krankleik Sverris konungs

CCIV · OF KING SVERRIR'S ILLNESS

Sverrir fell ill at Túnsberg and lay at Björgvin. He told of a dream bidding him prepare for the resurrection alone, had letters to his son Hákon read, declared Hákon his only living son, had himself raised into the high seat to await recovery or death, and asked that his face be bared after death.

Konungr tók sjúkleik þar í Túnsbergi, ok fór sú sótt
(The)-king took sickness there in Tunsberg and went that illness
ekki œst. Konungr fór norðr til Björgynjar ok kom þar á
not fierce (The)-king went north to Bjorgvin and came there in
föstu; hann lá lengstum um daga aptr á skipi sínu uppi
Lent he lay mostly in days aft on ship his up

í lyptingunni. Hreiðarr lá þá ok, var honum rúm gert
in the-poop Hreidar lay then also was to-him room made
við lyptingina á hásætiskistunni; lét konungr veita honum
by the-poop on the-high-seat-chest let (the)-king give to-him
alla athjúkan sem sér, ok talaði við hann jafnan, þvíat
all care as to-himself and spoke with him constantly because
Hreiðarr var vitr maðr. Sverrir konungr fór upp til borgar í
Hreidar was wise man Sverrir king went up to (the)-fort in
Björgyn, ok var í höllinni; var honum þar veittr umbúnaðr.
Bjorgvin and was in the-hall was to-him there given arrangement
Þat var þriðjadags myrgin í annarri viku langaföstu, at
That was Tuesday's morning in second week of-Lent that
konungrinn hafði fengit sveita, ok þóttist þá verklauss;
the-king had got sweat and thought-himself then painless
kómu þá til hans margir menn, en optast var fátt hjá
came then to him many men but oftenest was few beside
honum. Ok er flestir menn váru braut gengnir, talaði við
him And when most men were away gone spoke with
hann Pétr svarti; sagði konungr honum draum sinn: Maðr
him Petr (the)-Black told (the)-king to-him dream his Man
kom at mér, sagði hann, hinn sami er mér hefir opt
came at me said he the same who to-me has often
sýnzt fyrr, ok aldri vilt borit fyrir mik; en ek þóttumst
appeared before and never false borne before me but I thought-myself
vita, at ek var sjúkr ok mjök máttfarinn; ek þóttumst
know that I was sick and much strength-gone I thought-myself
spyrja, hvernin sú sótt mundi lúkast; en mér þótti hann
ask how that illness would end but to-me seemed he
þá þegar snúa braut frá mér, ok svaraði á þessa leið: Búst
then at-once turn away from me and answered in this way Prepare
þú við upprisunni einni, Sverrir! sagði hann. Nú sýnist mér
you for the-resurrection only Sverrir said he Now seems to-me

þessi draumr mjök tvíslœgr; en þó væntir mik nú eptir
this dream much two-edged but yet expects me now after
sveita þenna, at aðrahvára skipan taki brátt. Var ok svá, at
sweat this that either change take soon Was also so that
honum tók þá at þyngjast, sem á leið daginn. Eptir um
to-him began then to grow-heavier as on wore the-day After in
myrgininn lét konungr sœkja kennimenn ofan í bœinn, ok
the-morning let (the)-king fetch clerics down in the-town and
var þá búizt til at olia hann; lét hann þá upplesa bréf,
was then prepared to to anoint him let he then up-read letters
þau er hann sendi Hákoni syni sínum um skipan ríkisins,
those which he sent to-Hakon son his about ordering of-the-realm
ok lét þau bréf innsigla. Hann talaði þá ok fyrir öllum
and let those letters seal He spoke then also before all
þeim, er hjá váru, ok sagði svá: At allra yðar vitni þá veit
those who beside were and said so At of-all of-you witness then know
ek mik engan son eiga á lífi nema Hákon einn, þó at
I me no son have on life except Hakon only though that
þeir menn komi síðar upp, er svá kallist, ok vili fyrir því
those men come later up who so call-themselves and will for that
gera úfrið í landi hér. Nú vil ek, áðr en ek sjá oliaðr, láta
make war in land here Now will I before than I be anointed let
mik hefja upp í hásætit, ok vil ek þar annathvárt bíða
me lift up into the-high-seat and will I there either await
bót eða bana; ok mun þetta annan veg fara eða til spyrja
remedy or death and will this other way go than to ask
Nikulás Árnason, en hann mun vænta, ef ek öndumst hér
Nikulas Arni's-son than he will expect if I die here
í hásætinu, ok standa yfir mér vinir einir; en hann hefir
in the-high-seat and stand over me friends only but he has
sagt, at ek munda vera höggvinn niðr fyrir hund ok hrafn.
said that I would be hewn down for dog and raven

En guð sé þess lofaðr, er hann hefir gætt mín í mörgum
But God be for-it praised that he has guarded me in many
þrautum fyrir vápnum úvina minna. Var þá konunginum
trials against weapons of-enemies my Was then to-the-king
veitt olean, eptir þat minkaðist megn hans. Ok er hann
given anointing after that dwindled strength his And when he
fann, at nær dró at andláti hans, þá mælti hann: Við
found that near drew to death his then said he At
dauða minn látit bert andlit mitt ok látit þá sjá bæði vini
death my let bare face my and let then see both friends
ok úvini, hvárt þá birtist þat nökkut á líkama mínum,
and enemies whether then appears it at-all on body my
er úvinir mínir hafa bannat mér eða bölvat; nú mun ek
which enemies my have banned to-me or cursed now will I
þá ekki mega því leyna, ef eigi eru betri efni í, en þeir
then not may that hide if not are better grounds in than they
hafa sagt. Hefi ek meira starf ok úfrið ok vandræði haft í
have said Have I more toil and war and trouble had in
ríkinu en hóglífi. Er svá at minni virðing, sem margir hafi
the-realm than easy-life Is so to my thinking as many have
verit öfundarmenn mínir, þeir er þat hafa látit ganga fyrir
been enviers my those who that have let go for
fullan fjándskap við mik, sem nú fyrirgefi guð þeim öllum;
full enmity against me which now forgive God to-them all
ok dœmi nú dróttinn minn vár í milli ok alt mitt mál.
and judge now lord my us in between and all my case

Andlát Sverris konungs

CCV · THE DEATH OF KING SVERRIR

Sverrir died, and his face was bared as he had asked; none had seen a fairer body. He was short, stout, and strong, broad-faced, eloquent, sober, and enduring.

Sverrir konungr andaðist laugardaginn í sæludögum, ok var
Sverrir king died on-the-Saturday in blessed-days and was
um lík hans búit vegliga, sem ván var. Var svá gert,
about body his prepared worthily as expectation was Was so done
sem konungr hafði beðit, at berat var andlit hans; sá
as (the)-king had asked that bared was face his saw
allir, þeir er hjá váru, ok báru síðan þar allir eitt vitni,
all those who beside were and bore then there all one witness
at engi þœttist sét hafa fegra líkama dauðs manns en
that none thought-himself seen have fairer body of-dead man than
hans; var hann ok, meðan hann lifði, allra manna fegrstr á
his was he also while he lived of-all men fairest in
hörund. Sverrir konungr var maðr lágr á vöxt, þykkr, sterkr
skin Sverrir king was man low in growth thick strong
at afli, breiðleitr ok vel farit andlitinu; optast skapat skegg,
in might broad-faced and well fared in-the-face mostly shaped beard
rauðlituð augu, ok lágu fagrt ok fast. Hann var kyrrlátr
red-hued eyes and lay fair and fast He was quiet-mannered
ok hugaðsamr, manna var hann snjallastr, stórráðr, skýrt
and thoughtful of-men was he most-eloquent great-minded clear
orðtakit, ok rómrinn svá mikill yfir málinu, þó at hann
the-diction and the-voice so great over the-speech though that he
þœtti eigi hátt tala, þá skildu þó allir, þó at fjarri væri;
seemed not loud speak then understood yet all though that far were
hann var sœmiligr höfðingi, þar sem hann sat í hásæti með
he was seemly chieftain there where he sat in high-seat with

vegligum búnaði; hann var hár í setunni, en fótleggrinn
worthy dress he was tall in the-sitting but the-leg
skammr; aldregi drakk hann áfenginn drykk, svá at hann
short never drank he strong drink so that he
spilti viti sínu at heldr. Hann mataðist jafnan einmælt; hann
spoiled wit his at all He ate always once-a-day he
var djarfr ok frækn, eljunarmaðr mikill við vás ok vökur.
was bold and valiant endurance-man great against wet and watches

Um gröpt Sverris konungs

CCVI · KING SVERRIR'S BURIAL

Sverrir was laid in the wall of Christ Church at Björgvin behind a brass tablet of verses, with a pall and his standard, shield, sword, and helmet beside it. He died in 1202 after twenty-five years as king; that year Knútr of Denmark and Birgir jarl also died, and the Swedes took a one-year-old king.

Lík Sverris konungs var borit ofan til Kristskirkju; var sú
Body of-Sverrir king was borne down to Christ's-church was that
líkferð ger með mikilli prýði. Í Kristskirkju utar frá kóri
funeral made with great splendor In Christ's-church outward from choir
ok innar frá suðrdyrunum var opnaðr steinveggrinn, ok lagt
and inward from the-south-door was opened the-stone-wall and laid
þar í lík konungsins, ok var síðan látinn aptr veggrinn, ok
there in body of-the-king and was then let back the-wall and
fest þar í tabula af eiri, ok þar ritat á með gullstöfum vers
fastened there in tablet of brass and there written on with gold-letters verses
nökkur. Þar var fest á utan pell eitt, ok þar hjá merki
some There was fastened on outside pall one and there beside standard
hans, skjöldr ok sverð ok stálhúfa. Sverrir konungr andaðist
his shield and sword and steel-cap Sverrir king died

octava idus martii, anno ab incarnatione domini millesimo
eighth ides of-March year from incarnation of-the-Lord thousandth
ducentesimo secundo, þá hafði hann konungr verit 25 vetr.
two-hundredth second then had he king been 25 winters
Þá váru liðnir 18 vetr frá falli Magnús konungs Erlingssonar.
Then were passed 18 winters from fall of-Magnus king Erling's-son
Á sama ári andaðist Knútr Danakonungr, ok kom þar til ríkis
In same year died Knut Danes'-king and came there to realm
Valdimarr bróðir hans. Þá andaðist ok Birgir jarl brosa, ok
Valdimar brother his Then died also Birgir earl Brosa and
tóku þá Svíar til konungs Jón, son Sörkvis konungs, var
took then (the)-Swedes to king Jon son of-Sorkvir king was
hann þá vetrgamall; höfðu þá Svíar konung bróklausan.
he then one-winter-old had then (the)-Swedes king breechless