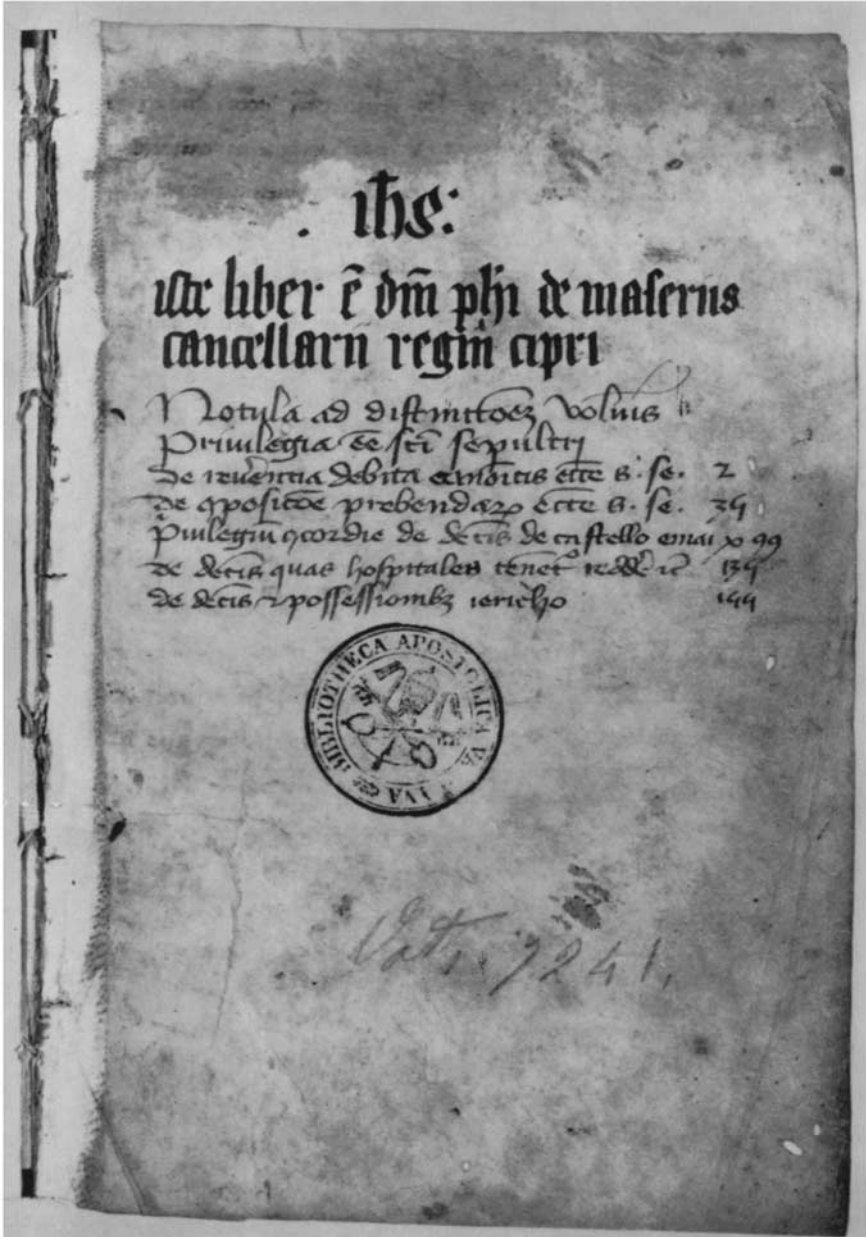


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of Philippe de Mézières, Chancellor of Cyprus  
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*Assize of Jerusalem* (Vatican Library, 7241). *Feuille de garde*, inscribed with the words *Iste liber est domini Philippi de Maseris cancellarii regni Cypri*

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PHILIPPE DE MEZIERES  
CHANCELLOR OF CYPRUS  
  
LE SONGE  
DU VIEIL PELERIN

*Edited by*  
G. W. COOPLAND  
*Emeritus Professor of Medieval History*  
*University of Liverpool*

*Le temps est autre qu'il ne souloit, il fault nager selon le  
vent qui court aujourduy, il faut temporisier, il se faut  
conformer a la plusgrant partie, qui veult conserver et son  
etat et sa vie.* (Songe, fo. 294 v 2)

*Volume I*



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## CONTENTS

### VOLUME I

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Editorial Note</i>	ix
<i>General Introduction</i>	I
PROLOGUE	81
Book I: THE WORLD JOURNEY	115
SYNOPSIS AND COMMENTARY	117
LE PREMIER LIVRE	190
Book II: FRANCE	407
SYNOPSIS AND COMMENTARY	409
LE SECOND LIVRE	442

### VOLUME II

<i>Editorial Note</i>	<i>page</i> vii
Book III: THE KING	I
SYNOPSIS AND COMMENTARY	3
LE TIERS LIVRE	115
<i>Bibliography</i>	515
<i>Index</i>	519

## P R E F A C E

The edition of *Le Songe du Vieil Pelerin* here presented is a transcription of B.N. MS f.fr. 22542, with amendments from Arsenal MS 2682-3 and Vienna MS Bib. Imp. 2551. The two other surviving MSS, B.N. f.fr. 9200-1 and Cleveland Public Library, John G. White Collection, have been used for general comparison only. There are no serious differences between the texts of these five versions and, out of a large number of lesser variants noted, only those which help to make the text clearer or which give a different interpretation have been used. It has been possible, also, to make use of the late Dr A. H. Hamdy's transcriptions of Arsenal MS 2251, *De la Chevalerie de la Passion de Jhesu Crist (1396)*, and of Ashmole MS 813, *La Sustance de la Chevalerie de la Passion de Jhesu Crist en francois*, and of Mazarine MS 1943, *Nova Religio Milicie Passionis*. The B.N. MS f.fr. 5733, containing the famous discourse of Jean Petit in 1407, has been used. The *Oratio Tragedica* of 1389-90 has unfortunately not yet been edited, and Jorga's summary has been consulted.

Full annotation of the *Songe* has not been attempted and I have, in the main, supplied notes only at points which are not covered by previous writers on Philippe de Mézières, notably Jorga in his *Philippe de Mézières et la Croisade au XIV<sup>e</sup> Siècle*.

I have tried in the synopses to give a faithful explanatory outline of the content of the *Songe*, which may be found useful by those who have no taste for the French text. At one point I have gone further. In his Third Book, Philippe de Mézières treats of the duties and responsibilities of the king and, indeed, of all who are in authority. This he does in a long subsidiary allegory based on the sixty-four squares of the chessboard, in which, while the divine right of kings is assumed, it is the divinely imposed duties and responsibilities which are emphasized. His exposition, which may be considered as a separate treatise, complete in itself, gives so illuminating a picture of the man and the age that I have offered an extended and continuous paraphrase.

### *Preface*

Philippe de Mézières is remembered as a propagandist for the Crusade. This was, indeed, his life's work, but he is much more than that. As preliminary and preparation for the Crusade, he believed that the West must reform itself in the light of the Christian view of the good life, and in his arraignment of Pride, Avarice and Luxury, treating as it does of certain constants in human behaviour, we have what may be taken as a tract for all times and may conclude that we have *not* changed all that. Further, the city of Jerusalem is not in fact the final goal: that goal is, indeed, the City of God.

Philip, we are told, was a member of the lesser nobility. In sincerity, loftiness of purpose, courage and tenacity—and, perhaps, in failure—he belongs to the highest rank.

During the years in which this work has been in preparation, I have received help, here gratefully acknowledged, from Professor G. Barraclough, Professor C. R. Cheney, Monsieur J. Colnat, Director of Archives of the Department of the Moselle, Professor D. R. Seabourne Davies, Mr P. Grierson, Professor E. Jacob, Professor B. Lewis, Professor G. W. Ribbans and Professor M. M. Ziada.

I am especially beholden to Miss Ruth Mulhauser of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, who generously placed at my disposal her microfilms of MSS of the *Songe*.

I am also indebted to the Librarians of the London Library, the University of Liverpool, the Vatican Library, the Bibliothèque Nationale and the Cleveland, Ohio, Public Library.

I record my gratitude for important financial assistance towards the publication of this work from the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool. The generous help of the British Academy towards the costs of both preparation and publication is here gratefully acknowledged.

Finally, without the sustained help of Miss Gertrude Winter this work would not have been completed.

G. W. C.

## EDITORIAL NOTE

Insertions into the text are indicated by round brackets ( ); redundancies by angle brackets < >. Punctuation and capitalization have been generally regularized. Hyphens have not been added except in line breaks.

It has not been thought necessary to reproduce the transcription of fos. 14v1 to 30v2 as they contain only the list of rubrics. These rubrics are repeated in the text at the beginning of the chapters.

Variants are indicated as follows:

A = B.N. f.fr. 22542

B = Arsenal 2682-3

C = Vienna 2551