

LA ESTOIRE DE SEINT AEDWARD LE REI.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

I. p. 2. The three kings, 'Aelfredus,' 'Aedgarus,' and 'Athelredus,' seated and crowned. Between them are two winged angels of smaller size standing on pillars, with arms extended to each.

Ci sunt peinz en purtraiture
 Li seint rois dunt la fame dure ;
 Ki rois furent ja teriens,
 K'ore sunt rois celestiens.
 De lur lignage fu estrait
 Æduuard, de ki cist livere est fait.

II. p. 3. In the centre, Sweyn and two others fully armed on horseback. On the left, another soldier in armour dragging peasants bound, into prison; on the right, first, peasants being illtreated and robbed, and next, the queen on horseback with her two children, 'Aeluredus' and 'Aedwardulus,' and an attendant, in flight to Normandy.

Suanus, un Daneis felun,
 D'Engleis fait destrucciun ;
 La gent reint, e maisuns art ;
 De bois e gardins fait assart.
 Ki de la terre Seint Aedmu[n]d
 Sunt, de li grant pleinte funt.

III. p. 4. In two compartments: (left), Emma presents her two children to Richard II., duke of Normandy, who is seated; (right), Sweyn on a couch

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pierced by St. Edmund, a crowned figure hovering over the couch, with a lance.

Aeldred¹ enveit en Normendie,
 Pur paes aver e garantie,
 Sa moiller e ses enfanz ;
 Ke li ducs lur seit guaranz
 Cuntre Knud e ses Daneis :
 E cist les receipt demaneis.

IV. p. 5. In two compartments: (left), the single combat of Edmund Ironside and Cnut on horseback, on the left people looking on from a tower, on the right Edmund and Cnut dismounted and embracing; (right), Edmund seated and pierced with a lance.

Aedmund a Knut ci se cumbat :
 Cnud, ki plus sout sen e barat,
 A [A.]edmund cel conseil dune,
 K'entere eus partent lur curune.
 Par ben permetre le de ceil
 Li duz Aedmund sun conseil creit.

V. p. 6. In two compartments: (left), the landing of Alfred with attendants, who is met and embraced by Godwin; (right), Alfred brought bound before Harold Harefoot, who is seated with a drawn sword and threatens him.

Aufre s'en vent en sun pais :
 Godwin, ki li fu feint amis,
 Semblant li fist de amisté ;
 La nuit l'a pris e ferm lie,
 Au roi le fist presenter,
 E cist li fist les oilz crever.

VI. p. 7. In two compartments: (left), Alfred tied down to a board and his eyes pulled out, Harold Harefoot looking on; (right), armed men on horseback illtreat the peasants and monks.

¹ MS. *Aelfred*.

S. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR.

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Destruite est religiun,
 N'i truvisset si dolurs nun :
 Mut crest li maus per la guerre,
 Mau baillie est Engleterre ;
 Cist reint, cist tue, cist art.
 La reine E[m]me s'en part.

VII. p. 8. Gunnilda's vindication of her chastity. The Emperor is seated on the left ; on the right are bystanders, with the Queen kneeling ; the dwarf is cutting off the giant's legs. Great part of this picture is effaced.

Pur reachater l'onur sa dame,
 E pur restorer sa fame,
 S'en cumbat le neims Mimecan
 Au très grant sesne Rodegan ;
 Les peez li coupe, si en est quite
 La dame de hunte surdite.

VIII. p. 9. In two compartments : (left), the sudden death of Hardicanute at table ; (right), Bishop Britte-wold in prayer before an altar with a crucifix.

Ci murt li reis Hardecnutz,
 Ki fu forcibles reis e pruz.
 Li baratz ore a primes nest,
 Destrucciun e guerre crest,
 Ne laist li forz k'il nocie
 Le feble, el mal ki multiplie.

IX. p. 10. In two compartments : (left), Bishop Britte-wold asleep ; (right), his vision ; on the left St. Peter crowns the young Edward, who kneels, and on the right St. Peter is talking to Bishop Britte-wold, still asleep.

Li evesques de Wincestre
 Ki tant vit maus e surdre e crestre,
 Endormiz est, e veit Seint Pere
 E Seint Aedward ki lez li ere ;

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A l'eveske li veillardz
 Promet, ke rois serra Aedwardz.

X. p. 11. In two compartments : (left), the bishop in his chair reveals the vision to three persons ; (right), Edward praying before an altar.

Aedward languist sanz cunfort :
 Las, dist-il, kar fusse mort
 Sul remain de mun lignage,
 K'ocis sunt per gent savage :
 Sire Seint Pere, a vus me rent ;
 A moi tun pelerin atent.

XI. p. 12. In two compartments : (left), a messenger brings to Edward the news that he is elected king : Edward is seated, while a monk reads the document ; (right), Edward sails to England.

Un messenger le recumforte :
 De Hardecnut nuvele porte
 Ke morz est li tiranz crueus ;
 Delivere ad la terre Deus
 Des sanglanz Daneis bastarz :
 Esluz est a rei Aedwardz.

XII. p. 13. In two compartments : (left), Edward landing is received by the English barons ; (right), his coronation ; the King is seated crowned, the archbishop anointing him.

Ci venent baruns Englais
 Ki pernent Aedward de maneis ;
 Dient li, Venez vus ent,
 Ke la curune vus attent
 D'Engleterre ; ven t'en, Aedward,
 Ke venuz n'es nus semble tard.

XIII. p. 14. Legend of the treasure. On the left a fiend is seen sitting upon the gold, the King looking on : on the right the gold is given away to the poor ; this part of the picture is entirely destroyed.

Sun tressor ki fu pleners
 Veit li reis, or e deners.
 Li enemis seit desus ;
 Co vit li reis, mes autre nuls.
 As poveres rent cele coillette,
 Tuz jurs clamant quite la dette.

XIV. p. 15. The thief in the treasury. The King, lying on a couch, warns the thief who is carrying off money from the chest.

Malegard se pur ofre,
 Uvert fu ublie un cofre
 Of deners ; un garz coveit,
 E de deners bein s'aparceit ;
 Vai, si enprent grant part
 Deus feez ; Fui t'en, dist reis Aedward.

XV. p. 16. In two compartments : (left), the King seated ; nobles on either side exhorting him to marry ; (right), the King prays before an altar, on which is a Cross and a chalice.

A Lundres s'asemblent grant gent,
 Cuncil tenent e parlement ;
 Dient au rei, Nostre vuler
 Est, sire, ke preinnez moiller,
 Ke eium eir certain e chef ;
 De respundre prent cist jur bref.

XVI. p. 17. The nobles continue their request, one kneeling ; the King is sitting, a monk watching behind.

Edith, ki fille Godwin
 De grant sen fu e bon engin,
 K'endocrinée est en lettrure,
 E aprisé de purtraiture,
 En uveraine riche e noble,
 N'out per gesk'en Constantinoble.

XVII. p. 18. In two compartments ; (left), Edith is brought to the King, who is sitting, and kneels ; he

raises her ; (right), the Queen, standing, is crowned by a bishop ; a baron kneels, and presents the sceptre.

Edith, la bele e aceminée
 Fille Godwin, est curunée ;
 E la espuse li rois Aedward
 Par commun cunseil e esguard ;
 Li cuples fu mut glorius,
 La espuse est bone e bon li espus.

XVIII. p. 19. In two compartments : (left), a priest is saying mass before an altar, on which is a chalice ; the Host is held up, and all standing stretch out their hands to it ; the King, who is kneeling, is seen with outstretched arms, and smiling : (right), the Danish King falls into the sea from a small boat ; the larger one, with arms and men, alongside.

Un jur de Pentecust avint,
 Li reis k'a Westmuster curt tint,
 Curunez, u la messe out ;
 Sa pensée en sun quor clot ;
 Le rei Daneis ki lui grever
 Pense, veit en mer noier.

XIX. p. 20. In two compartments : (left), the Danish King is drowning in the sea ; the vessel, full of armed men, is moving off ; (right), Edward tells the vision to several persons.

Li rois chet suvin en l'unde
 De la mer grosse e parfunde,
 Cum vout munter du bat en bord
 De la nef, si voirs record ;
 Quant unt perdu luur roi, tut l'ost
 Descumfist s'en partent mut tost.

XX. p. 21. The King, in the midst of the barons, states his vow of pilgrimage ; one of them is standing up and expostulating ; a figure on the right, apparently the Queen, is destroyed.

Li rois ad mandé la commune
 Tute ki apent a sa curune ;
 Tut sun purpos de mot a mot
 De sun vuu a sa gent desclot ;
 Cungé prent de sun véage
 Faire. Nel vout le barunage.

XXI. p. 22. The two bishops, who are to be sent as ambassadors to Rome on the question of pilgrimage, are brought before the King ; the barons are standing round, one speaking.

Eveskes dui sunt eschoisi,
 Par queus ben serra parfurni
 Cist grant messages real ;
 Ke andui sunt sage e leal,
 Si aquiterunt du pelerinage
 Le rei, dunt deut en sun curage.

XXII. p. 23. Departure of the bishops for Rome. They are in the stern of a large vessel, while the boat that brought them to it is being rowed back to land. The Cross is seen in the sail.

Lores s'en vunt li messenger,
 Li rois fait mut pur eus prier,
 K'acumpli seit lur desir
 Cum a Deu vent a pleisir ;
 Pru lur trueve or e argent ;
 E cist s'en vunt hastivement.

XXIII. p. 24. The Pope in the centre, sitting under a canopy ; on the left, the two bishops present their request ; on the right, scribes write the decree ; and beyond the decree, with the bulla attached to it, is presented to the two bishops.

Li messagers venent a Rumme,
 Mustrent de lur purpos la summe ;
 Un cuncil i trovent plener,
 Ki se peine de eus avancer.
 Li privilege est purchacé,
 E du cuncil est cunfermé.

XXIV. p. 25. Departure of the bishops from Rome ; they ride in the centre with attendants before and behind, all mounted. Under one of the horses a dog runs.

Li messenger joius repairent,
 Lur voie acoillent, e tost aient
 A grant grace e benoicun,
 Ki seint humme fū Pape Leun,
 Ki la fait noter en registre,
 Cum devisèrent cist legistre.

XXV. p. 26. In two compartments: (left), the appearance of St. Peter to a hermit, relative to the Pope's answer: destroyed; (right), the hermit writes the vision, and gives it to a messenger.

Seint Pere apert a un hermite,
 Cum dist l'estoire k'est escrite,
 En bois menant de Wirecestre ;
 E dist : Joius puet li reis estre,
 Kar a pleisir le fiz Marie,
 Tute est sa busoin acumplie.

XXVI. p. 27. The King receives the hermit's message, barons looking on.

Cist mande au rei l'avisiun,
 Ke ne puet estre si veirs nun ;
 La manère e le tens numme
 Du privilege escrit a Rumme :
 Li rois la verité ben prove,
 Kar le escrite acordant truve.

XXVII. p. 28. Two compartments: (left), the bishops bring the Papal decree with the bulla, and present it to the King; (right), The King walking and attended, is accosted by a diseased man.

Des messagers quant est seue,
 Li rois est lez de la venue,
 Ki lur message unt parfurni,
 Tant est plus seur e esbaudi.

Pur Deu ki fist solail e lune,
 As poveres de sun tresor dune,
 A Deu e Seint Pere rendre
 L'aver k'il vers Rumme despandre
 Ad em purpos, e en muster
 K'a Seint Pere vout estorer.

XXVIII. p. 29. The miracle of the cripple, On the left, the king carries him on his shoulders to the altar, where he is received by Godris; on the right, the cripple kneels before the altar, on which is a jewelled Cross, or monstrance, while the monks sing *Te Deum Laudamus*.

Li reis mut s'en humilie;
 Le cuntrait porte, ki l'en prie
 De pecchez ad li reis pardun;
 Li cuntraiz du cors garaisun;
 Chescuns de eus saluz receipt;
 Plenèrement Deu lur enveit.

XXIX. p. 30. Saint Peter steps into the fisherman's boat; the church of Westminster on the right. Considerably injured.

Grant tens avant estoit fundie
 Une iglise k'out nun Thornée,
 Ke funda li rois Sebert,
¹ Ki fu neis rei Aethelbert:
 A Sein[t] Pol fist l'un là iglise,
 L'autre a Seint Pere sur Tamise.

XXX. p. 31. Two compartments: (left, which is destroyed,) apparently Saint Peter landing from the fisherman's boat; (right,) the consecration of the church, angels assisting.

² Dus hom, s'escrie, e ne se alasse
 De la Tamise, ke em le passe;

¹ Line 4 is written in the MS. after line 6; but the original scribe has pointed out the mistake by affixing | *a* to line 4, and *b* to line 5.
² The first six lines refer to the previous illustration.

Mut prie, e dit ke aura
 Luer, ki utre le merra ;
 Un peschurs ki co out e veit,
 Vai, en sun bat le receipt.

Li peschurs of Seint Pere arive,
 Ki atent, e set a la rive ;
 Seint Pere, du ceil claver,
 Va sa iglise dedier,
 Des angeles mut grant partie
 Li funt servise e grant aie.

Li angele chantent au servise,
 La nuit quant dedient l'iglise :
 Tant ja du ciel luur,
 Ke vis est au peschur,
 Ke li solailz e la lune
 Lur clarté tute¹ i preste e dune.

XXXI. p. 32. In two compartments, separated by the church, on the tower of which is written *Lamehée*, and from which a flag hangs. (Left), the fisherman and Saint Peter in the boat, the net drawn up full of fishes ; (right), the fisherman presents a salmon to Bishop Mellitus, who is on horseback, attended, and expresses his admiration.

Quant Seint Pere ad fait avoire,
 Au bat sun pescur repoire,
 E mut ducement l'enseigne,
 Cum il a des pessun preigne ;
 D'un saumun au peschur dit,
 De part li, ki porte a Mellit.
 Matin, quant parut le jur,
 Mellit encuntre li peschur,
 Ki fu remembrez e sage,
 E ben parfurni sun message
 De sun saumun gentement,
 E puis del dediement.

¹ MS. *tute tute*, but the second *tute* is expuncted.