FURTHER PROBLEMS IN THE INTEGRATION OF ANGLO-FRENCH LOANWORDS

Abstract

The present study in a way continues an earlier article by the present writer entitled “Problems in the integration of Anglo-French loanwords” (Diensberg 2011: 109–145). That article dealt with the phonological reception of Old French loanwords. It focussed on the structures vowel plus -ff, -fl, -ft, which are mostly due to borrowing from French (including Latin and Greek) and, occasionally, from other Germanic languages or dialects. Their position and ultimately their integration in the Middle English phonological system will be examined. The structures vowel plus -ff, -fl, -ft may be at most peripheral within native word stock (see Muthmann 2002: 64b; 107c–108c; 264c–265b). Here, loanwords of the structure -er + C- > -ar + C- are discussed.

1. Late Old French/Middle English lowering of -er + C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables)

The change under examination occurs in late Middle English in Anglo-French (AF) loanwords of the structure -er + C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables) during the 14th/15th centuries (Berndt 1960: 70). It may well have had its origin in the French source language (Pope 1934/66: §§ 496, 1123, 1147).

As the examples listed below will demonstrate, there is an alternation between changed forms showing -ar + C- on the one hand, and -er + C- on the other hand, the unchanged vocalism being mainly due to Latin influence.

clerk n. (a1200?, BDE) EME clerc ‘member of the clergy/clergyman’, also cleerc (c1230), adapted from AF clerç, clerck, cler, clerke, cleerk, cler, clerq, clerke, klerk, pl. cler, cleris, clerqs ‘cleric’, ‘scholar; learned man, clerk,
scribe, cashier’ (AND^2: cleric), from church Latin cléricus, derived from clērus ‘clergy’, ultimately of Greek origin; see the latinism CLERIC n.; see also related CLERGY n.; cf. ModF cleric ‘cleric, clergyman’ (DHEF: 159a, 10th c.). The change is still preserved in the spelling of the surname Clark, Clarke (Reaney 75a) and in the American pronunciation of the word. (BDE: 178b; KDEE: 239a; ODEE: 181b)

clergy n. (a1300, BDE) ME clergie ‘a group of persons ordained for religious work’; earlier ‘learning, branch of learning’ (c1200?), adapted from AF clergie, clergé, clergy, cleregie, klergie (pl.) ‘clergy; fact of being in religious orders; (law) (benefit of) clergy, ability to read, learning, scholarship, Latin, science’ (AND^2: clerge). The etymon *clericātus (< eccl. Latin clēricus, 3rd c., from clērus ‘clergy’) would have regularly yielded OF clergié and clergé (AF -é for OF -iè); clerie (showing the ending -ie) is an analogical form. All these 3 variants are not always kept distinct (in writing) in Old French texts. Cf. ModF clergé ‘clergy’ (DHEF: 159a, s.v. cleric, 1160, from *clericatus, from eccl. Latin clericus, 3rd c., from clērus ‘clergy’); see also related CLERK n. and the latinism CLERIC n.; (BDE: 178b; KDEE: 238b; ODEE: 181a)

NB: of the two meanings of AF/OF clergie and ultimately ME clergie only clergy ‘a group of persons ordained for religious work’ survived to the present day (cf. BDE: 178b, s.v. clergy).

garner n. (a1200?, BDE) ME garner for earlier gerner (c1230); adapted from AF garner, gernier, garnir, garner, garnere, garner, graner, grenier, guernir, etc. building for storage of grain, granary; (fig.) granary, storehouse; (in a ship) compartment of a hold (for grain, and other things); (for grain) container, basket, case (AND^2: gerner1); from L grānārium ‘granary, storehouse for grain’, from grānum, ‘grain’; see related GRAIN n. and GRANARY n. (1570); cf. ModF grenier (DHEF: 352b, 12th c.), (BDE: 422b; KDEE: 558b; ODEE: 390b)

grain n. (c1300, BDE) ME greyn small hard particle, earlier in the surname Graindorg (c1202), seed of plants, etc. (c1325), seeds as fruit of cereal plant (a1333), adapted from AF grain, graine, grayn, grayne, grein, greine, greyne, gren, grene ‘(bot.) grain, seed of (cereal) plant; (fig.) seed; corn, grain; pip (of fruit); berry; individual fruit in a bunch; bead, pearl; (of sand, gold, pepper etc.) grain, small roundish particle, etc.’ (AND^2: grain1), from L grānum ‘grain, seed’. Cf. ModF grain (DHEF: 349a, 1160). See related GARNER v./n. and the latinism GRANARY n. (1570). (BDE: 445a; KDEE: 587b, s.v. grain1; ODEE: 408b, s.v. grain1)

NB: for the origin and the record of OF grain see DEAF G: 1157–59/66 & of OF graine, see DEAF G: 1166–68;
**granary n.** (1570, BDE) EModE granary, adapted from L grānāria plural form of grānārium, ultimately derived from L grānum GRAIN n. (q.v.). Cf. ModF grenier ‘granary’ (DHEF: 352b, 12th c.). (BDE: 445b; KDEE: 588b; ODEE: 409b)

**harbour/harbor** (US) n. (c1125, BDE) EME herbyrge ‘refuge’, also herbearhe ‘lodgings’ (a1200?/c1230), also herberwe ‘harbour’ (a1200?), from OE here-beorg, literally ‘shelter for the host/army’; harbor (1311) and harber (c1375) due to the change er +C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables); influenced by AF *herbour/harbour* (so far unattested); loss of ME -(e)we, -(o)we goes unaccounted for so far; cf. MDutch herberghe. Cf. ModG Herberge (9th c.; Kluge24) and be-herbergen ‘to accommodate, lodge’, from Old High German heribergon, 8th c.; Kluge24). Cf. ModF héberge and héberger (DHEF: 366b, herberge, 1050, from Frankish *heriberga*); for the origin see under HARBOUR/HARBOR v.; (BDE: 465a; KDEE: 621a; ODEE: 427b)

**REFERENCES:** Zettersten 1965: 76, s.v. herbearhe ‘lodgings’;Nota: see AF herberge, herbage; heberge (herberch) ‘lodging, inn; building, edifice; (mil.) camp, encampment; tent; lodging, shelter’ (AND2: herberge) [FEW: 16,160a *haribergôn; Gdf: 4,453a herberge; GdfC: Ø; TL: 4,1057 herberge; DEAF: H371 herbergier (herberge); DMF: heberge; TLF: Ø; OED: Ø; MED: Ø; DMLBS:Ø]

**harbour/harbor** (US) v. (c1125, BDE) EME herbyregen ‘to shelter’, also herbearhin ‘to lodge’ (AR, MS Corpus, a1200?/c1230), also herborwen (a1200), either reflecting OE herebeorgian or derived (E)ME from the noun herbyrge ‘refuge’, later herberwe/herborwe ‘harbor, shelter’; cf. ModG Herberge (9th c., Kluge24) and be-herbergen ‘to accommodate, lodge’ Old High German heribergon, 8th c.; Kluge24). See OF herbergier ‘to lodge, shelter’ (DEAF H 2, 1998: 361–371) and herbege ‘lodge, shelter’ (DEAF H 2, 1998: 371–374). Cf. ModF héberger ‘to shelter’ (DHEF: 366b, héberge, attested 1050) and ModF aulberge (DHEF: 51a aulberge 15th c., influenced by Provençal auberje/Italian albergo – DEI: 109a – from the same root). (BDE: 465a; KDEE: 621a; ODEE: 427b)

Nota: see AF herberger, herbergeir, herbergier, herberjer, herbager, herbeger, herbegier, herbejer, herberchier, herberger, herbergere, herbiger, erberger, heberger, etc. ‘to lodge, shelter; (mil.) to encamp; (of prisoners) to incarcerate; (horses) to stable; to store; to contain, hold; (of town, land) to populate, occupy; to build; to build upon; to stay, lodge (in, at); (mil.) to encamp; to dwell, reside; (fig.) to take up quarters, lodge’ (AND2: herberger²). [FEW:16,159b *haribergôn; Gdf: 4,455a herbergier 1; GdfC: Ø; TL: 4,1063 herbergier; DEAF: H361 herbergier; DMF: heberger; TLF:
héberger; OED: harbinge v.; MED: herbergen v.; DMLBS: 1147b herbergare]

**habinger** *n.* forerunner (c1471, BDE) ME *herbengar*, alteration of earlier *herberger* ‘provider of shelter’ (a1200?), later *herbergour* ‘a purveyor’ (1384–85), adapted from AF *herberger* ‘one who offers lodging, innkeeper’ (AND²: *herberger*¹), derived from AF *herberger, herbergeur, herbergier, herberjer, herbager, herbeger, herbegier, herbejer, herberchier*, etc. ‘to lodge, shelter; (mil.) to encamp; etc.’, of Germanic origin. Cf. ModF *héberger* ‘to give shelter, lodge’ (DHEF: 366b, s.v. *héberge*, 1050); see also related HABOUR/HARBOR *n.* for the origin. (BDE: 465a; KDEE: 886a; ODEE: 572a)

Nota 1: for the change *er* +C- > -ar +C- (in checked syllables) see under HABOUR/ HARBOR *n.*;

Nota 2: the intrusive *n* as in *messenger, ostringer, passenger, scavenger, wharfinger* remains unaccounted for; cf. ME *regibben* (and the simplex JIB *v.*) as compared to ModF *regimber*; cf. REJIB/REGIBBE *v.* (obs.); BRIBE *v./n.*; JUGGLE *v.*;

Nota 3: regarding ModE *habinger* *n.* see Diensberg 2012: 9

**harlot** *n.* (male) beggar (a1200?, BDE), later ‘prostitute’ (a1425?) EME *hearlot* ‘beggar, vagabond’ (*Ancrene Wisse*, MS Corpus), *herlot* (*Ancrene Riwle*, MS Nero, a1250), also *harlot* (AR, MS Vernon, c1390), adapted from AF *harlot, harlote, harlotte, harlet, herlot, arlot* pl. *harloz* ‘beggar, vagabond’ (AND²: *harlot*) [FEW: 16,753a *hara 1*; Gdf:1,399c arlot; GdfC: ∅; TL: 4,1088 herlot; DEAF: H 412 herlot (herlot); DMF: herlot; TLF: ∅; OED: harlot *n.*; MED: harlot *n.* ; DMLBS: 1135c harlotus]

Nota: See also DEAF H: 410–12, s.v. herlot. The word is obviously related to *harlequin* (see BDE: 466a; cf. DEAF H: 410); a Germanic root *herl-a* ‘a follower of King Herla’ (see HARLEQUIN *n.*) + OF -ot (*<L -ottus*), a suffix denoting a person (DEAF H 3, 1999: 412); see also HARLOTRY *n.*;

(BDE: 466a; KDEE: 624a; ODEE: 428a);

REFERENCES: Zettersten 1969: 241, s.v. hearlot; DHEF 41b, s.v. arlequin (*Hellequin*, 1160; *Harlequin*, 1324). See also MedL *arlotus* (DuCange) and synonymous RIBALD *n.*;

**harlotry** *n.* ‘beggary’ (a1376, KDE) ME *harlotrie*, derived from ME *harlot* + -ERY (BDE: 341a), from OF -erie (Meyer-Lübke/Piel, §§ 9, 74, 91*, 94, 103, 126; OF *harlotrie* is not found; see also HARLOT *n.*; see AF *harloter harloter* v.a. to turn into a vagabond, beggar (?) (AND²: *harloter*) (cf. BDE: 466a, s.v. harlot; KDEE: 624a; ODEE: 428a)

Nota: [FEW:*16,753a *hara; Gdf: ∅; GdfC: ∅; TL: ∅; DEAF: H414 herlot (harloter); DMF: ∅; TLF: ∅; OED: harlot v.; MED: ∅; DMLBS:1135c harlotus]
market n. (a1121, BDE) (LOE, OED3: market n.) LOE market(e), also
market (1125), from LL marcātus, variant of mercātus ‘handel,markt’; from
the Latin verb mercārī ‘handel treiben’. Cf. Late Old English gēarmarkett:
anual market (OED3: market n.). Cf. related Old French marchiēt ‘Markt’
from Latin mercātum (T/L V: 1134). From the same root is AF marché,
marchee, marchet, marchié, marched, marchiēt; merché, merchee, merchet,
merchién ‘market; right to hold a market(?); market place, square; trading;
transaction; value, market price; goods, merchandise (AND2: marché1), not
on Central French mart- (cf. Old French marchiet). Furthermore, most Old
French forms show the change of -er + C to -ar + C, e.g. marché, marchié,
market as compared to merché, merché, merchet (FEW, 6: 1b, s.v. mercātus
‘handel,markt’); (OED, s.v. market sb., mentions Late Old English
gēarmarkett: the second element of the compound may be an early loan
from Anglo-Norman?); see also MART n.; MERCHANT n. & MER-
CHANDISE n.; (BDE: 634b; KDEE: 863a; ODEE: 556b)
Nota: ModF /mart-/ march-, as compared to ModE /mark-/ as in market.;
see ModG Markt market (8thc., Kluge24 : 602b–603a).
REFERENCE: see Diensberg 2002: 102–103 for an earlier etymological
discussion.

merchant n. (c1200?, BDE) (c1225, OED3: merchant n. and adj.) EME
marchaunt, also marchaund (KDEE), later in the surname Merchaut
(1332), adapted from AF marchant, maarchaund, marcande, marchaant,
mandchand, marchande, marchante, marchaund, marchaunde, marchaunt,
marchaunte, marchauntz, marcheant, marcheaut, marchent, marchun,
markand, markande, markant, mercant, merchant, merchandise, merchant,
etc. ‘merchant, trader; (fig.) purchaser, redeemer; adj.: mercantile, (of a)
merchant; businesslike, astute’ (AND2: marchant), from VL *mercātanten
obl.sing. of *mercātāns pres.ppl. of *mercātārī for CL mercārī ‘to trade’;
related to MARKET n. (q.v.); cf. ModF marchand (DHEF: 455a,
marchedand, 980, marchaunt 1050, marcheaut 1150). = (BDE: 652b; KDEE:
883a; ODEE: 570a)

merchandise n. (a1250, BDE) (a1300, OED3: merchandise n.) ME
marchaundise ‘act of trading, wares, later merchandise’ (a1387?), adapted
from AF merchandise, marcaandise, marcandise, merchandice, merchandies,
mandchandiez, etc. ‘trade, buying and selling; bargain, deal; (fig.) bargain,
deal; merchandise, goods; etc.’ (AND2: merchandize), ultimately from the
noun merchand, merchaund; + -ise/-ize; for the origin see MERCHANT n.;
cf. ModF merchandize (DHEF: 455a, s.v. marchand, 1130). (BDE: 652b;
KDEE: 883a; ODEE: 570a)
**pardon** n. (a1300?, BDE) (c1300, OED³: pardon n. & int.) ME pardoun ‘forgiveness, (papal) indulgence, pardon (c1300), adapted from AF pardun, pardon, pardoun, perdone, dispensation; (eccl.) penitential procession at which indulgences were granted’ (AND¹: pardun), derived from VL *perdonum < *perdonāre to give wholeheartedly (< per- ‘thoroughly’ + donāre). Cf. ModF pardon (DHEF: 547a, s.v. pardonner, 1130). (BDE: 757a, s.v. pardon v.); KDEE: 1031b; ODEE: 651b)

Nota: The variants pardun, pardon, pardoun show the change er- > ar- in the source language, co-occurring with Old French/Anglo-French perdone, which has preserved the original vocalism.

**pardon** v. (1433, BDE) (1433, OED³: pardon v.) ME pardonen to forgive, adapted from AF parduner, pardoner, pardonner, pardoner, perdoner ‘to pardon; to remit; (law) to waive; to excuse, relieve of; to give up, renounce; to forgo; to dismiss, send away; to grant; etc.’ (AND¹: parduner), from VL *perdonum < *perdonāre to give wholeheartedly (< per-‘thoroughly’ + donāre); as to Anglo-French & Middle English er + C- > -ar + C- in checked syllables; 14th/15th centuries. (Pope 1934/66: §§ 496, 1123, 1147; Berndt 1960: 70) (see under PARSON n.); cf. ModF pardon (DHEF: 547a, s.v. pardonner, 1130). (BDE: 757a; KDEE: 1031b; ODEE: 651b)

Nota: The variants parduner, pardoner, pardonner show the change er- > ar- in the source language, co-occurring with Old French/Anglo-French perdone, which has preserved the original vocalism.

**parlous** adj. (arch.) ‘risky’ (c1400, BDE) (c1390, OED³: parlous adj. and adv.) ME parloews, also perlous (1401), a variant of perilous adj. (q.v.); cf. ModF périlleux dangerous (DHEF: 567a, s.v. péril, 12thc., perillos, from L periculoösus dangerous, derived from periculum ‘trial, test’). – the word shows the change er + C- > -ar + C- in checked syllables; cf. FARMER n., VARMINT n., etc.; (BDE: 758b; KDEE: 1033a; ODEE: 652b)

**perilous** adj. (c1300, BDE) (c1300, OED³: perilous adj. and adv.) ME perilous ‘dangerous, risky’, later ‘perilous’ (a1325), adapted from AF perillus, pereillus, perilus, perilous, perillus, perillous, perilous, perilous‘dangerous; risky, hazardous’ (AND¹: perillus), derived from PERIL n. (c1225?, OED³: peril n.); cognate with PARLOUS adj.; cf. ModF perilleux ‘dangerous’ (DHEF: 567a, s.v. péril, perillos 12thc.)

(BDE: 777b, s.v. peril n.; KDEE: 1051b, s.v. peril n.; ODEE: 668b, s.v. peril n.)

**peril** n. (c1300, BDE) (c1225?, OED³: peril n.) ME peril ‘danger, risk’, adapted from AF perill, perel, pereil, perill, perile, perille, perelle, perrelle, perril, etc. ‘danger, peril; harm, hurt; risk’ (AND¹: peril¹), from L periculum
trial, danger. Cf. ModF *péril* danger (DHEF:567a, 980 trial, test). (BDE: 777b; KDEE: 1051b; ODEE: 668b)

**parson** *n.* ‘clergyman, minister’ (c1250, BDE) (c1275, OED3: parson *n.*) ME *persone*, also *persoun*, adapted from AF *persone*, *persone*, *parson*, *parsoun*, *person*, *persoun* ‘person; persona; person of consequence; personage; man; (eccl.) person; body; religious; parson’ (AND1: *persone*), from L *persōna*; PERSON *n.* (q.v.). (BDE: 759a; KDEE: 1054b; ODEE: 671a)

Nota: the Anglo-French & Middle English alternation *er* + C- ∼ *-ar* + C- in the word family under scrutiny has survived to the present, though semantically differentiated.

**person** *n.* ‘character, role (obs.); individual’ (a1200?, BDE) (c1225?, OED3: person *n.*) EME *persone*, adapted from AF *persone*, *persone*, *parson*, *parsoun*, *person*, *persoun* ‘person; (gram.) person; (law) persona; person of consequence, personage; man; (eccl.) person; body; religious; parson’ (AND1: *persone*), from L *persōna* (Latin influence); see cognate PARSON *n.*; (BDE: 759a; KDEE: 1054b; ODEE: 671a)

Nota: the Anglo-French & Middle English alternation *er* + C- ∼ *-ar* + C- in the word family under scrutiny has survived to the present, though semantically differentiated.

**persona** *n.* (in Jungian psychology) a person’s outward or social personality, etc.; (1917, BDE); OED3 1. An assumed character or role, esp. one adopted by an author in his or her writing, or by a performer. Also: a dramatic or literary character (obs.). 1732 R. Bentley Pref. Paradise Lost sig. A3, If any one fancy this Persona of an Editor to be a mere Fantom, a Fiction, an Artifice to skreen Milton himself. (1732, OED3: persona *n.*), borrowed from L *persōna* PERSON (q.v.); (BDE: 780b; KDEE: 1054b; ODEE: 671a, s.v. person)

**partridge** *n.* (a1300?, BDE) (c1300, OED3: partridge *n.*) ME *pertris*, earlier in a surname *Pertris* (1176), *parrich* (c1300), adapted from AF *perdriz*, *perdrice*, *perdris*, *pardis*, *perdicz*, *perdis*, *perdix*, *pardriz*, *partriz*, *pertriz*, *partreiz* (orn.) partridge (AND1: *perdriz*), from L *perdīcem* obl.sing. of *perdīx*, ultimately from Greek *pērdīx*; OF/AF *perdis* became *pertris*, *perdris* under the influence of *-tris*, *-triz* feminine ending (< L *-trīcem* < *-trīx*); cf. ModF *perdrix* (DHEF: 565b, *perdriz* 1170). (BDE: 760b; KDEE: 1035a; ODEE: 655a)

**perfect** *adj.* (c1300, BDE) (c1300, OED3: perfect *adj.*, *n.* and *adv.*) ME *parfijt* ‘fully formed’, earlier as a surname *Parfét* (1196), also *parfit* (a1325), *perfet* (c1380), *perfect* (a1425?), the last form modelled on L *perfectus*, adapted
from AF parfit, perfit perfect (AND: 495a), from L perfectus p.ppl. of perficere ‘to accomplish, complete’; cf. ModF parfait (DHEF: 548a, s.v. parfaire, OF perfit 1050); see MF/late ME er + C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables; 14th/15th cies. (see under PARSON n.). Cf. parlous adj. (arch.) ‘risky’ (BDE: 776b; KDEE: 1050b; ODEE: 667b)

quarrel n. angry dispute, strife (1340, BDE) (1340, OED3: quarrel n.3) ME querele, adapted from AF querele, querelle, quereil ‘dispute, controversy; complaint, lament; (law) complaint, legal action, etc.’ (AND1: querele), from L querella, variant of querēla ‘complaining’, derived from querī ‘to complain’. Cf. ModF quërelle ‘dispute’ (DHEF: 637b, 1155). The modern English tonic vowel is due to the change of -er + C to -ar + C in checked syllables. (BDE: 872b, s.v. quarrel1; KDEE: 1137b, s.v. quarrel1; ODEE: 729b, s.v. quarrel2)

quarrel v. ‘argue’ (a1393, BDE) (c1391, OED3: quarrel v.) ME quereilen ‘to dispute’, adapted from AF quereiler, queroler ‘(law) to bring a plaint’ (AND1: quereiler), from LL querellare, derived from LL querella ‘complaining’, influenced by QUARREL n.; cf. ModF quëreller ‘to complain’ (DHEF: 637b, s.v. quërelle, 1175). (BDE: 872b, s.v. quarrel1; KDEE: 1137b, s.v. quarrel1; ODEE: 729b, s.v. quarrel2)

sergeant n. a rank of non-commissioned officer (a1200?, BDE) EME sergante ‘servant’, later ‘city officer’ (c1250), ‘common soldier’ (c1300), from OF sergent, serjent, cf. MedL (?) servientem, obl.pres.ppl. of servīre ‘to serve’; AF sergent, sergaunt, serjaunt, serjaunt, serjaunt; etc. ‘servant; workman; foot-soldier; soldier, man-at-arms; fellow; serjeant, baillif, officer of the peace of town; etc.’ (AND1: sergant). See MF/late ME er + C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables; 14th/15th centuries; Pope 1934/66: §§ 496, 1123, 1147; Berndt 1960: 70); cf. ModF sergent (DHEF: 705a, 1050); see also related SERVANT n. and SERVE v.; (BDE: 986b; KDEE: 1252a; ODEE: 811b, s.v. sergeant/serjeant)

sermon n. ‘homily, sermon’ (a1200?, BDE) EME sarmun (AW, MS Corpus, c1230), also sarmun (c1200) and sermon (a1325), adapted from AF sermūn, sermon, sermoun, sarmon, sarmoun, sarmonem ‘sermon, homily; exhortation; discourse, speech; etc.’ (AND1: sermon), from L sērmōnēm obl.sing. of sermōn; only ME sermon and sarmun may be learned borrowings directly from L sērmōnēm; while sarmun exhibits the change er + C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables). (BDE: 987a; KDEE: 1253a; ODEE: 812a)
varmint n. (dial./AmE) (1539, BDE) EModE varment ‘noxious animals’, later varmint (1829), doublet of ME vermyne, adapted from AF vermine, vermin‘worms, maggots; vermin, harmful creatures’ (AND¹: vermine), which shows the change er +C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables; see VERMIN n.; the excrescent -t remains unexplained. (BDE: 1194b; KDEE: 1517b; ODEE: 970b)
REFERENCE: Diensberg 2008: 45.

varsity n. university (1846, BDE) derived from earlier versity (c1680), clipped form of UNIVERSITY n. (c1300, BDE); see MF/late ME er + C- > -ar + C- (in checked syllables; 14th/15th centuries; Pope 1934/66: §§ 496, 1123, 1147; Berndt 1960: 70); see also VERSITY n. and UNIVERSITY n.; (BDE: 1194b; KDEE: 1517b; ODEE: 970b)

university n. university (c1300, BDE) ME universite ‘institution of higher learning’, adapted from AF université, univercyte’, universeté, universitee ‘corporation, community; university’(AND¹: université), from MedL üniversitàtem obl.sing. of üniversitās, derived from L üniversus ‘whole, entire’; see UNIVERSE n.; (BDE: 1186b; KDEE: 1517b; ODEE: 970b)

2. Conclusions

The changes in the Anglo-French loanwords examined above aptly show the impact of the French donor language on a smaller, but certainly not negligible, area of Late Middle English phonology and morphology. The verbal ending -ish, though no longer productive, still occurs in a clearly remarkable verbal group (see also the Appendix below). The issues discussed above illustrate the consequences of language contact between the various Middle English dialects on the one hand, and Anglo-French spoken not only by the ruling classes after 1066, but, apart from Latin, widely used as language of record right into the 15th century as Professor William Rothwell has convincingly illustrated in a whole series of articles (cf., e.g. Rothwell 1994). An impressive volume entitled Borrowed words. A history of loanwords in English. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014, by Dr Philip Durkin, Deputy Chief Editor with the ongoing revision of the Oxford English dictionary, gives a thoroughgoing overview over successive phases of language contact which left their mark on the vocabulary of English.
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**b) Special studies**


Pope, Mildred K.

Rothwell, William

Appendix
ME abasshen(n), abaisshe(n), from OF abaiser; abolish; accomplish; admonish; anguish v. & n. (< OF angoisse); astonish; banish; blandish; blemish: brandish; burnish; cherish; demolish; depolish; diminish; disestablish; disfurnish; disrelish; distinguish; embellish; empovery; enfeeblish (arch.), ME eneblishen v. (a1380/a1425, MED), from extended (weak) stem of OF enfeblir; establish; eternish; extinguish; famish; finish; flourish; furbish; furnish; garnish; impoverish (see impoverish); ME ishe(n) ‘to come forward’ (< OF eissir/issir); languish; lavish; minish (see diminish); monish (see admonish); nourish; ME obeshe(n) to obey OF obéir, obéiss- (extended stem); ME oblishe(n), a variant of oblige(n); overflourish; perish; plenish (from replenish); pre-establish; premonish (see admonish); publish; punish; ravish (< F ravir); re-establish; reflourish; refurbish; refurnish; relinquish; relish; replenish; republish; revarnish; tarnish (< F ternir); vanish; vanquish (< F vaincre); varnish (< F vernir)