

swich, siche, suche, northern swilk suilk (OE. swylc) such, beside northern sliik (ON. sliik) such.

CHAPTER X

VERBS

§ 388. In treating the history of the verbs from OE. to the end of the ME. period we shall generally follow the same order as that adopted in the *EOE. Gr.* §§ 316-95.

The ME., like the OE. verb, has the following independent forms: one voice (active), two numbers, three persons, two tenses (present and preterite), two complete moods (indicative and subjunctive), besides an imperative which is only used in the present tense; one verbal noun (the present infinitive), a present participle with active meaning, and one verbal adjective (the past participle).

§ 389. ME. verbs like the OE. are divided into two great classes: Strong and Weak. The strong verbs form their preterite and past participle by means of ablaut (*EOE. Gr.* § 103). The weak verbs form their preterite by the addition of a syllable containing a dental (OE. -de, -te) and their past participle by means of a dental suffix (OE. -d, -t). Besides these two great classes of strong and weak verbs, there are a few others, which will be treated under the general heading of Minor Groups.

§ 390. The chief characteristic differences between the OE. and ME. verbal forms are:—(a) the weakening of the OE. vowels a and o to e in medial and final syllables, and the gradual loss of many of the old verbal endings; (b) the numerous levellings and analogical formations which took place, especially in the preterite both of strong and weak verbs; (c) many of the OE. strong verbs became weak in ME. either in the preterite or past participle or in both.

ME. VERBAL ENDINGS

a. THE PRESENT.

§ 391. The normal ME. endings of the present are:—

Indic.	S. and Ken.	E.M.	W.M.	N.
Sing.	-e, (e)st, -(e)þ	-e, -est, -eþ	-e, -es(t), -es	-e, -es, -es
Pl.	-eþ	-en	-en (-es)	-es

Subj. Sing. -e, pl. -en in all the dialects. OE. sing. -e, pl. -en.

Imper. Sing. —, -e, pl. M. and S. -eþ, N. -es.

Pres. Part. M. -ende (but south-west Midland inde), S. -inde (later -inge, -inge) N. -and(e), § 138.

Inf. -en (OE. -an).

The east Midland dialects often have -es for -eþ in the third pers. sing. from the northern dialects, and similarly -es for -est, -eþ in the west Midland dialects. For the northern ending -is and the west Midland endings -us, -ust, -up see § 134. The OE. West Saxon syncopated and contracted forms of the second and third persons singular were generally preserved in the ME. southern dialects, as bintst, bint; rist, rist; sitst, sit; stantst, stant, see § 239. The ending -eþ of the third pers. singular and plural has been preserved in the form -ð among the older generation of dialect speakers in Somersetshire and Devonshire. The Midland plural ending -en of the pres. indicative was a new formation from the endings of the present subjunctive and preterite indicative. This plural ending in -en has been preserved in many of the modern Midland dialects. In the OE. period the Northumbrian dialect had -es beside -est in the second pers. singular, -es beside -eþ in the third pers. singular, and -as beside -aþ in the plural. In early ME. the endings with -t and -þ gradually disappeared, and then later -es was extended to the first pers. singular, so that

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eventually the whole of the singular and plural ended in *-es*. The northern plural ending *-es* spread at an early period to the west Midland dialects bordering on the northern. In the modern Scottish, northern, and most of the north Midland dialects all persons singular and plural take *-s*, *-z* (or *-æz*) when not immediately preceded or followed by their proper pronoun, that is, when the subject is a noun, an interrogative or relative pronoun, or when the verb and the subject are separated by a clause. Through the ME. weakening of the OE. endings the present of all classes of weak verbs fell together except in the southern and Kentish dialects which had the endings *-ie* in the first pers. singular, *-iep* in the plural and *-ien* in the inf. of the verbs which in OE. belonged to class II, and verbs of the type *werian to defend*, belonging to class I (EOE. Gr. §§ 370, 380). In the modern south-western dialects, especially those of Dor., Som., and Dev., the old ending *-i*, generally written *y*, has been preserved in intransitive verbs. In the plural of the imperative the west Midland dialects often have *-as* from the northern dialects. This also occurs occasionally in the east Midland dialects. From about the end of the thirteenth century the southern dialects have the ending *-inge* (*-ing*) beside *-inde* in the present participle, which was due to the influence of the old endings *-inge*, *-ing* (OE. *-ung*, *-ing*) of the verbal noun. In Chaucer the present participle regularly ends in *-ing(e)*. The OE. ending *-anne* of the inflected infinitive was only preserved with simplification of *-nn-* to *-n-* in a few monosyllabic verbs, as *tō dōne : dōn to do*, *tō sēne : sēn to see*. On the loss of final *-n* see §§ 147, 247.

b. THE PRETERITE.

§ 392. The normal ME. endings of the preterite are:—

Indic.	Strong verbs sing.	—, <i>-e</i> , —,	pl. <i>-en</i>
	Weak	„ „ <i>(-e, -est (-es), -e,</i>	pl. <i>-en</i>

*past
Preterite*

Subj. strong and weak verbs sing. *-e*, pl. *-en*. OE. *-e*, pl. *-en*.

Pp.: strong verbs *-en*, weak verbs *-ed* (*-d*), *-t*.

The personal endings of the preterite indicative were lost fairly early in the northern dialects, so that the singular and plural had the same form throughout, as *spak*, *māked*, &c., whereas the other dialects preserved the old difference between the singular and plural as in Chaucer. In the northern dialects the preterite indicative came to be used at an early period for the subjunctive, as northern *band* beside Midland and southern *bounde*, pl. *bounden*. This change had also taken place in the Midland dialects before Chaucer's time. The past participle was rarely inflected even in early ME. The prefix *3e-*, later *i-*, *y-* (§ 240) disappeared early in the northern dialects, and mostly also in the Midland dialects. It remained longest in the southern dialects. It has been preserved in the form *æ-* in many of the modern south Midland and south-western dialects. For *-ed* in the past participle of weak verbs the northern dialects generally had *-id*, the Scottish *-it*, and the west Midland *-ud* (*-ut*), see §§ 134, 239; and similarly in the preterite after the loss of final *-e* (§ 141).

§ 393. The final *-n* of the infinitive disappeared in the OE. period in Northumbrian, whereas in the pp. of strong verbs it remained throughout the ME. period in the northern dialects. It also disappeared fairly early in the infinitive and pp. of strong verbs in the Midland and southern dialects, and in the indicative present plural of the Midland dialects, as well as in the plural of the present subjunctive, the plural of the preterite indicative and subjunctive of all the dialects, cp. § 247.

A. STRONG VERBS

§ 394. In ME. as in OE. the strong verbs are divided into seven classes. Before giving examples of the various

N

classes of strong verbs, it will be useful to state here in a connected manner some of the changes which these verbs underwent in general during the ME. period:—

1. In the present of verbs belonging to the third, fourth, and fifth classes the *ē* of the first person singular and of the plural was levelled out into the second and third persons singular, as *helpe, helpest, helpeþ* = OE. *helpe, hilp(e)st, hilp(e)þ*; *bēre, bērest, bēreþ* = OE. *bere, bir(e)st, bir(e)þ*; *ēte, ētest, ēteþ* = OE. *ete, it(e)st, iteþ, it(t)*.

2. The unmutated forms of the first person singular and of the plural of the present were levelled out into the second and third persons singular, except in a few monosyllabic forms of the southern dialects, as *falle, fallst, falleþ* = OE. *fealle, fielt, fieltþ*, but southern *gō, gēst, gēþ* = OE. *gā, gæst, gæþ*.

3. Verbs which had double consonants in the first person singular and in the plural of the present levelled out the double consonants (except *bb, gg*) into the second and third persons singular, as *falle, fallst, falleþ* = OE. *fealle, fielt, fieltþ*; *sitte, sittest, sitteþ* = OE. *sitte, sitst, sit(t)*.

4. The old form of the second person singular of the preterite was generally preserved in early ME. in the Midland and southern dialects, as *bounde, spēke spēke* beside *band (bond), spak* of the first and third persons singular, but in the northern dialects the form of the first and third person singular became generalized for the singular at an early period, and similarly later in the Midland and southern dialects, which at a still later period often added *-est* from the present of the second person singular. Chaucer has the old beside the new form, as *songe (= sunge), bēre bēre* beside *drank, spak*.

5. In the northern dialects the preterite singular had begun to be levelled out into the plural already at the beginning of the fourteenth century, whereas in the Midland and southern dialects the old distinction between the stem-

vowels of the singular and plural forms was generally preserved throughout the ME. period, but even in Chaucer the singular was sometimes levelled out into the plural. On the other hand the form of the plural was sometimes levelled out into the singular in the Midland and southern dialects, as *sēt(e) sēt(e)*, pl. *sēten sēten*, beside northern *sat*, pl. *sat(e)*.

6. In the second class of strong verbs the preterite plural was generally remodelled on the past participle, as *crōpen* for older *crupen* (OE. *crupon*), pp. *crōpen* (OE. *cropen*) *crept*.

7. In OE. the preterite singular and plural of the seventh class of strong verbs had *ē* or *eo*, but as *eo* became *ē* in ME. all the verbs of this class, which remained strong in ME., had *ē* in the preterite, see § 65.

8. In the northern dialects the preterite indicative came to be used at an early period for the preterite subjunctive, which was generally also the case in Chaucer.

9. The final *-n* of the past participle remained throughout the ME. period in the northern dialects, whereas in the other dialects it disappeared fairly early, as northern *cumen, tāken*, beside *ycome, ytāke* in the other dialects.

10. The participial ending *-en* became *-n* after liquids, and after long vowels and diphthongs, as *stōln, bōrn, swōrn*; *leyn, seyn, slayn* (§§ 144, 147).

11. Only a few verbs preserved the operation of Verner's Law (EOE. Gr. §§ 115, 116), as *wēren wēren*: was, for-*lōr(e)n*: forlēsēn, *sōden*: sēpen.

12. As early as the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries many of the OE. strong verbs had begun to have weak beside the strong forms, and some verbs had become entirely weak before the end of the ME. period. All the French verbs were weak in ME. except *striven* (O.Fr. *estriver*). ON. verbs remained strong or weak according as they were strong or weak in ON.

FULL CONJUGATION OF A ME. STRONG VERB.

§ 395. The early ME. inflexion of *bīnden* will serve as a model for the conjugation of strong verbs generally.

Present.

Indicative.

	S. and Ken.	E.M.	W.M.	N.	OE.
Sing. 1.	<i>bīnde</i>	<i>bīnde</i>	<i>bīnde</i>	<i>bīnde</i>	<i>bīnde</i>
2.	<i>bintst</i>	<i>bīndest</i>	<i>bīndes(t)</i>	<i>bīndes</i>	<i>bīndest</i> , <i>bintst</i>
3.	<i>bint</i>	<i>bīndeþ, -es</i>	<i>bīndeþ, -es</i>	<i>bīndes</i>	<i>bīndeþ</i> , <i>bint</i>
Plur.	<i>bīndeþ</i>	<i>bīnden</i>	<i>bīnden, -es</i>	<i>bīndes</i>	<i>bīndaþ</i>

Subjunctive.

Sing. *bīnde* } in all the dialects, OE. *bīnde*, pl. *bīnden*.
Plur. *bīnden* }

Imperative.

Sing. *bīnd* in all the dialects, OE. *bīnd*.

Plur. N. *bīndes*, but *bīndeþ* in the other dialects, OE. *bīndaþ*.

Infinitive.

N. *bīnde*, but *bīnden* in the other dialects, OE. *bīndan*.

Present Participle.

N. *bīdand*, M. *bīdende*, S. and Ken. *bīdinde*, OE. *bīdende*, cp. § 391.

Preterite.

Indicative.

	S. and Ken.	M.	N.	OE.
Sing. 1.	<i>bond</i>	<i>band (bond)</i>	<i>band</i>	<i>band (bond)</i>
2.	<i>bounde</i>	<i>bounde</i>	<i>band</i>	<i>bunde</i>
3.	<i>bond</i>	<i>band (bond)</i>	<i>band</i>	<i>band (bond)</i>
Plur.	<i>bounden</i>	<i>bounden</i>	<i>band(en)</i>	<i>bunden</i>

Subjunctive.

	S. and Ken.	M.	N.	OE.
Sing.	<i>bounde</i>	<i>bounde</i>	<i>band</i>	<i>bunde</i>
Plur.	<i>bounden</i>	<i>bounden</i>	<i>band(en)</i>	<i>bunden</i>

Participle.

þebounde(n) *þebounde(n)* *bunden* (ge)bunden

THE CLASSIFICATION OF STRONG VERBS.

CLASS I.

§ 396.	OE. <i>i</i>	<i>ā</i> (§ 51)	<i>i</i>	<i>i</i>
	ME. <i>i</i>	<i>ō</i> (N. <i>ā</i>)	<i>i</i>	<i>i</i>
	<i>bīten</i>	<i>bōt</i> (N. <i>bāt</i>)	<i>bīten</i>	<i>bīten</i>
	<i>drīven</i>	<i>drōf</i> (N. <i>drāf</i>)	<i>drīven</i>	<i>drīven</i>

And similarly *abīden* (*bīden*), *agrīsen* to *be horrified*, *arīsen* (*rīsen*), *bīstrīden*, *bīswīken* to *deceive*, *clīven* to *adhere*, *flīten* to *quarrel*, *glīden*, *grīpen* to *grip*, *seize*, *rīden*, *rīnen* to *touch*, *rīven* (ON. *rīfa*) to *tear*, *schīnen*, *schrīven*, *slīden*, *slīten* to *slit*, *smīten*, *strīden*, *strīken*, *strīven* (O.Fr. *estrīver*), *prīven* (ON. *prīfa*), *wrīten*, *wrīpen* to *twist*. On preterites like *bōte*, *arōse* (*s = z*), *drōve* beside older *bōt*, *arōs*, *drōf*, cp. §§ 140, 266, 277; and on early shortenings like *droff(e)*, *schroff(e)* see § 100.

§ 397. As early as the fourteenth century many of the verbs in the preceding paragraph had begun to have weak beside the strong forms either in the preterite or past participle or in both, as *bīted(e)*, *bīted*; *schīned(e)*, *schīned*; and similarly with *grīpen*, *schrīven*, *strīken*, *strīven*, *prīven*; and with shortening of the stem-vowel, as *slitte*, *y-slit* (cp. §§ 87, 93), and similarly with *flīten*, *slīden*, *slīten*, *smīten*. Some verbs passed over entirely into the weak conjugation, as *dwīnen* to *disappear*, *dwīned(e)*, *dwīned*; *spiwen* (§ 116), *spiwed(e)*, *spiwed*; *sīken* *sīchen* (OE. *sīcan*) to *sigh*, pret. *sīzte*, pp. *y-sīzt* formed after the analogy

of verbs like *souȝte*, *y-souȝt* (§ 426) : *sēken sēchen* to *seek*, from the preterite and pp. was formed the new present *sīhen sīzen sīghen* in the fourteenth century; &c.

§ 398. *sīzen*, *sīen sīen* = OE. *sigan* (§ 122, 2) to *sink, fall*; pret. sing. *sāȝ*, *sōȝ*, *sēȝ*, *sey* (§ 107, 5) beside late ME. weak *seit seyt seyt*; pp. *y-sigen* (*seȝen*). *stīzen*, *stīen stīen* = OE. *stīgan* (§ 122, 2), *steien* to *ascend*; pret. sing. *stāȝ*, *stawe* (§ 110, 4), *stēȝ* (*steiȝ*) beside weak *stīde*, *stīede*, *stīȝed*(e), *stēȝed*(e, pl. *stīzen*, *stīen stīen* (§ 122, 1), *stōȝwen* (§ 113, 3); pp. *stīzen*, *stīen stīen*, *stōȝen* beside weak *stīȝed*, *steied*. *wrēȝen* (OE. *wrēon*) to *cover*; pret. sing. *wrēȝ* (*wreiȝ*), pl. *wriȝen*, *wriēȝen*; pp. *wriȝen*, *wriēȝen*. *þēȝen* (OE. *þēon*) to *thrive*; pret. sing. *þēȝ* (*þeiȝ*), pl. *þōȝen* (*þowen*); pp. *þōȝen* (*þowen*). The pret. sing. *sēȝ*, *stēȝ* (*steiȝ*), *wrēȝ* (*wreiȝ*) were formed after the analogy of class II (§ 401), and *þēȝen* (OE. *þēon*, *þāh*, *þigon*, *þigen*) went over entirely into this class.

CLASS II.

§ 399.	OE.	ēo	ēa	u	o
	ME.	ē	ē	ō (u)	ō
		<i>flēȝen</i> to <i>flow</i>	<i>flēt</i>	<i>flōȝen</i> (<i>fluten</i>)	<i>flōȝen</i>

In early ME. the pret. plural regularly had *u*, but later the verbs of this class generally had *ō* from the past participle; and similarly *brēȝwen* (§ 112, 1) to *brew*, *chēȝwen* (*chōȝwen*, cp. § 65 note) to *chew*, *clēȝven* to *cleave*, *crēȝen* to *creep*, *ȝēȝen* to *pour*, *rēȝwen* to *rue*. *bēȝen* to *bid, command*, pret. sing. *bēȝ* beside *bedd* with early shortening (cp. § 100), *bōȝ* (see § 394, 5), and *bad* due to mixing up of *bidden* (§ 410) with *bēȝen*, pl. *buden*, *bōȝen*, *bedden* (see § 394, 5), pp. *bōȝen*, late ME. *bodden* with shortening of the stem-vowel. *schēȝen* (*schūȝen*, *schōȝen*, cp. § 65 and note) beside *schott(en)* with early shortening to *shoot*, pret. sing. *schēȝ*, pl. *schōȝen* beside *schotten*; pp. *schōȝen*, later *schotten*,

schot. Many of the above verbs had weak beside the strong forms as early as the fourteenth century, as pret. and pp. *brēȝwed*(e, *brēȝud*, *brued*; *clēȝwed*(e (*clefte*, *cleft* with shortening of the stem-vowel, see § 92, 2); and similarly *crēȝwed*(e (*crepte*, *crept*); *flēȝwed*(e (*flette*); *rēȝwed*(e; *schotte*, *schott*.

§ 400. *sēȝen* to *seethe*, pret. sing. *sēȝ*, pl. *sōȝen* (*suden*) beside weak *sēȝwed*(e, pp. *sōȝen* (*sōȝen*); *chēȝen* (*chūȝen*, *chōȝen* to *choose*, cp. § 65 and note), pret. sing. *chēȝ* (= OE. *cēas*), *chās*, *chōȝ* (= OE. *ceās*), pl. *cōȝen* (*curen*), *chōȝen*, *chēȝen* (cp. § 394, 5) beside weak *chēȝwed*(e, *chūȝwed*(e, pp. *cōȝen*, *cōȝn*, *chōȝen*; and similarly *frēȝen* to *freeze*, *forlēȝen* to *lose* (weak pret. and pp. also *leste*, *lest*; *loste*, *lost*). For the consonant changes due to Verner's law see *EOE. Gr.* § 116.

§ 401. *drēȝen*, *dreien* (*drīen* *drīen*, cp. § 107, 6) to *endure*, pret. sing. *drēȝ* (*dreȝ* § 107, 5), pl. *druȝen*, *drēȝen* (*dreien*) with *ē* (*ei*) from the singular (cp. § 394, 5), pp. *drōȝen*, *drōȝen* (cp. § 113, 2); *lēȝen*, *leien* (*līȝen*, *līen* *līȝen*) to *tell*, pret. sing. *lēȝ* (*leiȝ*), pl. *luȝen* (*lowen*, *ou* = *ū*, see § 122, 5), *lōȝen* beside weak *lēȝwed*(e, *leiȝwed*(e *līȝwed*(e, *līȝwed*(e, pp. *lōȝen*, *lōȝen* beside weak *līȝed*, *līed*; *tēȝen* (OE. *tēon*) to *draw*, pret. *tēȝ* (*teiȝ*), pl. *tuȝen* (*towen*, cp. § 122, 5), pp. *tōȝen*, *tōȝen*. ME. *flēȝen* (OE. *flēon*) to *flee* and *flēȝen* (OE. *flēogan*) to *fly* became mixed up in the present, as *flēȝen* (*flīen* *flīȝen*), pret. sing. *flēȝ* (*flēȝ*), *flāȝ*(e (*flaw*(e), pl. *fluȝen* (*flowen*), *flōȝen* (*flōȝen*) beside weak *flēȝde*, *fledde* with early shortening (cp. § 100), pp. *flōȝen* (*flōȝen*), *flōȝn* (*flōȝn*) beside weak *fledde*; pres. *flēȝen* (*Ormulum* *flēȝhenn*), *flēȝen*, *flīen* *flīȝen*, *flēȝen*, pret. sing. *flēȝ* (*flēȝ*), *flāȝ*(e (*flaw*(e), *flōȝ*(e with *ow* from the plural and pp., pl. *fluȝen* (*flowen*, § 122, 5), *flōȝen* (*flōȝen*) beside late weak pret. *flīȝde*, pp. *flōȝen* (*flōȝen*).

§ 402.	OE.	ū	ēa	u	o
	ME.	ū (ou)	ē	ō (u)	ō

būzen bouzen (būen bouen bowen, § 122, 6) *to bow, bend*, pret. sing. bēȝ (beȝ), pl. buzen (buwen, bouen bowen (§ 122, 5), beside weak bouzed(e, bouwed(e bowed(e, pp. bōȝen, bōwen (§ 113, 2) beside weak bowed; schūven (schouven, schove(n)) *to push, shove*, pret. sing. schēf, schōf (§ 394, 5) beside weak schoved(e, schufte, pp. schōven (schuven) beside weak schowved, schuft; sūken (souken) *to suck*, pret. sing. sēk, sōk (§ 394, 5) beside weak souked(e, pl. suken, sōken, pp. sōken (sūken) beside weak souked; and similarly sūpen (soupen) *to sup*; unlūken (unlouken) *to unlock*.

CLASS III.

§ 403.

OE. i	a (o)	u	u
ME. i	a (o), § 42	u (o = u)	u (o = u), § 9
drinken	drank (dronk)	drunken	drunken
spinnen	span (spon)	spunnen	spunnen

And similarly with other verbs containing a nasal + consonant other than d or b, as *schrinken, sinken, stinken, swinken to labour, toil*; *clingen, dingen* (ON. dengja) *to beat, strike, flingen* (ON. flengja), *ringen, singen, slingen* (ON. slōngva), *springen, stingen, swingen, bringen to throng, press*; *bilimpen to happen, swimmen*; *biginnen* (N. pret. also bigoupe, see note); *blinnen to cease, rinnen* (ON. rinna) *to run, winnen*. To this subdivision properly belong also *irnen, ernen, urnen* (WS. iernan, Angl. eornan *to run*, see *EOE. Gr.* § 340 note), pret. sing. arn(e, orn(e (OE. arn, orn), pl. and pp. urnen, ornen beside weak pret. ernde, also arnde (pp. y-arned, arnd) from the OE. weak causative verb ærnan; and *rennen* (ON. renna) *to run*, pret. sing. ran (ron), pret. pl. and pp. runnen (ronnen) beside weak pret. rende, renned(e, pp. renned).

Some of the above verbs had weak beside the strong forms, especially in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, as

sinked, stinked, swinked; dinged, swunged; swimde (pp. swimmied).

NOTE.—1. The pret. bigan (bigon) was often used as a kind of auxiliary verb with loss of the prefix and unvoicing of the g- to k-, whence the common forms *con* in the west Midland and *can* in the northern dialects. And then in Scottish the new *can* became mixed up with old *can* (§ 435) and gave rise to the analogical pret. kouþ(e) beside bigan, bigouþ(e), see *N.E.D.* s.v.

2. The ME. for *to burn* comprises forms from four different types of stem:—(1) *bern-*, the OE. strong intransitive verb WS. biernan, Angl. beornan; (2) *brinn-*, the strong intransitive verb OE. *brinnan (ON. brinna); (3) *barn-*, the OE. weak causative verb bærnan; (4) *brenn-*, the ON. strong verb brenna. The old strong forms of the preterite and pp. do not appear later than *Lazamon* (c. 1205), and the distinction between transitive and intransitive was soon lost, the four types being used indiscriminately in meaning though their usage varied in different dialects, the *brinn-*, *brenn-* types belonging chiefly to the areas more strongly influenced by Scandinavian. In late ME. and onwards into the sixteenth century the most common type was *brenn-*. Examples are:—(1) *beornen, birnen, bernen*, pret. sing. born, pl. burnen beside weak bernde; (2) *brinnen*, pret. brinde, brint(e, brynned(e, pp. brind, brint; (3) *barnen*, pret. barnde; (4) *brennen*, pret. brenn(e)de, brende, trent, pp. brend, brent.

§ 404.

i (i, § 73)	a (o)	ū (u, § 73)	ū (u)
bīnden	band(bond)	bounden(bunden)	bounden(bunden)

And similarly *fīnden, grīnden, wīnden*; *climben* (§ 72), pret. sing. clōmb, clāmb (§ 72), pl. cloumben, clumben, clāmben (§ 394, 5) beside weak clīmed(e, pp. cloumben, clumben (clomben, o = u). For *bound(e, found(e* beside *band(bond), fand(fond)*, see § 394, 5.

§ 405.

e	a	o (u)	o
helpen	halp	holpen(hulpen)	holpen

The verbs of this type regularly had u in the preterite

plural in early ME., but later they generally had *o* from the past participle as in Chaucer. Nearly all of them had begun to have weak beside the strong forms as early as the fourteenth century, and some of them had become entirely weak before the end of the ME. period. And similarly *berken*, *delven*, *kerven* to *carve*, *melten*, *smerten*, *sterven*, *swellen*, *swelten* to *die*, *werpen* to *throw* (cp. § 38), *zellen*, *zelpen* to *boast*; *bersten* (*bresten*) to *burst* (cp. § 130), *preschen*. Cp. § 129.

§ 408. *berzen*, *berwen* (§ 298) to *protect*, *preserve*, pret. sing. *barz*, pl. *bur(e)zen*, *borzen* (*borwen*), pp. *borzen* (*borwen*); *swelzen* (*swelewen*, *-owen*, *-awen*, *swolezen*, *swolewen*, *-owen*) to *swallow*, pret. sing. *swal(u)z*, *swalewe* beside weak *swel(o)wed(e)*, *swolewed(e)*, *swolzed*, pp. *swolzen* (*swolwen*, *swelzen*) beside weak *swelewed*, *-owed*, see *EOE. Gr.* § 102; *wurpen*, *worpen* (OE. *weorpan*, § 38) to *become*, pret. sing. *warþ* (*wurþ*, *worþ*), pl. *wurpen*, *worpen* (OE. *wurdon*), pp. *worþen*, *wurþen* (OE. *worden*), see *EOE. Gr.* § 116; *zelden* (southern *zilden*) to *recompense*, pret. sing. *zold* (N. *zald*, S. *zeld* § 71), pl. *zilden* (*zolden*), pp. *zolden* (cp. § 71) beside weak *zelded(e)*, pp. *zelded*; *fihten* (*fehten*, *feizten*) to *fight*, pret. sing. *fauzt*, *fazt* (§ 110, 5), *feizt* (§ 107, 4), pl. *fuzten* (*fouzten*), pp. *fōzten*, *fouzten* (§ 113, 4); *breiden* (OE. *bregdan*, § 107, 1) to *brandish*, pret. sing. *braid* *breid* (OE. *brægd*, § 106) beside weak *breide* *braide*, pl. *brudden* (OE. *brūdon*), pp. *brozden* (OE. *brogden*), *broiden* beside weak *braided*, *breided*, *broided*; *freinen* (OE. *fregnan*, *frignan*) to *ask*, *inquire*, pret. sing. *frain* *frein* beside weak *frained(e)*, *freined(e)*.

CLASS IV.

§ 407.

OE. e	æ	ǣ (ē) § 52	o
ME. ē	a	ē (ē)	ō
<i>bēren</i> to <i>bear</i>	<i>bar</i>	<i>bēren</i> (<i>bēren</i>)	<i>bōren</i> <i>bōrn</i>

And similarly *hēlen* to *conceal*, *quēlen* to *die*, *schēren* to *shear*, *stēlen* to *steal*, *tēren* to *tear*. *cumen* (*comen*) to *come*, pret. sing. *cōm* (*cam*, § 55), pl. *cōmen* (*cāmen*), pp. *cumen* (*comen*); *nimen* to *take*, pret. sing. *nōm* (*nam*, § 55), pl. *nōmen* (*nāmen*), pp. *numen* (*nomen*), see § 42 note.

CLASS V.

§ 408.

OE. e	æ	ǣ (ē) § 52	e
ME. ē	a	ē (ē)	ē
<i>knēden</i> to <i>knead</i>	<i>knad</i>	<i>knēden</i> (<i>knēden</i>)	<i>knēden</i>

And similarly *mēten* to *measure*, *biquēpen*, *quēpen*; pret. sing. *quaþ*, *quad*; *quoþ*, *quod* with *d* from the old pret. plural (Verner's law), and *o* with early rounding of *a* to *o*; *quod* was the prevailing form from about 1350 to 1550; *wēzen* (*weien*, § 107, 1) to *carry*, pret. sing. *wai* (*wei*); *was* (*wes*, § 43 note), pl. *wēren* *wēren* (*wāren*, *wōren*, § 166). Some of these verbs had also weak beside the strong forms, as pret. and pp. *kned(de)*, *mett(e)*, *wei(e)de* (pp. *y-wēzed*, *weied*, § 107, 1).

§ 409. A number of verbs originally belonging to this class went over into class IV, as *brēken*, *brak*, *brēken* (*brēken*, *brāken*), *brōken*; and similarly *drēpen* to *kill*, *spēken*, *trēden* (also weak *tred(d)ed(e)*), *wēven* to *weave*, *wrēken* to *avenge*; also pp. *knōden*, *quōpen*.

§ 410. *ēten* to *eat*, pret. sing. *ēt*, *ēt* (OE. *æt*, *ēt*) beside the new formation *at*, pl. *ēten*, *ēten*, pp. *ēten*, late ME. also *ëtten* (*ëttyn*); and similarly *frēten* to *devour*, late ME. also weak pret. and pp. *frēted*. *zēven*, *ziven* beside *given* (Orm *gifenn*), N. *gif* to *give* (§ 176), pret. sing. *zaf*, *zef*, *zafe*, *zave*, *zof*, *zove* beside *gaf*, *gaf(f)e*, pl. *zēven*, *zēven*, *zāven*, *zōven* (cp. § 166) beside *gēven* (Orm *gæfenn*), pp. *zēven*, *zōven*, *ziven* (Orm *zivenn*) beside *given* (Orm also *givenn*), see

§§ 176, 292. *gēten, giten* (ON. *geta*) *to get*, pret. sing. *gāt(t)*, get (§ 29), pl. *gēten, gēten* (*getten, gāt(t)e(n)*), pp. *gēten* (*getten, git(t)en, gōt(t)en*), see § 176. *forġēten, forġiten* beside *forġēten to forget*, pret. sing. *forġat* beside *forġat*, pl. *forġēten, forġēten* beside *forġēten*, pp. *forġēten* beside *forġēten*. *bidden* (OE. *biddan*), also *bedden* (cp. §§ 92, 1, 399) in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries *to pray, beg, bid*, pret. sing. *bad* (*badd, bed(d), badde*) beside *bēd* (OE. *bēad*, see § 399), pl. *bēden, bēden*, pp. *bēden* beside early ME. *bidden*. *sitten to sit*, pret. sing. *sat*, also later *satte*, pl. *sēten, sēten*, also later *sat(t)en*, pp. *sēten*, later ME. also *setten, sitten, satt(e)*. *liggen, lien, līn* (§§ 122, 1, 296) *to lie down*, pret. sing. *lai* (Orm *la33*), cp. § 106, *lei*, pl. *lēzen, lēzen, lei3en, leien* (*laien*), pp. *leien* (*lein, lain*), *lien, līn*. *sēn* (Ken. *zī, zȳ*) *to see*, pret. sing. *sa3, sau3 saugh* (§ 110, 5), *saw* (§ 110, 4), *se3, sei3 seigh, sey* (Chaucer *say*), § 107, 4, *si3, sī sȳ* (§ 107, 6), pl. *sawen* (§ 110, 4), *sā3en, sau3en, sō3en, sōwen, sē3en* (Orm *sæ3henn*), *seien, sien sȳen* (§ 107, 6), pp. *sēwen* (OE. *sewen*), *sawen* (OE. *sawen*, see *EOE. Gr.* § 350), *sei(e)n sey(e)n* (OE. Anglian *gesegen*), *sēn* (OE. adj. *gesiene, gesēne visible*).

CLASS VI.

§ 411.

OE.	a	ō	ō	æ (a)
ME.	ā	ō	ō	ā
	<i>fāren to travel</i>	<i>fōr</i>	<i>fōren</i>	<i>fāren</i>

And similarly *āken to ache, bāken, forsāken, grāven to dig* (pret. sing. *grōf*), *lāden to load, schāken, schāven, wāden, wāken* (N. *wak, wakke*), *tāken* (ON. *taka*), N. *tak* beside N. and n. Midland *tā(n)*, pret. also *tō*, pp. *tān*, see § 250. Several of the above verbs had weak beside the strong forms as early as the fourteenth century, as *āked(e), forsāked(e), grāved(e), schāked(e), schāved(e), tāked(e)*.

§ 412. *hēven* (OE. *hebban*, § 265) *to raise, heave*, pret. sing. *hōf, hōve* (cp. §§ 140, 267) beside the analogical forms *haf, have, hēf, hēve*, weak *hēved(e)*, pl. *hōven, hēven*, pp. *hōven* (after the analogy of class IV, § 407), *hēven*, weak *hēved*. *scheppen, schippen* (OE. *scieppan*) beside the new formation *schāpen* (from the pp.) *to create*, pret. sing. *schōp*, also *schēp* after the analogy of class VII (§ 414) beside weak *schapte, schipte, schupte*, pl. *schōpen*, pp. *schāpen* beside weak *schāped*. *standen* (*stōnden*), pret. sing. *stōd*, pl. *stōden*, pp. *standen* (*stōnden*). *steppen, stāpen, stappen to proceed*, pret. sing. *stōp, stēp* after the analogy of class VII (§ 414) beside weak *stapped(e, stapte)*, pl. *stōpen*, pp. *stāpen*. *swēren* (OE. *swerian*) *to swear*, pret. sing. *swōr* beside the analogical forms *swar, swēr*, weak *swēred*, *swāred*, pl. *swōren*, pp. *swōren, swōrn* after the analogy of class IV (§ 407), weak *y-swēred, y-swāred*. *waschen* (Ken. *weschen, wesse(n)*, § 289) *to wash*, pret. sing. *wōsch* (*wēsch*) beside weak *wasched, wesched*, pl. *wōschen* (*wēschen*), pp. *waschen* (*weschen*), beside weak *wasched* (*wesched*). *waxen to grow*, pret. sing. *wox* (cp. § 94), *wax* after the analogy of class IV (§ 407), *wex* (OE. *wēox*), pl. *woxen, wexen*, pp. *waxen, woxen*.

§ 413. *dra3en, drā3en, drawen* (§ 103, 3), early ME. also *dreizen, dreien to draw*, pret. sing. *drō3, drōu3, drōw* (§ 114, 2), *drew*, Sc. *drew3 drewch* (§ 115), pl. *drō3en, drōwen, drewen*, pp. *drā3en, drawen*, also *dreien, drain* (*drayn*). And similarly *gna3en, gnā3en, gnawen to gnaw*. *fīen* (OE. *fīan*) *to flay*, pret. sing. *fīō3* (OE. *fīōg, fīōh*), *fīou3, fīow*, also *flew* (§ 115), pl. *fīō3en, fīou3en, fīowen, flewen*, pp. *fīā3en, flāwen* (OE. *flagen*), *flāf(e)* (OE. *flāgen*, § 106). *slēn* (OE. *slēan*), N. *slān, slā* (ON. *slā*, § 166), *slōn(e)*, beside the analogical forms *slā3e(n), slayn*, pret. sing. *slō3*, pl. *slōu3, slōw, slew* (§ 115), pl. *slō3en, slōwen, slewen*, pp. *slā3en, slawen* (OE. *slagen*), *slain, slein* (OE. *slāgen, slegen*, *EOE. Gr.* § 353), *slān, slōn* from the present.

laʒen (Orm lahʒhenn), lāʒen, lauʒen, lauʒwen (Anglian hlæhhen, cp. § 110, 5), leʒen, lēʒen, leizēn, liʒen (WS. hliehhan, cp. § 306) *to laugh*, pret. sing. lōʒ, louʒ, lōw, N. leuʒ(e, lugh(e, see §§ 114–15, beside weak lāʒed(e, lauʒed(e, leizēd(e, N. lauʒt, luʒt, pl. lōʒen, lōwen, pp. laʒen, lāʒen, lauʒen.

CLASS VII.

§ 414. To this class belong those verbs which originally had reduplicated preterites. In OE. they are divided into two subdivisions according as the preterite had ē or ēo. But as ēo regularly became ē in ME. (§ 65) all the verbs of this class, which remained strong, have ē. The pret. sing. and pl. have the same stem-vowel. The verbs are here arranged according as in OE. the present had: ā, æ, ō, ea, āw, ōw, ē, ēa.

1. OE. ā: hōten, N. hāten (OE. hātan) *to bid, order, call, name*. In OE. the passive was expressed by hātte *is or was called*, pl. hātton (EOE. Gr. § 316). In ME. the active hōten, pret. hēt (OE. hēt), heʒt, hiʒt (OE. hēht) came to mean both *to call* and *to be called*. From about 1200 the pret. heʒt, hiʒt often took final -e like the weak verbs. And both hēt and hiʒt passed over to the past participle. Further heʒt(e, hiʒt(e came to be used also for the present. From the strong preterite hēt a new ME. present hēten with weak preterite hette was formed in the early fourteenth century. Thus the common ME. forms are: hōten, hāten, hēten, pret. sing. hēt, heʒt(e, hiʒt(e beside weak hette, pp. hōten (hāten, hatten), hēt, hiʒt.

schōden, schēden Orm shædenn (OE. scādan, scēadan) *to separate*, pret. schēd beside weak schadde, schedde (cp. § 91), pp. schōden, schēden beside weak schad(d, sched(d, late ME. also scheduled.

2. OE. æ (ē): lēten (lēten) *to let*, pret. lēt, lett, lat, pp. lēten (lēten), letten, latten. slēpen (slēpen) *to sleep*, pret. slēp beside weak slēped(e (slēped(e), slepped(e, slepte,

pp. slēpen (slēpen) beside weak slēped (slēped), slapt, slept (cp. § 91).

3. OE. ō: fōn (OE. fōn) beside the new formation fangen (fongen) from the past participle *to seize*, pret. fēng (OE. fēng), also the new formation fong, beside weak fanged(e (fonged(e), pp. fangen (fongen) beside weak fanged (fonged). hōn (OE. hōn) beside the new formation hangen (hongen) from the past participle *to hang*, pret. hēng (OE. hēng), hing (cp. § 99), pp. hangen (hongen).

4. OE. ea: fallen (OE. feallan) *to fall*, pret. fēl(l, fel(l, fil(l (§ 99), pp. fallen. walken (OE. wealcen) *to roll*, pret. wēlk (OE. wēolc, cp. § 92, 2), pp. walken beside weak pret. and pp. walked.

fōlden, N. fālden, S. fēlden (OE. fealdan, § 71) *to fold*, pret. fēld beside weak fōlded(e, &c., pp. fōlden, &c. beside weak fōlded. hōlden, N. hālden, S. hēlden (OE. healdan, § 71) *to hold*, pret. hēld, held (held), hild (hilt), see § 99, pp. hōlden, &c. wōlden, N. wālden, S. wēlden (OE. wealdan, § 71) *to rule*, pret. wēld(e, wēlt(e beside the new formations wōlde, wāld(e, wēld(e, pp. wōlden, &c., in later ME. also weak pret. and pp. wēlded.

5. OE. āw: blōwen blouwen, N. blauwen, blau (OE. blāwan) *to blow*, pret. blēw (OE. blēow, § 112, 1), also weak blōwed(e, pp. blōwen, N. blawen, beside weak blōwed. And similarly cōwen, knōwen, mōwen, sōwen, prōwen. swōpen, swōpen (§ 128) beside the new formation swēpen *to sweep*, pret. swēp beside the new formations swōp(e, swōp(e, weak swēped(e, swepte, pp. swōpen, swōpen, weak swōped, swōped, swēped.

6. OE. ōw, ōg: grōwen (OE. grōwan, see § 114, 1) *to grow*, pret. grēw beside weak grōwed(e, pp. grōwen. And similarly blōwen (weak pret. also bloude) *to blossom*, flōwen *to flow*, rōwen *to row*. swōʒen, swōwen (OE. swōgan, § 114, 2 (b)) *to sound*, pret. swēʒ, swei (§ 107, 6), pp. swōʒen, swōwen.

7. OE. *ē*: *wēpan* (OE. *wēpan*, Goth. *wōpjan*) *to weep*, pret. *wēp* beside weak *wepte* (§ 92, 1), pp. *wōpen* (OE. *wōpen*) beside weak *wept*.

8. OE. *ēa*: *bēten* (OE. *bēatan*) *to beat*, pret. *bēt* beside shortened form *bett*, and weak *bēted(e, bette*, pp. *bēten* beside weak *bett(e, hēwen* (OE. *hēawan*) *to hew*, pret. *hew* (*hēu*) beside weak *hewed(e, pp. hēwen* beside weak *hewed. lēpen* (OE. *hlēapan*) *to leap*, pret. *lēp* (OE. *hlēop*), *lep(pe* beside weak *lēped(e, lēpte*, pp. *lōpen* after the analogy of class IV (§ 407, cp. also § 409).

B. WEAK VERBS

§ 415. The weak verbs, which for the most part are derivative and denominative, form by far the greater majority of all verbs. In OE. they are divided into three classes according to the endings of the infinitive, pret. indicative, and past participle. These endings are:—

Inf.	Pret.	P.P.
-an	-ede, -de, -te	-ed, -d, -t
-ian	-ode	-od
-an	-de	-d

Each of the classes I and II contained a large number of verbs, whereas class III only contained four verbs, viz. *habban to have*, *libban to live*, *secgan to say*, and *hycgan to think*, the last of which did not survive in ME.

The OE. normal endings of the present of these three classes were:—

I.	Sing.	-e, -est, -ep, pl. -ap, inf. -an
II.	„	-ie, -ast, -ap, „ -iap, „ -ian
III.	„	-e, -ast, -ap, „ -ap, „ -an

WS. generally had syncopated forms in the second and third person singular of verbs belonging to class I, as *setst*, *set(t)* for older *setest*, *seteþ*, and these syncopated forms also remained in the ME. southern dialects. The OE. verbs of class I containing an *r* preceded by a short vowel had an *-i-* in the present first pers. singular, the present plural, the present subjunctive singular and plural, the present participle, and the infinitive, as *werie*, *weriaþ*; *werie*, *werien*; *weriende*, *werian to defend*. In ME. the Midland and northern dialects generalized the forms without *-i-*, whereas the Kentish and southern dialects retained the *-i-*, as M. and N. *wēre*, S. *wērie*, &c., and similarly *an(d)-sweren*, *dēren to injure*, *ēren to plough*, *fēren to carry*, *stiren to stir*.

After the *-a-* had been weakened to *-e-* (§ 134 (b)) the endings of class I and class III became alike; in class II the Midland and northern dialects generalized the endings without *-i-*, so that in these dialects the present of all three classes fell together, whereas the endings *-ie*, *-iep*, *-ien* remained in the Kentish and southern dialects. For the personal endings of the present in the various ME. dialects see § 391. The verbs of class I which had double consonants in the first person singular and the plural generally levelled out the double consonants (except *bb*, and *gg* = OE. *cg*) into the second and third person singular, as *sette*, *settest*, *setteþ* = OE. *sette*, *setst*, *set(t)*; *telle*, *tellest*, *telleþ* = OE. *telle*, *tel(e)st*, *tel(e)þ*. In the Midland and northern dialects the verbs containing *-bb-*, *-cg-* in OE. were remodelled in ME. from the second and third persons singular, as *bien bȳen to buy*, *aswēven to stupefy*, *leien to lay*, beside OE. *bycgan*, *āswebban*, *lecgan*; and similarly *haven*, *liven*, *seien saien to say*, beside OE. *habban*, *libban*, *secgan* of the third class.

§ 416. The OE. normal endings of the preterite and past participle of the three classes were:—

I	Sing.	-ede, -edest, -ede,	pl.	-edon,	pp.	-ed : fremede	<i>I performed</i>
	„	-de, -dest, -de,	„	-don,	„	-ed : dēmede	<i>I judged</i>
	„	-te, -test, -te,	„	-ton,	„	-ed : drencte	<i>I submerged</i>
II	„	-ode, -odest, -ode,	„	-odon,	„	-od : lōcode	<i>I looked</i>
III	„	-de -dest, -de,	„	-don,	„	-d : hæfde	<i>I had</i>

The OE. verbs of class I generally had -ede in the preterite when the stem-syllable was originally short, but -de when the stem-syllable was originally long, and -te after voiceless consonants. Those verbs which had -te in OE. had it also in ME. In ME. we also often have -te after l, m, n, and in stems ending in -ld, -nd, -rd with shortening of a preceding long vowel, see § 270. Already in OE. the preterite of class III was the same as the preterite in -de of class I. And after the -o- had been weakened to -e- in class II the preterite of this class became the same as the preterite in -ede of class I. So that in early ME. the preterite sing. of all weak verbs ended either in -ede or -de (-te), and the plural in -eden or -den (-ten). The endings of the preterite indicative and the preterite subjunctive regularly fell together in ME. except that the indicative had -est in the second person singular.

§ 417. In ME. the final -e disappeared at an early period in those verbs which preserved the medial -e- of -ede, as loved (a new formation for lovēde), māked, panked, beside hērde, bledde, kiste. The final -e of the singular and the final -en (§ 147) of the plural of all weak verbs disappeared at an early period in the northern dialects, and likewise the -est of the second pers. singular often disappeared, so that in these dialects all forms of the singular and plural came to be

alike. The final -e also ceased to be pronounced at an early period in the Midland and southern dialects, although it continued to be written long after it had ceased to be pronounced, but the ending -est (§ 150) of the second person singular generally remained. For the loss or retention of medial and final e in trisyllabic and polysyllabic forms see §§ 154-5.

CLASS I.

§ 418. Before beginning to treat the history of the preterite and past participle of the OE. first class of weak verbs in ME. it will be advisable to state here certain vowel and consonant changes which took place partly in OE. and partly in ME. :—

1. Long vowels were shortened before certain consonant combinations (§ 87), as blēden to bleed, bledde, ybled; clēpen to clothe, cledde, cladde, yclad, yclad; fēlen to feel, felte, yfelt; hēren to hear, hērde, yhērd; kēpen to keep, kepte, ykept; kīpen to make known, kidde, ykid; lēden to lead, ledde, ladde, yled, ylad; mēten to meet, mette, ymet.

2. d became t after voiceless consonants in OE., and when two dentals thus came together they became tt which were simplified to t when final (§ 239), as drencte : drencan to submerge, cyste : cyssan to kiss, grētte : grētan to greet, and similarly in ME.

3. Double consonants were simplified in OE. before and after other consonants, as cyste : cyssan, fylde : fyllan, gewielde : gewieldan to overpower, gyrde : gyrdan to gird, sende : sendan, reste : restan (EOE. Gr. § 145), and similarly in ME.

4. After liquids and nasals, and in stems ending in -ld, -nd, -rd we often or generally have t in the preterite and past participle, whereas OE. had d, see § 270; as bilte (OE. bylde), bilt built; dwelte, dwelt; felte, felt; girte, girt;

dremte (drempte, cp. § 251), dremt; blente, blent *blended*, sente, sent.

5. On preterites and past participles like dreinte, ydreint: drenchen; meinde, ymeind: mengen, and similarly blenchen to *flinch*, quenchen, sprengen, &c., see § 263.

§ 419. The OE. verbs with an original short stem-syllable had -ede in the preterite and -ed in the past participle, as werien to *defend*, werede, gewered; fremman to *perform*, fremede, gefremed, and similarly derian to *injure*, erian to *plough*, ferian to *carry*, styrian to *stir*, dynnan to *resound*, &c., see *EOE. Gr.* §§ 367-8. If through analogical formation the stem-syllable became long in ME. the preterite and past participle regularly had -ed, but if the stem-syllable remained short the preterite regularly had -de and the past participle -ed, as wēren, wēred, ywēred; frēmen, frēmed, yfrēmed, but stiren, stirde, ystired; dinen, dinde, ydined, but there were numerous analogical formations in both directions, see § 153. On the preterite and past participle of verbs like an(d)sweren, gaderen, see § 155.

§ 420. Verbs with an original long stem-syllable which in OE. had -de in the preterite and -ed in the past participle generally had these in ME. also, as dēlen, dēlde, ydēled, dēmen to *judge*, dēmdē beside the new formation dēmed(e), ydēmed, see *EOE. Gr.* § 373. The -e- in the past participle was very often syncopated, which in OE. only took place in the inflected forms, as ydēld, yhērd: hēren to *hear*, and similarly deien dīen to *die*, hēlen, lēren to *teach*, stēren to *steer*, see § 151.

§ 421. When the stem-syllable ended in -d preceded by a long vowel the long vowel was shortened in the preterite and past participle (§ 91, 2), and when the -e- in the past participle had disappeared the dd was simplified to d, as blēden; bledde, ybled; lēden, ledde, ladde, yled, ylad; and similarly chiden, fēden, hiden, spēden, &c.

§ 422. When the stem ended in v, l, m, n, or nd, ld, rd

the preterite and past participle generally had t in ME., as lēven to *leave*, lefte, yleft beside ylēved; and similarly clēven to *cleave*. fēlen, felte, yfelt; lēnen to *lend*, lente, ylent; senden, sente, ysent; and similarly benden, blenden, wenden. bilden, bilte, ybilt; girden, girte, ygirt, see § 270.

§ 423. þ + d became dd which was simplified to d in the past participle, as clēpen to *clothe*, cledde, cladde, yclad, yclad; kīpen to *make known*, kidde, ykid.

§ 424. Verbs which had the preterite in -te in OE. also had it in ME., as kissen, kiste, ykissed beside ykist; kēpen, kepte, ykēped beside ykept; and similarly with the following verbs which were strong in OE., but became weak in ME.: crēpen to *creep*, lēpen to *leap*, slēpen, slēpen to *sleep*, wēpen to *weep*.

§ 425. When the stem ended in t the tt was simplified to t in the past participle, as mēten, mette, ymet, and similarly grēten, swēten to *sweat*. When the stem ended in st, nt the tt was simplified to t in the preterite and past participle, as resten, reste, yrest; and similarly casten, lasten, stinten, pirsten, &c.

§ 426. OE. had a certain number of verbs belonging to class I which had umlaut in the present but not in the preterite and past participle, see *EOE. Gr.* § 379. Many of these verbs preserved this characteristic in ME., as bȳen (biggen, beggen, buggen = OE. bycgan, § 49) to *buy*, bȳzte, ybȳzt. tellen, tȳlde (telde), ytȳld (yteld); and similarly sellen. ME. new formations were: dwelde, dwelte, ydwelled, ydwelt; and similarly quellen to *kill*. rēchen to *reach*, rauzte, yrauht; and similarly lacchen to *catch*, seize, Strecchen, and the AN. loan-word cacchen. tēchen, tauzte, ytauht. sēken (sēchen), squzte, ysquht; and similarly bisēken (bisēchen). bringen, brȳzte, ybrȳht. penken, pinken (penchen), þȳzte, yþȳht. me pinkep it *seems to me*, me þȳzte, þȳhte. wirken, wirchen,

worchen, wurchen (early OE. wyrcan, see § 123), pret. wrōuhte (§ 113, 4), west Midland warhte, wrahte (OE. worhte), pp. ywrouht (OE. geworht), cp. § 244.

§ 427. The conjugation of the preterite of *wēren* to *defend*, *hēren* to *hear*, *tellen* to *count*, and *kissen* to *kiss* will serve as models of all verbs of class I:—

Indicative.

Sing. 1.	wēred(e)	hērde	tōlde	kiste
2.	wēredest	hērdest	tōldest	kistest
3.	wēred(e)	hērde	tōlde	kiste
Plur.	wēred(en)	hērden	tōlden	kisten

Subjunctive.

Sing.	wēred(e)	hērde	tōlde	kiste
Plur.	wēred(en)	hērden	tōlden	kisten

CLASS II.

§ 428. It has been shown in § 415 that the ME. inflexion of the verbs belonging to this class regularly fell together with that of verbs of the type *wēren* (OE. *werian*) of class I, as present singular *panke*, *pankest*, *pankeþ*, plural *panken*, *-es*; preterite singular *panked(e)*, *pankedest*, *panked(e)*, plural *panked(en)*; and similarly *asken* (*axen*), *clensen*, *clōpen*, *enden*, *folwen*, *grōpen*, *halwen* to *hallow*, *hāten*, *hōpen*, *lernen*, *liken* to *please*, *lōken*, *offren*, *schēwen* (*schōwen*, § 111 note) to *show*, *sorwen* to *sorrow*, *grieve*, *spāren*, *spellen* to *relate*, *þōlen* to *bear*, *suffer*, *wundren*, &c., but *loven*, pret. *lovēde* beside *loved(e)*, see § 153. Only a small number of verbs had syncopated beside unsyncopated forms in the preterite and past participle, as *birēven* (OE. *berēafian*), *birēfte*, *bireft*, beside *birēved(e)*, *birēved*; *clēpen*

(OE. *cliopian*, *cleopian*) to *call*, *clepte*, *yclept* beside *clēped(e)*, *yclēped*; *māken*, *māde*, *ymād*, *ymaad* (§ 250) beside *māked(e)*, *ymāked*; *pleien* (OE. *plegian*) to *play*, *pleide*, *ypleid* beside *pleied(e)*, *ypleied*.

CLASS III.

§ 429. ME. only preserved three of the four OE. verbs belonging to this class (§ 415), viz. *haven* (OE. *habban*), *liven* (OE. *libban*), *sei(e)n* *sai(e)n* (OE. *secgan* = ME. *S. seggen*, *Ken. ziggen*) to *say*. The presents of these verbs were new formations from the second and third persons singular which in OE. had a single consonant, as *hafast* (*hæfst*), *hafap* (*hæfþ*). In ME. the preterite and past participle *lived(e)* (OE. *lifde*), *ylived* (OE. *gelifd*) beside the preterite *livēde* were new formations after the analogy of the second class of verbs, see § 153. The preterite *saide* beside the southern form *sēde* corresponded to OE. *sægde* beside *sāde*. The verb *haven* (*habben*) has a large number both of contracted and uncontracted forms, for which see *N. E. D.* s.v. The following are the more common forms of the present and preterite indicative, the infinitive and the past participle:—

Present.		Preterite.
Sing. 1.	habbe, have, ha	hafde, havēde, had(d)e (see § 43 note)
	2. havest, hast	had(d)est, had(e)st
	3. haveþ, hap	hafde, havēde, had(d)e
Plur.	habbeþ, -en, -es, haveþ, have(n), han	had(d)e(n)
Inf.	habbe(n), have(n)	pp. yhaved, yhadde, (y)had

AN. OR O.FR. VERBS IN ME.

§ 430. All the AN. verbs were weak in ME. except *strīven* (O.Fr. *estriver*), which became strong. The ME. verbs were generally based on the AN. strong or accented stem-form of the present, as *accūsen*, *awaiten*, *blāmen*, *carien*, *claimen*, *escāpen*, *marien*, *stūdien*, &c.

§ 431. The verbs in *-ir* generally had the extended stem-form *-isch*. (§ 278), as *banischen*, *finischen*, *punischen*, *vanischen*, &c., but *obeyen*, *sēsen* *to seize*, and *rejōisen* did not have the extended stem-form. Some ME. verbs were based on the weak or end accented form of the present, as *deceiven*, *preien*, *preisen* *to praise*, *serven*, *deneien* beside *denȳen*, *coveren* beside *keveren*, *mōven* beside *mēven*, *prōven* beside *prēven*, see § 198.

§ 432. The preterite was formed in *-ed*, pl. *ed(en)*, and the past participle in *-ed* (see §§ 153, 155), except when the stem ended in a long vowel or diphthong, as *blāmen*, *blāmed*; *defenden*, *defended*; *assenten*, *assented*; *finischen*, *finished*; *marien*, *married*; *prēchen* *to preach*, *prēched*, &c. When the stem ended in a long vowel the preterite, but not the past participle, had a syncopated beside an unsyncopated form, as *crȳen*, *crȳde* beside *crȳed*, pp. *crȳed*; and similarly *defȳen*, *espȳen*, &c. When the stem ended in a diphthong both the preterite and past participle had syncopated and unsyncopated forms side by side, as *preien* *to pray*, *preide*, *preid* beside *preied*, *preied*; and similarly *anoien*, *bitraien*, *paien*, &c.

C. MINOR GROUPS

1. PRETERITE-PRESENTS.

§ 433. These verbs were originally unreduplicated strong perfects which acquired a present meaning like Gr. *οἶδα* = OE. *wāt* *I know*. In prim. Germanic a new weak preterite,

an infinitive, a present participle, and in some verbs a strong past participle, were formed. They are inflected in the present like the preterite of strong verbs, except that the second person singular has the same stem-vowel as the first and third persons, and has preserved the old ending *-t* (EOE. Gr. § 324). The following verbs of this type were preserved in ME. and are here arranged according to the class of strong verbs with which they are related:—

§ 434. Class I: N. *wāt* *I know*, *wās(t)*, *wāt* (cp. § 100), M. and S. *wōt*, *wōst*, *wōt*, pl. *wite(n)* (*wāt*, *wōt*), *wute(n)*, cp. § 39; inf. *wite(n)*, *wute(n)*; pres. part. *witand(e)*, *witend(e)*, *witind(e)*, *witing(e)*; pret. *wiste*, *wuste*; pp. *wist*. For forms like *nōt*, *nāt*, pret. *niste*, see § 245.

§ 435. Class III: an, on *I grant*, also the new formations *unne*, *unnest*, *unne* from the plural, pl. *unnen*; pret. *ūpe* (*oupe*); pp. *unned*.

N. *can*, *canst*, *can*, pl. *can*, M. and S. *can* (*con*), *canst* (*const*, *cunne*), *can* (*con*), pl. *cunnen* (*connen*); inf. *cunnen* (*connen*); subj. *cunne* (*conne*); participial adj. N. *cunnand* *cunning*; pret. *coupe*, *coude* (§ 274); pp. *coup*.

dar *I dare*, *darst*, *dar*, pl. *durren* (*dorren*); inf. *durren*; pret. *dorste* beside the new formation *durste* with *u* from the inf. and pres. pl.; pp. *durst*. *parf* (*par*, § 248) *I need*, *parft* (*purve*), *parf* (*par*), pl. *purven*; pret. *porfte* (OE. *porfte*) beside *purfte* formed from the inf. and pres. plural, *porte* (*purte*).

§ 436. Class IV: M. and N. sing. and pl. *mun*, *mon* *shall*, *will*, pret. *munde*, *monde*; ON. inf. *muna* *to remember*.

N. sing. and pl. *sal* (§ 289 note) *shall*, M. and S. *schal* (Ken. *ssel*), *schält*, *schal*, pl. *schulen* beside the new formation *scholen* with *o* from the preterite, whence were formed the new singular *schul*, *schol*; subj. *schule*, pret. N. *suld*, M. and S. *schölde* beside *schōlde* (§ 71), and *schulde* formed from the pres. plural.

§ 437. Class V: *mai* *may* (Orm *maȝ*), OE. *mæg*, § 106)

beside *mei mey* (OE. *meg*, § 107, 1) *I, he can*, *miȝt* (late OE. *miht*) beside *maȝt*, *mauȝt*, *Orm mahht* (early OE. *meaht*, § 110, 5), *meiȝt* (§ 107), later ME. *maist(e thou canst*, pl. *maȝen*, *māȝen*, *mawen* (§ 110, 3), also N. *mai (may)*, *muȝen* (*Orm muȝhenn*), *muwen*, *mowen*, *mown (moun)*, *mow (mou, mū)*, see § 122, 5; subj. *maȝe (mawe)*, *muȝe (Orm muȝhe)*, *muwe (mowe)*; pres. part. *maȝende* (*Ken. meȝende*), *mowende*, *mouwinge*, *mowing*; inf. *muȝen* (*Orm muȝhen*), *mowen*, *mown (moun)*, *mow (mou)*; pret. *miȝte* (*Orm mihhte*), *moȝt(e, muȝt(e, mouȝte*.

§ 438. Class VI: *mōt may, must, mōst, mōt* beside later ME. unaccented *mut(t, must, mut(t, pl. mōten*; pret. *mōste* beside the early ME. shortened and unaccented forms *moste, muste, pl. mōsten* beside *mosten, musten*.

§ 439. Class VII: N. sing and pl. *āȝ āgh possess, own*, early M. *āȝ, auȝ, awe*, M. and S. *ōȝ (ouȝ), oȝwe (owest), oȝ (ouȝ)*, pl. *ōȝen, oȝwen* (§ 113, 3); inf. N. *āȝe(n)*, early M. *āȝen* (*Orm āȝhenn*), M. and S. *ōȝen, oȝwen*; pret. N. *āȝt(e)* *āght(e)*, early M. *āȝte, auȝte*, M. and S. *ouȝte*; pp. *āȝen, oȝwen*.

2. ANOMALOUS VERBS.

§ 440. a. THE SUBSTANTIVE VERB.

Present.		
	N.	M. and S.
Sing. 1.	<i>am (es)</i>	<i>am (em)</i>
2.	<i>art (ert, es)</i>	<i>art (ert)</i>
3.	<i>es</i>	<i>is</i>
Plur.	<i>ar(e), er(e), es</i>	<i>are(n), arn</i>
Sing. 1.	<i>(bē)</i>	<i>bē</i>
2.	<i>bēs</i>	<i>bist (bēst)</i>
3.	<i>bēs</i>	<i>bip (bēp)</i>
Plur.	<i>bēs</i>	<i>bēn, bēp</i>
Subj.	<i>bē, pl. bēs</i>	<i>bē, pl. bēn, bēp</i>

Preterite.

	M.	S.
Sing. 1.	<i>was (wes)</i>	<i>was (wes)</i>
	§ 43 note	
2.	<i>was (wes)</i>	<i>wēre (wōre), § 166</i>
3.	<i>was (wes)</i>	<i>was (wes)</i>
Plur.	<i>war(e), wes</i>	<i>wēren (wōren), § 166</i>
P.P.	<i>bēn</i>	<i>bēn, ybē</i>

NOTE.—The *es* of the present second and third persons sing. in the northern dialects is of ON. origin (ON. *es art, is*). *es* was then extended to the first pers. sing. and to the plural; of the same origin is the pl. form *er(e)* = ON. *ero they are*, and *ern* with the OE. ending *-n* (OE. *earon, aron*). The OE. pl. forms *sind (sint)*, *sindon they are* lingered on in ME. until the thirteenth century, and then became obsolete, as *sind (sint)*, *sinden* (*Orm sinndenn*). The *ē* in the M. and S. sing. forms *bēst* (OE. *bist*), *bēp* (OE. *bip*) was due to levelling out the *ē* from the other forms where it was regular.

§ 441.

b. THE VERB *dōn to do*.

Present.

	N.	M.	S.
Sing. 1.	<i>dō</i>	<i>dō</i>	<i>dō</i>
2.	<i>dōs</i>	<i>dōst</i>	<i>dēst (dōst)</i>
3.	<i>dōs</i>	<i>dōp</i>	<i>dēp (dōp)</i>
Pl.	<i>dōs</i>	<i>dōn</i>	<i>dōp</i>
Imper.	<i>dō, pl. dōs</i>	<i>dō, pl. dōp</i>	<i>dō, pl. dōp</i>

On the forms of the second and third pers. singular, see § 394, 2.

Pres. Part.: early ME. *dōnde*, later N. *dōand(e, M. dōende, S. dōinde, dōing(e, cp. § 391*.

Preterite: *dide, dede, dūde* (OE. *dyde*, see § 49) inflected like a weak preterite. P.P. *dōn, ydōn, S. ydō*.

§ 442. c. THE VERB *gān* (*gōn*) to go.

Present.

	N.	M.	S.
Sing. 1.	<i>gā</i>	<i>gō</i>	<i>gō</i>
2.	<i>gās</i>	<i>gōst</i>	<i>gēst</i> (<i>gōst</i>)
3.	<i>gās</i>	<i>gōþ</i>	<i>gēþ</i> (<i>gōþ</i>)
Plur.	<i>gās</i>	<i>gōn</i>	<i>gōþ</i>
Imper.	<i>gā</i> , pl. <i>gās</i>	<i>gō</i> , pl. <i>gōþ</i>	<i>gō</i> , <i>gōþ</i>

On the forms of the second and third pers. sing., see § 394, 2.

Preterite: *ȝēde* (*ȝōde*, § 65 note), and *wente*. P.P. *gān*, *gōn*, *ygōn*.

§ 443. d. THE VERB *willen* will.

Present first and third pers. sing. *wille*, *wil(e)* (OE. *wille*, third pers. *wile*, *wille*), *welle*, *wel(e)*, *wel(l)* (OE. Anglian *welle*) beside the new formations *wole*, *wolle*, *wule*, *wulle* from the preterites with *o*, *u*, and similarly second pers. sing. *wilt* (OE. *wilt*) beside *wolt*, *wult*, pl. *willen*, *wilen*, *wiln*, *-eþ*, *welen*, *wel(e)*, *well(e)* beside *wol(l)en*, *wul(l)en*, *-eþ*; inf. *willen*, *wilen* (Orm *wilenn*); pret. *wōlde* (*wolldē*, *wold*), *wōlde* (§§ 71, 101) beside *wulde* formed after the analogy of *schulde* (§ 436), *wilde* formed direct from the present, northern and west Midland *walde* (OE. Anglian *walde*); pp. *wōld(e)*.

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