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Bibliographical guide
to Old English Syntax

By
Frank H. Chase

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A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDE
TO
OLD ENGLISH SYNTAX

BY

FRANK H. CHASE,
CLARK SCHOLAR IN YALE UNIVERSITY.

LEIPZIG.
BUCHHANDLUNG GUSTAV FOCK
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Prefatory Note.

During the past year, I had occasion to classify, for my own use, the monographs which have appeared in the field of Old English Syntax. It has seemed to me that the tables thus prepared may be of use to others than myself, and it is in this hope that I present them here.

The bibliography is given as a basis for the classification, rather than for its own sake; it is founded on the list of books printed by Dr. J. E. Wülfing in his 'Syntax in den Werken Alfreds des Grossen'. I cannot hope that it is exhaustive, though it is more nearly so than any which have preceded it.

Yale University, March 20, 1896.

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English Dept.

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B. Monographs and Special Articles.

[* not devoted exclusively to points of Old English Syntax. + to these articles I have not had access. diss. = dissertation.]

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II. Bibliographical Tables.

Of a few of the shorter articles in the list above, dealing with single points of syntax, no account is taken in the following tables; all dissertations and the more important articles in the periodicals are included.

A. Chronological Survey.

1864	Marburg	Kress.
1873		Lichtenheld.
1875	Leipzig	Penning.
1877	Göttingen	Kriekau.
1878		Flebbe.
	Göttingen	Hennicke.
1879	Leipzig	Fritzsche. Nader.
1880		Klinghardt. Lohmann. Nader.
1882	Erlangen Zürich	Breitkreuz. Hotz. Nader. Noack.

1883		Nader. Voges.
1884	Leipzig Münster	Hofer. Schürmann.
1885	Bonn Göttingen Leipzig Münster Leipzig Leipzig	Flamme. Fleischhauer. Holtbuer. Mohrbutter. Rössger. Wohlfahrt.
1886	Leipzig Göttingen Münster Jena Heidelberg Berlin	Conradi. Fricke. Köhler. Kube. Lenz. Sohrauer.
1887	Göttingen Berlin Greifswald Göttingen	Boek. Hüllweck. Philipsen. Schrader.
1888	Leipzig Kiel Marburg Bonn	Kempf. Lüttgens. Nader. Prollius. Wülfig.
1889	J. H. Leipzig Leipzig	Callaway. Furkert. Höser. Kühn.

1889	Leipzig	Nader. Reussner.
1890	Kiel Leipzig Leipzig	Harstrick. Planer (? no date). Rose.
1891	Leipzig Leipzig Leipzig	Hertel. Lehmann. Seyfarth.
1892	Leipzig Leipzig	Blackburn. Müller.
1893	J. H. J. H. Leipzig	Mather. Smith. Spaeth. Wack.
1894	Leipzig Leipzig	Henshaw. Taubert. Todt. Wülfing.
1895	J. H. Leipzig	Gorrell. Steche.

B. Dissertations, arranged by Universities.

This table is designed to show the centres of activity in the field of Old English Syntax. I have given the names of the instructors in Old English, wherever possible, and in some cases have added

those of instructors in other departments, whose influence in the preparation of the monographs has been important.

Berlin. [Zupitza and Tobler.]

Hüllweck. 1887.

Solrauer. 1886.

Bonn. [Förster and Trautmann.]

Flamme. 1885.

Wülfing. 1888.

Erlangen.

Breitkreuz. 1882.

Göttingen. [Napier.]

Bock. 1887.

Fleischhauer. 1885.

Fricke. 1886.

Hennicke. 1878.

Krickau. 1877.

Schrader. 1887.

Greifswald. [Konrath.]

Philipsen. 1887.

Heidelberg.

Lenz. 1886.

Jena.

Kube. 1886.

Johns Hopkins. [Bright and Gildersleeve.]

Callaway. 1889.

Gorrell. 1895.

Mather. 1893.

Smith. 1893.

Kiel. [Stünning and Sarrazin.]

Harstrick.	1890.
Lüttgens.	1888.

Leipzig. [Wülker and Sievers.]

Blackburn.	1892.
Conradi.	1886.
Fritzsche.	1879.
Furkert.	1889.
Henshaw.	1894.
Hertel.	1891.
Hofer.	1884.
Holtbuer.	1885.
Kempf.	1888.
Kühn.	1889.
Lehmann.	1891.
Müller.	1892.
Penning.	1875.
Planer.	1890 (?).
Reussner.	1889.
Rose.	1890.
Rössger.	1885.
Seyfarth.	1891.
Spaeth.	1893.
Steeche.	1895.
Taubert.	1894.
Wohlfahrt.	1885.

Marburg. [Victor.]

Kress.	1864.
Prollius.	1888.

Münster.	[Körting.]	
	Köhler.	1886.
	Mohrbutter.	1885.
	Schürmann.	1884.
Zürich.	[Tobler.]	
	Hotz.	1882.

C. Classification of Articles and Dissertations according to Syntactical Categories.

[* in poetry. + in prose. † confined to a single text, or group of texts. § general discussion, not confined to particular texts.]

1. Syntax in general.

*†	Conradi	1886 (1st part only).
+†	Flamme	1885.
*†	Fritzsche	1879 (syntactical remarks).
*†	Höser	1889.
*†	Kempf	1888.
+†	Mohrbutter	1885.
+†	Schrader	1887.
*†	Schürmann	1884.
§	Sohrauer	1886 (syntactical notes).
+†	Wülfing	1888 (1st part).
+†	„	1894 (1st part).

2. Special Categories.

N o u n s.

*†	Hofer	1884 (dative and instrumental).
*†	Holtbuer	1885 (genitive).

*§	Kress	1864 (instrumental).
§	Krickau	1877 (accusative with infinitive).
+ 𐀀	Lehmann	1891 (genitive).
* 𐀀	Nader	1879—83.
*+	Rose	1890.
*+	Rössger	1885 (genitive).
§	Voges	1883 (reflexive dative).

P r o n o u n s.

+ 𐀀	Bock	1887.
*§	Breitkreuz	1882 (possessive).
§	Flebbe	1878 (elliptical relative clause).
§	Klinghardt	1880 (<i>je</i> and relative sentence).
§	Lohmann	1880 (ellipsis of relative).
§	Noack	1882 (relative).
§	Penning	1875 (reflective).
* 𐀀	Wack	1893 (demonstrative).

A r t i c l e s.

+ 𐀀	Hüllweck	1887.
*§	Lichtenheld	1873 (weak adjective and art.).
+ 𐀀	Philipsen	1887 (definite).
* 𐀀	Wack	1892.

A d j e c t i v e s.

*§	Lichtenheld	1873 (weak).
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N u m e r a l s.

+ 𐀀	Bock	1887.
§	Fricke	1886.

V e r b s.

§	Blackburn	1892 (Future).
§	Callaway	1889 (absolute participle).

+ 𐀀	Fleischhauer	1885 (subjunctive).
* 𐀀	Furkert	1889.
§	Hemicke	1878 (subjunctive and auxiliaries).
+ 𐀀	Henshaw	1894 (indicative and subjunctive).
* 𐀀	Hertel	1891.
§	Hotz	1882 (subjunctive).
* 𐀀	Köhler	1886 (infinitive and participle).
§	Krickau	1877 (accusative and infinitive).
+ 𐀀	Kühn	1889.
§	Lüttgens	1888 (<i>sculan</i> and <i>willan</i>).
* 𐀀	Müller	1892.
* 𐀀	Nader	1888—9 (tense and mode).
* 𐀀	Planer	1890 (?).
* 𐀀	Prollius	1888 (subjunctive).
* 𐀀	Reussner	1889.
* 𐀀	Seyfarth	1891.
* 𐀀	Spaeth	1893.
+ 𐀀	Wohlfahrt	1885.

Prepositions.

+ 𐀀	Harstrick	1890.
* 𐀀	Taubert	1894.

Conjunctions.

* 𐀀	Steehe	1895.
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(see also Fleischhauer, Hotz, and Prollius.)

Particles.

+ 𐀀	Lenz	1886 (<i>ge-</i>).
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Sentence-Forms.

§	Correll	1895 (indirect discourse).
§	Mather	1893 (conditional sentence).

Word-Order.

+ 千	Kube	1886.
+ §	Smith	1893.
* 千	Todt	1894.

D. Classification of Articles and Dissertations on the basis of Texts investigated.

1. General.

Blackburn	Future.
Breitkreuz	Possessive pronoun.
Callaway	Absolute participle.
Flebbe	Elliptical relative clause.
Fricke	Numeral.
Gorrell	Indirect discourse.
Hennicke	Subjunctive and auxiliaries.
Hotz	Subjunctive.
Klinghardt	<i>pe</i> and rel. construction.
Kress	Instrumental.
Krickau	Accusative with infinitive
Lohmann	Ellipsis of relative pronoun.
Lüttgens	<i>Sculan</i> and <i>willan</i> .
Mather	Conditional sentence.
Noack	Relative pronoun.
Penning	Reflective pronouns.
Sohrauer	Syntactical remarks.
Voges	Reflexive dative.

2. Special.

I. Prose.

Alfred.

Oros.	Bock	Pronoun and numeral.
C. P.	Fleischhauer	Subjunctive.

	Harstrick	Prepositions.
	Hüllweck	Article.
Oros.	Lehmann	Genitive.
	Lenz	Partiele <i>ge-</i> .
Oros., C. P.	Philipsen	Definite article.
Oros.	Smith	Word-order.
C. P.	Wülting (1888)	Syntax, part I.
	„ (1894)	Syntax, part I.

Ælfrie.

L. S.	Kühn	Verb.
	Schrader	Syntax.
Homilies	Smith	Word-order.
Hept. & Job.	Wohlfahrt	Verb.

Blickling Homilies.

Flamme Syntax.

Chronicle.

Kube Word-order.

Gospels.

Henshaw Indicative and subjunct.

Wulfstan.

Mohrbutter Syntax.

II. Poetry.

Andreas.

Fritzsche	Syntactical remarks.
Holtbuer	Genitive.
Lichtenheld	Weak adjective.
Reussner	Verb.
Taubert	Prepositions.
Wack	Article and dem. pron.

Be Domes Dæge.

Höser Syntax.

Beowulf.

Köhler Infinitive and participle.
 Lichtenheld Weak adjective.
 Nader (1879-80) Nominative and accusat.
 " (1882) Genitive.
 " (1883) Dative and instrumental.
 " (1888-89) Tense and mode.
 Todt Word-order.

Christ.

Hertel Verb.
 Prollius Subjunctive.
 Rose Noun.
 Rössger Genitive.

Daniel.

Hofer Dative and instrumental.
 Lichtenheld Weak adjective.
 Spaeth Verb.

Elene.

Prollius Subjunctive.
 Rössger Genitive.
 Schürmann Syntax.
 Wack Article and dem. pron.

Exodus.

Hofer Dative and instrumental.
 Kempf Syntax.
 Lichtenheld Weak adjective.

Genesis.

Hofer	Dative and instrumental.
Lichtenheld	Weak adjective.
Seyfarth	Verb.
Steehe	Conjunctions.

Guthlac.

Furkert	Verb.
Holtbuer	Genitive.

Holy Rood.

Holtbuer	Genitive.
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Harrowing of Hell.

Holtbuer	Genitive.
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Judith.

Müller	Verb.
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Juliana.

Conradi	Noun, adj., pron., num.
Prollius	Subjunctive.
Rössger	Genitive.

Phoenix.

Holtbuer	Genitive.
Planer	Verb.

Satan (Grein).

Hofer	Dative and instrumental.
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Among the facts set forth in the preceding tables, a few are worthy of special comment.

The verb has received, it would appear, rather more than its due share of attention. Since 1889, when Reussner constructed the excellent outline for verb-syntax which has been adopted at Leipzig, six other dissertations, presenting the syntax of the verb in as many Old English poems, have been built from his plans. But all these, and many more — among them some very excellent ones, as those of Kühn, Fleischhauer and Köhler — are only fragments, often suggestive, but useful mainly as furnishing materials to later and riper investigators; so far as their statements are trustworthy, they save much of the labor of collection. In Table C there are twenty titles under the verb; other dissertations in which the verb is included would bring the number to thirty; — and we are still waiting for a good comprehensive account of Old English verb-syntax. A beginning has been made in the works of Callaway, Gorrell, Lüttgens, and Mather; we may hope that others, following their lead, will give us further sections, equally well done, until the many parts may be combined into the complete handbook which we need.

The attention given to the writings of Alfred, to the neglect of other Old English prose works, is explicable mainly on the ground of the author's eminence, and the existence of good editions of the 'Cura Pastoralis' and 'Orosius'. Alfred wrote in Early West Saxon, which, thanks to Sweet and Cosijn, has become the standard dialect of Old English from the phonological point of view. But has it a like surpassing value for syntactical research? For the study of mode, yes, because in this early period the subjunctive forms had not yet been leveled into likeness with those of the indicative. But for other purposes its superiority is questionable; all the important works of Alfred are translations from the Latin, and are vitiated, as a basis for syntactical research, by this fact.

The work of Ælfrie, on the other hand, is much more largely original than that of Alfred, to which it is about equal in bulk. It represents the language in its maturity — smooth, polished, clear, and elegant. Here, it seems to me, we must look for the standard syntax of the best Old English, as far as that may be illustrated by the works of any one writer. And yet a reference to the tables will show the meagreness of our information in regard to the syntax of Ælfrie; and, of the two best dissertations, one is based on the least original of the author's works.

The Chronicle is another case in point. This work must, by its very nature, be quite independent on Latin sources: it shows the language in its native and often rugged purity as clearly as does the

poetry, while it is free from the various peculiarities, due to the exigencies of metre, which impair the value of all poetry for syntactical investigation; the existence of a number of parallel texts, of different dates, makes it especially useful for comparative study. But we have only one monograph on the Chronicle alone, in addition to its treatment by Lüttgens and Fricke, and by the Johns Hopkins men.

The German method tends to limit the view to a single text, or at most to the work of a single author. Of the monographs produced in Germany, Dr. Wülfing's is, of course, by far the most important. And for what reason? Mainly because he thoroughly examines a larger number of texts than the other men. Given a careful and intelligent investigator — and Dr. Wülfing fulfils this condition admirably — we may say that the value of the result varies almost exactly as the number of texts studied. But variety of texts is even more important than their number — typical productions of the different periods must be examined together in order to the formation of any final judgment as to a norm of style. It is safe to say that, with Wülfing's equipment, a comparative study of the syntax, or even a limited portion of the syntax, of the *Cura Pastoralis*, the *Chronicle*, and the *Homilies of Ælfrie and Wulfstan*, with those in the collection at Blickling Hall, would have produced results far more commensurate with the labor involved than those which he presents from his examination of Alfred's complete works.

The tables show what has been done in this field. What remains to be done is equally apparent. But our first need is not the filling of the gaps in these lists. If we are to possess a complete and trustworthy account of Old English Syntax within a reasonable time, we must work in a more comprehensive way. We have now a considerable background — the fruit of twenty years of labor; we possess a number of admirable models for syntax-research, such as Callaway's dissertation on the Absolute Participle, and Blackburn's on the English Future, with its broad foundation in Germanics; with these before him, there is no excuse for a scholar who puts forth a monograph of the old style, with its narrow view and partial results. The syntax of no one text, especially a poetical text, can be accepted as a norm of Old English usage. By comparative study alone can we hope to arrive at a proper understanding of any construction or group of constructions.

The ideal dissertation in Old English Syntax should, it seems to me, be a complete historical account of a single form of expression, or group of such forms; it should cover all the important texts, at least the prose texts; it should distinguish between early and late usages, when a distinction exists; and should point out traces of Latin influence, if they are present. It should give accurate statistics of the proportional frequency of parallel modes of expressing the same idea, and whatever else may seem likely to be of use in the final determination of the norm for a given period. When this is done,

we may construct what may be called a 'standard Old English idiom', embracing those speech-forms which are common to the best texts of all periods.

Work such as I have outlined may be accepted as definitive, and the portion of the field covered by the investigator may be set apart as occupied. A few isolated spots have been so taken up, and we have a small part of the final complete treatise at hand. But large tracts of rich soil are awaiting claimants who shall cultivate them aright. If the effort of the past fifteen years had been more wisely expended, a large proportion of the work might have been already in our possession.

Druck von Ehrhardt Karras, Halle a. S.



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