

Robert L. Kyes

Dictionary of the Old Low and Central Franconian Psalms and Glosses



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and Central  
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## ABBREVIATIONS

acc.	accusative
adj.	adjective
adv.	adverb
Ambr.	Canticum Ambrosianum
Apost.	Symbolum Apostolorum
ath.	athematic
Athan.	Symbolum Athanasianum
cj.	conjunction
cp.	comparative
Dan.	Daniel (Canticum trium puerorum)
dat.	dative
Deut.	Deuteronomy
dm.	demonstrative
Ep.	item in Schott epistle, no. 44 in <i>Iusti Lipsii Epistolarum selectarum centuria III ad Belgas</i> , 5th ed. (Antwerp, 1605), 43-55. The number after the abbreviation identifies the line in which the item appears.
Exod.	Exodus
f.	feminine
gen.	genitive
ger.	gerund
Gl.	item in Lipsius Glosses, MS Lips. 53, Universiteitsbibliotheek, Leiden. The number after the abbreviation identifies the line in which the item appears.

Gmc.	Germanic
Hab.	Habakkuk
id.	indicative
ij.	interjection
imp.	imperative
inf.	infinitive
inst.	instrumental
Is.	Isaiah
m.	masculine
n.	neuter
nm.	name
nom.	nominative
num.	numeral
OCF	Old Central Franconian
OLF	Old Low Franconian
pfx.	prefix
pl.	plural
pn.	pronoun
Pol.	item in <i>Iusti Lipsi Poliorceticon</i> (Antwerp, 1596), 7.
prp.	preposition
prs.	present tense
prt.	preterite tense
Ps.	Psalm
ptc.	participle
rl.	relative
sg.	singular

sj. subjunctive

spl. superlative

St. item in Steinmeyer and Sievers, *Die althochdeutschen  
Glossen*, Vol. 4, 685.

vb. verb

Vu. Vulgate

Arabic numerals in parentheses after a headword indicate a  
weak verb class; roman numerals indicate a strong verb class.



## FOREWORD

The Wachtendonck Psaltery--an interlinear translation of the Book of Psalms and of several canticles and creeds dating from the ninth or tenth century--survives only in a few relatively late fragmentary copies known collectively as the Old Low and Central Franconian Psalms and Glosses. It was one of the earliest translations of the psalms into a Germanic dialect. The extant fragments provide the most extensive textual evidence of those early translations. The dialects that these fragments attest occupy a critical position at the intersection of the expansive Upper Franconian dialects to the south, the receding continental Ingvaenic dialects to the north and west, and the Low Saxon dialects to the east, revealing phonological, morphological, and lexical features of all three dialect complexes.

My association with this material commenced in 1962, when I set about collecting, sorting, and filing data for my doctoral dissertation, which appeared in 1964 under the title *Old Low Franconian Phonology*. The need for a complete listing of the lexicon became apparent immediately after the publication of my *The Old Low Franconian Psalms and Glosses* (1969). I began working on this in earnest in 1979 while on sabbatical leave from The University of Michigan; subsequent efforts by Roy C. Cowen, Chairman of the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Billy E. Frye, then Dean of

the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, made it possible for me to continue the project, expand it, and accelerate its progress.

It would have been impossible to compile this dictionary had it not been for the pioneering work of Moritz Heyne, P.J. Cosijn, Andries Borgeld, and W.L. van Helten. But I wish to acknowledge an even greater debt to the present generation of scholars who have done so much to penetrate and clarify this small yet crucially significant component of the emerging medieval Germanic literary dialects. Although the forms from Ps.18, Pss.53.7-73.9, and the Leiden manuscript of the Lipsius Glosses are based on my own edition, with some corrections and revised readings, I have relied heavily on, and made free use of, the insights, possibilities, and discoveries pointed out by H.K.J. Cowan, Willy Sanders, Thomas Klein, Luc de Grauwe, and--especially--Arend Quak. Although I may not agree with all of their analyses and interpretations, perhaps at my own peril, I have certainly not ignored them.

During the fall semester of 1981, several students from The University of Michigan's departments of Linguistics, Germanic Languages and Literatures, and Romance Languages and Literatures participated in a seminar that focused on the problems and issues raised by the Wachtendonck corpus. For their dedicated and tenacious research, and for their help in refining the contents and format of this dictionary, I thank Robert Bloomer, Garry Davis, Catherine Hess, Peter

Hess, Suzanne Hopiard, Misun Mun, and Jefford Vahlbusch.

I am particularly grateful to Catherine Hess, who, as Research Assistant to this project, brought to it not only many hours of arduous labor, but also patience, exactitude, and intelligence of rare degree; if any errors or inconsistencies have survived her meticulous watch, they have done so only because of my failure to heed her advice.

## INTRODUCTION

1. *Background.* Between 1591 and 1612, portions of a Netherlandic translation of the Psalms and of some canticles and creeds were copied and circulated among a small group of scholars in Liège, Louvain, Antwerp, and Leiden. Although the text from which these excerpts were taken has been lost, its existence at the end of the sixteenth century is confirmed by eye-witness accounts, as well as by the surviving excerpts themselves.

Most of the surviving descriptive accounts of this text are to be found in the correspondence of Justus Lipsius. In a letter to Jan van der Does, dated 2 August 1591, Lipsius--residing in Liège from late June 1591 through July 1592--wrote that he had seen an old Latin psalter containing an interlinear translation into "Saxon" and many words "from our earlier language," and that he intended either to have it reproduced, or to copy some passages from it himself. On 3 September 1591 he wrote to Jan van Hout that he had had the psalter copied, and that he would send a copy of Psalm 18 to both van Hout and van der Does. He also mentioned that the psalter had earlier been in St. Amor, and that it had probably been written around the time of Charlemagne. Lipsius wrote again to van Hout on 1 October 1591, informing him that he had sent him "a psalm written in our language," and offering to provide additional specimens from a copy of

a psaltery in his possession. In his *Poliorceticon*, the foreword to which is dated 14 February 1596, Lipsius noted that Arnold Wachtendonck,<sup>1</sup> dean of the chapter of St. Martin in Liège, had a Latin psaltery with an interlinear translation "in our language." He repeated this information, again associating the psaltery with Wachtendonck, in a letter to Henric Schott written on 19 December 1598.<sup>2</sup>

The following excerpts have survived:

1. MS 149, Provinciale Bibliotheek van Friesland, Leeuwarden, containing Pss.1-3.5, copied in the late sixteenth or early seventeenth century from a text that has since disappeared. The Latin, entered above the corresponding Franconian lines, deviates slightly from the Vulgate. The Franconian translation shows both Central and Low Franconian features, but the former predominate. J. Hiddes Halbertsma acquired the manuscript at the auction of Jona Willem te Water's estate in 1823, published the text in 1827, and described his discovery of it in 1837. The Leeuwarden fragment appears in the published editions of Halbertsma (1827), Heyne (1877.1-4), van Helten (1902.90-94), Quak (1973), Gysseling (1980.59-63), and Quak (1981.13-21). Quak (1973) includes photographic reproductions of the manuscript pages, a diplomatic transliteration, and a normalized text.

2. Psalm 18, first published by Abraham van der Myle in his *Lingua Belgica* (1612.152-155) with parallel "Old Belgian," "New Belgian," and Latin texts. The Latin differs from the

Vulgate in several details, and van der Myle altered the spelling of the "Old Belgian" to conform to contemporary orthographic conventions. Van der Myle claimed that his text was based on a copy that had been made by Lipsius;<sup>3</sup> the copy--perhaps the one that Lipsius had referred to in his letters to van Hout--has been lost. Unlike the Leeuwarden fragment, Psalm 18 exhibits more Low than Central Franconian features. Following van der Myle, editions appear in Halbertsma (1837), Heyne (1877.5-6), van Helten (1902.55-57), Cowan (1957.22-23), Kyes (1969.21-31), Gysseling (1980.63-64), and Quak (1981.23-27).

3. MS Diez C Quart. 90, Deutsche Staatsbibliothek, East Berlin, containing copies of the Low Franconian translation of Pss.53.7-73.9. The "Legationsrat von Diez" (Friedrich von Diez, Prussian ambassador to Constantinople?) purchased the manuscript from Laurentius van Santen, of the University of Leiden, in 1800, and later gave it to the Königliche Bibliothek in Berlin. There are two parts, the first comprising Pss.53.7-64.13, the second Pss.64.14-73.9. The parts differ in paper, ink, hand, and probably also in date of execution. Tack (1896.138) dated the first part in the last quarter of the seventeenth century, but Gysseling (1980.44) places it between 1595 and 1605. The second part may have been copied as late as the early eighteenth century. It is likely that both were taken from the lost copy that Lipsius mentioned in his letters to van Hout. The Diez psalms have been edited

by Hagen (1816), Ypeij and Clarisse (1835-42), Heyne (1877.7-40), van Helten (1902.13-54), Cowan (1957.23-45), Kyes (1969.32-99), Gysseling (1980.65-81), and Quak (1981.29-95).

4. Seven Low Franconian glosses from Ps.55. F.W.E. Roth (1894.70) published fourteen glosses that he had found in a gospel concordance. According to him, the manuscript dated from the ninth century. Its present location is not known. The glosses are listed in Steinmeyer and Sievers (1898, Vol. 4, 685-686), who got them from Roth's announcement, but added that this concordance manuscript had originally come from a Rhenish monastery, and that it had been sold to an individual from Ohio in 1894. It was Friedrich Götz (1959.212-214) who associated seven of these fourteen glosses with Ps.55 of the Diez psalms. The glosses appear in Roth (1894.70), Steinmeyer and Sievers (1898, Vol. 4, 685), Götz (1959.212-214), Gysseling (1980.59), and Quak (1981.135-136).

5. Lips. 53, Universiteitsbibliotheek, Leiden, a handwritten list of 822 Low and Central Franconian words and phrases. Each Franconian entry is accompanied by its Latin lemma and by a numeral or abbreviation indicating the psalm or hymn from which it was taken. The glosses are generally in alphabetical order, suggesting that there may have existed an earlier list whose entries were in the order of their occurrence in the original text. The source for that list may well have been the copy of Wachtendonck's psalter that Lipsius referred to in his letters to van Hout. The margins contain

many notations, most of which are contemporary Dutch words corresponding to the glosses. Since these notations are in Lipsius' hand, the list must have been prepared prior to 23 March 1606, when Lipsius died. The manuscript went unnoticed until 1860, when W.G. Pluygers, chief librarian at the University of Leiden, found it among Lipsius' papers in the university library. Editions appear in Haupt (1867), Heyne (1877.41-59), van Helten (1902.58-89), Kyes (1969.100-155), Gysseling (1980.81-111, with decipherments of Lipsius' notes), and Quak (1981.97-193).

6. A list of 670 Low and Central Franconian words and phrases with Latin equivalents, included in Lipsius' letter to Schott of 19 December 1598. Nearly all the forms listed here also occur in the Leiden MS; in the Schott epistle, however, words having the same initial letter are subdivided into *Nomina* and *Verba*, under which they are further alphabetized. The original letter has been lost, but was printed in collections of Lipsius' correspondence, the earliest being *Iusti Lipsii Epistolarum selectarum centuria III ad Belgas* (43-54), five editions of which appeared between 1602 and 1605. Quak (1972b) provides a photographic reproduction of the first edition's list; in his *Psalmen und Glossen* (1981) he cites entries from the Schott epistle together with the corresponding ones from the Leiden MS (97-193), thus facilitating comparison of the two lists. Gysseling (1980) lists the epistle glosses in his notes to the Leiden MS (81-111), but



without lemmata.

7. Five glosses listed in Lipsius' *Poliorceticon* (1596.7), with lemmata. As these also occur in the Leiden MS of the Lipsius glosses, and in the Schott epistle, they may have been taken directly from the Leiden MS, or from a common ancestor. They appear in Gysseling's edition (1980.81).

On the strength of Lipsius' testimony, and of evidence revealed by the fragments themselves, one may confidently assume that all the fragments descended--albeit indirectly, via lost intermediate copies--from the manuscript that Arnold Wachtendonck made available to Lipsius in Liège between the summers of 1591 and 1592.

The purpose of this dictionary is to display the words that occur in those descendants in a way that renders them readily accessible, and their class, meaning, category, and location identifiable.

This is certainly not the first attempt to collect and display the surviving lexicon of the Wachtendonck psalms and glosses. The *Glossar* to Heyne's edition includes forms from several Old Low Franconian, Old Central Franconian, and Old Saxon texts, listed with their Latin equivalents under alphabetically ordered headwords (1877.99-206). Van Helten (1902) gives two indices, one for Low Franconian (95-111) and one for Central Franconian (112-115). Cowan provides a selective list of Low Franconian forms and their Latin equivalents (1957.46-61). Köbler (1971, 1972) and Köbler and Quak (1973)

are useful for determining Latin-Low German lexical correspondences. Quak's *Wortkonkordanz* (1975) is both exclusive and complete, presenting the Wachtendonck lexicon alphabetically rather than under headwords. Gysseling's *Corpus* (1980) contains four indices (143-282, prepared by Willy Pijnenburg), arranged respectively by alphabetical order, reverse alphabetical order, frequency of occurrence in the edition (i.e., not in all known texts), and word length; the indices include words from some Old Saxon texts as well as the Old Low and Central Franconian psalms and glosses. Quak (1981:195-209) lists normalized citation forms only.

Each of these glossaries and indices, however, exhibits one or more of the following shortcomings: specific lexical items are difficult or impossible to locate; actual forms, as they occur in the extant texts, are difficult or impossible to ascertain; portions of the corpus are not represented; words from texts other than the Wachtendonck fragments are included; Latin lemmata are cited that do not occur anywhere in the extant corpus; Latin forms that do occur in the corpus are altered to conform to the Vulgate; Biblical place-names and person-names are excluded; grammatical identification of forms is incomplete, inconsistent, or absent.

2. *Headwords.* This dictionary is a compilation of forms that occur in the Old Low and Central Franconian psalms and glosses. The forms that occur in the texts are arranged