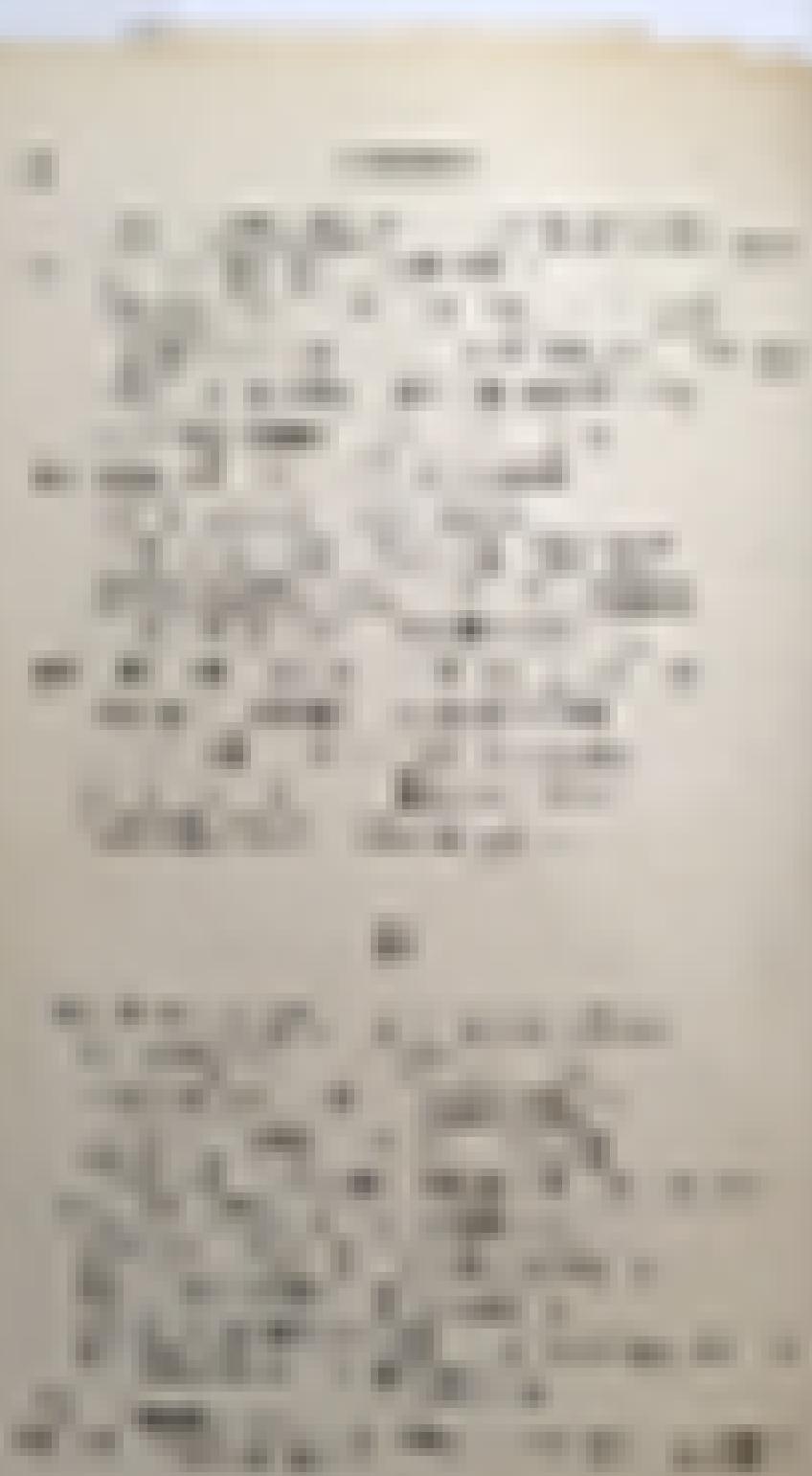


ac hīe hæfdon gefrūnen, þāt hīe ār tō fela micles
 695 in þām wīn-sele wæl-dēað fornām,
 Denigea lēode. Ac him Dryhten forgeaf
 wīg-spēda gewiofu, *Wedera leōdum Fol. 146^a.
 frōfor ond fultum, þāt hīe fēond heora
 ðurh ānes cræft ealle ofercōmon,
 700 selfes mihtum; sōð is gecȳþed,
 þāt mihtig God manna cynnes
 wēold wīde-ferhð. Cōm on wanre niht
 scriðan sceadu-genga. Scēotend swāfon,
 þāt þāt horn-reced healdan scoldon,
 705 ealle būton ānum. þāt wæs yldum cūþ,
 þāt hīe ne mōste, þāt metod nolde,
 se syn-scaþa under sceadu bregdan;
 ac hē wæccende wrāþum on andan
 bād bolgen-mōd beadwa geþinges.

XI.

710 Dā cōm of mōre under mist-hleoþum
 Grendel gongan, Godes yrre bær;
 mynte se mān-scaða manna cynnes
 sumne besyrwan in sele þām hēan.
 Wōd under wolcnum, tō þās þe hē wīn-reced,
 715 gold-sele gumena, gearwost wisse,
 fættum fāhne; ne wæs þāt forma sīð,
 þāt hē Hrōþgāres hām gesōhte.
 Nāfre hē on aldor-dagum ār *ne siþan Fol. 146^b.
 heardran hæle, heal-ðegnas fand.

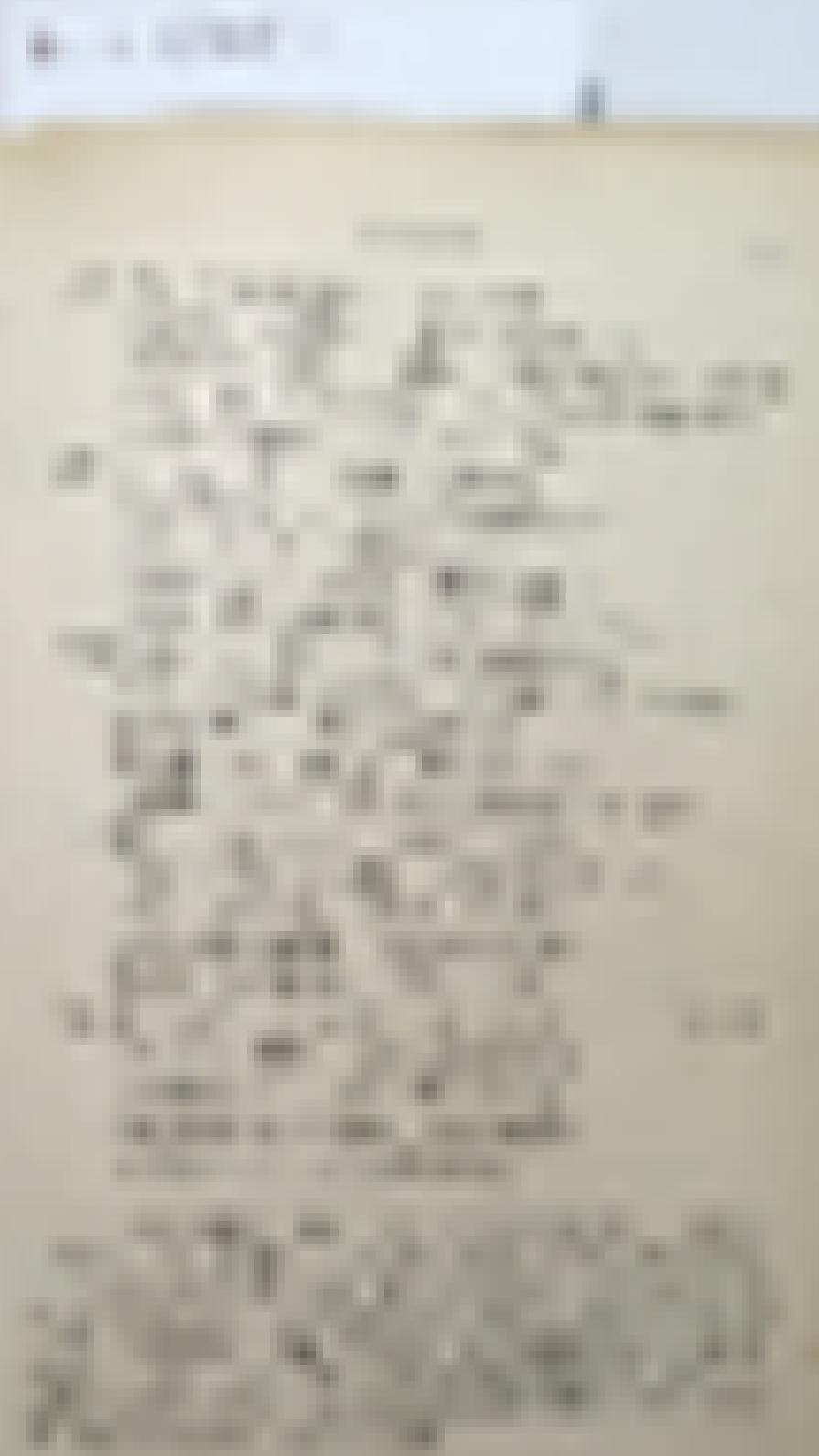
702. Thorkelin ‘ride’; “now nothing left but part of the perpendicular stroke of the first letter.”



- 720 Cōm þā tō recede rinc sīðian
drēamum bedāled; durū sōna onarn,
fȳr-bendum fæst, syþðan hē hire folmum [hr]ān;
onbrād þā bealo-hȳdig, ðā [hē ge]bolgen wæs,
recedes mūþan. Raþe æfter þon
- 725 on fāgne flōr fēond treddode,
ēode yrre-mōd; him of ēagum stōd
ligge gelīcost lēoht unfæger.
Geseah hē in recede rinca manige,
swefan sibbe-gedriht samod ætgædere,
- 730 mago-rinca hēap. þā his mōd āhlōg;
mynte þæt hē gedālde, āer þon dæg cwōme,
atol āglāeca, ānra gehwylces
līf wið līce, þā him ālumpen wæs
wist-fylle wēn. Ne wæs þæt wyrd þā gēn,
- 735 þæt hē mā mōste manna cynnes
ðicgean ofer þā niht. þrȳð-swȳð behēold
māeg Higelāces, hū se mān-scaða
under fār-gripum gefaran wolde.
Ne þæt se āglāeca yldan þōhte,
- 740 ac hē ge*fēng hraðe forman sīðe Fol. 131^a.
slāpendne rinc, slāt unwearnum, ✓
bāt bān-locan, blōd ēdrum dranc,
syn-snādum swealh; sōna hæfde
unlyfigendes eal gefeormod,

722. MS. defective at edge. Zupitza's transliteration of the facsimile of the MS. has '[gehr]an.' There is room for two letters before *hrān*, but there is no evidence for *ge-*. On the contrary, whilst *hrīnan* usually governs the dat., *gehrīnan* more commonly takes the accus. (*pace Grein*).

723. MS. faded at edge. Kemble, Grein-Wülcker, and Heyne '[hē] ābolgen.' Zupitza says: "Now *bolgen* is still distinct, and before it I think I see traces of two letters of which the first seems to have been *g*; but what preceded this is entirely faded."



BEOWULF.

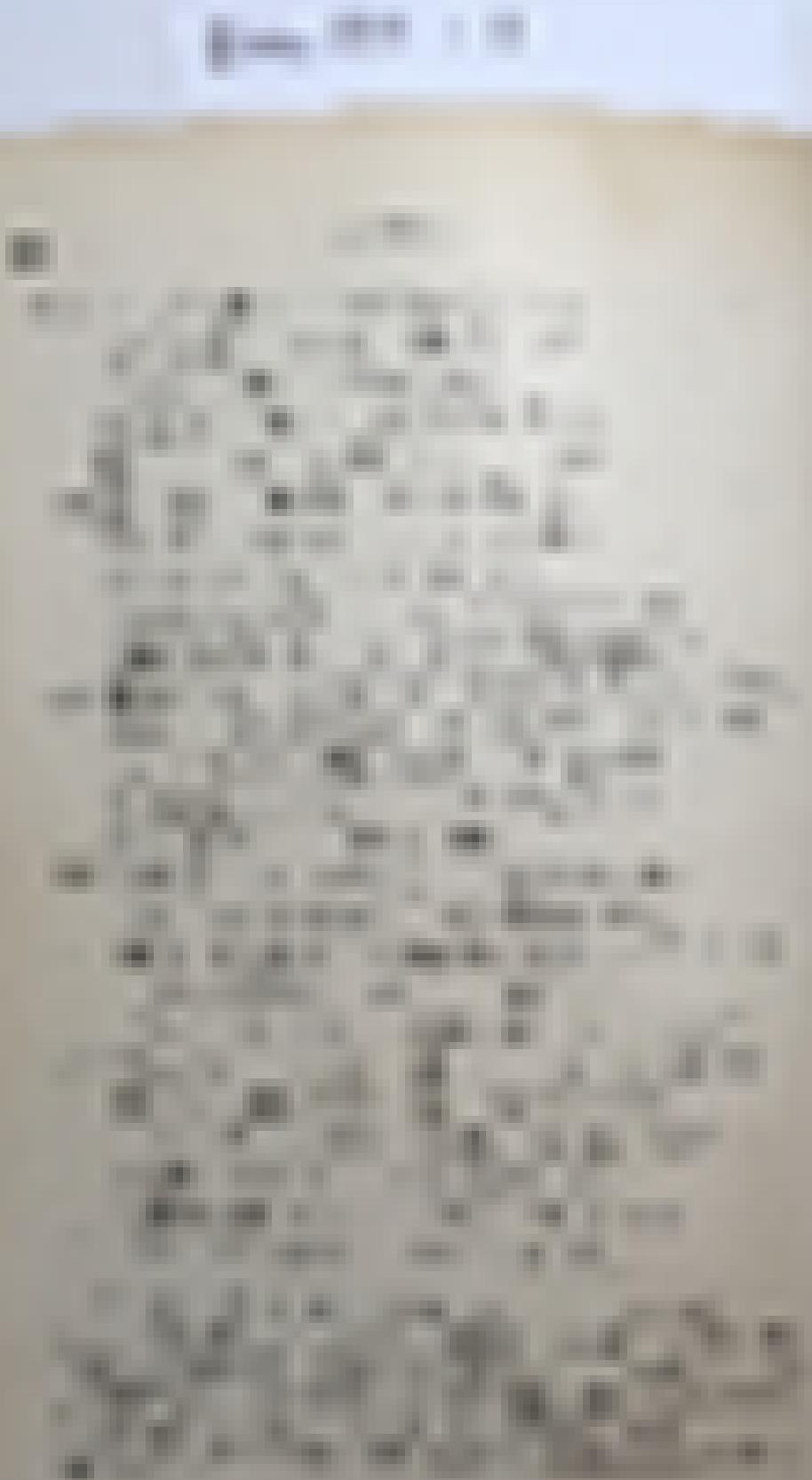
32

- 745 fēt ond folma. Forð nēar ætstōp,
 nam þā mid handa hige-þihtigne
 rinc on ræste; rāhte ongēan
 fēond mid folme; hē onfēng hraþe
 inwit-þancum ond wið earm gesæt.
- 750 Sōna þæt onfunde fyrena hyrde,
 þæt hē ne mētte middan-geardes,
 eorþan sceatta, on elran men
 mund-gripe māran; hē on mōde wearð
 forht, on ferhðe; nō þy ār fram meahte.
- 755 Hyge wæs him hin-fūs, wolde on heolster flēon,
 sēcan dēofla gedræg; ne wæs his drohtoð þær,
 swylce hē on ealder-dagum ār gemētte.
 Gemunde þā se gōda māg Higelāces
 æfen-spræce, up-lang āstōd
- 760 ond him fæste wiðfēng; fingras burston;
 eoten wæs ūt-weard; eorl furþur stōp.
 Mynte se māra, *hwār hē meahte swā, Fol. 131^b.
 wīdre gewindan ond on weg þanon
 flēon on fen-hopu; wiste his fingra geweald
- 765 on grames grāpum. þæt (hē) wæs gēocor sīð,
 þæt se hearm-scaþa tō Heorute ātēah.
 Dryht-sele dynede; Denum eallum wearð,
 ceaster-būendum, cēnra gehwylcum,
 eorlum ealu-scerwen. Yrre wāron begen
- 770 rēþe rēn-weardas. Reced hlynsode;

752. Many editors normalise to 'scēata.' See Sievers § 230.

762. MS. defective at corner. Ettmüller, Wülcker, Heyne 'þær.' Zupitza's transliteration 'hwær,' as if there were no doubt as to the reading, but his foot-note runs: "hwær (hw with another ink, and crossed out in pencil) B, ... aer A; now only the lower part of r left."

765. MS. 'þæt he wæs.' Grein suggested the accepted emendation—the omission of hē.



þā wæs wundor micel, þæt se wīn-sele
 wiðhæfde heaþo-dēorum, þæt hē on hrūsan ne fēol,
 fæger fold-bold; ac hē þæs fæste wæs
 innan ond utan īren-bendum

775 searo-þoncum besmiþod. þær fram sylle ābēag
 medu-benc monig, mīne gefrāge,
 golde geregnad, þær þā graman wunnon;
 þæs ne wēndon ēr witan Scyldinga,
 þæt hit ā mid gemete manna ēnig,

780 betlīc ond bān-fāg, tōbrecan meahte,
 listum tōlūcan, nymþe līges fæþm
 swulge on swaþule. Swēg *ūp āstāg Fol. 147^a.
 nīwe geneahhe; Norð-Denum stōd
 atelīc egesa, ānra gehwylcum,

785 þāra þe of wealle wōp gehȳrdon,
 gryre-lēoð galan godes ondsacan,
 sige-lēasne sang, sār wānigean
 helle hæftan. Hēold hine fæste,
 sē þe manna wæs mægene strongest

790 on þām dæge þysses līfes.

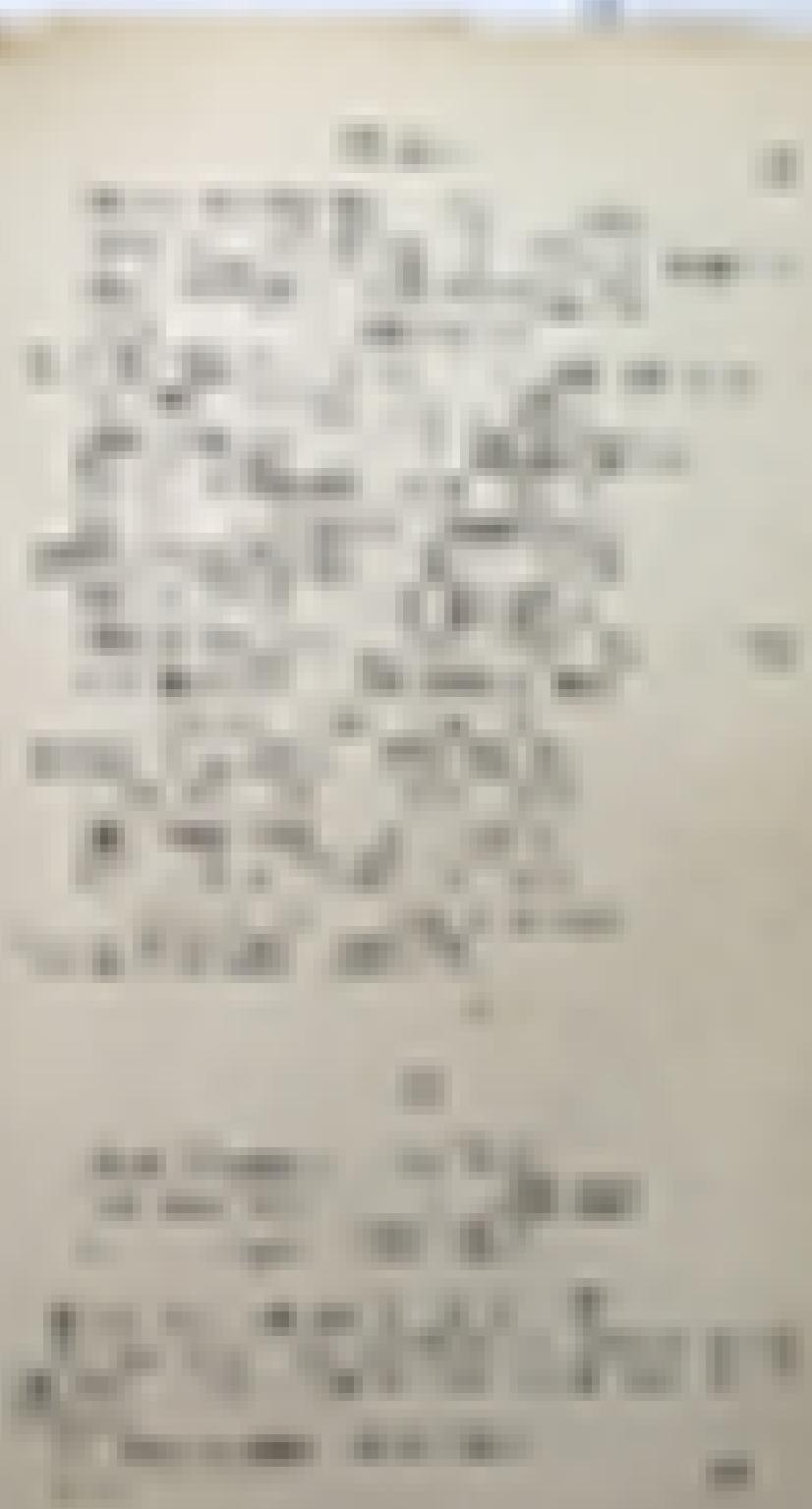
XII.

Nolde eorla hlēo ēnige þinga
 þone cwealm-cuman cwicne forlātan,
 ne his līf-dagas lēoda ēnigum

780. MS. 'hetlic'; Grundtvig 'betlīc.' Cf. I. 1925.

788. Zupitza and others 'helle-hæftan,' but nothing is gained by making them a compound. For *-an* of the weak declension, *-on* is not uncommon.

Almost all editors insert 'tō' before 'fæste.'

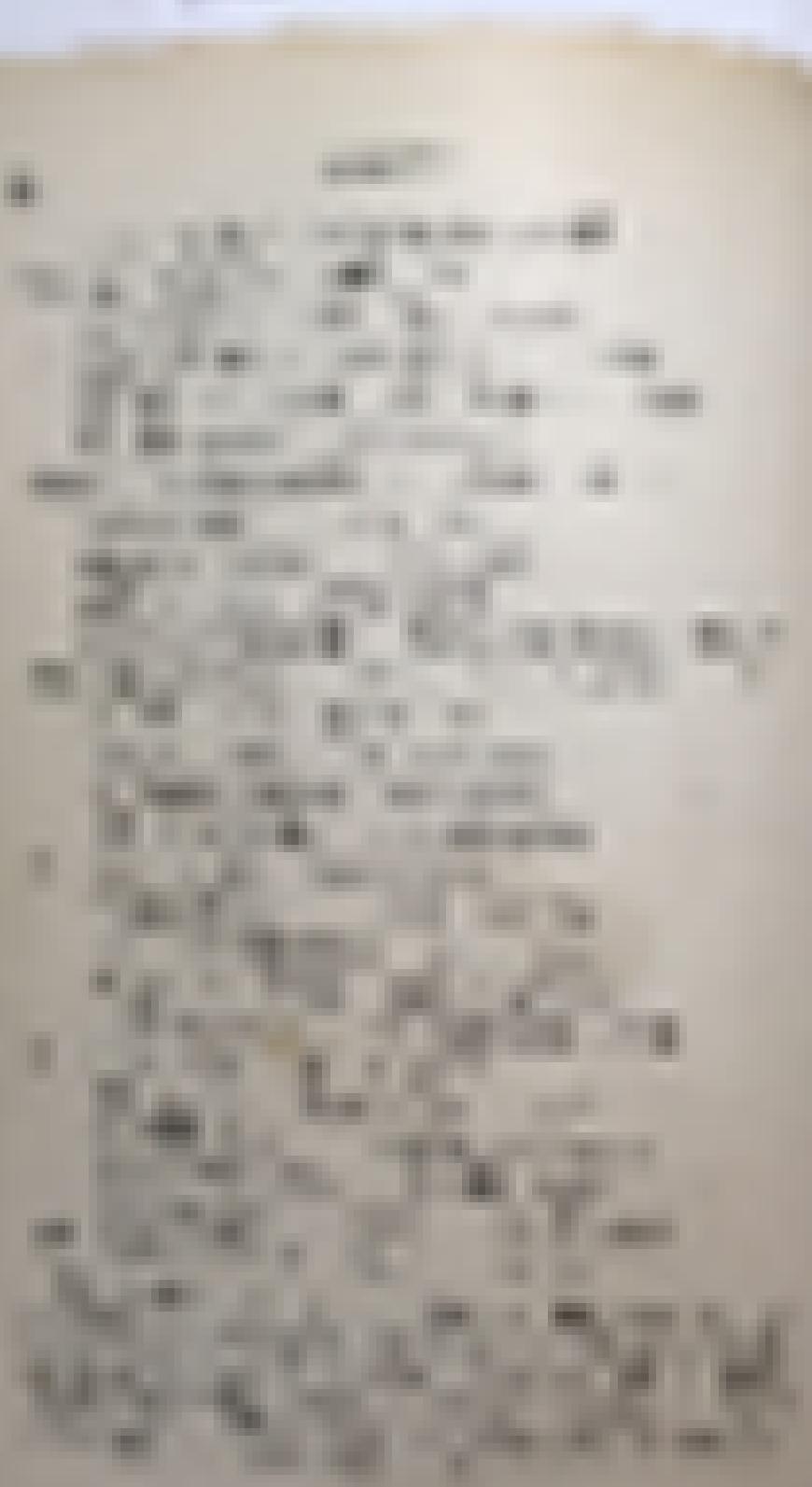


BEOWULF.

34

- nytte tealde. þær genehost brægd
 795 eorl Bēowulfes ealde lāfe,
 wolde frēa-drihtnes feorh ealgian,
 māeres þēodnes, ðær hīe meahton swā.
 Hīe þæt ne wiston, þā hīe gewin drugon,
 heard-hicgende hilde-mecgas,
 800 ond on healfa gehwone hēawan þōhton,
 sāwle sēcan: þone syn-scaðan
 ænig ofer eorþan īrenna cyst,
 gūð-billa nān, grētan nolde;
 ac hē sige-wāepnum *forsworen hæfde, Fol. 147^b.
 805 ecga gehwylcre. Scolde his aldor-gedāl
 on ðām dæge þysses līfes
 earmlīc wurðan, ond se ellor-gāst
 on fēonda geweald feor sīðian.
 Ðā þæt onfunde, sē þe fela āror
 810 mōdes myrðe manna cynne
 fyrene gefremede, hē fāg wið God,
 þæt him se līc-homa lāstan nolde,
 ac hine se mōdega māg Hygelāces
 hæfde be honda; wās gehwæþer ōðrum
 815 lifigende lāð. Līc-sār gebād
 atol æglāeca; him on eaxle wearð
 syn-dolh sweotol; seonowe onsprungon,
 burston bān-locan. Bēowulfe wearð
 gūð-hrēð gyfeþe; scolde Grendel þonan
 820 feorh-sēoc flēon under fen-hleoðu,

811. Kemble first inserted 'wās' after 'hē.' Heyne has: '(he wās fāg wið god)', which appears to me a distinct enfeeblement of the MS. reading. *Fāg* comes at the beginning of a line in the MS., and Heyne says it cannot be settled whether or not *wās* stood before it. This is very misleading. "There was no room for *wās* before *fag*" (Zupitza), as a glance at the facsimile suffices to show.

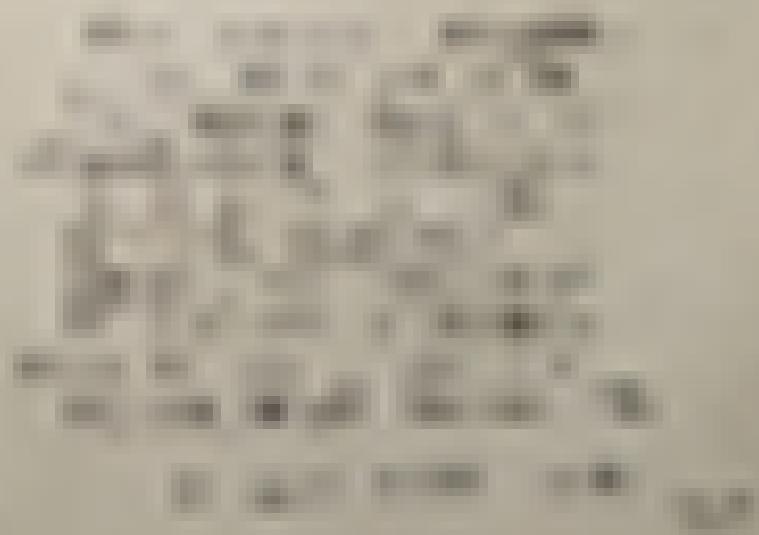
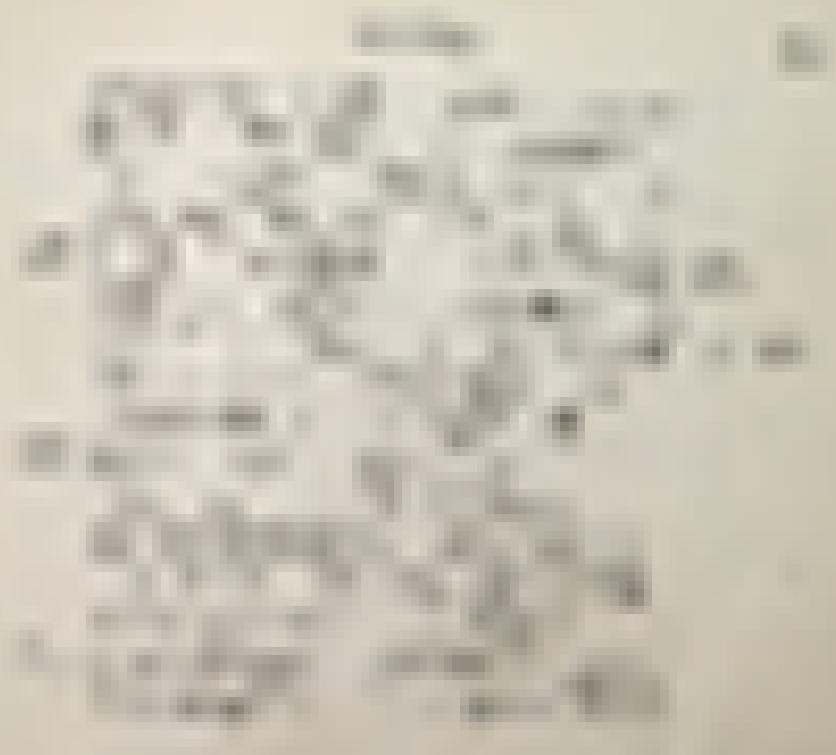


- sēcean wyn-lēas wīc; wiste þē geornor,
 þæt his aldres wæs ende gegongen,
 dōgera dæg-rīm. Denum eallum wearð
 æfter þām wæl-rāese willa gelumpen.
 825 Hæfde þā gefālsod, sē þe ār feorran cōm,
 snotor ond swȳð-ferhð sele Hrōðgāres,
 genered wið *nīðe; niht-weorce gefeh, Fol. 148a.
 ellen-mārþum. Hæfde East-Denum
 Gēat-mecga lēod gilp gelāsted,
 830 swylce oncȳþde ealle gebētte,
 iñwid-sorge, þe hīe ār drugon
 ond for þrēa-nȳdum þolian scoldon,
 torn unlȳtel. Þæt wæs tācen sweotol,
 syþðan hilde-dēor hond ālegde,
 835 earm ond eaxle (þār wæs eal geador
 Grendles grāpe) under gēapne hr[ōf].

XIII.

- Ðā wæs on morgen, mīne gefrāge,
 ymb þā gif-healle gūð-rinc monig;
 fērdon folc-togan feorran ond nēan
 840 geond wīd-wegas wundor scēawian,
 lāþes lāstas. Nō his līf-gedāl
 sārlīc þūhte secga ānegum,
 þāra þe tīr-lēases trode scēawode,
 hū hē wērig-mōd on weg þanon,
 845 nīða ofercumen on nicera mere,
 fāge ond geflȳmed, feorh-lāstas bær.

836. MS. defective at edge. Cf. l. 926.



Ðær wæs on blōde brim weallende,
atol yða geswing eal gemenged
hāton heolfre, *heoro-drēore, wēol ; Fol. 148^b.

850 dēað-fæge dēog, siððan drēama lēas
in fen-freoðo feorh ālegde,
hāþene sāwle; þār him hel onfēng.
þanon eft gewiton eald-gesīðas,
swylce geong manig of gomen-wāþe,
855 fram mere mōdge mēarum rīdan,
beornas on blancum. Ðær wæs Bēowulfes
māerðo māned; monig oft gecwæð,
þætte sūð ne norð be sām twēonum
ofer eormen-grund ōþer nānig

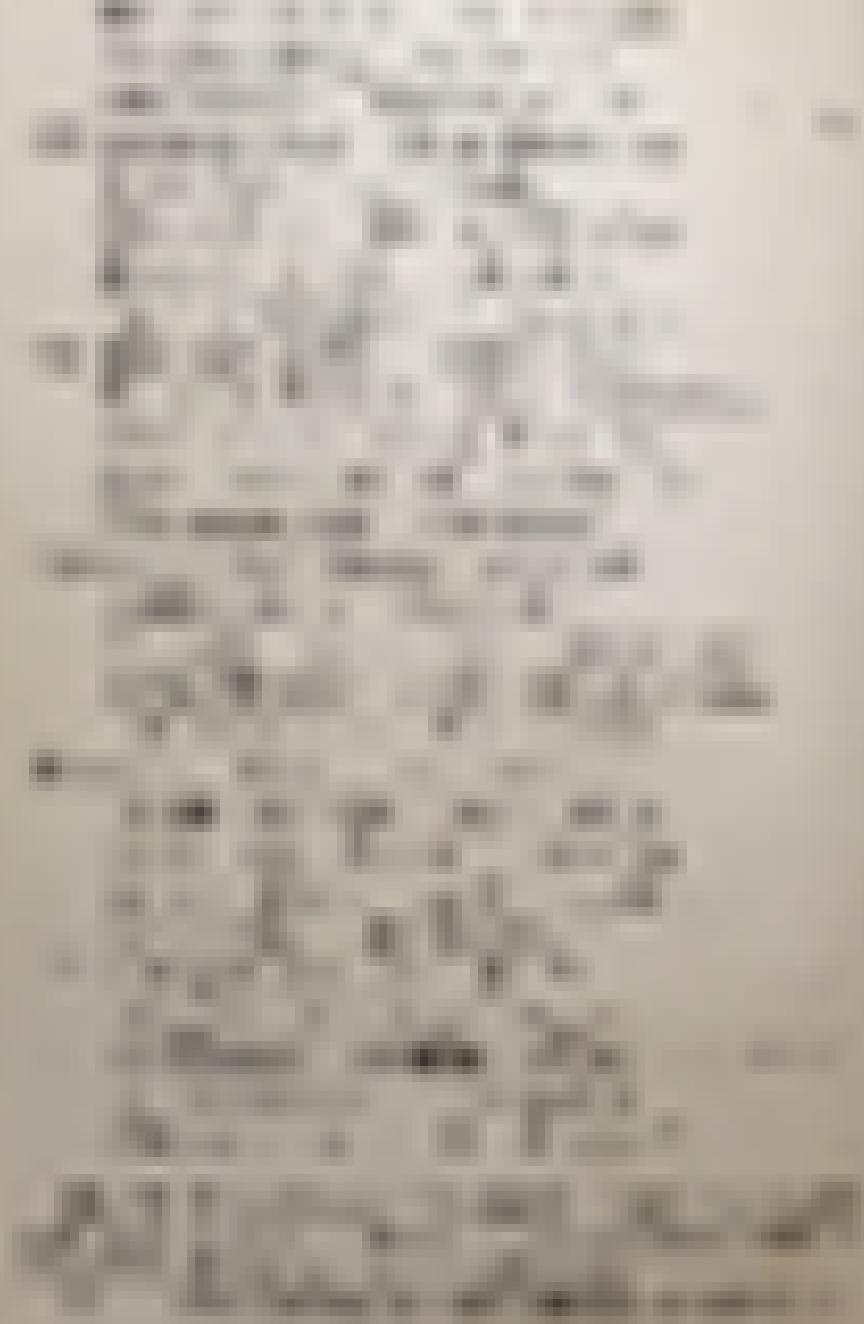
860 under swegles begong sēlra nāere
rond-hæbbendra, rīces wyrðra.
Ne hīe hūru wine-drihten wiht ne lōgon,
glædne Hrōðgār, ac þæt wæs gōd cyning.
Hwīlum heaþo-rōfe hlēapan lēton,

865 on geflit faran, fealwe mēaras,
ðār him fold-wegas fægere þūhton,
cystum cūðe. Hwīlum cyninges þegn,
guma gilp-hlæden, gidda gemyndig,
sē ðe eal-fela eald-gesegena

870 worn gemunde, word ōþer fand
sōðe gebunden. Secg eft ongan
sīð Bēowulfes snyttrum *styrian,
ond on spēd wrecan spel gerāde,
wordum wrixlan; wel-hwylc gecwæð, Fol. 149^a.

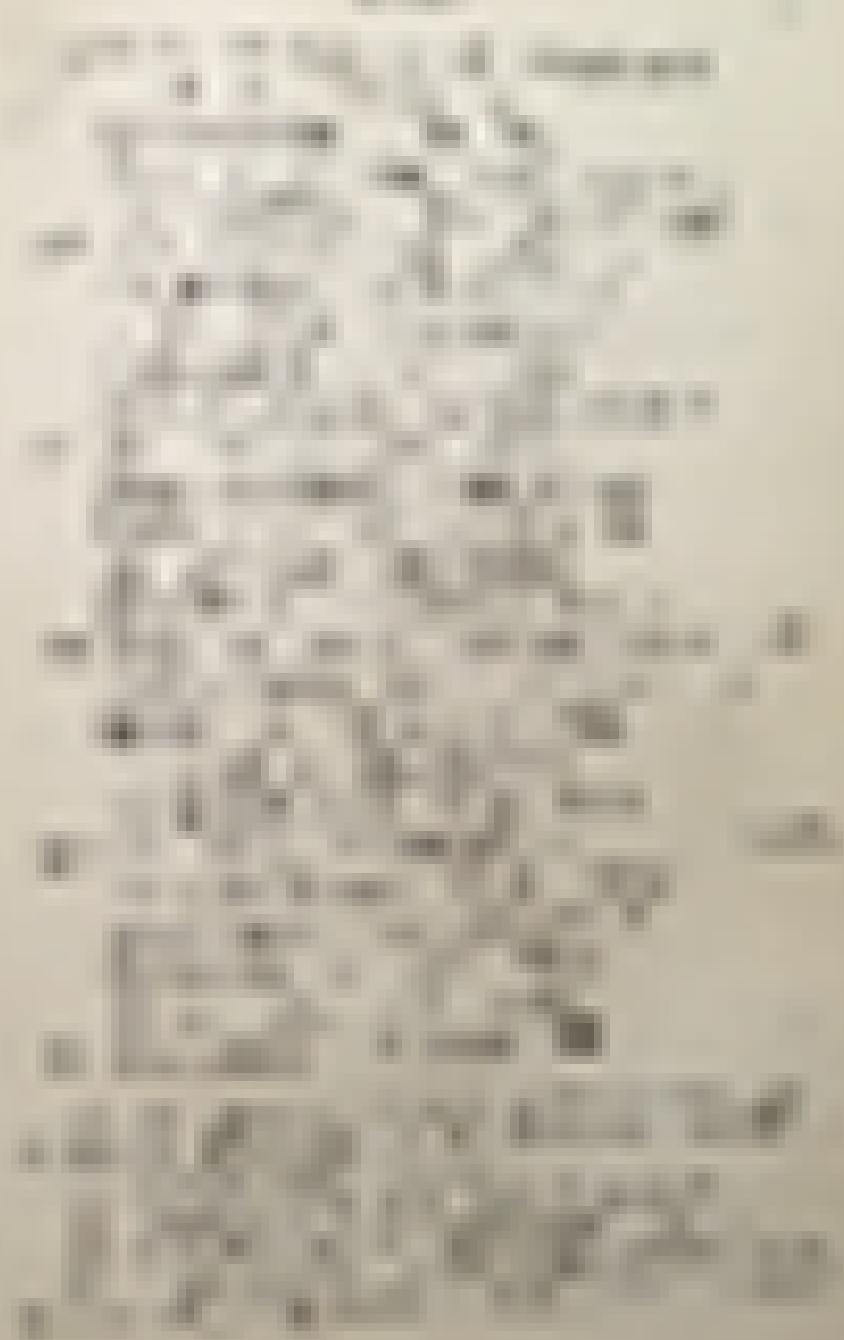
849. MS. ‘hat on heolfre,’ and so Wüller. Grein ‘hātan’ = *hāton* in the text. The reading in the text is much easier than that of the MS., and l. 1423 turns the probability in its favour.

870—1. Rieger and Bugge put ‘word...gebunden’ in a parenthesis.



875 þæt hē fram Sigemunde[s] secgan hȳrde
 ellen-dādum, uncūþes fela,
 Wælsinges gewin, wīde sīðas,
 þāra þe gumena bearn gearwe ne wiston,
 fāhðe ond fyrena, būton Fitela mid hine,
 880 þonne hē swulces hwæt secgan wolde
 ēam his nefan, swā hīe ā wāron
 æt nīða gehwām nȳd-gesteallan ;
 hæfdon eal-fela eotena cynnes
 sweordum gesāged. Sigemunde gesprong
 885 æfter dēað-dæge dōm unlītel,
 syþðan wīges heard wyrm ācwealde,
 hordes hyrde; hē under hārne stān,
 æþelinges bearn, āna genēðe
 frēcne dāde; ne wæs him Fitela mid ;
 890 hwæþre him gesālde, ðæt þæt swurd þurhwōd
 wrætlīcne wyrm, þæt hit on wealle ætstōd,
 dryhtlīc īren; draca morðre swealt.
 Hæfde āglāca elne gegongen,
 þæt hē bēah-hordes brūcan mōste
 895 selfes dōme; *sā-bāt gehlēod, Fol. 149^b.
 bær on bearm scipes beorhte frætwa
 Wælses eafera; wyrm hāt gemealt.
 Sē wæs wreccena wīde mārost
 ofer wer-þēode, wīgendra hlēo,
 900 ellen-dādum; hē þæs ār onðāh.

875. MS. ‘Sigemunde.’ Grein’s emendation ‘Sigemundes’ is good in itself, and is the more probable in that the next word begins with *s*.
880. Heyne normalises to ‘swylces.’
885. Many editors normalise to ‘gehlōd.’ Sievers § 392, N. 3.
897. Earle adopts Scherer’s emendation ‘hāt[e],’ with heat.
900. Cosijn’s emendation ‘āron ðāh,’ with honours throng, is adopted by Heyne and by Earle. For *āron*=*ārum* cf. *scypon* l. 1154, and *hēaf-*



BEOWULF.

38

Siððan Heremōdes hild sweðrode,
 eafoð ond ellen; hē mid eotenum wearð
 on fēonda geweald forð forlācen,
 snūde forsended. Hine sorh-wylmas
 905 lemede tō lange; hē his lēodum wearð,
 eallum æþelingum, tō aldor-ceare.
 Swylce oft bemearn āerran mālum
 swið-ferhþes sīð snotor ceorl monig,
 sē þe him bealwa tō bōte gelȳfde,
 910 þæt þæt ðēodnes bearn geþēon scolde,
 fæder æþelum onfōn, folc gehealdan,
 hord ond hlēo-burh, hæleþa rīce,
 ēðel Scyldinga. Hē þær eallum wearð,
 māg Higelāces manna cynne,
 915 frēondum gefægra; hine fyren onwōd.
 Hwīlum flītende fealwe strāte
 mēarum māton. Dā wæs morgen-lēoht
 scofen ond scynded. *Eode scealc monig Fol. 150^a.
 swið-hicgende tō sele þām hēan
 920 searo-wundor sēon; swylce self cyning
 of brȳd-būre, bēah-horda weard,
 tryddode tīr-fæst getrume micle,
 cystum gecȳþed, ond his cwēn mid him
 medo-stīg gemæt mægþa hōse.

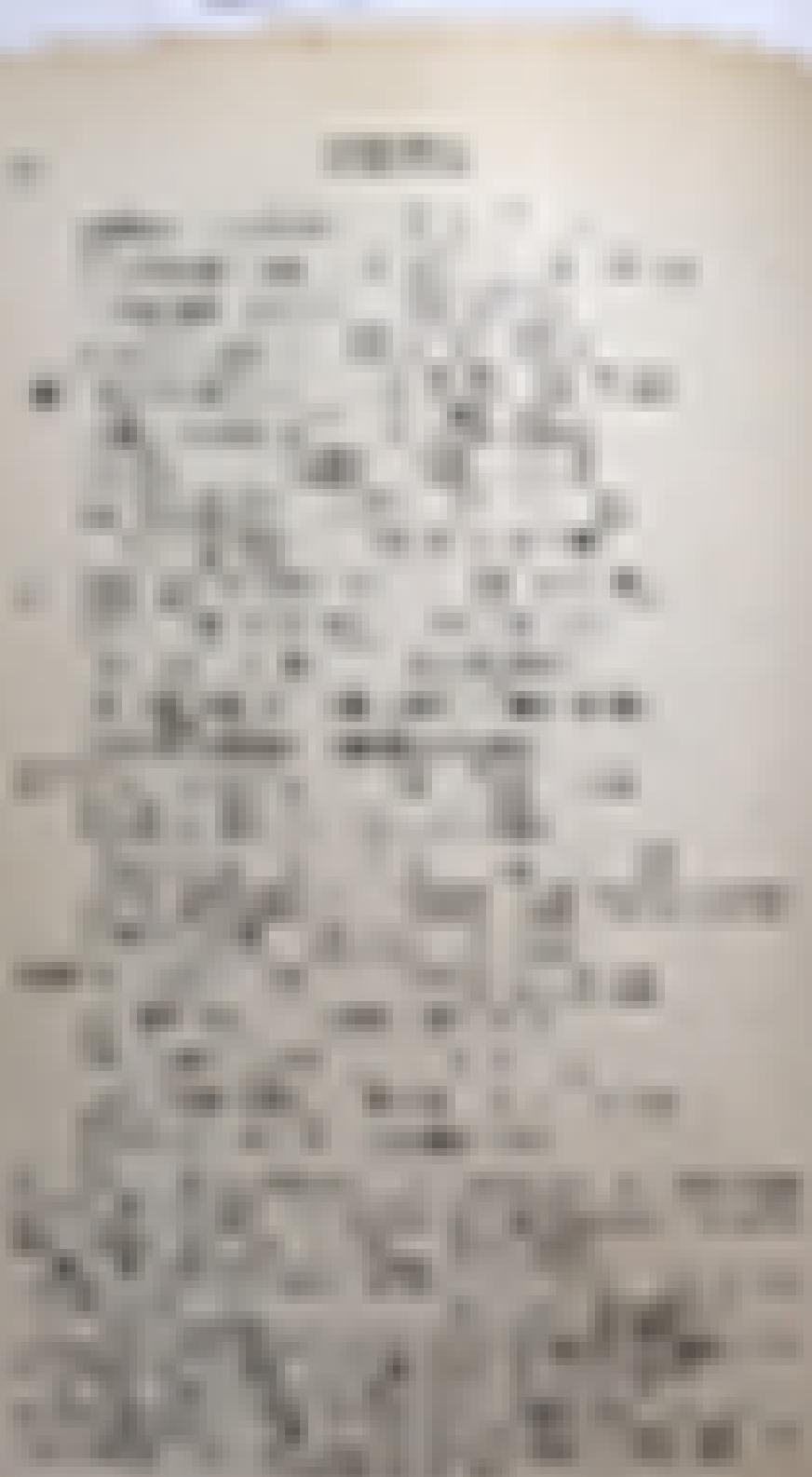
don l. 1242, and for the phrase cf. *weorð-myndum* þāh l. 8. Nevertheless I cannot bring myself to abandon the clear reading of the MS., which makes at least as good sense as many another passage.

902. MS. ‘earfoð,’ retained by Wülcker; cf. l. 534. On the other hand, see ll. 602, 2349.

906. MS. ‘æþellingum.’

911. There appears to be no sufficient reason for making a compound, *fæder-æþelum*, here, as the editors do. Cf. ll. 21, 1479.

915. Some editors mark the close of this episode by a space between this line and the next. There is nothing more than a dot in the MS., not a fresh line, nor even a capital to *hwīlum*.

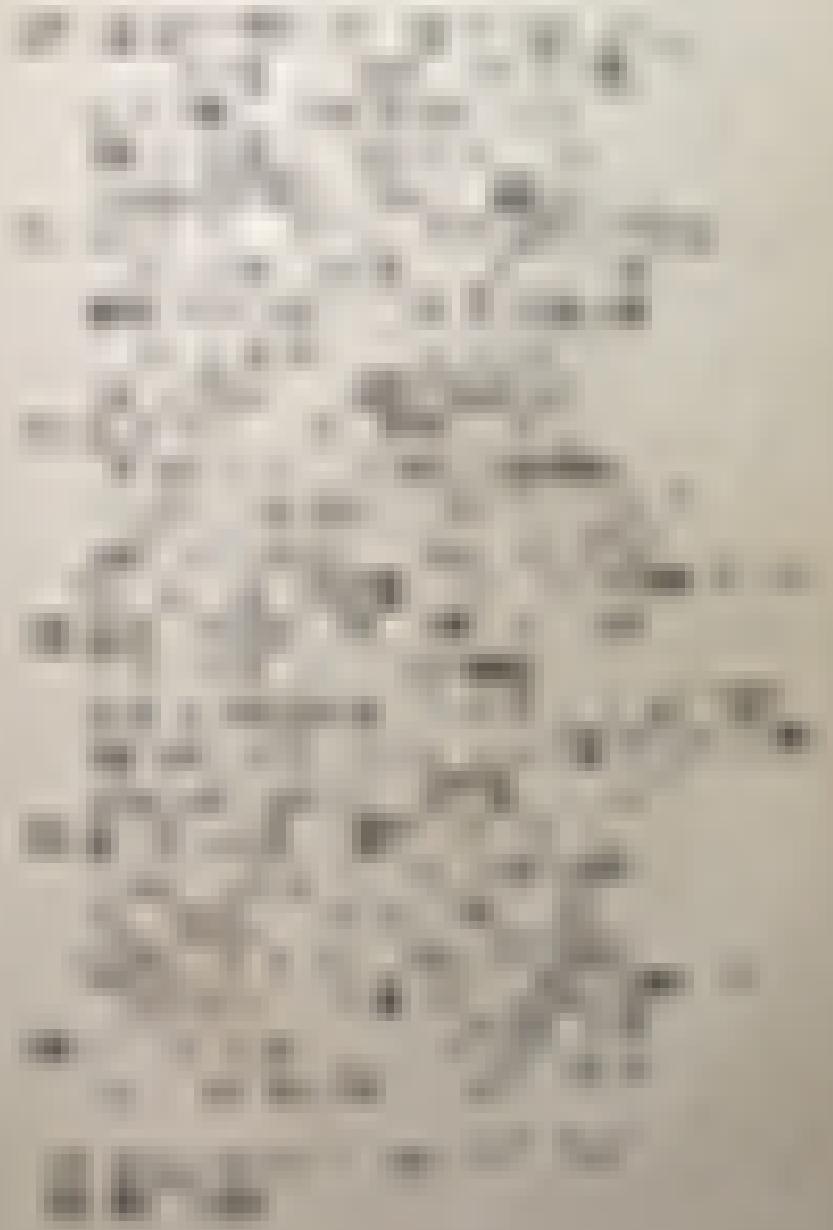


XIV.

925 Hrōðgār maþelode; hē tō healle gēong,
 stōd on stapole, geseah stēapne hrōf
 golde fāhne ond Grendles hond:
 “Disse ansȳne Al-wealdan þanc
 lungre gelimpe. Fela ic lāþes gebād,
 930 grynnna æt Grendle; ā mæg God wyrcan
 wunder æfter wundre, wuldres Hyrde.
 Ðæt wæs ungēara, þæt ic āenigra mē
 wēana ne wēnde tō wīdan fēore
 bōte gebīdan, þonne blōde fāh,
 935 hūsa sēlest heoro-drēorig stōd;
 wēa wīd-scofen witena gehwylcne,
 ðāra þe ne wēndon, þæt hīe wīde-ferhð
 lēoda land-geweorc lāþum beweredon
 *scuccum ond scinnum. Nū scealc hafað Fol. 150^b.
 940 þurh Drihtnes miht dād gefremede,
 ðe wē ealle ār ne meahton
 snyttrum besyrwan. Hwæt! þæt secgan mæg
 efne swā hwylc mægþa, swā ðone magan cende
 æfter gum-cynnum, gyf hēo gyt lyfað,
 945 þæt hyre eald Metod ēste wāre
 bearn-gebyrdo. Nū ic, Bēowulf, þec,
 secg betsta, mē for sunu wylle
 frēogan on ferhþe; heald forð tela
 nīwe sibbe. Ne bið þe [n]āenigra gād
 950 worolde wilna, þe ic geweald hæbbe.
 Ful oft ic for lāssan lēan teohhode,

945. Heyne ‘eald-metod.’ See note on l. 1776.

949. MS. ‘aenigre.’



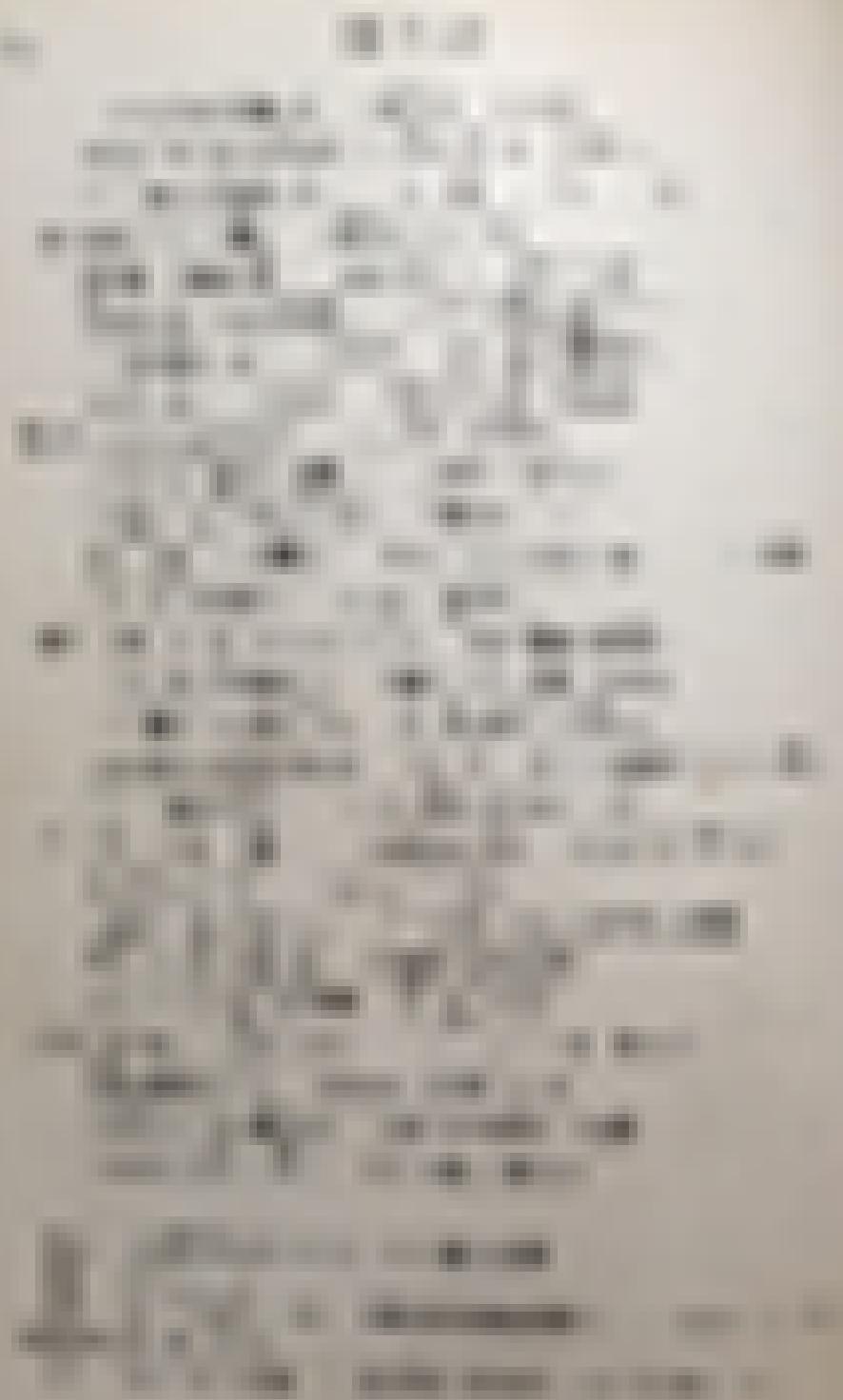
hord-weorþunge, hnāhran rince,
 sāemran æt sācce. • þū þē self hafast
 dādum gefremed, þæt þīn [dōm] lyfað
 955 āwa tō aldre. Al-walda þec
 gōde forgylde, swā hē nū gyt dyde!"
 Bēowulf maþelode, bearн Ec[g]þēowes:
 " Wē þæt ellen-weorc ēstum miclum,
 feohtan fremedon, frēcne genēðdon
 960 eafod uncūþes; ūþe ic swīþor,
 þæt ðū hine selfne gesēon mōste,
 fēond on frætewum fyl-wērigne.
 Ic hine hrædlīce *heardan clammum Fol. 151a.
 on wael-bedde wrīþan þōhte,
 965 þæt hē for mund-gripe mīnum scolde
 licgean līf-bysig, būtan his līc swice;
 ic hine ne mihte, þā Metod nolde,
 ganges getwāeman; nō ic him þæs georne ætfealh,
 feorh-genīðlan; wæs tō fore-mihtig
 970 fēond on fēþe. Hwæþere hē his folme forlēt
 tō līf-wraþe lāst weardian,
 earm ond eaxle; nō þār āenige swā þēah
 fēa-sceaft guma frōfre gebohte;
 nō þy leng leofað lāð-getēona
 975 synnum geswenced; ac hyne sār hafað
 in nȳd-gripe nearwe befongan,
 balwon bendum; ðār ābīdan sceal
 maga māne fāh miclan dōmes,

954. Kemble's emendation. No gap in MS.

963. MS. 'him.'

965. MS. 'hand gripe.' Kemble's emendation is required for the sake of the alliteration.

976. MS. 'mid gripe'; Thorpe 'nīð-gripe'; Bugge 'nȳd-gripe.'



BEOWULF.

hū him scīr Metod scrīfan wille.”
 980 **Dā** wæs swīgra secg sunu Ec[g]lāfes
 on gylp-sprāce gūð-geweorca,
 siþdan æþelingas eorles cræfte
 ofer hēanne hrōf hand scēawedon,
 fēondes fingras, foran āghwylc ;
 985 wæs steda nægla gehwylc stȳle gelīcost,
 hæþenes hand-sporu, *hilde-rinces Fol. 151^b.
 egl unhēoru ; āghwylc gecwæð,
 þæt him heardra nān hrīnan wolde
 īren ār-gōd, þæt ðæs āhlæcan
 990 blōdge beadu-folme onberan wolde.

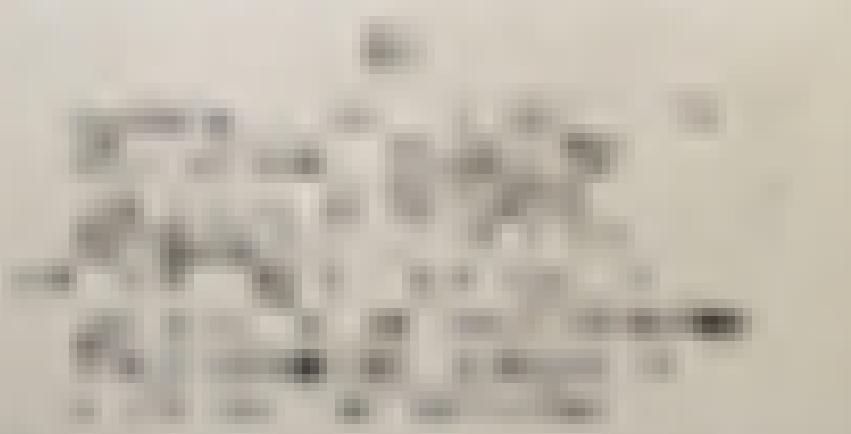
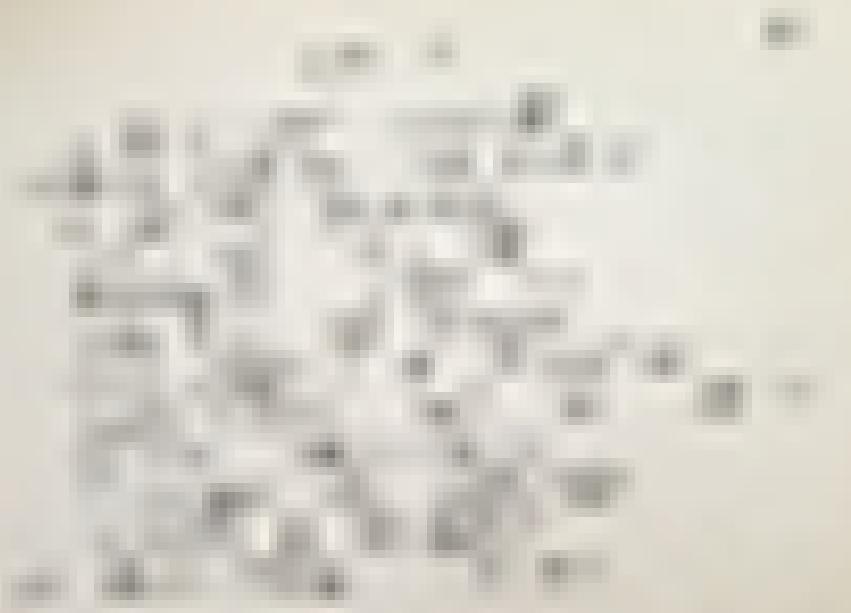
XV.

Dā wæs hāten hreþe Heort innan-weard
 folmum gefrætwod; fela þāra wæs
 wera ond wīfa, þe þæt wīn-reced,
 gest-sele, gyredon. Gold-fāg scinon
 995 web æfter wāgum, wundor-sīona fela
 secga gehwylcum, þāra þe on swylc starað.
 Wæs þæt beorhte bold tōbrocen swīðe,
 eal inne-weard īren-bendum fæst,

984—5. Suggestions too numerous to mention have been made for the emendation of these lines. Heyne adopts a fresh one with each new edition. Sievers considers the second half of l. 984 metrically deficient, and proposes:

fēondes fingras: foran āghwylc wæs
 stīðra nægla stȳle gelīcost.

986. MS. ‘hilde hilde rinces,’ the first *hilde* being the last word on the page, the second the first word overleaf. In such cases italics in the text seem needless. For *hand-sporu* see Sievers § 279.



BEOWULF.

42

heorras tōhlidene; hrōf āna genæs
 1000 ealles ansund, þā se āglēca
 fyren-dēdum fāg on flēam gewand,
 aldres orwēna. Nō þæt yðe byð
 tō beflēonne, fremme sē þe wille;
 ac gesacan sceal sāwl-berendra,
 1005 nýde genýdde, niþða bearna,
 grund-būendra, gearwe stōwe,
 þār his līc-homa leger-bedde fæst
 swefebj æfter symle. þā wæs sāl ond māl,
 þæt tō healle *gang Healfdenes sunu; Fol. 152a.
 1010 wolde self cyning symbol þicgan.

Ne gefrægen ic þā māgþe māran weorode
 ymb hyra sinc-gyfan sēl gebāran.

Bugon þā tō bence blāed-āgende,
 fylle gefægon; fægere geþægon

1015 medo-ful manig māgas þāra,

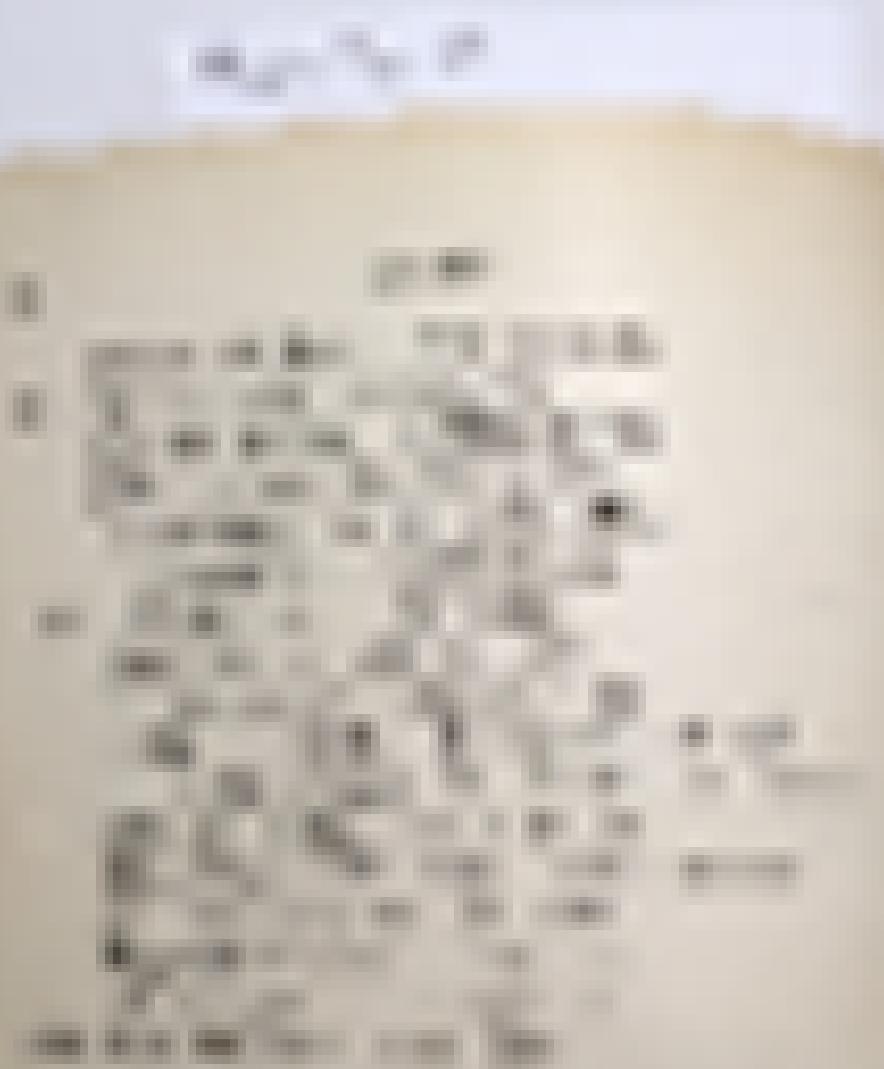
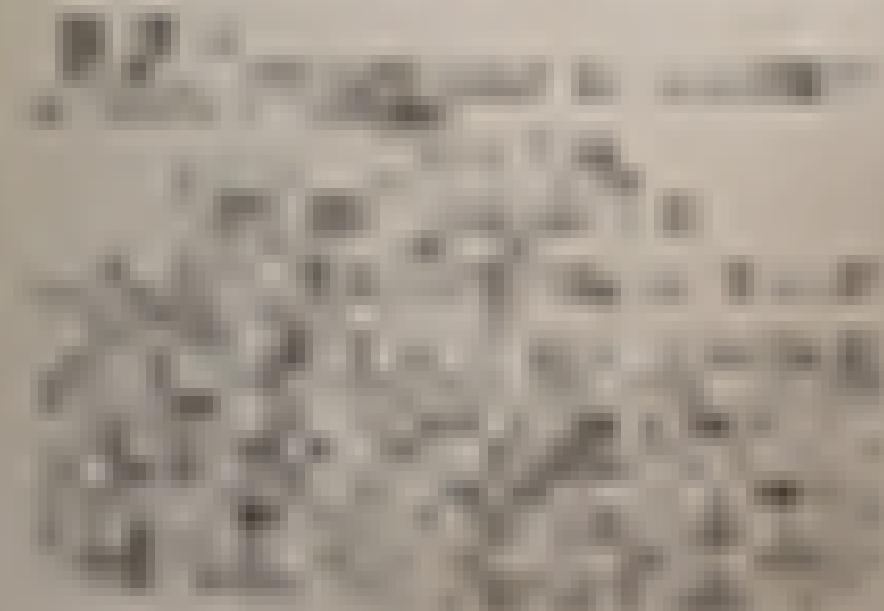
1000. MS. 'þe.'

1002—5. These lines, as given in Holder's edition, show the principal emendations that have been suggested:

Nō þæt yðe byð
 tō beflēonne (fremme sē þe wille!),
 ac gesēcan sceal sāwl-berendra [gehwa],
 nýde genýded niþða bearna.

1013. Thorkelin A 'blæd agande,' B 'blædagande.' The MS. now has only *blæd* left, and *de* on the next line.

1014—5. Bugge proposed to put these two lines in parentheses, because of "the difficulty of finding an antecedent for þāra." Heyne (5th edition) and Earle adopt the suggestion. This can only be on the principle—of two difficulties choose the greater. What a master of the parenthesis-style the "scop" must have been, to keep his hearers waiting for the subject of *bugon*, past two other finite verbs with a different subject, until four lines lower down! And what is to hinder the antecedent of *þāra* being implied in *blæd-āgende*, in speaking of a court



- swīð-hicgende, on sele þām hēan,
 Hrōðgār ond Hrōþulf. Heorot innan wæs
 frēondum āfyllled; nalles tācen-stafas
 þēod-Scyldingas þenden fremedon.
- 1020 Forgeaf þā Bēowulfe bearne Healfdenes
 segen gyldenne sigores tō lēane,
 hroden hilte-cumbor, helm ond byrnān;
 māre māðþum-sweord manige gesāwon
 beforan beorn beran. Bēowulf geþah
 1025 ful on flette. Nō hē þāre feoh-gyfte
 for scotenum scamigan ðorfte;
 ne gefrægn ic frēondlīcor fēower mādmas
 golde gegyrede gum-manna fela
 in ealo-bence ōðrum gesellan.
- 1030 Ymb þās helmes hrōf hēafod-beorge
 wīrum bewunden wala utan hēold,
 þæt him fēla *lāfe frēcne ne meahton Fol. 152^b.

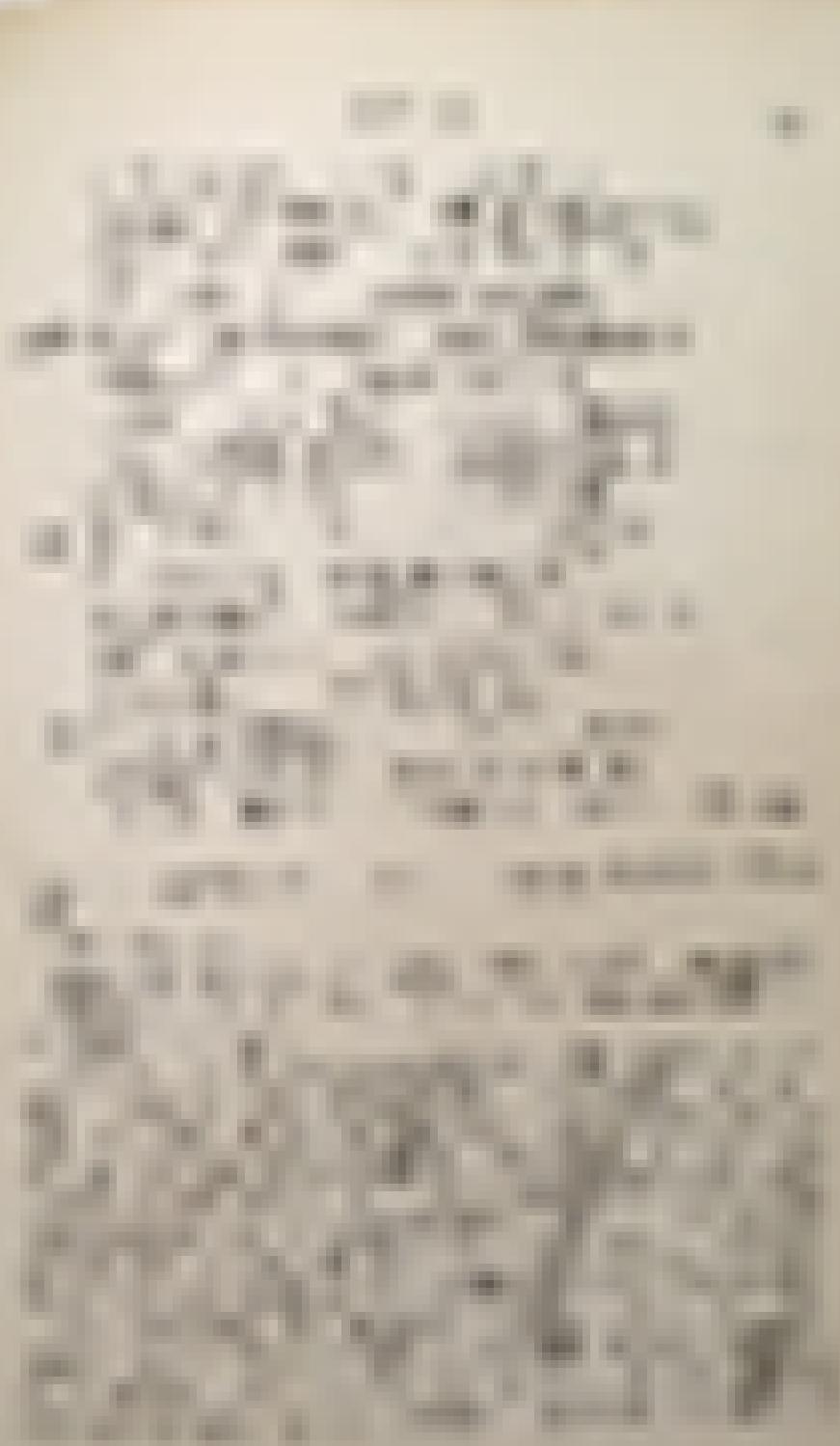
where everyone was doubtless related to everyone else, as in a Scotch clan?

1020. MS. 'brand.'

1026. MS. 'scotenum'; Grein 2 'scoterum'; Wūlcker 'scēotendum,' for which cf. ll. 703, 1154. Heyne quotes *oxenum*, *nefenum*, as examples of similar weak dat. pls.

1030—1. The MS. has 'heafod beorge wirum be wunden walān utan heold.' Ettmüller 'wala,' adopted by Grein. If we leave the MS. reading unaltered, there is a choice of difficulties. Either we must take *walān* as subject and *hēafod-beorge* as object, with a striking violation of grammatical concord in the verb *hēold*; or we must (with Heyne and Socin) take *hēafod-beorge* as a weak fem. noun in the nom. and *walān* as object, with considerable loss to the sense. The nom. pl. *scūr-beorge* ("Ruin") 5) also tells against the latter view, which has no support from analogy.

1032. Thorkelin 'laf' (now gone in the MS.). On account of this reading, Bugge ("Beiträge" xii. 92) supports Thorpe's emendation *meahte*, confirming it by the form *scūr-heard* in the next line, and by a reference to Sievers: "der erste halbvers ist nach den untersuchungen



- scūr-heard sceþðan, þonne scyld-freca
ongēan gramum gangan scolde.
- 1035 Heht ðā eorla hlēo eahta mēaras
fæted-hlēore on flet tēon,
in under eoderas; þāra ānum stōd
sadol searwum fāh, since gewurþad;
þæt wæs hilde-setl hēah-cyninges,
- 1040 ðonne sweorda gelāc sunu Healfdenes
efnan wolde; nāfre on ōre læg
wīd-cūþes wīg, ðonne walu fēollon.
Ond ðā Bēowulfe bēga gehwæþres
eodor Ingwina onweald getēah,
- 1045 wicga ond wāepna; hēt hine wel brūcan.
Swā manlice māre þēoden,
hord-weard hæleþa, heaþo-rāesas geald
mēarum ond mādmum, swā hȳ nāfre man lyhð,
sē þe secgan wile sōð æfter rihte.

XVI.

- 1050 Ðā gyt ēghwylcum eorla drihten,
þāra þe mid Bēowulfe brim-lāde tēah,
on þāre medu-bence māþðum gesealde,
yr*fe-lāfe; ond þone āenne heht Fol. 153^a.
- 1055 māne ācwealde, swā hē hyra mā wolde,

Sievers' ("Beiträge" x. 455) metrisch unrichtig." It is a curious commentary on this last reason, that Sievers himself quotes the line, with the form *lāfe*, among the examples of his type A ("Beit." x. 273).

1051. MS. 'leade.'

