

titles of address which we adopted. Again, to what extent did the foreign vocabulary change or restrict the meaning of native words? Here, indeed, was a wide realm of change. Take, as examples, AS. *þing*, as influenced by *cause*, *affaire*, *matière*; AS. *sum* as restricted in part by *certain*; AS. *prician*, *priccan*, to prick, as compared with its meaning in, 'Of pricking and of hunting for the hare,' Ch., *Prol. C. T.*, 191, manifestly imitating OFr. *poindre*, prick, gallop, put spurs to: Mais Aiols point, *Aiol*, 3103. De quel maniere a els puindrunt, M. de France, *Eli.*, 207.

Nor can any one yet adequately define the part French played in the rapid changes that came upon AS. in the years immediately following the Conquest with respect to the loss or retention of inflexions and the settlement of grammatical relations and of the word order in phrase and sentence. We still quarrel over elementary questions like s-plurals¹. Something of course has been gained by special monographs in the realm of syntax: the influence of the French present participle absolute on the corresponding form in MidE.²; the influence of French on the MidE. relative 'þe which'³, &c. Mätzner, in his 'Englische Grammatik,' naturally noted the correspondences of OFr. and MidE. especially in the case of grammatical similarities such as the government of verbs. Einkenkel⁴, too, shows a very keen sense for the recognition of French influence in MidE. syntax. Unfortunately his volume has special reference to the language of Chaucer. Dealing chiefly with the language at a time when most of its characteristics had passed their stage of growth and had become fixed in nature, Einkenkel was not concerned with the historical view of his subject and offers us little beyond interesting examples and parallels. Of greater importance is his review of MidE. syntax⁵, which, though limited in scope, lays the first foundation of scientific knowledge in the department of which it treats. Kellner⁶, likewise, is advancing and co-ordinating our knowledge of OFr. influence, and his future work will, without doubt, make important contributions to the history of English syntax.

¹ *Academy*, 1893, Nov. 11, Dec. 9, 30; 1894, Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3.

² 'The Absolute Participle in Middle and Modern English,' by C. H. Ross. Baltimore, 1893.

³ 'Das Altenglische Relativpronomen,' von August Schrader, p. 23. Kiel, 1880.

⁴ 'Streifzüge durch die M.E. Syntax.' Münster, 1887.

⁵ 'Paul's Grundriss,' i. 907 ff.

⁶ 'Historical Outlines of English Syntax.' London, 1892.