

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE

Whoever wrote this narrative evidently adhered closely to the rough jottings of "little" Nicolas, who, although a clerk and presumably (like Chaucer's "hende Nicolas") handy with the pen, was perhaps no great stylist. In this translation but one deliberate departure from the original has been ventured upon. The indeterminate pronoun *on*, which is used throughout and which makes the whole narrative impersonal, has been rendered throughout by the more sympathetic pronoun *we*. This has been done because the continual repetition of *they* would have involved the whole narrative in a confusion which does not exist in the original. The French text here reprinted is that of Margry, to whom belong the unsigned notes. The translator's few notes are distinguished by the abbreviation Tr. The marginal notes and dates have been supplied by the translator.

M. B. A.