

GLOSSARY and Explanatory Notes

The glossary arises from the need to indicate what medieval words have been translated into the various instrument-names. Primarily, therefore, this section is a dictionary of the musical terms used in the thesis. It has also been thought helpful to explain several terms – both Latin and English – which may be unfamiliar, and to give some guidance in the matter of converting regnal years into calendar dates and *vice versa*: these explanatory notes follow the glossary.

Glossary

The medieval terms are followed, either singly or in groups, by the letters (L), (F), (E) or (Es) to indicate whether they are Latin, French, English or the English of the Scottish accounts. Sometimes a word in one language appears in a document which is primarily in another, and this is indicated in a similar way: (F in L), for instance, signifies a French term in a Latin context. When the language is uncertain (often because the term has been used as a name) I have indicated only the language of the context – e.g., (in L). These three medieval languages overlap a great deal: many French terms, such as *le citoler*, become English words simply by the omission of the article, while there are many latinised vernacular words, such as [244] *menestrallus*. I have therefore decided the language of each word by its form: hence *menestrallus* is Latin, while *le menestral* is French.

All main variant spellings are given. Where there are many minor variants, however, I have used bracketed letters or simply put *etc.* after a selection of variants: in such cases, other variants will be obvious. In cases where the letters *I* and *Y* are interchangeable, I have tried to retain the spelling which I encountered most often, rather than listing both alternatives. English words are not listed if the medieval spelling is almost the same as the modern one (e.g., *rebeck*, or *organes*), especially if it is a common word-form such as a plural in “-is” or “-ez” (such as “waytez” or “waits”): nor have I included English words which are French spellings (e.g., “mynystralx”) as separate words in the former language. A very few terms appear in the thesis only once, and are there discussed: these, also, are omitted from this glossary.

A question-mark indicates that a translation is open to considerable doubt. Where scribes used two terms synonymously I have indicated the fact if I considered it to be useful.

Bagpiper: *l'estivoour* (F: F in L), *l'estiveur* (F), *baggepiper* (E in L)

Chime-bells: *cymbala* (L), *les cloches* (F)

Citoler: *le citoler*, *le cetoler* (F in L), *sitoler* (F)

[245]

Clarioner: *clarionere* (in L), *clarion*, *claron* (E)

Clarsach:
(Irish harp) *clareshaw*, *clarscha* (Es)

Clavichord: *monicordis* (Es)

Cornemuse-player: *cornemuserus* (L), *cornemuser* (E in L)

Crowd: *crouth* (in L)

Crowder: *crudarius* (L), *(le) crouther* (F in L: F: E in F), *(le) crouder(e)* (F: in L)

Dancer: *saltans*, *saltator*, *saltatrix* (female) (L), *?sautour* (in L)

Disguiser: *mimus* (L), *gysaries* (Es plural)

Falconer: *asturcarius* = *falconarius* (L)

Fiddle: *fidell* (E)

Fiddler: *fitheler* (in L), *(le) fideler* (F in L: E: Es), *fidelar(e)* (Es); *?gigator* (L) = *?le gigor* (F in L) = *?le gigour* (F).

?Fluter: *flutar'* (L). See also "Piper"

Fool: *stultus* (L), *le fol(e)* (F in L), *foole* (E in L), *?jocular* (E)

Gester: *?joculator*¹ (L), *jestour* (in L), *le gestour* (F in L), *rymour* (F) *rymer*, *geyster* (E)

Gitterner: *giterner*, *gitterer* (in L), *le guttarer*, *le guyterer* (F in L), *le gitarer* (F)

Groom: *garcio* (L), *garcon* (F), *grome* (E)

[246]

Harp: *cithara*, *?sithera* (L)

Harper: *chitharista*, *citharator*, *citharista*, *citharett'*, *citharisator*, *citharizator* (L), *le harpour*, *le harpeur* (F in L), *harpere* (E in F), *herperd* (E), *harpere* (Es)

Herald: *haraldus*, *heraldus* (L), *haralde* (E in F), *harrottis* (Es, plural)

Horn: *cornuum* (L)

Horn-player: *le cornour* (F in L), *horner* (in L)

¹ See above, p. 76, and n. 65: also p. 77.

Juggler:	? <i>le treget(t)our</i> (F in L)
King:	<i>rex</i> (L), <i>le roy</i> (F: F in L)
---- of heralds:	<i>rex haraldorum</i> , --- <i>heraldorum</i> (L)
---- of minstrels:	<i>rex menestralorum</i> , --- <i>ministrallorum</i> (L), <i>roy des ministrallx</i> (F)
Lute:	<i>lewte</i> (E)
Luter: ²	<i>le leutor</i> (F in L), <i>le leutour</i> (F), (<i>le</i>) <i>lutour</i> (F: E), <i>lutare</i> (Es)
Master:	<i>magister</i> (L), <i>mestre</i> (F)
Messenger:	<i>cokinus</i> , <i>nuncius</i> (L), <i>le messenger</i> (F in L)
Minstrel:	<i>menestrallus</i> , <i>minestrallus</i> , <i>ministrallus</i> , <i>menestellus</i> , <i>mimus</i> , ³ <i>histrion</i> (L), <i>le menestral</i> (F), <i>menistrealx</i> (F, plural), <i>ministrall</i> (E), etc.
[247]	
Minstrely:	<i>menestracia</i> , <i>menestralcia</i> , <i>ministralcia</i> (L), <i>ministralcie</i> (F)
Miracle plays:	<i>miracula</i> (L)
Nakers:	? <i>tympanes</i> (Es)
Nakerer:	<i>nacarius</i> , <i>nakarius</i> , <i>nakerarius</i> (L), <i>le nakarer</i> , <i>le nakkere</i> (F in L), <i>naquirer</i> , <i>naqerer</i> (in L), <i>le nakarier</i> (F), <i>nakere</i> (E)
Organs:	<i>organa</i> (L)
Organist:	<i>organista</i> , <i>orgon'</i> (L), <i>le organistre</i> (F in L), <i>l'organistre</i> (F)
Pipe:	<i>fistula</i> (L)
Piper:	<i>fistularis</i> , <i>fistulator</i> (L), <i>pipere</i> , ? <i>sifre</i> (in L), <i>le piper(e)</i> , <i>le pipour</i> (F in L). See also "Fluter"
Psaltery-player:	<i>psaltator</i> , <i>psaltor'</i> (L), <i>sauterer</i> , <i>de psalterio</i> , <i>de psalterion</i> , <i>de salterion</i> (in L), <i>le sautreour</i> , (F in L), <i>le sautriour</i> (F)
Recorder:	<i>ricordo</i> (in L), <i>recorde</i> (E)
Recorder-player:	<i>pleyer at Recorders</i> (E)
Rhymer:	See "Gester"

² The name *de luto* and the term *luterarius* probably refer to a keeper of otter-hounds, not to a luter.

³ So used in the Maxstoke accounts: see above, p. 75, n. 58. Usually, it means a disguiser.

Rope-dancer:	<i>spelare</i> (Es)
Sackbut (-player):	<i>sakbudd, shakbussh</i> , etc. (E)
[248]	
Shawms: ⁴	<i>tibicines</i> (L), <i>sha(l)mewes, shalmuse</i> (E)
Singer:	<i>sangstar(e)</i> (Es)
Squire:	<i>scutifer</i> (L)
Tabor:	<i>tabor', tabour', ?tymbria, ?tymbrium, ?tympanum</i> (L), <i>tawbron</i> (Es)
Taborer, taboret: ⁵	<i>taborarius, taburrarius, ?timpanistrarius, ?timponarius, ?timphanist'</i> (L), <i>le taburer, le taubo(u)rer</i> (F in L), <i>le taborer, le tabourer</i> (F in L: F), <i>taberett(e)</i> (E), <i>tawbronar(e)</i> (Es)
Trickster, conjuror:	<i>?le treget(t)our</i> (F in L)
Trumpet:	<i>trumpa, tuba</i> (L)
Trumpeter:	<i>trumparius, trumpator</i> (L), <i>de trump', thrumper</i> (in L), <i>le trumper, le trumpur</i> (F in L), <i>le trumpour</i> (F in L: F), <i>le trompour, le troumpour</i> (F), <i>trumpet(e), tronpete</i> (E)
Trumpeters:	<i>trompettes, trumpettis</i> (E), <i>trumpis</i> (Es)
Tumbler:	<i>tumbuler</i> (E). See also "Dancer" ⁶
Valet:	<i>val(l)et(t)us</i> (L). See "Yeoman"
Violist: ⁷	<i>vidulator, viellator, violarius</i> (L), <i>?de vielles, vielour</i> (in L), <i>le vilour</i> (F in L: F), <i>le vileur, vicheyler</i> (F), <i>vylor</i> (in F)
[249]	
Waferer:	<i>gaf(f)rarius, waf(f)rarius, oblator</i> (L), <i>wauffr'</i> (in L), <i>le gauffrer, le wafrere</i> (F in L), <i>le waf(f)rer</i> (F)
Wafers:	<i>waf(f)ris</i> (L, ablative plural)
Wait:	<i>gueta</i> (L), <i>la/le gayte, la/le geyte, le gueyte, le wayte</i> (F in L), <i>lez veytez</i> (F, plural) <i>wayt(e)</i> (E)
Wait, town:	<i>spiculator</i> (L), ⁸ <i>wayte</i> (E)

⁴ i.e., the players: see above, pp. 180 ff.

⁵ I have retained the word "taboret" in discussing late 15th-century material.

⁶ See above, p. 191, n. 15.

⁷ On one occasion only, "vidulator" = "gigator": see above, p. 167, n. 95.

⁸ In *HMC 54* (Beverley waits).

Watchman: *vigilator, vigilis* (L)
Yeoman: *yoman* (E). See "Valet"

Explanatory Notes

Bas: soft, quiet (of music and instruments). See above, pp. 145 ff.

Beatus-page: the illuminated page at the beginning of Psalm 1, *Beatus Vir*, in a psalter. Sometimes it is the page with the text on, but often the illumination is on a *verso* page, facing the text. The usual subjects for a Beatus-page are the Tree of Jesse or King David.

Busine: the straight ceremonial trumpet. The German "posaune" derives from this word.

Constitutio Domus Regis: ordinances for the royal household, c. 1136. See Johnson/*Dialogus*.

Controller (*contrarotulator*): keeper of the counter-roll (*contrarotulus*), which was a copy – only slightly summarised – of the Wardrobe accounts.

Ell: a cloth measure of 45 inches.

Haut: loud (of music and instruments). See above, pp. 145 ff.

[250]

Horror vacui: literally, dislike of an empty space. Its effect on manuscript illumination is discussed above, pp. xxxi ff.

Illuminated (of MSS): decorated, painted.

Keeper (*custos*): the officer responsible for the accounts, money and valuables of the Wardrobe.

Liber Niger: literally, "Black Book". The "Black Book of the Household of the King of England" (--- *Domus Regis Anglie*) was a set of ordinances of the king's household, compiled during Edward IV's reign. For the text, see *Ords & Regs*: for a discussion, see Myers/*Ed. IV*.

Mark: a coin, 13.4d.

Prest (*prestitum*): part-payment. Often an advance on wages, or on money owed.

Qui non sunt in rotulo marescalli: regular household servants received wages by the day; their names were therefore listed on a roll kept by the Marshal of the Hall, who was responsible for noting their presence or absence. Temporary members of the household were not on this list, and were known as those *qui non sunt in rotulo marescalli*, often shortened to *qui non sunt*. In Edward IV's time, the Marshal's Roll seems to have been superseded by a roll kept in the Exchequer: see above, p. 117, n. 118.

Roll (*rotulus*): a series of parchment membranes stitched together and rolled up. As this could be added to at will, it was for many purposes more convenient than a book.

Titulus: the "title" of a section of a Wardrobe Book; for the usual titles, see below, ii, pp. 2 f. Often a parchment tab, with the heading of the section written on it, was sewn on to the top corner of the relevant page: this tab is itself now known as a *titulus*.

Wardrobe (*garderoba*): for a brief description of the Wardrobe, see below, ii, pp. 1 ff.

Since Wardrobe accounts and many other documents are dated by the regnal year, it has been necessary to use both calendar dates and regnal years in this thesis. The first year of a reign began on the day on which the king acceded to the throne, and the [251] list which follows gives the calendar dates for the first year of each reign during the period covered by the thesis. All calendar dates are in the new style, with the year beginning on 1 January.

Edward I:	20 Nov. 1272 to 19 Nov. 1273
Edward II:	8 July 1307 to 7 July 1308
Edward III:	25 Jan. 1327 to 24 Jan. 1328
Richard II:	22 June 1377 to 21 June 1378
Henry IV:	30 Sept. 1399 to 29 Sept. 1400
Henry V:	21 Mar. 1413 to 20 Mar. 1414
Henry VI:	1 Sept. 1422 to 31 Aug. 1423
Edward IV:	4 Mar. 1461 to 3 Mar. 1462
Edward V:	9 April to 25 June 1483
Richard III:	26 June 1483 to 25 June 1484
Henry VII:	22 Aug. 1485 to 21 Aug. 1486
Henry VIII:	22 April 1509 – 21 April 1510

Conversion from regnal to calendar year is now achieved by adding the regnal year less one to the appropriate dates above. For example, the 18th year of Edward III's reign began on 25 January 1327 + 17; that is, it ran from 25 January 1344 to 24 January 1345.

Conversion from calendar to regnal year is the reverse process. 24 April 1469, for instance, came in that year of Edward IV's reign which ran from 4 March 1469 until 3 March 1470 – that is, 9 Ed IV.