The Vowel Shift in Unstressed Syllables of Old English

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The historical vowel changes that took place in unstressed or weakly stressed syllables haven't been treated as operating methodically as those in stressed syllables. Even though the tendency for unstressed vowels to be shortened, if long, and reduced, or eliminated has long been noted as common to all Germanic languages and hence traceable in English throughout its history (Wyld, 1927:272)\(^1\) no serious attempts have been made to account for the exact phonetic realization of vowel reduction processes. The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate that unstressed vowels were not reduced variously or all suddenly, but systematically and regularly, to [a] before loss, via two stages weakening and centralization; thus unstressed vowels were first weakened, and then these weakened vowels were in turn centralized to [a] before loss.

This paper is organized into three parts: (I) traditional statements regarding the reduction of unstressed vowels, (II) a diachronic description of vowel reduction processes from Old English to Middle English, and (III) a synchronic description of vowel reduction processes in Old English from three manuscripts of the Pastoral Care (Sweet, 1871-1872).

I

The consensus of traditional statements on the qualitative vowel changes in unstressed syllables is that unstressed vowels were reduced unpredictably or suddenly, or were confused, with the result that one vowel alternated with, or substituted for, another vowel somewhat freely, as stated in the following chronologically arranged citations.

The vowels were confused in suffixes in late Old English, and in Middle English the old

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\(^1\) To avoid the encumbrance of many unnecessary footnotes, all bibliographical references other than those that require explanations or amplifications of the textual discussion are given in the body of the text within parentheses with the author's surname, the year of publication (where relevant), and page number(s). Full citation of literature referred to is given in a bibliography at the end of the article.
a, u, e in suffixes were "no longer kept distinct, but for the most part merged in a sound which is written e" (Wyld, 1927: §272). Unstressed vowels were used indiscriminately one for the other, and then e was substituted rather frequently for back vowels a, o, u which implies that the weakened vowels became close to \([a]\) in the tenth century Farman's Mercian Glosses (Kuhn, 1945:664, 667). Unstressed OE a, e, o, and u, became in ME the vowel which was commonly written e, especially in the South of England, which probably was pronounced \([\varepsilon]\); in the North, however, the unstressed vowel before a consonant was also frequently written i, perhaps "a variation of pronunciation between \([\varepsilon]\) and \([i]\)," though much less frequently u, perhaps "a rounded variety of the \([\varepsilon]\) sound" (Moore and Marckwardt, 1951:79-80 and f.n. 80). \(\varepsilon\), e, and i fell together in a sound written e in unaccented syllables, and this unaccented e and the unaccented back vowel in which a, o, u had largery coalesced, became confused in the eleventh century (Campbell, 1959:369, 379). The vowels and diphthongs of unstressed syllables were usually shortened if long and were weakened "in various ways, sometimes, apparently to /\(\varepsilon/\)" in Old English (Kuhn, 1961:531). OE a, o, and u, finally and in inflections became, in the tenth and eleventh centuries, "a sound spelled at first variously and then e. OE \(\varepsilon\) and i in those positions had already become e early in Old English" (Brunner, 1963:§24).

II

An earlier statement on the vowel reduction processes from the point of view of the entire pattern, which, though somewhat less conclusive, yet presents a distinct advance over others that appear too atomistic and which would be interpreted as a step toward a systematization of the reduction processes of the unstressed vowels, appears in Luick's: In general, prehistorical or early OE unstressed high and low vowels became 'mid' vowels in Old English (Die Vokale mit hohen und extrem tiefen Zungenstellungen wurden durch solche mit mittlerer Zungehebung ersetzt), as \([u]\rightarrow[\varepsilon]\), \([æ]\rightarrow[\varepsilon]\), \([i]\rightarrow[\varepsilon]\) (§322), except when due to vowel harmony a medializing tendency was often prevented; thus, \([i]\) and \([u]\) each remained unshifted in the environment of another identical vowel: before the formative elements -iğ, -iê, -iêc, -iht, -iêc, -ing (Luick, §325; Campbell, §371) or after stressed \([i]\) as in micil, hidir, etc. (Luick, §325 Anm.); after stressed \([u]\) as in sunu, wudu, munuc, etc. (Luick, §326; Campbell, §373). However, \([i]\) and \([u]\) were medialized, as expected, to \([\varepsilon]\) and \([\varepsilon]\) respectively in the environment of other vowels — before a velar consonant followed by a back vowel as in mihtegu (\(<\text{mihtigu}\) ), hefigu (\(<\text{hefigu, but hefig}\) ), Pennegas (\(<\text{penningas}\) ), eallenga (\(<\text{eallinga}\) ).
There are some forms, however, that can’t be accounted for phonologically, that is, by regular sound change, but dialectally, regional or social. For example, [u] was umlauted to [ʊ] in the other OE dialects but unrounded and further lowered to [ɛ] in Kentish Old English. Similarly, ME [o:] developed regularly after the Great Vowel Shift into [u:] as in food, but was shortened to [u] as in foot, or further unrounded to [ʌ] as in blood, in different social dialects (see Wyld, 1936: §236). Since all the three words end in the alveolar stop, the variants can’t be explained by regular sound change alone.

The features of medializing movement and vowel harmony are phonological, the former being an unconditioned change like the Great Vowel Shift, the latter a conditioned change brought about by specific contiguous sounds. Thus, the medializing of [ɪ] to [ɛ], or [u] [ɔ], for example, is due to regular sound shift, while the preservation of [ɪ] before another [ɪ], or [u] before another [u], and the countermovement of [ɛ] to [ɪ] before a palatal consonant are due to vowel harmony. Furthermore, the change of [ɛ] to [ɪ] in other environments, such as before /n/ in closed syllables, is dialectal, occurring in the South and the Southwestern Midland, as in berinde from berende (see Luick, §441).

In the following, I will consider the shifting patternings of unstressed vowels due only to regular sound shift, as illustrated in Diagram I, not to vowel harmony or dialectal peculiarities, or analogy.3

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2 A counteracting movement, due to vowel harmony, of raising the mid-front [ɛ] to [ɪ] occurs before a palatal consonant, spelled ę, from PGmc. j: hunig (<*-ej), monig (Luick, §327; Campbell, §376), halig (the late 9th century Tanner MS of Cædmon’s Hymn) from haleg (the early 8th century Moore MS).

3 An ō-stem feminine noun giefu has two nominative (or accusative) plural forms: giefa and giefe. The alternation of the endings a and e here is dialectal, not phonological. The earliest historical nom. or acc. pl. ending was œ (giefœ), later weakened to e (giefe) (see Prokosch, p.237; Krahe, §10), which was regularly preserved in the Anglian dialects, whereas the ending a, the normal ending in West Saxon and Kentish, is due to the analogy of the feminine u-declension (Wright, §365).
There are some very striking similarities between Diagram I and Diagram II. The Great Vowel Shift, as illustrated in Diagram I after Jespersen, is characterized by “a general raising of all long vowels [already begun at the beginning of ME as illustrated in Diagram I] with the exception of the two high vowels /i:/ and /u:/, which could not be raised further and [so] were diphthongized...... The change of /a:/ to /e:/ is practically to be considered parallel to the other changes, though the movement, which was chiefly upwards in the other cases, was here chiefly a forward movement” (Jespersen, 231–32). The vowel shift of unstressed syllables, on the other hand, is characterized by a ‘medializing’ movement for the original non-mid front vowels [i] and [æ], a lowering movement for the original non-low back vowels [u] and [ɔ], and a forward movement for the original low back vowel [a]. The vowel shift which thus affected the entire pattern could be considered as part of what Martinet calls “a drag-chain” or “a push-chain” (p.11). Thus, in the first stage of vowel reduction, unstressed vowels were weakened as follows: First, original non-mid front [i] and [æ] were medialized; second, original [a], being a low back vowel, couldn’t be lowered further, hence was fronted to [æ] and then medialized to [ə]; third, original non-low back [u] and [ɔ] were lowered to [a], the [u] first through [ɔ]; original [ε], being a mid-front vowel, was unaffected, hence remained. In the next stage of development, the weakened [a] (from the original non-low [u] and [ɔ]) and [ε] (from the original non-mid front [i] and [æ] and original low back [a]) and the original mid-front [ε] were centralized to [ə]. These two stages of vowel reduction are illustrated below.5

1) The reduction processes of original [u]: [u]→[ə]→[a]→[ə]e.

a. OE sunu→suno→suna→ME sune[ə]; 6 b. the superlative: -ust→ost→ast→est[ast]; c. the off-glide [y] of the diphthong from Gmc. [ay] underwent the same reduction processes: [ay]→OE[æ:u]→[æ:ɔ]→[æ:ɔ]→ME[ε:] (see Malone, 1959: 259–60), and so was the off-glide [y] resulting from breaking of Gmc. [ε] before /x:/→OE[εy]→[εɔ]→[ε_0]→[ε_0].7 It is interesting to notice that the off-glide of [æ:ɔ] from Gmc. [ay] and the off-glide of [ε:ɔ] from Gmc. [εy] were written a and o respectively as in ēa and ēo, not e to result in ēe for both, even though they had already been weakened and centralized to [ə], simply to avoid graphic confusion with each other or with long [ε:], also written occasionally ēe as in

4 They were thus the first vowels to undergo weakening; see Brunner, § 24.
5 The OE spellings u, o, a, i, e, and æ, unless otherwise indicated, stand for [u], [ə], [a], [i], [ε], and [æ] respectively.
6 For the OE data, see Wright, § 215 note.
7 See Campbell, § 275; Quirk and Wrenn (§ 202), however, make no reference to the [ε:ɔ] stage.
geweeme 183/20 of the Pastoral Care. Had eo been written either ēa for the stage [eːa] or ēe for the stage [eːe], it would have been confused with either ēa for [æːa] from Gmc. [aʊ] or ee for [ɛː]; Similarly, had ēa been written ēe for the stage [æːa], it would have been confused with ee for [ɛː]. The off-glides of the diphthongs must have been weakened from [u] to [ɔ] and then to [a] before being centralized to [a] and then lost in Middle English. Moore noted quite correctly, Luick and Wyld somewhat less precisely, the gradual weakening processes of original [u] before its centralization to [a]: The -um forms are spelled un, on, an, or en in the twelfth century manuscripts; the variant “on-forms and the an-forms reflect successive [italics mine] stages in the processes of weakening of unstressed u” (Moore, 1927: 246). 8

2) The reduction processes of original [ɔ]: [ɔ]→[a]→[o]e. OE lufad→lufad→ME lufed[-ad].

3) The reduction processes of original [a]: [a]→[æ]→[e]→[o]e. [æ] from earlier [a] became [e] (Wyld, 1927:§ 272; Wright, § 365). OE scina (nom. pl. of scinu)→scinæ→scine →ME [æ].

4) The reduction processes of original [æ]: [æ]→[e]→[o]e. OE nerede ‘he saved’→nerede →ME *nerede[-æ] (Wright, § 214; Luick, § 324; Sievers and Brunner, § 361); also tiada ‘he created’, metudæs and mocynnæs (gen. sg.) (the early 8th century Moore MS of Caedmon’s Hymn)→teode, metodæs, monnynæs (the late 9th century Tanner MS).

5) The reduction processes of original [i]: [i]→[e]→[o]e. OE wini (OHG wini) ‘friend’ →wine→ME wine [-a] (Campbell, § 601; Wright, § 215); also ærist, eci (Moore MS)→ærøst, ece (Tanner MS). The original [i] was unaffected until about 740 in Old English (Luick, § 325).

6) The reduction processes of original [ɛ]: [ɛ]→[a]e. OE daæge (dat. sg.)→ME daye[-a].

A synchronic description of the exact phonetic processes of vowel reduction in the Pastoral Care will be arrived at from the evidence based on either the alternating ordinary spellings and reverse spellings or the individual scribal practices. 9

8 In OE, posttonic u and o in final position and before n became a, and this a became e [for [a]?] in the spoken language of Old English (Luick, § 440); Old English “o and u are apparently leveled under a single sound, probably [a], whence [a]” (Wyld, 1927: § 272).

9 A vowel that undergoes regular qualitative shift of systematic weakening (and centralization), as illustrated in Diagram II, will be called an ordinary vowel, and the spelling that represents such a vowel an ordinary spelling.
In the manuscripts of the *Pastoral Care*, the reduced vowels often reveal two different stages of vowel reduction—weakening and centralization. Alternations between back vowel letters  \( u \) and  \( o \), or  \( o \) and  \( a \), for example, can be interpreted to indicate a weakening of a higher back vowel to a lower back vowel, while alternations between non-low back vowel letters  \( u \) and  \( o \) and the letter  \( e \), as  \( u \sim e, o \sim e \), to indicate a centralization of the back vowels to  \([\alpha] \), written  \( e \). In other words, alternating ordinary spellings indicate a systematic weakening of a vowel to centralization, while reverse spellings, such as  \( a \) for  \( u \), or  \( u \) for  \( e \), attest to a weakening and centralization of  \([u] \) in unstressed syllables. Hence, the tenth century Farman’s “substitutions of  \( a, o, \) and  \( u \) for  \( e \)” (Kuhn, 1945: 649, f.n. 59) could be interpreted as pointing to a centralization of the back vowels by their alternating ordinary spellings, and the substitution of “\( e \) for  \( a, o, \) or  \( u \)” (Kuhn, 1945: 664) as attesting to the centralization of the back vowels by their reverse spellings.

A palaeographic analysis of scribal practices reveals a similar evidence of vowel reduction processes. For example, the scribes of MS Hatton 20 of the *Pastoral Care* would sometimes change the original  \([\alpha] \) to a weakened  \([e] \ e, \) as shown in *gaeæs* from original  \( gæs\text{æ}s \) 291/9 (53r/24-25) by erasing the  \( a \)-part of the digraph  \( \alpha \) of the suffix, or change a weakened  \([a] \) to the original  \([u] \), as in *singalum* and *eordlic\text{æ}m* from *eordlicam* and *singalam* respectively. The forms in the MS are *singalâm* 73/5 (16r/5) and *eordlicâm* 155/22-23 (30v/10), with a subscript dot placed below the letter  \( u \) to be replaced by the ‘correct’ superscript letter  \( u \). The original  \( a \)-s of the dat. pl. in these words were later ‘corrected’ to historically earlier  \( u \)-s to conform to the orthographical tradition of the period,\(^{10}\) hence, the  \( a \)-s in these forms should be viewed as revealing, in the words of Moore (1928: 239), “the speech habits of the scribes which the ‘correct’ forms conceal. These occasional ‘incorrect’ forms are our best (and almost our only) evidence of the actual speech of the period.” This fact is borne out by the internal evidence of the MS, which is an interpolated copy of the original draft which King Alfred dictated to his literary assistants, who wrote down only what they heard said.\(^{11}\) The forms in the original draft, therefore, represent the state of the language of the period as spoken, while the interpolated forms the state of the language as written.

Weakening and centralization of the unstressed or weakly stressed vowels in Old English will be considered below in four positions—final unstressed syllables, medial unstressed syllables,

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\(^{10}\) The scribes were under the strong influence of the orthographical tradition of the period to retain or restore historically older forms.

\(^{11}\) Of seven literary assistants known by name, four are listed in the Preface (7/21-22) to the *Pastoral Care*: Plegmund, Asser, Grimbold, and John.
initial unstressed syllables, and unstressed or weakly stressed monosyllabic words—from three
manuscripts of the Pastoral Care edited by Sweet: Hatton 20, Cotton Tiberius B.xi, and
Cotton Otho B.ii, principally from the first MS, rarely from the third. All the OE data from
MS Hatton 20 have been collated by the present writer with the MS (see Kim, 1970). The
-0 corresponding forms from Cotton Tiberius B.xi (henceforth referred to as C) and Cotton Otho
B.ii (henceforth C2) will be cited in parentheses for comparison with the forms from MS
Hatton 20. The cross references, cited by verso/recto and line, are to the facsimile edition of
N. R. Ker.

1) Final Unstressed Syllables.

a. Ordinary Spellings. Of the two or more alternating vowel letters listed below in each
group, the first one represents a historically earlier vowel and the others later and reduced ones.

1. $u$~$o$~$a$. (i) Ind. past pl. PGmc. [-un] remained in the oldest Old English but was
later weakened first to [an] and then to [an]: gulpun 313/1, f'orswulgun 439/25, weopun
(C.-on) 315/25, sealdun (C.-on) 329/3, fæstun (C.-on) 315/25, siendun (C.-on) 41/11,
293/9; brohtan (C.-on) 123/11, hloidan 467/32, demdan 415/3, sindan 409/6, sparodan (C.
-on) 353/16, witgodan (C.-on) 91/3, fægnodan 387/32, 33; (ii) Dat. pl. of nouns or
pronouns: ðiestrum 65/12~ðiestran 243/9, ramman (C.-um) 163/17, $y/jum$ 431/32~$y/ton$
(C.-um) 61/20, gesinhewon 397/26, ðeosun (C.-um) 121/9~ðioson (C.-um)73/19; (iii)
Dat. pl. of adj.: æwefæstam (C2.-um) 27/3, ærron 425/35—the weakened -am restored to
-un in singalam 73/5 (16r/5) and eorlicum 155/22-23(30v/10): the original forms
in the MS are singalám and eorlícum, as explained before. Sweet has original forms.

2. $u$~$o$. (i) Compar. or super. PGmc. [o:z], [o:st] were first shortened in Old English
to [ur], [ust] and then later weakened to [œr], [œst]: furður (C.-or) 7/14~furðor 7/14,
swiður 127/23~swiðor 407/20, swiðus (C.-ost) 243/22~swiðos 427/7; (ii) Fem.nom.sg.:
menigu 403/21~menigeo 5/11, bierhtu 69/14~bierhto 387/15.

3. $o$~$a$. (i) The medial [o:] of Wk. II past ppl. suffix in PGmc. was shortened to [u]
in prehistoric Old English, which was then weakened in historical Old English first to [a]
and finally to [a]: gebrocad (C.-od) 257/7, geteohchad 251/23, losad (C.-od) 205/9,
forrotad (C.-od) 169/23, unþingad 423/35; (ii) nouns: folgos 51/22, 23/20~folgos
(C.-ð) 53/6, 41/20.

4. $a$~$æ$(~$e$). felaspreason (nom. pl.) 175/21~felaidelspræsen (C.-an) 175/25.

5. $æ$~$e$. Subj. pres. pl. ending [æ] (<*æ) was later weakended to [e]: oncnawæn (C.
-en) 265/23. upaspryttaen (C. -en) 67/23. In the oldest OE texts, [æ] was preserved (Sievers- and Brunner, § 361; also Luick, § 324), but weakened later to [e] (Wright, § 477).

b. Reverse Spellings

2. u for e. micle 405/21~mikel 13/18.
3. æ for e. (i) Subj. pres. pl.: gestiran (C. -en) 117/14; (ii) gen.sg.: hwæethwuguning-as (C. -es) 155/15.\[12\]

2) Medial Unstressed Syllables.

a. Ordinary Spellings.\[13\]

Already in the second half of the eighth century, when two back vowels followed each other, the first tended to be reduced to e, probably [a]: eafa from older eafor; tungena (wk. gen. pl.) from older tungana; locodon (wk. pI. past inf.) from older locodon, locadon; heardesta (super.) from older heardosta (Luick, § 347; also Campbell, § 385). Wright says that the back vowels o and a were fronted [?] to e by dissimilation when followed by another back vowel in the next syllable (§ 222); however, this will not account for such forms as gitsedan 33/18 from gitsoden with a front vowel e following in the next syllable.

1. u~o~e[a]. tilunga 415/20~tielingum 133/4~tielingum 135/15.
2. o~æ~e[a]. The medial [o:] of Wk. II past suffix in PGmc. was shortened to [u] in prehistorical Old English, which was then weakened in historical Old English to [æ] and finally to [a]: manade 169/16, andswarade 304/14, geðafade 119/19~geðafedon 205/11, ðolade 197/17, geðrowade 451/34, gesyngade 425/34~gesyngeden 417/6, þenade 121/8, teladon 449/24, hreowsade (C. -ode) 199/18, ofermogede 463/24, bodedon 205/15, lufedon 441/25, gitsedon 33/18, cleopédon 197/17, bismeden 451/30, forseareden (C. -oden) 293/7, ricsedon (C. odon)

12 Also see the data in item 5 above. Gehieran 159/18 (31r/23) (subj. pres. pl.) and gesceapan 301/10 (56r/26) (past pI.) are mistranscriptions for gehieren and gesceapen respectively, so is eorneste 89/14 (18v/27) a mistranscription for eornote.

13 Some vowel interchanges are due to historic suffix gradations or a confusion of etymologically related suffixes, rather than reduction (Luick, § 328; also see Campbell, §§ 391-93): degolnesse 147/18~degelnesse 417/4; eorneste 89/14~eorneste, geceopestan (C. -ostan 283/2; earfod só 33/5~earfod só 35/3; oferdruncennisse (C. -nisse) 317/18, sofísmonisse (C. -nisse) 319/2, upahafenisse (C. -nisse) 367/25 (cf. OHG -nisse~nissi). The effect of such double forms influenced other forms to alternate analogically even though they had nothing to do with original suffix vowel gradation (Luick, § 329): on~en ([æ]) from earlier [æ]: hefonican 255/4~hefelicum 99/18, hefonom 125/20~hefenum 10/19.
3. \( o \sim [\alpha] \), \textit{fracelestan} (C. \(-\text{frac}\)) 33/21.

4. \( a \sim e \). Gen.pl. of weak nouns: \textit{triowleasena} (C. \(-\text{ana}\)) 261/9.

5. \( i \sim e \). (i) \textit{seetenga} (C. \(-\text{nga}\)) 163/14, \textit{ealengga} (C. \(-\text{nga}\)) 65/6; (ii) Subj. pres.pl. \textit{heregen} (C. \textit{herigen}) 145/22; (iii) In the inflected forms of adjectives ending in \textit{ig} and \textit{lic}, commonly before a back vowel in the next syllable: \textit{hefegum} 21/14 (OHG \textit{hebig}), \textit{ænegum} 251/24 (OHG \textit{eining}), \textit{eorlæcan} (C. \textit{lican}) 81/15, \textit{misæca} (C. \textit{lica}) 95/8, \textit{uplecan} (C. \textit{lican}) 69/24, \textit{stærelocor} (C. \textit{licor}) 179/16.\(^{14}\)

6. \( æ \sim e \). The [\( \alpha \)] of Gmc. pres ppl. \textit{and} was fronted to [\( æ \)] in \textit{ænde}, which remained in the oldest Old English but was weakened to [\( e \)] in \textit{ende}: \textit{weaxænde} (C. \textit{-ende}) 123/16.

b. Reverse Spellings.

1. \( u \) for \( o \). Wk. II past sg.: \textit{geopenu} 147/18, \textit{laðude} 407/1, \textit{grapude} 187/4, \textit{drwude} 95/24.

2. \( o \) for \( a \). Gen. pl. of Wk. nouns: \textit{welona} 465/16.

3. \( o \) for \( e \). \textit{gedafonað} (C. \textit{-enað}) 147/5, \textit{gedafonode} (C. \textit{-enode}) 99/20.

4. \( i \) for \( e \). (i) \textit{andefine} 175/4 \sim \textit{andefen} 95/1; (ii) \( i \) for \( e \) (\( \langle \alpha \rangle \text{Gmc.} \ a \)): \textit{moniga} (C. \textit{monega}) 71/9 (Gor. \textit{manag-s} \sim \textit{monega} 161/17.

3) Initial Unstressed Syllables.

1. \( i \sim e \): \textit{teweorpanne} 443/33, \textit{tefleowe} 49/11 (from older \( ti \); cf. OHG \textit{zi}; Luick, \S 325; Campbell, \S 370 f.n.1); also see the unaccented prefixes \textit{be-}, \textit{ge-} from older \( bi\), \textit{gi-}.

2. \( o \sim [\alpha] \): \textit{færhæfdnesse} (C. \textit{for-}) 41/14, 87/24, \textit{færwyrde} (C. \textit{for-}) 133/20. The spelling [\( æ \)] is a mere orthographical variant of \( e \) as in Medieval Latin, which here represents [\( \alpha \)]. This is in accord with my theory of vowel reduction process, according to which [\( \alpha \)] is to be first weakened to [\( a \)] and then centralized to [\( e \)] commonly written \( e \).

4) Weakly Stressed or Unstressed Monosyllabic Words: Prepositions

1. \( o \sim a \): \textit{an} (C. \textit{on}) 49/11.

2. \( o \sim [\alpha] \): \textit{fær} (C. \textit{for}) 113/7.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


\(^{14}\) Sweet (p. xxiv), Gieschen (pp. 66-71), and Cosijn (\S 109) do not seem to be aware of the two different etymons for the suffix \textit{-ig}: one from Gmc. \textit{ig} (\( \sim \textit{ig} \)) and the other from Gmc. \textit{-ag}(\( \sim \textit{æg} \sim \textit{eg} \sim \textit{ig} \)) (see Campbell, \S 376).


Kim, Suksan. 1971. *A Collation of the Old English MS Hatton 20 of King Alfred’s Pastoral Care*. Neuphilologische Mitteilungen Vol. 72


