

CHAPTER VI: VARIANTS

DOUBLE LOWER CASE SIGNATURES (aa TO ii)

Chapter Summary

The variant distribution for the sets with the lower double case signatures shows that ω was a manuscript of the very best quality; the variants found in sets 10 to 13a indicate that the high quality of ω is sustained throughout these sets.

More than 78% of the variants for the sets analysed in this chapter are Cx2-O variants. These are witness to the archetypal quality of the source used to correct Cx1, by way of the readings introduced in Cx2. The fact that the variants that show this archetypal character of ω account for three-quarters of the total amount of variants in Cx2 is a strong proof of its high quality. All these variants can be seen in the electronic appendix b, double lower case signatures.

Some 11.5% of the variants are unique to Cx2 in the current collation. Many of these variants are just the result of compositorial mistakes, some others might turn out to be present in other witnesses --especially the printed editions-- when these are fully transcribed.¹

The Cx2-Hg/E1 variants account for almost 4% of the variants. These show that on most occasions when Cx2 agrees with Hg against E1, Cx2 has archetypal readings. On the other hand, when Cx2 agrees with E1, sometimes it does so in variants which might be archetypal, but more often their agreement is in variants that present a

¹ When all the manuscripts are fully transcribed, it would be interesting to see if manuscripts such as Ht would show to be related to ω consistently throughout.

variant distribution such that their character is difficult to establish. The general tendency in these variants is for the agreements of Cx2 to be, more or less, evenly divided between Hg and El.

In some 6.5% of the cases, Cx2 agrees with other witnesses against Hg and El. There are three witnesses that agree with Cx2 more consistently than any others: Ad3 Ch and Ha4. There are a total of 41 Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, of which Ch is in agreement with Cx2 on 8 occasions; Ha4 on 11, and Ad3 on 15. Of course, these witnesses also agree with Cx2 in variants other than the Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, a fact that must also be taken into account when determining the nature of ω . A variant of great importance to establish a genetic relationship between Cx2 and Ad3 is PR 193. The reading on this line, that cannot be the result of a coincidence, confirms a common origin for Ad3 and ω which is supported throughout by less dramatic variants.

A very interesting finding in this chapter is that Ht agrees with Cx2 in 15 occasions, that is, as many as Ad3 --which is the witness with most Cx2-not-Hg/El variants. The reason why Ht appears more predominantly in this chapter is because it has been transcribed for all the sets analysed here.

This chapter is also remarkable because it includes texts that are not included in Hg --L33 CY L31. One could have expected to find that these showed very different textual affiliations from texts that are found in Hg, and although the constant affiliations of Cx2 with Ad3 Ch and Ha4 are confirmed once more, there are some strong links with manuscripts of the **a** group which are not completely consistent with other sets.

Some of the agreements between Cx2 and El within the Cx2-Hg/El variants are archetypal readings in places where Hg has a non-archetypal reading.²

1. SET 10: THE CLERK'S TALE, LINK 13 AND LINK 14³

1.1 Set Summary

This set presents several of the same characteristics which can be seen in previous sets. There are agreements of Cx2 with Ad3 Ch and Ha4 that point towards a genetic relationship. However, set 10 also presents other important features that set it apart from previous sets. Among the minor variants, a vast number of them agree with Ht. It is not only that Cx2 agrees with this manuscript, but that it agrees with it in many more occasions than any other witness --even those which have been shown previously as closely related to ω . This is something that has not happened in any other set. The reason for this is very simple: it is due to the fact that Ht has only been partially transcribed, so it was not always collated. In fact, Ht has only been collated in set 1, because for GP L1 and MI all witnesses have been transcribed, but any agreements with Cx2 in set 1 might have been buried among other variants, since the set also included KN L2 RE L3 and CO.⁴ Ht was also transcribed for set 4, but again the set showed nothing unexpected.

² See lines CL 49, CL 251, CL 308, CL 685, SH 212 and PR 116.

³ The witnesses collated for CL are: Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Hg Hl4 Ht La Ll1 Ra3. The witnesses collated for L13 are: Ad1 Ad3 Bo2 Bw Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Dl Ds1 El En1 En3 Ha2 Ha3 Ha4 He Hg Ht La Lc Ld1 Ld2 Ll1 Ln Ma Mc Mg Mm Ne Nl Np Ph3 Ph4 Ps Pw Py Ra1 Ra2 Ra3 Ra4 Ry1 Ry2 Se Si. The witnesses collated for L14 are: Ad1 Ad3 Bo2 Bw Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 En3 Gg Ha2 Ha3 He Hg Ht La Ln Ma Ne Np Py Ry2 Se.

⁴ Ht has been transcribed for some of the tales and links in Set 13, so it might be possible, after analysing them, to draw further conclusions about the relationship between Ht and Cx2.

Apart from the agreement between Cx2 and Ht, there are no other features in this set that could be considered unusual. As mentioned above, the most common agreements are those with Ad3 and Ch, and manuscripts belonging to the **a** group. Among the Cx2-Hg/El variants the division is very even and does not seem to point towards anything that the previous sets have not shown before. As in other cases, the variants in which Cx2 agrees with Hg tend to be archetypal. But in this set, when Cx2 agrees with El, usually there is a non-archetypal reading in Hg, that is, the variants shared by Cx2 and El are ancestral to the tradition. Examples of this can be found in CL 49, CL 251, CL 308 and CL 685.

1.2 Analysis of Variant Lines

1.2.1 Line Substitutions

Seven lines in Cx1 were replaced in Cx2. All the substitutions are given below. As in previous sets, non-archetypal lines in Cx1 have been substituted by archetypal lines in Cx2.

CL 217a Cx1 Hit was hir lust and^ð hir most ese
CL 217 Cx2 She knewe wel labour but none ydle ese

CL 455 Cx2 ðedeles god^ð wote he thought her taffraye
CL 455a Cx1 Forbere / wherfore he purposid^ð on a day

CL 702a Cx1 And^ð so wilful suche assayes to make
CL 702 Cx2 That whan they han a certeyn purpoos take

CL 774-1 Cx1 And^ð forth he rood^ð hastily and^ð that anoon
CL 775a Cx1 Toward^ð Saluce this mayde forto gyde
CL 775 Cx2 Toward^ð Saluces and^ð lordes many oon
CL 776 Cx2 In riche araye this mayde for to gyde

CL 997a Cx1 Here may ye se the peple how newe
CL 999-1 Cx1 And^ð changeable be right as the mane

CL 997 Cx2 Delityng euer in rombel that is newe
CL 998 Cx2 For like the mone ay wax ye and^o wane

The collation of these lines indicates that in only one of them do we find a variant within the line which is not simply archetypal: CL 455. However, the variant in CL 455 is the omission of a word and, as such, it might not be significant.

CL 455

Out: Cx1

Base	Πedelees	god	woot	he	thoghte	hire	for	tafraye		
Cx2	Πedeles	god ^o	wote	he	thought	her		taffraye		
Hg	Πedelees	god	woot ^r	he	thoghte	hi ^r	for	tafraye		
El	Πedelees	god	woot	,	he	thoghte	,	hi ^r	for	taffraye

for to] Ch Dd Ds1 El Gg Hg Ra3

to] Ad3 Bo2 Cp Cx2 En1 Ha4 Ht La

In this case the agreement in omission between Ad3 Cx2 Bo2 Cp En1 Ha4 Ht and La could be seen as the result of a coincidence. However, because in previous sets we have seen that Ad3 Cx2 Ha4 and Ht are likely to be genetically related, the variant in CL 455 is interpreted as another indication of this relationship.

1.2.2 Line Additions:

There are no major additions in this set.

1.2.3 Line Deletions

There are no major deletions in this set.

1.2.4 Line Misplacements

There are no misplacements in this set.

1.3 Analysis of Word Additions, Deletions and Substitutions⁵

The variant distribution for this group is as follows:

149 Cx2-O variants, which confirm the excellence of ω . These are distributed as 145 in CL, 3 in L13, 1 in L14.

20 Cx2-Unique variants, which are unique to Cx2 in the current collation. These are distributed as 19 in CL, 1 in L13, 0 in L14.

12 Cx2-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with El or Hg against the other. These are distributed as 12 in CL, none in L13, none in L14.

The distribution of the agreements by manuscript is as follows:

Hg against El: 5

El against Hg: 7

11 Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with another manuscript against both Hg and El. These are distributed as 11 in CL, none in L13, none in L14.

The distribution of the agreements by manuscript is as follows:

1.3.1 Cx2-Hg/El Variants

1.3.1.1 Hg against El

There are five variants in this set in which Cx2 agrees with Hg against El, three of which --CL 233, CL 589 and CL 594-- suggest the proximity of ω to the archetype of the tradition. However, two of the variants discussed below, are of ambiguous character --CL 165 and CL 300.

⁵ All the Cx2-Hg/El and Cx2-not-Hg/El variants are retained and analysed in this set.

1.3.1.1.1 Archetypal Agreements with Hg

CL 233

Base	Ful	ofte	sithe	,	this	Markys	sette	his	eye	
Cx1	Ful	of			this	Markis	he	cast	his	ye
Cx2	Ful	ofte	sithys		this	markys	sette	his	eye	
Hg	Ful	ofte	sithe	,	this	Markys	sette	his	eye	
El	Ful	ofte	sithe	,	this	Markys	caste	his	eye	

sette] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 Gg Ha4 Hg La Ll1 Ra3
caste] Cx1 El

In CL 233 we find that Cx2 agrees with Hg Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 Gg Ha4 Hg La Ll1 and Ra3. Only El and Cx1 have the reading 'caste.' The variant distribution indicates that the Cx2 reading is archetypal, but because it is so widely distributed it is not very helpful to trace ω .

CL 589

Base	☿	But	at	Boloigne	,	he	to	his	suster	deere
Cx1		But	at	boleyn			to	his	sustir	dere
Cx2		But	at	boleyn		he	to	his	suster	dere
Hg	☿	But	at	Boloigne	,	he	to	his	suster	deere
El		But	at	Boloigne	,		to	his	suster	deere

he] Bo2 Ch Cx2 Gg Hg
not present] Dd Ds1 El En1Ha4 Ra3
it] Ad3 Cp Ht

CL 589 is another case of dubious metre. The personal pronoun 'he' is found in Cx2 Hg Bo2 Ch and Gg. Other witnesses --Ad3 Cp Ht-- have 'it' instead. Cx1 El Dd Ds1 En1 Ha4 and Ra3 do not have 'he,' and Ll1 has a deletion in the place in which the personal pronoun could have been. The agreement of Cx2 Hg and Ch is not unusual, but the fact that this agreement is also shared by Bo2 and Gg makes it relatively uncommon, and could indicate --through the variety of witnesses sharing the same

reading-- that some otherwise good textual witnesses, such as E1, might have left it out by accident.

CL 594

Base	And	whos	child	that	it	was	,	he	bad	hire	hyde
Cx1	And ^ð	whoos	child ^ð	that	it	is		he	bad ^ð	hym	hyde
Cx2	And	whoos	chylð	that	it	is		he	bad	her	hyde
Hg	And	whos	child	p ^t	it	was	,	he	bad	hir ^ƿ	hyde
E1	And	whos	child	that	it	was	,	he	bad	hym	hyde

hire] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Gg Ha4 Hg Ht La Ll1 Ra3
 him] Ds1 E1 En1

By the context of the line one immediately realises that the Cx1 reading is a mistake, that the oblique pronoun should be a feminine one, not masculine. E1 and En1 agree with Cx1 in this mistake. Cx2 Hg Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Gg Ha4 Ht La Ll1 and Ra3 have the feminine pronoun instead. Although in this case the variant distribution indicates that the Cx2 reading is the archetypal one, it is important to remember that variants that can easily be inferred by a contextual interpretation are to be considered with caution, since they might not necessarily be the result of the copying process and instead might be the consequences of scribal intervention.

1.3.1.1.2 Variants of Ambiguous Character

CL 165

CL 165 after CL 163: Cp La

Base	That	what	wyf	that	I	take	,	ye	me	assure
Cx1	What		wyf	that	y	take	that	ye	me	ensure

Cx2	That	what	wyf	that	I	take	ye	massure
Hg	That	what	wyf	p ^t	I	take	ye me	assure
El	What		wyf	that	I	take	ye me	assure

That what] Ad3 Cp Cx2 Dd Ha4 Hg Ht La Ll1 Ra3
 What] Bo2 Ch Cx1 Ds1 El En1 Gg

Cx2 is in agreement with Hg in having 'That what' at the beginning of this line. El, as Cx1, has 'What.' The rest of the witnesses are divided in their agreements. Bo2 Ch Ds1 En1 and Gg agree with El and Cx1; while Ad3 Dd Ha4 Ht Ll1 and Ra3 share the variant with Cx2 and El. Although this variant clearly changes the line's metre, it is difficult to know if the Cx2 line is hypermetrical. It all depends on the pronunciation of the final 'e' of 'take.' It is possible that the variant in Hg and Cx2 might have had its origin in an anticipation of the word 'that' after 'wyf.' It is interesting to find Ad3 in agreement with Cx2 Ha4 and Hg against El and Ch. The usual situation when the variants are so divided is to find Ad3 in agreement with El --independently of any agreement or disagreement with Cx2. This seems to show that, putting aside the issue of this variant being archetypal or not, this variant has been genetically transmitted.

CL 300

Base	And	she	goth	,	withouten	lenger	lette	
Cx1	And ^ð	in	she	goth	with ^o uten	lengir	let	
Cx2	And ^ð		s ^h e	goth	wy th outen	lenger	let	
Hg	And	she	goth	,	with outen	lenger	lette	
El	And	In	she	gooth	,	with outen	lenger	lette

And] Cx2 Hg

And in] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Ht La
 Ll1 Ra3

The presence or absence of the preposition 'in' could potentially affect the metre of CL 300. Any doubt arises due to the final 'e' in 'lette,' if this is to be pronounced the line

in Cx1 and El is hypermetrical, if not, the presence of the preposition allows a regular iambic pentameter. Hg agrees with Cx2 in not having the preposition, but the majority of the witnesses disagree with them. Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Ht La Ll1 and Ra3 all have it. This variant distribution could point towards an agreement by coincidence between Cx2 and Hg, in which both have left out a word. However, it is important to remember that in many cases Cx2 and Hg are in agreement on very small matters and that this could be one of such cases.

1.3.1.2 *El against Hg*

In this set, Cx2 agrees with El against Hg in seven occasions. What is peculiar about these agreements is the fact that four of them --CL 49, CL 251, CL 308 and CL 685-- are readings that are either archetypal or an improvement over the Hg reading. The Hg reading in the other two variants could be the archetypal one, but is not necessarily so.

1.3.1.2.1 Archetypal Agreements with El

CL 49

CL 49 out: Dd

Base	Taketh	his	firste	spryngyng	,	and	his	cours
Cx1	Takyng ^r	his	first	spryngyng	e	and ^b	his	cours
Cx2	Takyng	his	first	spryngyng		and ^b	his	sours
Hg	Taketh	his	firste	spryngyng	,	and	his	cours
El	Taketh	his	firste	spryngyng	,	and	his	sours

cours] Bo2 Cx1 Hg

sours Ad3 Ch Cx2 Ds1 El Ha4 Ht La Ra3

shours En1

The variant in CL 49 is the result of a mistake in the copying of the text. In this case it is possible to assess which variant is archetypal with relative ease. What happened here is that CL 50 has 'cours' as its rhyme word and a scribe miscopied this reading into the previous line, where the reading should be 'sours' as in Cx2 E1 and many other witnesses.⁶ Hg could have been the source of the mistake or have copied it from the exemplar he was working from, but undoubtedly, the archetypal reading is the one found in Cx2 E1 Ad3 Ch Ds1 Ha4 Ht La and Ra3.

CL 251

Base	Wol	he	nat	wedde	,	allas		the	while
Cx1	Wol	he	not	wedde		allas		the	whyle
Cx2	Wol	he	not	wedde		allas	allas	the	whyle
Hg	Wol	he	nat	wedde	,	allas		the	while
E1	Wol	he	nat	wedde	,	allas	allas	the	while
	allas	]	Bo2	Cx1	Ds1	En1	Gg	Hg	
			allas	allas	]	Ad3	Ch	Cp	Cx2
							Dd	E1	Ht
								La	Ll1
									Ra3

Cx2 has the word 'allas' repeated, a reading that is supported by E1 Ad3 Ch Cp Dd Ha4 Ht La Ll1 and Ra3. This repetition makes the metre of the line regular and because of its distribution among the witnesses one could assume that this is the archetypal version of the line. Hg agrees with Cx1 Bo2 Ds1 En1 and Gg in having a single 'allas.'

⁶ According to Manly and Rickert the variant distribution for this reading is:
 shours: Cn En1 Ln Si
 cours: Bw Dd (Dd1 corr) Ha3 Hg Hk Mc Ne Ps Py Ra1 Ry1 Ry2
 cources: He
 om: Gl
 out: Fi Nl

CL 308

Base	As	for	my	wyf	vnto	my	lyues	ende
Cx1	As	to	my	wyf	vnto	our	lyuys	ende
Cx2	As	to	my	wyf	vnto	her	lyuys	ende
Hg	As	for	my	wyf ^r	vn to	my	lyues	ende
El	As	for	my	wyf ^r	vn to	hir	lyues	ende

my] Bo2 Gg Hg Ht Ll1

hir] Ad3 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1La Ra3

our] Cx1

Cx2 agrees with El and the majority of the collated witnesses --Ad3 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 En1 La Ra3-- in the reading 'hir' (pronoun possessive feminine), against the Hg reading 'my,' supported by Bo2 and Ht. Cx1 has 'our.' The variant distribution seems to indicate that the Cx2 reading is archetypal since several **O** manuscripts --Ad3 Ch El and Ra3-- share it. CL 308 presents a variant that has a great interest from an interpretative perspective, since the variant readings present the character of Walter in a different light. This variant would contribute to study of the scribal reception of the text.

CL 685

Base	He	wente	his	wey	/	as	hym	no	thyng	roghte	
Cx1	He	wente	his	wey		as	he	no	thing ^r	thoughte	
Cx2	He	went	his	wey		as	he	no	thyng	ne	roughte
Hg	He	wente	his	wey	/	as	hym	no	thyng	roghte	
El	He	wente	his	wey	/	as	hym	no	thyng	ne	roghte

thyng] Cx1 Ds1 En1 Gg Hg Ht La Ll1 Ra3

thyng ne] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd El Ha4

Once more we have a variant in which the decision about its effect on the metre has to do with the interpretation about a final '-e', in this case the one in 'roghte.' Cx2 and

El have added the adverb 'ne' just before 'roghte,' and in this, they are supported by Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Dd El and Ha4. Hg, on the other hand, agrees with Cx1 Ds1 En1 Gg Ht La L11 and Ra3, in not having the adverb. Independently of whether the presence or absence of this adverb might belong to the origin of the tradition, we find that here Cx2 is in agreement with Ad3 Ch and Ha4, which again may indicate a genetic relationship between these witnesses.

1.3.1.2.2 Variants of Ambiguous Character and Likely Agreements by Coincidence

CL 530

Base	They	mowe	wel	been	,	biwailed	,	or	compleyned
Cx1	They	may	weel	be		bewaylid ^ð		or	compleyned ^ð
Cx2	They	may	wel	be		bewaylid		and ^ð	compleyned ^ð
Hg	They	mowe	wel	been	,	biwailed	,	or	compleyned
El	They	mowe	wel	been	,	biwailed		and	compleyned

or] Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Dd Ha4 Hg La
and Ad3 Ds1 El En1 Gg Ht Ra3

CL 530 has a change in the conjunction: Cx2 has 'and' and Cx1 has 'or.' The Cx2 reading is supported by El Ad3 Ds1 En1 Gg Ht and Ra3, while the Cx1 reading is found in Hg Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ha4 and La. This is a perfectly even distribution of the witnesses numerically, half of them agreeing with one reading and the other half with the other. It is unusual that Cx2 is in agreement with Ad3 but not with Ch and Ha4, which raises the possibility of it being the result of an agreement by coincidence.

CL 1104

Base	O	many	a	teer	,	o	many	a	pitous	face
Cx1	O	many	a	tere		of	many	a	pitous	face
Cx2	O	many	a	tere		on	many	a	pytous	face
Hg	O	many	a	teer	,	o	many	a	pitous	face

El O many a teere / on many a pitous face

o] Bo2 Ch Ha4 Hg Ht
not present] Ds1 Dd En1
and] Ad3 Ra3
on] Cp Cx2 El Gg La
of] Cx1

In this line we find that Cx2 agrees with El in the reading 'on' instead of 'o,' which is the Hg reading. Although the Cx2 reading is also found in Cp Gg and La, it seems unlikely that it could be archetypal. On this occasion Hg probably has the archetypal reading. The only problem with this is that it does not explain the agreement of Cx2 with **c** group manuscripts, which are unlikely to be genetically related to ω . At this point, I will assume that this agreement is an agreement by coincidence in a substitution that seems easy to make.

1.3.1.2.3 Agreement with El and Ha4 below the Archetype

CL 1148

CL 1148 after CL 1146: Ll1

Base This storie / which he with heigh stile enditeth /

Cx1 This story whiche with high stile enditith

Cx2 This story whiche with high style he endytith

Hg This storie / which he with heigh stile enditeth /

El This storie / which w^t heigh stile he enditeth

he with heigh stile enditeth] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Ds1 Gg Hg La Ll1 Ra3

with heigh stile he enditeth] Cx2 Dd El En1 Ha4 Ht

In CL 1148, Cx2 has the personal pronoun 'he' before 'enditeth.' Only four other witnesses share the Cx2 reading: El Dd Ha4 and Ht. The line in Hg has the pronoun before 'with,' in a position also found in Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Ds1 Gg La Ll1 and Ra3.

This variant distribution suggest that the Hg version of the line is likely to be the one that is archetypal, while the Cx2 version is a derivative one. However, the most important fact is that Ha4 is, once more, in agreement with Cx2.

1.3.2 Cx2-not-Hg/El Variants

Some of the variants in this section show the consistent agreement of Cx2 with Ha4 and Ch. There are a few variants in which Cx2 agrees with Ht, and in one of these the agreement is against all other witnesses --CL 807. Perhaps the most interesting variant is the one in CL 1067, where Hg and El agree in error and Cx2 has what is probably the ancestral reading. In CL 1063 we find another variant of possible archetypal origin preserved in Cx2.

1.3.2.1 Archetypal Variants (Hg and El agree in Error)

CL 1063									
Base	Thow	art	my	wyf	/	noon	oother	I	haue
Cx1	Thow	art	my	wyf		non	other	I	haue
Cx2	Thou	art	my	wyf	ne	none	other	I	haue
Hg	Thow	art	my	wyf	/	noon	oother	I	haue
El	Thou	art	my	wyf	/	noon	oother	I	haue
	wyf]	Cx1	Dd	Ds1	El	En	Hg		
			wyf	ne	]	Ad3	Bo2	Ch	Cp
								Cx2	Ht
									La
									Ra3

Here Cx2 has added the adverb 'ne' after 'wyf,' a reading which is supported by the majority of the witnesses. This addition alters the metre of the line, but its wide distribution indicates that this was widely accepted by the scribes. It is interesting

that this variant appears in **O** manuscripts even if these are of independent descent. One could assume that this variant is likely to be archetypal, that is, because the variant is present in manuscripts that share no other relationship than being descended from the archetype, it is likely that the reading comes directly from it.

CL 1067

Base	Shal	be	myn	heir	,	as	I	haue	ay	supposed
Cx1	Shal	be	myn	heir		as	I	haue		disposid ^ð
Cx2	Shal	be	myn	heyr		as	I	haue		purposyð ^ð
Hg	Shal	be	myn	heir	,	as	I	haue	ay	supposed
El	Shal	be	myn	heir	,	as	I	haue	ay	supposed

supposed] Bo2 El Gg Hg
disposid] Cx1 Dd Ds1 En1
purposed] Ad3 Ch Cp Cx2 Ht La Ra3

The variant in CL 1067 is one of the most interesting in this set. Cx2 has substituted the Cx1 reading, 'disposid' with 'purposed.' However, both Hg and El have 'supposed' --also found in Bo2 and Gg. This is an instance in which Hg and El agree in error. The mistake came from CL 1065, which ends with the word 'supposed,' both Hg and El miscopied CL 1067 adding the rhyme word of CL 1065. The archetypal reading is the *lectio difficilior*, the reading in Cx2 'purposed' which some witnesses – Cx1 Dd Ds1 En1-- have changed for an easier reading 'disposed.'

1.3.2.2 Agreements with Ad3 Ch or Ha4 Probably Introduced below the Archetype

CL 6

Base	But	Salomon	seith	,	euery	thyng	hath	tyme	
Cx1	But	Salamon	sayde		euery	thing ⁷	hath	tyme	
Cx2	But	Salamon	sayð ^ð		that	al	thyng	hath	tyme

Hg But Salomon seith / euery thyng hath tyme
 El But Salomon seith / euery thyng hath tyme

euery] Cp Ds1 El En1 Ha4 Hg La Ra3
 that euery] Ad3 Ch Dd
 that al] Cx2
 al] Ht

There are two variants in CL 6. The first one is the agreement of Cx2 with Ad3 Ch and Dd in having the word 'that,' which makes the line in the three manuscripts hypermetrical. The line in Cx2 is the metrical equivalent of that in El and Hg because Cx2 has 'al' instead of 'euery,' as Ad3 Ch and Dd have. There is a witness that supports the reading 'al', Ht, although this manuscript does not have the 'that' present in the other witnesses. One could argue that the agreement with Ad3 Ch and Dd is likely to be genetic, but it is more difficult to make a firm statement about Cx2's relationship with Ht, because this manuscript has not been collated throughout.

CL 56

Base But this his tale / which that ye shal heere
 Cx1 But thus he begynneth his tale as ye mow here
 Cx2 But this is his tale as ye mow here
 Hg But this his tale / which þ^t ye shal heere
 El But this his tale / which that ye may heere

But this his tale] Ad3 Bo2 Dd El Hg
 But this is his] Ch Cx2 Ds1 En1 Ha4 Ht La Ra3
 But thus he begynneth] Cx1

The Cx1 reading 'he begynneth' has been replaced in Cx2 by 'is.' A few witnesses support the Cx2 reading, Ch Ds1 En1 Ha4 Ht La and Ra3. We have seen before that in many cases Cx2 agrees with a group manuscripts but, in this case, Dd does not share the variant. The agreement with Ch and Ha4 is consistent with other sets and

keeps confirming that there is a genetic relationship between these manuscripts and Cx2.

CL 866

Base	But	feith	,	and	nakednesse	,	and	maydenhede
Cx1	But	feith		and ^b	nakidnes		and ^b	my maydenhede
Cx2	But	feyth			nakydnes		and ^b	my maydenhede
Hg	But	feith	,	and	nakednesse	,	and	maydenhede
El	But	feith		and	nakednesse	,	and	maydenhede

and] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Hg La
not present] Cx2 Hl4 Ha4 Ll1

Cx2 has suppressed the conjunction 'and' before 'nakednesse' and Hl4 Ha4 and Ll1 support this reading. All the other witnesses are in agreement with Cx1 in this case.

1.3.2.3 Agreements with Ht Possibly Introduced below the Archetype

CL 154

Base	That	choys	,	and	pray	yow	of	that	profre	cesse
Cx1	That	chois		and ^b	pray	you	of	your	profir	sece
Cx2	That	chois		I	pray	you	of	that	profir	sece
Hg	That	choys	,	and	pray	yow	of	that	pfre	cesse
El	That	choys	,	and	prey		of	that	profre	cesse

and] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Dp Dd Ds1 En1 El Gg Ha4 Hg La Ll1 Ra3
I] Cx2 Ht

In CL 154, Cx2 substitutes the conjunction 'and' with the personal pronoun 'I.' This reading is supported only by Ht, while the remaining witnesses agree with Cx1 and Hg. Ll1 has the same reading as Cx2 and Ht, but it has it in a different position.

Although the agreement with Ht might not seem very informative, this set consistently presents variants which are shared by Cx2 and Ht.

CL 807

Base	And thilke dower	,	that ye		broghten	me
Cx1	And ^h that dower		that ye		broughte	me
Cx2	And that dower		that ye		broughte to	me
Hg	And thilke dower ^p	,	p ^t ye		broghten	me
El	And thilke dower ^p	,	that ye		broghten	me

broghten] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Dd Ds1 El En1 Ha4 Hg Ht La Ll1
 broghten to] Cx2 Ht

As in CL 154, this line presents an agreement between Cx2 and Ht, which is the addition of the preposition 'to' before 'me.' The rest of the collated witnesses agree in not having this preposition which indicates that the addition is probably non-archetypal.

CL 870

Base	Inwith	youre	chambre	,	dar	I	saufly	sayn	
Cx1	With	ynne	your	chamber	I	dar	it	saflly	seyne
Cx2	With	yune	your	chambyr	I	dar		saflly	seyne
Hg	Inwith	you ^p	chambre	,	dar	I	saufly	sayn	
El	In with	you ^p	chambre	,	dar	I	saufly	sayn	

I] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp El Gg Hg La Ll1
 it] Cx1 Dd En1
 not present] Cx2 Ds1 Hl4 Ht

CL 870 is another case of Cx2 suppressing a reading present in Cx1. In this case, it is the suppression of the personal pronoun 'it.' The Cx1 reading was present in Dd and

En1 --a group manuscripts.

1.3.2.4 Variants of Ambiguous Character

CL 193

Base	Swich	charge	yaf	/	as	hym	liste	on	hem	leye
Cx1	Suche	charge	yaf		as	hym	list	on	hem	leye
Cx2	Suche	charge	yaf		as	he	lyst	on	hem	leye
Hg	Swich	charge	yaf	/	as	hym	liste	on	hem	leye
El	Swich	charge	yaf	/	as	hym	liste	on	hem	leye

hym] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Dd El En1 Gg Ha4 Hg Ht La Ll1 Ra3
he] Cx2 Ds1

Once more we have an agreement of Cx2 with a single other witness. In this case it is the **a** group manuscript Ds1 . They share the reading 'he' instead of the Cx1 'hym,' which is supported by the majority of the witnesses.

CL 513

Base	But	yet	he	feyned	/	as	he	were	nat	so
Cx1	But	yet	he	semyd ^ð		as	he	were	not	so
Cx2	But	yet	it	semed		as	he	were	not	so
Hg	But	yet	he	feyned	/	as	he	were	nat	so
El	But	yet	he	feyned	/	as	he	were	nat	so

he] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Dd El Gg Hg Ha4 Ht La Ra3
it] Cx2 Ds1

In CL 513, Cx2 has substituted the personal pronoun 'he' with 'it.' The majority of the witnesses agree with the Cx1 reading, which is the Hg and El reading. Only two **a** group manuscripts --Ds and En1-- are in agreement with Cx2.

2. SET 11: THE NUN'S TALE, LINK 33 AND THE CANON'S YEOMAN'S TALE⁷

2.1 Set Summary

Just as set 3, set 11 presents an interesting feature that is determinant for the interpretation of its data: L33 and CY are not present in Hg. For this reason, some adjustments have to be made to the way in which the text is approached. Although Blake indicates in his lineation system that the base text for L33 and CY should be Cp, I have decided to have El as the base for collations involving more witnesses than just Caxton's editions. One could have expected that because L33 and CY are not present in Hg that this set might have shown different textual affiliations than those present in other sets. Leaving aside the fact that there are no agreements with Hg --for obvious reasons-- in the Cx2-Hg/El variants, the set shows some of the general characteristics of other sets. However, there are some inconsistencies in the agreements of Cx2 in this set and, even though, it is difficult to point out the cause of these, they must be taken into account in the overall analysis of the variants. Here we find that there are some persistent agreements with En1 and Ds1 , but these do not seem to fit with Cx2 usual affiliations. On other occasions, Cx2 resumes its agreements with Ad3 Ch and Ha4. There are also agreements with other a group manuscripts.

2.2 Analysis of Variant Lines

2.2.1 Line Substitutions

⁷ The witnesses collated for NU are: Ad1 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd D1 Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gg G1 Ha2 Ha3 Ha4 He Hg Ht La Lc Ma Mc Me Mg Mm Ne N1 Ph2 Ph3 Pn Ps Pw Py Ra1 Ra2 Ra3 Ry1 Ry2 Se S11 S12 Tc1 Tc2 To1 Wy. The witnesses collated for L33 are: Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Ht La. The witnesses collated for CY are: Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Ht La.

Among the line substitutions we can find some variants within the line that are not simply archetypal. These can be found in lines NU 84 and CY 300a. The variant in CY 300a is a singleton, but the one in NU 84 is stemmatically significant and deserves especial attention. The case of CY 300a is one of the very rare cases in which an ancestral line is substituted by a non-ancestral one.

A complete list of substituted lines follows:

NU 84a Cx1 As ferforth as god^ð wyl me grace [dub]sende[/dub]
 NU 84 Cx2 And pray you that ye wil my werke amende

NU 245a Cx1 He spak vnto his brother in gret haste
 NU 245 Cx2 Within his herte [] he gan to wonder faste

NU 544a Cx1 To perfourme that I before haue do
 NU 544 Cx2 To recomende to you or that I goo

CY 300 Cx1 Wherof no force I wol procede as now
 CY 300a Cx2 Therof no force in plesaunce went his plow

As I mentioned above, NU 84 has a variant within the line that is stemmatically significant.

NU 84
 NU 84 out: Cx1
 Base And pray yow / that ye wol my werk amende
 Cx2 And pray you that ye wil my werke amende
 Hg And pray yow / that ye wol my werk amende
 El I pray yow / that ye wole my werk⁷ amende

 And] Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Gg Hg Ht La Ra3
 I] Ad3 El Ha4

The majority of the witnesses agree with Cx2 and Hg in the reading 'And.' It is remarkable, however, that Ad3 and Ha4 support the El reading 'I.' The change of the conjunction for the pronoun does not affect the metre of the line. The variant

distribution indicates that the Cx2 reading is likely to be archetypal. It is difficult to explain how the reading in El Ha4 and Ad3 arose, but it is highly unlikely that the agreement between these manuscript could be the result of a coincidence and, for this reason one has to conclude that the variant was introduced by a witness that may have well been the ultimate ancestor of these manuscripts.

2.2.2 Line Additions

Most of the major additions are archetypal. There are only three lines that present different kinds of variation. One of the added lines (L33 155) has a singleton variant, and L33 151 and 153 present variants that are stemmatically significant.

L33 151 Cx2 Al that I can anon I wyl you telle
 L33 152 Cx2 Syn he is goon the foule fende hym quelle
 L33 153 Cx2 For neuer here after wyl I with hym mete
 L33 154 Cx2 For peny ne for pound^ð I you byhete
 L33 155 Cx2 He that me first brought to that game
 L33 156 Cx2 Or that he dye sorowe haue he and^ð sñame

CY 68 Cx2 By cause that I am a lewð^ð man
 CY 69 Cx2 Yet wil I telle hem as they come to mynde
 CY 70 Cx2 Though I ne can not sette them in her kynde

Although there are two lines in which we find variants within the line that might be potentially stemmatically significant, their analysis shows that these are not as important as expected. L33 151 exhibits an alteration in word order, while L33 153 shows that the El scribe left a word out of the line and the rest of the collated witnesses agree with it.

L33 151
 L33 151...L33 156 out: Cx1
 Base Al that I kan / anon now wol I telle
 Cx2 Al that I can anon I wyl you telle
 El Al that I kan / anon now wol I telle

now wol I] Ad3 El Gg Ha4
 I wol you] Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1
 right wol I] Cp
 none wol I] Ht La

In L33 151, Cx2 has the phrase 'I wol you' where El has 'now wol I.' The manuscripts that share the Cx2 reading are those that belong to the **a** group --Dd Ds1 and En1. Usually, variations in the order of a phrase are of doubtful origin and are difficult to use to show any stemmatic relations. However, in the case of L33 151, because Cx2 agrees with manuscripts of the **a** group we cannot dismiss this particular variant as non-genetic. In fact, because it is found in three **a** manuscripts it seems possible that this variant might have been in the hyparchetype of the group.

L33 153
 Out: Cx1 Gg
 Base For neuer her after wol I with him mete
 Cx2 For neuer here after wyl I with hym mete
 El For neu'e heer7 wol I with hym meete

her wol] El
 her after wol] Ad3 Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Ha4 Ht La

In L33 153, Cx2 agrees with the majority of the collated witnesses in the reading 'after,' which is not present in El. It seems quite clear that the El scribe made a mistake when copying this line.

2.2.3 Line Deletions

There are no major deletions in this set.

2.2.4 Line Misplacements

L33 31 Cx2 Fast haue I pricked^o quod^o he for your sake

L33 32 Cx2 By cause that I wolde you ouer take

These lines are placed after line 34 in Cx1 and their regular place in Cx2.

2. 3 Analysis of Word Additions, Deletions and Substitutions

The variant distribution for this group is as follows:

116 Cx2-O variants, which confirm the excellence of ω . These are distributed as 34 in NU, 12 in L33, and 70 in CY.

22 Cx2-Unique variants, which are unique to Cx2 in the current collation. These are distributed as 5 in NU, 1 in L33, and 16 in CY.

4 Cx2-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with El or Hg against the other. These are distributed as 4 in NU.

The distribution of the agreements by manuscript is as follows:

Hg against El: 2

El against Hg: 2

7 Cx2-El variants, these occur in texts that are not present in Hg. These are distributed as 1 in L33, and 6 in CY.⁸

7 Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with another manuscript against Hg and El. These are distributed as 2 in NU, 1 in L33, and 4 in CY.⁹

⁸ There are two variants in CY 630. It is important to point out that this set has two pieces of text that are not found in Hg. The agreements with El in L33 and CY are presented separately.

⁹ These also include the variants in L33 and CY.

2.3.1 Cx2-Hg/El Variants

Of the eleven variants in this category, eight are discussed below. Because there are only two Hg against El variants both of them are being taken into account. Of the eight El against Hg variants, six are discussed below. The other two --L33 16 and CY 296-- can be found in the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 2.3.1.1 because they are likely to be the result of agreements by coincidence.

2.3.1.1 Hg against El

In this set there are two variants in which Cx2 agrees with Hg against El and both of them appear to be archetypal readings.

2.3.1.1.1 Archetypal Variants

NU 178

Base	For secree	nedes	,	and for	good	entente
Cx1	For secretnes			and ^d for	good ^d	entent
Cx2	For secret	nedes		and ^d for	good ^d	entent
Hg	For secree	nedes	,	and for	good	entente
El	For secree	thynges	,	and for	good	entente

nedes] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Ha4 Hg Ht La Ra3
secretnes] Cx1
thynges] El

In this line Cx2 agrees with the Hg reading 'nedes' which is supported by the majority of the witnesses. In the current collation, El is alone in the reading 'thynges.' Not even Gg, which is often in agreement with El, shares this reading.

NU 182

Base	Thanne shal	ye seen	that	Aungel	,	er	we twynne
Cx1	Than shal	ye se	that	aungel		or	ye twynne
Cx2	Than shal	ye se	the	aungel		or	we twynne
Hg	Thanne shal	ye seen	that	Aungel	,	er	we twynne
El	Thanne shul	ye se	,	that	Angel		er ye twynne

we] Ad3 Ch Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Hg
 ye] Bo2 Cp Cx1 El Ht La Ra3

In NU 182, Cx2 agrees with Hg and other witnesses in the reading 'we' before 'twyrne.' Other witnesses in agreement with Cx2 are Ad3 Ch Dd Ds1 and En1. The El reading is 'ye,' which probably is a mistake caused by the previous appearance of the personal pronoun in this line. This reading is also found in Cp Cx1 Gg Ha4 Ht La and Ra3.

2.3.1.2 *El against Hg*

There are two variants in which Cx2 agrees with El. In two of those the agreement is against the Hg reading.¹⁰

2.3.1.2.1 Archetypal Agreements with El

NU 512					
Base	ϕ	Thise	,	and swiche othere	, seyde she
Cx1		This		and ^ϕ suche other	sayde she
Cx2		This		and ^ϕ suche other wordes	sayde sñe
Hg	ϕ	Thise	,	and swiche othere	, seyde she
El	ϕ	Thise wordes	,	and swiche othere	seyde she

Thise and swiche othere] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cx1 Dd Ds1 En1 Hg Ra3
 Thise and swiche othere wordes] Cx2 Cp Ht
 Thise wordes and swiche othere] El Gg Ha4
 Thus and swiche othere wordes] La

NU 512 presents an unusual case, Cx2 has added the word 'wordes' after 'other.' El has the same addition but in a different position, just after 'Thise.' The line as it appears in Hg is clearly not a iambic pentameter, but is supported by Ad3 Bo2 Ch Dd

¹⁰ Variants that were of no especial significance --L33 16 and CY 584-- can be seen in the electronic appendix. d.

Ds1 En1 and Ra3. The addition of 'wordes' in the position in which Cx2 has it, is also found in Cp Ht and La, three of the manuscripts that were in agreement with Cx2 in NU 51.

It also seems important to point out that there are two manuscripts that have this addition in the same position as El: Gg and Ha4. The consistency of this agreement with those found in other sets, and of the agreement of Cx2 within this set, indicate that this variant might be of great importance to establish textual relationships among these witnesses.

2.3.1.2.2 Variants of Ambiguous Character

NU 51

Base	With mercy	/	goodnesse	/	and		swich	pitee
Cx1	With ⁿ mercy		goodnes		and ⁿ		suche	pyte
Cx2	With mercy		goodnes		and ⁿ	wyth	suche	pyte
Hg	With mercy	/	goodnesse	/	and		swich	pitee
El	With m ^r cy	/	goodnesse	/	and	w ^t	swich	pitee

and swich] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cx1 Dd Ds1 En1 Hg Ra3
 and with swich] Cp Cx2 El Ha4 Ht La

In this line we find that both Cx2 and El have added the preposition 'wyth' before 'suche.' Other witnesses that agree with this reading are Cp Ha4 Ht and La --all these witnesses also agree with the El variant in NU 182, in which El agrees with Cx2. The addition of 'wyth' in this line appears to make a regular iambic pentameter. However, it does not seem possible to tell which of these variants is archetypal.

2.3.2 Cx2-El Variants

This particular set, as I have said before, has a link and tale that are not present in Hg, L33 and CY. Two variants --L33 16 and CY 296-- have been put into the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 2.3.1.2.

2.3.2.1 Archetypal Agreements with El

CY 604

Base	And wonder	pryuely /	took vp	also
Cx1	And ^ð wondir	priuely	took it vp	also
Cx2	And ^ð wonder	pryuely he	took vp	also
El	And wonder	pryuely /	took vp	also

took vp]	Ad3 Ch Cx2 El En1 Gg Ha4
took it vp]	Cp Cx1 Ds1 Ht La

CY 604 has the pronoun 'it' in Cx1, which is not present in Cx2. The presence or absence of this word results in the alteration of the metre of the line. El Ad3 Ch En1 Gg and Ha4, as well as Cx2, lack this word. On the other hand Cp Ds1 Ht and La support the Cx1 reading. It seems possible that the version of the line in El and Cx2 is archetypal since its distribution seems not to be linked to a genetic group --as is the case for the **c** group which supports the Cx1 reading.

CY 630

Base	Than hadde this preest	this soory	craft to	leere
Cx1	Than hadde this preest	this	craft forto	lere
Cx2	Than had ^ð this preest	this sory	craft to	lere
El	Than hadde this preest ⁷	this soory	craft to	leere

soory] Ad3 Cx2 Ds1 El En1 Gg
not present] Ch Cp Cx1 Ha4 Ht La

Several of the collated witnesses have the reading 'soory' before 'craft.' But the reading has been omitted from Ch Cp Cx1 Ha4 and La. Cx2 agrees with Ad3, but also with manuscripts of the **a** group --Ds En1-- and with Gg and El. The second variant in this line is 'to' in which the majority of the witnesses agree with Cx2. Only Ch is in agreement with Cx1; an agreement which can be explained as the result of a coincidence.

2.3.2.1 Agreements with El or **a** Group Witnesses below the Archetype

CY 253

CY 253 after CY 252: Cx1 Cx2 Ad3 Ch Cp Ds1 En1 Gg Ha4 Ht La

Base Ther was , a Chanoun of Religioun

Cx1 Ther is a chauon of Religion

Cx2 There was a chanon of relygyon

El Ther was , a Chanoū of Religioun

was] Cx2 Ds1 El En1

is] Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 Gg Ha4 Ht La

In this line Cx2 agrees with El against the majority of the collated witnesses. Only Ds1 and En1, manuscripts from the **a** group, agree with Cx2 and El. Witnesses that usually agree with Cx2 such as Ad3 Ch and Ha4 have the reading 'is.' Gg, which, often agrees with El in variant readings, also reads 'is.' It is likely that the reading in Cx2 and El is not archetypal.

CY 584

Base But he was feendly , bothe in herte and thoght

Cx1 But he was fendly bothe in work and^ð thought

Cx2 But he was fendly bothe in herte and^ð thought

El But he was feendly , bothe in herte and thoght⁷

herte] Cx2 Ds1 El En1
 werke] Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 Gg Ha4 Ht La

As in CY 253, this line shows an agreement between Cx2 El Ds1 and En1. All of them have the reading 'herte' instead of 'werke,' which is found in the rest of the collated witnesses.

2.3.2 Cx2-not-Hg/El Variants

Of the seven variants that comprise this set, I discuss four here. For the discussion of CY 274, CY 604 and CY 714 see the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 2.3.2. All of these seem to be the result of agreement by coincidence.

2.3.2.1 Archetypal Variant

L33 10					
Base	So	swatte /	that	vnnethe	myghte it gon
Cx1	So	swatte	that	vnnethis	mighte it goon
Cx2	So	swette	that	vnnethys	myght he goon
El	So	swatte /	that	vnnethe	mygħte it gon

it] Ch Cx1 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg
 he] Ad3 Cp Cx2 Ha4 Ht La

The variant in L33 10 is very interesting, since Cx2 and El disagree. El has the reading 'it', while Cx2, supported by Ad3 Ha4 Ht Cp and La, the last two belonging to the **c** group, reads 'he.' This is the only instance in L33 in which Cx2 disagrees with El in a stemmatically significant variant. What is important about it is that Ad3 and Ha4 support the Cx2 reading, which indicates a genetic relationship.

2.3.2.2 Agreement with **a** Group Witnesses below the Archetype

CY 246

Base	ŋis	nat	good	,	what	so	men	clappe	or	crye
Cx1	ŋys	not	good ^b		what	so	euer	men		crye
Cx2	ŋys	not	good		what	so	we	clappe	or	crye
El	ŋis	nat	good	,	what	so	men	clappe	or	crye

men] Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 El Gg Ha4 Ht La
 we] Cx2 Ds1 En1

Line CY 246 presents an agreement between Cx2 Ds1 and En1, all of which have the reading 'we' instead of 'men,' as has the majority of the witnesses --El Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 Gg Ha4 Ht and La. This would have seem an unlikely occurrence, perhaps the result of agreement by coincidence, if it were not for the fact that En1 and Ds1 have shown some consistency with Cx2 in CY. At this time, the possibility of a genetic relationship between Cx2 Ds1 and En1 has to remain open. If this is the case, it would not be that surprising for, after all, En1 and Ds1 belong to the **a** group.

2.3.2.3 Likely Agreements by Coincidence

ŋU 175

Base	Sey	hem	right	thus	,	as	that	I	shal	yow	tellen
Cx1	Sey	hem	right	thus		as		I	shal	you	tellyn
Cx2	Sey	hem	right			as	that	I	sñal	you	tellyn
Hg	Sey	hem	right	thus	,	as	that	I	shal	yow	tellen
El	Sey	hem	right	thus	,	as	that	I	shal	yow	telle

right thus as that] Cp El Hg La
 right as that] Ad3 Ch Cx1 Dd Ds1 En1 Ra3
 right as] Gg
 right thus as] Ht

The suppression of 'thus' in Cx2 --supported by Ad3 Ch Dd En1 and Gg-- alters the metre of the line. The fact that this word is not present in Ad3 Ch and manuscripts belonging to the **a** group suggests that the suppression was transmitted from witness to witness. It is not clear, at this point, if the variant in Gg is genetic or if it might be the result of an agreement by coincidence.

NU 330

Base	☩	By	word	and	by	myracle	,	he	goddes	some
Cx1		By	worde	and ^ð	by	mirakil		lo	goddis	soñ
Cx2		By	worde	and ^ð	by	myrakyl		be	goddys	some
E1		By	word	and	by	myracle	,		goddes	some
Hg	☩	By	word	and	by	myracle	,	he	goddes	some

he	]	Ad3	Ch	Dd	Ds1	En1	Gg	Hg	Ht	Ra3
be	]	Bo2	Cx2							
lo	]	Cx1								
not present	]	E1								

In NU 330 we find that Hg reads 'he' before 'goddes,' and the majority of the collated witnesses agree with this reading. Cx2, on the other hand, has the reading 'be' only supported by Bo2. It is likely that 'be' is a mistaken product of the structure of the line which repeats 'be' twice before this. If this were a mistake, its origin could be explained by a scribe misunderstanding the shape of the 'h' and copying it as 'b'.

3. SET 12: THE PHYSICIAN'S TALE, LINK 21 AND THE PARDONER'S TALE¹¹

3.1 Set Summary

In this set the manuscript which is most consistently in agreement with Cx2 is Ad3. It agrees with Cx2 in three of the four occasions in which this agrees with Hg; and in one of two agreements with El. Ad3 also has the highest percentage of agreement with Cx2 in the Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, where it supports the Cx2 readings five times out of eleven.

3.2 Analysis of Variant Lines

3.2.1 Line Substitutions

Among the line substitutions we can find some variants within the line that are not simply archetypal.

A complete list of substituted lines follows:

PH 82a Cx1 Kepe wel tho that ye haue vndertake
PH 82 Cx2 To teche hem vertu loke that ye not slake

L21 5a Cx1 So falle on his body and^þ on his bonys
L21 6a Cx1 To the deuyl I betake hym attonys
L21 5 Cx2 Come to this fals luges 7 her aduocats
L21 6 Cx2 Allas this sely mayde is sleyn allas

PD 28a Cx1 Touche he this boon anone he shal be sounde
PD 29a Cx1 And yet also more ferthirmore
PD 28 Cx2 Take water of this welle 7 wasshe his tunge
PD 29 Cx2 And it is hool anon / and^þ ferthermore

PD 33a Cx1 And^þ wold^þ do ony thing7 that hym owethⁿ
PD 33 Cx2 Yf that the good^þ man that the bestys oweth

¹¹ The witnesses collated for PH are: Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Hg Ht La. The witnesses collated for L21 are: Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Ha4 Hg Ht La. The witnesses collated for PD are: Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Gg Ha4 Hg Ht La.

PD 138a Cx1 And^ð pleye the harlottis in many hernys
PD 138 Cx2 Where as wyth harpes lutes and^ð gyternes

PD 294a Cx1 Loke thou vse no pley of dyse in thy hous
PD 294 Cx2 The kyng⁷ of parthes as the boke sayth vs

PD 542a Cx1 And^ð swithe in to the strete vnto a man
PD 541a Cx1 As faste as euer he mighte he ran
PD 541 Cx2 This poyson in a boxe 7 sith he ran
PD 542 Cx2 In to the nexte strete vnto a man

This set presents several variants within the lines in the substitutions included in Cx2. Some of the lines in this set are not merely archetypal. For example, we have PH 246:

PH 246
Out: Cx1
Base And after / whan hir swownyng is agon
Cx2 And after whan her swouuyng was a goon
Hg And after / whan hir swownyng is agon
El And after⁷ whan hir swownyng⁷ is agon

is] Ch Dd Ds1 El En1 Hg
was] Ad3 Bo2 Cp Cx2 Ha4 Ht La

In PH 246 we find that Cx2 has the preterit 'was' where Hg and El have 'is.' The Cx2 variant is supported by Ad3 Bo2 Cp Ha4 Ht and La. The key witnesses in this agreement are Ad3 Ha4 and Ht, but clearly Ch agrees with Hg and El. Because the readings are metrically equivalent and both of them are contextually acceptable, there is no way to decide which of them is archetypal. Not even the variant distribution can give any suggestion in this case. The weight of editorial tradition is the only pointer towards the Hg and El variant.

L21 5

Out: Cp Cx1 Ha4 La

Base Come to this luges / and hir Aduocatz
Cx2 Come to this fals luges 7 her aduocats
Hg Come to this luges / and hir Aduocatz
El Come to this false luges / and hir Aduocatz

thise] Ad3 Ch Dd Ds1 En1 Hg Ht
thise fals] Bo2 Cx2 El

In L21 5 we have a variant that clearly affects the metre of the line. Cx2 has added 'false' before judges, a reading that is also present in El and Bo2. All the other collated witnesses agree with Hg in a version of the line that is metrically more regular.

L21 6

L21 6 after L21 5: Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 Hg Ht

Out: Cp Cx1 Ha4 La

Base Algate this sely mayde / is slayn allas
Cx2 Allas this sely mayde is sleyn allas
Hg Algate this sely mayde / is slayn allas
El Algate / this sely mayde / is slayn allas
Ds Algate this seli maade is slain algates
En1 Allas this sely maid^ð is slayr̄ algates

Algate] Bo2 Ch Dd Ds1 El Hg
Alwey] Ad3
Allas] Cx2 En1
Algates] Ht

L21 6 presents what it is likely to be an agreement by coincidence between Cx2 and En1. It appears that the rhyme word of the line was reproduced also at the beginning of it in Cx2 --in En1 the words have been shifted.

Besides the peculiarities outlined above, all the line substitutions are changes of non-archetypal lines for archetypal ones.

3.2.2 Line Additions

All of the line additions in this set are archetypal, that is, they do not have variants within the line.

PH 246 Cx2 And after whan her swouuyng was a goon

PD 120 Cx2 I wyl haue money / wulle chese and^d whete

PD 265 Cx2 Blasphemye of crist manslaughtre 7 waste also

3.2.3 Line Deletions

There are no deletions in this set.

3.2.3 Line Misplacements

There are no misplacements in this set.

3.3. Analysis of Word Additions, Deletions and Substitutions

The variant distribution for this group is as follows:

113 Cx2-O variants, which confirm the excellence of ω . These are distributed as 44 in PH, 3 in L21, 66 in PD.

17 Cx2-Unique variants, which are unique to Cx2 in the current collation. These are distributed as 5 in PH, 0 in L21, 12 in PD.

6 Cx2-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with El or Hg against the other. These are distributed as 1 in PH, 0 in L21, 5 in PD.

Hg against El: 4

El against Hg: 2

11 Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with another manuscript against both Hg and El. These are distributed as 3 in PH, 1 in L21, 7 in PD.

3.3.1 Cx2-Hg/El Variants

Of a total of 6 Cx2-Hg/El variants, four are discussed below. Only one variant has been put into the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 3.3.1: PD 22. This is an agreement of Cx2 and El against Hg, but is possibly an agreement by coincidence.

3.3.1.1 Hg against El

Of the Hg against El variants we find that only one of them --PD 465-- has a variant distribution that does not show a clear archetypal character. Its variant distribution suggests that Cx2 and Hg agree in a non-archetypal reading.

3.3.1.1.1 Archetypal Variants

PD 293

PD 293 after PD 294a: Cx1 Cp

PD 293 after PD 294-a: La

Base	☿	Looke eek	/	that	to	the kyng	Demetrius
Cx1		Loke eke		how		the kynge	Emetrus
Cx2		Loke eke		how	to	the kynge	demetryus
Hg	☿	Looke eek	/	that	to	the kyng	Demetrius
El	☿	Looke eek ⁷		that		the kyng ⁷	Demetrius

to] Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 En1 Gg Hg Ht
not present] Cx1 El Ha4 La

In PD 293 Cx2 has added the preposition 'to,' a reading also found in Hg and other witnesses -- Ad3 Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 En1 Gg Ht.

El, in which the preposition is not present, is supported by Cx1 Ha4 and La. It seems likely that the Cx2 reading is archetypal and that some manuscripts have omitted it.

PD 445

Base	But	ech	of	hem	,	so	glad	was	of	the	sighte
Cx1	But	ecñ	of	theym		so	glad ^ñ	was	of	that	sighte
Cx2	But	eche	of	theym		so	glad ^ñ	was	of	the	sighte
Hg	But	ech	of	hem	,	so	glad	was	of	the	sighte
El	But	ech	of	hem	,	so	glad	was	of	that	sigñte

the] Ad3 Ch Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Gg Hg La
that] Bo2 Cx1 El Ha4 Ht

In this line Cx2 agrees with Hg against El in the having 'the' instead of 'that.' The Cx2 reading is supported also by Ad3 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 En1 Gg and La, and it is likely to be archetypal.

PD 475

Base	And	bad	hem	drawe	,	and	looke	wher	it	wol	falle
Cx1	And	bad	him	drawe	7		loke	on	whom	it	wold ^ñ fall
Cx2	And	bad	hē	drawe	7		loke	on	whō	it	wold falle
Hg	And	bad	hem	drawe	,	and	looke	wher	it	wol	falle
El	And	bad	hym	drawe	,	and	looke	wher ⁷	it	wol	falle

hem] Ad3 Bo2 Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Gg Ha4 Hg La
hym] Ch Cx1 El Ht

In this line we find a personal pronoun in its oblique form, Cx2 and Hg have a plural form, while Cx1 and El have a singular. The Cx2 reading is found in the majority of the witnesses -- Ad3 Bo2 Cp Dd Ds1 En1 Gg Ha4 and La-- and it is likely to be archetypal. Moreover in the context of the previous and following line the plural makes more sense than a singular.

3.3.1.1.2 Ambiguous Variant

PD 465

Base	Therefore	I	rede	,	that	cut	amonges	vs	alle
Cx1	Wherfore	I	rede	leet	loke		among ⁷	vs	alle
Cx2	Therefore	I	rede	let	loke		amonge	vs	alle
Hg	Ther fore	I	rede	,	that ⁷	cut	amonges	vs	alle
El	Wherfore	I	rede	,	þ ^t	Cut	among	vs	alle

Therefore] Bo2 Cx2 Hg Gg

Wherfore] Ad3 Ch Cp Cx1 Dd Ds1 El En1 Ha4 Ht La

In PD 465 Cx2 and Hg agree with Bo2 and Gg in the reading 'Therefore' while Cx1 El Ad3 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 En1 Ha4 Ht and La have 'Wherfore.' Although this variant has no impact in metre or meaning and seems quite difficult to analyse, its distribution seems to point towards the El reading being the archetypal one.

3.3.1.2 *El against Hg*

3.3.1.2.1 Likely Agreement below the Archetype

PH 132

Base	This	mayden	,	to	his	purpos	wynne	myghte
Cx1	This	mayden		to	his	purpos	wynne	he mighte
Cx2	The	mayden		to	his	purpos	wynne	he myghte
Hg	This	mayden	,	to	his	purpos	wynne	myghte
El	The	mayden	,	to	his	purpos	wynne	myghte

This] Ad3 Cx1 En1 Ha4 Hg

The] Bo2 Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 El Ht La

The variant in PH 132 does not alter the metre of the line. Cx2 and El have the reading 'The,' also supported by Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 Ht and La. Hg in this case agrees

with Cx1 in the reading 'This' which is also found in Ad3 En1 and Ha4. It seems interesting that two of the manuscripts that frequently agree with Cx2 here support the Hg reading instead. Because of this agreement between Ad3 Ha4 and Hg -- manuscripts that are supposed to represent independent lines of descent from the archetype-- one could think that their reading is the archetypal variant, while the one shared by E1 and Cx2 was introduced into the tradition as a later stage.

3.3.2 Cx2-not-Hg/E1 Variants

Of a total of 11 Cx2-not-Hg/E1 variants, six --PH 118, L21 7, PD 42, PD 51, PD 149 and PD 190-- have been put into the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 3.3.2. These are likely to be the result of an agreement by coincidence and offer very little help to establish the affiliations of ω .

3.3.2.1 Agreements with Ad3 Ch Ha4 or Ht Likely to Originate below the Archetype

PH 125

Base	As she	cam	forby	,	ther	as	this luge	stood
Cx1	As she	cam	forth	by	there	as	the luge	stood ^f
Cx2	As sñe	cam	forth	by	there		the luge	stood
Hg	As she	cam	forby	,	ther	as	this luge	stood
E1	As she	cam	forby	,	ther	as	this luge	stood ^f

as] Bo2 Ch Cx1 Dd Ds1 E1 En1 Hg
 not present] Ad3 Cp Cx2 Ha4 Ht La

Cx2 has suppressed the conjunction 'as' from before 'the luge.' Other witnesses that do not have this conjunction are Ad3 Cp Ha4 Ht and La. Although one could have doubts about this omission being genetic, the fact that both Ad3 and Ha4, often

related to Cx2, and Cp and La --c group manuscripts -- support the reading provides grounds to suppose a genetic relationship for the variant.

PH 168

Base	And if	that	he	wol	sey	,	it	is	nat	thus
Cx1	And ^h yf	that	he	wil	sey		it	is	not	thus
Cx2	And yf		he	wyl	sey		it	is	not	thus
Hg	And if	p ^t	he	wol	sey	,	it	is	nat	thus
El	And if	p ^t	he	wol	sey	,	it	is	nat	thus

that] Ad3 Cx1Cp Dd Ds1 El En1 Hg La
 not present] Bo2 Ch Cx2 Gg Ha4 Ht

As in PH 125, in PH 168 we have the suppression of a word in Cx2. The witnesses that share the Cx2 reading are Bo2 Ch Gg Ha4 and Ht, while Hg El and the rest of the collated witnesses have it. The Cx2 variant alters the metre of the line and leaves it wanting one syllable. It is likely that this variant was introduced later and that the origin of the tradition had the line as it appears in Hg and El.

PD 290

Base	Shal	nat	allye	yow	,	with	hasardours
Cx1	Shal	not	a lye	you	to	hasardouris	
Cx2	Shal	not	a lye	you	to	no hasardouris	
Hg	Shal	nat	allye	yow	,	with	hasardours
El	Shul	nat	allyen	yow	,	with	hasardours

with] Bo2 Ch Cp Dd Ds1 El En1Gg Ha4 Hg Ht La
 to] Cx1
 to no] Ad3 Cx2

The addition of the adjective 'no' in Cx2 is in agreement with the Ad3's reading. All the other collated witnesses, with the only exception of Cx1, have the preposition

'with' in this place. Although the variant in Ad3 and Cx2 is non-archetypal, because of the consistent agreements between these two witnesses, we can assume that it is genetic.

PD 470

Base	And	two	of	vs	/	shal	kepen	subtilly
Cx1	And ^ð	two	of	vs		shal	kepe	subtilly
Cx2	And	two	of	vs		shal	kepe ful	subtilly
Hg	And	two	of	vs	/	shal	kepen	subtilly
El	And	two	of	vs	/	shul	kepen	subtilly

subtilly] Ad3 Bo2 Cx1 El Gg Ha4 Hg
 ful subtilly] Ch Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 En1 Ht La

In this line we have a clear case of an addition in Cx2 that makes the line hypermetrical. The variant 'ful subtilly,' replacing 'subtilly,' is found in Ch Cp Dd Ds1 En1 Ht and La. On the other hand, the metrical line, as found in Hg and El, is supported by Ad3 and Ha4, which suggests that this form of the line was probably the one that was found in the archetype.

3.3.2.2 *Likely Agreement by Coincidence*

PD 360

Base	Bothe	man	and	womman	/	child	and	hyne	and	page	
Cx1	Bothe	man	and ^ð	woman		child ^ð			and ^ð	page	
Cx2	Bothe	man	7	woman		child ^ð		hyne	and ^ð	page	
Hg	Bothe	man	and	womman	/	child	and	hyne	7	page	
El	Bothe	man	and	wōman	/	child ^ð	7	hyne	/	7	page

and] Ad3 Ch Cp Ds1 El En1 Ha4 Hg Ht
 not present] Bo2 Cx2 Dd

PD 360 presents a very similar case to that of PD 190. What we have here is the suppression of the second conjunction 'and' in a line that has three of them. However, in this case only Bo2 and Dd agree with Cx2 which makes it even more unlikely than in the case of PD190 that the variant might be of genetic origin. This seems a clear case of agreement by coincidence.

4. SET 13: THE SHIPMAN'S TALE, LINK 24, THE PRIORESS'S TALE, LINK 25, THE TALE OF THOPAS, LINK 28.¹²

4.1 Set Summary

Probably the most striking characteristic of this set is the vast amount of agreements between Cx2 and Ct. Of the eleven variants in which Cx2 disagrees with Hg and El, Ct agrees with Cx2 in six. Manly and Rickert pointed out that probably Ct was copied from Cx2, an idea which has been confirmed by the results of my research, which shows a large number of agreements between these witnesses, even in variants which are unique to them.

Besides this confirmation, the variants in this set keep pointing in the same direction as previous ones. However, there is one other peculiarity in this set. Ch, a manuscript that is usually in agreement with Cx2, does not share any of the Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, although, on the other hand, in the Cx2-Hg/El variants, Ch is always

¹² The witnesses collated for SH are: Ad1 Ad2 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gg Gl Ha2 Ha4 Hg Hk Ht Ii La Ma Mc Mm Ne Ni Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry1 Ry2 Se Tc2 To. The witnesses collated for L24 are: Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gl Ha2 Ha4 Hg Hk Ht Ii La Ma Mc Mm Ne Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry1 Ry2 Se Tc2 To. The witnesses collated for PR are: Ad1 Ad2 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Ct Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gg Gl Ha2 Ha3 Ha4 Hg Hk Ht Ii Kk La Lc Ma Mc Mm Ne Ni Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ra4 Ry1 Ry2 Se To. The witnesses collated for L25 are: Ad1 Ad2 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Ds1 El En1 En3 Fi Gg Gl Ha2 Ha3 Ha4 Hg Hk Ii La Ma Mc Mm Ne Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry1 Ry2 Se Tc1 To. The witnesses collated for TT are: Ad1 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Bw Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Cx2 Dd Dd1 Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gg Gl Ha2 Ha3 Ha4 Hg Hk Ii La Ma Mc Mm Ne Ni Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry1 Ry2 Se Tc1 To. The witnesses collated for L28 are: Ad1 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Bw Ch Cn

in agreement with Cx2. Overall in this set, Ad3 is the manuscript which most consistently agrees with Cx2.

4.2 Analysis of Variant Lines

4.2.1 Line Substitutions

L28 2a Cx1 For thou so werry makist me
L28 3a Cx1 Of thy verry lewdnesse
L28 2 Cx2 For thou qd^b our hoost makist me
L28 3 Cx2 So wery of thy verry lewdnesse

TT 109-1 Cx1 Or it be fully pryme of the day
TT 109 Cx2 That thou shalt with this laucegay

4.2.2 Line Additions

SH 47 Cx2 In al that hous but after his degree
SH 48 Cx2 He yaf the lord^b and^b also his meynee

TT 31 Cx2 Ful many a mayde bright in bour

TT 110 Cx2 Abyen it ful soure / Thy maw
TT 112 Cx2 Shal I perce yf I may
TT 113 Cx2 Or it be fully pryme of day

Of the additions found in this set, there are three that present minor variants.

SH 47
Out: Cx1 Bo2 Ne Ph1 Tc2
Base In al that hous but after hir degree
Cx2 In al that hous but after his degree
Hg In al that hous but after hir degree
El In al the hous but after hir degree

that] Ad1 Ad3 Bo1 Bw Ch Cn Cp Cx2 Dd Dl Ds1 En1 En3 Fi Gl Ha2
Ha4 Hg Hk La Ma Mc Mm Nl Ph2 Ps Ry1 Ry2 Se To1
the] El

SH 47 has an agreement between Cx2 and Hg against E1. Their reading is 'that' which is supported by all of collated witnesses with the only exception of E1 which has 'the.' It is evident that the scribe made a mistake in E1 and that the Cx2 variant is the archetypal one.

SH 48

Base	He	yaf	the	lord	and	sith	al	his	meynee
Cx2	He	yaf	the	lord ^ð	and ^ð	also		his	meynee
Hg	He	yaf	the	lord	and	sith	al	his	meynee
E1	He	yaf	the	lord	and	siththe	al	his	meynee

sith al] Ad1 Bw Ch Cn Cp Dd Ds1 E1 En1En3 Hg Hk La Ma Ps Ry1
 Se To1
 sithens] Ad3 Bo1 D1 Fi Ha2 Ha4 Mm Ry2 Mm Ph2 Ry2
 after al] G1 Mc N1

Here we find the other extreme of the spectrum with a Cx2 reading which is unique and therefore irrelevant for tracing the affiliations of ω.

4.2.3 Line Deletions

The following lines found in Cx1 were deleted from Cx2. All the deleted lines are additional lines unlikely to have been present in the ancestor of the tradition.

SH 316-1 Cx1 Wit^h her leggis al so brode and^ð so wyde
 SH 316-2 Cx1 As of lengthe she may her self stryde

SH 318-1 Cx1 Dan lo^hn fidelio^ð on the Ribibil
 SH 318-2 Cx1 His mynstralsie is swetter than the quynybil

TT 94-1 Cx1 That he had^b of ony drede

4.2.4 Line Misplacements

There are no misplacements in this set.

4.3 Analysis of Word Additions, Deletions and Substitutions

The variant distribution for this group is as follows:

102 Cx2-O variants, which confirm the excellence of ω . These are distributed as 47 in SH, 0 in L24, 28 in PR, 2 in L25, 19 in TT, 6 in L28.

12 Cx2-Unique variants, which are unique to Cx2 in the current collation. These are distributed as 6 in SH, 1 in L24, 3 in PR, 0 in L25, 2 in TT, 0 in L28.

8 Cx2-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with both El and Hg against the other. These are distributed as 2 in SH, 1 in L24, 3 in PR, 0 in L25, 2 in TT, 0 in L28.

Hg against El: 5

El against Hg: 3

12 Cx2-not-Hg/El variants, in which Cx2 agrees with another manuscript against both Hg and El. These are distributed as 2 in SH, 1 in L24, 7 in PR, 0 in L25, 0 in TT, 2 in L28.

4.3.1 Cx2-Hg/El Variants

There are a total of eight Cx2-Hg/El variants in this set. Three of these --L24 8, PR 214, TT 106--, all of them agreements with Hg against El, have been put into the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 4.3.1, where a discussion can also be found.

The variants in which Cx2 agrees with El against Hg are of great interest. Two of these --SH 212 and PR 116-- are agreements in archetypal variants.

4.3.1.1 Hg against El

In this group we find that all of the variants shared by Hg and Cx2 against El are archetypal.

4.3.1.1.1 Archetypal Agreements

SH 428

Base	And for	to chide it	nere	but	folye
Cx1	And ^o forto	chide it	were	but a	foly
Cx2	And ^o for	to chyde it	were	but	foly
Hg	And for	to chide it	nere	but	folye
El	And for	to chide it	nere	but greet	folie

folye] Ad1 Ad2 Bo1 Bo2 Bw Ch Cn Cp Cx2 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gl
Ha2 Ha4 Hg Hk li La Ma Mc Mm Nl Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry2 Se Tc2 To1
sely] Ds1
vilany] Ry1
a folye] Cx1 Ne
hey folye] Dl
greet folye] El li

In SH 428, Cx2 has suppressed the indefinite article found in Cx1. In having the reading 'folye' as Hg does, Cx2 disagrees with E1 and a few other manuscripts. The only manuscript that agrees with E1 is Ii¹³ while a couple of other witnesses have other variant readings.

PR 27

PR 27...PR 28 out: Ry2

Base	And getest	vs the	light	of	thy prayere
Cx1	And ^o getist	vs	light	of	thy praiere
Cx2	And getist	vs the	light	of	thy prayere
Hg	And getest ^r	vs the	light	of	thy prayere
E1	And getest	vs thurgñ	lygñt	of	thy prayere

the light of] Ad2 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Ct Cx2 DI Ds1 En1 En3 Fi Gl Ha2
 Hg Hk Hl3 Kk Ma Nl Ph1 Ph2 Ps Se
 light of] Cx1 Ha3 He li
 thurgh light] E1
 the light thurgh] Ha4 Ht La Mc Ra4 Ry1 To1
 to light thurgh] Cp Hl2 Lc Mm
 light of] Ne

In PR 27 Cx2 agrees with Hg and the vast majority of the witnesses. E1, on the other hand, has a very peculiar variant in which the word order has been changed and the definite article has been suppressed. The E1 variant is clearly the result of a scribal mistake and, for this reason it is possible to say that the Cx2 variant is archetypal.

4.3.1.2 *E1 against Hg*

Of the three variants of E1 against Hg in this set, there are two in which Hg has made

¹³ The text of SH in Gg goes from line 63 to 372.

a mistake. These two lines are SH 212 and PR 116, in both cases we find that the Hg reading is acceptable, but the variant distribution indicates that the Hg readings are unlikely to be archetypal.

4.3.1.2.1 Archetypal Agreements with El

SH 212

Base	Vp	to	hir	housbonde	is	his	wyf	YGON
Cx1	Vp	to	her	husbonde	is	sñe		GOON
Cx2	Vp	to	hir	husbond ^ð	is	this	wyf	GOON
Hg	Vp	to	hir	housbonde	is	his	wyf	YGON
El	Vp	to	hir	housbonde	is	this	wyf	YGON

his] Bw Hg

this] Ad1 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx2 Dd Ds1 DI El En1
 En3 Fi Gg Gl Ha2 Ha4 La Ma Mc Mm Ne Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry1 Ry2
 Se Tc2 To1
 the] NI
 she] Cx1 li

SH 212 is one of those unusual cases in which Hg has made a mistake and this is only supported by Bw. The vast majority of the witnesses agree with the Cx2-El reading 'this.' This variant distribution suggests that this is a mistake in Hg and that the archetypal reading is the one found in Cx2 El and the vast majority of the witnesses.

PR 116

PR 116 out: Ra4

Base	That	in	an	Aleye	at	a priuee	place
Cx1	Right	at	an	aley	at	a pryue	place
Cx2	Right	at	an	aley	had ^ð	a pryue	place
Hg	That	in	an	Aleye	at	a p'uee	place
El	That	in	an	Aleye	hadde	a p'uee	place

at] Bo2 Cx1 En2 Gg Ha3 He Hg Ht Kk Ne Ph1 Ps
 hadde] Ad3 Bo1 Ch Cn Cx2 Cp Ct DI Ds1 En1 El En1 En3 Fi
 Ha2 Ha4 Hk Hl3 La Ma Mc Mm NI Ph2 Ps Ry2 Se To1

in] li Lc
 waite] Gl
 hath] Ry1

In PR 116 Cx2 and E1 agree in the reading 'had.' In the same position, Hg has the preposition 'at.' In this case we can see that most manuscripts, including Ad3 Ch and Ha4, agree with E1 and Cx2 against Hg. This variant distribution might be a sign pointing towards this variant as the archetypal one.

4.3.1.2.2 Agreement with Ch and E1 below the Archetype

TT 192

Base	And forth	vpon	his wey	he	glood
Cx1	And ^ð forth	vp on	his wey	he	ryde
Cx2	And ^ð forth	vpon	his wey	he	rode
Hg	And forth	vp on	his wey	he	glood
E1	And forth	vpon	his wey	he	rood ^ð

glood] Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Cp En2 Gl Ha4 Hg La Mm Ph1 Ry1 Se To1
 rood] Ad1Ch Cn Cx2 Ds1 Dl E1 En1 En3 Ha2 Ha3 li Ma nI

Ry2

ride] Cx1 ðe
 wold] [add]rod[/add] Dd

The variant in TT 192 is a very interesting one. It is likely to be not the product of a misunderstanding in the copying process. Instead a scribe might have wilfully altered the *lectio difficilior* 'glood' to a more common word that probably made better sense to him, 'rode.' Ad3 and Ha4 are in agreement with Hg against Cx2 and, of the manuscripts that usually agree with Cx2, only Ch supports the Cx2 reading. It is likely that the variant shared by Cx2 and E1 originated below the archetype.

4.3.2 Cx2-not-Hg/El Variants

There are a total of twelve Cx2-not-Hg/El variants in this set, of which four --SH 154, L24 8, PR 129, L28 17-- can be found in the electronic appendix d, chapter 6, 4.3.2. These are all likely to be agreements by coincidence.

The most interesting of the Cx2-not-Hg/El variants is PR 193, where we have a reading that clearly shows the relationship between Cx2 and Ad3.

4.3.2.1 Agreements with Ad3 Ch Ha4 and Ct Likely to Originate below the Archetype

SH 9

Base	Passen	as dooth	a	shadwe	vpon	the wal
Cx1	Passin	as dotñ	a	shadow	vp on	a wal
Cx2	Passyn	as doth	a	shadow	on	a walle
Hg	Passen	as dooth	a	shadwe	vp on	the wal
El	Passen	as dooth	a	shadwe	vp on	the wal

vpon] Ad1 Bo2 Bw Ch Cn Cx1 Dd Ds1 El En1 En3 Gl Hg Ma Ne Ph1
 Ry2 Tc2 To1
 of] Bo1
 on] Ad3 Cp Cx2 Dl Fi Ha4 Hk La Mc Nl Ps Ry1 Se

Cx2 has changed the preposition 'vpon' to 'on,' which alters the metre of the line, a reading in which it agrees with Ad3 Ha4 and the c group manuscripts La and Cp. Hg and El seem to have the archetypal reading, which is also the most regular from a metrical perspective, and among the manuscripts that support this we find Ch.

PR 3

Out: Ad3

Base	For	nat	oonly	thy	laude	precious
Cx1	For	nat	only	thy	laude	precious
Cx2	For	not al	only	thy	laude	precious
Hg	For	nat	oonly	thy	laude	precious

El For nocht oonly thy laude p²ciuous

nat oonly] Ad2 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Dl Ds1 El En1 En3 Gl Ha2
Ha3 Ha4 He Hg Hk Hl2 Hl3 Ht li Kk La Ma Mc Mm Ne Nl Ph1 Ph2 Ry1
Ry2 Se To1

not al only] Ct Cx2

only] Ra4

nough^t only] Ps

PR 68

Base And as he dorste he drow hym ner and ner
Cx1 And^o as he durste he drew hym nere and^o nere
Cx2 And as he durste he drewe ay nere 7 nere
Hg And as he dorste he drow hym ner and ner
El And as he dorste he droug^h hym ner and ner

hym] Ad2 Ad3 Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Dl Ds1 El En1 En3 Gl Ha2
Ha3 He Hg Hk Hl2 Hl3 Ht li Kk La Ma Mc Mm Ne Nl Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ra4
Ry1 Ry2 Se To1

ay] Ct Cx2

hem] Ha4

PR 132

PR 132 after PR 130: Dl

Base Biforn this lamb and synge a song al newe
Cx1 Beforn this lamb 7 synge a song^r al newe
Cx2 Beforn this lambe 7 synge a song^r ay newe
Hg Biforn this lamb and synge a song al newe
El Biforn this lamb and synge a song al newe

al] Ad3 Bo1 Ch Cn Cp Cx1 Dl Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Gg Gl Ha2 Ha3
Ha4 He Hg Hk Hl2 Hl3 Ht li Kk Lc Ma Mc Mm Ne Nl Ph1 Ph2 Ps Ry1
Ry2 Se

ay] Ct Cx2

PR 223

Base And gruf he fil al flat vpon the grounde
Cx1 And^o groueling^r he fyl to the grounde
Cx2 And grouelyng plat he fyl to the grounde

Hg And gruf he fil al flat vp on the grounde
 El And gruf he fil al plat vp on the grounde

flat] Bo1 Bo2 Gg Hg Kk Ph1 Ph2 Ps
 plat] Ad3 Ch Cn Cp Ct Cx2 Dl Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Gl Ha2
 Hk Hl2 Hl3 Ht La Ma Mc Mm Nl Ry1 Ry2 Se To1
 a doun] Ha4
 not present] Cx1 He Ha3 li Ne

Lines PR 3, 68, 132 and 223 have a single common characteristic. In all of them we have a variant in Cx2 witnessed by a single other witness: Ct. Manly and Rickert point out that this manuscript is dated March, 1490, which makes it later than the Caxton edition. The nature of the variants and their uniqueness seem to confirm Manly and Rickert's statement that it was "almost certainly copied from Cx2" (1940, 1: 83). Their argument is mainly based on spelling features in the manuscript, and these are not of interest for my research since they do not follow my definition of stemmatically significant variants.

Ct has also the text of NU, but this has not yet been transcribed by the CTP. For this reason it is not possible to confirm Manly and Rickert's statement with certainty at this stage.

PR 193
 Base And seyde o deere child I halsen thee
 Cx1 And^r sayde o dere child^r I halouse the
 Cx2 And sayde o dere chylde^r I coniure the
 Hg And seyde o deere child I halsen thee
 El And seyde o deere child I halsen thee

halsen] Bo1 Bo2 Cp Dl Ds1 El En1 En2 En3 Fi Gg Gl Ha2 Ha3 Ha4
 Hg Hk Hl2 Hl3 Ht li Kk La Lc Ma Mc Mm Nl Ph1 Ph2 Ry1 Ry2 Se
 coniure] Ad3 Ct Cx2
 halouse] Cx1 Ne
 haylse] Ps

Of all the variants in which Cx2 agrees with Ct, PR 193 is probably the most interesting. Here there is another witness in agreement: Ad3. This is important because the Cx2 variant 'coniure' instead of the Hg one, 'halsen,' cannot be the result of a misunderstanding of the copy text and it confirms, once more, the genetic relationship between Cx2 and Ad3.

PR 125

Base	And	namely	ther	as	thonour	of	god	shal	sprede
Cx1	And ^ð	namely	as	the	honour	of	god ^ð	shal	sprede
Cx2	And	namely	ther	the	honour	of	god	sñal	sprede
Hg	And	namely	ther	as	thonour	of	god	shal	sprede
EI	And	namely	ther		thonour	of	god	shal	sprede

ther as] Bo1 Bo2 Ch Cn Dl Ds1 En1 En3 Fi Gg Ha2 Hg Hk Hl3 Ht Kk
 Ma Ph1 Ph2 Ps Se
 as] Cx1 He Ne
 there] Ad3 Cp Cx2 EI En2 Ha4 Hl2 Gl La Lc Mc Mm Nl Ra4
 Ry1 Ry2
 there and] Ct
 where] To1
 not present] Ha3 li

In PR 125 we have Cx2 agreeing with Ad3 Ha4 Gl Lc Mc Ra4 and Ry1 in the reading 'ther the' instead of the Hg version 'ther as.' Because it is likely that the Hg reading is archetypal, the fact that Ad3 and Ha4 support the Cx2 variant confirms their genetic relationship.

4.3.2.2 Variant of Ambiguous Character

L28 20

Base	That	oghte	like	yow	as	I	suppose
Cx1	That	oughte	like	you	as	I	suppose
Cx2	That	oughte to	lyke	you	as	I	suppose
Hg	That	oghte	like	yow	as	I	suppose
El	That	ogh̄te	likēn	yow	as	I	suppose

like yow] Bw Ch Cp El Fi Ha3 Ha4 Hg La ņe Ph1Ry1 Ry2 Se Tc1
To1
to like yow] Ad1 Bo1 Bo2 Cn Cx2 Dl Ds1 En1En3 Gl li Ma
Mm Ph2 Ps

The addition that Cx2 has made to L28 20 is a common one, where given a solitary infinitive, the adverbial particle 'to' is added. In this case, however, the addition makes the line a iambic pentameter. Although the witnesses are divided and it is not possible to tell with certainty which one of the versions is archetypal, Ad3 and Ha4 support the Cx2 reading once more.