

Bibliographical Exercise

The *Chroniques* of Jean Froissart are significant because of the extensive period of time about which he writes. The chronicles cover a large part of the fourteenth century and are considered to be the most important contemporary account of the first part of the Hundred Years War.¹ More than a hundred and fifty surviving manuscript copies of the *Chroniques* survive across Europe and North America, showing that even prior to the sixteenth century his works were considered important.² They have been, and continue to be, considered by historians to be a rich source of historical detail for the period about which he writes. The editions below bear witness to the spectrum of material that can be mined from his *Chroniques*.

The main resources used in this exercise were: the UWTSD library online catalogue; UWTSD Lampeter campus library; personal bookshelves; Google Scholar.

Ainsworth, Peter, and Godfried Croenen, (eds.), *The Online Froissart*, transcriptions and XML markup by Peter Ainsworth, Vanessa Cardoso, Godfried Croenen, Mike Kestemont, Caroline Lambert, Sofie Loomans, Simon Littler, Valentina Mazzei, Hartley Miller, Katariina Närä, Florent Noirfalise, Natasha Romanova, Mary Rouse, Richard Rouse, Rob Sanderson, Dirk Schoenaers, Alexandra Vanguchte and Gem Wheeler, annotation by Peter Ainsworth, Christopher Allmand, Godfried Croenen, Katariina Närä and Inès Villela-Petit, trans. by Keira Borrill, essays by Peter Ainsworth, Christopher Allmand, Godfried Croenen, Anne Curry, Sofie Loomans, Valentina Mazzei, Katariina Närä,

¹ 'The Online Froissart: A Digital Edition of the Chronicles of Jean Froissart', *The Online Froissart*, (undated) <<https://www.dhi.ac.uk/onlinefroissart/>> para. 1

² 'The Online Froissart: A Digital Edition of the Chronicles of Jean Froissart' (undated) para. 1

Christiane Raynaud and Inès Villela-Petit, digital photography by David Cooper and Colin Dunn, technical development by Jamie McLaughlin, Michael Meredith, Michael Pidd and Gilles Souvay, version 1.5, (Sheffield: HRIOnline, 2013)
<<http://www.dhi.ac.uk/onlinefroissart>> [accessed 15th April 2025]

The Online Froissart project is a scholarly and collaborative effort between a multitude of academics to transcribe and translate the first three books of Jean Froissart's *Chroniques* and partially transcribe and translate the fourth book.³ The online project not only encompasses these transcriptions and translations but also includes historical and textual commentaries, translations of contemporary eyewitness accounts of the events recorded by Froissart, glossaries, scholarly essays, high resolution reproductions of the extant illuminated manuscript copies, and a selection of advanced tools for further studying the text.⁴ It is both an accessible and in-depth source for studying Froissart's *Chroniques*.

Eliot, Charles W. (ed.), *Chronicle and Romance: Froissart-Malory-Holinshead with introductions, notes and illustrations* (New York: P. F. Collier & Son, 1910)

This book is a compilation of translations of the works of Jean Froissart, Thomas Malory, and Raphael Holinshed, and is part of the Harvard Classics collection.⁵ Charles William Eliot was an American academic who was president of Harvard University from 1869 to 1909. The Harvard Classics, also known as Eliot's Five Foot Shelf, was a collection of books aimed at providing a wide and accessible knowledge rooted in Eliot's belief in progressive and liberal education.⁶

³ 'The Online Froissart: A Digital Edition of the Chronicles of Jean Froissart' (undated) para. 2

⁴ 'The Online Froissart: A Digital Edition of the Chronicles of Jean Froissart' (undated) paras. 2-3

⁵ Also known as Raphael Hollingshead.

Cyndia Susan Clegg, 'Holinshed [Hollingshead], Raphael, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, (23rd September 2004) <<https://doi.org/10.1093/ref:odnb/13505>> para. 1; Charles W. Eliot (ed.), *Chronicle and Romance: Froissart-Malory-Holinshead with introductions, notes and illustrations* (New York: P. F. Collier & Son, 1910), front cover

⁶ Charles W. Eliot, *Fifteen Minutes a Day: The Reading Guide* (New York: P. F. Collier & Son, 1930), p. 6

Eliot's Froissart translation forms part of this library for individual self-education and enlightenment. This is a good quality translation of Froissart but only contains small amounts of his overall work.

Froissart, Jean, *Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by Geoffrey Brereton (Bungay, Suffolk: The Chaucer Press, 1978)

This translation by Geoffrey Brereton is a part of the Penguin Classics series. Geoffrey Brereton was born in 1906 and was a journalist and scholar in French literature.⁷ This paperback Penguin Classic is aimed at a general readership. It is not a complete translation of Froissart's *Chroniques* but is well translated and thorough. The end of the book features simple explanatory notes in the form of a glossary which details and explains terms that may be unfamiliar to the general reader.⁸ It contains a map of France and her neighbouring territories in the fourteenth century and also an index of persons.⁹

Froissart, Jean, *Chroniques: Dernière rédaction du premier livre: Edition du manuscrit de Rome Reg. lat. 869*, ed. by George T. Diller (Lausanne: les presses de l'Imprimerie Pont Frères, 1972)

This Old French transcription is of the first book of Froissart's *Chroniques*. It is a full transcription of the text and is the first in a series by *Librairie Droz* which transcribed the various manuscript copies. This is a thorough and complete scholarly transcription and contains at the back of the book an index of names and an index of places together with a selective glossary for readers who

⁷ Jean Froissart, *Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by Geoffrey Brereton (Bungay, Suffolk: The Chaucer Press, 1978), p. 1

⁸ Froissart, *Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by Geoffrey Brereton (1978), pp. 473-477

⁹ Froissart, *Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by Geoffrey Brereton (1978), pp. 478-496

may not have specialised knowledge of Old French and the language particularities of the Rome Reg. lat. 869 manuscript.¹⁰ The end of the book also contains a table of concordances and summaries for cross referencing with editions of two other extant manuscripts: Amiens MS 486; BN 6477, together with passages used by Froissart from Jean le Bel's own *Chronique*.¹¹

Froissart, Jean, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (London: Collins Clear-Type Press, 1968)

This translation by John Jolliffe contains selected passages of Froissart's four books of *Chroniques*. It opens with an introduction, which details who Froissart was and the historical and political context of the *Chroniques*, and multiple maps and genealogical tables.¹² These maps are of France in 1360, all of Europe in 1360, and specific maps of French regions and the routes of certain military expeditions.¹³ The three genealogical tables are of the Plantagenet kings of England in the fourteenth century, the Capetian and Valois kings of France in the fourteenth century, and the Visconti lords of Milan in the fourteenth century.¹⁴ The main text of the translation is interspersed with summaries of the chapters of *Chroniques* that have not been included in their entirety. Jolliffe bases his translation into English on two printed Old French editions: one by Siméon Luce, G. Raynaud, and L. and A. Mirot, from 1869-1899, and the second is an earlier edition by J. A. C. Buchon from 1835.¹⁵ Jolliffe states that he writes for the general reader and student but not for in depth scholarly studies and that he provides a general picture.¹⁶

¹⁰ Jean Froissart, *Chroniques: Dernière rédaction du premier livre: Edition du manuscrit de Rome Reg. lat. 869*, ed. by George T. Diller (Lausanne: les presses de l'Imprimerie Pont Frères, 1972), pp. 898-987

¹¹ Froissart, *Chroniques: Dernière rédaction du premier livre: Edition du manuscrit de Rome Reg. lat. 869*, ed. by George T. Diller (1972), pp. 992-1010

¹² Jean Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (London: Collins Clear-Type Press, 1968), pp. xv-xxii

¹³ Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (1968), pp. xxiv-xxix

¹⁴ Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (1968), pp. xxx-xxxii

¹⁵ Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (1968), pp. 425-426

¹⁶ Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (1968), pp. xx

Froissart, Jean, *Froissart's Chronicles: The Chronicles of England France Spain Etc. by Sir John Froissart*, trans. by Thomas Johnes, rev. and ed. by H. P. Dunster, ed. by Ernest Rhys (Bungay, Suffolk: Richard Clay & Sons, Limited, 1906)

This translation, based on the early nineteenth century translation of Froissart's *Chroniques* by Thomas Johnes, forms part of the Children's Books category of the Everyman's Library collection.¹⁷ The book is a condensed version of Johnes' 1803-1810 translation and contains chapter breakdowns at the start of each chapter of Froissart's work.¹⁸

Froissart, Jean, *The Chronicles of Froissart*, trans. by John Bouchier, ed. by G. C. MacAulay (London: MacMillan and Co., Limited, 1924)

This copy of John Bouchier's sixteenth century translation of *Chroniques* has been heavily edited and reduced by G. C. MacAulay. John Bouchier, (c. 1467–1533), second Baron Berners, was an English diplomat, soldier, and translator.¹⁹ Bouchier was the first person to translate Froissart's *Chroniques* into English, which he did at the command of Henry VIII, who at the time was styled King of France.²⁰ Bouchier was a staunch supporter of the Lancastrian and Tudor causes, being involved in both attempts, the last being successful, to place Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond and later Henry VII, on the throne of England.²¹ Bouchier was appointed by Henry VIII as deputy of

¹⁷ Jean Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles: The Chronicles of England France Spain Etc. by Sir John Froissart*, trans. by Thomas Johnes, rev. and ed. by H. P. Dunster, ed. by Ernest Rhys (Bungay, Suffolk: Richard Clay & Sons, Limited, 1906), pp. ii and viii

¹⁸ Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles: The Chronicles of England France Spain Etc.*, trans. by Thomas Johnes, rev. and ed. by H. P. Dunster, ed. by Ernest Rhys (1906), p. 9

¹⁹ James P. Carley, 'Bouchier, John, second Baron Berners', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, (23rd September 2004) <<https://doi.org/10.1093/ref:odnb/2990>> para. 1

²⁰ Jean Froissart, *The Chronicles of Jean Froissart*, trans. by John Bouchier, ed. by Gillian and William Anderson (Wakefield: The West Yorkshire Printing Co., Ltd., 1963), p. v

²¹ It is interesting to note that the final chapter of Book IV of *Chroniques* details Froissart's conversation with Sir Bartholomew Burghersh in 1361 in Berkhamsted when Sir Bartholomew refers to Merlin's

Calais from November 1529 to 1526 and again from 1531 to his death on 16th March 1533.²²

Bourchier was descended from Sir John Bourchier, governor of Ghent in 1385, who is mentioned in the *Chroniques*.²³ Bourchier's translation was printed in 1523-1525 in two volumes. This 1924 edition of Bourchier's translation is intended to be a popular edition for English readers and to fill what the editor had perceived as a gap in the editions of Froissart's *Chroniques*.²⁴

Froissart, Jean, *The Chronicles of Jean Froissart*, trans. by John Bourchier, ed. by Gillian and William Anderson (Wakefield: The West Yorkshire Printing Co., Ltd., 1963)

This book is a selection of extracts taken from Bourchier's translation. Gillian and William Anderson focus particularly on the accounts surrounding the battles of Crécy and Poitiers and cover about a third of the original translation by Bourchier. Anderson and Anderson consider Bourchier's translation to be the most important work of prose in English since Thomas Malory completed the *Morte d'Arthur*.²⁵

Pauphilet, Albert and Pognon, Edmond (eds.), *Historiens et chroniqueurs du moyen age: Robert de Clari, Villehardouin, Joinville, Froissart, Commynes* (Bruges: les presses de l'Imprimerie Sainte-Catherine, 1958)

This Old French transcription of excerpts of *Chroniques* forms part of a collection of histories and chronicles of French history between 1202 and 1488. According to Albert Pauphilet the editors have chosen extracts which appeared to be the most representative of Froissart's writings and

prophecies in the Brut chronicle that the crown of England would return to the House of Lancaster. This would surely have been attractive to Henry VIII and the Tudor Dynasty.

Carley (2004), para. 3

²² Carley (2004), paras. 4-5

²³ Froissart, *Froissart's Chronicles*, trans. and ed. by John Jolliffe (1968), pp. 425

²⁴ Jean Froissart, *The Chronicles of Froissart*, trans. by John Bourchier, ed. by G. C. MacAulay (London: MacMillan and Co., Limited, 1924), p. v

²⁵ *Ibid.*

of his times.²⁶ Edmond Pognon writes that about a sixth of *Chroniques* is in this edition.²⁷ Froissart is the only chronicler in this book to not have his chronicle featured in its entirety.²⁸ The editors have begun their excerpts from 1361, starting at Chapter 324 of Book I of *Chroniques* and have deliberately chosen not to include the chapters that Froissart borrowed from Jean le Bel.²⁹ The period between 1389 and 1393 is considered by Pauphilet and Pongnon to be very important in the history of France and thus Froissart's account of that period is reproduced in its entirety.³⁰ The book contains an index of names and a glossary at the end.³¹ The edition is a component of the *Bibliothèque de la Pléiade*, a collection designed to make literature and history accessible in an agreeable paperback format to the French reading public.³²

Thompson, Peter E. (trans. and ed.), *Contemporary Chronicles of The Hundred Years War: from the works of Jean le Bel Jean Froissart & Engueurrand de Monstrelet* (Chatham, Kent: W. & J. Mackay & Co Ltd, 1966)

This book, published by the Folio Society, follows the events of the Hundred Years' War through the selected works of the three chroniclers: Jean le Bel, Jean Froissart, and Engueurrand de Monstrelet. Jean le Bel influenced Froissart and Engueurrand de Monstrelet set out to continue Froissart's *Chroniques*. He began his work in 1400.³³ The book is accessible and of good quality and intended for a general public with an interest in the Hundred Years' War. It is not intended as

²⁶ Albert Pauphilet and Edmond Pognon (eds.), *Historiens et chroniqueurs du moyen age: Robert de Clari, Villehardouin, Joinville, Froissart, Commines* (Bruges: les presses de l'Imprimerie Sainte-Catherine, 1958), p. 374

²⁷ Pauphilet and Pognon (1958), p. 375

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ Pauphilet and Pognon (1958), pp. 1453-1503

³² 'Bibliothèque de la Pléiade', Gallimard, (undated) <<https://www.gallimard.fr/collections/bibliotheque-de-la-pleiade>> para. 1

³³ Peter E. Thompson (trans. and ed.), *Contemporary Chronicles of The Hundred Years War: from the works of Jean le Bel Jean Froissart & Engueurrand de Monstrelet* (Chatham, Kent: W. & J. Mackay & Co Ltd, 1966), p. 17

a mass market publication as it is relatively expensive and of a high quality. It contains maps and referenced manuscript illuminations, as well as appendices containing a description of the English by Froissart, an index of manuscript source references, and a genealogy table of the royal houses of France, England, and Navarre.³⁴

³⁴ Thompson (1966), p. 4

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