

Learning Old Norse in Fourteenth-Century Norway  
 Beck Lecture, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, University of Victoria

Alaric all, University of Lee! s "###\$alarichall\$or%\$uk& alaric' cantab\$net(

Laurentius Kálfsson (subject of Laurentius saga) Einarr afli! ason (author of Laurentius saga)

born)	126*	born)	100*
consecrate! )	12++	consecrate! )	100.
in , or#ay)	12-. /100*	composes Laurentius saga)	after 10. 6
bishop of 1lar	1022	in 2rance)	10. *
! ies)	1001	! ies)	10-0

chs 11

Var 34 kominn \$\$\$ klerkr einn mikill, 51n fl6min%i, haf7i hann len%i til 8ar9s sta7it ok : rliens at studium. Var hann sv4 mikill ;uriste at en%inn var 34 9 , 1re%i hans l9ki& haf7i ok erkibiskupinn 3ar vi7 at sty7;a< sem hann var, 3v9 at allir mesth4ttar k1rsbr67r v1ru honum m1tsta7li%ir\$ Appelleru7u 3eir i7u%li%a til p4fans ok fen%u br=f m>r% af p4fa%ar7i erkibiskupi til 3un%a& vil! i ok erkibiskupinn %;arnan f4 klerka hvar sem hann kunni\$ ? 4tti 3v9 51n fl6min%i mi7r %a%na erkibiskupi 9 ! eilum 3eira k1rsbr67ra at hann kunni ekki norr6nu at tala, ok skil! i al3@7an ekki m4ls hans 3v9 at hann tala7i allt 4 lat9nu, fransisku e7r fl6msku\$\$\$	A %reat scholar, 51n the 2lemin%, ha! recently arrive! \$ e ha! spent a lon% time stu! yin% in 8aris an! : rleans\$ e #as so %reat a juristi Ala#yerB that there #as at that time nocone of his calibre in , or#ay\$ ? oreover, the archbishop ha! %oo! reason to lean on him, because the all the lea! in% brothers of the chapter #ere set a%against him\$ Dhey #ent al#ays petitionin% the 8ope an! %ot many letters from the Euria #ith #hich to oppress the ArchbishopF an! the Archbishop #as al#ays ea%er to %et hol! of scholars #herever he coul! \$ But 51n the 2lemin% coul! help out the Archbishop less in his ! ealin% #ith the chapter because he coul! nbt speak , orse, an! the %eneral populace ! i! nbt un! erstan! his speech because he sai! everythin% in Latin, 2rench or 2lemish\$
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chs 1. ./1H "Lo# I erman loans are e" boldened(

, J er 3ar til at taka at Laurentius var me7 5>run! i erkibyskupi 9 , i7ar1si ok studeraði ;afnan 9 kirk;unnar l>%um er meistari 51hannes fl#%" ingi las honum& v1ru 3eir ok miklir vinir s9n 9 millum\$ Laurentio 31tti mikil skemmtan at hann brau< vi7 at tala norr6nu en kom< 31 l9tt at\$ Kinn t9ma m6lti 51n fl#" ingi vi7 Laurentium) LKK vil! i at 3u flyttir vi7 minn herra at hann veitti m=r ? 4r9ukirk;u h=r 9 b@num, 3v9 at hJn er nJ vacans.'	Dhe nePt thin% to relate is that Laurentius #as #ith Archbishop 5>run! r in , i7ar1s, an! al#ays stu! ie! the la#s of the Ehurch #hich master 51hannes the 2lemin% rea! him\$ Dhey #ere also %oo! frien! s #ith each other\$ It seeme! very funny to Laurentius that he stru%ile! a#ay at speakin% , orse but still ma! e so little pro%ress\$ : n one occasion, 51n the 2lemin% spoke to Laurentius lQ! like it if you coul! have a #or! #ith my lor! about him %rantin% me St ? aryis here in the to#n, because itis currently vacans\$
Laurentius svarar) L versu m4 3at vera 3ar sem 3=r kunni7 ekki norr6nu at tala\$	Laurentius replie!, L o# coul! that happen #hen you can't speak , orseM
lNann ek sem m=r 3arfari, sa%7i 51n, lok 3at sem m=r l1%&r 4 at tala\$	lQ can say #hat 0 nee! tof, sai! 51n, lan! #hat 0m reRuire! to\$

lSkipum nJ 346, sa%7i Laurentius, lsem kominn s= f\$stuinn%an%r%34 ver7r at tala fyrir s1knarf1lki y7ru hversu 3at skal hal! a lan%af\$stuna\$

lO 3enna " áta%sa%7i 51n fl6min%i, lnJ er

lSo letis suppose!, sai! Laurentius, lthat itis the first !ay of Lent, an! you have to tell your parishioners ho# they shoul! celebrate Lent\$

lLike this!, sai! 51n the 2lemin%) L, o# lentin has

komin lentin%hvern mann kristinn komi til kirk;u,  
%;>ri s9na skripin, kasti burt konu sinni, " a' i en%  
su' ', nonne sufficit, domineM

S4 hl1 Laurentius ok m6lti) lKkki skilr f1lkit  
hvat lentin er§

Sa%7i hann erkibyskupi ok %;>r7u 3eir at mikit  
%aman, en fen%u 51ni nokkorn afdeiling sinnar  
bei<lu 3v9 at hann var m;>k br47lyn! r ef ei var sv4  
%;>rt sem hann vill! i\$

TV\$ Nap9tuli

Kinn t9ma k1mu m>r% lslan! sf>r til , i7ar1ss ok  
v1ru 4 mar%ir %slen<kir menn& vil! i s9ra Laurentius  
3eim >llum nokkot til %17a %;>ra\$ Sar kom millum  
annarra s4 ma7r er NI6n%r steypir h=t ok fr6n! i  
Laurentii ok honum heimuli%r\$ Kn sem 51n  
fl#" ingi s4 3at, vil! i hann %;>ra honum nokkot  
athvarf ok tala7i einn t9ma vi7 Laurentium 4 lat9nu  
ok m6lti)

lNenni7 m=r at heilsa 4 3ennan y7ar ' o" (án

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Yaymon! ickey ": Pfor!) Black#ell, 2010(, pp\$ 2--/01-

