Vowel Shifting in German and English

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THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER MY SUPERVISION BY

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ENTITLED

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and English

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE

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in German

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Vowel Shifting in German and English.

I. Development of the Indo-Germanic vowels with special attention to the Germanic division.

"One of the most thoroughly investigated groups of languages, i.e., what we know as the Indo-Germanic, the Indo-European, or, as it is sometimes called, the Aryan family of languages." The term "Aryan" has been quite generally discarded as it is also used for one of the subdivisions. "Indo-European" is a misnomer since two members of this language family, Indo-Iranian and Old Armenian, are not European but Asiatic, while on the other hand, not all European languages belong to this family. For example, Basque. Accordingly "Indo-Germanic" has been largely accepted in as much as it is a descriptive name and shows the range of the family. It consists of eight members, one of which is the Germanic, that is, this scheme of eight groups has been made and the possible, original forms have been reconstructed from scientific investigations by philologists. These forms are Diekhoff, T. The German Language. p. 31.
purely theoretical inasmuch as no monuments of the original language are preserved. For convenience the Germanic group is divided into East, North, and West Germanic. The latter has the following subdivisions: Old Saxon or Old Low German, Dutch, Flemish, spoken in parts of Belgium, Frisian, now spoken on a few small islands of the North Sea only, and English. These constitute the Low German group. What we ordinarily call German is High German. From the fact that English is a part of the Germanic group, it is sometime erroneously stated that English springs from German or that Gothic is the antecedent of both, since very frequent reference is made to its forms. It is merely the oldest representative of a group springing from a common source. It constituted the East Germanic group and died, leaving no descendant. Its forms, preserved in its oldest monument, a portion of the Bible of the fourth century, naturally form a good basis of comparison for English, since our German ancestors, the Saxons, did not migrate to England until 449. This was but a part of the general process of scattering that took place through the
centuries and led to the differentiation of tongue, at least it is supposed that the Indo-Germanic family once lived in a common region, though this has not been definitely located. Some scholars today believe it was located in southern Russia.

If certain words in German and English are given to a person unfamiliar with both, he will recognize a similarity, for instance, Vater—father, Mutter—mother, Brot—bread, Fisch—fish, Fleisch—flesh, Buch—book, Silber—silver. On the other hand he will be unable to recognize the majority. In the fifteen hundred years that have passed since the separation of the Saxons from their continental relatives many changes have occurred to differentiate German and English from each other as well as from their common source. These changes have taken place in every phase of the language, but the description of them all would necessarily consume too much space; hence this article will be limited to the vowel change. "Scientific etymology requires that great attention shall be paid to the consonants, but still greater to the

vowels. For after all, it is precisely the vowel
sound which gives life and soul to the word.
The combination "rn" signifies nothing; but,
if between these two letters, we insert vowels
at pleasure, we obtain quite different re-
sults -- run, ran, rain, rein, roan, or
rune."

Change in spelling, for example, dou-ling the vowel in German "Saat", "Aal", which
are equivalent respectively to English
"seed" and "eel," to show lengthening, have
no historical value. Although Gothic is the
oldest representative of the Germanic group,
it does not necessarily agree in the change
of vowels in English or German. These
changes have occurred in pronunciation
as well as spelling, German dumm-
English dumb, German fahren-English
fare. In some instances they are closer
to each other than to Gothic. An illustra-
tion is the fact that West Germanic
keeps Indo-Germanic i while it has been
changed in Gothic to ë. German has kept
more faithfully than English the sounds
of the Latin letters which both borrowed.
English vowels have quite different values;
ä is equivalent to German ë; ë to German
...and so on. The farther back into English one goes, the more similar are the sounds to German. Even so late as Chaucer's time pronunciation retained a strong Germanic coloring as evidenced from the rhymes in poetry. This is conclusive that English vowel quality has changed in five hundred years or less, and after spelling was fixed.

Since no monuments of the Indo-Germanic language exist, forms have been constructed from comparison of various languages, with what seems to be a fair degree of accuracy. If the same phenomenon occurs in several languages, it hardly seems an accident. According to investigations, the original vowel system consisted of five long vowels, - á, é, í, ó, ú, five short vowels, - a, e, i, o, u, an indeterminate one whose value is not exactly known and which has been designated by the "schwa," ə, six long diphthongs, - ai, ei, oi, au, eu, ow, and six short diphthongs, - ai, ei, oi, au, eu, ow. Forms marked with an asterisk * are theoretical forms. For ease in comparing forms the following abbreviations will be used: Indo-Germanic, Preg., Pregermanic, the source of the Germanic lan-
guage, but a language existing only in theory: Goth., Gothic; Ohg., Old High German; Mhg., Middle High German; Nhg., New or Modern High German; A.S., Anglo-Saxon; M.E., Middle English; E., Modern English. The word or sound before the opening of the symbol develops into the one following it.

There has been less change in Idg. i than any other vowel. The Idg. root *bhid, to split, has been cut up. This would give something like *bit-uni in Preg., resulting in Goth. *bit-un, Ohg. *bizzum, Nhg. *bissen, A.S. *bit-on, E. bit. Another example is vidhavā in Sanskrit, the oldest language of the family. In Goth. this appears as viduwǭ, Ohg. *wituwa, Nhg. Witus, A.S. *widanu, E. widow. Preg. *i before r or h becomes e, written in Goth. ai, -Idg. *vir-o-e, Latin vide, Preg. *wir-a-g, wir-a-z, Goth. vair-e, A.S. and Ohg. wer, seen in English and German Werwolf.

The Idg. ī is preserved in all the Germanic divisions but it is expelled ī in Gothic. The best example to be found in several forms in the suffix, īnus, mean-
swine, Ogh. swin, Nbh. Schwein, A.S. swin, E. 
swine. It is to be noted that the original 
adjunctive came to be used as a substantive. 

The Idg. *ūi is also preserved in the Ger-
manic division.-Preg. *hund-a-in, Goth. 
hund-e, A.S. hund, Ogh. hunt; Idg. *yanu-kō-, 
Preg. *yanun-gāz is contracted to *yanu-āz, 
Goth. jōgge (as merely the Gothic writing 
of ng-as in finge. This happens also in 
Greek., Ogh. and Nbh. jung, A.S. geong, E. young 
In young the ū-bound i is kept but the 
spelling does not correspond to it; Old 
Indian bhubhīna, Goth. ána-budum, 
Ogh. bitum, A.S. budon. Unless there was 
a nasal plus a consonant following the 
ū to prevent an a in the next syllable 
breaking the ū to o, that change secured, 
for example, Sanskrit yugam, Latin 
yugum, Preg. *yukain, Goth. júc, Ogh. joh, 
Nbh. joch, A.S. geóc, E. yoke. 

The Idg. *ūi was preserved in Preg. but 
has been diphthongized in some modern 
forms,- A.S. mūs, E. mouse, Ogh. mūs, Nbh.

All the European languages have kept Idg. ē while the Aryan have changed it to a; Idg. *bherō, Latin ferō, Preg. *bherō, Goth. bair-an (Goth. changed e to i in most cases, here it has retained the e before r (or h), but spelle it, ai), O.Hg. beran, Nhg. bern, Nhg. ge- bären, A.S. beran, E. bear; Idg. *léd-ō, Deat; Latin édō, Preg. *étō, Goth. it-ōn (infinitive), O.Hg. ezjan, Nhg. eexen, A.S. étan, E. eat.

Idg. ē became very open ē in Preg., very close ē in Goth. and A.S., and more open-sound of a in O.Hg., Idg. root *dhe, to put, to do, Latin fecī, Goth. ga-de-p, O.Hg. tat, Nhg. Tat, A.S. dād, E. deed; Goth. fētum, Nhg. fräesen, E. fret; Goth. ga-rēdan, O.Hg. rātan, Nhg. rāten, A.S. rēdan, E. read; Idg. *nē-tlo, Goth. nē-pla, O.Hg. nādala, Nhg. Nadel, E. needle.

Idg. ŏ is equivalent to Preg. α; Idg. *ghortōs, Gk. xopōs, Latin hortice, Preg. *gardā-s, Goth. gard-s, encloseuer, Nhg. Gart-en, E. garden, yard; Idg. *okētor, eight, Latin octō, Goth. altīs
Ohg. abto, Nhg. acht, As. eahba (before l, r or h plus a consonant, a underwent “breaking” to ea), E. eight; Goth. ha, Ohg. (h)waeg, As. hwæ, hveat, E. who, what; Goth. pat-a, Ohg. dang, As. fort.

ö.


ä.


ā.

Idg. ā became ō in Preg.; Idg. *mater, mother, Latin matrē, Ohg. mōtar, Nhg. Mutter, As. mödor, E. mother; so with Goth. bropar, Ohg. brunor, Nhg. Bruder, As. brōdror, E. brother; Idg. *bhragō-s, a certain tree, Latin fagus, beech, Preg. *fōhā-e, beech, Goth. bóh-s, Al. böe-
træw (which should have become ē*book-
tree and ē book, but became beech instead,
by umlaut as bœc and bœc, fōt and fēt), Ohg.
broha, Whg. Buche, beech and Buch, book Buch-
stäbe, Whg. for a letter of the alphabet, means
literally a beech staff, this instrument hav-
ing been used in tracing letters.

2.

The character of this vowel is not defin-
Itary known; Greek ματί, Latin pater, Goth.
Fadar, Ohg. fater, A.S. fæder, Sanskrit pita.
The Sanskrit form leads to the supposition
of different values of the vowel. Goth. sāge,
fitting, suitable, A.S. sēg, schön, Ohg. sāh
chores the same vowel.

Three of each set of diphthongs in Īdg.
were based on i-, ei, oi, ai, and three on u-
w, ow, au. These were quite accurately pre-
served in the classical languages but in
the Germanic groups old diphthongs are
difficult to recognize and can be traced
only by comparison with other languages
which have preserved them.

ei.

As Īdg. e changed to i in Goth., so the
primitive diphthong ei changed first to
ii and was then contracted to ē; Goth.
steigan, (the ei is purely orthographic and not related to the source), AS. and Omg. steigan, preserved in Nhg. steigen (ei again orthographic) but lost in E. "Ulfilae borrowed this symbol from Byzantine Greek, where the old diphthong ei had contracted to i." Ulfilae was the bishop who translated the Bible into Gothic for use in his diocese.

Since Idg. ō and ā fall together in Germanic ae ā, it is regular for the diphthong oi and ai to coincide as ai. In AS. this becomes ā and in E. ō; in Omg. it is spelled ei but changed in sound to ay in Nhg. Preg. *wait-e, Goth. wait, Omg. weiz, AS. wāt, Nhg. weiz, Mid. E. wot; but lost in E.; Goth. ains, Omg. ein, Nhg. ein, AS. ān, E. one.

This is clearly seen in the Gothic; *oth. aipe, altar, Omg. eit, Nhg. Eid, AS. ād, a funeral pile, E. eith. As early as Omg. ai contracted to i if followed by t, h, or w; Goth. káivala, soul, Omg. kēhuða, Nhg. Seele, AS. ēāwul, E. kohul.

ew.

As e becomes i, so does e, becomes iu; as w changes to o if followed by j, so ew becomes eo, which in turn becomes io in Ohg; Goth. ana-
bindan, to offer, As. teoden, Ohg. tiutan, bistan;
Prep. *heusananam, Goth. hiiyan, As. ecezan,
Ohg. hioian. The Ohg. forms fleiget and krieget,
which appear in William Tell for flieget and
krieget, show the origin of the latter vowels.

Like oi and ai, ow and au coincide as
aw in Prep.; Goth. tiulan, Ohg. ziohan, As. teon;
Goth. ana-bau, Ohg. bōt, As. bēad (with vowel
variation); Prep. *rauē-dā-o, Goth. rāup-ō, Ohg.
rot, Nbg. rōt, As. rēad, E. read.

aw.

This diphthong appears in Goth. anlan,
to increase, Ohg. aurhōn, As. ērion, from which
the adverb comee, -Prep. auk, Goth. ēnak, As. ēac,
E. eke, Ohg. auk, Nbg. auch; Idg. *hēkōp-ē, head,
Haupt, As. hēafōt, E. head.

Long diphthongs are kept only in the
Indo-Iranian family. Elsewhere they coin-
cide with the short.

Summary of corresponding vowels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ohg.</th>
<th>i</th>
<th>u</th>
<th>e</th>
<th>ë, a, o</th>
<th>ëi, ei</th>
<th>ëu, au, elu</th>
<th>ë, a, ë</th>
<th>ë, ai, oi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goth.</td>
<td>i before m, n before m, u before m</td>
<td>ë before r and h, ë before r and h</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>ëi, ei</td>
<td>ëu, au, elu</td>
<td>ë, a, ë</td>
<td>ë, ai, oi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II. Development of Modern German vowels from Old High German.

The variation of German and English from each other as well as from the parent language has been shown. The farther down into modern times their development i.e. traced the more divergent they become.

"The OHG. monuments were written in the Latin alphabet. Vowel length was either entirely omitted in writing, or was represented by doubling the respective vowel; but sometimes also by using the accente (\textasciitilde, \textacutes)." The OHG. means Old High German, designated in this paper by "Ong." The Ong. vowel system was made up of å, ë, ì, ò, ù, æ, ë, ë, ò, ù, the digraphs ei, ie (ea, ia), io (eo), iu, ow (au), and no (ua). All the vowels except short e were pronounced like the A. It had two functions, as a representative of Reg. e (written ë in this use) it had the sound of e, ë, and when it represented the sound caused by iumlaut (written e) it had the sound of e in French été. The accentuation was largely stress in the Germanic languages as proved by the weakening and loss of vowels and syllables which were unaccented.

a.

Preg. e remained unchanged in Ogh. : Goth. akre, Ogh. achars; Goth. aktar, Ogh. ahto; Goth. and Ogh. jaran; Goth. gaete, Ogh. gast.

e (umlaut).

In Ogh. a became e when originally followed by i or j in the following syllable: geiti plural of gas, trennan, to burn, beside Goth. tranjan; lengi, length, lang, long; Ogh. zeggan, Goth. satjan. The i-umlaut did not take place before h or he for some time: maht, plural mabhi; waksit, the groove, infinitive waksan. Traces of the i-umlaut as early as the eighth century are found. Umlaut e was probably the same as ë in sound until the ninth century when they were differentiated. They are still kept apart in many dialects.

é.

Preg. e remained, for the most part unchanged: Ogh. hélfjan, stélan; it became i when followed by wc or ic in the next syllable: hílfu, I help, helfu; hilfet, helfist; nimu, I take, néman, infinitive; jibu, I give, infinitive jiban; j had a similar influence: Latin medius, Goth. midjis, Ogh. mitii, Nh. Mitte; the adjective irdin, earthly from the noun erda, earth, shows the i-influence, ë became e through the influence of a preceding w as
Nh. Noche besideзвуча; рvola, adverb well, нvola; wordt, world, wérent; Preg. i followed by у, э, о, ы or ь in the next syllable became э when not protected by a nasal plus a consonant or i or j; Idg. *mino, Latin vin, Omg. *men.

Omg. retains Preg. i; Goth. fiehe, fiek, Omg. fiek; Goth. widuwo, widow, Omg. wituva; Goth. witan, to know, Omg. wigan.

Omg. о is Preg. о which came from an earlier у; similar to the change of i to e, у followed originally by а, э, ь, ы or е in the next syllable became о when not protected by a nasal plus a consonant or i or j; Idg. *wogom, Latin rugum, Omg. got; Preg. *ghutón, God, Omg. got; Omg. past participle giban, offered, beside giban, bound; Omg. golt, gold from *gultom. Only the West Germanic shows the unlated у.

Preg. у remained; Goth. sunne, son, Omg. sun; infinitive wurken from wurkejan, to work, beside the preterite wurhta; giban, bounded given above; Old Saxon preterite plural budum, we offered, Omg. butum.
In Preq. \( \alpha \rightarrow \eta \chi \) became \( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \chi \), Goth. and Ogh. 
\( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \bar{\text{\textalpha}} \) han from Preq. \( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \bar{\text{\textalpha}} \) xanan, to seize; Goth. and 
Ogh. \( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \bar{\text{\textalpha}} \) han, to hang; beside Ogh. \( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \) hangan.

\( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \).

This vowel is the representative of Germanic \( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \), in contrast to the preceding, which came from \( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}} \alpha \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \) in a combination; Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \), 
Goth. \( \text{\textalpha} \), deed; Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \), A.S. \( \text{\textalpha} \), to advise; Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \), Goth. \( \text{\textalpha} \), A.S. \( \text{\textalpha} \), we bore.

\( \text{\textit{\textbf{\textalpha}}} \text{\textalpha} \).

The oldest period of Ogh. retained Preq. \( \text{\textalpha} \); 
\( \text{\textalpha} \) appeared beside it in the eighth century and then changed to \( \text{\textalpha} \) and \( \text{\textalpha} \). Accordingly, \( \text{\textalpha} \) is the normal form from the ninth century; Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \), Goth. \( \text{\textalpha} \); Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \), A.S. \( \text{\textalpha} \), med.; the singular preterite of reduplicating verbs that have \( \text{\textalpha} \), \( \text{\textalpha} \), \( \text{\textalpha} \) in the present—Ogh. 
\( \text{\textalpha} \) alt, he held, infinitive \( \text{\textalpha} \); Old 
Saxon \( \text{\textalpha} \), infinitive \( \text{\textalpha} \), to call.

\( \text{\textalpha} \).

This Ogh. vowel remained from the Preq.: 
Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \), A.S. \( \text{\textalpha} \), to bite; Ogh. and A.S. \( \text{\textalpha} \), 
Goth. \( \text{\textalpha} \), pig.

\( \text{\textalpha} \).

Ogh. \( \text{\textalpha} \) gradually displaced Preq. \( \text{\textalpha} \), the 
process being finished in the ninth cen-
tury, — Ohg. *fuoʃ, Goth. *fōtuz, foot; Ohg. *flocı, 
Goth. *fōdus, flood.

Thie is Preg. — Ohg. and AS. *hīz, Goth. 
*hīz-in gudhīz, temple; Ohg. dīzent, Goth. 
þīzundī; Ohg. dīhtta, Goth. dīhtta, it seemed.

Thie developed from Germanic ai before r, old h, w, and when final; Ohg. *mīro, 
Goth. maiga, greater; Ohg. *dīla, Goth. vái- 
vala; Ohg. *wē, Goth. wāi, woe! Goth. aair, sooner, Ohg. ei.

In other positions ai became Ohg. *i-, 
Ohg. heil, Goth. hāils, hale; Ohg. stein, Goth. 
estaine, stone; Ohg. heiz an, Goth. haitan, to 
call.

Close ǝ developed from Preg. aw before d, 
t, z, s, n, r, l, and old h (from spirant x); Ohg. 
tōd, Goth. dăuþuz, death; Ohg. rōt, Goth. rāups, 
red; Ohg. preterite singular hō, Goth. hōuz, 
he chose.

ou.

In all other places aw developed into ou, 
Ohg. hōubit, Goth. hāubip, head; Ohg. preterite 
singular bōg, Goth. bāug, he bent; Ohg. ouga, 
Goth. āugō, eye.
This digraph in Ogh. came from Preg. eu if it was followed in the next syllable by i, j, or u. Ogh. nüüüe from Preg. *neujo, new; Ogh. läüten, Goth. lichtjan, Preg. *leuchtjan, to light; biüte, Doffer.

In other cases eu became co, then io, and finally ie in the tenth century; Ogh. licht, Goth. liehapt, a light; Ogh. kiüven, Goth. kieven, to test, Mhg. kiezen.

The umlaut of a to e is the only case that occurs in Ogh. The Mhg. vowele a, o, u, ä, ö, ü, ou, eu, underwent umlaut before 1200. The umlaut from a to e has been illustrated: a to ä occurred in positions previously protected from umlaut. Mhg. maht, plural mächte (Ogh. mahti); o to ö, dorf, plural dörfer; loch, löcher; u to ü, Ogh. dunni, Mhg. dünni; Ogh. turi, Mhg. tür; ä to æ, preterite subjunctive name, Ogh. nämi, ö to æ, höcher, Ogh. höhir; schone, Ogh. econi, beautiful; u to üu, - biüte, Ogh. biüti, biüder, hüer, Ogh. hüer, housee, ou to öu, - lünber, Ogh. loubir, leavee; öo to iüe, - güéene, Ogh. gruoni; wüepe, Ogh. süo-jei. Aside from the changes caused by umlaut, Mhg. vowele were practically the same.
ae. Ohg. except for minor changes in spelling, ae > acher, tag > tac, gelti > geete, lenge > lenge, wug > wæc, helfan > helfen, fick > viach, nimu > nine, gibotan > geboten, giboran > geborn, vola > vol, eunne > sun, butum > buten. Before naale æ became ø, and ï became ë, so øane from eunne, gönne from gönner. Of the diphthonge, æ remained for a time, then contracted to i and finally to i before two consonante, -gien > ging > ging. In Mhg., no contracted to ë in the thirteenth century.

"The Mhg. short vowels in closed syllables have generally remained in NHG., whereas the Mhg. short vowels in open syllables have mostly been lengthened." When a Mhg. vowel appeared both in an open and in a closed syllable, as wic - wege, the Nhg. has adopted the form in the open syllable, wug - Wege. Umlaut came to be expressed by two dots (•) over the vowel instead of using a different vowel with a similar sound, for instance, -Gaet-Gäste, Mhg. gast- geete; Lamm - Lämmer, lamp- lember. In some cases ë is used for Mhg. ë, -gebären, Mhg. geböen." The historical distinction between Mhg. ä, e, and ë no longer exists in the North German pronunciation of the stan-
standard language. "Rounded ö, ü, and äw (eu) were not distinguished in pronunciation from un-
rounded e, i, ei until far into the eighteenth century; hence ö and e, ii and i, äw (eu) and ei
often rhyme with each other in the poetry
of the eighteenth and early nineteenth cen-
turies." ö in the neighborhood of labials, e, o,
ch became rounded ae early in the fourteenth
century and was replaced by ö in many
words, -erlöchen, Mhg. erleechen; Wölben, Mhg.
welben. The symbol ii has replaced older i
in a few words, - fünf, Ohg. fünf; Würde, Mhg.
Wirde. The change of ii to ö before nasal be-
gan in the twelfth century. In Mhg. it has con-
tinued to change before nn, mm, and some-
times before n plus a consonant, -begonnen,
Mhg. begunnen; gekommen, Mhg. gekom-
mien. Mhg. ä, ë, i, ö, u, ö, ii have remained un-
changed as in Acker, Feld, Fisch, Dorf, Burg,
Dörfer, Brücke. Mhg. e, the equivalent of ä, has be-
come close ä whether written e or ä but the
latter form predominates, - Gräfin, brächen,
träge. The other Mhg. long vowels, ä, ë, i, ö,
ä, have remained unchanged æ in Saben, Mhg.
gählen, Ehre, Brot, böse (ö in the Mhg. writing for
ö). Mhg. ë became ä in sound in Mhg., but it
Wright, Joseph Historical German Grammar, Vol. 1, pp. 41-42.
Ir always written ei, - dein, Mhg. din; drei, Mhg. drie; greifen, Mhg. griegen; Meile, Mhg. mile; Weil, Mhg. vil. Mhg. ii has become ae in Nhg. auf, Mhg. rief; aus, die; Heute, hii; Maen, mile; sedum, klin. Mhg. in has become oi (written au and eu) in Nhg. It had the double significance of Ohg. in and Ohg. i which had fallen together and had become written ii. The Mhg. ii that corresponded to Ohg. in-is written eu,-deutsch, tiutsch; heute, hii; leute, liute; au is used as the umlaut form,-rauen, Mhg. rumen; raumen, siimen. Au- has developed before i in closed syllables after Nhg. ei, eu, au from Mhg. i, iu, ii; Feier, Mhg. viere; Abenteuer, aventure; Mauer, mire

Of the Mhg. diphthongs, ei, ou, ow have remained in Nhg; ei has become ai (still usually written ei), - breit, heiz, Kleid, written ai in Mat, Kaiser, Waize; ow has become aus; auch, Mhg. auch, Laub, loub; ow has become oi in sound (written eu and eu) and has fallen together with Nhg. au (eu); Bäume, stäuben, leugnen, feugen. The Mhg. diphthongs ie, wo, vie became contracted to e (written ie), ui, and ii in Nhg. ae in lieb, tief, hieb, Buch, Blume, Mut, blühen, Bücher, griifen. The
tendency toward diphthongal pronunciation in these cases is seen in some dialects today.

A very important factor that enters especially into the vowels of the strong verb system is ablaut or gradation of vowels. Ogh. verb had four principal parts—infinite, preterite singular, preterite plural, and perfect participle. Five of the six classes of strong verb contained e (or i) in the infinitive and a in the preterite. Thie ie called qualitative ablaut or "volletup." Conditions for it are not thoroughly understood. It may have been produced to avoid monotony of sound, —Goth. etilan, Ogh. etlan—preterite of Goth. and Ogh. etal; etiyan in Goth. was formerly etiigan, preterite etiag. Thie ablaut appeared before historical Goth.; it also occurred where e was a member of a diphthong, —ei changed to ai; Goth. greipan, to seize, preterite graip; euc (Goth. in e e i represents Idg. i)—changed to aw; Goth. bindan, to offer, preterite bain. Thie Idg. showed a fondness for this varying or color- ing of vowels. In all of the above cases a is the Germanic representation of Idg. o, the gradation of e to o and e to o being a regu-
lar ablaut series. Although this ablaut oc-
curs most frequently in verbs, it is not re-
stricted to them—Oth. dēde, Olg. tat (Idg. tā),
Olg. tuon (Idg. to). It is seen today in eingen,
sang, binden, band. In the Oth. participle
the last syllable received the accent and all
that preceded it was elided. The same was
true in Olg. The preterite plural of drinkan
was drýhnuma and the participle, drýkanis,
in which the consonant partook of a vowel
nature. From this so-called "Schwundetufe”
developed an obscure vowel word, the accent
shifted toward the first of the word. This
quantitative ablaut is seen in Ne. getrun-
ken, gebunden.

External changes give rise to words im-
itative of others known to the speaker.
These, though arising from carelessness,
may survive; Ne. Friedhof has to do with
Olg. wotan, hedge but from confusion in pro-
nunciation it has come to be connected with
Fried, Eichhorn, borrowed from As. Ēvern,
became as early as Olg. eihhorn, but it has noth-
ing to do with Eiche nor Horn. This is termed
"popular etymology" or "volkeetymologie." It
works in modern as well as prehistori-
time.
III. Development of Modern English vowels from Anglo-Saxon.

In Anglo-Saxon the vowel-system was very similar to modern German, but the whole system has been radically changed in modern times. The long vowels are marked with an accent (\(\ddot{a}\)).

\(\ddot{a}\).

The rule is, that A.S. \(\ddot{a}\) came to be written as long \(\ddot{o}\) in Mid.E., and in E. such words are pronounced with a sound which we should now also call long \(\ddot{o}\).” Probably this was an intermediate sound at first, then gradually it displaced any influence of the æ-æɪn, æɪn; hál, (whole); tæ, (two), thám, (home); sær, (sore). Two, who and two, two passed through the æ stage even in Mid.E. and since the words containing æ were shifting to \(\ddot{o}\), these words Sheat, W. W. “Principles of Etymology. Vol. i. p. 84."
did too and the modern pronunciation became "who" and "too." No change has been made in spelling to correspond to the changed pronunciation. Map - woot, clap - cloth, paw - an - thow (for thaw) preserve the Mid. E. intermediate pronunciation. The A.S. suffix -hōd became Mid. E. -hood, -hood, but it has been shortened in E. owing to its unaccented position, - man -hood. A most important word is an, Mid. E. von (rimeing at first with dawn, later with bone), but now rimeing with bun.

In the fifteenth century, a parasic w sprang up before the initial vowel, which by that time may have become like e in bone; this would produce a form woon: then the w modified the long e into long u, after which the w was shortened and unrounded, giving the curious E. one, in which the initial w is only written by comic writers, who (correctly enough) write boon.

The word is doubly interesting, because the compounds on - ly, all - one, t - one (short for al - one), l - one - ly (short for al - one - ly), at - one, all preserve the sound into which it would have passed according to the rule.

In As. this ę was like e in they but its quality has changed to the ě in me, hé, he; Imé, me; Ité, thee; gé, ye; her, her(e); sém-an, seek; běc-e, beech; gněn-e, green. It also represents the umlaut of ŏ caused by a following i, foť, Sét (Goth. fōte); tód, tép; goé, géé.

The ě sounded like ě in me but a sound crept in before it causing a diphthongal nature a-ě and these finally merged in ě, hveč, while; flíđ-ě, blithe; ríđ-an, ride; wif, wife but in the compound wif-men, later from wimmen, the ě ie shortened; the pronunciation of "wimmen" ie retained although the spelling has been changed to "women" from analogy to "men". Rim, rim(e) (usually spelled rhyme) ie a perfect example, although confusion with rhythm has led to thie awkward spelling. The words of Latin origin, vínum, wine, serínum-shrine, scébere-ebrine, are proof of the change in pronunciation ę.

As was mentioned above, ŏ was shifted to ō. This occurred 1550-1650; xčo, shoe; to, to (too) and too; stól, stool; hōf, hoof; The original value ie not lost in svór-swoore and flór-floor. In óder, Mid. Engother, the sound of ŏ changed
to it in C. other; eo in brodor, brother and móte, (O)-must (with phonetic spelling). The ~w has a slight vocalic value. tending toward ~o in grow-an, grow; blow-an, low (of a cow); flow-an, flow. Wóc, woke keeps the ~o. Other words ending in -oc are preserved in form ending in -oke with the ~o sound in foot, -loc-idn, look; bóc, book; cóc, cook; éc, shook; the same change occurs in etód, stood; gód, good; fót, foot. AS. ó before n stands for West Germanic *i or Preg. *epón (chip of wood), epoon. It is also the result of compensative lengthening, *gong gives goe, goorc (the ~n ie preserved in Hng. Gane); *top gives top, tooth (Danish tand); *onder gives ander, which becomes óder. (Doth. andhar, Hng. ander).

The history of the AS. ú (sounded as oo in foot) is parallel to that of the AS. i. Just as the latter was developed into Italian ai, E. long i, so the former was developed into Italian ou, E. ou in bout. Moreover, the change took place much about the same time, viz. in A.D. 1550-1650. So this may be added, that just as a final long i ie sma.-sket, W. M. Principle of English Etymology. Vol. 1, p. 65.
mentally written as y, as in by, my, thy, etc., so likewise the final ow ie often ornamentally written ow, as in cow, how, now, and in a few words the same spelling prevails even when the sound is not final, as in owl, shower, town; nie, now; ci, cow; sire, our; fiel, foul; mine, mouse; price, thousand; dein, down. As ci also arises from loss of n in new followed by e or th, *une > nie; we(n ie preserved in Nhg. uns); *munde > mid; mouth (Nhg. Mund); *sunter > cide, could (Nhg. könnte an further, nie seen in E. can); could ie spelled analogous to would and should, there being no reason for the c; a shortened value of the w ie kept; *sund > said; south (Ong. sund) means sunny quarter, and ie derived from sun; this accounts for the presence of the n originally; hild has become tound with initial h lost.

The Romans adopted this letter from the Greek in order to represent the sound of the Greek u (u) in words borrowed from that language. The sound is thought to have been that of Nhg. i in grün. The sound was lost at an early period and consequently Skeat, W. W. Principles of English Etymology, 3d. p. 66.
rij-in-sound and symbol merged in Mid. E. with i,-brjüj, bride; prij-te, pride; fje, fire; hvij, why. It is also the product of mutation. Similar mutation is seen in other languages; mije, mouse, has the mutated plural mije, mi(c); lij, lice; ciw, cow with the plural ci, ke-ne, the ne being a weak plural ending as in children and brethren, each of which has added the ending to a form already plural. The i-sound is shortened in fijet, fist and vrijc-an, to wish.

x', éa, éo.

The x' is a prolonged sound of a in man; it becomes E. é, -éa, sea; bér, bier; hérp, heath; hlén-e, lean; túc-an, teach; séd, seed. As x commonly arises from mutation of As. á, hál, to heal, a derivative of hál. Each member of As. éa was pronounced, that is, it was "broken," gér, year; éact-or, Easter (connected with Austre, showing the Germanic arc which éa commonly represents); héap, heap; strém, stream; c'éapian, cheaper. Before l, r, or h plus a conso nant a underwent "breaking" to éa, -healp, helpan; weard, wead-
ran (N.ger. werdan) illustrates the "breaking" of é before r or h plus a conso nant, to éo. Éo
-commonly represents Germanic eu, préo,
three; réo, che; béo, bee; déor-e, dear; léof, lief; réocean, freeze; hreód, reed; déop, steep. These all shoune E.-e-sound.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reg.</th>
<th>Ẹ, ai</th>
<th>ë</th>
<th>Ẹ, ë</th>
<th>Ì</th>
<th>Ì</th>
<th>ai</th>
<th>au</th>
<th>eu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As.</td>
<td>Æ</td>
<td>é</td>
<td>ë</td>
<td>è</td>
<td>è</td>
<td>ë</td>
<td>ë</td>
<td>ë</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ẹ</td>
<td>Æ</td>
<td>ai</td>
<td>ë</td>
<td>ow</td>
<td>ai</td>
<td>ee</td>
<td>ee</td>
<td>ee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The short vowels are in the main like the long ones, except in quantity. As. ë had the sound of oo in book; sun-ve, sun-hae lost its rounded quality. Rounding of the ë by scriber caused confusion between ë and ë in the manuscript; -liifian, love; sunu, son.

As. had four principal parts for every verb just as Ohg. did. These are reduced to three in E., the preterite plural being lost. In many cases the vowels of both preterite have disappeared and have been replaced by the vowel of the participle, for example, As. beran, ber, beron, geboren; E. bear (ca due to breaking of e due to e), bore, borne; stelau, stel, stélon, geetolen; E. steal (similar breaking of e), stole, stolen; céoran, céar, curon, georeen; E. choose, chose, choosen. The tendency in modern time is toward fewer forms and
larger classes attract from the smaller. Many of the A.S. strong verbs have become
weak, - ceorfan, carve; - elipan, sleep. Only
by historical treatment can the original
verb classes be traced. In A.S. these re-
sembled the Gothic very closely. Vowel
gradation, similar to the O.H.G. occurred
and has stayed in E.; A.S. drincan - dranc,
E. drink - drank, in which the qualitative
ablaut occurs; the quantitative is seen
in A.S. ge-drincan = E. drunk.
Umlaut, or mutation caused by a fol-
lowing i was mentioned above in connec-
tion with A.S. i. After causing the umlaut,
the i. frequently dropped; A.S. mann - men,
E. man - men; gold - adjective guylan, E. gold-
gilt; burch, town, plural byrig; A.S. * dohter - i to
or for the daughter, dehter; A.S. * mic - ig >
mis, mice; A.S. án - ig, any, wign; A.S. * fót - ig >
gel, feet; A.S. * weak - id, he growe, from weawan,
bécame wiext; A.S. * weorc - ján, to work, wiescan;
A.S. * hearw - id, he heave, from hearwan, hieor;
A.S. * lóht - ján, to light, lichitan. There are
"Nearly eighty instances of mutation even
in modern English", illustrating every kind
in A.S.; Francich - French, Anglica - English;
Skeat, W. W. Principles of English Etymology vol. II.
fore-first; full-fill, duet-list (well illustrated in Chaucer); one-any; brother-brethren, book-beech; mouse-mice, cow-kine; A.S. cæld, E. old-elder; A.S. ceap, E. cheap-keep; A.S. dēop, E. deep-depth. Causative verbs are frequently formed by mutation; sat-set (to cause to sit), drank-drench (of a horse), fell-fell, cunnan-keth (to make known, used in Chaucer). Gradation and mutation of a vowel may occur in the same word as feed-mutated from A.S. fōda; the s in fōda is a variation of Preg. *fadd. Comparisons may be made from the following table. The A.S. vowels in the upper line are mutated to the ones below, respectively. Practically the same changes occur in E., as seen in the examples above.

Table of vowels affected by i-mutation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A.S.</th>
<th>a</th>
<th>o</th>
<th>u</th>
<th>å</th>
<th>è</th>
<th>ê</th>
<th>iæ</th>
<th>eo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.S.</td>
<td>e</td>
<td>y</td>
<td>y</td>
<td><em>e</em></td>
<td><em>ɛ</em></td>
<td><em>i</em></td>
<td>ie, y</td>
<td>ie, y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Consistent carrying out of a sound-change does not necessarily imply that it is carried out everywhere, regardless of its position in the breath-group, its surroundings, and the influence of synthetic Suffix, Henry. A History of English Sounds."
elements: quantity, stress and intonation. On the contrary, most sound-changes seem to begin under special circumstances, and if they do extend themselves over the whole range of the sound in question, it is only gradually. One change according to stress is than-then; another, of-off; each pair has come from one word. Words uttered even in different frames of mind have different qualities, it being uncertain which will tend to become fixed; if a person says no in an uncertain, hesitating manner, there is an upward glide at the end like so, while one giving a very firm negative cute of the sound. Usually if a word is spoken slowly a double vowel tends to develop, probably because it is difficult to hold the vocal organ in one position, while a firm pronunciation gives a single vowel. Vowel-change may arise from tendencies in the organ themselves or from extraneous conditions. This fact is recognized especially in the pronunciation of proper names. I have heard a name recently and after having heard it pronounced several times by different people, I am uncertain whether it is Brentin, Brenten, Brenton, Brintin, Brinten, or Brinton. Popular
etymology has wrought changes and continues to act. The relation of our in our-loin to super is lost sight of; it is now connected with eir, spelled eirloin, and even a fictitious story as to ite having been hewn into circular to account for its source; the confusion of rime with Greek rhythmnoi has been mentioned; sham-fact, bound by shame, (used by Chaucer) became spelled shame-faced from its supposed relation to the countenance; teche, faulty, became spelled touchy, on the supposition that it was a mispronunciation of toughy as "tetch" was for tough. Climatic conditions have their effect. The open vowels of a balmy country become closer in cold climates; papa becomes pope in moving from Italy to England. Shifting of quantity often accompanies stress shifting in diphthongs; Chaucer has both kneelers and knowee from A.S. cnicyow, choose and cheese from cícerean, leee and loee from leóeran. The loss of vowels in unstressed syllables, as above, is common. English spelling is fixed but not standardized; A.S. e is denoted by e plus e in stone but by oe in moan, although these two words have had the same vowel from the first. The tendency in E. ie toward
simpler forms, all case-endings are lost except the possessive; even in Chaucer's time case-endings were largely preserved and pronounced. Analogy is at work to put similar forms together and make fewer classes, regardless of history. The latest move is a systematic attack upon spelling.

Why is more conservative in making changes and consequently more of historical usage is clearly preserved in it. The tendency toward umlaut continues today in it, while the Norman Conquest put an end to it in England. "The Germans have retained this plural function much more largely than we have, and also another of far greater scope and utility; for they have converted this modification into a means of differentiating the indicative from the subjunctive mood, thus - hatte, habeßat; hätte, habeßet." The subjunctive mode is practically lost in E. The use of E. case-endings was noted, German of today still has most of them. Language is constantly changing but the forces, that are at work, act so slowly and in so many fields that nobody can predict with certainty about its future development.
