Her ys þeos epistol hu se Gregorius þa boc gedihte
þe man pastoralem nemnað.

ALFRED kyning hated Gretan. pylesige Bisceop his
worthe sonde and frendelye and the to shaw I will that to me it
þyrdum lustlice ⁊ þeawlice. ⁊ þe cydan hate þ me
com oftsiþe oft on gemynd. hwylce witan geo wæron geond
often in mynd whatmanner of wisemen long sithe weare thorought out the
angelcyn. ægþer ge godcundra hada ge woruldcundra.
englishe nation both of the spirituall degree as of the temporalitye
⁊ hu geliclica eadæ. þa wæron geond angelcyn. ⁊ hu þa
how happie the tymes they weare emong all the englishe nation ⁊ how the
kynincgas þe ær þone anwealdhæfdon þær folcer. godes ⁊ his
kinges which than the gouernyst had of the people God ⁊ his
willan writen. they obeyed. ⁊ how they bysi in theare
gewrit hyrdon hyrsumodon. ⁊ hu hi ægþer ge heora
peace ⁊ in theare expedition ⁊ warre ⁊ in theare gouerninge within londe ⁊ at home
rybbe ge heora sybbe ge heora anwald innan bordes ge
healde and also without theyre noblenes did spreade and how they their spread
be ealdon. ⁊ eac ut hira ebel gymdon. ⁊ hu him þa speop.
abroad in wit ⁊ in wisedome and also they diuine
ægþer ge mid wige ge mid wyrdome. ⁊ eac þa godcundan
orders haue ernest they weare ⁊ mete about preachinge and about
hadas hu geornne hi wæron ægþer ge ymbe lare ge ymbe
learninge and about all the seruices that they to god shold
lareowdom. ⁊ ymbe ealle þa þeowdomas þe hi gode sceol-
doe and how men out abroade wisedom and doctrine hither in this land
don. ⁊ hu mon ut on bordes wisdom ⁊ lare hider on land
sought and how we the same neede must abroade get ⁊ if we them haue
solite. ⁊ hu we hi nu sceoldon ute begytan. gif we hi habban
shall. ⁊ soe cleane it was fallen emongest thinglish nation that
sceoldon. ⁊ swa clæne heo wæs oðfeallen on angelcynne. þ
very ferne weare on this side humbre with theare seruice
swiðe feawa wæron be heonan humbre þe hira þenunge
could understande in englishe or els ⁊ furthermore an epistle
cuðon understandan on englisc. oððe furðon an æfter-
from latin into englishe to declare and ⁊ wene that not many
-spyrt of ledene on englisc awendan. ⁊ ic wene þ nahwar monige
beyeonde humbre weare not soe feue of them weare that ⁊ also
begeondan humbre wæron. swa feawa hira wæron þ ic furð
one onely may not remember be south thamise when
þon anne ænlepne ne mæg gepencan be suðan temese þa
as ⁊ to reigne vnderstode God almightie be thanked that were now any
wæron þa ic to rice feng. gode ælmihtigum sy þanc, þ we nu ænig-
in still haue teacher Therfore ⁊ the bidd that thou do
-ne an steal habbað. laruwa for þam ic þe bidde þ þu do