

Contents

Preface *ix*

Introduction

I. The Manuscripts 3

II. The Relationship between the Texts 5

Common Errors 6

Scribe E 9

Conclusions 13

III. Style and Text 14

Repetition and Wordplay 15

Alliterative Patterns 18

Problems of Syntax 22

Further Aspects of Style 26

Conclusion: The Poet's Style 31

IV. Sources and Date 34

The Chronicles 34

The Siege and Foray of Metz 38

The Dream of Fortune and the Nine Worthies 42

The Avowing Pattern 44

The Emperor's Dragon 46

The Poet's Selectivity 52

The Date 53

V. The Poet and his Audience 59

VI. Language and Dialect 62

Spellings 62

Accidence 67

Evidence for Original Dialect 72

VII. Editorial Procedures 75

Scribal Characteristics 76

The Winchester Malory and the Sources 79

The Texts 80

Notes to Introduction 81

Morte Arthure	103
Notes to the Text	253
Select Bibliography	399
Glossary	411
Index of Proper Names	533
Appendix: Scribal Self-Corrections	543