

Changes in the Middle English vocabulary: chronological stratification of occupational terms

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The article is devoted to the chronological issues of language development. The research methodology combines traditional linguistic methods with new systemic functional techniques for the reconstruction of the evolution of the semantic system. The purpose is to reveal the changes in the semantic group of occupational terms, basing on the dates of the first written attestation of native vocabulary (as opposed to loan-blends and lexical borrowings). The results prove the relevance of dichotomy of occupational terms into appellatives and anthroponyms as to the kinds of nominative function they performed – classification (categorization) and identification (individualization). This functional approach to language study made it possible to obtain new data as to the stages of formation of the semantic group of occupational terms. Stratification of the vocabulary by means of delimitation of archaic and neologic words resulted in creating the vivid picture of vocabulary enrichment and evolutionary processes in the semantic system of the English language.

Keywords: *archaism, chronological stratification, Middle English, neologism, occupational term, semantics.*

1. Introduction

The issues of language development and language interference were the focus in the works of Wilhelm von Humboldt, Jacob Grimm, Friedrich Schlegel, August Schleicher, Heymann Steinthal, Hermann Paul, Berthold Delbrück, Hermann Osthoff, Karl Brugmann, Antoine Meillet, Charles Bally, Ismail Sreznevsky, Alexander Potebnya, Jan Baudouin de Courtenay et al. Their diachronic studies are based on the principle of historical attitude towards the language phenomenon. Alongside with the linguistic component of pursuing the process of semantic system formation by means of native and borrowed resources both in synchrony and diachrony, its timing and accurate dating are equally very important. Touching upon the issues of formation of the English national literary language, Yartseva (2004) notes that one of the most difficult items for the study of the history of language is the accuracy of the date of attestation of the borrowing in the written monuments – it might not coincide with the date of the appearance of this word in spoken language, as far as the genre variety and subject matter of the document are the facts that determined the choice of words (Yartseva 2004: 65). Yartseva (2004) emphasizes that a real skepticism on the part of philologists arose as to O. Jespersen's calculations of French borrowings in the English language, as far as it turned out that according to the Oxford English Dictionary, the maximum number of words of French origin recorded in the monuments dates back to the 14th century, when French was no longer a national language in England. Besides, the most interesting item is not the mere appearance of the borrowed word, but the very process of its rooting in the vocabulary of the English language (Yartseva 2004: 66).

The important issues of language evolution are to be pursued in the parameters of the complex dynamic adaptive system, especially on the basis of the numerical empirical material within the long chronological period (viz. modern and very prospective

multidisciplinary approaches to surname study aiming at the creation of large surname databases to statistical study of their changes, development, and distribution) (Hanks & Parkin 2016). A valuable object for linguistic analysis is the *lexical semantic group of occupational terms*, constituting a widely represented and constantly supplemented system of words with the diverse structure, semantic peculiarities and a long history. Many papers on historical linguistics, which present occupational terms used as surnames, had become the sources of English historical lexicology and personal names study (Ekwall 1947, Fransson 1935, Mills 1968, Otto 1938, Reaney 1966, 1967, Tengvik 1938, Thuresson 1950). Occupational terms have long been in the focus of scholarly works, in particular the aspects of external and internal factors of their development, as well as their structure and functioning in modern English are viewed in cognitive aspect and that of onomasiology (Bernatskaia 1995, Davydova 1990, Khalilova, 1975, Liapkova 2006, Shilova 2006). Middle English *nomina agentis* have been studied as to their structural peculiarities (Kuznetsova 1984, Nikitina 2005). Old English and Middle English occupational terms are pursued in the aspect of onomasiology (Solonovich 1986); several researches have been provided as to the functional and semantic issues of Middle English occupational terms (Dobrovolska 2016, 2017). The role of medieval occupational terms as one of the main sources of family names (medieval bynames and hereditary surnames) was great (Reaney 1966, 1967). Concerning their meaning in the general context of semantics of bynames, occupational terms are referred to *the semantic category of social function* (Brylla 2016). In Middle English they fulfilled both the functions of classification (as appellatives) and identification (as anthroponyms), as far as the official identification of the person by means of the occupational term coincided very often with the person's real occupation or position (Reaney 1966, 1967; Brylla 2016).

The following *general issues* of the study of occupational terms within the Middle English period are in the focus of our research: 1) functional differentiation, taking into account the basic division of all the nominative units into appellatives (*the function of classification*) and anthroponyms (*the function of identification*); 2) etymological grouping according to the origin of their motivational bases (*native, hybrid and borrowed vocabulary*); 3) semantic grouping according to their lexical meanings. *The general object* of our investigation is the Middle English semantic system, in particular the semantic group of occupational terms as its functional, etymological and semantic subsystems; the *partial object* of our paper is the *etymological subgroup of the terms of native origin*.

The general aim of our investigation is to reconstruct the development of the semantic group of Middle English occupational terms; *the partial aim of our investigation*, which is reflected in this paper, is to reconstruct the issues of replenishment of the semantic group under study with the terms of native origin. We set forth the following *particular task*:

- 1) collect occupational terms on the basis of historical dictionaries;
- 2) group occupational terms as to their origin / the origin of their word-stems;
- 3) distribute the occupational terms of native origin within three functional groups as to the kinds of nominative function they perform, in particular: a) the group of occupational terms with both kinds of the nominative function (the function of classification as in appellatives and the function of identification as in anthroponyms); b) the group of occupational terms with the function of classification (appellatives); c) the group of occupational terms with function of identification (anthroponyms);
- 4) fulfil chronological stratification of the first written attestations of native occupational terms, separately as appellatives and as anthroponyms;

5) analyse the subgroup under study as to its ‘qualitative composition‘ in the Middle English period, i.e. highlight Old English words (the archaisms among them), Middle English words (and those which disappeared by the beginning of the Modern English period), as well as neologisms which appeared in Middle English with the only function of identification as anthroponyms and become appellatives in Modern English;

6) fulfil semantic grouping of occupational terms according to their lexical meanings;

7) give comparative characteristics of the phenomena observed;

8) represent the language material under study within three functional groups, two chronological lines and five ‘qualitative strata‘, as well as the subgroups of semantic classification, then display in tables the data of calculations obtained in the absolute and relative quantitative numbers.

2. Methods

We use the following *methods of investigation* – the general scientific inductive-deductive method is the main one for reconstruction of the development of the semantic system (especially the techniques for the study of the lexicographic sources, theoretical analysis of the linguistic sources, analysis of the vocabulary definitions, techniques for thematic and semantic classifications, etymological analysis, morphemic analysis, techniques for linguistic interpretation, quantitative analysis and the language attribution of its results), the linguistic comparative historical method (especially the comparative lexicographic analysis of the data of historical dictionaries). We used the following *techniques for the reconstruction of the evolution of semantic system*:

1) delimitation of occupational terms into the functional layers of appellatives and anthroponyms on the basis of the kinds of nominative function they fulfill (viz. the differentiation of *categorial* and *proprial meaning*) (Nyström 2016), in particular the function of *classification (categorization)* and the function of *identification (individualization)* (viz. dichotomies *name-appellative, lexicon-onomasticon*) (Nyström 2016);

2) compilation of the following three groups of words:

(a) occupational terms which were used both as appellatives and anthroponyms, i.e. fulfilled two kinds of nominative function;

(b) occupational terms which were only used as anthroponyms, i.e. fulfilled only the function of identification (as far as the in the Middle English period these occupational terms only functioned as the anthroponyms, our linguistic knowledge about them is only based on the data of anthroponyms, therefore we treat these occupational terms as reconstructed on the basis of Middle English anthroponyms and mark them with *);

(c) occupational terms which were only used as appellatives (i.e. fulfilled the only function of classification);

3) on the basis of functional distribution, further chronological delimitation of the first written attestations of occupational terms as appellatives and anthroponyms;

4) on the basis of functional and chronological distribution, further analysis of the qualitative composition of the semantic group within the Middle English period, especially stratification of the following groups:

(a) words dating back to the Old English period, which functioned as appellatives and anthroponyms in Middle English and continued to exist in Modern English;

(b) Old English archaisms (i.e. the word which only functioned as anthroponyms in the Middle English period and were completely outdated by the end of this period of language development);

(c) words, which arose in the Middle English period, functioned both as appellatives and anthroponyms and continued to exist in Modern English;

(d) words, which originated in the Middle English period, only functioned as anthroponyms and then disappeared by the end of this period;

(e) neologisms, which arose in the Middle English period, only functioned as anthroponyms, and then in the Modern English period started to be used as appellatives too.

3. Data and generalizations

3.1 Functional differentiation of occupational terms

After processing of the data of historical dictionaries, we distribute the occupational terms into *three groups as to the origin of their word-stems*: a) native vocabulary, b) loan-blends, and c) loan-words. Then we divide 1134 words of native origin into *three groups as to their functioning in the Middle English period*:

(a) 420 words (37%) performing both kinds of the nominative function, i.e. the functions of classification (i.e. appellatives) and the functions of identification (anthroponyms, in particular medieval surnames or bynames), e.g.:

tauier 'one who prepares animal skin or hides for use by dressing, curing, or treating them, a tawer' 1320 MED, 'one who taws; one who prepares white leather; white-tawer' 1311 OED > *Tower* 1255, *Tawyare* 1274, *Tawyere* 1275, *Touere* 1275, *Teware* 1275, *Towyere* 1280, *Tawyere* 1280, *Tawere* 1286, *Tauier* 1300, *Tawyer* 1320, *Tawyare* 1324, *Tawiere* 1332, *tawiere* 1334, *Tawar* 1381, *tawier* 1384;

whīt~tawier(e) 'one who taws animal skins to produce a stiff, white leather, which may undergo further finishing steps, such as dyeing and softening' 1346 MED, 'one who taws skins into white leather' 1284 OED > *Wittauere* 1224, *Wittowiere* 1246, *Wytewere* 1279, *Wittowere* 1279, *Wyttawyere* 1285, *Whythawere* 1309, *whyttawyere* 1333, *Whitouer* 1364, *wythawyere* 1365, *Whitagheres* 1374, *White tawyer* 1411, *whitawier* 1415, *whittawier* 1439, *Wittowiere* 1224-46, *Wytetawere* 1272-81, *Wittowere* 1279, *Whytetawere* 1279, *Huittawiere* 1279-80, *Witthawyere* 1280, *Whytauwyere* 1280, *Wyttowier* 1281, *Wyttawyere* 1285, *Wytawere* 1288, *Wythauwere* 1296, *Wytchanwere* 1296, *Whyttowere* 1298, *Whythawere* 1309, *Whitawyer* 1311, *Whyttauwyar* 1313, *Quyttower* 1316, *Whitouer* 1364;

(b) 562 words (50%) performing the only function of identification (i.e. anthroponyms):

hird(e)ler 'a maker of hurdles; only in surnames' MED > *Herdlere* 1279, *Herdler* 1283, 1334, *hirdler* 1288, *Hirdeler* 1387-8, *Herdelere* 1412;

hegġer 'a hedge-maker, hedge repairer', in surnames only – MED > *Heger* 1286, *Hegger* 1327, 1370;

pilcher(e) 'a maker or seller of pilches; only in surnames' MED > *Pullchare* 1214, *Pilchere* 1271, 1275, 1301, 1317, *Pilkere* 1279, *Pylechere* 1296, *Pilcher* 1303, *Pilker* 1305, *Pulchere* 1310, *Pilicher* 1327, *Pulcher* 1332, *Pylchere* 1392;

c) 152 words (13%) performing the only function of classification (appellatives):
göld~smithesse [< göld-smith] ‘a female worker in gold’ 1450 MED;
wöl~webbestere ‘a weaver of wool’ 1378 MED;
pilche~makere ‘a maker of pilches’ 1483 MED.

3.2 Chronological stratification of occupational terms

Chronological stratification of the first written attestations of occupational terms is presented within the periods of the English language development (the most common is the division into Old English (449 – 1066), Middle English (1066 – 1475) and Modern English (1476 – for nowadays). With the aim to study the history of native occupational terms, we notice their first written attestations; as concerns the first functional group, we notice two written attestations of occupational terms: 1) as appellatives and 2) as anthroponyms, combining the same graphic variants of the names and arranging the dates of their first written attestations in the form of *chronological lines* in order to study the dynamics of occurrence of vocabulary in the Middle English period, e.g.:

thaccher(e) ‘one who covers the roof or walls of a building with thatch or other material’ 1312 MED, ‘one who thatches; esp. one whose business it is to thatch houses, corn or hay ricks, etc.’ 1440 OED < ***thatch, thack*** v. ‘to put thatch on houses’ 1100 OED; ‘to cover (a roof) or roof (a house) with thatch, formerly also with lead, tiles, etc.’ 1440 OED (***Thecker 1199, Theccher 1251, 1333, Thechare 1273, 1327, Theker(e) 1273, 1297, Thacchere 1275, 1303, 1339, Tecchere 1277, thacherer 1286, Thecetera 1311, Thatcher 1312, 1327, Thaker 1316, Zacheare 1321-2, thekker’ 1327, Thecchare 1327, Thecchar 1327, Thechar 1327, Thatchere 1327, Thecher 1327, Thechere 1327, Theckere 1332, Thachar 1332, Thakker 1336, 1466, Thakkere 1339, 1432, Thaccher 1364, Thaichere 1401, Thecchere 1408;***

sauer(e) ‘one who saws, a sawyer’ 1350 MED, ‘a workman whose business it is to saw timber, esp. in a saw-pit’ 1350 OED (***Saer 1202, 1204, 1465-87, Suir 1222, Syur 1225, 1286, Sauur 1230, Sagyere 1248, Sawyer 1257, 1281, 1299, 1465-87, Sauuer 1257, Sawerys 1267, Saur 1268, Sayhare 1270, Sawere 1270, Saweare 1270, Sawier 1278, Sawyer 1279, 1381, Saihiere 1279, Sawiere 1281, Sayer 1284, Sahar 1285, Sayur 1286, Sauwyer 1288, Sayer 1289, Sahar 1297, Sagher 1297, 1374, Sauare 1297, Saygher 1301, Sayeres 1310, Sayheres 1311, Sawyers 1312, Saghere 1313, Saghiane 1313, Sawyare 1313, Ciour 1316, Syour 1316, Sagher 1324, Saghier 1327, Saghie 1327, Saweyer 1327, Sauger 1327, sagere 1329, Saghier 1332, Suwyar 1332, sagher 1345-6, Sawyere 1380-81, sahier 1392, Saweer 1404-5, Sawior 1431, Sare 1465-87, Saare 1465-87.***

On the basis of two chronological lines, we draw the conclusions about the dynamics of replenishment of the semantic group under study (in particular native vocabulary as its subsystem) within the Middle English period. Here are the relative and absolute figures of our calculations concerning the first written attestations of the words performing both kinds of nominative function, i.e. as appellatives and as anthroponyms:

(a) *the chronological line of appellatives*: the 10th century (27 words – 6%); the 11th century (33 words – 8%); the 12th century (13 words – 3%); the 13th century (42 words – 10%); the 14th century (116 words – 28%); the 15th century (189 words – 45%);

(b) *the chronological line of anthroponyms*: the 10th century (6 words – 1%); the 11th century (15 words – 4%); the 12th century (62 words – 15%); the 13th century (230 words – 55%); the 14th century (88 words – 21%); the 15th century (19 words – 4%).

Having compared these chronological lines, we observe a considerable rectification of the dates of appearance of the vocabulary under study in the Middle English period, in particular the transition of the dates of their first attestation on earlier times (even several centuries earlier): the largest number of the dates of their first attestations as anthroponyms refers to the 13th century (55%) and the 14th century (21%), while the largest number of the dates of their first attestations as appellatives refers to the 14th century (28%) and the 15th century (45%). Thus, in the dynamics of replenishment of the semantic group with native vocabulary, which performed two functions, we notice a very quick increase of its appearance in the 13th century.

Concerning the words performing the only function of identification (as anthroponyms), *the chronological line of the first written attestations* are the following: the 10th century (3 words – 1%); the 11th century (9 words – 2%); the 12th century (42 words – 7%); the 13th century (252 words – 45%); the 14th century (208 words – 37%); the 15th century (48 words – 8%). The largest number of the occupational terms, which only functioned as anthroponyms, was first attested during the 13th century (45%) and the 14th century (37%). Thus, in the dynamics of replenishment of the semantic group with native occupational terms, which performed the only function of identification, we notice a rapid increase of its appearance in the 13th – the 14th centuries, as well as its decline in the 15th century.

Concerning the words performing the only function of classification (as appellatives), *the chronological line of the first written attestations* are the following: the 12th century (7 words – 5%); the 13th century (21 words – 13%); the 14th century (42 words – 29%); the 15th century (82 words – 53%). In the dynamics of replenishment of the semantic group under study with native vocabulary, that performed the only function of classification, we notice its very gradual appearance starting from the 12th century, as well as its rapid increase in the 15th century.

Having combined all the chronological data of three functional groups of occupational terms under study, we notice the following difference between the chronological lines of their first written attestations: the largest number of the first written attested *appellatives* belong to the 15th century (271 words – 47%), whereas the largest number of the first written attested *anthroponyms* belong to the 13th century (482 words – 49%). In the next two tables we give these data in absolute and relative numbers.

Table 1: The first written attestations of the occupational terms used as appellatives

Century	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	Total
Total	27	33	20	63	158	271	572
Ratio (%)	5	6	3	11	28	47	100

Table 2: The first written attestations of the occupational terms used as anthroponyms

Century	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	Total
Total	9	24	104	482	296	67	982
Ratio (%)	1	2	11	49	30	7	100

Thus, our knowledge of appearance of native vocabulary, subject to the data of anthroponymy basing on chronology of its first written attestation, is much rectified as compared with the data of appellatives, in particular the following phenomena have been noticed:

1) transition of maximum of the first attested occupational terms on much earlier times, especially from the 15th century to the 13th century;

2) almost double increase in number of the occupational terms first recorded in the written monuments in the 14th century.

3.3 *Qualitative stratification of occupational terms*

On the basis of lexicographic data, we determine the following five ‘qualitative groups’ of native occupational terms in the Middle English period:

- 1) words dating back to the Old English period and continuing their functioning as anthroponyms and appellatives in Middle English and Modern English;
- 2) archaisms coming from the Old English period, which in the Middle English period only functioned as anthroponyms, and were outdated by the beginning of Modern English period;
- 3) words, which arose in the Middle English period, functioned both as appellatives and anthroponyms, and then continued to exist with these functions in Modern English;
- 4) words, which originated in the Middle English period, only functioned as anthroponyms and did not continue their existence in Modern English;
- 5) neologisms, which arose in the Middle English period, only functioned as anthroponyms and later in the Modern English period started to be used as appellatives.

3.3.1 *Middle English anthroponyms and appellatives originated in Old English*

As to our calculations, 93 words originated in Old English (the number, which according to the findings of Solonovich (1986) constituted 25% of the total number of Old English occupational terms) and continued their existence in the Middle English period, as well as in the Modern English period. They performed both the functions of classification and identification, some of them subjected to semantic development, especially that of changing or expanding the lexical meaning, for example:

lēdere [OE *lædere*] ‘a cart driver’ 1300 OED, 1325 MED; ‘an animal keeper’ 1385 MED; ‘one who assists or directs a handicapped person on his way’ 1384 MED; ‘a carrier, porter’ 1423 MED; ‘a guard convoying a prisoner’ 1450 MED;

lēpere [OE *hlēapere*] ‘one who jumps’ 1300 MED; ‘one who runs; ?a messenger, ?a courser’ 1376 MED; ‘a dancer’ 1475 MED;

potter [LOE *potter*] ‘a maker of pots, or of earthenware vessels’ 1100 OED, 1200 MED; ‘a maker of metal pots, vessels, or other objects of metal’ 1440 OED, 1440 MED; ‘a vendor or hawker of earthenware’ 1500 OED;

tapper(e) [OE *tæppere*] ‘one who taps casks or draws liquor; a tavern-keeper = tapster’ 1000 OED, 1225 MED; ‘a retailer’ 1478-9 OED);

tappester(e) [OE *tæppestre*] ‘a female tapster, barmaid, an alewife; a tavern hostess’ 1000 OED, 1387-95 MED; ‘one who draws and sells ale, a tapster; a tavernkeeper’ 1400 MED; ‘a man who draws the beer, etc. for the customers in a public house; the keeper of a tavern’ 1400 OED, MED; ‘one who sells by retail or in small quantities’ 1402 OED;

toller(e) [OE] ‘one who takes toll, a toll-collector; a tax-gatherer, publician’ 1000 OED ‘a tax collector, toll gatherer’ 1150 MED, ‘?a usurer’ 1390 MED;

webbester(e) [OE *webbestre*] ‘a weaver: as the designation of woman 1100 OED; extended, or applied to a male weaver’ 1362 OED; ‘one whose occupation is weaving, a weaver; a member of a weavers’ guild’ 1382 MED.

3.3.2 *Archaisms originated in the Old English period*

We have established the list of 8 Old English words, which became archaic during the Middle English period. They were only used in the function of identification and did not belong to the fund of Middle English appellatives. The semantic grouping of these words is as follows:

(a) *archaisms in the subgroup of the names of artisans:*

***bēter** [OE *bēatere*] 1) ‘one who grinds spices’ MED; 2) ‘one who beats cloth, a fuller’ MED; 3) ‘a metal-worker’ MED > *Batere* 1166, *Better* 1200, *Bettre* 1256, *Betere* 1275, 1325, *Batur* 1292, *Bethir* 1327, *Betare* 1327, *Bettere* 1340;

***milne~ward** [OE *mylen-weard*] ‘keeper of a mill, miller’ MED, ‘originally, the keeper of a (manorial) mill; in late use = miller’ 1000 OED > *Milward* 1260, *Milleward* 1279, 1429, *Mulvard* 1286, *Meleward* 1296, *Milneward* 1300, *Moleward* 1327, *Moleward* 1327, *Muleward* 1332, *Mileward* 1352, *Mylleward* 1413, *Milleward* 1428, *Muleward* 1432;

***webbe** [OE *webba & webbe*] ‘one whose occupation is weaving, a weaver; also, a member of a weavers’ guild’ MED > *Webba* 1100-30, 1293, *Webbe* 1221, 1247, 1274, 1345-6, 1356, 1407, 1444;

(b) *archaisms in the subgroup of the names of sailors:*

***sē-man** [OE *sæ-mann*] ‘a sailor’ MED > *Seman* 1250, 1305, *Sceman* 1275, *seman* 1419;

b) *archaisms in the subgroup of the names of farmers:*

***mēder** (*meader* [OE *mæðere*] ‘a mower’ OED, *mēde* [OE] ‘a meadow’ MED) > *Meder* 1180, *Medier* 1200, *Medarius* 1188, *Meder* 1332;

***oxan~hērd(e)** (*oxanhyrdas*, *oxanhyrde* [OE] 1000 OED, *ox(e)* [OE *oxa*] in OE. in gen. sing. *oxan* or gen. pl. *oxena*) 825 OED) > *Oxenhird* 1301, *Oxenhurde* 1327, 1333;

***sēder(e)** (*sædere* [OE] ‘sower’ 950 OED) > *sedere* 1221, 1263, *Seder* 1263, 1296, 1317, *Sedare* 1327, *Sedere* 1394;

***swīne~hērd(e)** [OE *swīn-hyrde*] ‘one who tends swine, a swineherd’ MED, swineherd ‘a man who tends swine, esp. for hire’ 1100 OED; *swine* [OE *swīn*] 725 OED & *hērd(e)* [OE] ‘a herdsman; a keeper of cattle, hogs, horses, goats, or any kind of livestock’ 1150 MED, 725 OED) > *Swynhirde* 1310, *Swyherd* 1316, *Swynhird* 1323, *Swynhurde* 1327, *Swynherde* 1327, *Swynerde* 1332, *Swynerd* 1332, *Swynhird* 1346, *Swynhurde* 1387.

3.3.3 *Neologisms in the semantic group of Middle English occupational terms*

On the basis of comparative analysis of historical lexicographic data concerning the first written attestations of occupational terms, we have revealed neologisms among the occupational terms which in the Middle English period functioned only as anthroponyms. As to their structure, they are suffixed derivatives or compounds with Middle English words as their motivational basis. Their first written attestation as appellatives belong to the Modern English period, whereas their first attestation as anthroponyms belong to the Middle English period. On the grounds of the identity of their motivational bases in Middle English and Modern English, we assume their appellative meaning in the Middle English period to be identical of the semantics of the Modern English derivatives, the formulation of which is presented in historical and etymological lexicographic sources.

Lexical synonyms and all the graphic variants of these neologisms are presented in the chronological line with all the dates of their attestations as anthroponyms, as well as the first

attestations of these words as appellatives in the Modern English period, together with their definitions as to the historical dictionaries. Totally, there are 76 neologisms among the occupational terms of native origin, which existed in Middle English as anthroponyms and only became appellatives in the 16th – 19th centuries:

(a) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of artisans*

The names of weavers:

- ***blāker** ‘one who dyes or colors things black’ MED, blacker ‘one who or that which blacks’ 1632 OED (*blāken* v. [from *blāk* adj. (OE *blæc*)] ‘to make black, blacken’ 1333 MED; cf. blackener ‘he who or that which blacks’ 1632 OED) > *Blakere* 1047-64, *Blacker* 1246, 1434, *blaker* 1291, *Blackiere* 1293, *Blaker* 1296, 1431, *Blackere* 1312, *Blakar* 1327, *Blakiere* 1332, *Blacker* 1333;
- ***clōth-man** ‘a maker or seller of cloth’ MED, 1538 OED (*clōth* [OE *clāþ*] ‘a piece of woven or felted fabric; a cloth’ 1150 MED) > *Clothman* 1416);
- ***cōmber** ‘one who cards wool or makes cards’ MED, ‘one whose business is to comb wool’ 1648 OED (**cōmben* v. ‘to card’ MED, *cōmb* n. [OE *camb*, *comb*] ‘a comb for carding wool, a card’ 1300 MED) > *Comberre* 1200, *Kamber* 1202, *Cambere* 1201–2, 1220, *Combere* 1286, *Comere* 1286, *Comber* 1301, 1341, *Camere*, *Camber*, *Comber* 1359–60;
- ***felter** ‘one who makes, or works with, felt’ MED, 1605 OED (*felten* v. ‘to make (something) of felt’ 1330 MED; *felt* [OE] ‘the fabric felt’ 1440 MED) > *Feltere* 1220, 1275, 1280, *Feltes* 1273, 1275, 1332, *Veltere* 1279;
- ***stēper** (*steper* ‘one who steeps; one who carries out the operation of steeping flax, wool, etc.’ 1611 OED) < *stēpen* v. [OE] ‘to soak (sth.) in liquid’ 1325 MED) > *Stepere*, *Stupere* 1327;
- ***throuer** ‘one who converts raw silk into thread’ MED, ‘one who twists filaments of silk into silk thread; a throwster’ 1621 OED (*throuen* v. ‘to curl (hair); turn (sth.) on a lathe; also, fashion (sth.), craft’ 1225 MED) > *Thrower* 1282, *Threwere* 1292, *Throwere* 1293, 1393, *Twrawer* 1319, *Praweres* 1301, *Trowere* 1327, *Trower* 1332, *thrower* 1358;
- ***wōl-wīnder(e)** ‘a worker who winds spun woolen yarn or thread in coils or onto a reel’ MED, ‘a worker in the textile trade who winds wool, yarn, thread, etc.’ MED; wool-winder ‘one who ‘winds’ or packs up fleeces for transport or sale’ 1523 OED; cf. *wīndestre* ‘a female winder of wool, silk, etc.’ 1376 MED (*wōl* [OE *wul(l)*, *wulle* & *wyll*] ‘the hair or coat of a sheep or lamb, fleece; also, the hair or fur of other animals’ 1350 MED; *wīnden* [OE *windan*] ‘to revolve, turn; move in a circular pattern’ 1225 MED) > *wolwinder* 1409.

The names of tailors:

- ***hōd-maker** MED, 1530 OED (*hōd* [OE] ‘a hood for men or women attached to an outer garment or worn as a separate head-covering with or without attached shoulder cape; often worn under a hat’ 1325 MED, ‘a mail covering for the head and neck, coif of mail’ 1200 MED);
- māker(e)** (from *māken* v. [OE *macian*]) ‘a maker, manufacturer, builder’ 1347 MED) > *Hodmaker* 1361, *Hodemaker* 1393.

The names of artisans involved in the leather industry:

- ***bōk-makere** (*bookmaker* ‘one who makes a book (as a material product); a printer and book-binder’ 1515 OED, cf. *bōk-bindere* ‘one who binds books’ 1399 OED < *bōk* [OE *bōc*] ‘any collection of sheets or leaves, bound or unbound, making up a volume

of writings; a book as a material object' 1121 MED; cf. *bīnder* 'bookbinder' 1408 MED, 'one who binds' 1000 OED; 'a bookbinder' 1556 OED) > *Bokmakere* 1293.

The names of workers in metal:

- **blāder* 'a blade maker' MED, 'a maker of blades; a blade-smith' 1598 OED (*blād(e)* [OE *blæd*] 'the blade of a sword, knife, etc.' 1380 MED, 'a sword; any sharp weapon; a razor' 1387 MED; cf. *blād(e)~smith* 'a blade maker' 1408 MED) > *Blader* 1305, *blader* 1309, 1318, 1332;
- **fīler* 'a file cutter' MED, 'one who files or works with a file; spec. one who files down gold and silver coin' 1598 OED (*filen* v. [OE *filian*] 'to cut or wear away with a file, rasp, or other abrading instrument; to rub or polish' 1200 MED; 'to use a file' 1450 MED; *fīle* [OE *fīl*] 'a metal instrument having cutting edges or teeth on its surface and used for reducing, smoothing, or cleaning the surfaces of various materials; an abrading or sharpening tool used by carpenters, armorers, fletchers, etc.; a file, a rasp; an instrument for abrading the teeth' 1200 MED) > *Filur* 1275, *Fyler* 1309, *Filer* 1349;
- **grīndestere* '?one who sharpens tools' MED; cf. *grīndere* 'one who sharpens tools, blades, shears, etc.' 1463 MED, 'one who grinds cutlery, tools, glass, etc.' 1600 OED > *Grīndestere* 1272;
- **hakker(e)* 'a maker of hacks' DBS, 'a hacker, chopper, cutter; ?also, one who makes the tool called a hak', as surname – MED; 'one who hacks; one who hoes with a hack' 1620 OED (*hak* n. [from *hakken* v.] 'a heavy agricultural tool with a long handle and transverse blade or teeth for grubbing; a grub ax, hack; also, any of various other chopping or cutting tools used in masonry, quarrying, etc.' 1333 MED, 1300 OED; *hakken* v. [OE] 'to cut (sth.) with chopping blows, hack' 1200 MED, *hack* v. [OE **haccian*] 1200 OED) > *Hacker* 1224, *Hakkere* 1262, *Hakyere* 1296, *Hackere* 1296-7, *Haker* 1327, *Hackar* 1434;
- **hōner* 'a sharpener of tools, a grinder or honer' DBS, 1826 OED (*hone* [OE *hān*] 'a whetstone used for giving a fine edge to cutting tools, esp. razors' 1325 OED) > *honer* 1230;
- **pot(e)~makere* 'one who makes vessels of various kinds; a smith whose trade includes manufacturing metal pots' MED, 1535 OED (*pot(e)* n. [OE *pot*] 'a vessel, pot, container' 1300 MED; 'a metal pot' 1250 MED) > *Potmaker* 1297, 1399, 1473);
- **shēre~smith* MED, *shear-smith* 1623 OED (*shēre* [OE *scēar*, *scēr*] 'a pair of scissors or shears' 725 OED, 1300 MED; *smith* [OE *smiþ*] 'smith, blacksmith, farrier' 950 OED, 1125 MED) > *Schersmyth* 1264, *Scheresmythe* 1325, *sheresmyth* 1391, *Sheresmyth* 1402, *sheresmyth* 1469;
- **shō~smith* (in surnames – MED), 'shoeing-smith, a smith who shoes horses' 1625 OED (*shō* [OE *scōh*, *scō*, *sceō*] 'low-cut outerwear for the human foot, a shoe' 1150 MED; *smith* [OE *smiþ*] 'smith, blacksmith, farrier' 950 OED, 1125 MED; cf. *shōer* 'one who shoes horses, a blacksmith' 1475 MED) > *Shosmith* 1288, *Sosmyth* 1296;
- **whetter* (as surname MED), 'a sharpener of an instrument' 1556 OED (*whet* 'to sharpen, put a sharp edge or point upon' 897 OED, *whetten* v. [OE *hwettan*, *hwetan*, *hwætan*] 'to make an edge or point sharp' 1200 MED; cf. *whetter* 'a stone for sharpening tools, whetstone' 1444 MED) > *Wetthere* 1332.

The names of artisans involved in food production:

- **tōnner* (*tunner* 'one who tuns liquor' 1598 OED, *tun* sb. [OE *tunne*] 'a large cask or barrel, usually for liquids, esp. wine, ale, or beer, or for various provisions' 725 OED; 'a large vessel in general; a tub or vat; a chest' 1205 OED, *tōnne* sb. [OE *tunne*] 'a large barrel for wine, ale, or other liquid; a cask' 1121 MED, *tōnnen* v. 'to store (sth.,

chiefly a potable) in a tun or other vessel' 1373 MED, 'to put or store wine in a cask' 1430 MED) > *Tunnere* **1280**.

The names of artisans involved in woodworking:

***lĕst(er)** (*laster* 'in bootmaking, a workman who shapes a boot or shoe, by fixing the parts smoothly on a last' **1878** OED, cf. *lastmaker* 1583 OED) (*lĕst(e)* [OE *lāeste*] 'a form or model shaped like the human foot, a shoemaker's last' 1325 MED, 'a wooden model of the foot, on which shoemakers shape boots and shoes' 1000 OED) > *Lastur* **1275**;

***lĕst(e~maker)** 'a maker of lasts' MED, *last~maker* **1583** OED (*lĕst(e)* [OE *lāeste*] 'a form or model shaped like the human foot, a shoemaker's last' 1325 MED, 'a wooden model of the foot, on which shoemakers shape boots and shoes' 1000 OED; cf. *lĕst(er)* 1878 OED) > *Lastemaker* **1395**;

***sleie~makere** MED, *slay-maker* **1583** OED (*sleie* [OE *sleahe*, *slēa*, *slāe*] 'a part of a loom, consisting of wires or strips of reed, wood, etc., set in a frame, used for forcibly compressing the weft, a weaver's reed' 1316 MED; cf. **sleiere* 'a maker of slays, synonymous with Slaymake' DBS > *Slaer* 1247, *Slayare* 1311; cf. **sleie-man* (in surnames – MED), 'a maker of slays' DBS > *Sleman* 1277, *Slayman* 1279, *Sleeman* 1306, *Scleyman* 1327; cf. **sleie~wright* (in surnames – MED), 'a maker of slays' DBS > *slegwrechte* 1250, *Slaywreste* 1280, *Sclaywryhte* 1286, *Sleywright* 1327, *Sleywrihte* 1334, *Slaywryght* 1400) > *Slaymaker* **1379**, *slaymaker* **1388-9**.

The names of artisans engaged in pottery:

***pot(e~makere)** 'one who makes vessels of various kinds' MED, **1535** OED (*pot(e n.* [OE *pot*] 'a vessel, pot, container' 1300 MED; 'an earthenware vessel; pottery' 1200 MED) > *Potmaker* **1297**, **1399**, **1473**.

The names of artisans involved in the manufacture of glassware:

***glas-man** 'a dealer in glassware' MED, **1610** OED (*glas* [OE] 'glass as substance, material, or a manufactured commodity' 1225 MED, 'an article made of glass: (a) a glass vessel or container; a glass drinking-vessel' 1200 MED, 'an hourglass' 1420 MED, 'a glass mirror, looking glass' 1393 MED; cf. *glas-werker* 1313 MED, *glas-wright* 1301 MED 'one who makes or works with glass') > *Glasmon* **1319**, **1327**, *Glasemon* **1332**, **1342**, *Glasman* **1419**.

The names of builders and constructors:

***līmer** 'one who limes' **1611** OED < (*līmen* v. [OE *gelīman*] 'to cause (particles) to adhere to each other' 1200 MED, *lime* v. 'to cement' 1225 OED, 'to treat or dress with lime' 1440 OED) > *Limer* **1219**, **1279**, *Lymer* **1219**;

***rideler** (*riddler*) 'one who uses a riddle' 1603 OED, 'a sifter of corn or sifter of sand and lime in making mortar' DBS (*ridel* n. [OE *hriddel*] 'a coarse sieve used for bolting grain, a riddle' 1350 MED, 1100 OED; 'a winnowing fan or fork' 1440 MED; *ridelen* v. [OE] 'to sift (grain); also without obj.; spread (ashes) by means of sifting' 1200 MED, *riddle* v. 'to pass (corn, gravel, etc.) through a riddle' 1225 OED) > *ridelere* **1230**, *Rydelere* **1294**;

***risher** (*rusher*) 'one who strews rushes on a floor' **1630** OED < (*rush*, sb. (*rische* 725 OED; *russe* 1000 OED), *rishe*, sb. [OE *risc*, *risc*, *rix*] 'the stalk of the rush, cut and used for various purposes' 1250 MED, *rishen* v. 'to strew (the earth, a floor) with rushes' 1325 MED, *rush* v 'to strew with rushes' 1422 OED) > *Russere* **1296**, *Rischere* **1296**;

(b) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of farmers:*

- ***bōle~ward** (in surnames – MED), *bull-ward* ‘the keeper of a bull’ **1614** OED, *bullard* [contracted from *bull-ward*, or perhaps rather of *bull-herd*] ‘one who keeps a bull, or who takes part in bull-running’ **1825** OED; *bōle* [ON, cp. OI *boli* & OE **bula*, *bullā*] ‘a bull’ 1200 MED; *ward* [OE *weard* ‘a guard’] ‘a guard, sentinel; a guardian; also, a jailer, keeper’ 1150 MED; *hērd(e)* [OE] ‘a herdsman; a keeper of cattle, hogs, horses, goats, or any kind of livestock’ 1150 MED, 725 OED) > *Buliard* **1198**, *Bulard* **1275**, *Bolhard* **1275**, *Bllward* **1319**;
- ***flōte-man** (*floatman*) ‘a man who manages a float’ **1882** OED (*flōte* [*flout*, *floit*, *flute*] [OE *flota* ‘boat, fleet’; OE *flot* ‘a body of water, the sea; OF *flote* ‘troop, flock’. In ME these three words appear to be merged into one] ‘herd of animals’ 1325 MED) > *Floteman* **1215**, **1524**;
- ***folder** ‘one who folds sheep; a shepherd’ **1571** OED < (*fold* (Sc. *fauld*) n. [OE *falæd*, *fald*] ‘a pen or enclosure for domestic animals, esp. sheep’ 700 OED, *fold* (*fauld*) v. ‘to shut up (sheep, etc.) in a fold, to pen’ 1100 OED > *faulder* **1332**;
- ***hērd(e)** (only as surname’ MED), ‘a herdsman’ MED, ‘one who herds; a herdsman’ **1635** OED < (*herd* v. (*hyrd*, *hird*) ‘to take care of or tend (sheep or cattle)’ 1400 OED) > *Herder* **1327**, *Herdere* **1332**, *Hurder* **1333**;
- ***herds-man** ‘a keeper of domestic animals which go in herd, esp. of cattle’ **1603** OED (cf. *hērde-man* (*herdsman*, early gen.pl.) [OE] ‘a shepherd; a tender of goats, cattle, horses, or other livestock; a herdsman’ 1200 MED) > *Herdeman* **1367**;
- ***oxe-man** (in surnames – MED), ‘a man who looks after oxen, a herdsman’ **1830** OED; cf. *ox(e)-herde* ‘a keeper of oxen; a herdsman’ 1398 MED, ‘a keeper of oxen; a cowherd’ 1000 OED (*ox(e)* [OE *oxa*] 825 OED) > *Oxeman* **1201**, **1289**;
- ***shēp-man** (in surnames – MED), *sheepman* ‘a shepherd’ **1591** OED (*shēp* [OE *scēap*, *scāep*, *scēp*, *scīep*, *scȳp*, *scīp*] ‘a ruminant of the genus *Ovis*, a domestic sheep’ 1150 MED) > *Schipemannus* **1130**, *Scipman* **1221**, *Scipmanus* **1250**, *Sipman* **1267**, *Schipman* **1290**, *Schepman* **1296**, **1316**, *Schapman* **1332**;
- ***shēp~ward** (in surnames – MED), *sheepward* ‘a shepherd’ **1609** OED (*shēp* [OE *scēap*, *scāep*, *scēp*, *scīep*, *scȳp*, *scīp*] ‘a ruminant of the genus *Ovis*, a domestic sheep’ 1150 MED; *ward* [OE *weard* ‘a guard’] ‘a guard, sentinel; a guardian; also, a jailer, keeper’ 1150 MED) > *Shepeward* **1329**, *Shipward* **1357**, **1471**, *Shypward* **1432**;
- ***stōd(e)-man** (*studman*) ‘a servant attached to the stud’ **1545** OED (*stōd(e)* [OE *stōd*] ‘horses; mares’ 1300 MED; ‘breed, stock’ 1325 MED; ‘a group of mares or colts’ 1350 MED; cf. **stōd(e)-herde* ‘the keeper of a stud’ MED, 1458 OED > *Stodhyrda* 1195) > *Stodman* **1297**, **1332**;
- ***washer** ‘one who washes sheep before shearing’ **1520** OED (*washen* v. [OE *wæscan*, *wacsan*, *waxan*, *waxsan*] ‘to wash (an animal, the feet of an animal), cleanse, rinse off’ 1325 MED) > *Wassere* **1293**, *Wascere* **1295**;

(c) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of farmers:*

- ***bīnder** (*bindere*) ‘one who binds sheaves behind the reapers’ **1611** OED > *binder* **1219**, *Byndere* **1278**;
- ***hakker(e)** (as surname – MED) ‘a hacker, chopper, cutter’ MED, ‘one who hacks; one who hoes with a hack’ **1620** OED (*hak* n. [from *hakken* v.] ‘a heavy agricultural tool with a long handle and transverse blade or teeth for grubbing; a grub ax, hack; also, any of various other chopping or cutting tools used in masonry, quarrying, etc.’ **1333** MED,

- 1300** OED; *hakken* v. [OE] ‘to cut (sth.) with chopping blows, hack’ **1200** MED, *hack* v. [OE *haccian] **1200** OED) > *Hacker* **1224**, *Hakkere* **1262**, *Hakyere* **1296**, *Hackere* **1296-7**, *Haker* **1327**, *Hackar* **1434**;
- ***rideler** (*riddler*) ‘one who uses a riddle’ **1603** OED, ‘a sifter of corn or sifter of sand and lime in making mortar’ DBS (*ridel* [OE *hriddel*] ‘a coarse sieve used for bolting grain, a riddle’ **1350** MED, **1100** OED; ‘a winnowing fan or fork’ **1440** MED; *ridelen* v. [OE] ‘to sift (grain); also without obj.; spread (ashes) by means of sifting’ **1200** MED, *riddle* v. ‘to pass (corn, gravel, etc.) through a riddle’ **1225** OED) > *ridelere* **1230**, *Rydelere* **1294**;
- ***sēd-man** (in surnames – MED), seedman ‘a sower of seed’ **1583** OED (*sēd* [OE] ‘seed; grain’ **1150** MED, **825** OED; cf. *sēder(e)* [OE *sēdere*] ‘one who sows seed’ **1425** MED) > *Syde* **931**, *Sideman* **974**, **1334**, *Sedeman* **1219**, **1248**, **1301**, *Sedemon* **1260**, *Sedman* **1332**;
- ***shoker** ‘one who piles sheaves in shocks’ **1827** OED (*shok* n. [OE] ‘a group of sheaves of grain placed on end and leaning against one another in order to dry, a shock, stook’ **1325** MED, **1325** OED; *shokken* v. [from *shok* n.] ‘to put (sheaves) in shocks; heap or pile up (sth.)’ **1440** OED, **1440** MED) > *Schokere* **1296**;
- ***siver** (*siever* **1825** OED) (*sive* n. [OE *sife*], *siven* v. ‘to pass through a sieve’ **1475** MED) > *Sevare* **1243**, *Siviere* **1251**, *Siuire* **1274**, *Siuegar* **1275**, *Siviere* **1279**, *Seuare* **1299**, *Seueare* **1305**, *Siuiger* **1308**, *Sivyare* **1313**, *Seuyare* **1327**, *Suuyere* **1327**, *Seuyar* **1332**, *Suwyar* **1332**, *Suuyer* **1332**, *Suuiare* **1344**, *Syfker* **1379-80**, *Sevyer* **1421**, *sevyer* **1421**, *Syvyer* **1428**;
- ***wāterer** (*watere*) ‘one who waters plants, crops, etc.’ **1549** OED (*wātren* [OE *wāterian*, *wātri(g)an*] ‘to provide (a garden, a tree, an orchard, etc.) with water, irrigate, water’ **1200** MED) > *Waterer* **1443**;
- ***wīndere** (*windere*) ‘winnow’ **1570** OED (*wind* v. ‘to winnow’ **1500** OED, *wīnden* v. [from *wīnd* n. (OE *wind*)] ‘to expose (sth.) to the air or wind, ventilate; also, toss (wheat) in the air’ **1250** MED) > *Winder(e)* **1275**, **1276**;
- (d) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of bee-keepers, fishermen and hunters:*
- ***bōter** ‘a boatman’ MED, boater ‘one who rows or manages a boat: a canal-boat man; one goes a boating for pleasure’ **1605** OED; cf. *bōt-man* ‘one who owns or manages a boat or ship; also, a sailor’ **1391** MED, boatman ‘a man who manages a boat’ **1513** OED (*bōt* [OE *bāt*] ‘a boat’ **1200** MED; ‘a small vessel carried by (or accompanying) a ship, a ship's boat’ **1384** MED; ‘a ship’ **1200** MED) > *Botere* **1168**, **1279**, **1301**, **1317**, **1369**, *Botor* **1235**, *Botere* **1301**, *botere* **1321**, **1336**, **1365**;
- ***dīvere** (*diver*) ‘a person who dives under water; spec. one who makes business of diving in order to collect pearl-oysters, to examine sunken vessels, etc.’ **1506** OED) < *dīven* v. [OE *dýfan*] ‘to immerse or submerge oneself; dive, sink’ **1250** MED, **1000** OED) > *Dyvere* **1252**, **1428**, *Dyvoor* **1414**, *Divere* **1279**;
- ***flōter** (*floater*) ‘one who or that which floats’ **1783** OED (*flōten,-ien* v. [OE *flotian*] ‘to rest or move on the surface (of a liquid), to float; to sail or drift (in a ship)’ **1200** MED) > *Flotyere* **1249**, *Floter* **1281**;
- ***flōte-man** (*floatman*) ‘a man who manages a float’ **1882** OED (*flōte* (*flout*, *florit*, *flute*) [OE *flota* ‘boat, fleet’; OE *flot* ‘a body of water, the sea; OF *flote* ‘troop, flock’. In ME these three words appear to be merged into one] ‘a fleet of ships, esp. of warships’

- 1300 MED; (d)?a set (of fishing nets)' 1350 MED, 'a float for a fishing line or net' 1300 MED, 'a raft or boat of some kind' 1322 MED) > *Floteman* **1215, 1524**;
- **hōnī-man* (*honeyman*) 'a man who sells honey or has charge of bees' **1552** OED (*hōnī* [OE *hunig*] 'honey' 1150 MED, 825 OED; cf. *Honymanger* 1382, *Honymetere* 1313) > *Huni* **1199, 1235, Honiman** **1279, Honyman** **1296**;
- **hunte(s-man* (in surnames – MED), 'hunter' MED, huntsman 'a man who hunts, a hunter' **1567** OED; cf. *hunter(e* 'a hunter; esp. one who hunts deer, boar, hare, etc; also, a fowler' 1250 MED, 'one engaged in the chase of wild animals; a huntsman' 1250 OED (*hunte* [OE *hunta*] 'one who hunts wild beasts, a hunter' 1121 MED) > *Huntesman* **1348**;
- **līmer* 'one who smears with bird-lime' **1611** OED (*līmen* v. [OE *gelī-man*] 1393 MED, lime 'to smear (twigs or the like) with bird-lime, for the purpose of catching birds', 'to catch with birdlime' 1413 OED, *līm* n. [OE] 'birdlime' 1216 MED) > *Limer* **1219, 1279, Lymer** **1219**;
- **oter-hunt* (in surnames – MED), 'an otter-hunter, a keeper of otter-hounds' MED, 'otter-hunter' DBS, **1601** OED (*oter* [OE] 'the European otter (*Lutra vulgaris*)' 1300 MED) > *Oterhunte* **1246-47, Loterhunt** **1246-7**;
- **punter* 'In earlier use, one who goes fishing or shooting in a punt; often = punt-gunner; later, one who punts or manages a punt' **1814** OED (*punt* [OE] 1000 OED) > *Punter* **1214, 1243, Ponter** **1255**;

(e) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of intellectuals:*

- **bōk-man* '?copyist, scribe' MED, 'a scholar, a student' **1583** OED (*bōk* [OE *bōc*] 'a written composition or compilation (in prose or verse, occupying one or more volumes); a book as an authoritative source' 1121 MED) > *Bokeman* **1279, Bukeman** **1279, Bocman** **1294, 1327**;

(f) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of entertainers:*

- **springer(e* 'as occupational term: ?a dancer; ?a fencer' MED; 'a jumper' DBS; 'one who springs or leaps' **1775** OED (*springen* v. [OE *springan*] to leap, bound; jump with joy or excitement; move suddenly, go quickly, run, dash off' 1200 MED, 'to bound or leap' 1205 OED) > *Springer* **1185, 1296, Springere** **1302, Sprynger** **1332, 1346-7**;

(g) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of the official servants:*

- **brīgġe-man* (in names' MED) 'the keeper of a bridge' **1648** OED, cf. *brīgġere* 'keeper of a bridge' 1250 MED; *brīgġe-ward* 'a custodian or warden of a bridge' 1380 MED (*brīgġe* [OE *brycge*] 'a bridge (as over a stream)' 1121 MED, 1000 OED) > *Brygeman* **1296, Brigeman** **1307, Bregman** **1310, Bruggemon** **1332, Bryggeman** **1428**;
- **herker* (*harker*) 'a listener' **1825** OED, cf. *herkener(e)* 'an eavesdropper' 1447-8 MED (*herken* v. [from ME *herkenen* (OE **heorcnian*)] 'to listen attentively, take heed, harken' 1200 MED, *herkenen* v. [OE *he(o)rcnian*] 'to listen in order to overhear, eavesdrop' 1382 MED) > *Herkere* **1280**;
- **hēvere* (*heaver*) 'a person who heaves; spec. a labourer employed in landing goods at a dockyard' **1586** OED (*hēven* v. [OE *hebban*] 'to raise (an object, a body, the hands, etc.) upright or to a higher position; lift up, hoist' 1200 MED, *heave* v. 1000 OED) > *Heuere* **1297**;

- ***jagger** ‘a pedlar, a hawker’ **1514** OED (*jag* sb. ‘a load (usually a small cart-load) of hay, wood, etc.’ 1597 OED, *jag* v. ‘to carry in a cart, or on a pack-horse’ 1747 OED) > *Jager* **1379**, *Jagher* **1379**, *Jeggar* **1480**;
- ***toller** ‘one who tolls a bell’ **1562** OED (*tollen* v. [OE **tollian*] ‘to sound (a peal), ring’ 1452 MED, *toll* v. [found in this sense in 15th c.] ‘to cause (a great bell) to sound by pulling the rope, esp. in order to give an alarm or signal; to ring (a great bell)’ 1494 OED) > *Toller* **1199**, **1279**, *Toler* **1246**, *Tollere* **1249**, **1251**, **1255**, **1313**, *Toller* **1297**, **1346**, **1380**;
- ***toll-man** (in surnames – MED) (tollman) ‘a man who collects tolls; the keeper of a toll-gate’ **1743** OED, cf. *toller(e)* [OE] ‘a tax collector, toll gatherer’ 1150 MED, ‘?a usurer’ 1390 MED, ‘one who takes toll, a toll-collector; a tax-gatherer, publician’ 1000 OED; *tol-gaderere* ‘one who collects taxes or tolls’ 1395 MED; *tol-reve* ‘an officer appointed to collect tolls at a city gate’ 1433 MED (*tol* [OE *toll*] ‘a tax, levy, fee, toll; payment, dues; also, tribute’ 1150 MED, 1000 OED; *tollen* v. ‘to assess a tax or fee; also, tax (sth.), make an assessment on’ 1387 MED) > *Tholeman* **1219**, *Tolman* **1327**;
- ***wāterer** ‘aquarius’ **1546** OED (*wāter* [OE *wæter*; *wætter*] ‘water as a naturally occurring element or substance’ 1200 MED) > *Waterer* **1443**;
- ***wāter-man** (pl.) ‘puveyors of water’ MED, water-man ‘aquarius’ **1565** OED (*wāter* [OE *wæter*; *wætter*] ‘water as a naturally occurring element or substance’ 1200 MED) > *Waterman* **1249**;

(h) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of domestic servants:*

- ***hakker(e)** ‘one who hacks, a cutter, probably a wood-cutter’ DBS, ‘one who hacks; one who hoes with a hack’ **1620** OED (*hakken* v. [OE **haccian*] ‘to cut (sth.) with chopping blows, hack’ **1200** MED, **1200** OED; *hak* n. [from *hakken* v.] ‘a heavy agricultural tool with a long handle and transverse blade or teeth for grubbing; a grub ax, hack; also, any of various other chopping or cutting tools used in masonry, quarrying, etc.’ **1333** MED, **1300** OED) > *Hakkere* **1262**, *Hakyere* **1296**;
- ***jobber** ‘one who or that which ‘jobs’, pecks, pokes, thrusts, etc.’ **1580** OED; cf. *nut-jobber* OED (*jobben* [imitative] ‘to jab, thrust, peck’ 1500 MED, *job* v. ‘to pierce’ 1490 OED, ‘to thrust’ 1573 OED, ‘to peck’ 1566 OED) > *Iober* **1317**, *Jobour*, *Jobber* **1356**, **1369**, *Jobber* **1524**;
- ***stēde-man** (*stead-man*) ‘steadward’ **1613** OED (*stēde* [OE *stęde*] ‘a house; a palace, castle, fortress; an estate (including both land and buildings), a property, holdings; a section of a cultivated field; also, a home, dwelling; lodgings, quarters’ 1200 MED > *Stedeman* **1275**, *Stedeman* **1275**, *Stedeman* **1285**, *Stedman*, *Stedeman* **1323**;

(i) *neologisms in the semantic subgroup of the names of merchants:*

- ***fether-man** ‘a dealer in feathers or down’ MED, **1621** OED (*fether* [OE *feþer*] ‘a feather or plume’ 1150 MED) > *fetherman* **1275**, *Fetherman* **1305**;
- ***glas-man** ‘a dealer in glassware’ MED, **1597-8** OED (*glas* [OE] ‘glass as substance, material, or a manufactured commodity’ 1225 MED, ‘an article made of glass: (a) a glass vessel or container; a glass drinking-vessel’ 1200 MED, ‘an hourglass’ 1420 MED, ‘a glass mirror, looking glass’ 1393 MED) > *Glasmon* **1319**, **1327**, *Glasemon* **1332**, **1342**, *Glasman* **1419**;

- ***hōnī-man** (in surnames — MED) ‘a man who sells honey or has charge of bees’ **1552** OED (*hōnī* [OE *hunig*] ‘honey’ 1150 MED, 825 OED; cf. *Honymanger* 1382, *Honymetere* 1313) > *Huniman* 1199, 1235, *Honiman* 1279, *Honyman* 1296;
- ***jagger** ‘a pedlar, a hawker’ **1514** OED (*jag* sb. ‘a load (usually a small cart-load) of hay, wood, etc.’ 1597 OED, *jag* v. ‘to carry in a cart, or on a pack-horse’ 1747 OED) > *Jager* 1379, *Jagher* 1379, *Jeggar* 1480;
- ***sēd-man** (in surnames — MED) ‘dealer in seeds’ DBS; *seedman* ‘a dealer in seed’ **1652** OED (*sēd* [OE] ‘seed; grain’ 1150 MED, 825 OED) (> *Syde*man 931, *Sideman* 974, 1334, *Sedeman* 1219, 1248, 1301, *Sedemon* 1260, *Sedman* 1332);
- ***shēp~monger** ‘a dealer in sheep’ DBS, *shepemon*gers **1560** OED (*shēp* [OE *scēap*, *scāep*, *scēp*, *scīep*, *scȳp*, *scīp*] ‘a ruminant of the genus *Ovis*, a domestic sheep’ 1150 MED > *Shepmongere* 1227);
- ***wōlster** ‘a dresser, weaver or seller of wool’ (the feminine form) DBS; *woolster* (Sc.) ‘a wool-stapler’ **1577** OED; cf. *wool-stapler* ‘a merchant who buys wool from the producer, grades it, and sells it to the manufacturer’ 1709 OED (*wōl* [OE *wul(l)*, *wulle* & *wyll*] ‘the hair or coat of a sheep or lamb, fleece; also, the hair or fur of other animals’ 1350 MED; *wīnden* [OE *wīndan*] ‘to revolve, turn; move in a circular pattern’ 1225 MED) > *Wollestere* 1297.

According to our calculations, the linguistic characteristics of native vocabulary as the etymological subgroup within the semantic group of Middle English occupational terms are the following:

- 1) total number of native occupational terms in the Middle English period is 1134 words;
- 2) 92% of them originated in the Middle English period, while 8% came from the Old English period;
- 3) occupational terms, which originated in Middle English, functioned only as anthroponyms and ceased to exist by the beginning of the Modern English period – 42.6%;
- 4) occupational terms, which originated in Old English and in the Middle English period became *archaic* and went out of use by the beginning of the Modern English period – 0.7%;
- 5) occupational terms, which originated in Middle English and were only used as anthroponyms, i.e. belonged to onomasticon, then in the Modern English period became appellatives, i.e. entered the lexicon, that is why we treat them to be *neologisms* in the Middle English language – 6.7%.

4. Conclusions

According to our calculations, the ratio of occupational terms of native origin, which belonged to the fund of Middle English appellatives, coincides with the ratio of the vocabulary, that only functioned as medieval anthroponyms (50%:50%), but as far as 37% of the words fulfilled both the functions of classification and identification, we have gained the data proving the prevalence of anthroponymic data over appellative (concerning the words which only functioned as common nouns) in the ratio 87%:13%. We have noticed a clear difference of data in the chronological stratification of the first written attestations of occupational terms depending on the functional layers they belong to (in particular according to the fulfillment of two kinds of the nominative function inherent of the lexical units as appellatives and anthroponyms: the function of classification and the function of identification). Taking into

account this difference, we managed to gain the information about the dynamics of replenishment of the semantic group of occupational terms in the Middle English period, in particular with the native vocabulary (as opposed to the loan-blends and lexical borrowings). Basing on the data of their first written attestations as appellatives and anthroponyms, we noticed an apex of their appearance in the 13th century, as well as double increase in their number in the 14th century, whereas the only consideration of the data of common nouns refferes this apex to the 15th century.

We have gained the following data as to the qualitative composition of Middle English occupational terms of native origin:

1) 37% of the words belong the functional variety of native vocabulary, which had both the functions of classification (i.e. appellatives) and identification (i.e. anthroponyms), and consists of the following two parts:

a) the core of this variety is constituted by the native occupational terms, which belong to the fund of Middle English appellatives and continue to exist during the Modern English period;

b) the periphery of this variety is constituted by the native occupational terms, which date back to the Old English period and continue to function in Middle English and Modern English;

2) 50% of the words belong to the functional variety of native vocabulary, which only had the function of identification (i.e. anthroponyms), and consists of the following three parts:

(a) the core of this variety is constituted by the words, which only existed during the Middle English period;

(b) the semi-periphery of this variety is constituted by the neologisms which only entered into the fund of appellatives in the Modern English period;

(c) the periphery of this variety is constituted by the words which arose in the Old English period and became obsolete during the Middle English period, as well as

3) 13% of the words belong to the variety of native vocabulary, which only fulfilled the function of classification (i.e. appellatives) – having arisen in the Middle English period, they continue their existence in Modern English up till nowadays.

The results prove the aptness of methodology used, which combines traditional linguistic methods with new systemic functional techniques for the reconstruction of the evolution of the semantic system, in particular the dychotomy of occupational terms into appellatives and anthroponyms as to the kind of nominative function they performed (classification / identification), aiming at the solution of chronological issues of Middle English occupational terms. made it possible to collect database, which serve to gain new important data concerning the replenishment of the vocabulary of semantic group of occupational terms, and to advance our knowledge of vocabulary development with the flow of long period of time.

On these grounds, the stratification of the vocabulary by means of delimitation of archaic and neologic words resulted in creating the vivid picture of vocabulary enrichment and evolutionary processes in the semantic system of the English language.

The methodology of surname research is supplemented now with our dichotomic approach to the functional, etymological and chronological issues of lexicon and onomasticon evolution, proving the validity of the use of historical onomastic data in the study of appellatives.

Our prospective studies will be devoted to the rest parts of the semantic group of Middle English occupational terms, in particular loan-blends (hybridizms) and loan-words, by means of the techniques of differentiation of appellative and anthroponymic vocabulary, i.e. on the grounds of functional approach to language study.

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Abbreviations

DBS – Dictionary of British Surnames, MED – Middle English Dictionary, OED – Oxford English Dictionary

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