

1. Oxford copy. "This manuscript ... was made c. mid-12th c. A.D. ..." (*ibid.*).
2. Venetian manuscript of the 14th c. A.D. (*ibid.*).
3. All the other manuscripts are of later origin ([285*], pp. 587-588).

"After oblivion having lasted for many centuries (!—A. F.), the *Song of Roland* was 'discovered' anew in the late 19th c. A.D. (!—A. F.), the epoch of Romanticism ... characteristically interested in everything medieval ..." ([285*], p. 588).

The first edition of the poem was made in 1837 (*ibid.*).

We now come to the description of the isomorphism.

7.2. The parallel between the medieval poem and the ancient chronicle. Table of the isomorphisms

The Book of Joshua	The Song of Roland
1a. Joshua's and his army commanders' wars were described, all of them aggressive	1b. Charlemagne's and his army commanders' wars were described, all of them being mostly aggressive
2a. Crossing Jordan river, Israelites invaded foreign possessions, conquering new lands. Parallel to Roland's retreat, Book of Joshua described events occurring during Israelites' conquest of city Ai (Jos 7). Like Charlemagne, Joshua separated only small part of his main army for capturing Ai. "They (Joshua's men—A.F.) returned to Joshua and reported that there was no need for the whole army to move: 'Let two or three thousand men go forward to attack Ai. Do not make the whole army toil up there; the population is small'" (Jos. 7:3)	2b. Charlemagne retreated from Spain, rear guard with Roland in command. It was not fleeing, but tactical manoeuvre of army chief temporarily forced to stop invasion. Charlemagne's wars were described as invasions. He came to foreign country, having left his own empire and made war on foreign soil, trying to join it to his own possessions. He separated part (rear) of his army and retreated. Roland headed 20,000 men ([285], LXIII), difference with left column being 1 order
3a. Detachment sent to capture Ai was defeated. "... the men of Ai, who killed some thirty-six of them; they chased (!—A.F.) them all the way from the gate to the Quarries and killed them on the pass. At this the courage of the people melted and flowed away like water" (Jos. 7:5)	3b. Army's rear guard was defeated: all (or almost all) knights perished in battle with enemy, who pursued (!) army's rear guard