

23. *m* sounds very hard and short, almost like *dn* or more correctly like *rdn*, as: barn, börn, horn, it is therefore often found in defective modern manuscripts or books *steirn*, *seirn* for *steinn*, *seinn*. *rl* sounds likewise hard and short, almost like *dl* or more correctly like *rdl*; on this account one often finds *jarl* and *jall*, *karl* and *kall*, *kerling* and *kelling*.

24. *s* is always hard, like the Danish or like the german *ß* (*sz*), never soft like the german *ſ*.

25. *z* always sounds like *s* and is only used as an etymological sign for *s*, when a *t*, *d*, or *ð* has dropped as: *veizla* for *veitsla*, *islenskr* for *islenskr*, *gerzkr* for *gerðskr*. In old manuscripts they made use of *z* sometimes as an abbreviation of *ss*, sometimes of *st*, about in the same manner in which the greek  $\zeta$  stood for  $\sigma\delta$ , in modern and good editions the use has been restricted, to specify distinctly the two pronunciations and derivations.

26. *x* always sounds hard, like *ks* or *gs* with a hard *g* and *s*, as: *lax*, *sex*, *öx*, *uxi*, (never like *gz* as in the french word *exact*).

27. The old Norsk pronunciation was altogether broad, rich in sound (*klangfuld*) logical and precise. A vowel before a simple consonant is rather long, whether the consonant be hard or soft, as: *ek* (l. *æk*) or *eg* (l. *æg*), *set* (l. *sæt*), *las* (l. *lās*) to express the short sound, the consonant is doubled, as: *egg*, *sett*, *hlass*.

Even vowels are shortened in the pronunciation if a consonant is added, as:

*höf-uð* has a long *ö* — *höfði* a short and sharp one.  
*ber*, *slár* - - - *e* — *berja*, *Dat. barði*, has a short one.  
*vil* - - - *i* — *vilja*, *vildi* - - -

28. To the syllable belong all consonants which follow a vowel, as: *ask-a*, *sett-u*, *höfð-in-u*, *vild-i*, *marg-ir*, *hest-ar*. According to this rule the words are abbreviated at the end of a line.

29. Exceptions are *j* and *v*, which belong to the vowel following these letters, as: *legg-jum*, *högg-va*, the letter *r*, also never attaches itself to the preceding vowel, except, when it becomes altogether blended with the vowel as: *steinn*, *grænn*, *hæll*, *fúll*, it is generally read with the next vowel,