

Legend, he would do certain things he had never done before." (p.1)
 "1386 was the year to ring the bell announcing the inauguration of the English phase (preceeded by Chaucer's French and Italian phases). Or if one plotted his history as a movement from artificial and conventional to realistic modes, this was about the time to rule the new column labeled 'realism' and begin making entries."

X
SP

page?

*Does long
 with
 what
 now
 is this
 part of
 Chaucer
 modify?*

Trying to win some importance for the Legend, we are told, "Certain innovations in genre, in theme, in technique, and in verse form begin with the Legend and give that work thereby more significance than critics have hitherto accorded it." (p. 2)

*period or comma
 comes after
 parenthesis
 even though
 ordinarily it
 should come
 before end
 quote marks*

Chaucer had recorded successes in previous works such as Parliament of Fowls and Troilus and Criseyde by working in the "artificial and conventional" mode, but had tired of, or worn out this mode for himself. Frank has the idea that "Having found the way to success in a form, Chaucer never repeated the pattern. This restlessness can be clearly seen in the history of Chaucer's use of the dream vision. Having mastered the form in the Parliament, he abandons the dream vision thereafter. The apparent return to the vision in the Prologue to the Legend is self-conscious possibly mocking resumption of the form." (p.3) Frank sees Chaucer, "...moving into a new kind of poetry, the narrative mode, and away from the lyric-narrative and discursive-narrative modes of his vision poems." (p.3) Frank bases this last statement on the fact that in the Legend a number of short stories are covered, and abrupt narrative movement is necessary to shift from one to another. This concentration on movement from one story to another is "... not generally characteristic of vision poetry." Another basis for Frank's theory of the Legend as a turning-point in Chaucer's career as an artist is the change in verse form in the Legend. Frank maintains that as Chaucer "... moved more and more into the writing of pure narrative" it is

apost