

原 報

Masahiko Kanno :Verbs in John Gower's *Confessio Amantis* I

I. Reflexive Verbs

1. In *Confessio Amantis* two kinds of reflexive pronouns, *i. e.* personal or simple and compound reflexive pronoun, are used as an object of the reflexive verbs. Both of them may have the same function, but often they are used by the necessities of metre or euphony.¹⁾ In Gower the use of either the simple pronoun or the compound depends on the requirements of these elements. Occasionally the simple pronoun in Gower as well as in OE may be interpreted as a preonastic dative object.²⁾ Especially the use of the reflexive dative appears after verbs of motion or fear.³⁾ Here in this article the reflexive verbs are classified into three sections and arranged alphabetically, so that we may see the reflexive verbs out of use or obsolete nowadays.

2. The reflexive object is a personal pronoun.

acorde	And thus the king toward his knyht <i>Acordeth him</i> , as it is riht (1. 3386) Thus thei, that weren longe wrothe, <i>Acorden hem</i> to final pes (7. 3241)
adresce	For wit that is with will oppressed, Whan coveitise <i>him</i> hath <i>adresced</i> , And alle resoun put aweie (3. 2336), whan it cam To him, this lord of Rome it nam, And therupon <i>him</i> hath <i>adresced</i> (5. 5021), And he, which all <i>him</i> hadde <i>adresced</i> To lust, tok thanne what <i>him</i> liste (7. 4988)
apointe	thei upon this medicine <i>Apointen hem</i> (2. 3204)
aqueinte	if that thou wolt pourchace How that thou miht Envie flee, <i>Aqueinte thee</i> with charite (2. 3506)
arme	He <i>armeth him</i> in knyhtli wise, That bettre can noman devise (5. 3181)
attempre	Ther may no welthe ne poverte <i>Attempren hem</i> to the decerte Of buxomnesse be no wise (1. 1354)
auntre	And thus he <i>auntreth him</i> to winne, And both an horn and noght ne bloweth, For noman of his conseil knoweth (5. 6522)
avaunte	And also who that thenketh to spede Of love, he mai <i>him</i> noght <i>avaunte</i> (1. 2655), And whan that he <i>him</i> most <i>avaunteth</i> , That lord which veine gloire daunteth, He tok him fro the mennes sihte (1. 2961)
avise	Lo now, my Sone, <i>avise the</i> , That thou thi sihte noght misuse (1. 436) For who that wolde <i>him</i> wel <i>avise</i> What hath befalle in this matiere (1. 748)

1) F. Th. Visser: *Materials for the Study of the Old English Drama Part I* (Louvain, 1963) § 139

2) H. Sweet: *New English Grammar Part I* (Oxford, 1952) § 1106

3) T. F. Mustanoja: *A Middle English Syntax Part I* (Helsinki, 1960) p. 100.

baske	The child lay bathende in hire blod Out rolled fro the moder barm, And for the blod was hot and warm, He <i>basketh him</i> aboute thrinne (3. 315)
¹⁾ bathe	and (thei) determine That in the maner as it stod Thei wolde <i>him bathe</i> in childes blod Withinne sevene wynter age (2. 3206)
²⁾ bere	And so he <i>bar him</i> that he slowh These dredful Monstres alle thre (1. 434) This knift him hath confessed theré How falsly that he hath <i>him bore</i> (2. 2765)
³⁾ besien	And if it falle, as for a time Hir liketh noght abide bime, Bot <i>besien hire</i> on other thinges, Than make I othre tariinges To dreche forth the longe dai (4. 1183), How now adayes that ther be Ful manye of suche hertes slowe, That wol noght <i>besien hem</i> to knowe What thing love is (4. 1229)
bestere	So lefte he bothe Schield and spere, As he that mihte <i>him</i> noght <i>bestere</i> , And hield him in his chambre clos (2. 3196)
bethenke	Whan the fader <i>him bethoghte</i> And sih to whether side it drowh (2. 1724), This Progne, as sche lay him besyde, <i>Bethoughte hir</i> hou it mihte be That sche hir Soster myhte se (5. 5575)
beyelpe	Hou scholde I thanne <i>me beyelpe</i> Fro this dai forth of thi largesse, Whan such a gret unkindnesse Is founde in such a lord as thou? (7. 2096)
clothe	In doeful clothes thei <i>hem clothe</i> (8. 483), he <i>him clotheth</i> in hire cote, And sche in his was clothed ofte (2. 2270)
⁴⁾ compleigne	Gregoire upon his Omelie Ayein the Slouthe of Prelacie <i>Compleigneth him</i> , and thus he seith (5. 1903), And some I sih whiche ofte sithe <i>Compleignen hem</i> in other wise (8. 2541), And ofte time he was so nyce, Wherof nature <i>hire</i> hath <i>Compleigned</i> Unto the god (7. 4579)
confesse	Bot sche <i>hire</i> wolde noght <i>confesse</i> , Whan thei hire axen what sche was (2. 738), In such a wise and hath him pressed, That he the sothe <i>him</i> hath <i>confessed</i> Of al that be spoke and do (2. 1734), This kniht <i>him</i> hath <i>confessed</i> there How falsly that he hath him bore (2. 2764), As I have told, I <i>me confesse</i> To you, mi fader, and beseche That furthermor ye wol me teche (4. 66), in this wise I <i>me confesse</i> Of that ye clepe unbuxomnesse (1. 1393)
conforte	Mi worthi lusti ¹ ladi dere, <i>Conforteth you</i> (5. 3653), forthi as nou Mi conseil is, <i>conforteth you</i> (8. 1214)
⁵⁾ consail(1)e	He thoughte he wolde <i>him</i> ferst <i>consaille</i> With Appollo, in whom he triste (7. 3188), And after this if thou desire To stonde ayein the vice of Ire, <i>Consaille thee</i> with Pacience (3. 2727)

1) *refl.* To bathe, especially in warm water or liquid, and so *transf.* to be suffused with, or swim in, blood, etc.

2) *To bear oneself:* to carry, conduct, or deport oneself; behave, acquit oneself.

3) *refl.* To begin to move actively, to manifest activity, to busy oneself.

4) (OF. *se complaindre.*) To bawail oneself, lament, utter one's lamentations.

5) (OF. *se conseiller.*) To take counsel with oneself; to consider

defende	I am topulled in my thoght, So that of reson leveth noght Wherof that I <i>me</i> mai <i>defende</i> (1.567)
¹⁾ delite	For if a man this vice take, In Sompnolence and <i>him delite</i> , Men scholde upon his Dore wryte His epitaphe, as on his grave (4.3357)
despeire	And for thou schalt <i>thee</i> noght despeire, Thi lepre schal nomore empeire Til thou wolt sende therupon Unto the Mont of Celion (2.3347)
desporte	It fell him on a dai par chance, That he in all his proude fare Unto the forest gan to fare, Amonges othre that ther were To hunte and to <i>desporte him</i> there (1.2294)
ensample	Ye men and wommen bothe tuo, <i>Ensampleth you</i> of that was tho (4.3684) Wherof that every wysman may <i>Ensamplen him</i> , and take in mynde What schame it is to ben unkinde (5.5159), Alle othre whiche hem sihe <i>Ensamplede hem</i> upon the dede (7.4441)
esmaie	Bot Jason wolde <i>him</i> noght <i>esmaie</i> , And seide (5.3348)
excuse	Ye, fader, be seint Julien, Bot I untrewre wordes use, I mai <i>me</i> noght therof <i>excuse</i> (3.36), So miht tho <i>thee</i> the betre <i>excuse</i> (3.1196), thou <i>thee</i> myht so wel <i>excuse</i> Of love such as som men use (8.187)
fede	he syh also The kinde of alle bestes go Under this tre aboute round And <i>fedden hem</i> upon the ground (1.2830) Of sondri sihtes he <i>him fedeth</i> (6.766)
²⁾ feere	And ek so lowde his belle is runge, That of the noise and of the soun Men <i>feeren hem</i> in al the toun welmore than thei don of thonder (3.454)
feigne	And otherwhile of his falshede He <i>feignede him</i> to conne arede Of thing which after scholde falle (5.928)
glade	Tho Josaphat began somdel To <i>gladen him</i> in hope of trouthe (7.2605)
governe	Anon the wylde loves rage, In which noman <i>him</i> can <i>governe</i> , Hath mad him that he can noght werne (1.2621)
grieve	What man that wole love in eny other wise his coveitise Schal sore <i>grieve him</i> ate laste (5.2631)
holde	as an oule fleth be nyhte Out of alle othre briddes syhte, Riht so this knyht on daies brode In clos <i>him hield</i> , and schop his rode on nyhtes time (1.1730), He <i>hield him</i> in his chambre clos (2.3197)
³⁾ hyde	So that a brid <i>hire hyde</i> mai (5.5967)
⁴⁾ make	to the bed with that he yede After the falshed of his speche, And <i>made him</i> there forto seche (2.858)

1) *refl.* To be highly pleased, take great pleasure, rejoice. *in* or *to do* (anything).

2) *refl.* To be afraid. Formerly const. *of*.

3) *refl.* To put or keep oneself out of sight, or to conceal oneself.

4) *refl.* To set oneself, get ready (*to do* something); to prepare.

meke	sche <i>hire</i> scholde <i>meke</i> Al hol unto the goddes heste (1.866)
¹⁾ misbere	Of this merveile which thei sihe So apparant tofore here yhe, Of that the king <i>him</i> hath <i>misbore</i> , Here othes thei have alle swore That thei wol stonde be the riht (7.5279)
kepe	Hire moder ... Bad ... lerne forto weve and spinne, And duelle at hom and <i>kepe hire</i> inne (5.1284)
peine	And thus himself he gan tormente With such desese of loves peine, That noman mihte <i>him</i> more <i>peine</i> (4.414), And most of alle in thilke place He <i>peyneth him</i> to make chiere With Eolen, which was him diere (8.2508)
pleide	as thei scholden <i>pleide hem</i> ofte, Til thei be growen up alofte Into the youthe of lusti age (3.151)
pleie	In which Diana naked stod To bathe and <i>pleie hire</i> in the flod With many a Nimphe (1.364)
²⁾ pourpose	Wher he <i>pourposeth him</i> to fare Upon his lucre and his beyete, The smale path, the large Strete, The furlong and the longe Mile, Al is bot on for thilke while (5.1988)
presente	And so forth thanne upon a day Al openly in good arai To themperour thei <i>hem presente</i> (5.2093)
pri(y)de	And nameliche of thing which groweth In loves cause or wel or wo Yit <i>pryded I me</i> nevere so (1.2372), And (Perseus) <i>prided him</i> upon the thing (2.1811)
³⁾ profer	Bot lich unto the wollesak Sche <i>proferth hire</i> unto this knyht (1.1693)
⁴⁾ prune	For there he <i>pruneth him</i> and piketh, As doth an hauk whan him wel liketh (7.2203)
⁵⁾ rejoie	And so therwhile I <i>me rejoie</i> , Into myn herte a gret desir, The which is hotere than fyr, Al soudeinliche upon me renneth (6.208)
⁶⁾ repente	if thei wolde winne, They scholden se, er thei beginne, Here ende, and sette here ferste entente, That thei <i>hem</i> after ne <i>repente</i> (3.1814) I trowe Egiste <i>him</i> schal <i>repente</i> (3.2038), He which his love hath so beset Mote afterward <i>repente him</i> sore (8.255)
reste	He seide it thoghte him for the beste That sche <i>hire</i> for the hete <i>reste</i> Al thilke day and thilke nyht (5.6824), And forto <i>resten him</i> somdel, As for a while he ther sojorneth (8.1308), A man of armes mai <i>him reste</i> Somtime in hope for the beste, If he mai finde a weie nerr (4.1703)
schape	This knyht hath levere forto dye Than breke his trowthe and forto lye In place ther as he was swore, And <i>schapth him</i> gon ayein therfore (1.1514), Sche <i>schop hir</i>

1) *refl.* To misbehave or misconduct oneself.

2) This instance may be earlier than the citation in OED. The earliest citation is from c1400.

3) *refl.* To offer or present oneself.

4) Of a bird (or any being so figured): To trim or dress the feathers with the beak. *trans.*

5) *refl.* To make (oneself) glad or joyful.

6) *refl.* To affect (oneself) with contrition or regret for something done, etc.

	forto riden oute At after mete al openly (6.1830)
schrive	Mi Sone, of the felicite Of love and ek of all the wo Thou schalt <i>thee schrive</i> of bothe tuo (1.208), Mi Sone, I have herd thi matiere, Of that thou hast <i>thee schriven</i> hiere (4.1772), Bot so as I <i>me schrof</i> tofore, Ther is non other time lore (4.519)
sitte	He <i>satte him</i> thanne doun and pyketh, And wyssh his herbes in the flod Upon the which his gardin stod (7.2282)
slype	His mouthe upon the gras he wypeth, And so with feigned chiere <i>him slypeth</i> (5.6530)
strecche	He seith noght ones 'grant merci', Bot <i>strauhete him</i> forth to the cite (5.5029), And thanne he <i>strawhte him</i> forto drinke Upon the freisse welles brinke (3.1407)
sustiene	And to <i>sustienen hem</i> and fede In time of recreacion, Nature hath in creacion The Stomach for a comun Coc Ordeined (7.476)
¹⁾ take	He <i>tok him</i> fro the mennes sihte (1.2965), As Nabugodonosor slepte, A swevene <i>him tok</i> , the which he kepte Til on the morwe he was arise, For he therof was sore agrise (Prol. 596), Sche <i>tok hire</i> al to venerie In forest and in wildernesse (5.1262)
torne	And as it were a man in trance He <i>torneth him</i> al sodeinly (1.1801)
²⁾ travaile	Bot al that mai me noght availe With cheste thogh I <i>me travaile</i> (3.584) And in this wise I <i>me travaile</i> (5.110)
umbreide	If so be that he <i>him umbreide</i> Of oght that hath be speke or do, It schal ben venged on him so, That him were betre to be ded (5.5034)
³⁾ unclothe	And for thei scholden <i>hem unclothe</i> , Ther cam a Maide (5.3494)
⁴⁾ venge	He wolde <i>him venge</i> , if that he mihte (3.1013), This Mayde Glodeside is hote, To whom this lady hath behote Of ladischepe al that sche can, To <i>vengen hire</i> upon this man (1.2578)
⁵⁾ vertue	For schrifte stant of no value To him that wol <i>him</i> noght <i>vertue</i> To leve of vice the folie (3.2766)
⁶⁾ war	Bot <i>war thee</i> wel that thou ne lieve Al that thou sest tofore thin yhe (3.968), Bot <i>war hem</i> wel in other place (3.1113)
⁷⁾ wisshe	This king <i>wissh him</i> bothe fot and hond (5.306), Into his bath he wente anon And <i>wyssh him</i> clene as eny bon (5.3806)
⁸⁾ withdrawe	And whan him thoghte it was ynowh, Ayein the day he <i>him withdrawh</i> So prively

1) *refl.* To devote or give oneself; to betake or apply oneself *to* (some pursuit, action, or object).

2) *refl.* To put oneself to trouble, to weary or exert oneself, to labour or work hard.

3) *refl.* To divest (a person) of clothing; to undress; to strip.

4) *refl.* To take vengeance (on one's own behalf).

5) To exert (oneself). Obs. *refl.*

6) *refl.* To guard oneself, be careful, take care.

7) *refl.* To cleanse one's body, or (often) merely one's face and hands, with water.

8) *refl.* To remove oneself *from* a place or position.

	that sche ne wiste Wher he becom (1.930)
wraththe	So mihte it nevere ben honeste A man to <i>wraththen him</i> to sore Of that an other doth the lore Of kinde (3.385)
3. The reflexive object is a compound pronoun.	
amende	ech of hem <i>himself amendeth</i> Of worldes good (Prol. 375 ¹⁾), Wherof thou myht <i>thiself amende</i> Bothe hier and ek in other place (5.400), Lo, this I preie and this I crie, Now I may noght <i>miself amende</i> (6.1087)
appese	som ensample ye me teche, Wherof I mai <i>miself appese</i> (3.133)
aquite	thou <i>thiself</i> hast thus <i>aquit</i> Toward this vice (4.967)
assente	The king hir granteth his aprise, So that <i>himself</i> therto <i>assente</i> (8.813)
assure	he exceedeth the mesure Of reson, that <i>himself assure</i> He can noght (4.3526)
avaunte ²⁾	Ther is an other yit of Pride, Which nevere cowthe hise wordes hide, That he ne wole <i>himself avaunte</i> (1.2389)
avise	Bot what man wolde <i>himself avise</i> , His conscience and noght misuse (Prol. 520)
befole	ful manye wise <i>Befoled</i> have <i>hemself</i> er this (7.4293)
benyce	An old man scholde noght assote Ther is in him no cause why, Bot if he wolde <i>himself benyce</i> (8.2769)
bestere	The Schipmen stode in such a feere, Was non that myhte <i>himself bestere</i> (8.609)
bethenke	The king <i>bethoghte himselfe</i> tho How he his brother mai chastie (1.2116)
beweile	And sche with that <i>hirsself beweileth</i> Welmore than sche dede afore (1.972), He tok his leve, and forth he seileth Wepende, and sche <i>hirsself beweileth</i> , And torneth hom, ther sche cam fro (4.2958)
bewelde	noman mihte <i>himself bewelde</i> (3.990), As I which in subjeccioun Stode under the proteccioun, And mai <i>miselven</i> not <i>bewelde</i> , What for seknesse and what for elde (8.3041)
bewhape	For in the womman is no guile Of that a man <i>himself bewhapeth</i> (7.4267)
brenne	in a rage <i>himself</i> he <i>brende</i> (5.1100)
conforme	Sche fondeth in hire briddes forme, If that sche mihte <i>hirsself conforme</i> To do the plesance of a wif (4.3110)
conseil	Thus can I noght <i>miself conseile</i> (4.1742)
deceive ³⁾	Among the men lacke of manhode In Mariage upon wifhode Makth that a man <i>himself deceiveth</i> (5.457), Ther may a Prince wel conceive, That he schal noght <i>himself deceive</i> , Of that he hiereth wordes pleine (7.2342)

1) OED quotes this example as a sole citation. This means 'to bring into a better state, better, improve (anything implicitly imperfect).'

2) (OF. *s'avanter*) To boast, brag, glory, vaunt oneself.

3) *refl.* To allow oneself to be misled; to delude oneself, (F. *se tromper*).

defende	For word is wynd, bot the maistrie Is that a man <i>himself defende</i> Of thing which is noght to comende (3.2769)
¹⁾ descharge	for thei wolde <i>hemself descharge</i> Of poverte and become grete (Prol. 302)
despeire	For thou thin oghne cause empeirest What time as thou <i>thiself despeirest</i> (4.3506)
despise	Thei sihe hire clothes al desgused, And hou sche hath <i>hirsself despised</i> (7.5022)
devoure	Bot thus his oghne fleissch and blod <i>Himself devoureth</i> ayein kinde, As he that was tofore unkinde (5.5905)
²⁾ devise	Bot for al that yit cowthe he noght <i>Devise himself</i> which was the beste (1.1817), he al hol the cite ladde Riht as he wolde <i>himself divide</i> (7.4657)
³⁾ do	sche receyveth al the wo And <i>deide hirsself</i> to yive him lif (8.2645)
drecche	he dede such a schame In hindringe of his oghne name, Whan he <i>himself</i> so wolde <i>drecche</i> (1.2097)
excuse	Bot for thei wolde <i>hemself excuse</i> , The blame upon the Duck thei leide (1.1016), And seith he schal it nomor use, And that he mot <i>himself excuse</i> Toward hise lordes everychon (1.2102), Ther mai no king <i>himself excuse</i> , Bot if justice he kepe and use (7.3245)
feigne	A tale of hem that ben so nyce, And <i>feigne hemself</i> to be so wise, I schal thee telle in such a wise (1.2017)
⁴⁾ forbere	I <i>miself</i> schal noghl <i>forbere</i> The Wraththe which that I now bere (3.411)
frete	What man hath that complexion, Full of ymaginacion, Of dredes and of wrathful thoghtes, He <i>fret himselven</i> al to noghtes (7.412)
gesse	For I can noght <i>miselve gesse</i> Which is the beste unto my chois (1.1826)
⁵⁾ gete	Unto hire herte rote A naked swerd anon sche threste, And thus sche <i>gat hireselve</i> reste (4.136), For what man thilke vice suie, He <i>get himself</i> bot litel reste (5.420)
⁶⁾ glade	The king <i>himself</i> began to <i>glade</i> Withinne his herte (1.2532)
hongre	He <i>heng himself</i> upon a stake (2.3094)
helpe	Ther mihte noman <i>helpe himselfes</i> (3.1050), he non other vertu couthe Of craft to <i>helpe himselfe</i> with (5.961)
hyde	And sche, which mai <i>hirsself</i> noght <i>hyde</i> , Began withinne forto swelle (3.670)
kepe	And thus sche <i>kepte hirsself</i> fro schame, And kneleth down to therthe and preide Unto this man (8.1446)

1) *refl.* To rid, clear (of); to deprive (of).

2) *refl.* To plan, determine, resolve.

3) *refl.* To put or set oneself; to betake oneself, proceed, go.

4) *refl.* To control one's feelings.

5) With dat. of *refl.* pronoun: To obtain, procure, for oneself.

6) *refl.* To rejoice. *Obs. exc. arch.*

lepe	And (he) <i>lepte himself</i> therinne at ones And brende him bothe fleissch and bones(2.2301)
¹⁾ meke	And who that wole <i>himself</i> nocht <i>meke</i> To pes, and list no 'reson take, Men sein reson him wol forsake (5.7386)
mesure	he exceedeth no mesure, So wel he can <i>himself mesure</i> (5.7638)
misguide	For he may sone <i>himself miguide</i> , That seth nocht the peril tofore (8.2920)
mislede	Bot yit the world hath ofte accused Ful grete Princes of this dede, Hou thei for love <i>hemselve mislede</i> (7.4310)
misreule	Wher such thing falleth overal That eny king <i>himself misreule</i> (7.2509)
²⁾ preserve	For he his lust so goodly ladde, That bothe lawe and kinde is served, Wherof he hath <i>himself preserved</i> (7.5364)
recovere	If I be nocht myn oghne man And dar nocht usen that I can, I mai <i>miselve</i> nocht <i>recovere</i> (5.6579)
rede	Whan thei be rariet of here sped And conne nocht <i>hemselven rede</i> (4.3451)
³⁾ redresse	He seide he wolde <i>himself redresse</i> (5.5142)
rekevere	Er that thou falle in such a wise That thou ne myht <i>thiself rekevere</i> (8.2129)
⁴⁾ relieve	What man that wole <i>himself relieve</i> To love in eny other wise, He schal wel finde his coveitise Schal sore grieve him ate laste (5.2628)
⁵⁾ restreigne	though he mihte <i>himself relieve</i> , Yit wolde he nocht an other grieve (2.3179) I mai <i>miselve</i> nocht <i>restreigne</i> , That I nam evere in loves peine (7.5413) As he which hath <i>himself restrained</i> In al that evere he mai and can Out of the manere of a man (5.3052)
⁶⁾ rihte	Wher kinde wole <i>hemselve rihte</i> , After the Philosophres sein, Ther mai no wiht be therayein (5.3058)
⁷⁾ riote	The grete kingdom of Assire, Was thurgh the slouthe of his corage Falle into thilke fyri rage Of love Wherof <i>himself</i> he so <i>rioteth</i> (7.4320)
⁸⁾ schame	For who that thenkth his love spiede With moerdre, he schal with worldes <i>schame</i> <i>Himself</i> and ek his love schame (3.2199)
schake	And after that <i>himself</i> he <i>schok</i> , Wherof that al the halle quok, As it a terremote were (7.2205)
schylde	he can nocht <i>hemselve schylde</i> Fro no peril, bot out of feere The weie he secheth

1) *refl.* To humble or abase oneself.

2) *refl.* To keep safe from harm or injury.

3) *refl.* To raise (oneself) again; to reassume an upright posture.

4) To essay, presume. (S. C. in OED)

5) *refl.* To keep (one) in check or under control.

6) *refl.* To vindicate, set right, justify.

7) *refl.* To indulge (oneself) to the full in some pleasure or recreation.

8) *refl.* To be ashamed.

	hiere and there (6.1244)
serve	Bot he the Soule al only made <i>Himselven</i> forto <i>serve</i> and glade (7.514)
sette	So hihe he <i>sette himself</i> above Of stature and of beaute bothe, That him thoghte alle wommen lothe (1.2280), And sche to don hir fader heste Hir harpe fette, and in the feste Upon a Chaier which thei fette <i>Hirself</i> next to this man sche <i>sette</i> (8.763)
sitte	Thus thei defenden ous the vices, And <i>sitte hemselven</i> al amidde (4.1673)
skiere	And in this wise <i>himself</i> he <i>skiereth</i> , So that he that the worldes weyved And thurgh his Ere is nocht deceived (1.478), And for sche wolde <i>hirselve skiere</i> , Sche made comun that desport (5.1424)
slee	For wel sche wiste what it mente, And that it was to thilke entente That sche <i>hirselven</i> scholde <i>slee</i> (3.261)
¹⁾ smyte	He <i>smot himself</i> til he was ded (1.2342)
socoure	And thus the Greks lich to the bestes The men in stede of god honoure, Whiche mihten nocht <i>hemself socoure</i> (5.1320)
soffre	And thus the Pope of whom I seie, Whan that he stod on hih the whiel, He can nocht <i>soffre himself</i> be wel (2.2960)
spare	He mai nocht thanne <i>himselve spare</i> Upon his travail forto serve (4.1622)
spille	And in this wise <i>himself</i> he <i>spilte</i> With his folhaste and deth he nam (3.1446)
stanche	Thus am I drunke of that I se, For tastinge is defended me, And I can nocht <i>miselven stanche</i> (6.303)
²⁾ stille	Sche wolde nocht <i>hirselven stille</i> (8.2636)
³⁾ strange	He which wolde <i>himselve strange</i> To Pite, fond mercy so strange, That he withoute grace is lore (7.3515)
teche	And after that he <i>tawhte himselfe</i> , Whan he was ded, these othre twelve Of hise Apostles wente aboute The holi feith to prechen oute (3.2497)
tormente	And thus <i>miselven</i> I <i>tormente</i> , Til that the dede slep me hente (4.2889) And thus <i>himself</i> he gan <i>tormente</i> With such desese of loves peine (4.412)
travaile	And natheles at reverence Of him, that wolde <i>himself travaile</i> , Thei wolden nocht he scholde faile Of that he preide, and yive hire leve (5.5609)
withdrawe	<i>himself withdrawe</i> He hath fro god in such a wise (7.4486)
wreche	Sche seith that sche <i>hirselve</i> scholde Do <i>wreche</i> with hire oghne hond (4.3615)
wiste	Thei speke of nocht as for an ende, Til sche began somdiel amende, And <i>wiste hirselven</i> what sche mente (8.1221)
wyte	Thus for to moche or for to lite Fulofte I am <i>miself</i> to <i>wyte</i> (3.582)

1) *refl.* To shoot or move rapidly; to dart, rush.

2) *refl.* To compose oneself.

3) To make (a person) a stranger to (a sentiment).

4. The reflexive verbs expressing motion.

Some verbs expressing motion, mental or physical, require a dative reflexive. In OE. this reflexive dative was used as a pleonastic dative object as described by H. Sweet.¹⁾ As we have indicated, there appear verbs of motion requiring a dative object. Here a few examples will suffice to quote.

drawe	And thei <i>hem drouen</i> nerr and nerr (3.1040), The fend into the fyr <i>him drouh</i> , Wher that he hadde peine ynouh Of flamme which that evere brenneth (7.1031)
go	He <i>goth him</i> forth with hevychiere (1.1619), Unto the Cite of Athene He <i>goth him</i> forth and was received (3.1985)
haste	And for that cause in alle haste Out of the lond he gan <i>him haste</i> (3.1938), he be- gan <i>him haste</i> and cam unto his fader tyt (6.1750)
ride	The king, whan he this tale herde, Bad that thei scholden alle abyde, For he <i>himself</i> wol thider <i>ryde</i> (3.1258), Al one upon his hors gret pas He <i>rod him</i> forth (6.1667), And (Pantasilee) <i>rod hirself</i> into the field With Maidens armed al a route In rescouss of the toun aboute (4.2144)
spede	And he with alle haste <i>him spedde</i> And made him naked and al warm (5.3866), So wel sche <i>spedde hir</i> in hire youthe That sche of every wisdom couthe (8.1329)

Summary

As we have mentioned, the use of either the simple pronoun or the compound may partly depend on the requirement of metre as shown in the reflexive verbs, such as *bestere* and *bethenke*. A greater part of these verbs have become obsolete in Mod.E. A few verbs will suffice to quote here, *acorde*, *appese*, *aquit*, *assente*, *baske*, *bewhape*, *beyelpe*, *consaille*, *esmaie*, *forbere*, *glade*, etc. It is worth noticing that the reflexive verbs reminiscent of the Middle English are frequently met with in Gower's *Confessio Amantis*.

II. Passive

1. Originally the past participle used after a copula is a predicate adjective. In OE. it has its adjectival flectional ending and gradually loses its flectional termination in ME.¹⁾ In *Confessio Amantis* the past participle as a predicate adjective does not have a flectional ending. Here in this section the passive having some connection with the reflexive verbs will be described. In Gower the passive is used along with the reflexive verb. He *him clotheth* in hire cote, And sche in his *was clothed* ofte (2.2270-1). From such an example we may conclude that there is a special connection between them.

abandoun ²⁾	Moris hir Sone was corouned, Which so ferforth <i>was abandoned</i> To Cristes feith (2.1596), Sche to him <i>was abandoned</i> The ferst flour he tok aweie (5.5378)
acorde ³⁾	Thei <i>ben</i> on either side <i>acorded</i> (2.630), The world so lusti is to serve, That we with him <i>ben</i> all <i>acorded</i> (5.1935)

1) T. F. Mustanoja: *op. cit.* p. 440.

2) *pass.* and *refl.* To give oneself *to* a pursuit or course.

3) *pass.* and *refl.* To reconcile oneself, to agree.

apointe	Here wittes therupon thei caste, And <i>ben apointed</i> ate laste (1.2160)
aqueinte	Hou love and armes <i>ben aqueinted</i> (4.2137)
arme	He wolde noght ayein the toun <i>Ben armed</i> , for the love of hire (4.1701)
assente	So that in prive conseil there Thei <i>ben assented</i> forto wende (2.2539), And full <i>assented</i> in this forme, Thei token leve (8.818)
assure	He wol hire wedde, and upon this <i>Asseured</i> ech til other <i>is</i> (2.902)
avise	Thei <i>avised were</i> sone ... To sette ferst his wif in reste (1.996), Bot sche <i>is</i> other-wise <i>avised</i> Than grante such a time assised (4.279)
bethenke ¹⁾	of tuo pointz I <i>am bethoght</i> (1.1267), this I <i>am bethoght</i> (3.1250)
clothe	he him clotheth in hire cote, And sche in his <i>was clothed</i> ofte (2.2271), Whan he <i>is</i> most with softe schoures Ful <i>clothed</i> in his lusti floures (6.789-90)
conforte	Tho <i>was</i> this wofull wif <i>conforted</i> Be alle weies and desported, Til that sche was somdiel amended (1.1001)
despeire	Wherof my wittes <i>ben</i> empeired, And I ... al <i>despeired</i> (3.74), And I ... <i>am despeired</i> To winne love of thilke swete (4.3468)
drecche	I <i>am drecched</i> to the fulle Of love (4.2896)
esmaie	I <i>am</i> ... so distempred and <i>esmaied</i> (3.58)
hide	in a closet faste by The Duck <i>was hid</i> so prively That sche him myhte noght perceive (1.898)
peine	he withoute reste <i>is peined</i> With al his herte to coveite A Maiden (5.6720)
sette	he <i>was</i> upon pacience So <i>sett</i> (3.647)
tormente	The wyndes blowe upon him alle, He <i>was tormented</i> day and nyht (1.2989), Bot thanne be a thousand score Welmore than I was tofore I <i>am tormented</i> in mi slep (4.2893)

Summary

At we have mentioned, there is a connection between the passive and the reflexive verbs. In *Confessio Amantis* the passive indicating reflexivity and reciprocity is met with. Cf. the king in juggement *Was set* (2.2685), He wol hire wedde, and upon this *Asseured* ech til other *is* (2.901-2), And echon *is* with other *met* (4.2094):

III. Impersonal Verbs

1. We have surveyed the infinitive with impersonals from the standpoint of the transition from the impersonal.²⁾ Here in this article only the impersonal verbs will be treated for the purpose of the clarification of the characteristics in Gower as briefly as possible. The number of the verbs used as imparsonals is comparatively small. We meet with the impersonal used only in Gower.

3) *pass. To be bethought*: to bethink oneself.

2) *The Annual Proceedings of Gifu College of Pharmacy* No. 15. 1965, pp. 69.

2. The proleptic *IT* as subject. The type *it happed (me)*:

- befalle Ther was a king which Eolus Was hote, and *it befell him* thus, That he tou'children hadde faire (3.144), Cf. This Centaurus ... Hadde his duellinge, as tho *befell*, Of Pileon upon the hel (4.1979)
- betide And if *it scholde so betide* That I algates moste chide, It myhte noght be to my love (3.491)
- desplese though *it hir displese*, I speke it forth and noght ne leve (3.528)
- falle As he which was chivalerous, *It fell him* to ben amerous (5.654), *It fell* that Jupiter him slowh (5.106), Cf. And *fell* ther was a kniht, Sire Guilliam de Langharet, Which was upon this cause set (42.2994)
- forthenke And of my wraththe *it me forthenketh* (3.630), What mischief ... Wherof that after *him forthenketh* (3.139)
- grieve And over this a man mai lerne That ek fulofte time *it greiveth* (1.2011)
- hapne upon his weie *It hapneth him* at Rodopeie, As Eolus him hadde blowe, To londe, and rested for a throwe (4.734)
- thenke *it thoghte hem* for the beste To sette ferst his wif in reste (1.997)

3. *IT* referring to the weather.

- blase til whan the wyndes blowe *It blaseth* out on every side (2.2049)
- blowe The wynd aros, the weder derketh, *It blew* and made such tempeste (8.605)
Cf. *The Weder* schal upon thee *reine* (1.2925)

4. The Type *me semeth*.

- befalle I may you telle ... A wonder hap which *me befell* (1.67)
- behove Bot what king wole his regne save, Ferst *him behoveth* forto have After the god and his believe (7.3914)
- beseme of visage Sche hadde al that *hire* best *besemeth* (4.745)
- deigne *Him deigneth* schewe such simplese Ayein thastat of his noblesce (1.2099), Bot so fortune upon hire whiel O hih *me deigneth* noght sette (6.293)
- faile *Me faileth* ate laste That thing which I travaile fore(4.1722), For whanne *him faileth* paiement, Ravine makth non other skile, Bot takth be strengthe what he wile (5.5520)
- hungre For he mai nevere fulli fiede His lust, bot evere aliche sore *Him hungreth*, so that he the more desireth to be fed algate (6.822)
- lacke What bargain scholde a man assaie, What that *him lacketh* forto paie? (8.2432)
- laste Bot in a man yit over this Full gret divisioun ther is, Thurgh which that he is evere in strif, Whil that *him lasteth* eny lif (Prol. 994)
- like And if it falle as for a time *Hir liketh* noght abide bime (4.1182), Bot yit *hem liketh* noght to stere Here gostliche yhe forto se The world in his adversite (5.1854)

liste	what <i>hire liste</i> Sche drank (1.2553), Bot whanne <i>him list</i> to have a syhte Of gold, hou that it schyneth brihte, That he ther on mai loke and muse (5.35)
longe	My fader, of tho pointz <i>me longeth</i> To wite plainly what thei meene, So that I mai me schrive cleene (3.2760)
misbefalle	For elles, bot a man do so, <i>Him</i> may fulofte <i>mysbefalle</i> (1.459)
nede	Non other good of thee <i>me nedeth</i> (3.1311), For whanne a man is most above, <i>Him nedeth</i> most to gete him love (3.1836)
qweme	Of Demophon riht wel <i>hire qwemeth</i> , Whan he was come, and made him chiere (4.746), In good feith, Sone, well <i>me qwemeth</i> , That thou thiself hast thus aquit Toward this vice (4.966)
recche	The weie he secheth hiere and there, <i>Him recheth</i> noght upon what syde (6.1247), And sche began the wode rage, And axeth him what devel he thoghte, And bar on hond that <i>him ne roghte</i> What labour that sche toke on honde (3.664)
rewe	The proverbe is, who that is trewe, <i>Him</i> schal his while nevere <i>rewe</i> (7.1962)
seme	And forto speke of ydel fare, <i>Me semeth</i> that thou tharst noght care, Bot only that thou miht noght spede (4.1774), Non other conseil good <i>him siemeth</i> Bot such as he himselve diemeth (1.1891)
¹⁾ stonde	Thanne afteward <i>hem stant</i> no doute To voide with a soubtil hond The beste goodes of the Lond (2.2124), Bot yit <i>him stant</i> of me no fere For noght that evere I can manace (3.1524)
²⁾ suppose	Bot al to lytel <i>him supposeth</i> , Thogh he mihte al the world purchace (5.22)
thenke	<i>Him thenkth</i> welnyh his herte brekth For sorwe that he may noght fle, Bot if he wolde untrewbe (1.1700), And tho <i>me thoghte</i> that I sih A gret ston from an hull on hyh Fel doun of sodein aventure Upon the feet of this figure (Prol. 617)
thurste	The more ydropesie drinketh, The more <i>him thursteth</i> , for him thinketh That he mai nevere drinke his fille (5.254)

Summary

In *Confessio Amantis* the inverted construction such as *me semeth*, *me thenketh* are not unfrequently met with. But these impersonal constructions are superseded by the personal constructions. This phenomenon may be seen in Gower. The number of the personal constructions is much larger than that of the impersonal.

1) OED. *Stand.* 45. *TO STAND IN AWE*: Orig. 'awe' was the nominative and the person affected in the dative: *him* (*them*, *men*, etc.) *stands awe*; Const. *of*, also *from*, *to*, *with* (the object of dread). Occas. with some other sb. of kindred meaning, as *doubt*.

2) Macaulay notes as follows: the verb is used impersonally, like '*him thenketh*.' Probably the confusion between '*thinke*' and '*thenke*' gave rise to this expression. (*The English Works of John Gower*, vol. I, p. 514)