

Chivalry at Crecy

Scenario

It is the 26 August 1346 Edward III has arrived in Crecy in his county of Ponthieu near the garrison town of Calais, which he intends to lay siege to. His men are tired having been chased by the French under Philip VI along the banks of the Seine. Edward's army is battle hardened having sped across Normandy sacking Caen and destroying land. Philip meanwhile wants rid of Edward and claim his lands for France not England And so both sides meet at the little town of Crecy. Philip arrives to discover Edward has set himself up in the best defensive position facing down the hill and has already dug pits to repel cavalry charges. And so both sides meet at the little town of Crecy.

The Game

Our engagement will be fought to the side of the main battle. There is a problem however, news is spreading from the S.E of a strange sickness which kills all in its path. This sickness - the Black Death or plague will reach Crecy by the end of move 10. Each army must be off the field by the end of this move.

The Objective

- Capture the enemy commander 5 points (5 on the dice yield i.e. fight for you- ransom 6 killed)
- Secure the sword chest with sword of St George (immunity from the plague as dragons blood has magical powers) 50 points

The Troops

English:

- **Commander:** Sir de Vere (7th? Earl of Oxford)
All of de Vere's troops wear the red and yellow livery with the de Vere star.
- **Troops:**
- 3 mounted men-at-arms,
- 1 mounted herald,
- 1 mounted trumpeter,
- 16 foot men-at-arms,
- 20 archers
- **Further English troops**
- an unnamed unit of 9 vicious warriors (which includes 4 men-at-arms and 5 archers)

Total English forces: 51 figures

French & Allies:

- Commander Duc d'Orleans - France with white label of 3 points
 - 12 mounted French & Allied knights namely (with indication of their colours/coat of arms):
 - Baucicault - half red eagle on white
 - Bernard d'Armanac, Constable of France - quartered white with red lion/red with yellow lion
 - Guillaume de Martel, bearer of the Oriflamme - red hammers on yellow
 - Graf von Nassau - Blue with yellow lion
 - D'Albret - quartered France and plain red
 - Tanguy de Chastel, red and yellow stripes
 - Comte de Rohan - yellow diamonds on red
 - Graf von Rosenberg - white with red cinquefoil (flower)
 - Raguenal - black and white quarters
 - Jean of Luxembourg King of Bohemia - white lion with 2 tails
 - Graf v. Leuchtenberg - white with blue chief (bar at top)
 - 18 mounted French Crossbowmen
- 28 Genoese under the command of his Excellencia Carlo Grimaldi (comprising: 1 mounted commander, 22 foot crossbowmen, 5 foot men-at-arms)

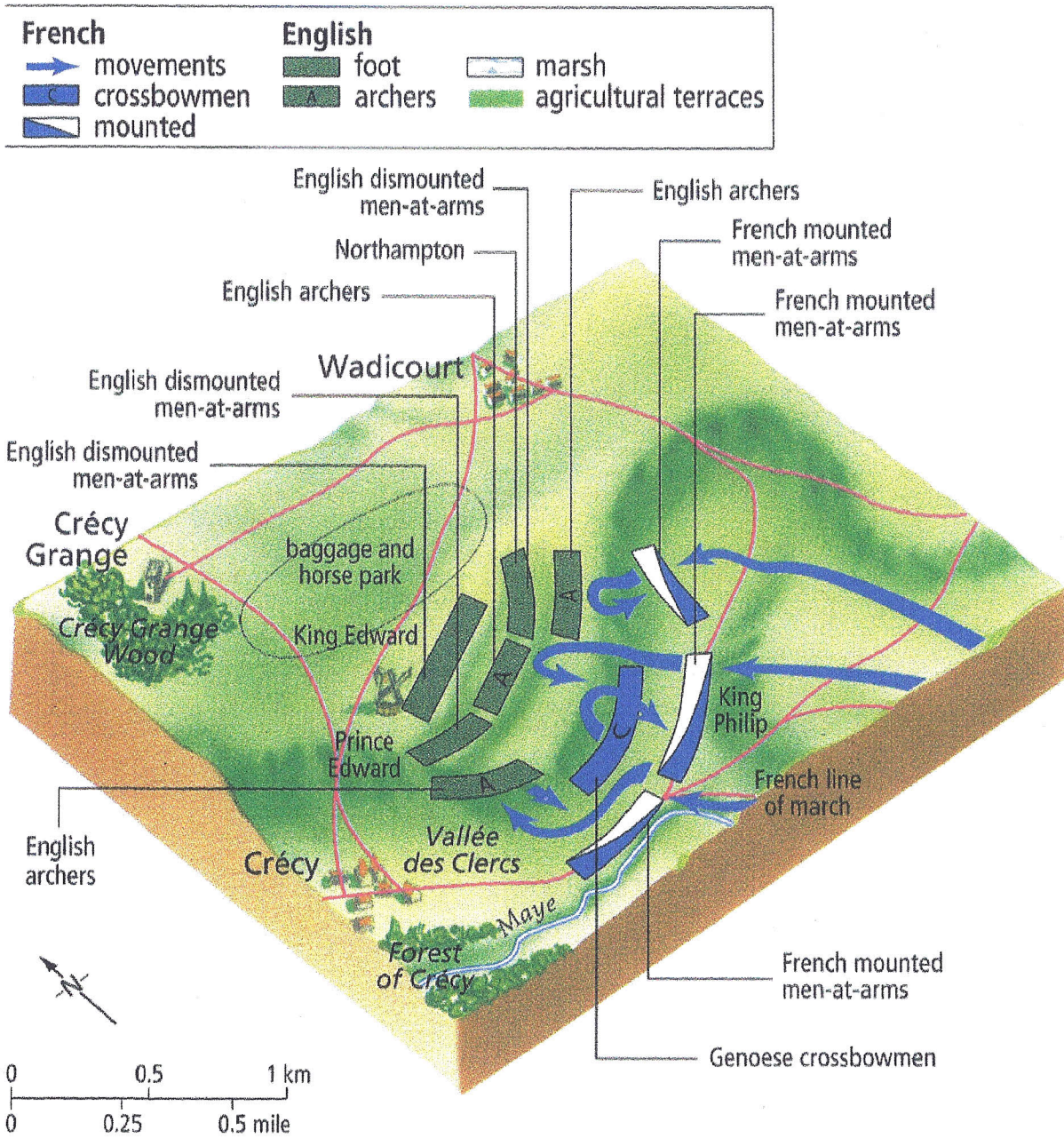
Total French & Genoese forces: 58

In addition there are the following mercenaries available:

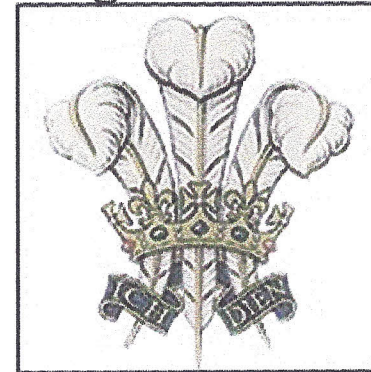
- One 4-barrel mobile cannon (Rivaldequin) manned by 4 Bavarian gunners.
 - "Singing Sepp" with one barrel of his Doppelbock Beer (freezes opponents for a move).
 - One mean monk of the holy inquisition.
- One large chest with whatever contents you may devise.

Moves

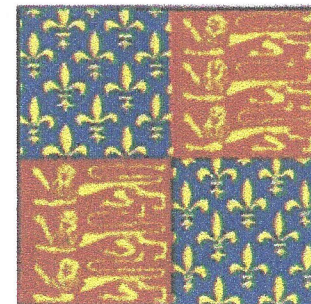
1. The game begins by players choosing their sides from the offered envelope
2. Pick mercenaries from envelope
3. Draw card to see when mercenaries arrive (moves 1-6) for each side)
4. Place troops on table
5. Draw card to see if using wet bowstrings or not 1 minus point for two moves until strings dry out.
6. Usual rules of engagement apply



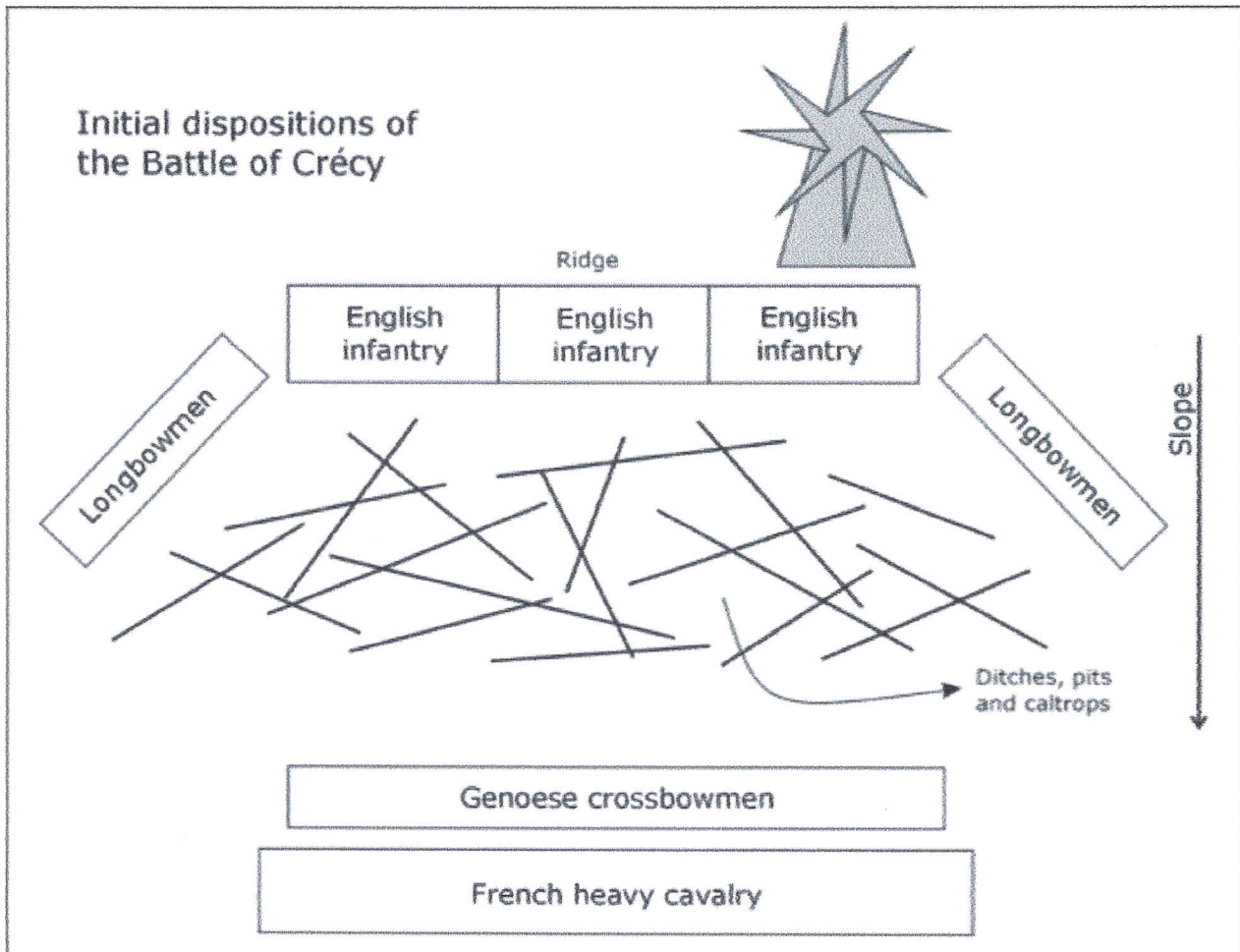
King of Bohemia's Crest



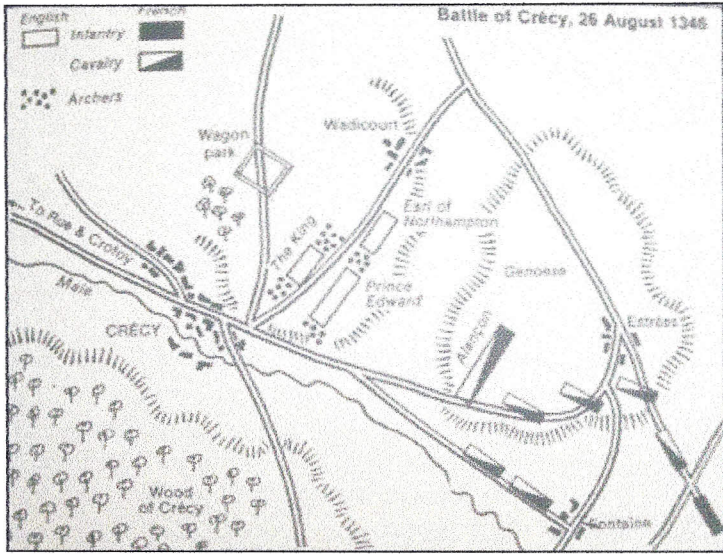
Banner of Edward III



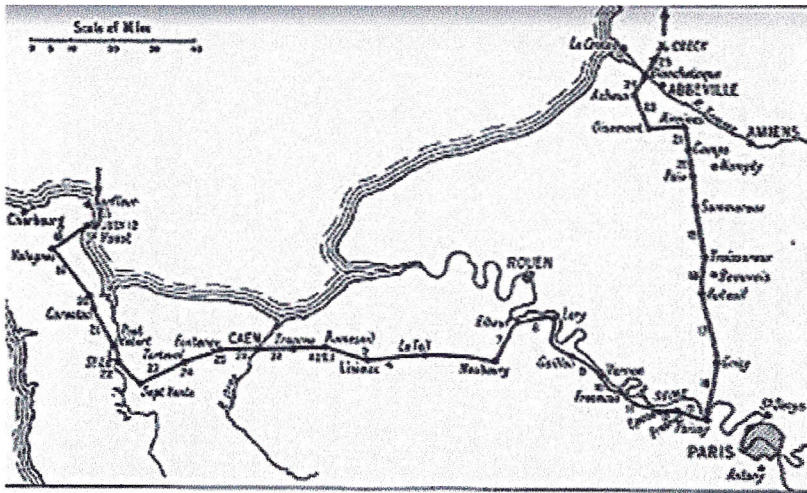
English Longbowmen against crossbows
Picture courtesy of Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris



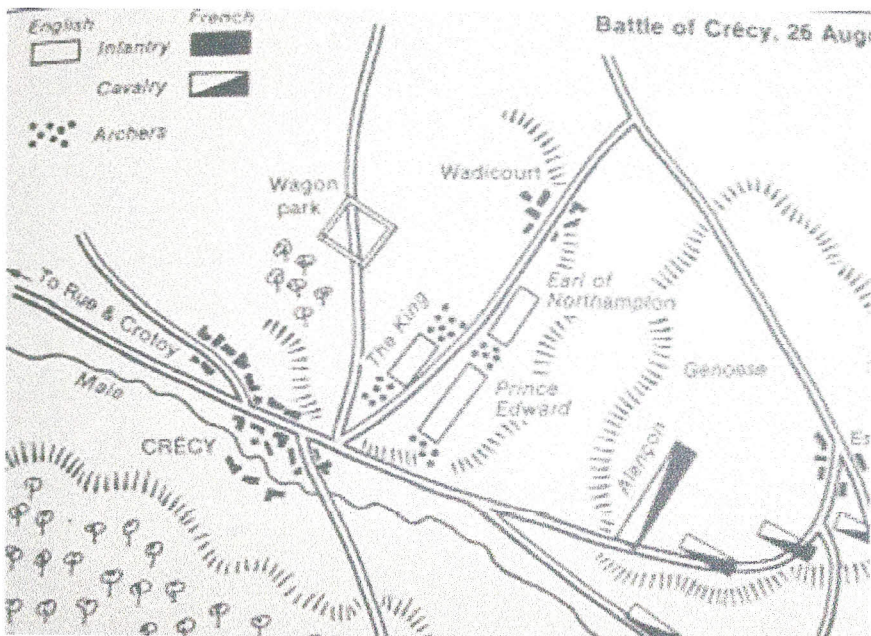
sketch of the battle of crecy



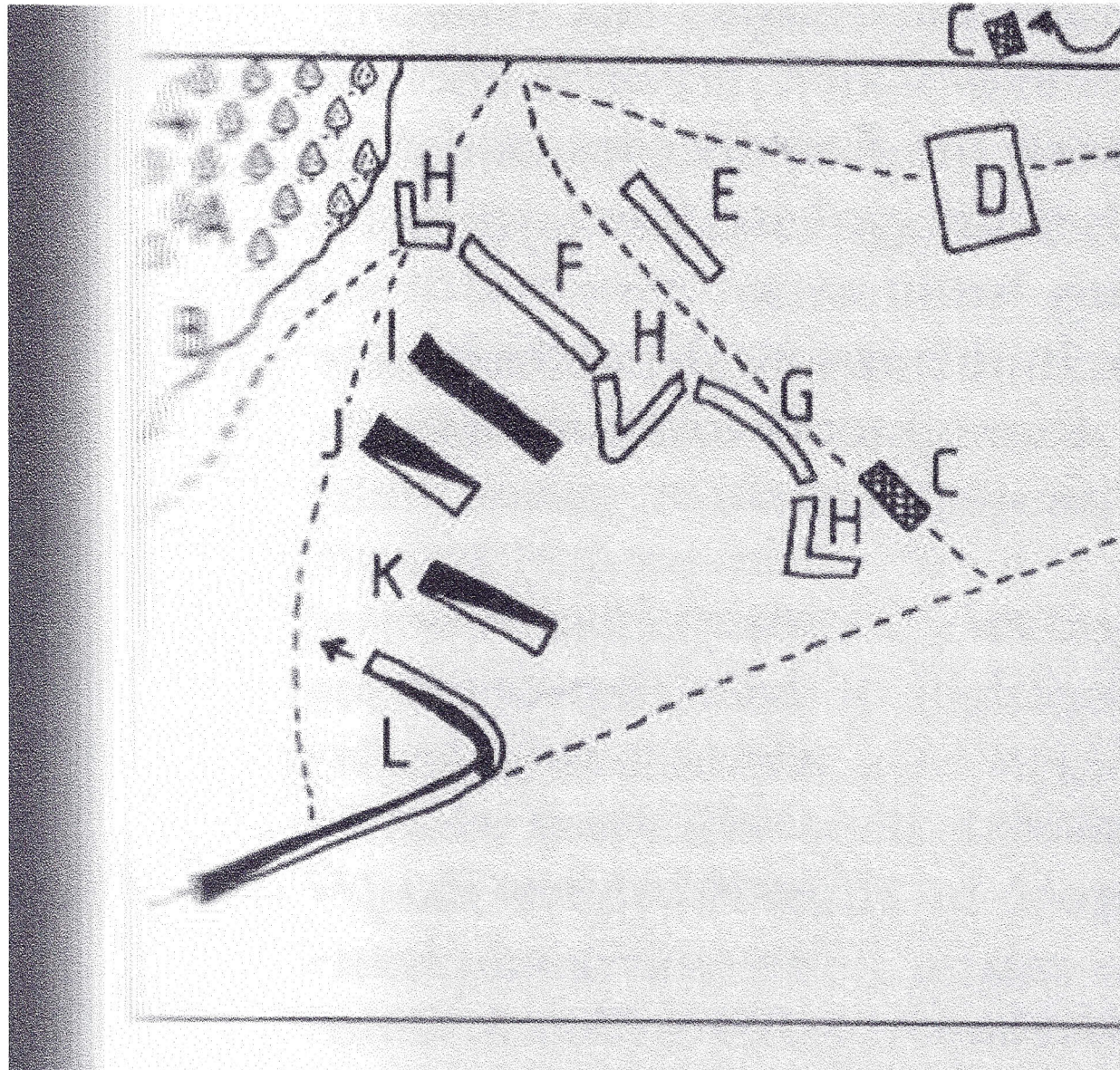
**CRÉCY
EN PONTTHIEU**



8. THE CRÉCY CAMPAIGN, 1346



The Battle Plan of Crecy 26 August 1346



4. Battle of Cr cy, 1346. The Genoese crossbowmen opened the attack but appear to have been operating without the protection of their shield-bearing pavasari and were rapidly driven back by the English longbowmen. The first French cavalry division under Alen on then charged over their own infantry but was halted by the English defensive line. Numerous such charges were made and almost broke the English line but each was driven back with great loss until the French army retired from the field (after Emerson)

- A. Woods
 - B. River Maye
 - C. Village of Wadicourt
- English forces:
- D. English camp
 - E. King Edward
 - F. The Black Prince
 - G. Earl of Northampton
 - H. Archers
- French forces:
- I. Genoese crossbowmen
 - J. Count of Alen on
 - K. Count of Lorraine
 - L. Remainder of French forming up and in column of march

William Morris (1834-1896)

The Eve of Crecy

1Gold on her head, and gold on her feet,
2And gold where the hems of her kirtle meet,
3And a golden girdle round my sweet;
4 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
5Margaret's maids are fair to see,
6Freshly dress'd and pleasantly;
7Margaret's hair falls down to her knee;
8 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
9If I were rich I would kiss her feet;
10I would kiss the place where the gold hems meet,
11And the golden kirtle round my sweet:
12 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
13Ah me! I have never touch'd her hand;
14When the arriere-ban goes through the land,
15Six basnets under my pennon stand;
16 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
17And many an one grins under his hood:
18Sir Lambert du Bois, with all his men good,
19Has neither food nor firewood;
20 *Ah! qu'elle est belle la Marguerite.*
21If I were rich I would kiss her feet,
22And the golden girdle of my sweet,
23And thereabouts where the gold hems meet;
24 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
25Yet even now it is good to think,
26While my few poor varlets grumble and drink
27In my desolate hall, where the fires sink,--
28 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite,--*
29Of Margaret sitting glorious there,
30In glory of gold and glory of hair,
31And glory of glorious face most fair;
32 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
33Likewise to-night I make good cheer,
34Because this battle draweth near:
35For what have I to lose or fear?
36 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
37For, look you, my horse is good to prance
38A right fair measure in this war-dance,
39Before the eyes of Philip of France;
40 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*
41And sometime it may hap, perdie,
42While my new towers stand up three and three,
43And my hall gets painted fair to see--
44 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite--*
45That folks may say: Times change, by the rood,
46For Lambert, banneret of the wood,
47Has heaps of food and firewood;
48 *Ah! qu'elle est belle La Marguerite.*