Selected Scandinavian loanwords surviving into modern English.

(Sources: Erik Björkman, Scandinavian loanwords in Middle English, Halle 1900:
Niemeyer; Carl Buck's comparative dictionary, 1949. ON = Old Norse, cited in
"classical" Old Icelandic spellling; OEN = Old East Norse, i.e. Old Danish and/or
Old Swedish.)

• Words with initial /sk/:

scant ← ON *skammt,* neut. & adv. of *skammr* 'short'

skate [the fish] ← ON *skata*

scathe 'injury' (cf. *unscathed*) ← ON *skaði* 'harm, damage'

sky ← ON *ský* 'cloud' (*heaven* < OE *heofon* 'sky'; OE *wolcen* 'cloud')

skill ← ON *skil* 'discernment'

skin ← ON *skinn* (*hide* < OE *hȳd*)

skirt ← ON *skyrta* (*shirt* < OE *scyrte*)

score ← ON *skor* 'notch'

scot 'tribute' ← ON *skot*

scrape ← ON *skrapa* (but also Old French *escraper* 'scratch off' ← ON)

scream ← ON *skrœmask* 'take to flight'

bask ← ON *baðask* 'bathe (intransitive)'

• Other words with non-palatalized velars (and not Northumbrian):

kettle ← ON *ketill* (partly; cf. *kirrke* ← ON *kirka* in Orrm)

kid ← ON *kið*

gear ← ON *gørvi* (OE *ġearwe*)

guest ← ON *gestr* (OE *ġiest* with /j-/ in all forms)

get ← ON *geta* (OE *ġietan* with /j-/ in all forms)

give ← ON *gefa,* OEN *giva* (OE *ġiefan* with /j-/ in all forms)

(with the two preceding contrast: *begin* < OE *beġinnan* (/j-/) but past *begann,* pl.
begunnon, ptc. *begunnen* (all with /g-/, levelled into the present stem))

• Other words with unexpected consonants:

odd ← ON *oddi* 'quarrel, odd number' (OE *ord* 'point'; the PGmc. cluster was *zd)

egg ← ON *egg* (OE *ǣġ;* both < PGmc. *ajją)

ransack ← ON *rannsaka* 'search a house' (OE *ærn* 'house'; PGmc. *razną)

run ← ON *rinna* (probably, since ME *rinnan* first in Scandinavian areas; OE usu. *irnan*, much less often *rinnan*)

Thursday ← ON *Þórsdagr* (probably; OE *Þunresdæġ*)

• Words with unexpected vowels:

aye 'always' ← ON *ei* (OE *ā*); *nay* ← ON *nei* (*no* < OE *nā*)

bait ← ON *beita* 'cause to bite' and *beit* 'food' (OE *bǣtan* 'bait (a bear with dogs)')

hail ← ON *heill* 'healthy' (*whole* < OE *hāl;* greeting *wes þu hāl* 'be in good health!')

reindeer ← ON *hreinn, hreindýri* (OE *hrān*)

though ← ON *þó* (at least in part; ME *þah* < OE *þēah*)

loan ← ON *lán* (OE *lǣn*)

• Words with unexpected consonants and vowels:

raise ← ON *reisa* (*rear* < OE *rǣran*)

weak ← ON *veikr* (OE *wāc*)

(to and) fro ← ON *frá* (*from* < OE *fram*)

both ← ON *báðir* (OE *bēġen,* fem. *bā,* neut. *bū*)

sister ← ON *systir* (OE *sweostor*)

• Other words:

ill 'evil, bad' ← ON *illr* (*evil* < OE *yfel*)

die ← ON deyja (*starve* < OE *steorfan* 'die')

window ← ON *vindauga* (OE *ēagþyrel*)

low ← ON *lágr* (OE *niþerlīċ*)

mire ← ON *mýrr* 'bog, swamp' (*fen* < OE *fenn*)

husband ← ON *húsbóndi* 'homesteader, man of the house' (OE *wer*)

bull ← ON *boli* (OE *fearr*)

leg ← ON *leggr* (*shank* < OE *scanca*)

wing ← ON *vængr* (OE *fiþeru*)

gape ← ON *gapa* (OE *ġīnan*)

root ← ON *rót* (OE *wyrttruma*)

lift ← ON *lypta* (*heave* < OE *hebban*)

take ← ON *taka* (OE *niman*)

anger ← ON *angr* 'affliction' (*wrath* < Northumbrian OE *wrǣþþu*)

wrong ← ON *rangr* (*wr-; the word was borrowed into late OE before the *w- was lost)

'crooked, wrong' (OE *unriht*)

ugly ← ON *uggligr* 'frightful' (OE *unfæġer*)

seem ← ON *sœma* 'conform to' (OE *þynċan;* early ModE *methinks* < OE *mē þyncþ* 'it seems to me')

cast ← ON *kasta* (*warp* < OE *weorpan* 'throw')

call ← ON *kalla* (OE *clipian, ċīeġan;* though *ceallian* does appear in OE, it is late and very rare and probably reflects borrowing of the ON word)

law ← ON *lǫg* (OE *ǣ*)