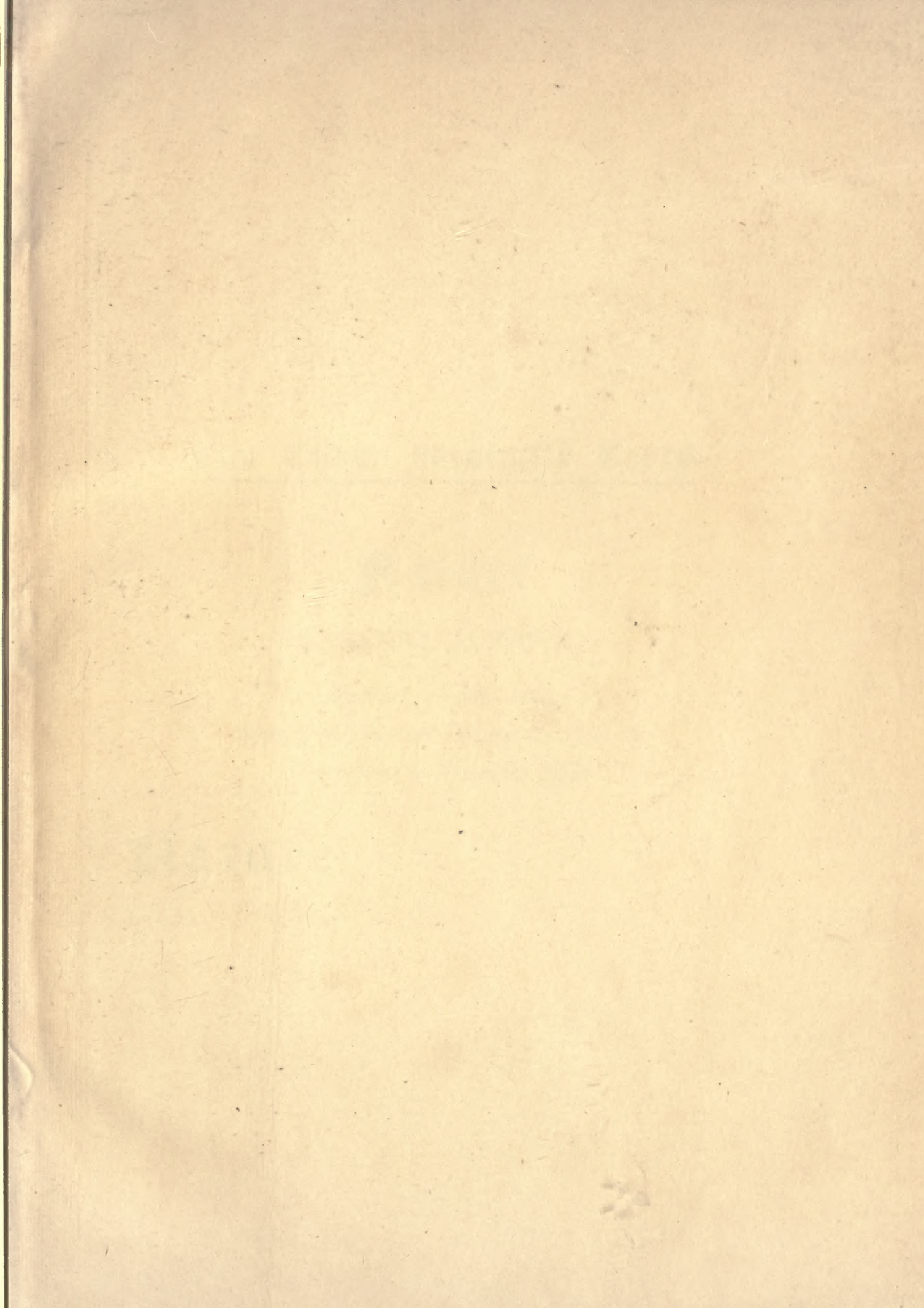


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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

**Nature**

By HENRY MEDWALL

*Written, c. 1486-1500*

*Date of only Known Edition, c. 1516-20*

*Reproduced in Facsimile, 1908*

**Nature**

1846

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# The Tudor Facsimile Texts

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[Vol. 78.]

*Under the Supervision and Editorship of*

JOHN S. FARMER

## Nature

By HENRY MEDWALL

[c. 1486-1500]

*Issued for Subscribers by*

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1486a

# Nature

BY HENRY MEDWALL

*One copy only of the original edition is known to be extant; it is now in the British Museum (G 34, e. 54). The Museum copy has bound up with it, at the end, two duplicate leaves, c i. and c iv. A fragment (A iii.) is in the Bodleian (Rawl. 4to, 598, 12). Another fragment of two pages, of some value as supplying two clipped lines (g iv., recto and verso), was found in an album consisting entirely of "Specimens of the English printers from Caxton to Robert Barker," which Sir John Fenn had collected for the completion of Ames-Herbert's "Typographical Antiquities." This volume was offered for sale by Mr. Bernard Quaritch in Catalogue No. 237, pp. 97-99, the price affixed being £280. From this source, through the courtesy of Prof. Bang of Louvain University, I am able to give these two missing lines. It has not been possible to do the like in respect to the clipped lines on leaf g i.*

*Although the original has neither date, place, nor printer's name, it was probably printed by John Rastell about 1516-20, notwithstanding the obviously erroneous B. M. Catalogue entry to "G. Rastell, London, 1538." The original B. M. copy, the additional leaves therein, and the two Bodley and Quaritch fragments are all apparently of the same edition, and it is unlikely that the play was printed more than once.*

On the other hand, the date of composition is much earlier, as it was (see conclusion of "Fyrste parte") produced before John Morton, Cardinal and Archbishop of Canterbury (1486) in Henry VII.'s time. This prelate died in 1500.

Of the author, Henry Medwall, nothing is known beyond the fact that he was chaplain to Cardinal Morton. Bale says "Nature" was translated into Latin. Medwall wrote another interlude, not now extant, "Of the Finding of Truth, carried away by Ignorance and Hypocrisy," in which a fool was introduced, an innovation which commended itself to Henry VIII. when it was produced before him at Richmond, Christmas 1516. Apart from this feature the piece was disliked, and the King "departyd before the end to hys chambre" (Bale).

Mr. J. A. Herbert, of the Manuscript Department, British Museum, having compared this facsimile with the original, reports it as "admirably done," and that "there is little to which exception can be taken." He however remarks:—

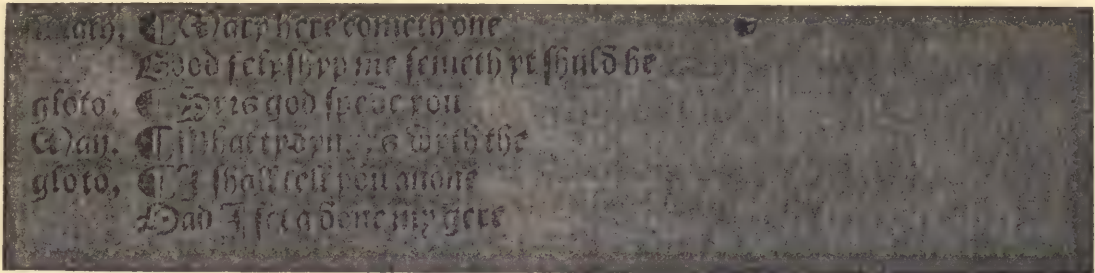
(1) Sig. a iii., recto, line 8, there is no flaw in the word "element" in the original.

(2) Sig. a iv., foot of page, the lowest and clipped line is rather more legible in original. It reads, "Sokur thy selfe man | I aduyse the hardely."

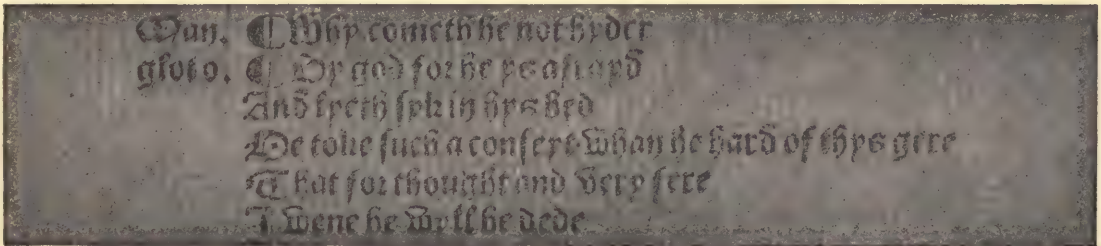
(3) Sig. a iv., verso, the last line reads, "¶ It ys a thyng | that doth ryght far excede."

(4) It will be observed that at the top right corner of the leaves figures in pencil have been inserted: those on folios 13, 17, and 19 are fainter than in original, but in no case are these pencillated numerals very clear, even in the original.

(5) *Sig. g iv.*, recto and verso, the missing lines, clipped from the foot of each page, are supplied, as already indicated, by fragments.



“NATURE”—*Sig. g iv.*, recto.



“NATURE”—*Sig. g iv.*, verso.

It may also be noted that the marks at foot of *Sig. iii.*, verso, are accidental, and are not in the original. I point this out to make it quite clear that a line in this case has not been cut away.

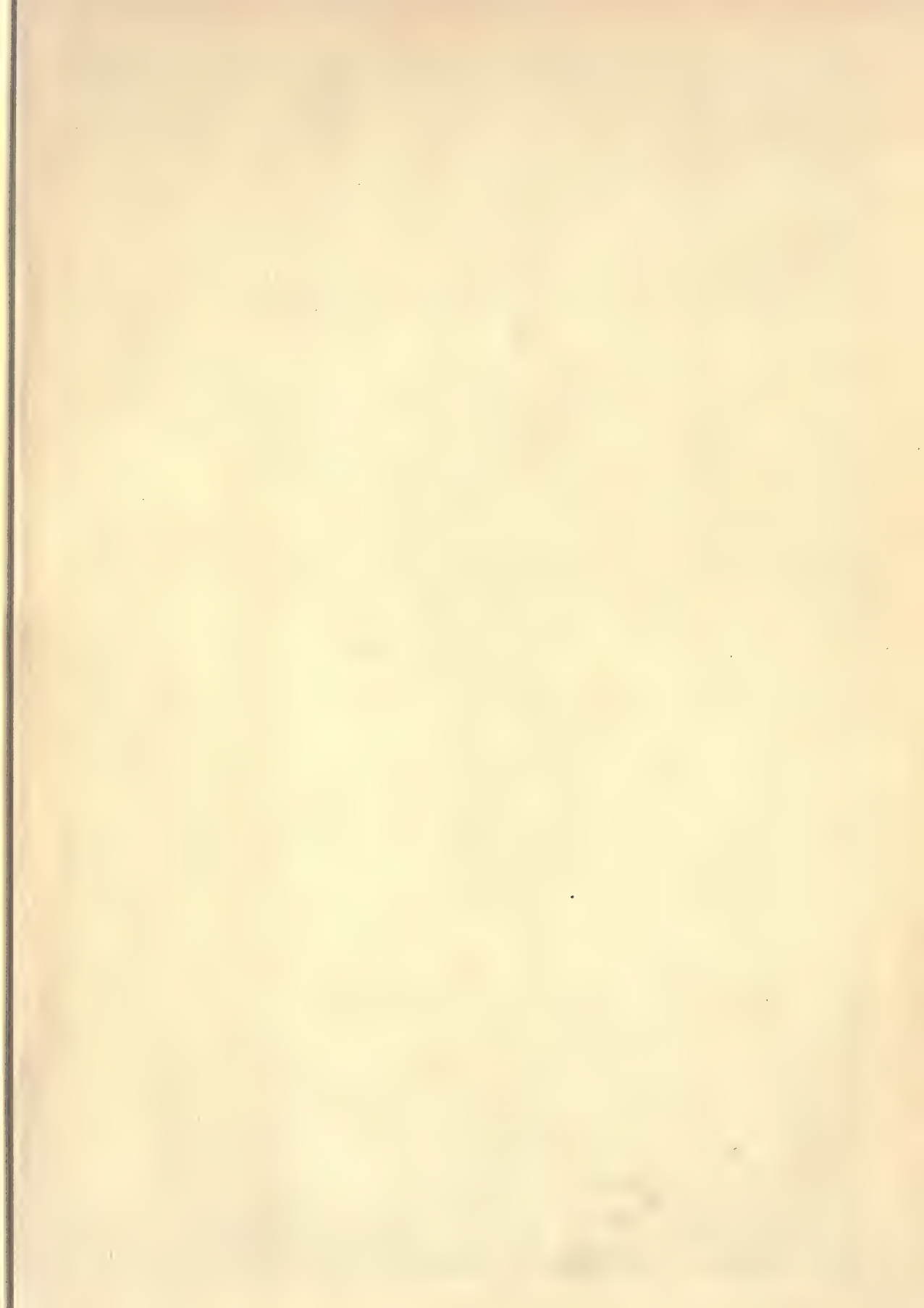
(6) *Sig. h i.*, recto, the words and letters underlined in the last three lines (the “M” of “Mary,” the “o” of “f” in second line from foot, and “ye are out” in the next and last line) are clear and sound in original. The bottom left-hand corner of the leaf is wanting, and has been replaced by a modern inlay, which shows clearly verso.

(7) *Sig. i, i., recto, there is no flaw in original at the top left-hand corner.*

(8) *Sig. i, ii., recto, the last line is clearer in original.*  
“ . . . l . . . to r (?) eforme | and order my mynde.”

(9) *Sig. i, ii., verso, in the original it is clear that the last line ends “ . . . | in thys case.”*

JOHN S. FARMER.







# Nature.

A goodly interlude of Nature cōpyld by mayster  
Henry Weddall chapleyn to the ryght re-  
uerent father in god Johan Norton  
somtyme Cardynall and arche  
Bysshop of Can-  
terburp.



**C**hryst cometh in **M**undus and syttyth do **W**n sayth  
nothyng and **W**yth hym **W**orldly affeccyon beccyng a  
go **W**n and cap and a gyrdyl for **W**an.

**C**han cometh in **N**ature/**W**an/**R**eason/**and** **I**n-  
nocencye/**and** **N**ature syttyth do **W**n and sayth.

### **C**Nature.

**C**halmyghty god/that made eche creature  
As well in heuen/as other place erthly  
By hys wyse ordynance/hath purueyd me nature  
To be as mynyster/vnder hym immediate  
for thencherson/that I shold perpetually  
Dys creatures/in suche degre mayntayne  
as yt hath pleased/hys grace for them to ordeyne

**C**ome yt longeth by naturall engendure  
thyng to contyne w/that hath spryde of lyfe  
Whycher/ne were my helpe shuld ne engendure  
But sodenly peryshe/and wax all caryse  
At wyxt thelementys/that whylom were at styfse  
I haue swaged/the old repugnaunce  
and knyt them togeder/in maner of alyuance

**C**he I haue ordeyned/the goddys Deane  
Lady of the see//and every freche fontayn  
Whycher comenly decreceth/whan she gynneth wane  
And waxeth abundant/whan she creceth agayne  
Of eb and flobe/she ys cause certayne  
and repneth as prynces/in every ple and towne

**C**hat wyth the see/ys compassed enuyron  
**C**I am causer/of suche impressyon  
as appereth wondrous/to mannyes syght  
As of flammes/that from the sterty regyon  
hemeth to fall/in tymes of the nyght  
Some shote sydelong/and some do w n ryght

Whycher causeth the ignorant/to stand in dede  
that stertys do fall/yt fallerth there none in dede  
**C**What needer yt to speke/of thyngys here by low  
as fowles/bestys/and fysshes in there kynde  
Of trees/herbys/and stones how they grow  
In whycher/men sondry and meny vertuous fynde  
Due thyng be yt sure/and thynk yt in your mynde





No maner creature / may take on hys /  
Of these workes / but onely I nature  
And playnly there ys / in erthe no maner thyng  
That ys not partynr / of my influence  
I do prouyde / for euery beste lypunge  
Of naturall foode / alway suffyence  
And geue them also / a maner of prudence  
Wherby they may / naturall yense  
Thyng that ys delectable / and thother exche  
Who taught the col / hys watche how to obserue  
And syng of corage / wyth shryll throte on hys  
Who taught the pellycan / her tender hart to carue  
For she nolde suffer / her byrds to dye  
Who taught the nyghtyngall / to recorde herself  
Her strange entunys / in splence of the nyght  
Certes I nature / and none other wyght  
But yf that I / shold clepe to memoire  
Eche strange effecte / and euery great meruayll  
That I haue caused / I ensure you saythfully  
That rather tyme / than processe shuld me sayll  
ye were your payne / and to me but trauayll  
All suche maters / as now to byng in place  
Wherfore I let passe them / tell other tyme and space  
But yf ye couet / now to know the effecte  
Of thyngs naturall / by trewe conclusyon  
Counsell wyth Arystotell / my phylosophet electe  
Whiche hath left / in bokys of hys tradycon  
How euery thyng / by heuynly constellacon  
Is brought to effecte / and in what maner wyse  
As far as manys wytt / may naturallly compryse  
Wherfore sayth god / of hys great largesse  
Hath thus entyched me / wyth docter of hys grace  
And made me as who sayth / a wordly goddesse  
Of duty I can / no lesse do in thys case  
But wyth hart ioy / and entyere solace  
Wyselfe addresse / to do hys hygh pleasurs  
And to thys same / moue all other creatures  
Enforce you therfore / hys creatures eche on  
To honour your maker / wyth humble obeyfance  
Namely thow man / I speke to the alone  
Wyfore all other / as chyef of hys creance  
Thynke how he / hath made the to thys semblance  
Pluck vp thy hart / and hold thy head wyght

and euer more/haue heuen in thy spghe  
**T**hy de in hys boke/cleped the transfounacyon  
 among all other hys fables and poesyes  
**M**aketh specyall/mensyon of thy creatyon  
**H**e thyng how god/wonderously gan deuyse  
 what he the made/and gaue to the thempyse  
**O**f all thys world/and feoffed the wyth all  
 as chyf possessyoner/of thyngys mortuall  
**I**n token wherof/he gaue the vpryght vsage  
 and gaue the in commaundement/to lyst thyn eye  
 vpon to warde heuen/only for that vsage  
**T**how shuldest know hym/for thy lord almyghty  
 all other bestys/as thyngys vndorthy  
 to behold therth/wyth grouelyng countenance  
 and be subdued/to thyn ober saunte  
**B**ut as touchyng/the cause specyally  
 wherfore I haue ordeyned the/thys nyght to appete  
 It ys to put the/in knowlege and memoire  
 to what entent/thow art ordeyned to be here  
**I** let the wyth/thou arte a passanger  
 that hast to do/a great and longe vpage  
 and through the world/most be thy passage  
**A**ddresse the selfe/nod to wardys thys iournay  
 for as nod thou shalt/nolenger here abyde  
 lo here Reason/to gouerne the in thy way  
 and sensualyte/vpon thyn other syde  
 but reason I depute/to be thy chyf gyde  
 wyth innocencye/that ys thy tender norpce  
 Euermore to bene the/from thappetye of vpe  
**O** lord of lordes/my lord god immortuall  
 to the be honour/and ioy euer to endure  
 whose heuenly empyre shall neuer be fynall  
 but world wythout end/remayne stable and sure  
 whom heuen and hell/and erthly creature  
 wyth one assent/and all wyth one accorde  
 honour eth/prayseth/and knowlegeth for theyre lord  
**T**o the myne hed/I humbly inclyne  
 thankyng thy grace/that fyrst hast ordeyned me  
 to be as a sply creature of thyn  
 and after that/of thy great bownte  
 thou hast me set/in souerayne degre  
 and gpen me the profettyes/of euery erthly thyng  
 as well of scutys/as of bestys lypunge

May.







and that that ys / also most precyouse  
thou hast me enspyred / w<sup>th</sup> heuenly wysdome  
wherby I may / do workys meruaylouse  
In euery place / where soeuer I come  
Of eche perfeccion / thy grace hath lent me some  
So that I know / that creature no where  
Of whose vertue / I am not partnyer  
¶ I haue as hath / eche other element  
among other in thys world / a comen beynge  
w<sup>th</sup> herbes and trees / contynuall noysshement  
that ys suffysant / to naturall lypynge  
w<sup>th</sup> sensuall bestys / I haue a maner of knowynge  
wherby I shuld / in good thyng<sup>e</sup> delyte  
and flee the contrary / of myne appetyte  
¶ And ouer all thys / thou hast gyuen me vertue  
surmountynge all other / in hygh perfeccion  
that ys vnderstandynge / wherby I may auer  
And well dyscerne / what ys to be done  
yet for all that / haue I fre eleccion  
Do what I wyll / be yt euill or well  
And am put in the hande / of myne o<sup>wn</sup> counsell  
¶ And in thys poynt / I am halfe angelyke  
vnto thy heuenly spyrytes / almost egall  
albeit in some parte / I be to them vnylike  
for they be ordeyned / to endure perpetuall  
and I wretched body / shall haue my funerall  
When yt pleaseth / thy grace so to prouyde  
¶ May ys not ordeyned / alway here to abyde  
¶ Wherfore vnto thy souerayne and hygh estate  
Most heuenly prynce / I make myne oryson  
H<sup>ow</sup> yt hath pleased / thy noble grace algate  
that I vnyworthy / of so great renowyn  
In thys world / shall haue possessyon  
thou gyue me grace / my selfe to enure  
as may me profyte / and be to thy pleasure  
nature. ¶ God hath herd thy prayer / makynd no dout  
In all thy requestys / and ryght full petcyon  
Now forth thy iourney / and loke well about  
that thou be not / deceyued by fals prodycyon  
Let reason the gouerne / in euery condycyon  
for ys thou do not / to hys rule inclyne  
yt wyll be to thy great myschef and ruyne  
¶ I wot well sensualltye / ys to the naturall

And graunted to the / in thy furst creacyon  
But not wrythstandyng / yt ought to be ouerall  
Subdued to reason / and vnder hys tyepon  
Thou hast no wylbertye / and nedest no mayntynspon  
And yf thou abond the / to passyons sensuall  
Face wyle thy lpbertye / thou shalt wax thral

*sensua  
lyte.* ¶ What lady nature / haue I none intreffe  
As well as reason / or innocency

Thanke ye thys lady / a good processe  
That they are anaunced / and I let go by  
ye knowe ryght well / that I ought naturally  
Byfore all other / to haue of hym the cure  
I am the chiefe perfeccyon of hys nature  
¶ Alas what coude / the sely body do  
Di ho wyl sholde yt lye / ne were the helpe of me  
Certes yt could not well / clype nor go  
At the lest wyse yt shuld / neyther fele here nor se  
But be as other / incensate bodys be  
In mouche wurs case / than wormes o fthe grovnde  
In wyche vnneth / any tokyn of lyfe ys founde  
¶ We semeth yt shuld / abhorre hym for to here  
That I destrayned / shuld be in any wyse  
Standyng that I / was create to be hys fete  
Of all hys gudyng / to take thenteryse  
And now ye put me out of hys seruyce  
And haue assigne / reason to be hys gude  
Wryth innocencye hys noyse / thus am I set a spde  
¶ Ye clype hym lorde / of all bestys luyng  
And nothyng worthy / as far as I can se  
for yf there be in hym / no maner of felynge  
Ne no lyuely quynnes / what lorde ys he  
A lorde made of clothe / or karued out of tre  
And fareth as an ymage / graued out of stone  
That nothyng elles can do / but stande alone  
¶ If ye intend / hym to contyne wylonge  
In honour / or worldly felicyte  
Be most nedys folow / hys apetyte amonge  
And conferme hym selfe / to the more parte  
I tell you men / wyl haue no deunte  
to do seruyce / or homage to a block  
all the world wyl / thynk yt but a moch  
¶ Suffer me therfore / to haue wryth hym a come  
and to be wryth hym / as chiefe counsell





and yf he do so / I thynk to dome  
He shall reyn in the world / as chyef gouerner  
But yf Reason / tytyll hym in the ere  
Dybere hym on hand the how ys Wood  
He shall neuer be able / to do cribly good

natur.

My frend as I / sayd to you byfore  
a Rome shall ye haue / no man sayth nay  
But reason must be / preferred euer more  
for he can best lede hym to the way  
Of vertue and grace / wherby he may  
Longest contynue / to goddys hygh pleasure  
To y whych end / god hath ordernd this hys creature  
Content thy selfe / now wyth Reason my frend  
And medyll the no further / than thou hast to do  
Thou hast brought many a man / to a wrecched end  
And so thou woldyft spyl / hys creature also  
But what so euer he say / take no hede therto  
Wythout that Reason / wyll also do the same  
for who so doth the contrary / deserueth myche blame  
God and I Nature / haue set the in better case  
Than any creature / vnder the firmament  
Abuse not man / abuse not thy grace  
Of god almyghty / that from aboue ys sent  
Thou shalt be the fyrst / that shall repent  
If euer thou fle / Reason and sue foly  
Whay onys thou felest / the sinert of mysery  
But be of confort / hardely god shall send  
Both gostly ayd / and worldly helpe also  
And I shall neuer / sayll vnto thy lyff end  
Compyster vnto the / as me oweth to do  
Lo pender the world / whych thou must nedys to  
Now shape the thyder / there ys no more to say  
Thy lord and myne / gupde the in thy way  
Then Nature goeth out.

sensu a

Well lady nature leue / ye me in thys case  
Shall I haue of you / none other confort  
By cryst yet / wyll I not hyde my face  
for as sone as we / shall to the world resort  
I put no doubt / he wyll me support  
He hath ben my good mayster meny a day  
And he wyll not se me / thus cast away

Reason.

Be not so passionate/ne yet so surpouse  
thou turmentyst thy selfe/and dotyst not w<sup>th</sup> h<sup>y</sup>  
No well aduysed body/wyll demean hym thus  
Be sure thy mynde/is all erronpous  
thou takyst a selfe well/and wrong oppnyon  
Whycher shalbe thyn and others confusyon

**sensua** **C**ye Reason spry ye speke/lyke a noble man  
but yet are ye take/wyth a popnt of our t<sup>h</sup>spghe  
What wold ye make me/stand as a lordan  
And not speke one word/for myne own t<sup>h</sup>ghe  
I se ye well/that yf your lordshyp myght  
By meanes possyble/onys byng ye about  
your selfe shuld be a ruler/and I but a cast o<sup>u</sup>e

**Rea.** **C**A ruler:certes and so I w<sup>o</sup>ght to be  
and a lord also/though ye say ye in scorne

**sensua** **C**A lord:whose lord. **Rea.** Thy lord  
**sensua** **C**May so mote I the

thou l<sup>y</sup>est/ye may no lengat be forborne  
thou camyft but to nyght/ & mayst hap go to morne  
for yf thou be as haute/as thou begynnest  
thou shalt auoyd/myche sonar than thou w<sup>e</sup>nyft

**Rea.** **C**As for myne auoydaunce/how sone so euer ye be  
It shal not skyll/as for thys intent

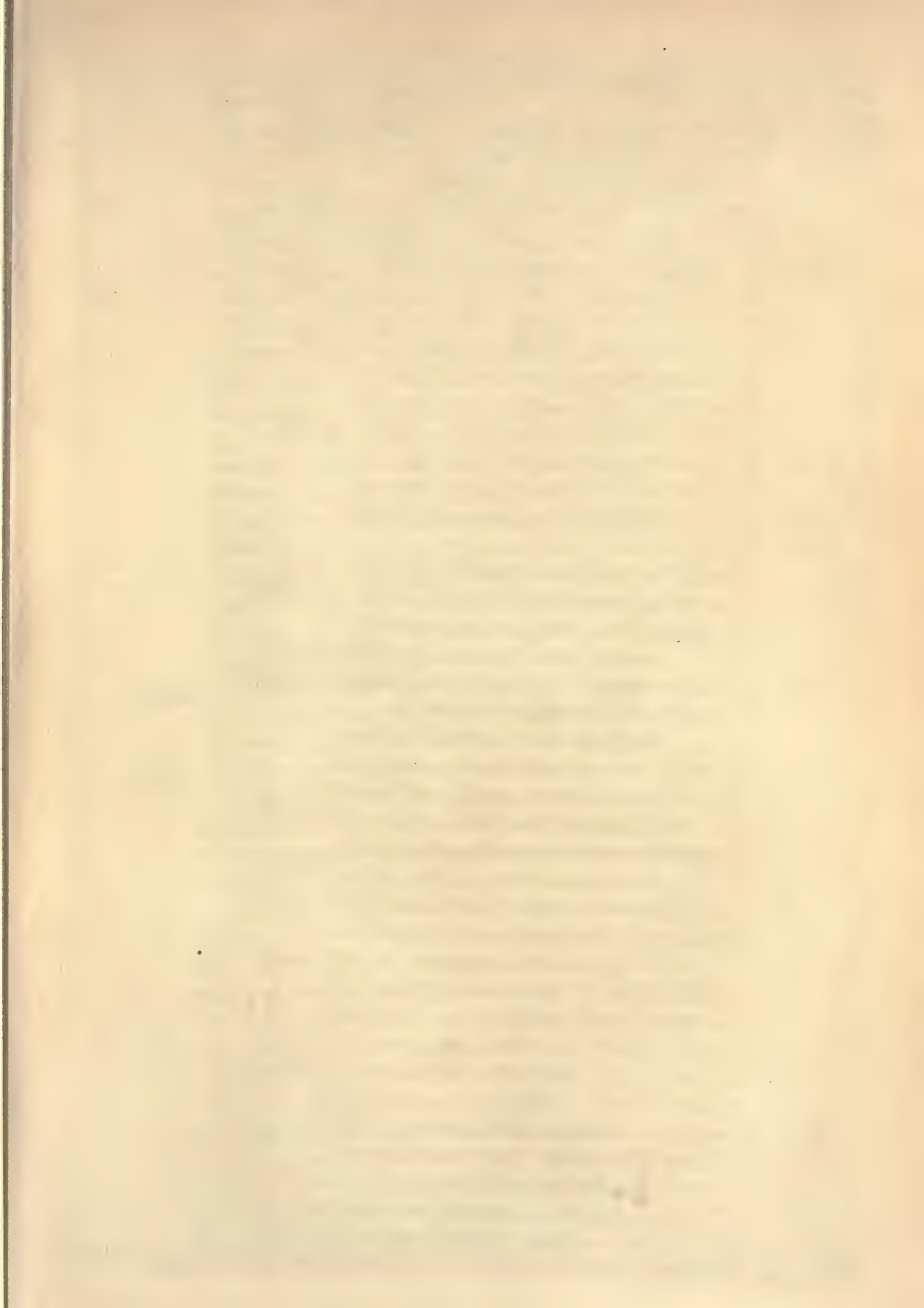
But he that fyrst sleeth/or forsaketh me  
He shall haue grettest/occaspon to repent  
It shalbe to hys great trouble and turment  
that he hath lest Reason/and supd hys own foly  
that therby ys fallen/to wretched penury

**C**But now as touchyng/the honour and degre  
that I am ordeyned to/I wyll thou vnderstand  
that almyghty god/of hys grace and bountye  
Of the and suche/hath g<sup>r</sup>uen me the ouer hand  
And wyll that I vse/the as a seruand  
to aduise the and reforme the/whan thou g<sup>r</sup>yst to erre

And to clepe the homward/yf thou capll to far  
**C**And where thou sayst/thou art so necessary  
that man wythout the/can haue no l<sup>y</sup>uyng  
as in that popnt/we shall not myche vary.

I wote thou art necessary/to hys byng  
But be thou sure/that ys not the very thynge  
That maketh hym/to appere so wonderouse  
and to be in hys nature so noble and precyouse

**C**It is a thynge that doth engh<sup>t</sup> far excede







All other percepts/and Vertuouse naturall  
for sensualite/in very dede

Is but a meane/Whiche causeth hym to fall  
In to moche foly/and maketh hym bestyall  
So that there ys no dyfference/in that at the lest  
Byt wyth man/and an vnreasonable best

But this other/cometh of great tenderaice  
and spryтуall loue/that god oweth to mankynde  
Whom he hath create/to hys owne semblaunce  
and endued/with a wonderouse mynde  
Wherby he may well dyscerne and synde

Suffysant dyfference/byt wyth good and bad  
Whiche ys to be lest/and whiche ys to be had

Lo thys ys yt/that doth hym dygnyfy  
and causeth hym to be/reputed so excellent  
and of all thys/the chyef doat am I

Whiche from heuen in to erth by god am sent  
Only for that cause/and fynall intent

That I shuld thys hys creature/demean and gyde  
for the season that he doth in thys world abyde

Now compare thy vertues/and myne togeder  
and say whiche ys/the worthpar of them to

*sensua* Whiche ys the worthpar: forsoth I trow neyther  
we be good felowys. *Re.* Nay my frend not so  
Thou ought to obey me/where so euer I go

*sensua* Nay that shall I neuer do/for to dye  
I shalbe thy felow be/loke thou neuer so hys  
And therefore hardely/be somwhat felowly  
Leue thyn hard conceyts/and take a metely way  
for shame of the world man/let vs not styk  
at a mater of ryght nocht/and trauers here all day  
Haue me in feid wordys man/and hark what I say  
Wedyll thou in no poynt/that belongeth to me  
and I shall promyse the/never to medyll wyth the

And standyng the nonage/of thys gentylman  
On my partell/take no care therefore  
I shall demean yt/as well as I can  
till he be passyd.xl.yerys and more

and reason then/ys ye wyll vnder shore  
Oys croked old age/when lusty youth ys spent  
Than take vpon you. I hold me content

For trust ye me/the very trowth ys thys  
thys man ys put/in hys owne lybertye

And certainly / the free choise ys hys  
Whether he wyll be gouerned / by the or by me  
Let vs therefore put yt / to hys owne iopardye  
and therein stande / to hys arbitrement  
To whiche of vs wayne / he had leuer assent

Rea. **C** May sye not so / I know hys frailte  
the body ys / dysposed for to fall  
Rather to the worse / than the better parte  
But yt be holpen / by power supernall  
sensua **C** yet Reason / when thou hast sayd all  
yf thou se hym not / take hys owne way  
Call me cut / when thou meetest me a nother day

Rea. **C** for cartayne yet / accordyng to myne offyce  
I must aduertyse / and counsell hym at the lest  
to haue vertue / and seeke all vyce  
And therein assyst hym / to the vttermost  
and yf he wyll / alwaye be a best

Inno. **C** hys I shall answer / for thys man as yet  
that he ys mayden / for all suche folp  
as shold dystayne nature / or dyshonour yt  
brought vp wyth me / full well and tenderly  
wherefore I dare / the suretye testyfy  
for innocencye / that he ys yet vrgyn  
both for dede / and eke consent of syn  
**C** And lengar wyll not I be of hys acquaintance  
than he ys vertuose / and of good lypnyng  
for fleschly lust / and worldly pleasure  
ys wyth innocencye / nothyng accordyng  
But yf hys behayour / and dayly demeanyng  
be of suche draught / as reason wyll allow  
I shall hym fauour / and loue as I do now

sensua **C** well spoken and wysely / now haue ye all done  
Or haue ye ought ellys / to thys man to say

Rea. **C** sye ye. **C** sensualtye. pece no more of thys dysputacye  
Here be many fantasyes / to dyspue forth the day  
that one chatreth lyke a pye / that other lyke a iay  
And yet when they both / haue done what they can  
Wagge theym teeth / I shall rule the man

**C** Man.

**C** O blessyd lord / what maner stryfe ys thys  
At wytt my reason / and sensualtye





That one meneth well/and that all other amysse  
In one ys sekerne/s/and in tother great frayste  
And both they be/so annexed to me  
That nedest I must/Wyth one of theym abyde  
Lorde as thou thynkyst best/for me do proude  
For I am wonderoussly/entwyled in thys case  
and almost brought/into perplexyte  
Not wythstandyng/thanked be thy grace  
as I dyd neuer assent/ne aggre  
To thyng that sholde/be contrapouse vnto the  
Of synfull ded/and thought all innocent  
Subduyd to reason/as hys obedient

**Rea.** C Cryst graunt you therein/good contynuaunce  
to be euer/of the same mynde and intent  
But now wyll ye call/to your remembraunce  
for what cause/ye be hyder sent  
I hold yt well done/and ryght expedyent  
that ye were brough/vnto the worldys presence

**Man.** C Ye yt so in goddys name/I pray you go we hens

**Rea.** C And wyll ye that I/shall for you declare  
vnto the world/the cause of your comyng  
What ys your intent/and what parson ye are

**Man.** C Ye I wold be glad/that euery thyng  
be done euen/after your deuyssyng

**sensua** C Shall I than stand/as I were tong tyde

**Man.**

**Rea.** C Ye hardely/tyll reason haue sayd  
C Hyr world/yt ys the mynde and also pleasure  
Of lady nature/as she had vs to you tell  
that ye accept/and receyue thys her creature  
Wyth you for a season/here to dwell  
Despyng you hartely/to entreat hym well  
Wyth all the fauour/that ye can deuyse  
Wherin ye shall do her/great pleasure and securye

**C The worlde.**

C Hys ye be welcome/to vs hartely  
your message ys/to vs ryght acceptable  
Ye ye assured/there ys nothyng erthly  
to vs so ioyfull/ne yet so delectable  
As to be acquaynted/wyth parsons honorable  
Name ly souch/as ye seme to be  
Men of hygh honour/and of great dygnyte

C And as touchyng the message/that ye haue brought

2  
Gave therof/the full mynde and intent  
Assuryng you that our bysy thought  
Shalbe to do/dame nature's commaundement  
and thereunto/We Wyl be dyligent  
To do her pleasurys/in that We may  
And so We wold/ye shold to her say  
¶ And were ye she w/unto me that thys man  
Is ordeyned to reygne/here in thys empyr  
I assent well/for or nature began  
To shape the world/she thought spnally  
to ordeyne man/therin to occupy  
¶ We to take vpon hym/as myghty gouernour  
Gauing all thynge/subdued to hys power.  
¶ Wherfore I receyue/gretly hys comyng  
Mankynde spr/hartely welcom ye be  
ye are the parson/without saynyng  
that I haue euermore/despyed to se  
Come let me kys you. O benedycte  
ye be all naked/alas man why thus  
I make you sure/yt ys ryght perplous.

¶ Man.

¶ I thanke you/but I neede none other besture  
Nature hath clothed me/as yet suffysantly  
Spyles of spy/and as a mayden pure  
I were on me/the garment of innocencye  
¶ I were hardely were that garment continually  
¶ It shall thy body/suffysantly sauegard  
from stormy weder my lyfe to reopard

Inno.

¶ The worlde.

¶ We peere/sapie woman ye ar not very wyse  
Care ye not/ys thys body take cold  
ye must conspyer/thys ys not paradyse  
¶ We yet so temporate/by a thousand fold  
Whose so lyueth here/be he yong or old  
¶ We must suffer/both secuent cold and hete  
And be out of temperaunce/oft tyme in hys dyet  
¶ Also he must nedys/do as the worlde doth  
¶ That intendeth any whyle/here to reygne  
And folow the gyse that now a day goth  
As for as hys estate/may yt mayntayne  
And who doth the contrary/I wyl be playne  
¶ We ys abject/and dyspyssed vterly  
and standeth euer bane shed/from all good company







**T**hyth god therfore/had ordeyned thys body  
To dwelle here/in thys earthly region  
Of conuenyence/he must hym selfe apply  
To worldly thynges/and be of suche condycyon  
As all men be/and leue eche fond opynyon  
That ys not approuable/of wysar men than he  
to take suche way/yt ys but fanyte.

**T**ake thys garment/man do as I you byd  
Be not ashamed/hardely to do yt on  
So lo/nod thys gurdell/haue gurd yt in the myd  
And thys for your hed/go set yt vppon  
By the charge of me/you be a goodly on  
As euer I said/syth y I was borne  
Worth a thousand/that ye were before.

**G**yue me your hand/be not in fere  
Syt down/as ye at borne to occuppe thys place  
I gyue you here/auctoryte and power  
ouer all thynges/that conceived ys in the space  
Of all the earth/that rownd ys in compasse  
To be as lord/of euery region  
and therof I gyue you/possyble possessyon.

**M**ay.

**B**lessyd be thou/my lord most bounteous  
that of thy great/abundant cheryte  
Me thy wretched creature/hast honoured thus  
With naturall gyftees/and worldly dygnyte  
Now I beseke the/for thy great pyte  
Syth thou hast set me/in so noble way  
Suffer me not here after/wretchedly to decay

**F**or certes yt ys/myne hartys desyre  
So to demayn me/in thys lyfe present  
As may be most/vnto thy pleasure  
and vnto nature/not dysconuenient

**T**hys ys my wyll/and my chiefe intent  
thys wyll I obserue/thy grace to borrow  
though I therfore/suffer mouche worldly sorow

**Rea.** **F**orsoth these wordys/be gretly to allow  
yf they scome meke/and so wyl hart procede  
Now mankynde/syth thou hast made thys vow  
Escape the thereafter/thy lyfe to lede  
And let thy world/be consyn to thy dede  
that ys to say/do thou none other wyse

**Inno.** **T**han thou here openly/to god dost promyse

Ye spyt and euer/loke that ye abstayne  
Not onely from dede/But also from the assent  
So that ye commyt/neither of the ymē wayn  
yf ye wyll obserue/the hygh commaundement  
for surely ye may/not be cleped innocent  
Nor gyltles of syn/as for as I can fynde  
yf onys ye assent/to foly in your mynde.

**¶ Mundus.**

**¶** Thys ys an harde word/spster that ye haue spoken  
An hard worde surely/and an heuy sentence  
But thynk ye goddys/commaundement broken  
for a lyght tryfull/and mater of insolence  
Alas haue ye suche a spced conscyence  
That wyll be entyched/wyth euery mercy thought |

loqui-  
ad ho.

Leue yt woman leue yt. for yt ys nought  
**¶** And man as for you/ye shall not take that way  
That maner of obseruaunce/ys to hard and strayne  
ye must attempte the world/and therein assay  
Whether ye can lyue/after that endrayte

These .ii. folk/hary both on restrayne  
and euer enbespeth the ym/to rebuke you of syn

**¶** That neuer was spotted/ne found gylty therein  
take none hede of the ym/the yre wordys be but wynde  
and as for thys tyme/I commaunde the ym to splence  
And let vs se no w/how prately ye can fynde  
By sage polycy/and worldly prudence

To mayntayne the state/in honour and reuerence  
that ye shall be in/whyle ye in the world dwell  
Speke of thys mater/and ponder yt well

**¶** Christ me semeth necessary/to prouyde  
What maner folkys/pour sacrauntys shall be  
for surely ye ar/nothyng accompanyde  
accordyng/to a man of your degre  
ye haue here wyth you .ii. parsons or .iii.

That pleaseth you happely/in the best wyse  
yet yt appereth not so/to euery mannyes ges.

**¶** What may ys thys?

**¶** May.

**¶** Reason spy my chyef confelour  
And thys innocency/my noryce hydetto  
And sensualyte that other/by whom I haue power  
To do/as all sensate bestys do  
But reason and innocency/chyefly these two





Give the hole rule / and governey of me  
 To whom eke ye subdued / my sensualyte  
 For cartayne spr / reason hath done me Wrong  
 More than ever he shalbe able to recompense  
 God knoweth spr / I thought / the season very long  
 Tyll we were brought / into your presence  
 But now I pray you / to adnull the sentence  
 That nature gaue into me / by reasons adurpe  
 to my great hurt / and vityr preindpce  
 And spr / I aske / none amendys ertibly  
 But that reason / may haue a chek mate  
 A lytell knack / a lytell prayty congy  
 Dye haut corage / some thynge to abate  
 for hyder to / he hath kept great estate  
 And had of me / the ouer hande and strengar  
 But ye not dyspleased / I wyll suffer yt no lengar  
 ¶ Mundus.

Thou hast had great Wrong / and that ye pyte  
 for ys thou be the parson / that I take the fore  
 thou sholdyft be / as honorable as he  
 Lord ye say Well / but woldgod ye wold se  
 Some maner helpe / and remedy for thys euyl  
 And let me not alway / lyue thys lyke a dryupfl  
 ¶ Mundus.

Spr ye know Well / that ys so yt were  
 A man shold sodenly / come to a straunge place  
 Wherin he ys / but alyand and straunger  
 He must nedys be / compelled in that case  
 to put hym selfe / in the fauour and grace  
 Of some syngler person / that can she w hym the way  
 Of all the behauour / and gyse in that contray  
 So yt ys now / that ye be hyder sent  
 thys contray as yet / to you vnknowen  
 In myne oppnyon / yt ys expedient  
 to take some other counsell than your adwne  
 Of Well enured men / suche as haue growne  
 In worldly experyence / and haue therof the dryft  
 And can best for you / in tyme of nede shpft  
 ¶ Domo.

Certes ye moue / ryght Well and prudently  
 and I am Well content / that yt so be  
 But as yet / haue I not the polycy  
 To know whyche men / haue most abylyte.

**Mun.** **G**ive ye comynge/the mater vnto me

**homo.** **T**he spryght well/I am fully content

That all thyng be done/by your assygnement

**Mun.** **T**hus I wyll/that aboute all thyng  
from hens for ward/ye be lyke and conformable  
vnto other parsones/in all your demeanynge  
Namely to suche/as be companable  
Be they neuer so vncpouse/or abhomytable  
for euery man/clepyth hym wyse  
That doth after the comen gyse.

**A**nd as for men/that shold do you seruyce

I knowe dyuers persones/that be ryght honorable

That can you serue/at day poynt deuyce

In all the worlde/be there none so able

Do wyse/so polypke/ne yet so prospitable

Lo here ys one of the ym/that I speke fore

and he hym selfe can tell you/where ye shall haue more

**W**orldly affectyon ys thys manys name

Be ys well brayned/and wonderous of inuencyon

a fore castyng man/and payne of shame

ye shall not fynde/in any crysten regyon

a wyse felow/in thyngys to be done

Specyally of maters/that be concernyng

Worldly pleasure/that ys for you accordyng

**S**uffer hym therfore/neuer to departe

But ys yt be/for maters of great substaunce

and for sensualyte/I pray you wyth all my harte

To accept hym to your fauour and tendraunce

Be hath ben longe/of myne acquayntaunce

and on my faryth/my harte can not but grudge

To thynke that ye shold vse hym as a drudge

**D**o as he aduyseth you/hardely now and then

and dyspysse not/bitterly hys counsell

Thynke that ye be here/a worldly man

and must do as men/that in the world dwell

ye ar not bounde/to lye lyke an aungell

Ne to be as god/at day immutable

Manys nature/of hym selfe ys full mysferable

**I** haue tolde you now/my counsell and aduys

And ye haue promysed/to be ruled thereby

Now let eche man/execute hys offyce

and se how wyselfe/ye can theym occupy

To encrease the world/and yt therto ye must apply







Now addresse you therto/and demeane you thus  
I shall be to you/ever good and prosperous

Man. **C**hr I thank you/of thys curtesy  
Vnderseued as yet/but be ye sure  
I shall my selfe/endeuour by selfe  
to do that may be/to your pleasure  
And for the season/that I shall her endure  
I shall therein cherpyce/and to my power mayntayne  
That vnto you in any wyse do partayne

p Wor. **T**han to bygyn wryth all/I wyll aduryse you  
to put thys man/from your company  
I tell you/euery man wyll despyse you  
As long as ye/be ruled by innocency  
to folow suche counsell/yt ys but foly  
for he can neyther good neyther euyl  
and therfore he ys taken/but for a dyspyll

Man. **B**y my fayth/euyn as ye say  
It lyketh me not ryght well  
Wryth innocency longe to dwell  
therfore accordyng to your counsell  
I wyll not after thys day  
Wryth hys company my selfe assure  
As me wet as yt were a gray scere  
I suppose there ys no man here  
What soeuer he be  
That could in in hys mynde be content  
all wayes to be called an innocent  
Wherfore yt ys myne intent  
to do as ye aduryse me

p Wor. **C**ye hardely do euyn so  
Inno. **F**orsoth and I hold me well content  
to departe at your commaundement  
ye shall fynde me obedyent  
What soeuer ye byd me do

**H**ere innocencye goeth out.  
sensua **S**o the company ys well amended  
Let hym go to the deuyll of hell  
He ys but a boy I warn you well  
and shuld ye folow hys counsell  
All myghty god defend  
yf euer ye lust to play the man  
It ys tyme th at ye now bygan  
Wary to play the boy now and than

For your support and comfort  
It forceth not though ye do  
Whan ye may haue leysur thereto  
And among I wyll helpe you also  
In due tyme and place

**p Wor.** **C**ye that ye wyll in dede  
But now s<sup>r</sup> wyll ye any thyng  
Commaund me byfore my departing

**Man.** **N**othing at all to my departing  
But our lord haue you in hys keeping  
And send you well to spede

**p Wor.** **W**orldly affeccyon come byder/ye are possyble  
and myche better enured/in thys world than I  
I pray you dyspose for me/as ye thynk most lykely  
That I may lyue here well and honorably

**p Wor.** **C**ye s<sup>r</sup> I shall. Doubt ye not hardely  
yf yt lykely you/to put me in so great trust  
And I trew ye shall fynde me/trew and iust

**Man.** **I** wote well I shall. Surely you be bound  
To the world/that hath gyven you so great commendacyon

**p Wor.** **C**ye s<sup>r</sup> some men had leuer than a thousand pound  
They myght be commended/of the same fassyon  
But s<sup>r</sup> let passe/all thys commendacyon  
and answer to me/I pray you frute fully

In that I shall meue you/substantyally

**C**hyr at f<sup>r</sup> wordys/I you exhorte

W<sup>th</sup> that ye be come to your own

Cast your selfe to bete suche a porte

That as ye be/ye may be knowen

Eke yt ys necessary/for that behou

that there be made/some maner of puruyance

Wherby/ye may bere out your countenance

**C**wyll yt lykely you therfore/that I suruey

And se the extent/of all your land

and there bypon/in all the hast puruey

Both for you and yours/all maner of byand

W<sup>th</sup> other byenspittys/redey at your hand

So that ye be purueyd/all tymes ecely and late

Of eche thyng/that belongeth to your estate

**Man.** **C**your counsell ys good/do as ye thynk best

I comyt all suche thyng/to your dyscrecyon

**I** shall do my trew/byspnes at the lest

To byring all thyngs/to good conclusyon





**Man.** **C**an you woulde affectyon/ye make no mentyon  
Who shuld a wayt/and geue attendaunce

**W.aff.** **W**hat ye haue Sensualyte/ax neuer other counsell  
Of suche mater/he can you best adurpe  
He knoweth where/all suche maner parsons dwell  
as he moste apte/to do you worldly sarupce

**sensua**

**T**hen he goeth out.

**C**ye on my parcell spr./I shall take the enterpryse  
Of all suche maters/and loke where I fynde  
any man of pleasure/on hym set your mynde  
So wyll ye se lo/here cometh one

**Man.** **E**uen the last man/that was in my thought

**W**hat ys he. **S**ensua. ye shall se anon  
a well drawn man ys he/and a well taught  
That wyll not geue hys hed for nought  
And therto goodly/as ye shall se in a day

**pip.co.** **A**s well apparelyd/at eche poynt of hys arap

**W**ho dwelleth here/wyll no man speke  
Is there no sole nor hody peke

**N**ow by the bell yt were almys to breke

**S**ome of these knaues brode

**A** gentylman comys in at the doore

**T**hat all hys dayes hath worn gyllt spere

**A**nd none of thys knaues nor cutted hoore

**W**yddeys hym welcom to house.

**W**ote ye not how great a lord I am

**O**f how noble progeny I cam

**M**y fader a knyght my my moder callyd madame

**M**yne aunceters great estatys.

**A**nd now the spuelod ys to me fall

**B**y both theyre dethe natural

**I** am spoken of more than they all

**D**ens to parys gatys.

**H**ow say ye spryt by myne arap

**D**oth yt plea se you ye or nay

**I**n the best wyse I dare well say

**B**y that ye knowe me a whyle

**A**nd one thyng I put you out of doubt

**I** haue wher wyth to bere yt out

**A**s well as any man here about

**W**ythyn the se hundred myle.

2. hold n. oppor my h. 6

a starryng colour of scarlet red

I promise you a fyne threde  
and a soft wull

It cost me a noble at one pyche  
The scald eapper sware sythpyche  
That yt cost hym euen as myche  
But there Deyde had a pull

I loue yt well to haue syde here  
Halfe a wote byneth myne ere  
for euer more I stande in fere  
That myne nek shold take cold  
I knyt yt vp all the nyght  
and the day tyme kemb yt do wnyght  
And the yt cryspeth and shyneth as byght  
as any pryled gold

My doublet ys on laced byfore  
A stomacher of saten and no more  
Rayn yt snow yt neuer so sore  
We thynketh I am to hote  
Than haue I suche a short gown  
Wyth wyde sleues that hang a bowyn  
They wold make some lad in thys towyn  
a doublet and a cote

Some me wold thynk y this were pryde  
But yt ys not so ho ho abyde  
I haue a dagger by my syde  
yet therof spake not I  
I bought thys dagger at the marke  
A sharp point and a tarte  
He that had yt in hys hart  
were as good to dye

Than haue I a sworde or dwayn  
To bere them my selfe yt were a payne  
They ar so heuy that I am fayne  
to puruey suche a lad

Though I say yt a praty boy  
It ys halfe my lynes ioy  
He maketh me laugh wyth many a toy

The vichyn ys so mad  
I begate the horion in hast  
It was done all in hast  
yt may se there was no wast







He occupp'd no yet in place  
Sometyme he seruethe me at borde  
Hometyme he bereth my two hand sword  
Com forth thou lptell lyk lord  
Ioke in thy faders face  
But now to do that I com fore  
And of these thyngs to speke no more  
Dark spys me longeth fore  
To here some ne welie  
I here say there ys a great state  
Com in to thys contray late  
And ys dysposed algate  
an housholder to be

Thaters soule spys/ye shall vnderstād  
That yf he kepe houshold in thys land  
I wyl threst in one hand  
Who so euer say nay  
What so euer the man intend  
To appayre the world or to amend  
I wyl be wpth hym at that one end  
Dap what hap may

I mete worldly affeccyon ere wylle  
From thys to wñ shant a myle  
and he hath she wed me a piaty wphle  
If I may put yt in dre  
He tellys me that sensualyte  
Begynnys a great rular to be  
and yf yt be so/care not for me  
The mater ys cok sure

By good lord what may ys that  
fathers soule thys ys some great wat

garcia? C Thys ys he that ye seeke  
Dyde C He thys brat

Thys boy ys passng taunte  
Com behynd and folow me  
Set out the better leg I warne the

garcia? C Yes in the best wyse trust ye me  
ale sergnour ale house auant

Dyde C Salu? to you spr. C Wā. & to you also  
Whens are ye

Dyde C I shall tell you or I go  
But fyrst wold I speke a worde & no mo  
Wpth thys saruant of yours

sensua **W**yth the spr. Woide ye sprete wyth me  
Dyde **E**ye for god are ye not Sensualyte  
sensua **E**yes surely. **D**yde. ye such a gentylman ye seme to be  
sensua **E**yout pore saruaunt at all howis  
**T**hen Dyde spekeith to Sensua./in/hys  
ere that all may here.

Dyde **H**r: I vnderstand that this gentylman is borne to great  
fortunes and intendeth to inhabyt therein the contray. And  
I am a gentylman y alway hath be brought vp wyth great  
estates and afferd wyth them and yf I myght be in lyke fa-  
uour wyth this gentylman I wold be glad therof / & do you  
a pleasure.

sensua **W**here ys your dwellynge

Dyde **I** dwell her by

sensua **W**hat ys your name

Dyde **D**yde

sensua **D**yde:

Dyde **E**ye spherly

But I am cleped worshyp comensly  
In placys where I dwell.

sensua **W**orshyp now in sayth ye saw trew  
ye be radix viciozum. Rote of all vertye.

Dyde **E**ye ye man ye wolde say so yf ye me knew.

sensua **T**urd I know you well

Hr: ye are welcom as I may say  
I shall byng you in secupce yf I may  
And yf one man stand not in the way.

Dyde **O**ne man what the deuyll ys he

sensua **B**y god one that loueth not the  
Nor me neyther.

Dyde **I** pray the tell me

What maner of man he ys  
And I shall gve hym a lyft as I gesse

sensua **W**ylt thou so doublelesse.

Dyde **E**ye and that wythin a short processe

In sayth I wyl not mysse.

sensua **S**urely I can not spy the wayes how

Dyde **L**et me alone I shall do well ynow

Aquaynt me wyth that man and care not thou  
The mater shall spede

sensua **D**ark cosyn fyrst spede thys mater

And yf pender man make the not good chere  
As ony man that euer cam here





**Dyde** **C**hyr I shall tell the howd whan I am in  
To thy maysters secyurce I wyll frst begyn  
To set hys hart on a mercy pry  
And byd hym make good chere  
I wyll byd hym/thynk how he ys create  
To be a worthy potestate  
And eke that he ys predestynate  
to be a prynces pte  
And other thyngys more than thys  
I shall byng that hart of hys  
To be more howd than yt ys  
By a de wyse ase  
Specrally I wyll commend hys wy  
That no man can amend yt  
And that he ys able therby to syt  
as a iuge in comen place  
And when I prayse hym thys wyse  
I thynke hys hart wyll begyn to ryse  
and after that vtterly despyse  
any opray counsell to here  
He shall trust all to hys own brayne  
and than wold Reason neuer so fayne  
Though he come and suche opry wayn  
He shall be neuer the nere

**sensua** **C**surely thys consert ys well found  
I shall byng the in secyurce for twaynty pound

**Dyde** **C**ramercy brother I thynk me mych bound  
To the for thy curtesy  
But syr abyde here on thyng  
I wyll not be knowen that yt ys my schyng

**sensua** **C**No more wold I for .xl. shelyng  
Let me alone hardely

**sensua** **C**hyr ys yt please you here ys come a straunger  
That neuer was aquainted wyth you ere  
Somwhat shame fast and halfe in fere  
To put hym selfe in prese  
A goodly parson be ye sure  
Both of countenance and of feature  
If he were drawy in portapture  
And a good man doubtes  
ye and a wyse man at all  
Wyll yt please you that I hym call

to speke w<sup>th</sup> you. ¶ **Ma.** h<sup>yd</sup> h<sup>ym</sup> com. ¶ **He.** I shall

h<sup>er</sup> w<sup>ill</sup> ye come nere.

**sensua** ¶ **He.** h<sup>yd</sup> h<sup>ym</sup> welcome for the maner sake

Another day I am sure he w<sup>ill</sup> crake

And say suche a gentylman d<sup>yd</sup> h<sup>ym</sup> make

Very great chere

Desyre h<sup>ym</sup> for to dwell w<sup>th</sup> you

I tell you he ys a man for your pro<sup>fit</sup>

and knoweth the world well I now

No man better than he

**Man.** ¶ **He.** ye be welcom to thys place

**Dyde** ¶ I thanke you s<sup>r</sup> but I do you trespase

to come thus homly. ¶ **Sensua.** ye a parlous case

God wote ye are welcom bedet

On my fayth by my w<sup>ill</sup>

ye shall dwell w<sup>th</sup> vs styll

So nere to h<sup>ym</sup> and talk your fyll

I leue you togedet

¶ **He** goeth forth.

**Man.** ¶ **Now** s<sup>r</sup> what haue ye to say to me

**Dyde** ¶ No great thyng s<sup>r</sup> but I come to se

And to know what maner man ye be

That all men prayseth so mouche

**Man.** ¶ **Prayse** whom prayse they. ¶ **Dyde.** Mary you

**Man** me. ¶ **Dyde.** ye s<sup>r</sup> I make myne auow

They g<sup>ue</sup> you a prayspng good I now

I harde neuer none suche

and surely ye be ryght w<sup>orthy</sup>

I se well now they do not ly

and therefore I d<sup>yd</sup> my h<sup>yd</sup>et by

To acquaint me w<sup>th</sup> you

But ye may say that I am bold

**Man.** ¶ **May** ye at worth thy weyght of gold

We thenketh me to you myche behold

I pray you what ys your name

**Dyde** ¶ **My** name ys w<sup>urshyp</sup>. ¶ **Man.** w<sup>urshyp</sup> now surely

The world told me yt was my destiny

To come to w<sup>urshyp</sup> or I d<sup>ye</sup>

**Dyde** ¶ **Truly** I am the same

**Man.** ¶ **Now** w<sup>urshyp</sup> I pray you me tell

your w<sup>ysedom</sup> and also counsell

ye can aduertise me passyng well

In thyngs that I haue to do







**Dyde** **I**n good fayth any thyng that <sup>mi.</sup>  
May do to your pleasure yt ys redy  
I am your own and pray you hartely  
That ye accept me so  
But where ye aske counsell of me  
We semeth ye saue not your honeste

**May.** **M**yne honesty. Wherfore let se  
I pray you shew me why

**Dyde** **M**ary syr for yt ys ryght spyttyng  
That a man of your behaupng  
Shuld haue alway suspypent conyng  
Of worldly wyrt and polycy  
To guyde hym selfe euery where  
And not to be led by the ere  
And beg wyrt here and there  
Of euery iak a ppe  
ye are well complexyon'd be ye sure  
And nature hath done on you here cure  
As myche as vpon any creature  
that euer I saw wyth myne eye  
And by lykelyhod syr I wys  
ye haue wyrt accordyng to all thys  
Drethys nature hath brought a mysse  
And that ys not lykely

**May.** **N**ow certayne thanked be heuen kyng  
I haue a ryght quyk vnderstandyng  
If ye shew me any thyng  
I can sone perceyue yt  
But I was so byd by reason  
On myne own fantasye to con  
Di to take any presumpcyon  
Of myne own wyrt

**Dyde** **S**ayd read so. Mary sy on him linaar  
yt were better þ hāgmā where i his graue  
than euer the lewd fole shold haue  
the gouernaunce of you

**May.** **C**ertayn nature adurped me  
to folow reason what tyme that she  
Put me fyrst in auctorite  
that I stand in now

**Dyde** **A**las alas man ye be mad  
I se well ye be but a deerp lād  
On my fayth I was very glad

Of your frst acquayntaunce  
And now I forthpnt yt vtterly  
That euer I knew you sp sp sp  
I had neuer certaynly  
Of suche a nother chaunce  
Wyll ye draw to that felyschyp  
I wold ye had .iii. steypes wth a whyp  
Euen vpon the bare hpp  
If I shuld you not greue  
Or that wold lordshyp enioy  
And playe euer styll the old boy  
We semeth he doth but make a toy  
And ye wyll me be true

Man. **W**urshyp for goddys sake greue ye not

Dyde **W**ys ye ar but an ydeot

I pray you spr make not me a sot

I am no tryfler

I haue bene in honour here to some

ye alow the counsell of a barle boue

Byfore myne I haue yt in scoune

It ys a thyng I can not bere

Man. **W**hom meane ye Reason

Dyde **T**he that same daid

Man. **W**hat ys he a wyse man

Dyde **H**e ys astraid

Bycause he keppe you vnder a d

ye be therin blynd

Man. **A**nd so doth he wthout sarpnyng

for byderto I myght do nothyng

but after hys wyll and byddnyng

And that groged my mynde

Dyde **G**rouge q a yt ys no maruell hardely

It shall greue me certaynly

As longe as I am in your cumpany

To se you demeaned in that wyse

ye be now in good way

but in faryth I lyke not your aray

It ys not the fasspon that goth now a day

for now there ys a new gypse

It ys now .ii. dayes a gon

Byth that men bygan thys fasspon

And euerly knaue had yt anon

Therefore at thys season





.iiii.

There ys no man that setteth there by  
If he loue hys owne honesty  
Man. **C**ome semeth certaynly  
That euery man ys freffer than I  
And I wps that ys no reason

**C**here cometh in worldly affect. & Sensua.  
sensual **C**Reason quod ano no

But syr wote ye what ye shall do  
Hardely let vs. ii. go  
To some tauerne here by spde  
Com on I can byrnyng you there  
and let them alone wpth all thys gere  
Care ye nothyng for the mater  
but let them here abyde  
And ye wyl suffer and let them alone  
ye shall se them deupse you a new fasspon  
That all the world shall wonder thereon

Man. **C**By god that wyl I do goodly  
but I pray you syrs do your dplygence  
for thys aray and spare none expence  
and for a whyle I wyl go hens  
And come agayne shortly

**C**here Man and Sensualyte go out.

D.aff. **C**Brother Dypde now the weyght  
Of all thys mater resteth in the

Dypde **C**Thusse thou shalt se me deupse it eue streyght  
It ys but iapes that gere wpth me

I haue none other study a dayes parde  
but how I may new fasspons fynde  
and thereon I set all my labour and mynde

**C**Syr our mayster shall haue a gown

That all the galandyngs in thys towne  
shall on the fasspon wonder

It shall not be sowded but wpth a lace  
bryd wpxt euery some a space

Of two handfull a sonder

**C**Than a doublet of the new make

Close byfore and open on the bak

No sleue vpon hys arme

Under that a shryt as soft as sylk

and as whyte as any mylk

to bepe the carcas warny

**C**Than shall hys hosen be streyght

W<sup>th</sup> corselettyes of fyne velvet slyped  
Down to the hard kne  
And fro the kne down ward  
Hys hosen shalbe freshely gard  
W<sup>th</sup> colours.ii. or thre  
And whan he is in suche aray  
There goth a cutter men w<sup>ll</sup> say  
a cutter huf a galand  
ye shall se these soles on hym gase  
and muse as yt were on a mase.

**D.aff.** New brought into the land  
Ha ha ha now by the mary vpryng  
Thys w<sup>ll</sup> set hym on a mery pyng  
Euen as yt shuld be  
But euer I am in great fere  
That Reason w<sup>ll</sup> dysturbe hym in the ere  
and torne hys mynd clene fro thys gere  
Thys thyng seereth me

**Dyde** Reason nay nay hardely  
He ys forsaken vtterly  
Hyt I cam to hys company  
He wold not onys appere  
Neuer thelesse for a surte  
Worldly affeccyon I aduise the  
as shortly as euer yt may be  
for speche of the mater  
To byng hym shortly in acquaintaunce  
W<sup>th</sup> all the company of myne assyaunce  
and let theym gyue contynual attendaunce  
Euery man bysly  
after the propertye of hys offree  
Than shall ye se hym vtterly dospree  
Reasons counsell on warantyse  
and forsake hym vtterly

**sensua** Nay nay spris care ye nothyng  
That mater ys sped well and syne

**Dyde** Is yt so. **Sensua.** ye by heuen kyng.  
Euen as we sat togeder at the wyne

**D.aff.** Thou shalt haue goddys blessing and myne  
but ys yt true

**sensua** O ye spr by thys day  
Our mayster and Reason haue made a great fray

**Dyde** How so







**sensua** **C** By my fayth We sat together  
at the tauerne next herby  
And anon who shuld come together  
but fleyng hat and margery  
He that bygyled you parde so prately  
and bare away your shryt the last mornynge  
Hiede of her smok whyle ye lay sleppng

**Dyde** **C** I wote whom ye meane well I now  
but that ys nothyng to thys purpose  
Tell on thy tale for god auow

**sensua** **C** I shall anon had I wypt my nose  
Hyr whan I spyde theym anon I rose  
and called theym vnto me by name  
And wrthout more tarpeng anon they came  
**C** And sat down wth vs / & made nothyng straung  
as they be full curteys / ye know yt well  
And anon our maysters colour bygan to chaunge  
wherof yt cam / I can not tell  
Hys chere was appalled / euery deff  
and scant that he coulde speke to me one word  
But stert hym euen vp and rose fro the bord  
**C** He sayd he wold go / ly down on a bed  
and prayd me for the maners sake  
That margery myght com hold hys hede  
Whych as he told me / bygan to ake  
And so she hath hym vndertake  
To make hym hole / in an houre or twayne  
whan soeuer he hath any suche soden payn  
**C** What yt meaneth I wote neuer  
But he lyketh her physyk so well  
That I trow the deuyl of hell  
Can not theym tdo bysseuer  
**C** Lo thys haue I done / and what trow ye more  
yet can I tell you better tydng

**C** Worldly aff. what ys that.

**sensua** **C** Mary Reason that ye tdo spake of byfore  
Cam euen to vs as we sat so drynkng  
And gaur our mayster an hete worth an hangng  
Brcause that margery sat on hys kne  
whyle that other hore sat talkng wth me  
**C** My mayster saw that he coulde haue no rest  
Nor neuer be ryd of thys controllng  
He played the man and thought yt best

and w<sup>th</sup> an anaty l<sup>o</sup>ke / to my semp<sup>ng</sup>  
Dre<sup>d</sup> out hys sword w<sup>th</sup>out more tarp<sup>ng</sup>  
and smote Reason so on the he<sup>d</sup>  
That I haue great maruayll but he be no<sup>d</sup> sede

**W.aff.** **C** Mary than sp<sup>ll</sup> all the cuppes at ones  
If thys be tre<sup>d</sup>

**sensua** **C** Yes by these .x. bones  
I lye neuer a word

**Dyde** **C** Tro w<sup>st</sup> thou yt ys no fayned stre<sup>se</sup>  
W<sup>st</sup> w<sup>st</sup> the ym<sup>t</sup> wo

**sensua** **C** No on my lyse.  
for whan they saught I can byt wene  
and cryed hepe pece and leue debate  
But ye wold haue laughed had ye sene  
How I departed the ym / and for all that  
Sometyme I clapped Reason on the pate  
and cryed hepe the pece as fast as I coude  
Till I was horse I cryed so loude

**W.aff.** **C** But can our master play the man no<sup>d</sup>  
and face w<sup>th</sup> thys gere

**sensua** **C** Ye make god auo<sup>d</sup>  
And be ware ye of one thyng  
Wedyll ye no more w<sup>th</sup> marger<sup>e</sup>  
for by collyrs precouse body  
If our mayster may yt espy  
Or haue an vnderstandyng  
That ye vse her company  
I tell you he w<sup>ll</sup> be angry  
He ys so full of ielosp  
As euer I kne<sup>d</sup> man

**W.aff.** **C** Ielosp pece man be st<sup>ll</sup>  
He can therof no maner of st<sup>ll</sup>

**sensua** **C** No but say what ye w<sup>ll</sup>  
I am sure he can  
**C** He ys no<sup>d</sup> as samyl<sup>er</sup>  
w<sup>th</sup> bodely lust as euer ye were  
ye and therto as great a swer<sup>e</sup>  
Whan tyme requyres  
Kne<sup>d</sup> I neuer of hys age  
A man of better corage  
To do all maner of outrage  
After our despyes  
**C** w<sup>th</sup> Reason and he were thus at barpaunce





He hath be full of suche dyltraunce  
And hath called to hys fauour and acquayntaunce  
your kynne smen by and by  
Enuy Wreth glotony and couetyse  
Slouth and sechery become to hys serapce  
And vitterly he hatyth theyre contraryse  
And that he professeth openly

**D.aff.** And be these folke of hys retrymue  
**sensua** Cye euerychon on I tell you trew  
But mary there names be chaunged new  
for to blyere hys eye

I tell you he ys a serefull man  
for Reason styrreth hym now and than  
And therfore do we what we can  
It ys lytell I now hardely  
Chy a there ys fyrst Dydde as ye dot well  
The swete darlyng of the deuyll of hell  
Dow hys name ys chaunged ye can tell

**D.aff.** Cye mary on the best wyse  
**sensua** Wyrshyp I wene ys now hys name  
Cye by the code euen the same  
And couetyse to eschue all blame  
Doth hys name dysgyse  
And calleth hym selfe worldly polycy  
Wreth bycause he ys somwat hasty  
Is called manhode. Then ys there enuy  
and he ys called dysdayn  
Glotony for good selfshyp ys taken  
and slouth hys old name hath forsaken  
And as fayre a name hath he shapen  
as euer man coulde ordayn  
He ys called ease ryght comfortable to the blos  
Specyally for theym that luste to do no good  
and amonge all other I wold ye vnderstode  
That sechery ys called lust  
So these be fayre names parde  
Both good and honest as semeth me  
as for theyre condycyons what they be  
ye know well

**D.aff.** Vercy iust  
I know theyre condycyons on the best wyse  
**sensua** yf they kepe styll theyre old gyse  
Cyes that they do on warrantyse

**D.aff.** **C** But yet I haue great maruaile  
that courtysse shuld dwell in hys company

**sensua** **C** By my trowth so/and so haue I  
But one thyng I ensure you saythfully  
And that I haue espied well  
that hy derto our mapster setteth no store  
By hys counceill nor hys lore  
Mary whan hys hed waxeth hore  
than shalbe good season  
To folow courtysse and hys way  
ye tyme I now a nother day  
Euen so I hard our mapster say

**D.aff.** **C** By my sayth he sayd but reason  
but all the remanent be well retayned  
**sensua** **C** ye be ye sure yt ys mater vnrayned  
And wote ye who ys greteley dysdayned  
With our mapster now

**Dyde** **C** Who  
**sensua** **C** By god euen shamsfastnes  
whan he shall do any suche excessse  
No shame can fere hym doubleles  
I may say to you

**Dyde** **C** No than the craft were nough  
but now spris well bethoughe  
With the mater ys hereto broughe  
It ys tyme for me  
To go and make some prouppon  
Of garmentys after the new inuencion  
As he commaunded me to be don  
thereto must I se  
for yt ys comytted to my neglygence  
And yf he come hyder whyle I am hene  
I pray the excuse myne absens

**sensua** **C** ye and myne also

**Dyde** **C** Why wilt thou go with me

**sensua** **C** Wilt I yf a ye parde  
It ys accordyng for sensualyte  
With Dyde for to go

**D.aff.** **C** Now yf mater ys all most in good case  
After the worldys mynde and pleasure  
there ys no more/But now must I cupace  
With all my wyt and besy endeuure  
how it may be stablysshed & cōtynued sure







For a lytell fantasy of manns owne wyll  
Way quayll thys mater and vttterly yt spryng  
And yf he vary agayne  
of scryppell ymagynacyon  
Drethys by the suggestyon  
Of the forsayd reason  
One thyng I am certayne  
He wyll no lengar me support  
And that were a shre wold crank dort  
Therefore yt ys best that I resort  
to my maysters presence  
And se of what demeanour he ys  
I am gretely to blame I wys  
for that I saw hym not or thys  
Syn he departed hens.

**Rea.** **C** He goeth out and Reason cometh in.  
**C** O good lord/to whom shall I complayn  
And shew the sorowes of my mynde  
and nothyng for myne owne cause certayn  
But onely for the decay of mankynde  
Whiche now of late ys waxen so blynde  
That he hath dyspysed and forsaken me  
And foloweth euery mocyon of hys sensualyte  
**C** What aduapled at the begynnyng  
that Nature comytted me to hys seruyce  
and charged me that byfore all thyng  
Of all hys goodnyng I shuld take thenterpryse  
When he lusteth not to folow myne aduylse  
But foloweth thappetyll of hys sensuall affeccyon  
As a brute best that lakkerth reason  
**C** And yet not wythstandyng  
that he doth me dysdayn  
I wyll resort to hym agayn  
And do my labour and byspayn  
To assay yf I can hym rescayn  
fro suche bestly luyng  
but fyrst wyll I stande here by  
In secreete maner to espy  
Some token of grace in hym wherby  
I may dyscerne and fynde  
that he hath any shamsfastnes  
After hys great surfet and excesse  
And yf yt be so doubtles

It shall concern my mynde

¶ **Man** cometh in.

¶ **I** say srys where ys wurshyp can ye tell  
In this place I left hym last

**W.aff.** ¶ **Hy** I darand you be ys occupped well  
In ordeynng your garmentys full fast  
Ye departed fro me in great hast  
for that intent / and so he despred  
That I wold tell you whan uede requyred  
¶ **He** she wed me hys mynde or he went  
Do w he had deupsed your garment  
And ys yt be made after that intent  
as he told me

Whan ye were on that bestour  
Eury man shall do your honour  
as becummeth a man of your haupour  
And so yt shuld be

**Man.** ¶ **C**re but what wyll Reason say  
Whan he seeth me in that aray

**W.aff.** ¶ **Reason.** Mary let hym go play  
To the deuyll of bell  
ye promysed me at the begynnng

That ye wold nomore be vnder hys gydyng

**Man.** ¶ **N**o but yet yt were accordyng  
To haue therein hys counsell  
Man wythout reason ys but blynde  
And ys I shuld speke after my mynde  
I can well a dyfference fynde  
Byt wytt man and a beste  
Whan he hath Reason in presence  
and duely obeyeth hys law and sentence

**W.aff.** ¶ **W**hy haue ye suche a spyced conscyence  
Now wythin your brest  
that chaungeth your mynde so sodenly  
I am sory and affamed truely  
On your behalf

**Man.** ¶ **N**o force hardely  
Thou ledest me all wrong  
and therefore wyll I no more folow the

**W.aff.** ¶ **N**ot worldly affeccyon:

**Man.** ¶ **N**parde  
Nor yet thy brother Sensualyte  
I haue folowed you to long





**W.aff.** **C**Is that your mynde

**Man.** **C**ye doubtles

And now wyl I seke shamefastnes  
By whom I trust I shall redresse  
All my mys ded

**W.aff.** **C**And syth thou wylt nebps to shame bowe

I pray god send the shame I now  
and yet I trust make god auow  
Ones thou shalt haue nebe  
To call me agayn to thy seruce

**Man.** **C**Nay nay on warantyse

Now syrs who can me adurpe  
What ys best to do

**C**hamefastnes.

**C**Hy: ys ye lust to haue myne acquaintaunce  
I am redy to geue you attendaunce  
Happely my seruce shall you aduance  
I am called shamefastnes

**Man.** **C**By your trouth are ye the same

**sham.** **C**ye forsoth that ys my name

Almys dedys I can attame  
And help for to repressse  
Whan ye haue done offence or syn  
ys ye wylt mercy and grace wpy  
Wyth shamefastnes ye must bygyn  
Thys way must ye take

**Man.** **C**ye be the man wythout faynyng

That I wysshed for/or ye cam here  
and glad am I now of your comyng  
Drapng you wyth hart entere  
Whan I haue nede thus to com nere

**sham.** **C**So wyl I do ye may trust yt verply

Whan soeuer ye call ye shall fynde me redy

**C**He goeth out

**Rea.** **C**Hy: ys yt your mynde to do as ye say

**Man.** **C**ye that ys yt as god me spede

Hard ye all thys mater ye or nay

**Rea.** **C**yes that I dyd in verp ded

**Man.** **C**O gostly re son I haue greter nede

Of your help than euer I had byfore  
Delp me now & I shall neuer forsake you more  
Syth I forsoke your company  
I haue commytted myche foly

I am ashamed certainly  
Whan I thynke thereon  
But now haue I refused utterly  
All suche maner of company  
and thys haue I done verely  
Of myne own mocyon

**Rea.** **T**Han my help shal be redy as oft as ye me call  
It ys my duety so for to do  
And of your offencys wyll I make no rehersall  
But what foruer ye haue done hydetto  
To me ward let yt passe and go  
Agaynst god your offence ys great  
Of the wysh mater I wyll not longe treat  
**B**ut thys confort of me ye shall haue  
yf ye be contryte as ye pretend  
God ys mercyable yf ye lust to craue  
Call for grace and sone he wyll yt send  
And be not in purpose hereafter to offend  
accustom your selfe in the wayes of vertue  
And be not in doubt grace wyll ensue

**May.** **H**yr yt ys my mynde and intent  
Hereafter to be your true obedyent  
and neuer more to assent  
To suche foly agayn

**Rea.** **A**nd vpon that condycyon  
I take the vnto my tynccyon  
wyth all hartys affectyon  
Neuer to part at dayn  
And for thys seson  
Here we make an end  
Lest we shuld offend  
Thys audyence/as god besend  
It were not to be don  
ye shall vnderstand neuer the lesse  
That there ys myche more of thys processe  
wherein we shall do our besynes  
and our true endeuure  
To shew yt vnto you after our gypsse  
Whan my lord shall so deuyse  
It shal be at hys pleasure

**T**hus endeth the  
fyrst parte.







The second parte

Reason and Man come in.

**A**ssemble the lyfe of mortall creature  
To the assyge agayn a strong towne or castell  
In whiche there ys myche besy endeuure  
Whiche warly polycy wth dyligent trauayll  
On euery syde whiche parte shall preuayll  
By sleight of ingyns or by strong power  
that other to subdue and bring into daunger  
**I**n suche case and maner of condycyon  
Is wretched man here in thys lyfe earthly  
Whyle he abydeth wthin the garyson  
Of the frayll carcas and carynouse body  
Whom to impugny laboreth incessantly  
the world/the fleshe/the enemy/these thre  
Lym to subdue and bring into captiuite  
**A**nd for to shew you what wyse they vs ipugny  
first doth the world geue vs an affectyfe  
to couet riches and worldly renown  
Wth other vanyteys that be vsed in thys lyfe  
Next that our fleshe whiche euer ys in stryfe  
agayn our spyrte/both prouoke and excyte  
vs to accomplishe our sensuall appetyte  
**T**he last of all ys our great enemy  
Whiche euer hath vs in contynuall hatredede  
Of old enkantered malyce and enuy  
that he oweth to vs and all the kynrede  
Of all the aunceters of whom we do succede  
Nor yet cesseth hys malyce vnto thys day  
vs to endaunger in all that he can or may  
**A**nd certes these our sayd enemyes  
Be of theyre nature so myghty and so strong  
that hard yt wll be for vs in any wyse  
Agayn them warre or batayll to vnderfong  
also our garisons and fortresse to mayntayn long  
Agayn theyre ingens wthout spyrтуall grace  
we can not performe in no maner case  
**W**herfore yt ys to vs ryght behouable  
Besyly to pray to god that ys immortal  
Besekyng hym as he ys mercyable  
To haue compassyon and pitye on vs all  
And not to suffer vs any wyse to fall  
Into suche foly and vtter myschaunce

As shuld theym greue and do dyspleasur:

**C**Also yt behoueth on our parte  
To ste all suche maner of occasyon  
as may vs put in fere and Jeoparde  
Of theyre dyspleasure in any condycyon  
New sangenes and other nyce inuencyon  
We must forsake in all maner wyse  
And acquaint vs wpth theyre contraryse  
Quia contraria contrariis curantur. sc.

**I** tell thys tale spr to you  
Trustyng that yt be not done in wast  
ye remember as I suppose well I now  
How yt ys not fully.iii. dayes past  
Syth ye me promysed and bound yt fast  
From that day forth to be obeyent  
Vnto my counsell and aduysment

**Man.** **C**ye spr so I dyd in very ded  
And yet yt ys my mynde and intent  
To folow the same haue ye no drede

**Rea.** **C**yf ye do nat your selfe shall repent  
Now fare ye well for I must be absent  
As for a season/and for your confort  
Whan so euer ye call me I shall to you resort

**C**Then he goeth out & Hensua.cometh in.  
**sen sua** **C**God forbid that euer he com agayn  
Iesu how may ye thys lyfe endure  
We semeth yt shuld be to you a great payn  
Syth ye be of good complexyon and nature  
To forbere the worldly sport and pleasure  
As ye haue done now a great seson  
and all by the folysh counsell of reson

**C**Where ys your lusty hart bycom  
That serued you so well thys other day  
Now so helpe me god and halpydom  
I haue great maruell how ye may  
Lyue in suche mysery/and thys dare I say  
Wpouth ye take some other wayes  
By my trouth yt wpll shorten your dayes  
**C**And though I say yt that were pyte  
for by cryste and ye were gone  
Weny a good felow wold make great mone

**C**Then he wepyth  
**Man.** **C**Why wepe ye so





sensua **L**et me alone

It wyl none other wyse be  
and ye saw the sorowfull countenaunce  
Of my company your old acquaintance  
that they make

for your sake

I dare say ye wold mone them in your mynde

They be so souping and so kynde

That I am sure

ye endure

In thys pryncesse oppynon

It wyl be theyre confessyon

There ys none other remedy

But for sorow they shall dye

Man. **N**ay god forbed they shuld so do

sensua **I**n sayth wpythout ye help therto

There ys none other way

Man. **I** wyl help ye in all that I may

And I wyl by what mene

sensua **M**ary call them to your company

Man. **B**y saynt Ihan I am content

for I may say here to the

Spith I forsoke my lyberte

And byd to Reson assent

I had neuer mercy day

But lyed vnder a we and die at day

Nothyng to myne intent

A nother whyle I wyl me dysport

and to myne old company resort

sensua **O** than shall ye them confort

and your selfe also

Note ye who wyl be very glad

Man. **W**ho

sensua **M**argery

Man. **W**hy was she sad

sensua **T**ye by the masse she was stark mad

Euen for very do

Whan she hard tell of thys chaunce

And because she wold lyue in penaunce

Her sorow for to quench

She had entred into a relygouse place

At the grene fereys hereby

Man. **T**ye have.

A lare good lysten wene  
 Is yt an house of straite relygion  
 sensua Eye as any that euer was bygon  
 Synthe world stode  
 Man. Eye they close nonnes as other be  
 sensua Eye close yf a nay nay parde  
 That gyse were not good  
 ye must be ware of that gere  
 Nay all ys open that they do there  
 As open as a gose eye  
 Man. And cometh any man into theyre sellys  
 sensua Eye ye god forbede ellys  
 It ys sere for euery body  
 And byspide all thys they be  
 Ex omni gente cognite  
 No nacyon they forsake  
 Wythout yt be beggars gong by the way  
 That haue neuer a peny to pay  
 For that that they do take  
 And yet can I beggars thysder lede  
 Where they shalbe for lumps of brede  
 Hatysse theyre desyre  
 Suche drabbes some there be  
 That requyre none other fe  
 Nor yet any other byre  
 Man. Eye they not wedded as other folke be  
 sensua Eye wedded quod a no so mot I the  
 They wyll not tarp therfore  
 they can wed theym selfe alone  
 Com hys me I han gramercy Ione  
 Thys wed they euer more  
 And yt ys the more to comend  
 for yf the woman hap to offend  
 as yt ys theyre gyse  
 a man may let her alone wyth sorow  
 and wed a nother hore on the morow  
 Euen of the same wyse  
 Man. Forsoth thys ys a noble relygion  
 It styrreth me to great deuocyon  
 for to se that place  
 Canst thou byng me t hysder well I now  
 sensua Eye and yt were myd nyght I make god auow  
 As dark as euer yt was







Man. **W**hat where ys bodely lust now  
 Bodely. **T**hen cometh in bodely lust w<sup>th</sup> hym w. a. s.  
 Man. **M**ary syr I haue s<sup>yt</sup>ten and sought you  
 Thys thre or. iiii. howys  
**I** make god auow  
 ye gyue shre w<sup>th</sup> attendaunce  
 Bodely. **A**ll thys. ii. dayes I coude not the espy  
**S**yr ye know well that ye and I  
 Be neuer myche a sonder  
 Man. **a**lbe yt I be from you among  
**A**nd now me semeth thou hast tarped to long  
 Bodely. **W**hyche ys to me great wonder  
**W**onder ye parde for an howr or twayn  
 forth for a passyng whyle and com agayn  
**H**ere ys a soze mater  
**W**han was I so long absent as now  
 and yet I was for to seke you  
 at the tother syde of the water  
**T**he place that ye wot of parde  
 Man. **U**nderstande ye what ye mene  
 Bodely. **T**ye ye  
 Man. **T**ell me in myne ere  
 Bodely. **Q**uid est latinum propter le sic w<sup>ys</sup>  
**W**hat latyn now thys of the ne w<sup>ys</sup>  
**I** herd neuer thys ere  
 Man. **I** tro w<sup>ys</sup> ye begyn to waxe shamfast  
**N**ay nay hardely that gece ys past  
**W**eny dayes a gon  
 Bodely. **I** am as wanton as euer I was  
**I**t were almes to hang you ellys by the masse  
**B**y the hard necke bon  
**B**ut w<sup>ys</sup>ll ye now go w<sup>ys</sup>th me to a place  
 and I shall shew you the smotherest place  
 Man. **T**hat euer ye saw w<sup>ys</sup>th eyes  
 Bodely. **W**hat thynge ys yt pong or old  
**W**hat euer yt be yt ys able to be sold  
 Man. **I**t shall lyke you on the best wyse  
**F**or my loue let vs some nyght be there  
 at a banquet or a rece supper  
 and get vs some wanton mete  
**S**o we may haue some deent<sup>y</sup> thynge  
 yet wold I spende. xx. s<sup>yl</sup>lyng  
 where so euer I yt get

**Bodyly** **C**May nay wyll ye spende a copell of crownes  
and there shall no gentylman in thys .x. to wnes  
Be bettec serued than ye  
Nor be receyued more honestly  
As to an house of ba wdry  
for a banket or a ionkry  
for a dyske .ii. or thre

**Man.** **E**yes that wyll I spend wyth all myne hart

**Bodyly** **B**y your leue I wyll depart  
To make redy thys gere

**Man.** **W**hat now in all thys hast

**Bodyly** **E**ye for god spr I am a gast  
that other knaues wyll come theder  
byfore vs and take vp all

**Man.** **H**e there to I pray the

**Bodyly** **S**o I shall  
Elys spe on all to gether

**C**Then goeth he out.

**W.aff.** **N**ow wyll margery make great mone  
bycause ye com not. **Man.** ye let her alone  
I am not her bond man parde

**W.aff.** **E**yet on my fayth spr and I were as you  
at the leste I wold excuse me  
Send her word that ye in no wyse  
May thys nyght kepe her promyse  
And yf ye do not so  
She wyll so morn that as I thynk  
Of all thys nyght she wyll slepe no wynt  
She shalbe so full of wo

**Man.** **E**ye on myn parell take no care  
Thys answeere wyll I deffar and spare  
till I be certayn  
What answeere bodyly lust shall bring  
Of thys other praty new thyng  
Whan he cometh agayne

**W.aff.** **W**yll yt please you that I go to mergery  
In your stede

**Man.** **M**ary that were mery  
Woldst thou serue me so

**W.aff.** **W**hy spr by my trowth I mene but well

**Man.** **E**ye what thou menyst I can not tell  
But that shall thou not do





**W.aff.** **I**n good fayth syr ye may do wurs  
for whyle I haue any thyng in my purs  
Or any peny to spend  
I wyll make her euen suche chere  
As I wold myne owyn wyfe yf she were here  
Elys god defend

**Man.** **C**ye I thanke the for thy good wyll  
But as for that chere kepe yt styll  
Eyll I call theron

**W.aff.** **O**y god syr for good loue I spake yt  
And now that I se ye wyll not take yt  
I shall let yt alone

**Man.** **H**ow now hast thou bene pender a way  
**bodply** **C**ye syr. **Man.** **E**t que nouellys  
**bodply** **I**e nescey

I could not speke wyth her  
No wyth none of her folkys

**Man.** **N**ot wyth one  
**bodply** **N**o they be a slepe euerychone  
All that euer dwell there

**Man.** **H**ow knowest thou whether they be a slepe or no  
**bodply** **M**ary she her selfe told me so  
Whan I rapped at the dore

**Man.** **I**t semeth she was not a slepe than  
**bodply** **N**o she was a bed wyth a strange man

**Man.** **A**myschese on her hore  
**bodply** **I**wold this fyre wer i her tapyl I make god auow  
That nedeth not she ys hore I now  
It were more almes to get  
Some cold water her fyre to quenche  
I tell you yt ys as warm a wenche  
As any in all thys strete  
I supposed I had angred her yll

**Man.** **H**ow so  
**bodply** **F**or I rang her a knyff  
That waked her from her slepe  
I gaue her a pele for her frendys soulys  
a man myght haue hard the noys from poulys  
To the farthest ende of chepe  
She saw that I wold not seace but knok  
And rap styll at the gate  
She opened a wyndow and put forth her hed  
Dens. xl. d. y. she. Jak noble ys a bed

Thys hys not yet come to late  
A ha standeth the wynd so cold quod J  
K.q. tyll we haue a byp  
Thys gece goeth all wyde  
And so J cam thens a great pace  
tyll J cam hyder / so thys ys the case  
Daue J not well hyde

Man. Well man there ys no more to do  
that we can not haue we must forgo  
there ys none other remedy  
Lo worldly affeccyon now mayst thou se  
Thy counsell was nought that thou gauest me

D.aff. No more yet was truely  
Man. Yee J told the asmyche byfore  
It ys good to be sure euer more  
therefore now let vs go  
And resorte agayn to our old hostes  
that ys the best way now as J gesse

D.aff. Yee hardely do so  
Then they thre go out & Dypde cometh in.

Dypde Thys remember ye that thys other day  
Man promysed me euen in thys stede  
that J shuld wyth hym dwelle and now J here say  
The wyld worm ys com into hys hed  
So that by reason only he ys led  
It may well be so / but J am sure  
that Reason shall not alway wyth hym endure  
We thynketh that Sensua. doth not hys parte  
accordyng to the duety of hys offyce  
for no body can better torn a mannyes hart  
Nor yet a redyer mean deupse  
to put a way suche folysh fantasysse  
than Sensualyte ys he lust to assay  
for he ys chyef ruler whan Reason ys a way

sensua Yee / a raler wyll J be though Reason say nay

Dypde As Sensualyte welcom by thys day  
What tydyngys good

sensua Yee by my say  
as good as can be told  
J haue brought thys man to hys old gyse

Dypde Hast thou so

sensua Yee on warrantyse

Dypde Now forsoth J gyue the pryke and pryse







Thou art worthy the wepyng of you  
Of thys tydynge I am glad and sayn  
But shall I be welcom to hym agayne  
and all our company

sensua **C**ye hardely

as welcom as euer ye were byfore

Dyde **G**odds blessing haue thy hart therfore  
thus am I in thy det more and more

sensua **J**apes why say ye so

Dyde **F**or I speke yt after my mynde

thou art to me al day so kynde

But where shall I our mayster fynde  
to hym wyll I go

sensua **H**e ys besydarke in your ere

Wyth lytell margery ye wote where

And as sone as I had brought hym there

I cam my way a pace

and bycause he shuld not be alone

I left wyth hym worldly affeccyon

and other erand had I none

Now to thys place

but euen to she w you what ys done

and from hens I must anone

for to seke an other companyon

to grue attendaunce

Dyde **W**ho ys that

sensua **M**ary glotony

Our mayster calleth for hym besyde

Hadst thou hym not

Dyde **N**o certaynly

To my remembraunce

sensua **I** must go seeke hym wythout any taryng

But Dyde I warn you of one thyng

Whyle I thynk thereon

Whan my mayster and ye shall mete

In any wyse se that ye hym grete

In the old fassyon

And make as though ye know nothyng

Of hys dryets and varyable dealyng

Kepe that in your brest

ye can not do hym more dyspleasur

Than therof to make reportur

Therefore let yt rest

To speke th'erof yt is hygh trefon

**T**hen he goeth out.

**Dyde** **I** am glad ye warn me thus in sefion  
I shalbe the better ware  
By thys warnyng I shalbe wyse  
And do as ye me aduertyse  
take therof no care

**S**louth.

**W**yll ye be wyse quod a/mary that ys a thyng  
By god ye had nede to haue better warnyng  
Dy ye byng that about

**Dyde** **W**hat brother Slouth fro whens comyst thou  
**slouth.** **S**treyght fro my bed I make god auow  
Myne eyes be almost out  
for lak of slepe/ but thys syr to you  
We thought ye called me slouth ryght now  
Dece no more of that

I haue a new name as well as ye

**Dyde** **W**hat ys that/ ease  
**slouth.** **E**ye parde

But yt forceth not  
Whyle our mayster ys not present  
Bydene vs twayn I am content  
Call me what ye wyll  
But where ys our mayster

**Dyde** **W**otest thou nere

**slouth.** **N**o

**Dyde** **N**o more do I

**slouth.** **T**here there there

Thou shalt dwell wyth me styll

Thou art as good a wayter as I

**Dyde** **I** shied the better of vs both hardely

But surely we do not well

We shall not contynue wyth yonder may

but we awayte better now and than

Therefore by my counsell

Let vs twayn go together

To seeke our mayster

**slouth.** **B**ut wotyst thou whether

We shall now go

To fynde our mayster

**Dyde** **I** shall assay

Thou shalt se me gesse the way





And happely fynde hym to  
Now must I to the stedes as fast as I may  
to seech thys gentylman but syrs I say  
Can any man here tell me the way  
for I can neuer there  
ye know the way parde of old  
I pray the tell me whyrche way shall I hold  
Wyll ye se thys horsen cocold  
I trow he can not here  
Now yt were almes to clap the on the crowne

¶ Then cometh in man and worldly ass.

Man. ¶ Why be there any cocoldys in towne  
Dyde ¶ Cye I durst hold thereon my gown  
that there be a score  
but for god I cry you mercy  
for by my sayth I wynt you not so ny  
Had I wynt yt I ensure you saythfully  
that word I wold haue forboie

Man. ¶ No force hardely yt toucheth not me  
But wurshyp tell me where haue ye be  
We thynketh long syth I you se

Dyde ¶ Syr yt ys no maruell  
Had ye not me the last day  
To go puruey for your aray  
And ye remember well

Man. ¶ Cye for god haue ye done the same  
Dyde ¶ Cye by the rode ellys were I to blame  
All thyng ys redy in payn of shame  
Ellys I quyte me yll  
The tapler told me yester nyght  
that all your garmentys were redy byght  
Wyll ye go thyder and haue a syght

Man. ¶ Cye mary wyth a good wyll

stouth. ¶ Wyll ye that I go wyth you also

Man. ¶ I wote neuer whether ye may attend therto  
for ye do nothyng

But euen after your owne wyte wyll

stouth. ¶ Why shuld I euer wayt nay that I nyll  
for to be a kyng

I may not endure contynuall besynes

I was neuer vsed therto doubtles

I shuld not lye a yere

yf I folowed you I am sure

ye sty: and lo: out out of mesure  
I sa: neuer your pece  
ye wene there can nothyng be do  
But yf ye put your hand therto  
and I wps that ys no neede  
ye haue seruauntyes that be true and iust  
yf yt wold lyke you to put them in trust  
And quyte well they re mede  
What shuld I attend you for to please  
Whan I se well ye set by none ease  
Whiche belongeth to me

**Man.** **W**hy ease what meaneth the thus to say  
I do but ete drynk slepe and play  
And none other labour parde

**flouth.** **Y**e/ye may say what ye wyll  
But I can neuer se you ydell  
And quyte as ye shuld be  
your body laboreth as doth an halmye  
That bareth the burdon euery day  
That pryte yt ys to se  
And your mynde on that other syde  
Is neuer Idell nor vnoccuped  
I wps yt greueth me  
To se you dreaned that wyse  
I tro: ye be set all on couetyse

**Man.** **C**ouetyse/ nay let be  
It ys a thyng of greter cure  
That stpcketh in my mynde be thou sure

**flouth.** **S**ome thought by the code  
I wps as myche there was som thyng  
By your lo: wyng chere and your syghyng  
That was not all thyng good  
But what ys the mater I pray you hartely

**Man.** **I** wps thou canst not deuyse the remedy  
Wpth all the wyt thou hast  
But thys ys the case to tell yt shortly  
A thyng was told me as I cam hereby  
God Reason putuayth fast  
And maketh very great labour and ordynaunce  
To dashe vs all out of countenance  
And for that purpose  
He hath gadred a great company

**flouth.** **W**hat to do







Man. **I** Wote nere I  
But as I suppose  
It ys to beynge me in captivite  
And to take fro me my lyberte  
So he hath oft sayd

Dyde **E** here ye that mater  
Man. **M**ay neues a dell  
but I care for yt wylt ye well  
yet am I not afraid  
for I wylt wythstand yt proude  
and srys I trust ye wylt stand therby  
whan yt shalbe nede

Dyde **E** ye by the way that god went  
Or he haue of you hys intent  
frist shall I blede  
The best blode that ys in thys carcas

Man. **W**ell ease go thy way hens a pace  
and make therein good speche  
Call my cumpany all togeder  
and byd theym euery man com heder  
That ys wyth me affeed

stouth. **M**ary sry that shalbe do  
**T**hen he goeth out.

Man. **W**urshyp in the mean tyme let vs go  
To se my new apparell

Dyde **W**yll ye so. Now for your ladyes sake.  
So do yt on you and I vnder take  
It shall becom you well

Man. **W**orldly affeccyon abyde thou here  
for I wylt go do on thys new gere  
as wurshyp doth me counsell

**T**hen Man and Dyde goeth out.

W.aff. **M**ary I shall wyth all myne hart  
thys good srye and I wylt not depart  
for very cold myne handys do smart  
It maketh me do bygon  
Get me a stole here may ye not se  
Or ellys achayr wylt yt not be  
thou ppyd knaue I speke to the  
How long shall I stande

**S**lotony.

**L**et hym stand wyth a foule euyl

Wyll ye se so/euery dreuyll  
Now adapes I darand  
Must commaund as he were a kyng  
Let hym stande on hys fete wyth bledyng

W.aff. **W**hat Glotony/I can tell the one thyng  
In faryth you wyll be shent

gloto. **W**hy

W.aff. **W**y mayster hath sent Sensualyte  
To seke the all about the contre  
Spakest thou not wyth hym

gloto. **Y**es parde

I know all hys intent  
And thereupon I am com here  
For to a wayt, but wotest thou where  
Our mayster ys now

W.aff. **N**ay I wote nere

I am not very certayn  
But Pryde and he together begon  
He sayd he wold com agayn anon  
Wythin an howr or twayn  
Tary thou here and go not a way  
I wyll go breke my fast and I may  
For I ete neuer a mor, ell thys day

**T**hen he goeth out.

gloto. **M**ary that ys a thyng

So whan thou wyll I wyll abyde  
Wy stomak he shall not rule or gyde  
That ys now fastyng  
Nay of all thyngge erthly I hate to fast  
Four tymes a day I make repast  
Dr thyrse as I suppose  
And whan I am well fed  
Than get I me to a soft bed  
my body to repose  
There take I a nap or twayn  
Up I go streyght and to yt agayn  
Though nature be not redy  
yet haue I some mete of delyte  
for to prouoke thappetyte  
And make the stomak greedy  
After all thys nedys I must  
Somtyme folow the wanton lust





for hote drynkyng and delycate refreccyon  
Caused fleshely insurreccyon  
ye know yt as well as I

Man. **T**ruth as ye say I know yt well  
gloto. **W**hat gentylman ys thys can ye tell

bodpky **W**otst thou neuer  
gloto. **N**o by the bell  
I saw hym neuer byfore

bodpky **I**s yt our mayster  
gloto. **N**ay by the rood  
It ys not he woldst thou make me wood

Man. **Y**es I am the same  
gloto. **I** cry you mercy I se yt well now  
Byfore I knew you not I make god auow  
In earnest nor in game

Man. **W**hy. **B**ycause I haue chaunged myne aray  
gloto. **F**or that cause trod ye nay nay  
That ys not the thyng  
That can dysceue me be ye sure  
but I pray you who hath had you in cure  
Syth my last departyng

Man. **B**y my fayth a lytell season  
I folowed the counsell and byet of reason

gloto. **T**here went the hare away  
Dys byet q a yt may be verpky  
for ye be haltred maruelously  
Altreb I wold say  
alas the whyle had ye no mete  
As long as ye were vnder hys byet

Man. **W**ete/yes I had som  
wthout yt were on fastyng dayes  
Than he wthdre w my supper alwayes  
and gaue me neuer a cron

gloto. **N**o force hardely why wold ye than  
fauor hym as ye dyd lyke a mad man  
ye loke now as yt were a gost  
Had ye dwelt wth hym tyll thys day  
ye had bene pnyed euen away  
as ye be now almost  
pout fleshe ys gon euery dell  
A vengeaunce on the morsell  
That ys left thereon

bodpky **N**ow talk of the remedy

glo to. **C** Mary now must he ete and drynke fast  
Dther remedy ys there none

Bodyly **C**ye but where ys the mete now let vs se  
glo to. **C**ye are passng hasty benedicite  
frist must ye go

where as prouyspon therof ys made  
let vs go thyder and yt shalbe had

May. **C** But what ys the maystere of the in  
A weddyd woman or a vrygyn

glo to. **C** Neyther of both I wys

Bodyly **C** No / but for a mayden she goth

glo to. **C**ye forgod that she doth  
But yet she ys none by I ys

Bodyly **C** No / no / what than

glo to. **C** I wys I not / but as men clater

They say she ys innupta mater  
Hardely an holy woman

May. **C** Well thyder we wyll / go we hens

Bodyly **C** Hye ye wyll gve me lycence  
To sport me for a season

May. **C** Yes for a whyle ye well I now  
but go not out of the way I charge you

for hdyer wyll come anone

All my cumpany as I suppose

Kepe them together for I purpose

to come agayn anone

and she w theyn my mynde what I wyll do

**C** Then he goeth out

Bodyly **C** Mary I shall do what I can thereto

and yet yt ys hard for me

to kepe them together any whyle

But I shall tell you what

I had le uer kepe as many flese

Or wyld hares in an oppy lese

as vnder take that

**C** Wrath.

Bodyly **C** Where be these knaues that make thys arap

**C** Mary they be gon that other way

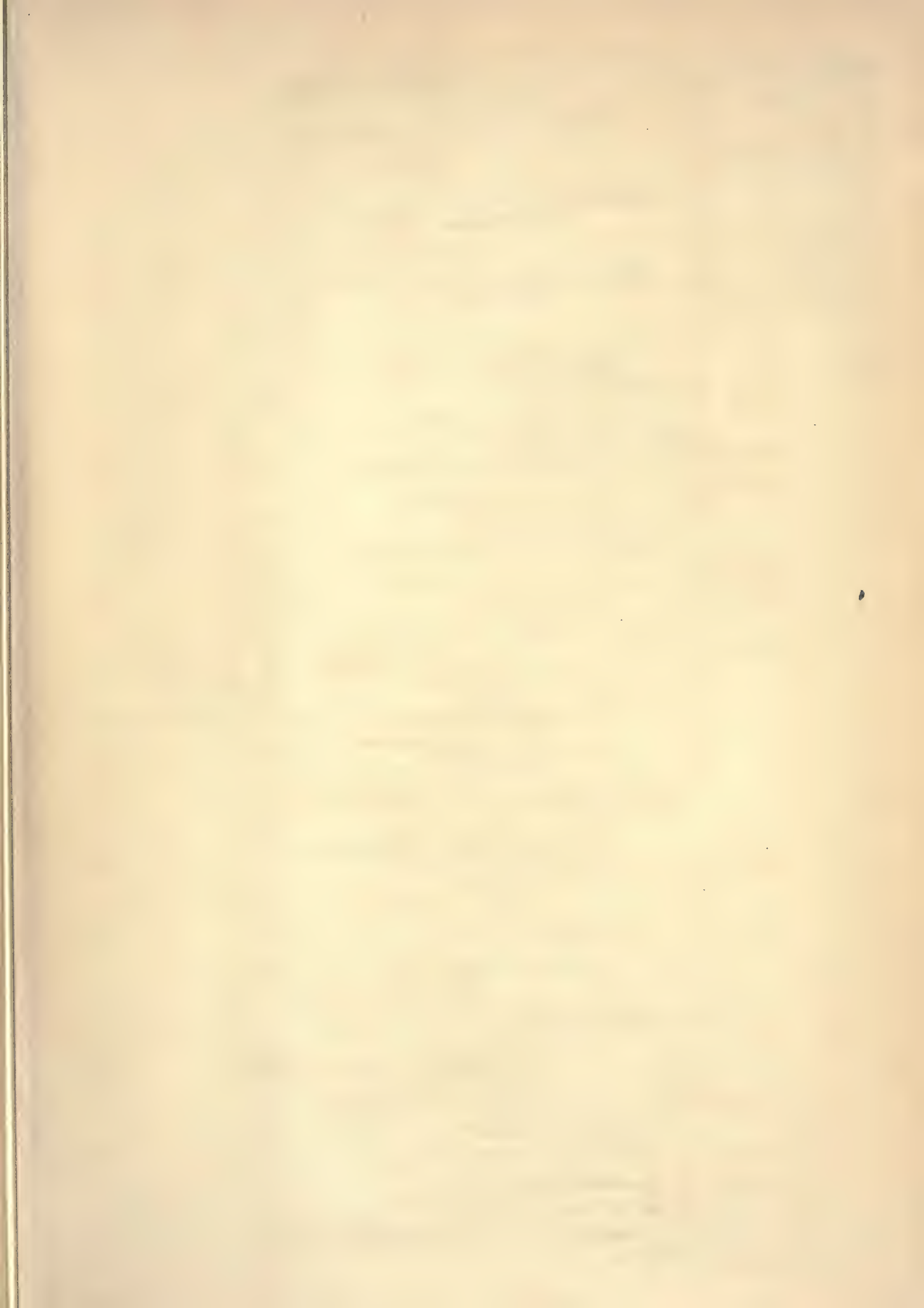
tell me whome ye meane

Wrath. **C** I trod thou scornyst

Bodyly **C** Nay certapnly

Do w so be yt ys I shuld not ly

at the frist blusbe I ensure you saythfully







I had forgot you clene  
Wher cause ye be thus defensyble arays  
What meaneth that are ye affrayd  
Who hath you greued

Wrath. **W**hat I fere no man that bereth an hed  
yet had I leuer that I were dede  
than that shuld be prued

bodyly **B**y my sayth ye are wont to be as bold  
as yt were a Lyon of cottys wold  
but now to my questyon  
What meaneth all thys defensyble aray

Wrath. **M**ary slouth warned vs two thys same day  
Euen sayth yt was none  
that our mayster and Reason shuld make a scap  
and therfore he had vs wpythout delay  
to a wayt on our capptayn

bodyly **N**ow I know the mater ryght well  
But what shall com therof I can not tell  
It passeth my brayn  
Our mayster wpylled that we twayn  
shuld tary here tyll he com agayn

enuy. **W**hat wylt thou do than

bodyly **W**ho I may care not for me  
I wyl not com where strokys be  
I am not so mad a man  
And I wys yt ys not for any fere  
But yt ys a thyng that I can well forbere  
And wyl as long as I can  
Of lust and pleasure ys all my mynde  
It longeth to me of properte and kynde  
And ys I shuld to the warre  
And by in myne harnes as other men do  
Wpyth hunger and thurst a day or two  
It shuld me vnterly marre

enuy. **I**f were a great losse ys thou were mard  
Now fy on the stark horsen coward  
Or cokkys precrouse blode  
It were no syn to sle suche a knave  
Dast not thou wagys as other men have  
And ferd of vs so good  
yet wylt thou sayll vs at thys nede  
Now who so euer shall quyte my mede  
I wyl no further go

tyll I haue slayn hym myne owne hand  
Though I shuld fors were the land  
Euen when I haue do

Then goeth out bodpely lust  
Hold hym in syres I pou requyre  
as wold ye not at my desyre  
Do so myche for me  
I wys yt wold haue done me more good  
to haue sene the knaues hart blode  
than .xx. shyllyngys of see

Man. What how syres what meaneth thys geere  
Wyll ye sle eche other here  
No more of thys worke

enuy. By the hart of god and he had abyden  
A lytell whyle he shuld neuer haue spoken  
Wyth preste nor wyth clarke

Man. Who was that

enuy. Your owne mynyon  
Bodpely lust

Man. Why what hath he done

enuy. Euen lyke a lurdyn  
He sayth that ye haue gyven hym lycence  
to abyde at home and kepe resydence  
whyle we bere the burdyn  
And serue you now at your nede

Man. He prayde me so in very dede  
Wythyn these .ii. dayes

He sayd he wold serue me wyth a good wyll  
But of the warrys he could no shyll  
Nor kne w therof the wapes  
How be yt I gaue hym therof none answer

enuy. No but I am sure he wyll not com there  
And now may ye se  
That no man ys so myche to blame  
As your selfe

Man. C

enuy. E by saynt Jame  
No man but euen ye  
for I am well assured of one thynge  
ye gaue hym better clothyng  
Than ye dyd me  
And better wagys and fees also  
And though I sayd but lytell thereto





But suffere d euer more  
 yet I dysdaynd yt euer in my mynde  
 And though that ye were to me vnkynde  
 To set so great store  
 Or suche a knaue as he was  
 I wold I had hym here by the masse  
 And no man but we t wayn

Man. **C** By my trowth thys ys euer thy gypse  
 Loke by whom I set any pryse  
 Dym thou wylt most dysdayn

Wrath. **C** By cryst he can do none other wyse  
 but now syr ys there any serupce  
 That ye wylt commaunde me

Man. **C** ye mary ys there / but my cumpany  
 Dresseth theym for ward passyng slowly  
 I trow yt wyl not be  
 Wanhode thou art good I now for one

Wrath. **C** ye by cryst and they can euer chone  
 I wyl not gretly fere

emur. **C** By my trowth bycause he sayth so  
 I shall tell you what I saw hym do  
 I was present there  
 Syr yt happned in Westmynster hall  
 Euen byfore the Judges all  
 Dys handys were bound fast  
 And neuer vpon hym that euer god made  
 Dager sword nor knyfe he had  
 And yet at the last  
 He draue .xii. men into a corner  
 and an howr after durst they not appere  
 God say ye hereto  
 and hys handys had bene at lyberte  
 He wold haue put theym in great Jeoparde  
 It ys to suppose so

Man. **C** Mary there he quyte hym well  
 but where be myne other folk can ye tell  
**C** The cometh i Glotony wpth a chese & a botell.

Wrath. **C** Mary here comieth one  
 Good felyshyp me semeth yt shuld be

gloto. **C** Hys god spe de you

Man. **C** What tydyngys wpth the

gloto. **C** I shall tell you anone

Mary s<sup>r</sup> I am com here  
 for to attende vppon you  
 We shall a Warfare yt ys told me  
 Man. **E**ye where ys thy harnes  
 gloto. **M**ary here may ye se  
 Here ys harnes I no<sup>w</sup>.  
 Wrath. **W**hy hast thou none other harnes but thys  
 gloto. **W**hat the deuyll harnes shuld I myn  
 wythout yt be a botell  
 Another botell I wyll go puruey  
 Lest that drynk be scarce in the way  
 Or happely none to sell  
 Wrath. **T**hou must haue other harnes than thys man  
 gloto. **O**ther harnes nay I shre w me than  
 I can no skyll theron  
 Why trowest thou that I wyll spght  
 enuy. **E**ye so I tro<sup>w</sup>  
 gloto. **N**ay by god almyght  
 Therof wyll I none  
 I was neuer wont to that gere  
 But I may serue to be a vyleter  
 And therof shall ye haue store  
 So that I may stand out of daunger  
 Of gon shot/ but I wyll com no nere  
 I warn you that byfore  
 enuy. **N**ow suche a knaue I betake to the deuyll  
 Thys ys euen suche a nother dreuyll  
 As was here whyle ere  
 They be .ii. knaues annoynted  
 I fere me s<sup>r</sup> ye shalbe dysappoynted  
 I lyke not thys gere  
 gloto. **O** I had for gotten I make god auow  
 s<sup>r</sup> my felow ease commaundeth me to you  
 Man. **C**ommaundeth the to me  
 gloto. **Y**ou to me  
 Man. **Y**e to the  
 gloto. **C**ommaundeth you to hym I wold haue sayd  
 Man. **W**hy cometh he not hyder  
 gloto. **B**y god for he ys astrayd  
 And lyeth spk in hys bed  
 He toke such a consept whan he hard of thys gere  
 That for thought and very fere







Wrath. **A**nd he were hanged yt were no rek  
I pray god the deuyll bicke hys nek  
and all suche as he ys

Man. **W**ell let vs suffer for a while  
I wyll go walke hens halfe a myle  
and for all thys  
Happely all thys gere shall not nede  
Do w be yt that I dout and drede  
The wurst as wyse men do  
Manhode com thy selfe wyth me

gloto. **A**nd I to spe

Man. **C**re parde  
Woldyst thou be prayd thereto

**T**han goeth out Man Glotony / & Wrath.

enuy. **N**ow he that wold haue warre or stryfe  
I pray god send hym a shrewd wyse  
and than shall he haue I now  
But I shall tell you spys as for me  
I am none of the my so mot I the  
I may say to you

I wyll no suche rekennyngs abyde  
Gods body here cometh Dyde  
as crank as a pecok

As sone as he and I mete  
Wrythout he standt ryght vpon hys sete  
He shall bere me a proude mok

Dyde **W**hat tydyngs frs can any man tell

enuy. **C**re mary that can I do as well  
as any that was in feld  
ye haue tarped so long about your gay gere  
That the feld ys done or ye come there

Dyde **D**one mary god sheld

enuy. **I**t ys done wrythout farll  
But whyrche of the my hath wone the batayll  
I can not tell you certayn

Dyde **T**hou were not there yt semeth therby

enuy. **N**ot I there q a yes hardely / & that to my grete  
but as sone as y bate llys iorned togeder (paryn)  
I cam my way streyght heder / for to tell tydyngs

Dyde **W**hat the deuyll tydyngs canst thou tell

enuy. **M**ary I can she w you nothyng of the batell  
but of many other tydyngs  
ye are ow of conceyt I tell you for euer

Because ye shyd not you endeuoure  
 At thys great vpage  
 In so myche that ye are lyke to see  
 Both ye ur offyce and all your fees  
 And put cleue out of wayes  
**Dyde** **C**hat ys not true as I suppose  
**enuy.** **C**hyr and yt be not take my nose  
 And my hed also  
 your offyce was gruen or I cam thens  
**Dyde** **C**Wary that was a very short sentence  
 and I not called therto  
**enuy.** **N**ow enuy what counsell wylt thou gyue me  
**C**By my trowth Dyde thou mayst bpleue me  
 If I were in thy case  
 I wold wythdraue me for a season  
 though yt be nother felony nor treason  
 Nor yet wylfull trespace  
 yet the same ys wurst of all  
 for euery knaue wyl the call  
 a coward to thy face  
**Dyde** **I** am vnhappy I se yt well  
 for the xpanse of myne apparell  
 to wardys this vpage  
 what in horses and other arap  
 hath compelled me for to lay  
 all my land to morgage  
 and now when I haue all do  
 To lesse myne offyce and fees also  
 for my true intent  
 I may say that all my cost  
 and all my tyme ys euyllost  
 In serupce that I haue spent  
 well what so euer by tyme me  
 for a season I wyl hyde me  
 after thy counsell  
 and syth yt wyl no better be  
 fare well I take my leue of the  
**enuy.** **N**ow gentyll Dyde fare well  
 Alas that I had no good felow here  
 to bere me cumpany and laugh at thys gete  
 thys game was well founde  
**sensua** **E**res and ye lust to play the knaue  
 Some maner of cumpany ye myght haue





**enuy.** Dere wythin thys grounde  
Some I can thynke yong or old  
And ellys yt were a small household  
as any myght be found

**sensua** It ys not small the company she weth well  
But me thought thou were about to tell  
Of some mery Jeste

**enuy.** Or som mery game at my cummyng  
Whan he lusteth best

To laugh for hys dysporte and solace  
Hyr I shall tell the thys ys the case  
Ryght now as I stode

In thys place and neuer a man wyth me  
In cam Pryde garnysshed as yt had be  
One of the ryall blode

It greued me to se hym so well be sene  
But I haue abated hys corage clene  
for a lytell season

By the rode I haue gyuen hym a chek mate  
for I bare hym an hand that he cam to late  
And that the feld was done

and how hys offyce was gyuen away  
Bycause he sapled our mayster that day  
I made hym to byleue so

And whan I had told hym all thys tale  
anone he began to wax all pale  
full of care and wo

and now he bydeth hym felse for shame  
I gaue hym myne aduyse to the same  
and so he ys gon

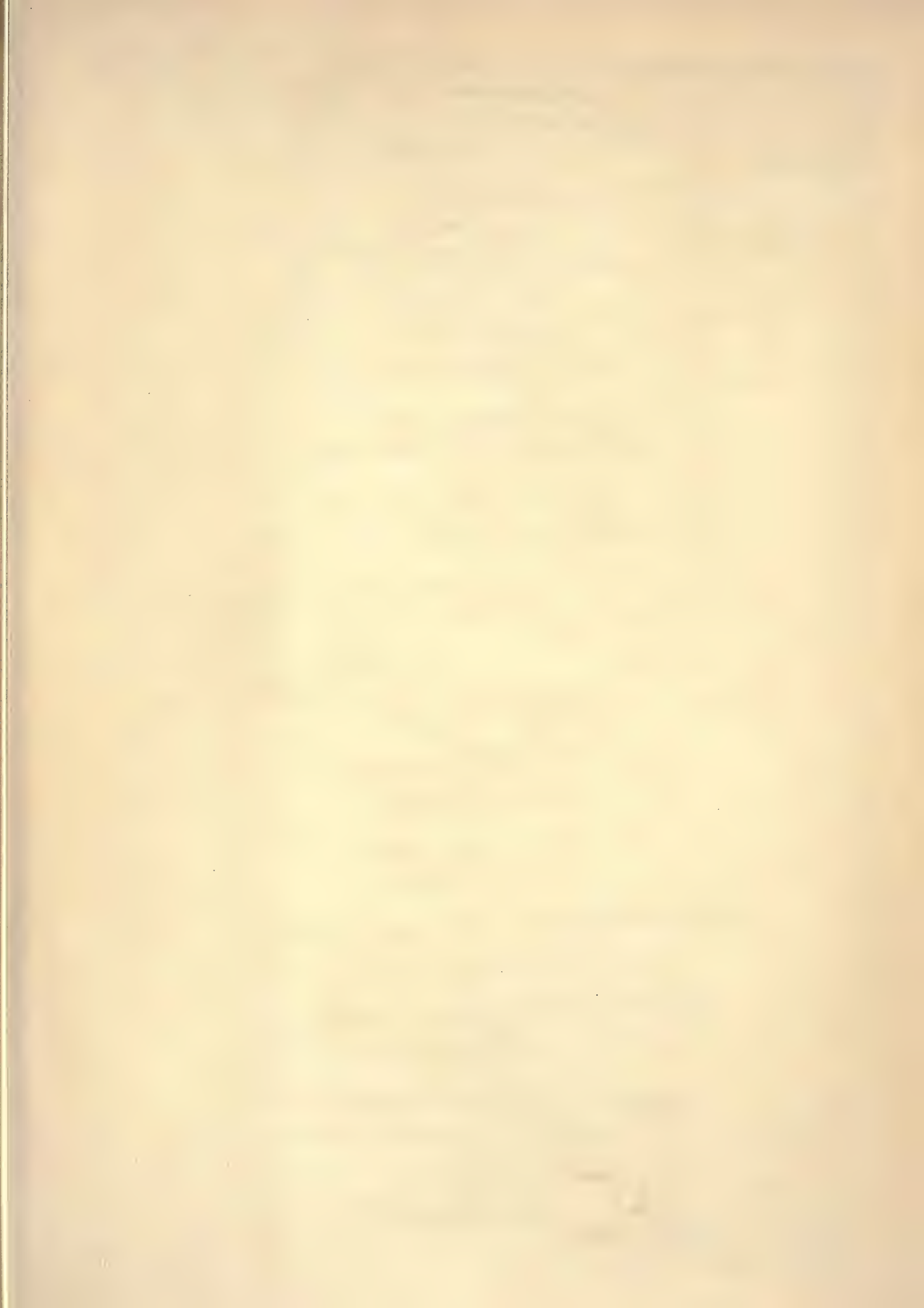
**sensua** Now on my fayth thys was madly do  
but in fayth what moueth the therto

**enuy.** Wary cause had I none  
but only that yt ys my gypse  
Whan I se an other man aryse  
Or fare better than I

Than must I chase and fect for yte  
and ymagyn wyth all my desyre  
To dystroy hym vtterly

But now in earnest Sensualyte  
tell me whan thys fray shal be  
I pray y hartely. **Sensua.** What agaynst Rea.

enuy. **C**ye the same  
 sensua **C**usse they be agreed in payn of shame  
 and good cumpany they kepe  
 enuy. **C**Agreed y<sup>a</sup> in the mace name  
 Mary sye that were a game  
 to make some of vs wepe  
 sensua **C**Wepe or laugh man so yt ys  
 and who tro<sup>w</sup> ye ys the ca user of thys  
 enuy. **C**Who  
 sensua **C**Age the deuyll hym quell  
 enuy. **C**Why ys age now com in plove  
 sensua **C**ye and that may ye spy by hys face  
 and ye mark yt well  
 Hys stomak farynteth euey day  
 Hys bak croketh hys hed waxeth gray  
 Hys nose droppeth among  
 Hys lust ys gone and all hys lpyng  
 I se yt well by euey thyng  
 He may not lyue long  
 and all maketh age as I sayd byfore  
 He ys the deat / and what tro<sup>w</sup> ye more  
 thys age hath done  
 enuy. **C**What  
 sensua **C**By my fayth he hath brought in Reason  
 In suche wyse that at no season  
 Nothyng can be brought  
 But Reason must be called therto  
 I fere me he wyll vs all vndo  
 wythin few dayes  
 As sone as Glotony had espyde  
 all thys gerte he wold not abyde  
 but went euen hys wayes  
 Our mayster prayed hym to tary a season  
 Nay nay quod he / now haue I done  
 I may no lenger tary  
 for age and I may not togeder dwell  
 and streyght way he departed fayre and well  
 Woddyly lust stode by  
 and saw that Glotony wold ne dys be gon  
 Haue wyth the Glotony quod he anon  
 for I must go wyth the  
 So that .ii. be gon togeder  
 Can there none of theym both heder







enuy. **C**Neuer a one that I se  
sensua **C**Well they be gon some other way  
to get a new mapster as sone as they may  
They can not be onpurueyd  
and as sone as they .ii. were gon  
Our mapster sent for couetyse anon  
and hartely hym prayd  
to a wart on hym well for a pere or two  
and he hath promysed hym so to do  
as for a pere or two  
but Reason may not therof know

enuy. **C**Reason quod a/no so I tro  
He wyll that dysdayn  
but where hath couetyse ben many a day  
sensua **C**He dwelled wyth a prest as I herd say  
for he loueth well  
Men of the chyrche/and they hym also  
and ladyars eke/whan they may tend therto  
wyll folow hys counsell

enuy. **C**So men say there as I dwell  
but Sensualyte canst thou tell  
Now in thys case  
What were best for vs to do

sensua **C**Wary I hold yt best that we go  
Here by to som place  
and semble togeder all our company  
to here there myndys by and by  
and euery manny's oppnyon  
What shalbe best for to do

enuy. **C**By my trouth and be yt so  
I hold yt well don

**C**han they go forth (Reason & Man com in).  
Rea. **C**Hy: I haue oft tymes you aduysed  
to lye vertuously/and shewd you the way  
and that not wythstandyng/ye haue me dysprysed  
And folowed Sensualyte/meny a day  
Wyll ye so contynue/ye or nay  
If euet ye purpose your selfe to amend  
It ys tyme/for your lyfe draweth fast to thend

Man. **C**I can not contynue/though I wold  
for age hath wayned me clene thereto  
and yet Reason/whan ye me told  
Of thys gere meny day ago

I thought lytell / I shuld haue com herto  
but had of your wordys / great storn and dyrdapn  
Wold god that my lyfe were to bygyn agayn

**Rea.** **C**Speke not therof / that may not be  
a thyng don / can not be called agayn  
but the thyng / that most fereth me

On your behalve / I tell you playn  
Is that ye wold / in no wyse abstayn  
from synfull lustys / as I willed you to do  
I wold that age compelleth you therto

**Man.** **C**That ys full trew / without saynyng  
as long as myne appetyte dyrd endure  
I folowed my lustys / in euery thyng  
Whiche now by the course and law of nature  
And not of my polycy / or good endeuouce  
Is taken fro me / for euer more

And so can I be serue / no mede therfore  
**C**But not wythstandyng thys myne abusyon  
I trust that by the help of your good aduys  
I may be made the chyld of saluacyon

**Rea.** **C**Yes and ye wll sry on warantys  
So that ye vtterly forsake and dyspysse  
All your old seruaunty in wll and dede  
and do by my counsell

**Man.** **C**Yes haue ye no drede

**Rea.** **C**Chan my soule for yours / I say to wed  
ye shall do well / haue ye no mystrust  
And frst to begyn wyth / I you forbed  
All maner of dyspeyre / and secundly ye must  
Put to your mynd / and good wll  
To be recured / of your great excesse  
for without your helpe / yt can not be doubtles  
**C**As in thys example / yf so be the pacient  
Of hym selfe / be wlllyng to haue any remedy  
It ys a great furtheraunce to that intent  
So that to the preceptys of physyk he apply  
And who so doth the contrary / no maruayll truly  
Though he mystary / what shuld I byng  
Any mo examples for so playn a thyng

**Man.** **C**It shalbe no neede as in thys case  
I know ryght well / what ye meane therby  
And that wll I folow by godds grace

**Rea.** **C**Chan as I told you / yt shalbe no maystry





your selfe to confort / and to haue good remedy  
 agaynst the great surfetters / that thou hast don  
 By whiche thou hast deserued endles dampnacyon  
**C**out do as I shall tell the / and haue no drede  
 end for to gyue the medycyns / most accordyng  
 ayens thy sores / do by my rede

Take what dyssease / ys hote and breennyng  
 take euer suche a medycyn as ys cold in werkyng

So that the contrary in all maner of wyse  
 Must hele bys contrary as physyk doth deurse

**R**ight so who so lusteth fro syn to aryse  
 Where he hath in pryde / done any offence  
 He can be helpen therof none other wyse  
 But onely by mekenes / that ys the recompence  
 agayn Wreth and Enuy / take charyte and pacyence  
 take almes dede / agayn the syn of couetyse

**A**nd to repressse glotyng / acquaint y wyth abstynēce  
 Agayn foull lust of body / take chastyte & cōtynēce  
 Wyche syn groweth by Slouth and by Idelnes  
 and that must be escheWed by meene of good besynes

Lo thys be preparatyfys most souerayn

Agaynst thy sores whiche be mortall

Onles that thys medycyns to theym be layn

Whan thou hast receyued these preparatyfys all

I wyll com agayn yf thou me call

And order the further after my mynde

**Man.** I ye but where shall I these preparatyfys fynde

**Rea.** **T**hou shalt theym fynde wythin thyn own brest

Of the yt must com / yt must be thy dede

For voluntary sacrafyce pleaseth god best

Thou canst not therof haue help or mede

But yf thys gere of thyn own hart procede

**Man.** **W**ell I shall endeuoure me to the vitermost

And tyll I haue found theym I shall neuer rest

But how shall I know theym that wote I nere

I pray you sheW me that byfore your departyng

**Rea.** **I**t nedeth not therof to enquire

Thou shalt know theym at the fyrst metyng

Of .ii. contrarys there ys but one leryng

That ys to say whan thou knowyst well that on

The other contrary ys knowen anon

**T**hen he goeth out & Mekenes cometh in.

**W**ho so woteth by storpes / of scrypture well

Shall synde / that for Dryde and prympcyon  
 Lucifer wherche somtyme was a glourouse angele  
 for that hys offence / had suche correccyon  
 That both he / and eke meny a legyon  
 Of hys order / was cast down to hell  
 By ryght full Justyce / perpetuallly there to dwell  
**R**emember also Adam / the fyrst of our lyne  
 What payn he sufferd / for Dryde and dysobedpence  
 Causeth he not / a great decay and cupne  
 In all the progeny / for the same offence  
 In suche wyse that he / and all that were borne sence  
 Be vtterly dyshercyted / and put fro paradyse  
 and so we be made / thrall vnto syn and vyce  
**A**nd lost shuld we be / all of very iustyce  
 Ne had be that god / of hys mercysfull goodnes  
 Dyd vs sone after / wth hys own blode maynpryce  
 and vs redeemed / fro paynes endles  
 So that we do not / dysobay or transgresse  
 Hys hygh commaundementys / but demean vs well  
 after hys lawes / whyle we here dwell  
**A**nd for as myche as manns nature  
 Is scapll / and lyghtly to syn wyll assent  
 Etyher of purpose / or on wetyng peraduenture  
 There the sayd good lord hath hym sent  
 agayn euery syn / a remedy conuenient  
 for he ne wold / haue one soule to be lore  
 Whom he hath dere bought / as I sayd byfore  
**T**he rote of all syn / ys Dryde ye know well  
 wherche ys myne aduersary / in all that he may  
 where I am in place / he may not dwell  
 Hys malycyouse power / I can ryght well alay  
 And teche euery creature / the remedy and way  
 how to subdue Dryde / wherche no man can do  
 without that I mekenesse / must help therto

**May.** **C**han your help and counsell ys necessary to me  
 wherof I pray you / wth all hartys affeccyon

**meke.** **A**ll redy at hand / who so euer yt be

**May.** **T**hat lusteth to haue me for hys consolacyon  
**I**mp selfe haue synned / in Dryde & elacyon  
 shew me your counsell / what way shall I take  
 Ade w satysfaccyon / for that syn to make

**meke.** **T**hou must byfore / all thyng set sptell pryse  
 by the my own selfe / and take no hede







Whether the people / no the prarje or dysprje  
Vr thou meke in hart / in word and in dede  
thynk not that thou / woldst any man ouer lede  
Be soft and lowly / in speche to every wyght  
And vse none arap / that starvng ys to syght  
Fo in these thre thynngs / onely standeth Dyde  
If thou commyt / the lest of them thre

Man. Ifro thys day forth / I wyl set them a syde  
and folow the counsell / that ye gyue me

hump. Do so / and I wyl clerely dyscharge the  
as for the syn of Dyde / my soule for thyn  
thou shalt be all hole / ys thou take thys medycyn

¶ Than he goeth out.

Man. Yes I shall take yt thynk not the contrary  
¶ I wold am I well eased yet haue I not done all

charp. ¶ There ys no syrnyng physycon ne potecary  
that can deurse / so souerayn cordyrall  
agayn the soer of enuy / whycche ys mortall  
No man syrnyng / I you ensure  
Wrythout my helpe / may vnder take that cure  
for I am called charyte / the salue for that sekene  
Whom thapostyll Paule / commaundyth syngulerly  
In dyuers hys epystellys. I can well represe  
the rancour of Enuy / and gyue therein good remedy

Man. ¶ Than ys your counsell / to me full necessary  
If ye be charyte / ye are bound doubteles  
to haue som compassyon / of your neryghbours dysstres

charp. ¶ Why hast thou ben enuyouse byfore thys day

Man. ¶ Yes as god knoweth well / and that I reid sore

Charp. ¶ Well thys must be the remedy / mark what I say

There ys no syn / that dyspleaseth god more  
Than doth thys syn of Enuy / and therfore  
If so be thou wylt / thy own soule sauegard  
Be thou neuer enuyouse / fro thys day forward

¶ Also that syn / ys to man on naturall

More than any other / in myne oppynion  
for all other synnes / mark therein well

A man commyttyth / wryth som delectacon

but Enuy ys euer / full of payn and passyon

And tormenteth hym selue / wryth sorowfull sadnes

Whan he seeth hys neryghbours prosperyte or gladnes

¶ He ys neuer glad / nor taketh any solace

but at hys neryghbours / harme / to se / or heynes

He spebeth somtyme farre/byfore a manns face  
And yet w<sup>th</sup>in hys hart/he ys full of doublenes  
for byhynd hys bak/he w<sup>ll</sup> neuer sease  
w<sup>th</sup> schlauderouse wordys/to appayre his good name  
and many a falsly/doth he report for the same

Ye knowe syr whether/yt be thus or no

But now a nother whyle/to speke of remedy

If ye w<sup>ll</sup> be holpen/syr thus must ye do

first byfore all thyngys/love god entyrelly

Next that thy neyghbour/love as thyne own body

That ye to say/thou must the to hym behaue

and do hym such curtesy/as thou woldyst of hym haue

Obserue these two thyngys/and do no more

In recompense/of thy great trespass

Touchyng the syn of enuy/reherced byfore

Man. **C**To obserue them well/god send me hys grace

and I thank you for your edfourt/a counsell in thys case

I shall me selfe endeuoure/accordyng thereto

charp. **G**od send the hys grace well so to do

**T**hen he goeth out.

pacpen **T**he remedy of wreth/and ontragpouse yre

Must nedys com of me/and none other wyse

for I am called pacence/whiche quenchech the fyre

And flammys of wreth/yt ys also my gyse

By soft word/a sufferance/to overcom myn enemyes

Man. **N**ow welcom pacence/for whom I haue sought

Welp me with your counsell/for his loue y all wrought

pacpen **T**hys ys my counsell/yt thou w<sup>llt</sup> w<sup>th</sup>stand

thy gostly enemy/and thys temptacon

thou must haue me pacence/euer redy at hand

Specyally in sufferyng/of worldly trybulacon

Remember how cryst dyd/in tyme of hys passyon

there mayst thou lern/how to be pacient

In any aduersyte/that to the shalbe sent

**A**nd yet there may be/no comparyson

Wyt w<sup>rt</sup> the leste/part of hys payn

And the gretest wrong/that to the can be don

Wherfore thou wreth/shuldyst not dysdarn

But gladly thou shuldyst/thy selfe refrayn

from yrefull passyons/as I sayd byfore

Hyth thou shalt haue a reward/in heuen therfore

Man. **I**t ys my full mynde and intent

Deceaster to do/as ye me aduertysse





.xxxiii.

pacpen **C** Now he that all goodnes/ to vs hath sent  
Send you hys grace to demean you that wyse

**C** Then he goeth out.

Man. **C** I shall do my good wyll/ on warrantyse  
Now who can me best directe  
My slouthfull Idelnes for to correct

**C** Good occupacyon.

**C** The syn of Slouth/ I can well repress  
And I shall teche the/ to do the same

Man. **C** How shuld I do yt

occupa **C** By mean of me good besynes  
and so am I called/ for that ys my name  
Idelnes ys neuer/ wythout syn or blame  
By mean therof/ myche syn cometh in  
for yt ys the very moder/ and maysters of syn

**C** In esche wyng therof/ thou must euer vse  
Som good occupacyon/ in body or mynde  
and yf thou do thys/ my counsell refuse

So that the deuyll/ in Idelnes the synde  
than accordyng/ to hys propriete and kynde  
He laboreth fast/ by mean of temptacyon

to bring thy soule/ vnto endles dampnacyon  
**C** Therefore do som good occupacyon al day  
as well wyth the body/ as wyth mynde in ward

And yf thou do not/ thys counsell obey  
thou shalt thyn owyn soule gretely eniohard

On that other syde/ thou mayst be no coward

Nor ferefull of penaunce/ or other good dede

Hyth thou shalt be sure/ to haue heuen to thy mede

Man. **C** Thys counsell ys good/ I thank you therfore

My mynde ys well eased/ therein be ye sure

occupa **C** Is there any thyng/ ellys that I can do more

Man. **C** None to my knowlege/ for ye haue done your cure

occupa **C** He that ye wysely now put in dre

**C** Then he goeth out.

lybera: **C** Yes hardely thynk not the contrary

lyte. **C** Hyth yt ys to me so behouefull and necessary

**C** I am lyberalyte/ the Vertu Cardynall

By Whom ys confounded/ the syn of auarycce

Who so euer lusteth/ on me to call

I am cedy therein/ to geue myne aduise

Man. **C** Hyr I pray you/ in my most hartly wyse

**C** I pray you/ in my most hartly wyse

**lybeta** **C**hryst thou must be soyr / for the abusing  
of temporall goodys / byfore thys day  
**N**ext that I wyll aduryse the / byfore all thyng  
If thou hast wrongfully / taken a way  
Any manny's good / go wythout delay  
and therof to thy power / make due restytucion  
for erst shalt thou haue / of thy syn no remyssyon

**Man.** **W**hy trode ye that I shall not be excused  
By almes dede / of that offense

**lybeta** **N**o no hardely / thou art gretely abused  
Thynk not therby / to make recompence  
for by that almes thou doyst great offense  
and dyspleasure to god

**Man.** **W**hy say ye so

**C**ryst hym selfe bad that we shuld almes do

**lybeta** **C**rye for god / but that shuld be do  
Of well gotten goodys / elles ys yt nought

**Man.** **W**ell I assent gladly therto  
as in that one poynt / I am fully taught  
Wyt ys nothyng worth / tyll yt be dere bought  
But what other amendys / shall I make  
The foull syn of auarycce / to swage & astake

**lybeta** **T**hou must haue compassyon and also be lybeta  
vnto thy neryghbour at hys necessyte

**Man.** **I** trod ye wold haue me to gyue a way all  
and leue my selfe nought

**lybeta** **I** mene not so parde  
for that ys wast / and synfull prodygalyte  
take the myd way / byt wytt the ym two  
And fle the extremytes / how so euer thou do  
**T**hou must thy worldly goodys so employ  
In charytable dedys / wyth due compassyon  
that thou mayst bye everlastyng ioy  
for the good intent / of that dystribucion  
thou mayst also gyue the ym / to thy dampnacyon  
as whan thou doyst yt / to wyth therby  
Pray syng of the people / or som other dayn glory  
**F**or trust yt well thou must geue a rekenyng  
Of all the goodys / that com to thy n vfe  
the hygh Juge / that knoweth all thyng  
to whom thou shalt thy selfe accuse  
Wythout any appele / or farned excuse







To whom thou canst not hyde thy face  
There shalt thou openly shew and confesse  
How that goodys cam / to thy possessyon  
What mynde and pleasure / thou hadyft in thy chere  
And why thou hadyft / therein suche affeccyon  
What almes dede / or other good dystribucyon  
Or how thou hast / these goodys wasted or abused  
there yt shalbe knowen / yt can not be refused

Then as I sayd to the byfore  
thou shalt receyue / after thy deseruyng  
Joy or ellys payn / to endure euer more

Man. Cruelly thys ys a ferefull thyng  
lybera Therefore remember well my sayeng  
Mark well my counsell / and folow the same

Man. If I dyd not I were gretely to blame  
Then lyberalyte goeth out / & abstynence  
and chastyte com in.

abstine The remedy of Glotony / I can well teche  
I am ordeyned / onely for that intent

Man. And I haue great nede / of suche a leche  
your counsell to me / ys ryght expedient

abstine Hys ys ye lust / to be my pacient  
And take suche remedy / as I shall deuise  
I shall make you hole / of that syn on warrantyse

Man. What ys your name  
abstine My name ys Abstynence  
And thys other / that cometh wyth me  
Is called chastyte / or ellys contynence  
It ys hys gyfte / and hys properte  
to folow me / where so euer I be  
Lyke wyse as lycher / that dedely soile  
foloweth the bestly syn / of Glotony euer more

Quia delitie sunt instrumenta voluptatis  
But now to do that I cam for  
Agayn the syn of Glotony / the remedy ys thys  
Use scarcer dyet / than thou dyddyft byfore  
Be wace of superfluyte / and surfet euer more  
Take no more than suffyceth nature  
Nor of delycate mete / set thou no store  
Now haue I sayd all that longeth to my cure

hasty. And I must nedys / conferme hys sayeng  
for as he reherced / now ryght well  
Cuttynge of hate metes / and delycate fedynge

Causeth synfull lustye/in a man to dwell  
and ouer that/thyrs ys my counsell  
Escheue Idelnes/byfore all thyng  
If thou wylt be chaste/and cleane of luring  
Esle also the cumpany/and the occasyon  
Of that syn/whycche ys dampnable  
As sone as thou felest/any temptacon  
Put yt cleane away/by meanes couenable  
Of all other synnes/yt ys most abhomyrable  
and sonest wylt thy soule endaunger and blame  
There be so many great synnes/annexed to the same  
If thou lyst not/for feere of dampnacyon  
thys syn to forbere/than on that other spede  
Do yt for loue/of thy owdy saluacyon  
Thynk what rewardys/in heuen doth the abyde  
Whycche ys thou lyue chaste/can not be denyde  
My wylt suffyseth not/to tell and expresse  
What ioy thou shalt haue/for thy chaste clenness

Man. I thank you both/for your aduyse  
and now wold I speke/wyth repentaunce sayis

abst. I can bring you to hym/on the best wyse

Man. I than wylt I aduert vpon you wayis  
and after that/I wylt com byd: r agayn  
trustyng that god/wylt send me the grace  
to comfort my soule/wyth gostly solace

I than they go out / Reason comyth in

I here say/to my great ioy and gladnes  
that accordyng/to my counsell and aduyse  
thys mortall creature/doth well hys besynes  
to correct and forsake/all hys old vyce  
And that he ys in good way/and lyhely to aryse  
from the vale of syn/whycche ys full of secknes  
to ward the contemplacon/of lyght that ys endles

Lo syre/are not we all myche behold  
to our maker/for thys great pacyence  
Whycche not wythstandyng/our synnes manyfold  
wherrey we dayly/so to hym offence  
yet of hys mercyfull/and great magnyspience  
He doth not punyshe/as sone as we offende  
But suffereth in hope/that we wylt amend  
He suffereth a synner/sometyme to eniure  
A long lyfe in honour/and great profyterye





And meny a great daunger escapeth he  
 Where good men percyshe / thys may ye se  
 And all by cause / that he wold hym wyne  
 and haue hym to sourn / and forsake hys syn  
**C**here cometh / he that I toke fore  
 Hys haue ye done as I wyllid you to do

**Man.** **T**ye that haue I don / and what trod ye more  
 I haue ben wyth / repentaunce also  
 Whyshe fro my hart / shall neuer go  
 for he brought me / into confessyon  
 And anon I was acquaynted / with hartys contrycyon  
**T**hey aduysed and charged / me to do satysfaccyon  
 and so haue I don / to my best power

**Rea.** **T**han art thou fully / the chyld of saluacyon  
 Haue good perseueraunce / and be not in fere  
 thy gostly enemy / can put the in no daunger  
 and greter reward / thou shalt therefore wyne  
 Than he that neuer in hys lyfe dyd syn  
**A**nd to thentent / that thou mayst well  
 Perseuer and contynue / in thys sure way  
 Or we depart hens / by my counsell  
 Let vs by one accord / togeder syng and pray  
 wyth as humble deuocyon / as we can or may  
 That we may haue grace / from syn thus to ryse  
 as often as we fall and let vs pray thys wyse

**T**hen they syng some goodly ballad.

**T**he names of the players.

Nature.	Writh.	Lyberalrte.
Man.	Enuy.	Chastyte
Reason.	Glouth.	Good occupacyon.
Sensualrte.	Glotomy.	Shamefastn. s.
Innocence.	Dumprte.	Mundus.
Worldly affeccyon.	Charpte.	Pacynce.
Bodyly lust.	Abstynence.	Dyde.

**C**um priuilegio.



## Nature

*These two leaves following are duplicates of  
ci and civ, as bound up with the British Museum  
copy at the end.*









Now addresse you thereto/and demeanie you thus

I shall be to you/euer good and prosperouse

**Man.** **C**hris I thank you/of thys curtesy  
Vnderseued as yet/but be ye sure  
I shall my selfe/endeuour by sply  
to do that may be/to your pleasure  
And for the season/that I shall her endure  
I shall them cheryce/and to my power mayntayne  
That vnto you in any wyse do partayne

**p Wor.** **T**han to bygyn wyth all/I wyll aduise you  
to put thys man/from your company  
I tell you/euery man wyll despyse you  
As long as ye/be ruled by innocency  
to folow suche counsell/yt ys but foly  
for he can neyther good neyther euyl  
and therfore he ys taken/but for a dyspully

**Man.** **B**y my sayth/euyn as ye say  
It lyketh me not ryght well  
Wyth innocency longe to dwell  
therfore accordyng to your counsell  
I wyll not after thys day  
Wyth hys company my selfe assure  
As me wet as yt were a gray scere  
I suppose there ys no man here  
What soeuer he be  
That could in in hys mynde be content  
all wayes to be called an innocent  
Wherfore yt ys myne intent  
to do as ye aduise me

**p Wor.** **C**ye hardely do euyn so  
**Inno.** **F**orsoth and I hold me well content  
to departe at your commaundement  
ye shall fynde me obedyent  
What soeuer ye byd me do

**C**here innocency goeth out.

**sensua** **S**o the company ys well amend  
Let hym go to the deuyll of hell  
He ys but a boy I warn you well  
and shuld ye folow hys counsell  
All myghty god defend  
yf euer ye lust to play the man  
It ys tyme th at ye now bygan  
Wary to play the boy now and than

for your dyppour and your

It forceth not though ye do

Whan ye may haue leysed therto

And among I wyll helpe you also

In due tyme and place

¶ Wor. I praye that ye wyll in dede

But no wyll ye any thyng

Commaund me byfore my departyng

¶ Man. I Nothyng at all to my wytyng

But our lord haue you in hys kyppng

And send you well to spede

¶ Wor. I Worldey affectyon come hyder/ye are polypke

and myche better enured/in thys world than I

I pray you dyspose for me/as ye thynk most lyke

That I may lyue here well and honorably

¶ Wor. I praye I shall. Doute ye not hardely

yf yt lyke you/to put me in so great trust

And I trow ye shall fynde me/trow and iust

¶ Man. I I wote well I shall. Surely you be bound

To the world/that hath gyven you so great comendacyon

¶ Wor. I praye I some men had leuer than a thousand pound

They myght be commended/of the same fassyon

But I praye let passe/all thys comendacyon

and answere to me/I praye you scute fully

In that I shall mene you/substancially

I praye at few wordys/I praye you exhorte

Myth that ye be come to your owne

Cast your selfe to here suche a porte

That as ye be/ye may be knowen

Eke yt ys necessary/for that behou

that there be made/some maner of puruyance

Wherby/ye may here out your countenance

I praye yt lyke you therfore/that I suruey

And se the extent/of all your land

and there bypon/in all the hast puruey

Both for you and yours/all maner of byand

With other byensytys/ready at your hand

So that ye be purueyd/all tymes erely and late

Of eche thyng/that belongeth to your estate

¶ Man. I your counsell ys good/do as ye thynk best

I comyt all suche thyng/to your dyscrecyon

I shall do my trow/byspnes at the lest

To byryng all thyngys/to good conclusyon





Dyde **C**hr I shall tell the how / when I am in  
To thy masters seruyce I wyll first begyn  
To set hys hart on a mecy pryn  
And byd hym make good chere  
I wyll byd hym / thynk how he ys create  
To be a worthy potestate  
And eke that he ys predestynate  
to be a prynces pere  
And other thyngs more than thys  
I shall bring that hart of hys  
To be more howt than yt ys  
By a de wys ase  
Specrally I wyll commend hys wyt  
That no man can amend yt  
And that he ys able therby to spt  
as a iuge in comen place  
And when I prayse hym thys wyse  
I thynke hys hart wyll begyn to ryse  
and after that vitterly despyse  
any opray counsell to here  
He shall trust all to hys own brayne  
and than wold Reason neuer so fayne  
Though he come and suche opprt wayn  
He shalbe neuer the nere

sensua **C**surely thys consept ys well found  
I shall bring the in seruyce for to wapntyr pound

Dyde **C**ramercy brother I thynk me mych bound  
To the for thy curtesy  
But spt abyde here on thyng  
I wyll not be knowen that yt ys my sekynng

sensua **C**No more wold I for .xl. shelyng  
Let me alone hardely

sensua **C**hr ys yt ple ase you here ys come a straunger  
That neuer was aquarnted wyth you ere  
Somwhat shame fast and halfe in fere  
To put hym selfe in prese  
A goodly parson be ye sure  
Both of countenaunce and of feature  
If he were drawy in portapture  
And a good man doubles  
ye and a wyse man at all  
Wyll yt ple ase you that I hym call

to speke wyth you. **C**Wā. bpd hym com. **C**Hē. I shall  
Hr wyll ye come nere.

**sensua** **C**Hr. bpd hym welcome for the maner sake  
A nother day I am sure he wyll take  
And say suche a gentylman dpd hym make  
Very great chere  
Desyre hym for to dwell wyth you  
I tell you he ys a man for your prowd  
and knoweth the world well I now  
No man better than he

**Man.** **C**Hr. ye be welcom to thys place  
**Dyde** **C**I thanke you syr. but I do you trespace  
to come thus homly. **C**Sensua. ye a parlous case  
God wote ye are welcom heder  
On my faryth by my wyll  
ye shall dwell wyth vs styll  
So nere to hym and talk your spyll  
I leue you togeder

**C**He goeth forth.

**Man.** **C**Now syr what haue ye to say to me  
**Dyde** **C**No great thyng syr. but I come to se  
And to know what maner man ye be  
That all men prayseth so mouche

**Man.** **C**Prayse whom prayse they. **C**Dyde. **C**Warp you  
Man me. **C**Dyde. ye syr I make myne auowd  
They gyue you a praysyng good I now  
I harde neuer none suche  
and surely ye be ryght wurthy  
I se well now they do not ly  
and therefore I dpd my byder hy  
To acquaynt me wyth you  
But ye may say that I am bold

**Man.** **C**May ye ar worth thy weyght of gold  
We thenketh me to you myche behold  
I pray you what ys your name

**Dyde** **C**My name ys wurshyp. **C**Man. **C**Wurshyp now surely  
The world told me yt was my destiny  
To come to wurshyp or I dye

**Dyde** **C**Truly I am the same

**Man.** **C**Now wurshyp I pray you me tell  
your wysedom and also counsell  
ye can aduertyse me passyng well  
In thyngs that I haue to do











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Medwall, Henry  
Nature

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