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## THE OLD ENGLISH PHYSIOLOGUS

TEXT AND PROSE TRANSLATION
BY

## ALBERT STANBURROUGH COOK

Professor of the English Language and Literature in Yale University

VERSE TRANSLATION
By
JAMES HALL PITMAN
Fellow in English of Yale University


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## PREFACE

The Old English Physiologus, or Bestiary, is a series of three brief poems, dealing with the mythical traits of a land-animal, a sea-beast, and a bird respectively, and deducing from them certain moral or religious lessons. These three creatures are selected from a much larger number treated in a work of the same name which was compiled at Alexandria before 140 B. C., originally in Greek, and afterwards translated into a variety of lan-guages-into Latin before 43I. The standard form of the Physiologus has 49 chapters, each dealing with a separate animal (sometimes imaginary) or other natural object, beginning with the lion, and ending with the ostrich; examples of these are the pelican, the eagle, the phœnix, the ant (cf. Prov. 6.6), the fox, the unicorn, and the salamander. In this standard text, the Old English poems are represented by chapters 16,17 , and 18 , dealing in succession with the panther, a mythical seamonster called the asp-turtle (usually denominated the whale), and the partridge. Of these three poems, the third is so fragmentary that little is left except eight lines of religious application, and four of exhortation by the poet, so that the outline of the poem, and especially the part descriptive of the partridge, must be conjecturally restored by reference to the treatment in the fuller versions, which are based upon Jer. 17. II (the texts drawn upon for the application in lines 5-II are 2 Cor. 6. 17, I8; Isa. 55.7; Heb. 2. IO, II).

It has been said: 'With the exception of the Bible, there is perhaps no other book in all literature that has been more widely current in every cultivated tongue and among every class of people.' Such currency might be illustrated from many English authors. Two passages from Elizabethan literature may serve as specimens-the one from Spenser, the other from Shakespeare. The former is from the Faerie Queene (1. II.34):

> At last she saw, where he upstarted brave Out of the well, wherein he drenched lay; As Eagle fresh out of the Ocean wave, Where he hath left his plumes all hoary gray, And deckt himselfe with feathers youthly gay, Like Eyas hauke up mounts unto the skies, His newly budded pineons to assay, And marveiles at himselfe, still as he flies: So new this new-borne knight to battell new did rise.

The other is from Hamlet (Laertes to the King) :
To his good friends thus wide I'll ope my arms; And like the kind life-rendering pelican, Repast them with my blood. ${ }^{1}$

However widely diffused, the symbolism exemplified by the Physiologus is peculiarly at home in the East. Thus Egypt symbolized the sun, with his death at night passing into a rebirth, by the phœnix, which, by a natural extension, came to signify the resurrection. And the Bible not only sends the sluggard to the ant, and bids men consider the lilies of the field, but with a large sweep commands (Job I2.7, 8) : 'Ask now the beasts, and they shall teach thee ; and the fowls of the air, and they shall tell thee ; or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee ; and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee.'

[^0]The text as here printed is extracted from my edition, The Old English Elenc, Phoenix, and Physiologus (Yale University Press, 1919), where a critical apparatus may be found; here it may be sufficient to say that Italic letters in square brackets denote my emendations, and Roman letters those of previous editors. The translations have not hitherto been published, and no complete ones are extant in any language, save those contained in Thorpe's edition of the Codex Exonicnsis, which appeared in 1842. The long conjectural passage in the Partridge is due wholly to Mr. Pitman.
A. S. C.

[^1]
## PHYSIOLOGUS

## PHYSIOLOGUS

## I <br> THE PANTHER

Monge sindon geond middangeard unrīmu cynn, [pära] be wē æpelu ne magon ryhte āreccan nē rīm witan; pæs wide sind geond wor $[u][\mathrm{d}]$ innan fugla and dēora foldhrērendra wornas widsceope, swā wæter bibūgeð pisne beorhtan bōsm, brim grymetende, sealtȳba geswing.

Wē bi sumum hȳrdon
wrātlic $[u m]$ gecynd $[e]$ wildra secgan,
Io fïrum frēamæ̈rne, feorlondum on, eard weardian, èðles nēotan, æfter dūnscrafum. Is pæt dēor Pandher bi noman hāten, pæs pe nippa bear[n],

Many, yea numberless, are the tribes throughout the world whose natures we can not rightly expound nor their multitudes reckon, so immense are the swarms of birds and earth-treading animals wherever water, the roaring ocean, the surge of salt billows, encompasses the smiling bosom of earth.

We have heard about one marvelous kind of wild beast which inhabits, in lands far off, a domain renowned among men, rejoicing there in his home amid the moun-tain-caves. This beast is called panther, as the learned

## PHYSIOLOGUS

## I

## THE PANTHER

Of living creatures many are the kinds Throughout the world-unnumbered, since no man Can count their multitudes, nor rightly learn The ways of their wild nature ; wide they roam, These beasts and birds, as far as ocean sets A limit to the earth, embracing her And all her sunny fields with salty seas And toss of roaring billows.

We have heard
From men of wider lore of one wild beast, Wonderful dweller in a far-off land Renowned of men, who loves his native glens And dusky caverns. Him have wise men called
wisfæste weras, on gewritum cȳba[ $\boldsymbol{\delta}]$
I5 bi pām ānstapan.
Sē is $\overline{\boldsymbol{x}}[g]$ hwām frēond,
duguða ēstig, būtan dracan ānum ; pām hē in ealle tīd andwrād leofap, purh yfla gehwylc pe hē geæfnan mæg. Đæt is wrø̄tlīc dēor, wundrum scȳne,
20 hīwa gehwylces. Swā hæleð secgað, gǣsthālge guman, pætte Iōsēphes tunece w̄̄ære telga gehwylces blēom bregdende, pāra beorhtra gehwylc, $\bar{æ} g h w æ s ~ \bar{æ} n l i \overline{c r a} \quad$ ōprum lixte dryhta bearnum, swā pæs dēores hīw, blǣc, brigda gehwæs, beorhtra and scȳnra wundrum līxeð, pætte wrǣtlīcra
 and fæ̈gerra, frætwum blīceð, symle sellïcra.

Hē hafað sundorgecynd,
among the children of men report in their books concerning that lonely wanderer.

He is a friend, bountiful in kindness, to every one save only the dragon ; with him he always lives at enimity by means of every injury he can inflict.

He is a bewitching animal, marvelously beautiful with every color. Just as, according to men holy in spirit, Joseph's coat was variegated with hues of every shade, each shining before the sons of men brighter and more perfect than another, so does the color of this beast blaze with every diversity, gleaming in wondrous wise so clear and fair that each tint is ever lovelier than the next, glows more enchanting in its splendor, more rare, more beauteous, and more strange.

He has a nature all his own, so gentle and so calm is

The panther, and in books have told of him, The solitary rover.

He is kind,
A bounteous friend to every living thing Save one alone, the dragon ; but with him The panther ever lives at enmity, Employing every means within his power To work him evil.

Fair is he, full bright
And wonderful of hue. The holy scribes Tell us how Joseph's many-colored coat, Gleaming with varying dyes of every shade, Brilliant, resplendent, dazzled all men's eyes That looked upon it. So the panther's hues Shine altogether lovely, marvelous, While each fair color in its beauty glows Ever more rare and charming than the rest.

His wondrous character is mild, and free
milde. zemetfæst.
lufsum and léfixl
$\overline{\text { ® }}$ ng jun geæinan
his iymgeflitan. be ic $\overline{\not x} r$ fore ミægde.
Symle. fvlle fægen. ponne föddor pised,
æiter päm gereordum ræste sēced.
dy̆gle stōwe under dūnscrafum;
Зモ̄r se pëoldךiga prēonihta fæc
swifed on swe ojfote. slæpe gebiessadj.
$\therefore$ Donne ellenrōi ūp āstonded,
prymme gewelgad. on pore priddan dær.
snẽome of slæ̈pe. Sweghleopor cymed.
wöpa wrnsumast. burh pæs wildres mùd:
æiter pāre stefne stenc ūt cymed
+5 of pām wongstede - winsumra steam.
swēttra and swipra.
wyrta blostmum and wudubledum.
tallum æpelicra eorpan frætw[um].

1t. Kind. attractive and iriendly he has no though of doing harm to any save the envenomed foe. hi ancient adversary of whom I spoke.

When delighting in a feast, he has partaken of food, ever at the end of the meal he betakes himself to his resting-place, a hidden retreat among the mountaincaves; there the champion of his race overcome bry sleep, abandons himself to slumber for the space of three nights. Then the dauntless one, replenished with rigor. straightway arises from sleep when the third day has come. A melody, the most ravishing of strains, flows from the wild beast's mouth : and, following the music, there issues a fragrance from the place - a fume more transporting, sweet, and strong than any odor whatever, than blossoms of plants or fruits of the forest, choicer

From all disturbing passion. Gracious, kind, And full of love, he meditates no harm But to that venomous foe, as I have told, His ancient enemy.

Once he has rejoiced
His heart with feasting, straight he finds a nook Hidden among dim caves, his resting-place. There three nights' space, in deepest slumber wrapped, The people's champion lies. Then, stout of heart, The third day he arises fresh from sleep, Endowed with glory. From the creature's mouth Issues a melody of sweetest strains; And close upon the voice a balmy scent Fills all the place-an incense lovelier, Sweeter, and abler to perfume the air, Than any odor of an earthly flower Or scent of woodland fruit, more excellent

|  | ponne of ceastrum and cynestōlum |
| :---: | :---: |
| 50 | and of burgsalum beornprëat monig farað foldwegum folca prȳpum ; |
|  | ēoredcystum, ofestum gefȳsde, dareðlācende - dēor [ $s$ ]wā som |
|  | $æ \mathrm{fter} \mathrm{p} \overline{\mathrm{m}} \mathrm{re}$ stefne on pone stenc farað. |
| 55 | Swā is Dryhten God, drēama R̄̄dend, |
|  | eallum ēaðmēde ōprum gesceaftum |
|  | duguða gehwylcre, būtan dracan ānum |
|  | āttres ordfruman - bæt is se ealda fēon bone hē ges̄̄̄lde in sūsla grund, |
| 60 | and gefetrade fȳrnum teeagum, |
|  | bipeahte prēany ${ }^{\text {dum }}$; and by priddan |
|  | of digle ārās, pæs pe hē dēað fore ūs |
|  | ēo niht polade, pēoden engla, |
|  | sigora Sellend. pæt wæs swēte |
|  | wlitig and wynsum, geond woruld eall |
|  | Sippan tō pām swicce sōðfæste me |

than aught that clothes the earth with beauty. Thereupon from cities, courts, and castle-halls many companies of heroes flock along the highways of earth ; the wielders of the spear press forward in hurrying throngs to that perfume-and so also do animals-when once the music has ceased.

Even so the Lord God, the Giver of joy, is gracious to all creatures, to every order of them, save only the dragon, the source of venom, that ancient enemy whom he bound in the abyss of torments ; shackling him with fiery fetters, and loading him with dire constraints, he arose from darkness on the third day after he, the Lord of angels, the Bestower of victory, had for three nights endured death on our behalf. That was a sweet perfume throughout the world, winsome and entrancing. Henceforth,

Than all this world's adornments. Then from town And palace, then from castle-hall, come forth Along the roads great troops of hurrying menThe very beasts come also; all press on Toward that sweet odor, when the voice is stilled.

Such as this creature is the Lord our God, Giver of joys, to all creation kind, To men benignant, save alone to him, The dragon, author of all wickedness, Satan, the ancient adversary whom, Fettered with fire, shackled with dire constraint, Into the pit of torments God cast down. The third day Christ arose from out the grave, For three nights having suffered death for us, He, Lord of angels, he in whom alone Is hope of overcoming. Far and wide The tidings spread, like perfume fresh and sweet, Through all the world. Then to that fragrance thronged

| geond ealne ymbhwyrf | hēapum prungon <br> t eorban scēat[a]. |
| :---: | :---: |
| Swā se snottra gecwæð | Sanctus Paulus |
| Monigfealde sind | eond middangeard |
| gōd ungny $\mathrm{y}^{\text {厄e }}$ de ū | tō giefe dǣ̄leð |
| nd tō feorhn | der ælmihtig, |
| ga Hyht | ra gesceafta |
| p | p |

through the whole extent of earth's regions, righteous men have streamed in multitudes from every side to that fragrance. As said the wise St. Paul : ' Manifold over the world are the lavish bounties which the Father almighty, the Hope of all creatures above and below, bestows on us as grace and salvation.' That, too, is a sweet odor.

From every side all men whose hearts were true, Throughout the regions of the circled earth.
Thus spoke the wise St. Paul: 'In all the world His gifts are many, which he gives to us For our salvation with unstinting hand, Almighty Father, he, the only Hope Of all in heaven or here below on earth.' This is that noble fragrance, rare and sweet, Which draws all men to seek it from afar.

## II <br> THE WHALE (ASP-TURTLE)

$N u \bar{u}$ ic fitte gēn ymb fisca cynn wille wōðcræfte wordum cȳpan purh mōdgemynd, bi pām miclan hwale. Sē bið unwillum oft gemēted,
5 frēcne and fer[h]ðgrim, fareðlācendum, nippa gehwylcum; pām is noma cenned, fyr[ge]nstrēama geflotan, Fastitocalon.

Is pæs hīw gelīc hrēofum stāne, swylce wōrie bi wædes öfre,
Io sondbeorgum ymbseald, s̄̄rȳrica mǣst, swā pæt wēnap wäglïpende pæt hy on ēalond sum ēagum wliten; and ponne geh $\bar{y} d[i] a ð \quad$ hēahstefn scipu tō pām unlonde oncyrrāpum, I5 s[ $\bar{d}]$ lap s $\overline{\not r m e a r a s}$ sundes $\nsupseteq t$ ende,

This time I will with poetic art rehearse, by means of words and wit, a poem about a kind of fish, the great sea-monster which is often unwillingly met, terrible and cruel-hearted to seafarers, yea, to every man; this swimmer of the ocean-streams is known as the asp-turtle.

His appearance is like that of a rough boulder, as if there were tossing by the shore a great ocean-reedbank begirt with sand-dunes, so that seamen imagine they are gazing upon an island, and moor their high-prowed ships with cables to that false land, make fast the oceancoursers at the sea's end, and, bold of heart, climb up

## II

## THE WHALE (ASP-TURTLE)

Now will I spur again my wit, and use Poetic skill to weave words into song, Telling of one among the race of fish, The great asp-turtle. Men who sail the sea Often unwillingly encounter him, Dread preyer on mankind. His name we know, The ocean-swimmer, Fastitocalon.

Dun, like rough stone in color, as he floats He seems a heaving bank of reedy grass Along the shore, with rolling dunes behind, So that sea-wanderers deem their gaze has found An island. Boldly then their high-prowed ships They moor with cables to that shore, a land That is no land. Still floating on the waves, Their ocean-coursers curvet at the marge;
and ponne in pæt ēglond ūp gewitað
collenfer[ $h$ ]be; cēolas stondað
bi stape fæste strēame biwunden.
Đonne gewiciad wērigfer[ $h$ ]ðe, faroðlācende, frēcnes ne wēnað.

On pām ēalonde $\bar{æ} l e d$ weccað,
hēah fyr ǣlað. Hælep bēop on wynnum, rēonigmōde, ræste gel[y]ste. ponne gefēleð fācnes cræftig pæt him pā fērend on fæste wuniap, wic weardiad, wedres on luste, ðonne semninga on sealtne wǣg mid pā nōpe niper gewitep, gārsecges gæst, grund gesēceð, and ponne in deaðsele drence bifæsted scipu mid scealcum.

Swā bið scinn[cn]a pēaw,
dēofla wise, pæt hì droht[i]ende purh dyrne meaht duguðe beswicad, and on teosu tyhtap tilra d̄̄da, 35 wēmað on willan, pæt hy wrape sēcen,
on that island ; the vessels stand by the beach, enringed by the flood. The weary-hearted sailors then encamp, dreaming not of peril.

On the island they start a fire, kindle a mounting flame. The dispirited heroes, eager for repose, are flushed with joy. Now when the cunning plotter feels that the seamen are firmly established upon him, and have settled down to enjoy the weather, the guest of ocean sinks without warning into the salt wave with his prey (?), and makes for the bottom, thus whelming ships and men in that abode of death.

Such is the way of demons, the wont of devils: they spend their lives in outwitting men by their secret power, inciting them to the corruption of good deeds, misguiding

The weary-hearted sailors mount the isle, And, free from thought of peril, there abide.

Elated, on the sands they build a fire, A mounting blaze. There, light of heart, they sitNo more discouraged-eager for sweet rest. Then when the crafty fiend perceives that men, Encamped upon him, making their abode, Enjoy the gentle weather, suddenly Under the salty waves he plunges down, Straight to the bottom deep he drags his prey; He , guest of ocean, in his watery haunts Drowns ships and men, and fast imprisons them Within the halls of death.

Such is the way
Of demons, devils' wiles : to hide their power, And stealthily inveigle heedless men, Inciting them against all worthy deeds, And luring them to seek for help and comfort
frōfre tō fēondum, oppæt hy fæste ðǣr æt bām wǣrlogan wīc gecēosað. ponne pæt gecnāweð of cwicsūsle flāh fēond gemāh, pætte fīra gehwylc
40 hælepa cynnes on his hringe bip fæste gefēged, hē him feorgbona, purh slipen searo, sibpan weorpeð, wloncum and hēanum be his willan hēr firenum fremmað; mid pām hē fæ̈ringa, heolophelme bipeaht, helle sēceঠ, gōda gēasne, grundlēasne wylm under mistglōme, swā se micla hwæl se pe bisenceð sच̈līpende eorlas and $\overline{\mathbf{y}}$ ðmearas.

Hè hafað ōpre gecynd,
50 wæterpisa wlonc, wræ̈tlicran gien. ponne hine on holme hungor bysgad, and pone āglǣcan $\bar{æ} t e s ~ l y s t e p, ~$ ðonne se mereweard müð ontȳneð,
them at will so that they seek help and support from fiends, until they end by making their fixed abode with the betrayer. When, from out his living torture, the crafty, malicious enemy perceives that any one is firmly settled within his domain, he proceeds, by his malignant wiles, to become the slayer of that man, be he rich or poor, who sinfully does his will; and, covered by his cap of darkness, suddenly betakes himself with them to hell, where naught of good is found, a bottomless abyss shrouded in misty gloom-like that monster which engulfs the ocean-traversing men and ships.

This proud tosser of the waves has another and still more wonderful trait. When hunger plagues him on the deep, and the monster longs for food, this haunter of the sea opens his mouth, and sets his lips agape;

From unsuspected foes, until at last They choose a dwelling with the faithless one. Then, when the fiend, by crafty malice stirred, From where hell's torments bind him fast, perceives That men are firmly set in his domain, With treachery unspeakable he hastes To snare and to destroy the lives of those, Both proud and lowly, who in sin perform His will on earth. Donning the mystic helm Of darkness, with his prey he speeds to hell, The place devoid of good-all misty gloom, Where broods a sullen lake, black, bottomless, Just as the monster, Fastitocalon, Destroys seafarers, overwhelming men And staunch-built ships.

Another trait he has,
This proud sea-swimmer, still more marvelous. When hunger grips the monster on the deep, Making him long for food, his gaping mouth The ocean-warder opens, stretching wide
wide weleras; cymeð wynsum stenc
55 of his innope, pætte ōpre purh pone,

Swimmað sundhwate $\mathrm{p} \overline{\mathrm{r}} \mathrm{r}$ se swēta stenc ūt gewit[e]ð. Hī pǣr in farað, unware weorude, oppæt se wida ceafl 60 gefylled bið; ponne fæ̈ringa ymbe pā herehūpe hlemmeð tōgædre grimme göman.

Swā bip gumena gehwām
se pe oftost his unwærlice,
on pās l̄̄nan tīd, līf biscēawað :
65 l̄̄teð hine beswican purh swētne stenc, lēasne willan, pæt hē bip leahtrum fāh wið Wuldorcyning. Him se āwyrgda ongēan æfter hinsïpe helle ontȳneð,
pām pe lēaslīce līces wynne
70 ofer ferh[ð]gereaht fremedon on unrēd.
ponne se fǣ̋na in pām fæstenne
gebrōht hafað, bealwes cræftig,
whereupon there issues a ravishing perfume from his inwards, by which other kinds of fish are beguiled. With lively motions they swim to where the sweet odor comes forth, and there enter in, a heedless host, until the wide gorge is full ; then, in one instant, he snaps his fierce jaws together about the swarming prey.

Thus it is with any one who, in this fleeting time, full oft neglects to take heed to his life, and allows himself to be enticed by sweet fragrance, a lying lure, so that he becomes hostile to the King of glory by reason of his sins. The accursed one will, when they die, throw wide the doors of hell to those who, in their folly, have wrought the treacherous delights of the body, contrary to the wise guidance of the soul. When the deceiver, skilful in wrongdoing, hath brought into that fastness,

His monstrous lips; and from his cavernous maw Sends an entrancing odor. This sweet scent, Deceiving other fishes, lures them on In swiftly moving schools toward that fell place Whence comes the perfume. There, unwary host, They enter in, until the yawning mouth Is filled to overflowing, when, at once, Trapping their prey, the fearful jaws snap shut.

So, in this fleeting earthly time, each man
Who orders heedlessly his mortal life Lets a sweet odor, some beguiling wish, Entice him, so that in the eyes of God, The King of glory, his iniquities Make him abhorrent. After death for him The all-accursed devil opens hellOpens for all who in their folly here Let pleasures of the body overcome Their spirits' guidance. When the wily fiend Into his hold beside the fiery lake
æt pām [ā]dwylme, pā pe him on cleofiað, gyltum gehrodene, and $\overline{\not r} r$ georne his wordum and weorcum, pæt wē Wuldorcyning gesēon mōton. Uton ā sibbe tō him, on pās hwīlnan tīd, h̄̄lu sēcan, pæt wē mid swā lēofne in lofe mōtan tō widan feore wuldres nēotan.
the lake of fire, those that cleave to him and are laden with guilt, such as had eagerly followed his teachings in the days of their life, he then, after their death, snaps tight together his fierce jaws, the gates of hell. They who enter there have neither relief nor escape, no means of flight, any more than the fishes that swim the sea can escape from the clutch of the monster.

Therefore is it by all means [best for every one of us to serve ${ }^{1}$ ] the Lord of lords, and strive against devils with words and works, that so we may come to behold the King of glory. Let us ever, now in this fleeting time, seek from him grace and salvation, that so with the Beloved we may in worship enjoy the bliss of heaven for evermore.

[^2]With evil craft has led those erring ones Who cleave to him, sore laden with their sins, Those who in earthly life have hearkened well To his instruction, after death close shut He snaps those woful jaws, the gates of hell. Whoever enters there has no relief, Nor may he any more escape his doom And thence depart, than can the swimming fish Elude the monster.

Therefore it is [best
And ${ }^{1}$ ] altogether [right for each of us To serve and honor God, ${ }^{1}$ ] the Lord of lords, And always in our every word and deed To combat devils, that we may at last Behold the King of glory. In this time Of transitory things, then, let us seek Peace and salvation from him, that we may Rejoice for ever in so dear a Lord, And praise his glory everlastingly.

[^3]```
III
THE PARTRIDGE \({ }^{1}\)
Hȳrde ic secgan gēn bi sumum fugle wundorlicne \({ }^{3}\).
fǣger
pæt word pe gecwæð wuldres Ealdor:
5 'In swā hwylce tiid swā gē mid trēowe tō mē on hyge hweorfað, and gē hellfirena sweartra geswicað, swā ic symle tō ēow mid siblufan sōna gecyrre
purh milde mōd; gē bēoð mē sippan
```

So, too, I have heard tell a wondrous [tale ${ }^{2}$ ] about a certain bird. ${ }^{3}$. . . fair the word ${ }^{4}$ spoken by the King of glory: 'At whatsoever time ye turn to me with faith in your soul, and forsake the black iniquities of hell, I will turn straightway to you with love, in the gentleness of my heart; and thenceforth ye shall be reckoned to
${ }^{1}$ The partridge (like the cuckoo) broods the eggs of other birds. When they are hatched and grown, they fly off to their true parents. So men may turn from the devil, who has wrongfully gained possession of them, to their heavenly Father, who will receive them as his children.
${ }^{2}$ Conjecturally supplied.
${ }^{3}$ Gap in the manuscript, probably of considerable length.
${ }^{4}$ Cf. 2 Cor. 6. 17, 18; Isa. 55. 7; Heb. 2. 10, 1 I.

## III <br> THE PARTRIDGE

About another creature have I heard
A wondrous [tale.] [There is] a bird [men call The partridge. Strange is she, unlike all birds In field or wood who brood upon their eggs, Hatching their young. The partridge lays no eggs, Nor builds a dwelling; but instead, she steals The well-wrought nests of others. There she sits, Warming a stranger brood, until at last
The eggs are hatched. But when the stolen chicks Are fledged, they straightway fly away to seek
Their proper kin, and leave the partridge there Forsaken. In such wise the devil works To steal the souls of those whose youthful minds
Or foolish hearts in vain resist his wiles.
But when they reach maturer age, they see
They are true children of the Lord of lords.
Then they desert the lying fiend, and seek
Their rightful Father, who with open arms
Receives them, as he long since promised them. ${ }^{1}$ ]
Fair is that word the Lord of glory spoke:
'In such time as you turn with faithful hearts
To me, and put away your hellish sins,
Abominable to me, then will I turn
To you in love for ever, for my heart
Is mild and gracious. Thenceforth you shall be

[^4]io torhte, tirēadge, talade and rimde, beorhte gebrōpor on bearna stø̈l.' Uton wē pȳ geornor Gode ōliccan, firene fēogan, fripes earnian, duguðe tō Dryhtne, penden ūs dæg scine, pæt swā æpelne eardwica cyst in wuldres wlite wunian mōtan.

Finit.
me as glorious and renowned, as my illustrious brethren, yea, in the place of children.

Let us therefore propitiate God with all zeal, abhor evil, and gain forgiveness and salvation from the Lord while for us the day still shines, so that thus we may, in glorious beauty, inhabit a dwelling excellent beyond compare. Finit.

## The Partridge

Refulgent, glorious, numbered with the host Of heaven, and, instead of children, called Bright brethren of the Lord.'

Let us by this
Be taught to please God better, hating sin, And strive to earn salvation from the Lord, His full deliverance, so long as day Shall shine upon us, that we may at last Inhabit heavenly mansions, nobler far Than earthly dwellings, gloriously bright.

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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Alfred de Musset, in La Nuit de Mai, develops the image of the pelican through nearly thirty lines.

[^1]:    March 27, 1921.

[^2]:    ${ }^{1}$ Conjecturally supplied.

[^3]:    ${ }^{1}$ Conjecturally supplied.

[^4]:    ${ }^{1}$ Conjecturally supplied, on the basis of other versions.

