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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

The Pardoner and the frere, the
curate and neybour Pratte

[By JOHN HEYWOOD]

Date of the Earliest Known Edition, 1533

[Pepys Collection, Magdalene College, Cambridge]

Reproduced in Facsimile, 1909

The Pardoner and the Frere

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

The Pardoner and the frere, the curate and neybour Pratte

[BY JOHN HEYWOOD]

1533



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GENERAL



The Pardoner and the frere, the curate and neybour Pratte

[By JOHN HEYWOOD]

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The evidence for Heywood's authorship is indirect; it is, however, on the whole, substantially conclusive. The question of the date of composition is likewise, to some extent, problematical. If the reference to Pope Leo X., [A. iii. recto] last line but one, is taken as referring to a reigning pontiff—and recent research has shown this to be not unlikely—the play must have been written before 1521, at which time Heywood was twenty-four years of age. On both these points I hope to throw considerable light in my forthcoming biographical sketch of "John Heywood and his Circle." The date of printing is definite enough, as will be seen from the colophon.

Mr. R. B. Fleming, the technical photographer in charge of the series, says that "contrasted with the original this facsimile compares favourably; that it is well up to the recent

average of merit." The paper is thin, and in some places lines and parts are not quite so clear owing to this cause, and from such-like transparencies showing "rusty." Special criticism is as follows:—

- (1) Title-page, the blurring on this page is in original, and is not due to any fault in printing.
- (2) **A. ii.** recto, lines 6 to 18, the blurred patch is exaggerated, as also are some six or seven lines at bottom of the verso of this leaf.
- (3) [**A. iv.** recto], last line, the blot in original is slightly too pronounced in facsimile.
- (4) **B. ii.** recto, the patch-stain at top right-hand corner, and the similar mendings on **B. iii.** recto and verso, are too strong and black owing to the "rusty" colour of the original.

JOHN S. FARMER.



A mery play betwene the pardonour and the frere/the curate and neybour Bratte.

The frere.



Disserue all that no we here be
Dere bretherne / yf ye wpli conspder
The cause why / I am come hyder
ye wolde be glad / to knowe my entent

for I com not hyther / for monye nor for rent
I com not hyther / for meate nor for meale
But I com hyther / for your soules heale
I com not hyther / to poss nor to shawe
I com not hyther / to begge nor to craue
I com not hyther / to glose nor to flatter
I com not hyther / to bable nor to clatter
I com not hyther / to fable nor to lye
But I come hyther / your soules to edysse
for we freres / are bounde the people to teche
The gospell of Chyfst / openly to preche
As dyd the appostels / by Chyfst theyr mayster sent
To turne the people / and make them to repent
But spth the appostels / fro heuen wolde not come
We freres no w / must occupy theyr come
We freres are bounde / to serche mennes consciens
We may not care for grotes / nor for pens
We freres haue professed / wplfull pouerte
No peny in our purse / haue may we
Knyfe nor staffe / may we none carry
Excepte we shulde / from the gospell vary
for worldly aduersyte / may we be in no sorow
We may not care to day / for our meate to morow
Ware fote and bare legged / must we go also
We may not care / for frost nor snow
We may haue / no maner care ne thynke
Nothor for our meate / no for our drynke
But let our thoughtes / fro luche thynghes be as free
As be the byrdes / that in the ayre flee
for why our lorde / clyped swete Iesus
In the gospell / spekerh to vs thus

Through all the world / hope saye he
 And to every creature / speake ye of me
 And the word of my doctrine / and conynge
 And that they may / be glad of your conynge
 Yf that you enter / in any house any where
 Take that ye salute them / and sayd my peace be there
 And yf that house / be worthy and electe
 The peace that they shall take effecte
 And yf that house / be curst or peruerse
 The peace that they shall take / your false reuert
 And furthermore / yf any suche there be
 Which do deny / some recepyte
 And do dyspse / your doctrine and your lore
 At suche a house / take ye no more
 And from your shoes / scrape away the dust
 To theyr repese / and yf so be read and iust
 Shall vengeance take / of theyr synfull dede
Wherfore my frendes to this tract take ye hede
 Beware how ye / dyspse the pure feres
 Which are in this word / of lawe and mystere
 But do them with a hart / chere recepyte
 Leste they happen / your house as for to leue
 And than god / will take vengeance in his ire
 Wherfore I now / that am a pore fere
 Dyd enquire / why my people were
 Which were dysposed / the worde of god to fere
 And as I saw / some of myne trib
 That in this to done / ynghit god for the dyspse
 Which to here the / worde of god wold be glad
 And as sone as I / therof hooly had
 I byder hped me / as fast as I myght
 Entendyd by the / gentyl god of myght
 And by your prayers / and supplications
 Here to make / some simple relations
 Wherfore I requyre / ye in this place
 For to abyde / and give delectation
But first of all
 Now here I shall
 To god my prayers
 To give ye grace
 All in this place



Dis doctryne for to take.

¶ And than knele: th do wne the sette sayenge his pray-
res/and in the meane whyle emitteth the pardonre with
all his relyques/to declare what eche of them ben/ and
the hoie poeue and vertu therof.

¶ The pardonre.

¶ God and saynt Leonarde sende ye all his grace
As many as ben/assembled in this place

¶ Good deuoute people/that here do assemble

I pray good/that ye may all well resemble

The ymage/after whiche you are draughte

And that ye saue/that Christ in you boughte

¶ Deuoute Christen people/ye shall all wyte

That I am comen hyther/ye to bywrite

Wherfore let vs pray/thus or I begynne

Our sauourre preserve ye/all from synne

And enable ye to receyue/this blessed pardon

Whiche is the greatest/ vnder the son

Granted by the pope/ in his bulles vnder lede

Whiche pardon ye shall fynde/ whan ye are dede

That effreth/outher grotes or els pens

To these hoie relyques/whiche or I go hence

I shall here shewe/ in open audyence

Exortynge ye all/to do to them reuerence

¶ Out first ye shall knowe well/ y I com fro Rome

Lo here my bulles/alli and some

Our lyege lowde seale/here on my patent

I bere with me/my body to warrant

That no man be so bolde/ be he preest or clerge

As to dysturbe/of Christes holy warke

Nor haue no dysdayne/nor yet froune

Of these holy relyques/whiche sayntes haue donne

¶ First here I shewe ye/of a holy Ihesus shepe

A bone/I pray you take good kepe

To my wordes/and marke them well

Yf any of your bestes helpe do well

Dyppye this bone in the water/that he doshe take

Into his body/and the swellynge shall slake

And yf any worne/haue your bestes stonge

Take of this water/and wasshe his tonge

And it wyll be hole anon/and furthermore

Of pockes and scabbes/and every sore

He shall be quite hole / that drynketh of the Well
That this bone is dipped in, it is treuth that I tell
And yf any man that any beste o' death
Once in the weke / or that the cocke cro' death
fastynge wyll drynke / of this Well a draught
As that holy J'ed hath vs taught
His bestes and his store / shall multiply
And maysters all / it helpeth well
Thoughe a may be foule / in ielous rage
Let a man with this water / make his potage
And neuer more shall he / his wyfe mistrust
Thoughe he in sothe the fault by her wyll
Or had she by take with streres & wo' or thre
Here is a mytter eke / as ye may see
He that his hande wyll put in this mytter
He shall haue / encrease of his grayn
That he hath s'wore / be it wile or oyle
So that he offer pens / or els a dore
And another holy relye / eke here se ye may
The b'ie J'ed' / of swete saynt fondaye
And who so euer is b'less'd / with this ryght hande
Can not spede amysse / by se nor by lande
And yf he off'reth / eke with good deuocyon
He shall not faile / to come to hyghe promocyon
And another holy relye here may ye see
The great too / of the holy trynity
And who so euer oned' dothe it in his mouthe take
He shall neuer be dysseasyd / with the sothe ake
Canker nor podrys shall there none b'ide
This that I sh'we ye is matre in dede
And here is of our lady a relye full good
Her bongrace / which she wate with her french gode
Whan she wene oute / alwayes for some boynge
Women with chyldre / which be in moucnynge
By vertue thero / shalbe sone easyd
And of theyr trauayll / full sone also releasyd
And yf this bongrace / they do d'uously lye
And off'r therto / as theyr deuocyon is
Here is another relye / eke a precyous one
Of all helowes / the b'less'd J'ed bone
Which relye / without any faile
Agaynst popson / che sely dothe p'c'iole



for Whom so euer it toucheth/Without doubt
 All maner benygn/ from hym shall issue out
 So that it shall hurt/ no maner wyghte
 Lo of this relyhe/ the great power and myghte
 Which preseruyth from popson euey man
 Lo of saynt Wyghte/ eke the brayn pay
 Which for the hed ake/ is a preseruatyfe
 To euey man or beste/ that beryth lyfe
 And further it shall stande hym in better stede
 for his he de shall neuer ake whan that he is dede
 Nor he shall fele/ no maner grese nor payn
 Though with a sworde/ one cleue it than a wayn
 But be as one that lay in a dede slepe
 Wherfore to these relyhes/ now com crouche and crepe
 But loke that ye offerynge to them make
 Or els can ye no maner profyte take
 But one thyng ye women all I warant you
 Yf any wyghte/ be in this place now
 That hath done syn/ so horryble that she
 Dare nat for shame/ therof shryuen be
 Or any woman/ be she yonge or olde
 That hath made her husbunde cockolde
 Suche folke shall haue/ no power nor no grace
 To offer to my relyhes/ in this place
 And who so fyndyth/ her selfe out of suche blame
 Com hyther to me on crystes holy name
 And because ye
 Shall vnto me
 Gue credence at the full
 My auctoryte
 Now shall ye se
 Lo here the popes bull
 Now shall the freere begyn his sermon / and euen as
 the same tyme the pardonet begynneth also to shew and
 speke of his bullys/ and auctorytes com from Rome.

¶ The freere

¶ Date et dabitur vobis

¶ Good deuout people/ this place of scrypture

¶ Worshypfull maysters/ ye shall vnderstand
 pardo. freere. Is to you/ that haue no litterature

¶ That pope Leo the .x. hath graunted with his hande
 pardo. secre. Is to say/ in our englyshe toung

par. And by his bulles/confirmed Under seide
 fr. As departe your goodes, the poor folke amonge
 pardo. To all maner peopie, bothe quicke and dede
 fr. In godd shall than/gyue Unto you agayne
 pardo. Ten thousande yeres, as many lentes of pardon
 fr. This in the gospell/so is Wryten playne
 pardo. Whan they are dede, theyr soules for to guardon
 fr. Therefore gyue your almes, in the largest Wyse
 pardo. That Wyll With theyr peny/or almes dede
 fr. Kepe not your goodes, spe spe on coneyse
 pardo. Put to theyr handes, to the good spede
 fr. That same With godd is most abhomyuable
 pardo. Of the holy chapel, of swete saynt Leonarde
 fr. And is eke the same, that is most dampned
 pardo. Whiche late by fyre, was destroyed and made
 fr. In scripture eke, but I say sprache
 pardo. As by the man, one can not here
 fr. What a babilynge maketh yonder felow
 pardo. For the babilynge, of yonder falshe fyre
 fr. In scripture eke, is there many a place
 pardo. And also maysters, as I Was aboute to tell
 fr. Whiche she Weth that many a mū so fawfous lacketh
 pardo. Pope Julij. vi. hath graunted sayre a Deil, (grace
 fr. That whan to them, godd hath abundaunce sent
 pardo. And doth. x. thousande yeres of pardon to the sende
 fr. They wolde dystribute none to the indygent
 pardo. That ought, to this holy chapel, ierde
 fr. Wher at godd haupnge, great indygnacyon
 pardo. Pope Boniface, the. ix. also
 fr. Dampned these men, after adperts sacrom
 pardo. Pope Julij, pope Innocent, With dyperts popes ma
 fr. As the gospell, full noblyr dothe declare
 pardo. Hath graunte, to the susteynyng of the same
 fr. Godd diuers Spulus, reuyngnge in Wel fare
 pardo. V. thousand yeres of pardo, to eury of you by name
 fr. And on his boorde, dysshes delpeate
 pardo. And elene remysyon, also of theyr syn
 fr. Pore Lazarus, can beggynge at his gate
 pardo. As often tymes, as you put in
 fr. Despyngge som fode, his honget to releue
 pardo. Any thynge, into the pardoners cofet
 fr. But the rychemay, nothyng wolde hym gyue

pardo. **Or** any money by into it offer
 freere. Not so moche as a few crummys of breade
 pardo. **Or** he that offereth/peny or grote
 freere. Wherfore pore lazarus/of famyn strayth was dede
 pardo. **Or** he that giveth/the pardonere a new cote
 freere. And wher his soule/to heuen dyd carry
 par. **Or** take of me/outi et ymage or letter
 freere. Out no to the ryche man/of the contrary
 pardo. **Wherby** thys pore chapell may/sayre the better
 freere. Whan he was dede/Went to my serp and payne
 pardo. **And** god wote/it ys a full gracous dede
 freere. Wherfor euermore/he shall remayne
 pardo. **For** whych god/shall quyte you well your mede
 freere. In brennyng spere/whych shall neuer cease
 pardo. **Now** helpe our pore chapell/ys it be your wyll
 freere. Out I say thou pardonere/I byd the holde thy peace
 pardo. **And** I say thou freere/holde thy tonge styll
 freere. What standest thou there/all the day smatterynge
 pardo. **Mary** what standyst thou there/all day clatterynge
 freere. **Mary** felow I com hyder/to prech the word of god
 Whych of no man/may be forbode
 But harde wyth seplence/and good entent
 for whych/it techeth them euerygent
 The very way/and path that shall them lede
 Euen to heuen gatys/as strayght as any threde
 And he that letteth the worde/of god of audyence
 Standeth accurst/in the greatesentence
 And so arte thou/for enterupynge me
 pardo. **Nay** thou art a quest/kyngue/and that shalt thou se
 And all suche that to me/make interrupcion
 The pope sendes them/excommunycacion
 By his bullys/here redy to be redde
 By bysshoppes/and his cardynalles confyrmde
 And eke ys thou/dystrurbe me any thyng
 Thou arte also/a traytour to the kyng
 for here hath he graunted me/tydge his brode sege
 That no man/ys he touch his hele
 Sholden me dystrurbe/or let in any wyse
 And ys thou dost/the kynges commaundement dispise
 I shall make the be set/fast by the seye
 And wher thou saydyst/that thou arte more mete
 Amonge the people/for to preche

Dycarise thou dost them/the very way teche
 How to com/to heuen aboue
 Therin thou speest/and that shall I proue
 And by good reason/I shall make the good
 And knowe that I/am more than arte thou
 For thou/whan thou hast taught them ones the way
 Thou carest not/wheth: r they com there ye or nay
 But whan that thou/hast done all togyder
 And taught them the way/for to com thither
 Yet all that thou canst ymagyn
 Is but to vse vertue/and to abstayne fro syn
 And yf they fall ones/than thou canst no more
 Thou canst not gyue them/a salue for theyr sore
 But these my letters/be clene purgacion
 All though he neuer so many synnes/they haue don
 But whan thou hast taught them the way and all
 Yet or they com there/they may haue many a fall
 In the way/or that they com thither
 For why the way/to heuen is very slpydder
 But I wyll teche them after another rate
 For I shall brynge them to heuen gate
 And be theyr gydes/and conducte all thynges
 And lede them thither/by the pure streynges
 So that they shall not fall/though that they wolde
scere. **H**olde thy peace knaue/thou arte very bolde
pardo. **T**hou pratest in fayth/euen lyke a pardonour
scere. **W**hy de spysest thou/the popes mynyster
pardo. **M**aysters/here I curse hym openly
 And therewith warne/all this hole company
 By the popes/great auctorite.
 That ye leue hym/and herken vnto me
 For xpi h: be assoyled/his wordes take none effecte
 For out of holy chryche/he is now clene reiecte
scere. **M**y maysters/he dothe but gest and raue
 It forseth not/for the wordes of a knaue
 But to the worde of god do reuerence
 And here me fourthe/with de we audyence
scere. **M**aysters I swe wedd you/ere whyle of almes dede
pardo. **M**aysters this pardon/whiche I she wedd you before
scere. And how ye shulde gyue poore folke at theyr nede
pardo. Is the greatest that euer was/syth god was bore
scere. And yf of your pactes/that thynges ones were don

frece. For why without confessyon or contrepoyon
 pardo. Doubt not but god sholde gyue you retribucyon
 frece. **C** By this shall ye haue/cleue remysse
 pardo. But now further/it ought to be declared
 frece. **C** And forgyuen of thir synnes seuen
 Who be thes pore folke that shold haue your reward
 pardo. **C** Come to this pardon/ys ye wyll come to heuen
 frece. Who be those pore folk/of whome I speke & name
 pardo. **C** Come to this pardon ys ye wyll be in blis
 frece. Certes we pore freces/are the same
 pardo. **C** This is the pardon/which ye can not mysse
 frece. We freces dayly take payn I say
 pardo. **C** This is the pardon which shall mens soules wyne
 frece. We freces dayly/do bothe fast and pray
 pardo. **C** This is the pardon/the rydder of your synne
 frece. We freces trauaple/and labour euery houre
 pardo. **C** This is the pardon/that purchaseth all grace
 frece. We freces take payne/for the loue of our sauour
 pardo. This is a pardon for all maner of trespas
 frece. We freces also go on lymptacyon
 pardo. **C** This is y^e pardo/of which all mercy dothe sprynge
 frece. For to preche/to euery crysten nacyon
 pardo. **C** This is the pardon that to heuen shall ye brynge
 frece. But I say thou pardoner/thou wyll kepe spens
 pardo. **C** Ve it is lyke to be whan I haue done (one)
 frece. Mary therfore the more knaue art thou I say
 That parturbest/the worde of god I say
 for nerther thy selfe/wyll here goddys doctryne
 Ne suffre other/theire ears to enclpne
 Wherfore our sauour in his holy scripture
 Spueth the thy iugement/thou cursyd creature
 Spekyng to the/after this maner
 Maledictus qui audit Verbum dei negligentet
 Wo be that man sayth our lord / that gyueth no audiens
 Or heryth the worde/of god with negligent
 pardo. **C** Now thou haste spoken all syr daw
 I care nat for the/an olde straw
 I had leuer thou were hanged/ys with a rope
 Than I that am comen from the pope
 And therby goddes numster/whyle thou stadedst & prate
 Sholde be faryn to knocke without the gate
 Therfore preche hardely/thy bely full

frere. **B**ut I neuer theles / Wylle declare the popes bull
 pardo. **N**ow my frendes / I haue afore shewed ye
 frere. **N**ow my maysters / as I haue afore declared
 pardo. **T**hat good it is to gyue your charyte
 frere. **T**hat pardoners from you may not be spaced
 pardo. **A**nd further I haue / at lenghte to you tolde
 frere. **N**ow here after / shall folow and ensew
 pardo. **W**ho be these people / that ye receyue sholde
 frere. **T**hat foloweth of pardons / the great vertue
 pardo. **T**hat is to say / vs freres pore
 frere. **W**e pardoners for your soules be as necessary
 pardo. **T**hat for our spyunge must begge fro dore to dore
 frere. **A**s is the meate / for our bodys hungry
 pardo. **F**or of our own propre / we haue no propre thyng
 frere. **F**or pardons is the thyng that byngeth men to heuen
 pardo. **B**ut that we get / of deuout peoples gettynge
 frere. **P**ardons deliuereth them fro the synnes seuen
 pardo. **A**nd in our place / be freres thre score and thre
 frere. **P**ardons for every crime / may dyspens
 pardo. **W**hich onely lyue / on mens charyte
 frere. **P**ardon purchaseth grace for all offence
 pardo. **F**or we freres / wylfull charyte professe
 frere. **Y**e though ye had slayne / bothe father and mother
 pardo. **W**e may haue no money / nother more nor lesse
 frere. **A**nd this pardon / is chese about all other
 pardo. **F**or worldly treasure we may nought care
 frere. **F**or who to it offereth / grote or peny
 pardo. **O**ur soules must be ryche / and our bodys bare
 frere. **T**hough synnes / he had done neuer so many
 pardo. **A**nd one thyng I had almoste left behynde
 frere. **A**nd though that he had all his hundred slayn
 pardo. **W**hich before / cam not to my mynde
 frere. **T**his pardon shall ryd the fro ever lastynge payne
 pardo. **A**nd doubtles it is none other thyng
 frere. **T**here is no syn / so abhomytable
 pardo. **B**ut whan ye wylle gyue / your almes & offerynge
 frere. **W**hich to remyt / this pardon is not able
 pardo. **L**oke that ye / dystribute it wyllyng
 frere. **A**s well declareth / the sentence of this letter
 pardo. **N**ot to every man / that for it wylle clype
 frere. **Y**e can not therefore / bestow your money better
 pardo. **F**or yf ye gyue / your almes in that wyse

pardo. ¶ Let vs not here/stande ydle all the daye
 scere. ¶ It shall not bothe to them and vs suffyse
 pardo. ¶ Gyue vs some money/or that we go our way
 scere. ¶ But I say/ihou lewde felow thou
 Haddest none other tyme to she we thy bulles but now
 Canst not tary and abyde tyll sone
 And rede them than whan pr^ochynge is done
 pardo. ¶ I wyll rede them now/ what sayest thou therto
 Hast thou any thyng therewith to do
 Thyneest that I wyll stande/ & tary for thy leasure
 Am I bounde to do somoche for thy pleasure
 scere. ¶ for my pleasure may I wolde thou kne wyll it well
 It becometh the knaue/ neuer a dell
 To prate thus boldely in my presence
 And let the word/ of god of audience
 pardo. ¶ Let the word of god as may let a hors dreuyll
 Prate here all day/ with a soule euyl
 And all thy sermon/ goth on couetyse
 And byddest men be wote of auarice
 And yet in thy sermon/ dost thou none other thyng
 But for aymes stande all the day begynge
 scere. ¶ Leue thy r^oalynge I wolde the adur se
 pardo. ¶ Nay leue thou thy bablynge/ yf thou be wyse
 scere. ¶ I wolde thou kne west it knaue/ I wyll not leue ac
 pardo. ¶ No more wyll I/ I do the well to wyll whyt
 scere. ¶ It is not thou/ shall make me hoide my peas
 pardo. ¶ That speke on hardy yf thou thynkyst it for thy eas
 scere. ¶ for I wyll speke/ wyth^r thou wyll or no
 pardo. ¶ In saythe I care nat/ for I wyll speke also
 scere. ¶ Wherfore hard^{ly} / let vs bothe go to
 pardo. ¶ He whiche shall be brytter harde of vs two
 scere. ¶ What shoulde ye gyue ought to prating pardoners
 pardo. ¶ What shoulde ye spende on these flaterynge spera
 scere. ¶ What shoulde ye gyue ought to these holde beggars
 pardo. ¶ As be these bablynge monkes/ and these sceres
 scere. ¶ Let them hardely labour for theyr syrupge
 pardo. ¶ Which do nougth dayly/ but babie and lye
 scere. ¶ It moche hurtyth them/ good mennys gyuruge
 pardo. ¶ And tel pou fables dere moughe a fyre
 scere. ¶ for that makyth them ryde/ and slouthfull to warke
 pardo. ¶ As dothe this bablynge scere/ here to day
 scere. ¶ That for none other thyng they wyll carke

pardo. **C**Dyue hym hence therfore in the .xx. deuyll Waye
 frece. Hardely they wolde go bothe to plow & carre
 pardo. **C**On vs pardoners hardely do pour cost
 frece. And if of necessitie ones they feste the smarte
 pardo. **C**For why/ pour money neuer can be lost
 frece. But we freces be nat in lyke estate
 pardo. **C**For why/ there is in our fraternitie
 frece. for our handes with such thinges we may nat maake
 pardo. **C**For all bretheren & susteren that therof be late
 frece. We freces be nat in lyke condicion
 pardo. **C**Deuoutly songe euery yere
 frece. we may haue no prebendes ne exhibition
 pardo. **C**As he shall know well that cometh there
 frece. Of all temporall serunce are we forbode
 pardo. **C**At euery of the fyue solemne festes
 frece. And onely bounde to the seruice of god
 pardo. **C**A masse & dirige to pray for the good rest
 frece. And therwith to pray for euery chustien nation
 pardo. **C**Of the soules of the bretheren & susteren all
 frece. That god wilsafe to saue them fro dampnation
 pardo. **C**Of our fraternitie in generall
 frece. But some of you so harde be of harte
 pardo. **C**With a herse there standyng/ well arayed & dyght
 frece. Ye can nat sepe though ye full sore smarte
 pardo. And torches & tapers aboute it brennyng bright
 frece. wherfore some man must ye hys nedes
 pardo. **C**And with the belles eke solemnelly ryingyng
 frece. whiche must intrete god for your mysdedes
 pardo. **C**And prestes & clerkes deuoutly syngyng
 frece. Ye can hys no better in myne oppinion
 pardo. **C**And furthermore/ euery nyght in the yere
 frece. Than vs goddes seruantes/ men of religion
 pardo. **C**we iue pore people are receiued there
 frece. And specially god hereth vs pore freces
 pardo. **C**And there haue bothe harborow and food
 frece. And is attentise vnto our despres.
 pardo. **C**That for them is conuenient and good
 frece. for the more of religion/ the more herde of our lord
 pardo. **C**And furthermore/ if there be any other
 frece. And that is/ so shulde / good reason doeth accomde
 pardo. **C**That of our fraternitie be sister or brother
 frece. Therfore doute nat maisters/ I am euen be

pardo. **¶** Whiche hereafter happe to fall in decap
 frere. **¶** To whom ye shulde parte With your charitie
 pardo. **¶** And yf he than chaunce to come that way
 frere. **¶** We freres be thy p that shulde your almes take
 pardo. **¶** Nogh vnto our forsayd holy place
 frere. **¶** Whiche for your soules heith do both Wathe & Wake
 pardo. **¶** Ye shall there tary for a mon. thes space
 frere. **¶** We freres pray/god Wote Whan ye do slepe
 pardo. **¶** And be there founde of the places cost
 frere. **¶** We for your synnes do bothe sobbe and wepe
 pardo. **¶** Wherfore now in the name of the holy goost
 frere. **¶** To pray to god for mercy and for grace
 pardo. **¶** I advise you all that now here be
 frere. **¶** And thus do we dayly With all our hole place
 pardo. **¶** For to be of our fraternitie
 frere. **¶** Wherfore distribute of your temporall welthe
 pardo. **¶** Cope on couetise/sticke nat for a peny
 frere. **¶** By whiche ye may preserue your soules heithe
 pardo. **¶** For whiche ye may haue benefites so many
 frere. **¶** I say Wylt thou not yet stynt thy clappe
 pardo. **¶** Du' I me d' done the pardoner With an euyl happe
 frere. **¶** Wcist' frere/I holde it best
 pardo. **¶** To kepe your tonge While ye be in rest
 frere. **¶** I say one pull the brane of his stole
 pardo. **¶** Nay one pull the frere done lyke a fole
 frere. **¶** Reue thy rakyng and babbelyng of freres
 pardo. **¶** Or by Jhs Jsh lug the by the swete eares
 frere. **¶** By god I wolde thou durst presume to it
 pardo. **¶** By god a lytel thyng might make me to do it
 frere. **¶** And I shre w thy herte and thou spare
 pardo. **¶** By god I Wyl' nat mysse the moche thou slouche
 frere. **¶** And yf thou playe me suche another touche
 pardo. **¶** Jsh knoche the on the costarde / I wolde thou it kne we
 frere. **¶** Mary that wolde I se quod blinde he w
 pardo. **¶** Well I Wyl' begyn, and than let me se
 frere. **¶** Whether thou darest agayne interupte me
 pardo. **¶** And what thou woide ones to it say
 frere. **¶** Begyn & proue Whether I Wyl' pe or nay
 pardo. **¶** And to go southe where as I lefte right now
 frere. **¶** Because som percase Wyl' thynke amysse of me
 pardo. **¶** Our lorde in the gospels she Weth the way he w

pardo. **C**Ye shall now here / the popps auctorite
frere. **C**By gogges soule knaue / I suffice the no longer
pardo. **I** say some good body / lende me his hengar

And I shall hym teche by god almyght
Dow he shall a nother tyme serue for to fyght
I shall make that balde crowy of his to loke rede
I shall leue hym but one ere / on his hede

frere. **B**ut I shall leue the neuer any ere or I go

pardo. **C**Ye hore son frere / Wylt thou so

Chan the fyght.

frere. **L**ose thy handes / away from myn earps

pardo. **C**han take thou thy handes away from my heres

Nay abyde thou hore son I am not do wne yet
I trust frst to lye the at my fete

frere. **Y**e hore son / Wylt thou scrat and byte

pardo. **Y**e mary Wylt I / as longe as thou doste smyte

Che curate.

parse. **H**olde your handes / a vengeaunce on ye bothe **D**o

That euer ye came hyther / to make this a do

To polute my chyrche / a myschpese on you spght

I were to you by god all myght

Ye shall bothe repente / euery vayne of your harte

As sore as ye dyd / euer thynge or ye departe

frere. **M**arster parson / I maruayll ye Wylt gyue lycence

To this false knaue / in this audience

To publysh his ragman colles with lyes

I despyed hym y Wylt / more than ones or t Wylt

To holde his peas / tyll that I had done

Hu he wolde here no more than the man in the mone

pardo. **W**hy sholde I suffice the / more than thou me

Marster parson gaue me lycence before the

And I wolde thou kne Wylt it / I haue respykes here

Other maner stusse / than thou dost bere

I Wylt edesp more / with the spght of it

Chan Wylt all the praynge of holy Wylt

for that except that the precher / hym selfe spue Well

His predycacyon Wylt helpe neuer a dell

And I know Well / that thy spynge is nought

Thou art an apostata / yf it were Well sought

An homycyde thou art I know Well inoughe

for my selfe kne W where thou sloughe

A wenche with thy dagger in a couche

And yet as thou saist in thy sermo y no mā shall touch
 parso. No more of this wranglyng in my chyrch
 I shre we your her:ys bothe/for this surche
 Is there any blood shed here betwen these knaues
 Thanked be god/they had no staups
 Nor egoteles/for than it had ben wronge
 Well ye shall spuge another songe
 Neybour prat/com hether I pou pray
 p'at. Why/what is this nyse fraye
 parso. I can not tell you/one knaue dysdaynes another
 Wherfore take ye the tone/and I shall take the other
 We shall bestow them/there as is most conuenient
 For suche a couple/I trow they shall repente
 That euer they met in this chyrche here
 Neyboure ye be constable/stande ye nere
 Take ye that laye knaue/and let me alone
 With this gentyman/by god and by saynt Iohā
 I shall bozowe vpon prestholde somewhat
 For I may say to the neybour prat
 It is a good dede to punysh such to the ensample
 Of suche other/how that they shall mell
 In lyke facyon as these catpfes do
 p'at. In good sayth mayster parson/pf ye do so
 Ye do but well/to teche them to be ware
 parso. Mayster prat I praye ye me to spare
 For I am soyr/for that that is done
 Wherfore I praye ye forgyue me sone
 For that I haue offendyd within pour lybertye
 And by my trouthe syr/ye may trust me
 I wyll neuer come hether more
 Whyle I lyue and god before
 p'at. Nay I am ones charged with the
 Wherfore by saynt Iohā thou shalt not escape me
 Tyll thou hast scouryd a pare of stokys
 parso. Tut he denoth all is but mockes
 Lay hande on hym/and com ye on syr frere
 Ye shall of me hardely haue pour hyre
 Ye had none suche this. vii. yere
 I swere by god/and by our lady dere
 parso. Nay mayster parson/for goddys passpon
 Intreate not me after that facyon
 For pf ye do it wyll not be for pour honesty

parso. **D**onesty or not/ but thou shalt se
 What I shall do by and by
 Make no strygynge/ com forth the soberly
 for it shall not auayle the I say
 fere. **M**ary that shalt be treye/ euen strapt way
 I desy the churle preeste/ & there be no mo than thou
 I wyll not go with the/ I make god a doo
 We shall se fyrst which is the stronger
 G^d hath sent me honys I do the not fere
 parso. **Y**e by thy fayth/ wyll thou be there
 Neybour prat brynge forth the that knaue
 And thou spr: fere yf thou wyll al gatys caue
 fere. **N**ay churle I the desy
 I shall trouble the fyrst
 Thou shalt go to pryson by and by
 Let me se now do thy worste

Prat With the pardoner/ & the parson With the fere

parso. **H**elpe helpe neybour prat neybour prat
 In the worschyp of god/ helpe me som what
 prat. **N**ay deale as thou canst with that e: fe
 for why I haue inoughe to do my selfe
 Alas for payn I am almoste dede
 The reede blood so cometh do wne about my hede
 Nay and thou canst I pray the helpe me
 parso. **N**ay by the mas felowe it wyll not be
 I haue more to do on my dystaffe/ thā I can well spy
 The cursed fere dothe the opper hande wy
 fere. **W**yll ye leue than / and let vs in peace departe
 ps. & p: **Y**e by our lady/ euen with all our harte
 fere pd. **T**han aded to the deupll tyll we come agayn
 ps. p: **A**nd a my, che fe go with you bothe twayne.

Imprinted by Wyllyam Rastell the .v. day
 of Apryll/ the yere of our lorde. M.
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