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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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# The Pardoner and the frere, the curate and neybour Pratte

[By JOHN HEYWOOD]

*The original copy from which this facsimile reprint is taken is in the Pepys Collection at Magdalene College, Cambridge. It has been reproduced for this series through the courtesy of the College authorities. Another copy is entered as in the Devonshire Collection: no others are known.*

*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 pardoner and the frere / the curare and nevbour Pratte.

## The frere,



Bus hic / the mori tropyte  
Preserue all / that no de here be  
Dere bie therne / pf ye wpli consyder  
The cause whi / I am come hyder  
ye wosde be glad / to knowe my enten  
for I com not hyther / for monye nor for rent  
I com not hyther / for meate nor for meat  
But I com hyther / for your soules heale  
I com not hyther / to poll nor to shauie  
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 spe  
But I come hyther / your soules to edyspe  
for we freres / are bounde the people to teche  
The gospell of Chirst / openyd to preche  
As dyd the appostels / by Chirst theyr mayster sent  
To turne the people / and make them to repent  
But syth the appostels / scs heuen wosde not come  
We freres no wy / must occupy thei come  
We freres are bounde / to setche inennes consyens  
We may not care / for grotes / nor for pens  
We freres haue professed / wplfull pouerte  
No peny in our purse / haue may we  
Iny fe nor stasse / may we none carpe  
Exepte we shulde / from the gospell vary  
for worldsy aduersarie / may we be in no sorowe  
We may not care to day / for our meate to morowe  
Bare fote and bare legged / must we go alson  
We may not care / for frost hiti snoewe  
We may haue / no maner care ne thynke  
Nother for our meate / no i for our drynke  
But let our thoughtes / sco luche thynges be as free  
As be the byrdes / that in the ayre flee  
for whi our lord / clappyd swete Iesus  
In the gospell / speketh to vs thus

A. A.

Throughs of the wolden/ go ye farr he  
And to eare certeina speke ye of me.  
And she was my doctryne/ and connyng  
And that they may/ be gled of your compynge  
Yf that you enter/ in any hous any where  
Loke what ye salute them/ and bryd my peas be there  
And of that house/ be worthy and electe.  
**T**hyt be peace that then shall take effecte  
And of that hoolyse clystes or parueris  
Thysbe peacethan shall to your selfe reueit  
And further more espes any suchetherto be  
Which do demp/ for to recepacyon in your houer  
And do dysppye/ your doctryne and your sore  
At suche a house/ tarype no more moray  
And from your shooes/ scrap away the dust  
**T**o thei represe/ and I borthe read and iuste  
Shall vengeaunce take/ of the rysyness de  
**W**herfore my frendr to this text take ye hede  
Be ware how ye/ despypse the pore freces  
Which ar in this wolden/ lounies and mysteris  
But do them with almyghty chere receyue  
Leste they happen/ your houers for to leue  
And than god wyl take vengeaunce in his prie  
Wherfore I now/ that am a pore frece  
**D**yde enqueste wher the oples were  
Which were dysposyd to the wolden of god to beset on you all  
And as I can gether a zone dyding tell  
That in this to wone/ byng god for he dyd deseill ion you all  
Which to here the wolden of god wold be glad modirly  
And as sone as I therof knolle ge had him mo in my of  
I hyder hyrd me as fast as I myghte/ et quin qspid sonz qz  
Entendyd by the geader of god for godz sonz sonz  
And by your propens/ and sup peracion in sumbo qdly  
Here to make simple roberys/ so ympe of ympe ion you all  
Wherfore I requyres/ ye in this wolden/ and bryd my peas  
for to abyde/ and gyue desydysse for to wold ion you all  
**B**ut fyrt of all  
Now here I shall/ dares me to be on almen mo to vnde  
To god myl wyl be vnghe/ al men on harlywoth mo to vnde  
To gyue ye grace/ mly wyl be on almen vnghe/ al men to  
All in thys place/ duyt me; qyngly vnghe/ al men to  
duyt me; qyngly vnghe/ al men to





**D**is doctryne for to take.

**C** And than knelsh downe the frere sayenge his pray-  
ers/and in the meane whyle entret he pardoner wth  
all his clyques/to declare what eche of them ben/and  
the hole powre and vertu therof.

**C** The pardoner.

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

**C** Good deuoute people/that here do assemble

I pray good/that ye may all wellessemble

The rynage/after whiche you are brought

An3 that ye saue/that Christ in you bought

**C** Deuoute Chryslen people/ye shall all dyne

That I am comen hyther/ye to dysyre

Wherfore let vs pray/thus or I beginne

Our sauoure preserue ye/all from synne

And enable ye to receyue/thia blessed pardon

Whiche is the greatest/Under the son

Gaunted by the pope/in his bulles vnder sede

Whiche pardon ye shal fynde/Whan ye are dede

That effreth/outher grotes or els pens

To ihesu holly respques/Whiche or I go hene

I shall here shewe/in open audyience

Wrytinge ye all/to do to them reuerence

**C** Out frist ye shal knowe welli/ þ I com fro Rome

Lo here my bulles/all and some

Out lyge lorde seale/herc on my patent

I berte with me/my body to warant

That no man be so boldr/be he preest or clark

Me to dysturbe/of Chrysles holly warke

Nor haue no dysdarne/nor yet shome

Of these holly clyques/Whiche sayntes haue worn

**C** Hrist here I shewe ye/of a holly Iedrosshepe

A bone/I pray you take good kepe

To my wordes/and marke them well

If any of your bestes helpes do swelle

Dyppe this bone in the water/that he dothe take

Into his body/and the swellinge shall slake

And if any worme/haue your bestes stonge

Take of this water/and washe his tonge

And it wylle be hole anon/and furthermore

Of pockes and scabbes/and every sore

**H**e shall be gyrtle bole/that drynketh of the well  
That this done is dipped in/it is leath that I tell  
And if any man that any beste oþereth  
Drunke or weke/or that the cocke croweth  
Fastyng wyll drynke/of this well adraughte  
As that holy Iew hath vs taught  
His beestes and his stote/shall mystelyng  
And maysters all/it helpeth well  
Thoughe a man be fonde/in felonys rage  
Let a man with this water/make his potage in heoy  
And neuermore shall he/his wyse mystryt know  
Thoughe he in sorthe he faint by her wylte  
Or haþ she or take with feres iwoer thie  
**C**Here is a mysterie/as ye may se i ymme  
He that his hande wyll put in this mysterie  
He shall haue/encrease of his crasynesse  
That he hathe so done/be it wel or oþer  
So that he offet pens/or els geotes  
And another holy rellyþe/ele here se ye may  
The blesse I deale/of swete saint sonday  
And who so euer is blesþed/with this ryght hande  
Can not sped almytys/by se nor by lade  
And if he off retch/ele with good deuocyon  
**H**e shall not fayle/wordine to hys he promocyon  
**C**And another holy rellyþe here may se  
The great too/of the holy trinity  
And who so euer ones doþre it in his mouthe takes  
He shall never be dyscasyd/with the sorthe ake in dñe  
Canker nor podrys shall therre none hitde  
This that I shewe ye is manere indeide  
**C**And here is of our lady a rellyþe full good  
Her songe grace/which she ware with her frensch hode  
Whan she went ouþe/awayes for somme sommeryng  
Women with chylde/which vr in mountayng  
By vertue therof/shal be sone easyd  
And of theyr traunayls/full some also relesashyd  
And if this songe grace/they do deuoutly kyss/and knyȝt  
And off er thereto/as theyr deuocyon is/they knyȝt/and knyȝt  
**C**Here is another rellyþe/ele a precuous one/wherof  
Of all helowdes/the blesþed Iah boneyn/wherof  
Which rellyþe/withoute any fayle/wherof singyd is/þe a rellyþe  
Agaynst popson/cheselyþe volþe preciuþles/wherof





for whom so euer it toucheth/without dout. ¶  
All maner venyn/ from hym shall issue ou.  
So that it shall hurt/nomaner wyghte.  
Lo of this resþe/ the great powere and myghte,  
Whiche preseruþt from popson euerþ man.  
Lo of saynt Agryghell/ cheþe þe brayn þazþþe  
Whiche forþe he dake/ is a persecutþfe.  
To eury man or beste/ that berþt syfe  
And further it shall stande hym in better stede  
for his he de shall ueuer ake. Whan that he is dede  
Nor he shall fele/no maner grefe nor payn.  
Though with a sworde/ one cleue it thay at wayþ.  
But be as one that lay in a dede slepe.  
Wherfore to these resþes/nowd com crouche and crepe.  
But loke that ye offerynge to them make  
Or eis can ye no maner profyte take.  
But one thyng ye women all I warant youþ  
Yf any wyght/ be in this place nowd com myȝt.  
That hathe done syn/ so horribile that she  
Dare nat for shame/ thecof shryuen be.  
Or any woman/ be she yonge or olde  
That hathe made her hussande cockolde.  
Huche folke shall haue/no powere nor no grace.  
To offer lomp resþes/in this place.  
And who so syndysh/ her selfe out of suche blame  
Com hyþter to me on crystes holy name.  
Land bycause ye  
Shall onto me  
Gryue credence at the full  
My auctorite  
Now shall ye se  
Lo here the popes bull.  
Now shall the frere begyn his sermon/ and euph at  
the same tyme the pardoner begynneth also to shew and  
speke of his bullys/ and auctorites conȝ from Rome.

**C**hapter xxvii. The fresses. Date et dabitur vobis. Good deuout people, this place of scripture pardo. Worshypfull maysters, ye shall understand fress. Is to you, that haueno litterature. pardo. That pope Leo the x. hath graunted with his hand, fress. Is to say, in our englyssh tongue.

par. **C**And by his busse/confirmed Under sede  
fr. t. **A**s depeate yde goddes/the poore folke amouge  
pardo. **C**To all maner peoplie/botte quicke and dide  
frece. **A**nd god shall than/gyue unto you agayne  
pardo. **C**Ten thousande peres/as many lentes of pardoun  
frece. **T**his is the gospeli/so is wryten playne  
pardo. **C**Whan they are dede/theyr soules for to guardon  
frece. **T**herfore gyue your almes/in the largest wyse  
pardo. **C**That Wyse with theri pena/ or almes dede  
frece. **R**epe not your goodes/syfte on countysse  
pardo. **C**Put to theri handes/to the good sped  
frece. **T**hat spynne with god is most abhominable  
pardo. **C**Of the holy chapell/of swete saynt Leonarde  
frece. **A**nd is elie the spynne/that is most dampnabile  
pardo. **C**Whiche late by syre/was destroyed and madde  
frece. **I**n scripture elie/but I say syra he  
pardo. **C**Ay by the mar/one can not here  
frece. **W**hat a babsynge makeith ponder selow  
pardo. **C**for the babsynge/of ponder folysse frece  
frece. **I**n scripture elie/nothere maner place madde  
pardo. **C**And also maysters/as I was abouie to lesh  
frece. **W**hiche shewel that many amys so farfours lacheth  
pardo. **C**Dope Iulyp. vi/hath graunted sayre a wele (grace)  
frece. **T**hat whan to them/god haile abundance sent  
pardo. **C**And doth vix thousande peres of pardoun to the sende  
frece. **T**her wode dystribute none to the indygente  
pardo. **C**That ought to this holy chapell ierde  
frece. **W**hencat god hauninge/great indygnyacion  
pardo. **C**Dope Honysface/lhe. ix. also  
frece. **D**umpshed these men/after aduers facrom  
pardo. **C**Dope Iulyp/pope Innocent/with dyvers popes ma  
frece. **A**s the gospell/full nobly dothe declare  
pardo. **C**Halbe graunted/to the susseynynge of the same  
frece. **D**owdines Epusus/rengnyng in weisare  
pardo. **C**v. thousand peres of pardoun/to curty of pouþynge  
frece. **A**nd on his borde/dysshes despeare  
pardo. **C**And clene remyssyon/also of theri syn  
frece. **P**ore Lazarus/cam beggyng at his gate  
pardo. **C**As often tymes/as you put in  
frece. **D**esprynghe som fode/his hongre to releue  
pardo. **C**Any monys/into the pardouers cofre  
frece. **B**ut the rychemay/nothyng wolde hym grue





pardo. ¶ Or any money vp vnto it offere  
frere. Not so moche as a fefe crommyng of bieade  
pardo. ¶ Or he that offereth/peyne or grote  
frere. Wherfore pore lazarus/of fainyn straþth was dede  
pardo. ¶ Or he that gyueth/the pardoner a new cote  
frere. And vñtelleþ hys soule/to heuenydþ carp  
par. ¶ Or take of me/outi et pimage or letter  
frere. But now to the ryche man/of the contrary  
pardo. ¶ Wherby thys pore chapell may/safrie the better  
frere. Whan he was dede/went to myserþ and payne  
pardo. ¶ And god wote/it ys a full gracuous dede  
frere. Wherfor euermore/he shall remayne  
pardo. ¶ For whiche god/shall quyte you hell your mede  
frere. In breuyng fye/whiche shal never cease  
pardo. ¶ Now he lufe our pore chapell/þf it be your wylle  
frere. But I say thou pardoner/I bryd the holde thy peace  
pardo. ¶ And I say thou frere/holde thy tonge stylle  
frere. What standest thou there/all the day smatterynge  
pardo. ¶ Mary what standyst thou there/all day clatterynge  
frere. ¶ Mary felow I com hyder/to mynch the word of god  
Whiche of no man/may be forbode  
But harde wytþsplence/and good entent  
for whiche it techeþ them empente  
The very way/and path that shall them lede  
Euen to heueny gates/as straþht as any thred  
And he that settyngh the worde/of god of audience  
Standeth accurstyn the greate sentence  
And so arte thou/for enterruþyng me  
Pardo. ¶ Nay thou art a knyght/knygue/and that shalst thou se  
And all suche that to me/make interrupcion  
The pope sendes them/excomunyacþon  
By hys bissops/herre redy to be redde  
By bishoppes/and hys cardynalles confymed  
And eke þf thou/dysturbe me any thynge  
Thou arte also/a captour to the kyng  
For herre hath he graunted me/Judge hys brode sease  
That no man/þf he loue hys hele  
Hholde me dysturbe/or let in any wypse  
And þf thou dost/the kynges commaundement dispise  
I shal make the he set/fast byþ the fete  
And where thou saydest/that thou arte more myte  
Amonge the people/þf for to preche

Wycarise shoudist them/the very way teche  
How to com/to heuen aboue  
The in thouspest/and that shall I preue  
And by good reason/I shall make the bōd  
And knowe that I/am metter than arte thou  
For thou/whan thou hast taught them ones the Way  
Thou carest not/whether they com there pe or nay  
But whan that thou/hast done all togidre  
And taught them the Way/for to com thyther  
Yet all that thou canst ymagyn

Is but to use 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 purgacyon  
All though he never 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 thyther

For why the Way/to heuen is very slydder  
But I wylle teche them after another rate  
For I shall brynge them to heuen gate  
And be theyr gydes/and conducte all thynges  
And lede them thyther/by the purse strynges

So that they shall not fall/though that they woldē

Holde thy peace knauē/thou arte very holde

Thou pratest in farrē/euen lyke a pardoner

Why de spyspest thou/the popes mynster

Maysters/herē I curse hym openly

And therwith watne/all this hole company

By the popes/great auctorite

That ye leue hym/and herken unto me

For tylis hē be assypled/his wordes take none effecte

For out of holy chyrche/he is now clene reiecte

My maysters/he dothe but gest and caue

It forseth not/for the wordes of a knauē

But to the worde of god do reverence

And here me forthe/with dede audyence

Maysters I swē wed you/ere whyle of almes dede

Maysteris this pardon/whiche I swē wed you before

And how pe shulde gyue poore folke at theyr nedē

Is the greatest that euer was/syn god was bore

And yf of your partes/that thynges ones were don

frere.

pardo.

frere.

frere.

frere.

frere,





frece. for whyp without confessyon or consycyon  
pardo. Dout not but god sholde gyue you remyssyon  
frece. ¶ By this shall ye haue cleene remyssyon  
pardo. But now further it ought to be declared  
frece. ¶ And forgyuen of thi synnes seuen  
Who be thes pore folke that shold haue pour reward  
pardo. ¶ Come to this pardon ys ye wyl come to heuen  
frece. Who be those pore folk of whome I speke a name  
pardo. ¶ Come to this pardon ys ye wyl be in blys  
frece. Certes we pore freces are the same  
pardo. ¶ This is the pardon which ye can not mysse  
frece. We freces dayly take payn I say  
pardo. ¶ This is the pardon which shall mens soules wry  
frece. We freces dayly do bothe fast and pray  
pardo. ¶ This is the pardon the rydder of your synne  
frece. We freces strauayle and laboure euery houce  
pardo. ¶ This is the pardon that purchaseth all grace  
frece. We freces take payne for the loue of our saupour  
pardo. This is a pardon for all maner of trespass  
frece. We freces also go on lyngytacyon  
pardo. ¶ This is þ pardõ of which all mercy dothe sprynge  
frece. for to preche to euery rysten nacyon  
pardo. ¶ This is the pardon that to heuen shall ye brynge  
frece. But I say the uardoner thou wylt kepe splesse  
pardo. ¶ Ye it is lyke to be whan I haue done sone  
frece. Marþ therfore ihe more knaue art thou I say  
That parturbest the worde of god I say  
for neþher thy selfe wylt here goddyns doctrine  
Ne suffre other theyr eacys to enclyne  
Wherfore our saupour in his holy scripture  
Lixueth the thyngement thou cursyd creature  
Spekynge to the after this maner  
Maledictus qui audit verbum dei negligenter  
Wo be that man sayth our lord that gyueth no audienc  
Dy heryth the worde of god with negligens  
pardo. ¶ Now thou haste spoken all spidaw  
I care nat for the an olde straw  
I haþ leuer thou were hanged by with a rope  
Than I that am comen from the pope  
And therby goddes minister whyle thou stådest a piate  
Holdre be farn to knocke without the gate  
Therefore preche hardely thy help full

But I neuer theles/wyl declare the popes bul  
fre. ¶ Now my frendes/I haue afore shewyd ye  
pardo. ¶ Now my mapsters/as I haue afore declared  
fre. ¶ That good it is to gyue your charyte  
pardo. ¶ That pardoners from you may not be spaced  
fre. And further I haue/at lengthe to you tolde  
pardo. ¶ Now herce after/shall folow and ensue  
fre. Who be these people/that ye receyue shalde  
pardo. ¶ That foloweth of pardons/the great vertew  
fre. ¶ That is to say/vs freres pore  
pardo. ¶ We pardoners for your soules be as necessary  
fre. ¶ That for our lyuyng must begge stro dore to dore  
pardo. As is the meate/for our bodys hungry  
fre. For of our oþn proprie/we haue no propre thynge  
pardo. For pardons is the thynge that bryngeth men to heuen  
fre. ¶ But that we get/of deuout peoples gettyng  
pardo. ¶ Pardons despucereþ them fro the synnes seuen  
fre. And in our place/be frysers thre score and thre  
pardo. ¶ Pardon for every cryme/may dyspend  
fre. Which onely lyue/on mens charyte  
pardo. Pardon purchasþ grace for all offence  
fre. For we frysars/wylfull charyte professe  
pardo. ¶ Ye though ye had slayne/boþe father and mother  
fre. We may haue no moneþ/nolher more nor leſſe  
pardo. ¶ And this pardon/is chefe aboue all other  
fre. For wordly treasure we may nought care  
pardo. ¶ For who to it offeryþ/grete or peny  
fre. Our soules must be ryche/and our bodyes rare  
pardo. ¶ Though synnes/he had done never so many  
fre. And one thynge I had almoste left behynde  
pardo. ¶ And though that he had all his kyndred slayn  
fre. Which before/cam not to my mynde  
pardo. ¶ This pardon shall ryd the fro euer lastynge payne  
fre. And doutles it is none other thynge  
pardo. ¶ There is no syn/so abhomynable  
fre. ¶ But whan ye wyl gyue/your almes þ offeryng  
pardo. ¶ Which to tempt/this pardon is not able  
fre. Loke that ye/dyscreþute it wylself  
pardo. ¶ As wyl declareþ/the sentence of this letteþ  
fre. Not to euerþ man/that for it wyl cye  
pardo. ¶ Ye can not therefore/bestow your money better  
fre. For yf ye gyue/your almes in that wylse





pardo. ¶ Let us not here stande pylle all the daye  
frere. It shall not bothe to them and vs suffyse  
pardo. ¶ Spue vs some money/or that we go our way  
frere. But I say/ ihou le wode felow thou  
haddest none other tymme to shew we thy busnes but now  
Canst not tary and abyde tyll sone  
And rede them than whan prechynge is done  
pardo. ¶ I wyl rede them now/ what sayest thou thereto  
Dast thou any thynge therwith to do  
Thynkest that I wyl stande/stary for thy leasure  
Am I bounde to do so moche for thy pleasure  
frere. for my pleasure-enay I wolde thou kne wylst it well  
It becomeith the knaue/neuer a ded  
To prate thus boldely in my presence  
And let the worder/of god of audience  
pardo. ¶ Let the word of god qd aray set a hors dreyfus  
Prate her all day/ with a fouse eysell  
An dale thy sermon/goth on couetyce  
And syddest men be wote of auarice  
An yet in thy sermon/dost thou none other thynge  
But for aunes stande all the day beggyng  
frere. Leue thy rasyng I wolde the adurse  
pardo. ¶ Nay leue thou thy bablynge/rf thou be wylse  
frere. I wolde thou kne west it knaue/ I wyl not leue ac  
pardo. ¶ No more wyl I/I do the weli to wryt whyt  
frere. It is not thou/shall make me hoidre my peas  
pardo. ¶ Thil speke on ffordys rf thou ihynkyst it for thy eas  
frere. for I wyl speke wherther thou wylst or no  
pardo. ¶ In faythe I care nat/for I wyl speke also  
frere. Wherfore hardysly/ let vs bothe go to  
pardo. He whiche shal be bitter harde of vs two  
frere. What shalde ye gyue ought to pratyng pardones  
pardo. ¶ What shalde ye spende on these flaterynge lyers  
frere. What shalde ye gyue ought to these boldre beggars  
pardo. ¶ As be these bablynge monkes/and these freres  
frere. Let them hardesly labour for theyr lypinge  
pardo. ¶ Which do noughe dayly/but bable and lyre  
frere. It moche hurtyngh them/good menrys gyuyng  
pardo. ¶ And tell you fables dece inoughe a fyfe  
frere. for that maketh them rde/and slouthfull to warke  
pardo. ¶ As dothe this bablynge frere/hereto day  
frere. That for none other thynge they wyl carke

pardo. ¶ Dypue hym hence therfore in the xx. deuyll waye  
frere. Hardely they wold go bothe to plow & cart  
pardo. ¶ On vs pardoners hardely do your cost  
frere. And if of necessitie ones they feste the smarte  
pardo. ¶ for why/ your money never can be lost  
frere. But we freres be nat in lyke estate  
pardo. ¶ for why/ there is in our fraternitie  
frere. for our handes with such thinges we may nat maun  
pardo. ¶ for all bretheren & sisteren that thereof be late  
frere. We freres ben nat in lyke condicyon  
pardo. ¶ Deuoutly songe euery yere  
frere. we may haue no prebendes ne exhibition  
pardo. ¶ As he shall know well that cometh there  
frere. Of all temporall seruice are we forbode  
pardo. ¶ At euery of the fyue solempne festes  
frere. And onely bounde to the seruice of god  
pardo. ¶ A mass & dirige to pray for the good rest  
frere. And therwith to pray for euery christen nation  
pardo. ¶ Of the soules of the bretheren & sisteren all  
frere. That god witsafe to sauie them fro dampnacion  
pardo. ¶ Of our fraternitie in generall  
frere. But some of you so harde be of herte  
pardo. ¶ With a herse there standyng/ well arrayed & dypght  
frere. Ye can nat depe though ye full sore smarte  
pardo. And torches & tapers aboute it brennyng brigh  
frere. Wherefore some man must ye hyre nedes  
pardo. ¶ And with the belles eke solempnely cyngynge  
frere. Whiche must intre god for your misdedes  
pardo. ¶ And prestes & clerkes deuoutly spngynge  
frere. Ye can hyre no better in myne oppinion  
pardo. ¶ And furthenmore/ euery nyght in the yere  
frere. Than vs goddes seruantes/men of religion  
pardo. ¶ Twelue pore people are received there  
frere. And specially god hereth vs pore freres  
pardo. ¶ And there haue bothe harbours and food  
frere. And is attentif unto our despies.  
pardo. ¶ That for them is conuenient and good  
frere. for the more of religion/ the more herde of our lord  
pardo. ¶ And furthenmore/ if there be any other  
frere. And that is/ so shulde/ good reason doeth accorde  
pardo. ¶ That of our fraternitie be sister or brother  
frere. Therfore doute nat maisters/ I am even he





rardo. Whiche hereafter happe to fall in decay  
frere. To whom ye shulde parte with your charitie  
pardo. And if he than chounce to come that way  
frere. We freres be they that shulde your asimes take  
pardo. Mygh unto our forsayd holy place  
frere. Whiche for your soules heith do both watche & wake  
pardo. Ye shall there tary for a monthes 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 aduise you all that now here be  
frere. Ans thus do we dayly with all our hole place  
rardo. For to be of our fraternitie  
frere. Wherfor distribute of your temporall welthe  
rardo. Ifye on courtise/sticke nat for a peny  
frere. By whiche ye may preserue your soules heith  
pardo. For whiche ye may haue benefites so many  
frere. I say wylt thou not yet syp thy clappe  
pardo. Pull me downe the pardoner with an eupill happe  
pardo. Meister frere, I holde it best  
To kepe your tonge whyle ye be in rest  
frere. I say one pull the braue of his stole  
pardo. May one pull the frere downe lyke a fole  
frere. Leue thy raigninge and babbelynge of freres  
pardo. O by Jps I shal the by the swete eares  
pardo. By god I wolde thou durst presume to it  
frere. By god a sytell thyng might make me to do it  
pardo. And I shew thy heire and thou space  
frere. By god I wyl nat mysse the moche thou slouche  
And ys thou playe me suche another touche  
I shal knocke the on the coserde / I wolde thou it kne we  
pardo. Marp that wolde I se quo3 blynde heis  
frere. Well I wyl begyn and than let me se  
Whether thou darest agayne intercepte me  
And what thou wolde ones to it say  
pardo. Begyn & proue whether I wyl pe or nap  
frere. And to go forthe where as I leste right now  
pardo. Because som percase wyl thynke amysse of me  
frere. Our lorde in the gospell sheweth the way he is

pardo. ¶ Ye shall now here / the poppys auctorite  
frere. ¶ By gogges souse knaue / I suffre the no lenger  
pardo. I say some good body / sende me his hengar

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

frere. But I shall leue the never an ere or I go  
pardo. ¶ Ye horeson frere / wylt thou so

¶ Than the fyght.

frere. ¶ Lose thy handes / awaie from myn earys  
pardo. Than take thou thy handes awaie from my heres

Nay abyde thou hor son I am not done yet  
I trust frist to lyve the at my fete

frere. ¶ Ye horeson / wylt thou scrat and bryte

pardo. ¶ Ye mary wyl I / as longe as thou dosie smyte

¶ The curate.

parsē. ¶ Holdre your handes / a vengeaunce on ye bothe two  
That euer ye came hyther / to make this a do  
To poslite my chyrche / a myschyfe on you syghe  
I swere to you by god all myght

Ye shall bothe repente / euery varne of your harce  
As sore as ye dyd / euer thynge or ye departe

frere. ¶ Mayster parson / I maruayll ye wyl gyue lycence  
To this fasse knaue / in this audience

To publysh his ragman roles with lyres  
I desyred hym ywys / more than ones or twyse  
To holde his peas / tylt that I had done

pardo. ¶ Wut he woldre here no more than the man in the mone  
Mayster parson gaue me lycence before the  
And I woldre thou kne wylt it / I haue resykes here

O ther maner stiffe / than thou dost bere  
I wyl redfy more / with the fyght of it

Than wyl all the pratyng of holy wryt  
For that except that the precher / hym selfe lyue well

This predycacyon wyl helpe never a dell  
And I know well / that thy lyvinge is noughe

Thou art an apostata / yf it were well sought  
An homycyde thou art I know well inoughe

For my selfe knew whare thou sloughe  
A wenche with thy dagger in a couche





parso. And yet as thou saist in thy sermō þ no man shall touch

No more of this wranglyng in my chyrch  
I shre we pour herys bothe/for this surche  
Is there any blod shed here betwēn these knaues  
Thanked be god/they had no staups  
Nor egotesles/for than it had ben wronge

Well ye shall syuge another songe  
Neyboure prat/com hether I you pray

prat. ¶ Whyp/what is this nyse fraye

parso. ¶ I can not tell you/one knaue dysdaynes another  
Wherfore take ye the lone/and I shall take the other  
We shall bestow them/there as is most conuenient  
for suche a couple/I crow they shall repente  
That euer they met in this chyrche here  
Neyboure ye be constable/stande ye nece  
Take ye that lare knaue/and let me alone  
With this gentylman/by god and by saynt John  
I shall borowe vpon prestholde somwhat  
For I may say to the neyboure prat

It is a good dede to punysh such to the ensample  
Of suche other/how that they shall messe

In lyke facyon as these catfes do

prat. ¶ In good fayth mayster parson/þf ye do so  
ye do but well/to teche them to beware

pardo. ¶ Mayster prat I pray ye me to spare

for I am sorp/for that that is done

Wherfore I pray ye forgyue me sone

for that I haue offendyd within your lybertye

And by my trouthe syr/ye may trust me

I wyl never come hether more

Whyle I lyue and god before

prat. ¶ Nay I am ones charged with the

Wherfore by saynt John thou shalt not escape me

Tyl thou hast scouryd a pare of stokys

parso. ¶ Tyl he wenoth all is but mockes

Lay hande on hym/and com ye on syr frece

Ye shall of me hardelshane your hyre

Ye had none suche this. viii. yere

I were by god/and by our lady deere

pardo. ¶ Nay mayster parson/for goddys passyon

In trete not me after that facyon

For þf ye do it wyl not be for your honesty

parso. **C**onesty or not/but thou shall se  
What I shall do by and by  
Make no strogiynge/com forthe soberly  
for it shall not auayle the I say  
frece. **C** Mary that shall we trye/euen strapt wap  
I defy the churche preste/therre be no mo than thou  
I wyl not go with the/I make god a doo  
We shall se fyrt whiche is the stronger  
God hath sent me bonys I do the not fere  
parso. **C** Ye by thy fayth/wylt thou be there  
Neybour prat brynghe forthe that knaue  
An thou spr frece pf thou wylt al gayns rauie  
frece. **C** May chorsle I the defy  
I shall trouble the fyrt  
Thou shalt go to pryon by and by  
Let me se now do thy Worste

Prat with the pardoner/therre parson with the frece

parso. **C** Helspe helspe neybour prat neybeur prat  
In the worshyp of god/helspe me somwhat  
par. **C** May deale as thou canst with that efe  
for why I haue inoughe to do my selfe  
Alas for payn I am almoste dede  
The reede blood so ronneh downe about my hede  
May and thou canst I pray the helspe me  
parso. **C** May by the mas felowe it wyl not be  
I haue more tow on my dystaffe/therre I can well spyn  
The cursed frece dothe the vpper hande wyr  
frece. **C** Wyll ye leue than/and let vs in peace departe  
ys. & p. **C** Ye by our lady/euen with all our harte  
freyd. **C** Than adew to the deuyll tyll we come agayn  
gso. p. **C** And amys chefe go with you bothe twayne.

Imprynted by Wylliam Rastell the. 8. day  
of Apryll/therre yere of our lorde. M.

CCCC. xxxiiii.

**C**um priuilegio,























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