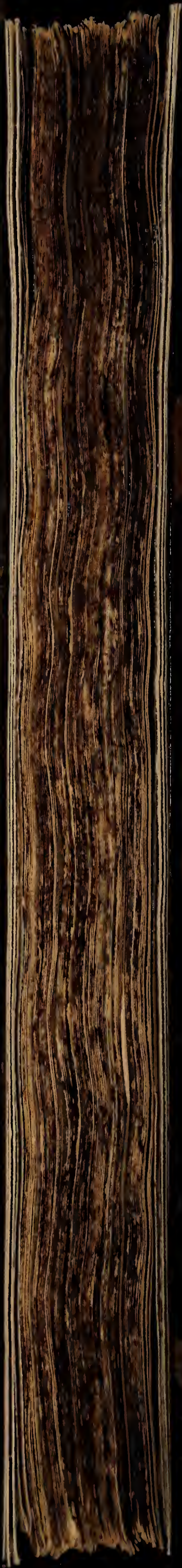




THE  
BYRTH OF  
HANKYNDE

ROESSLIN  
—  
BAYNALDE

1540





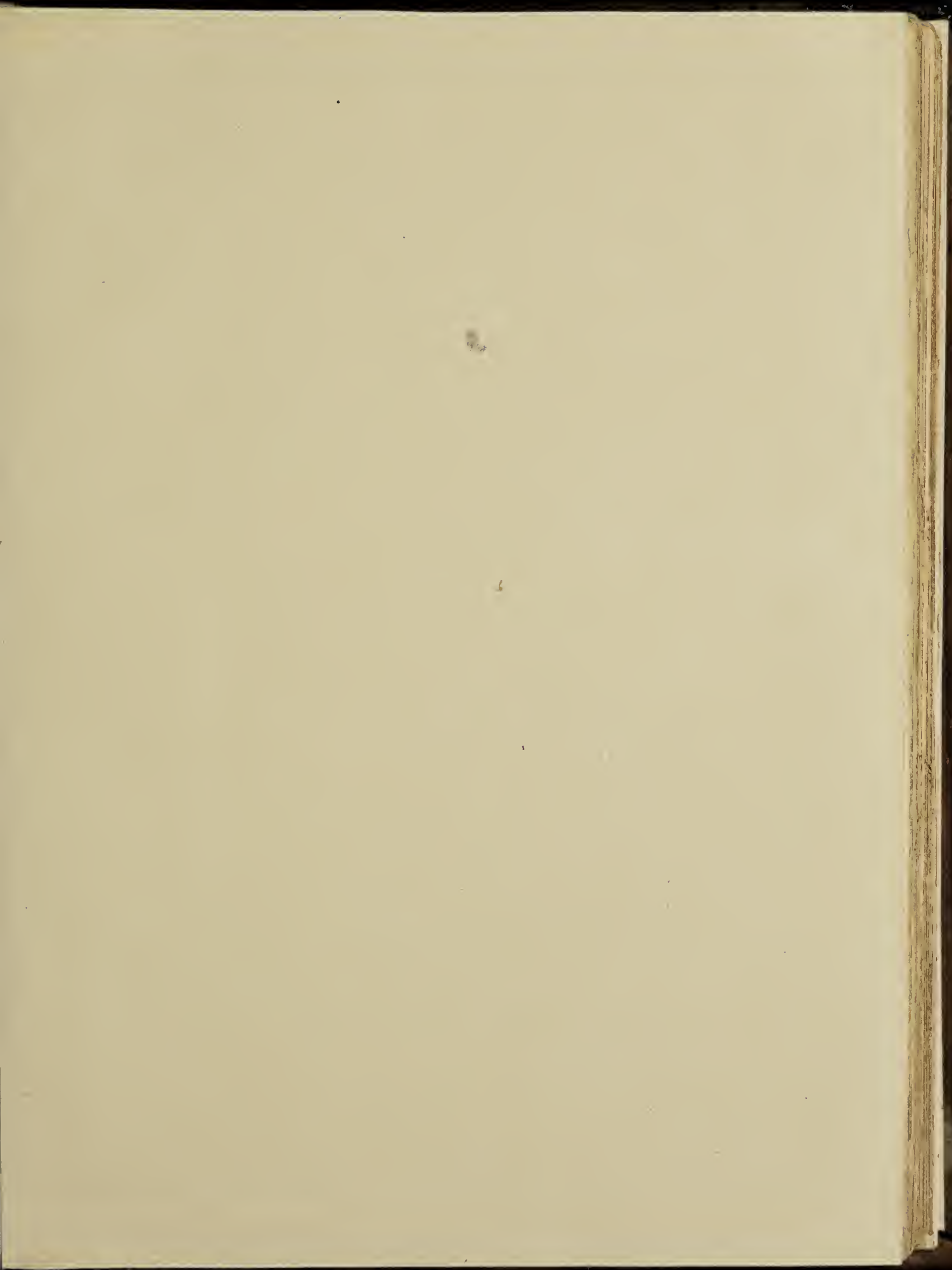


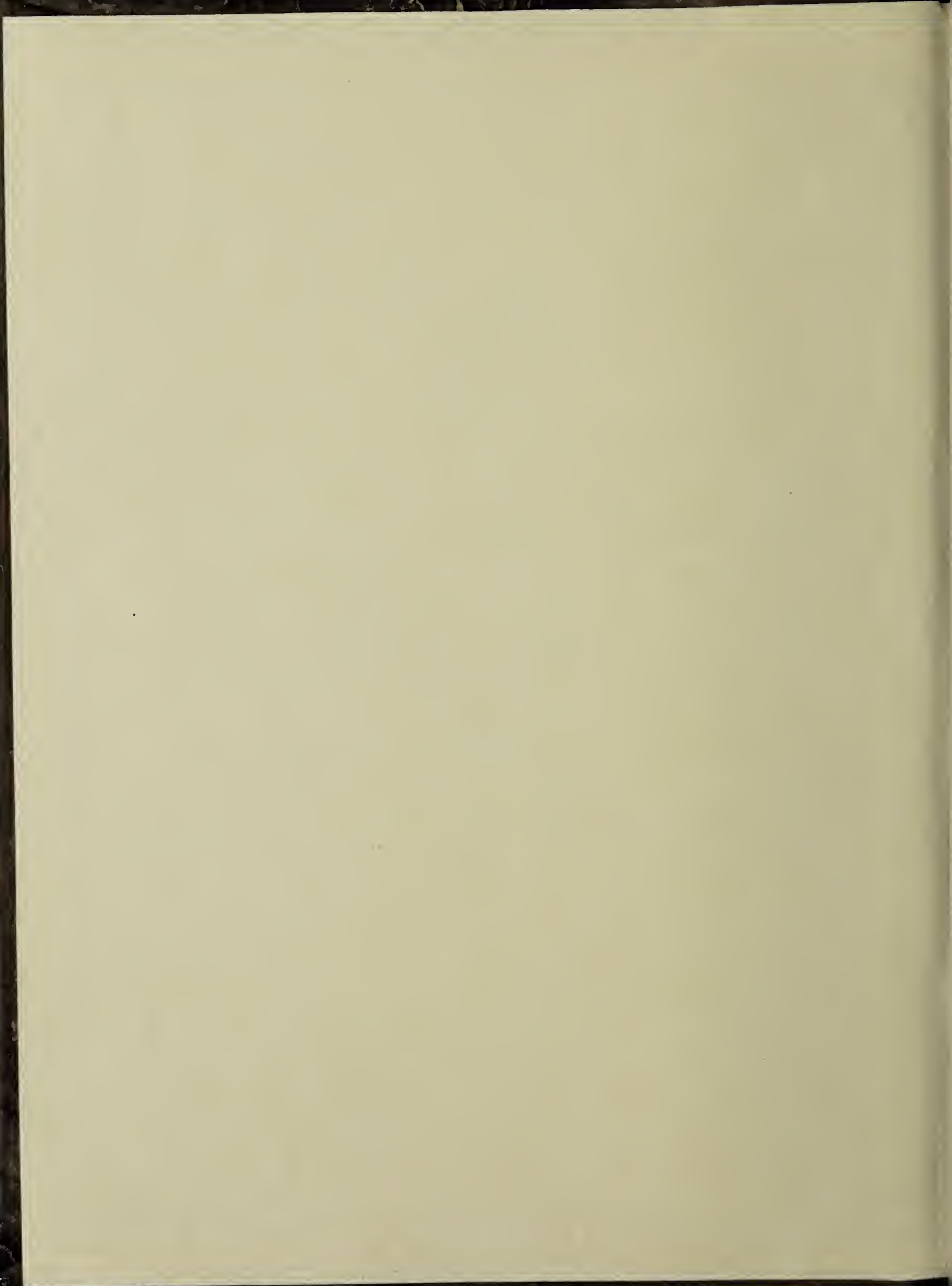
5510/B



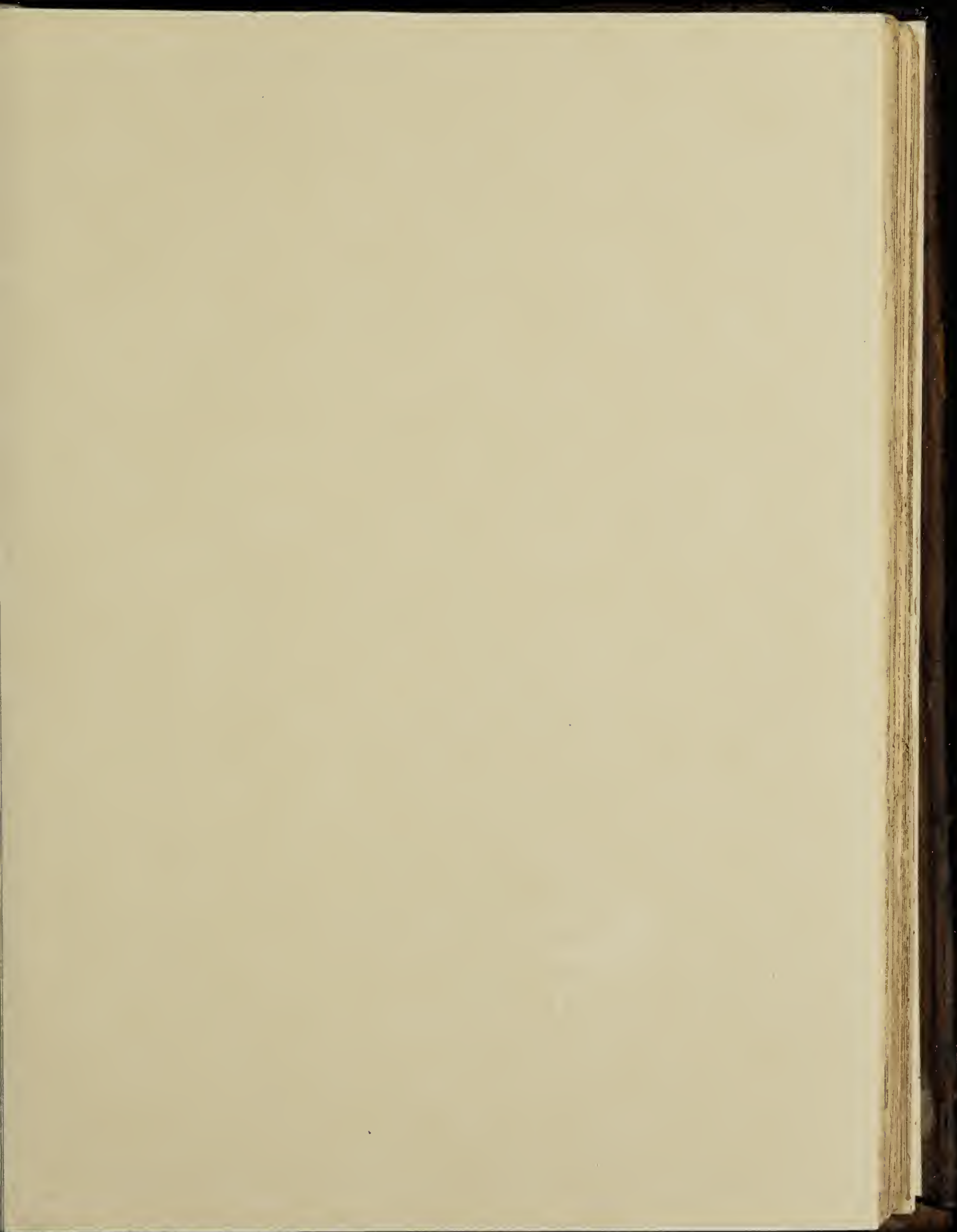
ROESSLIN, E

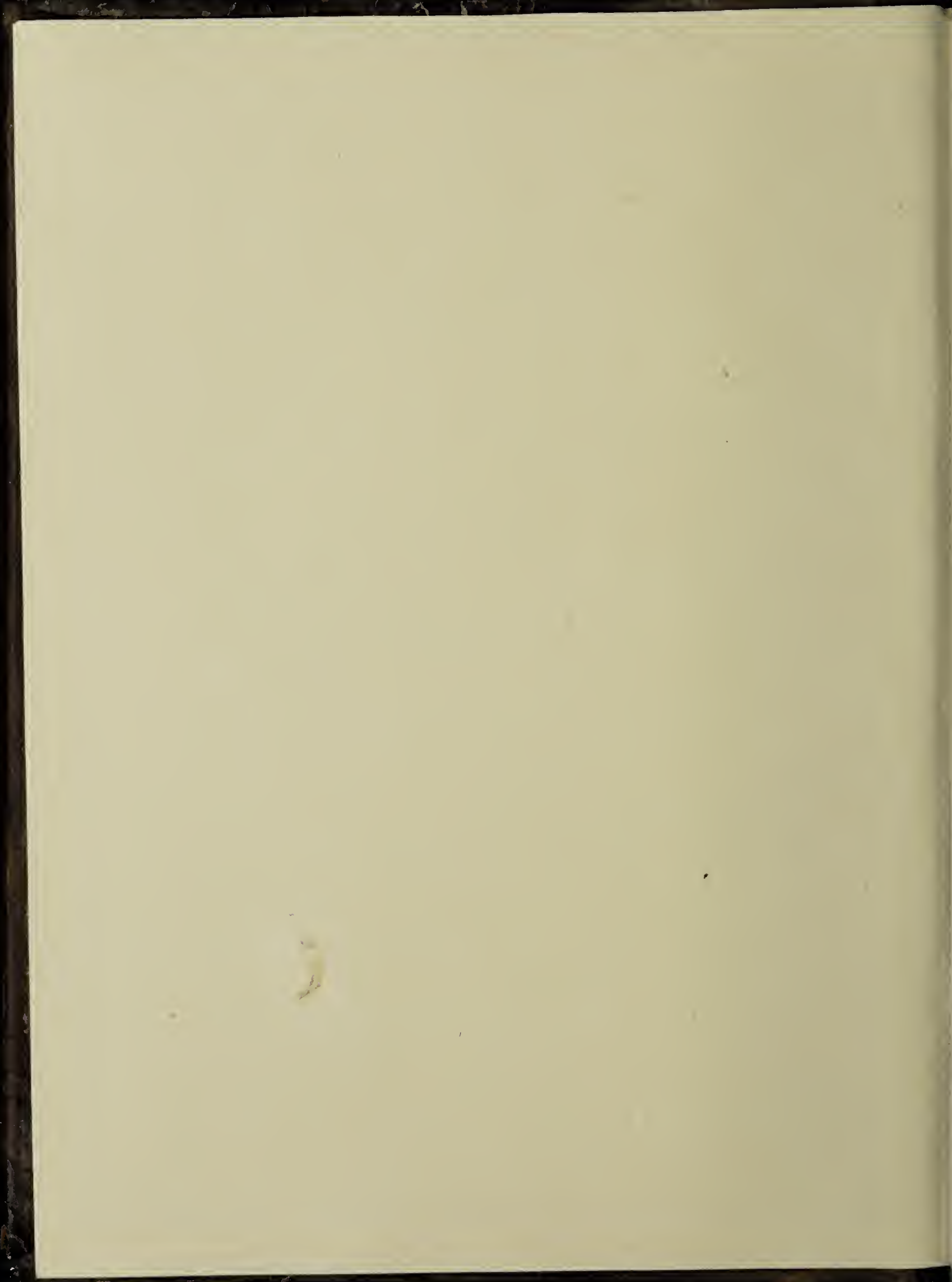
Plates wanting, otherwise complete  
Foliation begins with vi



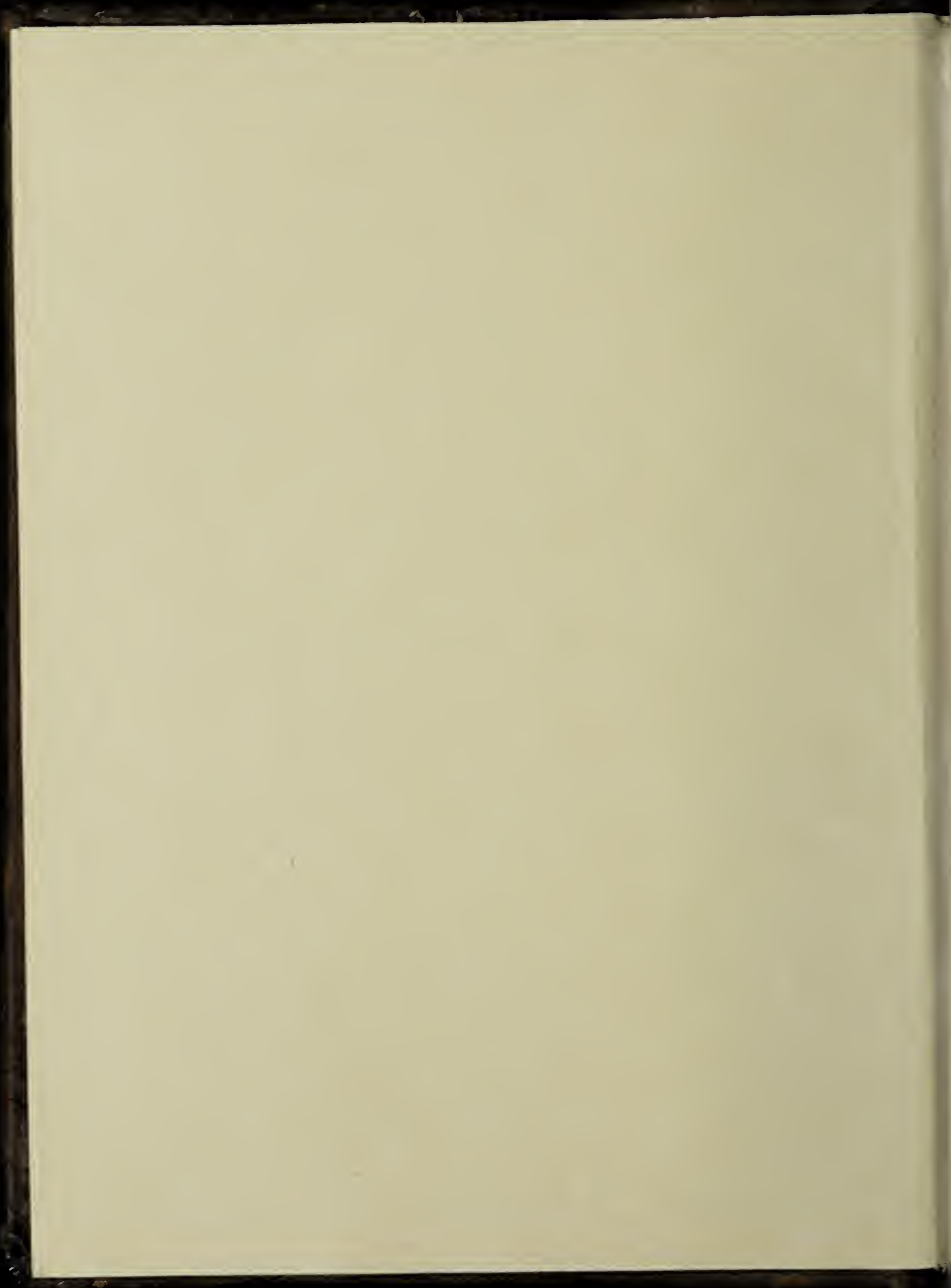


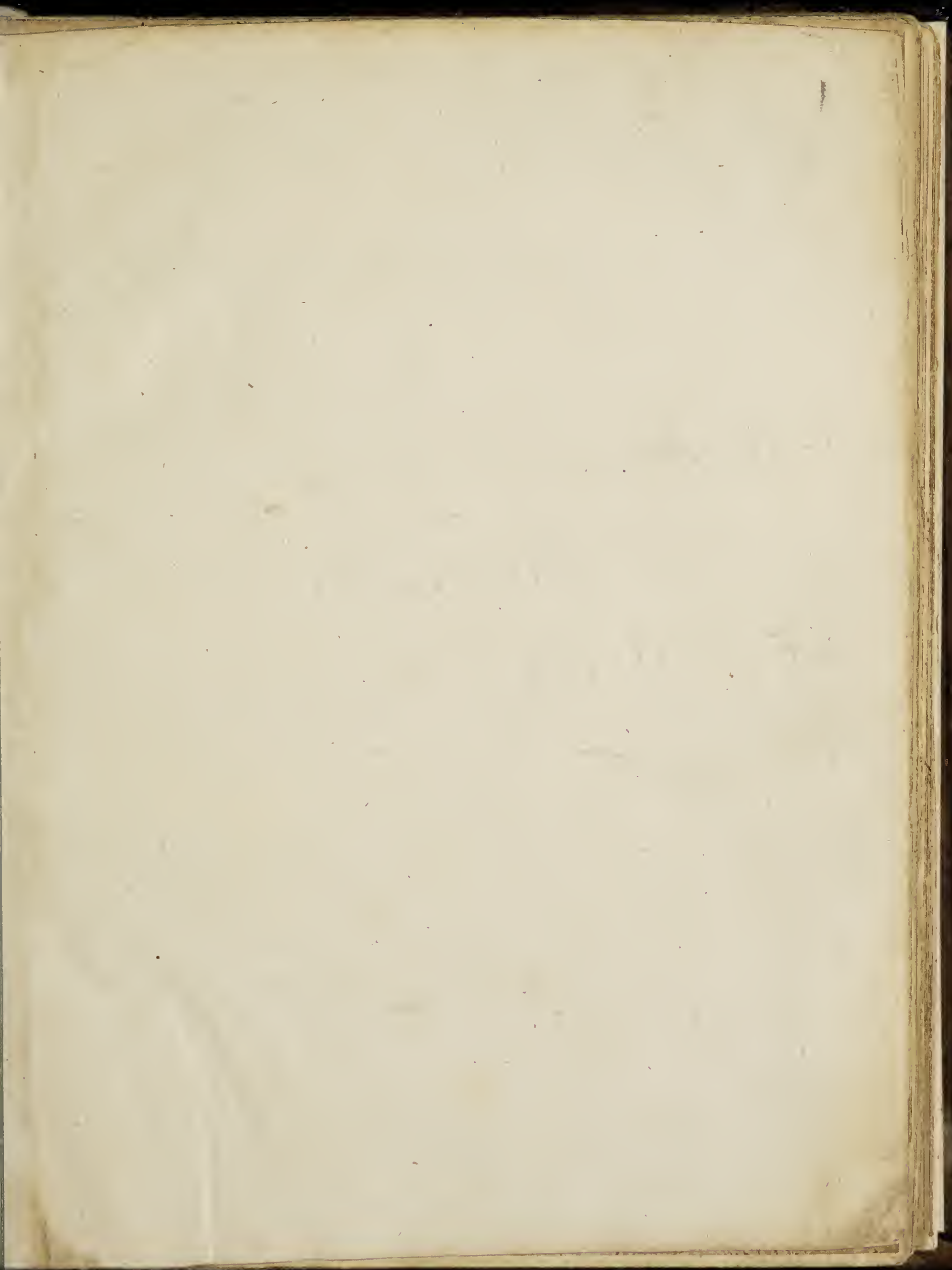


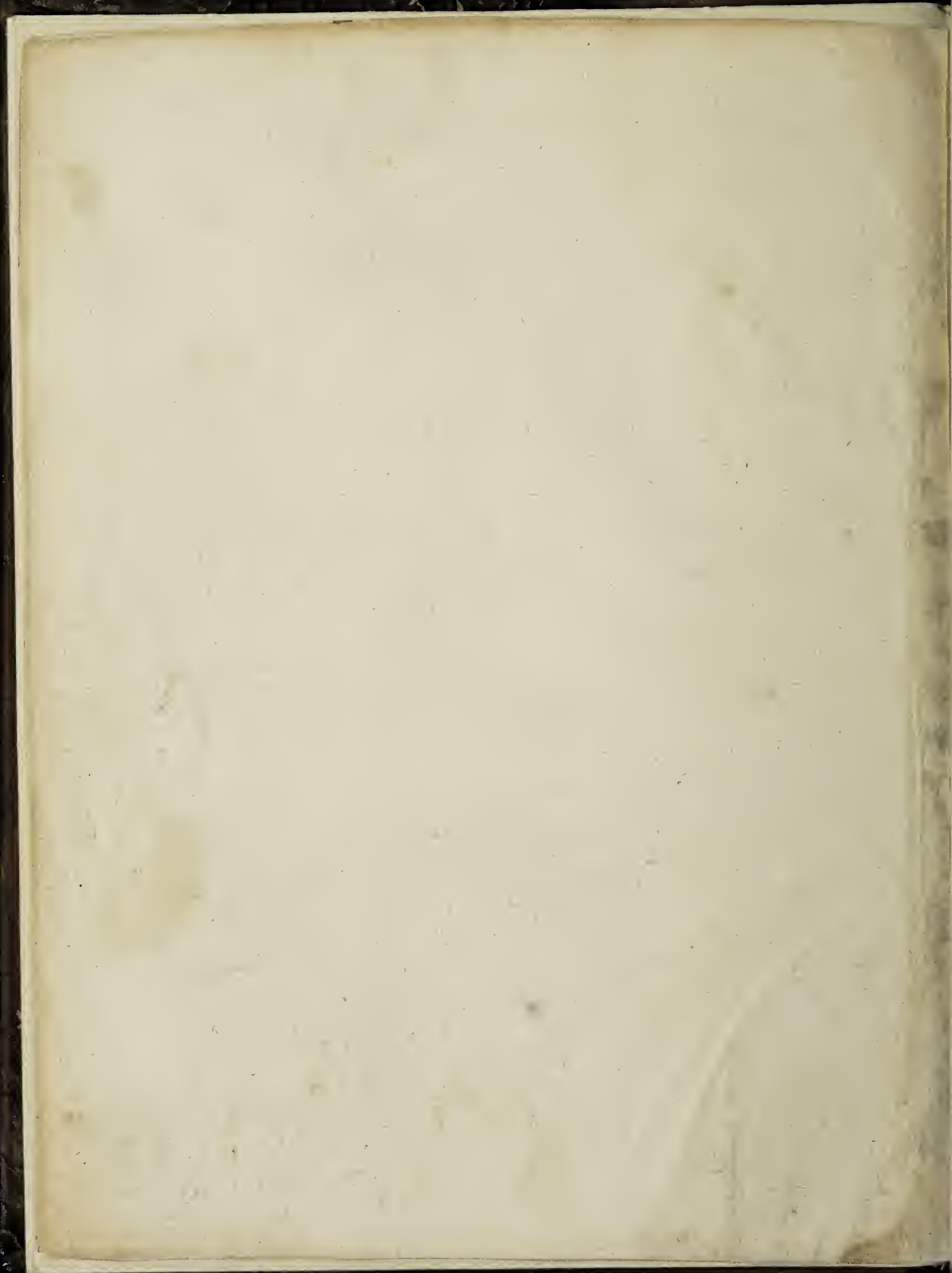














**C**The byrth of  
Mankynde/newly transla  
ted out of Laten into  
Englyshe.

In the which is entreated of all  
suche thynges the which chaunce  
to women in theyr labor, and all  
suche infyrmities whiche happen  
vnto the Infantes after they be  
delyuered. And also at the latter  
ende or in the thyrde or last boke  
is entreated of the Conception  
of mankynde, and howe manye  
wayes it may be letted or furthe-  
ryd, with diuers other fruytefull  
thynges, as doth appere in the  
table befoze the booke.

**C**um priuilegio Regali, ad impres-  
sionem solum.



VNT O THE REDER

**C**An admonicion to the reader.



**D**o so muche as we haue enterprysed the  
interpretation of this present boke, offe-  
ryng and dedicatyng it vnto our mooste  
gracyous and vertuous Quene Kate-  
ryn onely, by it myndyng and tenderyng  
the vtilite and wealthe of all women, as  
touchyng the greate parell & dangeours, which mooste  
commenly oppzesseth them in theyr paynefull labours.  
I requyre all suche men in the name of God, whiche at  
any tyme shall chaunse to haue this boke, that they vse  
it godlye, and onely to the profet of theyr neyghbours,  
vtterly eschuyng all rebawde and vnsemely communi-  
cacion of any thynges contayned in the same, as they  
wyl answere befoze God, whiche as wytnesseth Christ,  
wyl requyre a counte of all ydell wordes, and muche  
moze then of all rebawde and vncharitable wordes.  
Euery thyng, as sayth Salomon, hath his tyme, and  
truely that is farre oute of tyme, yea and farre from all  
good honestie, that some vse at the commune tables  
and without any difference befoze all companyes rude-  
lye and leudelye to talke of suche thynges, in the which  
they ought rather to knowe muche, and to saye lyttell,  
but only where it maye do good, magnifyeng the mygh-  
tye God of nature in all his woꝝkes, compassionatyng  
and pytyenge oure euen Christians, the women whiche  
sustayne and endure foꝝ the tyme so greate dolor and  
payne foꝝ the byrth of mankynde and delyue-  
raunce of the same in to the woꝝlde.

Prayse God in all his woꝝkes.





Unto the most gracious / and in all good-  
 nesse most excellent vertuous Lady Quene  
 Katheryne / wyfe and most derely belo-  
 uyd spouse vnto the moſte myghty  
 ſapient Chriſten prynce / Kynge  
 Henry the. viii. Richard Jo-  
 nas wyſſheth perpetuall  
 ioye and felicyte.



Here as of late ( moſte excel-  
 lent vertuous Quene ) many  
 goodly and proper treatyſe /  
 as well concernynge holye  
 ſcripture / wherein is contey-  
 ned the onely comforte and conſolaciõ  
 of all godlye people : as other prophane  
 artes and ſciences ryght neceſſary  
 to be knowen & had in vſe /  
 haue ben by the paynefull dyligence  
 of ſuche clarkes which haue embuſy-  
 ed them in the ſame very earneſtlye  
 and circumſpectlye ſet forth in  
 this oure vulgare Englyſhe  
 tynge / to the greate enrytchyng  
 of our mother langage / and alſo  
 the greate vtilite and profet of  
 all people vſynge the ſame / and  
 amonge all other thynges / oute  
 of the noble ſcyence of Phiſyke  
 haue ben dyuers / proper /

.AB.ij. and

and profitable matters compyled and translated from the Laten tunge in to Englyshe/ by the readyng of the whiche ryght manye haue confessed them selves to haue receaued greate lyght and knowlege of such thynges in the which they haue founde no smal comforte and profet. And in this behalfe there is in the Laten speche a boke entytled / de partu hominis : that is to saye / of the byrthe of mankynde/ compyled by a famous doctor in physycke/ called Eucharis / the whiche he wrote in his owne mother tunge/ that is beyng a Germain / in the Germaine speche/ afterwarde by an other honest clarke/ at the requeste and desyre of his frende transposed in to Laten : the whiche boke for the syngular vtilite and profete that ensueth vnto all such as rede it/ and mooste spetiallye vnto all women (for whose onely cause it was wrytten) hath bene sythe in the Doutche and Frenche speche set forth and emprynted in greate nomber/ so that there be fewe matrones and women in that partes / but (yf they can rede) wyll haue this booke alwayes in readynesse: consyderynge then that the same commodite and profet whiche they in theyr regyons

regyons do obtayne by enioyng of this lytle boke in theyr maternall langage / myght also ensue vnto all womē in this noble realme of England / if it be set forth in the Englyshe speche / as concernyng this / I haue done my synple endeuoure for the loue of all womanhode / and chieflie for the moſte bounde ſeruyce / the whiche I owe vnto youre moſte gracyous hyghnes to translate the ſame into our tunge. Moſte humbly deſyryng fyrſt your graces hyghnes / and then conſequentlye all noble ladyes and gentyllwomen with other honeſte matrones to accepte my paynes and good wyll employd in the ſame: the whiche thynge as I doo not doubt for the woonte and incomperable benignite / goodnes / and gentylnes inſet & planted in youre graces nature / ſo ſhall it be no lyttell encouragynge vnto me hereafter with farther deliberation and paynes to reuylſe and ouerſe the ſame agayne / and with much more diligence / to ſet it forth. For conſydeyng the manyfolde / daylye / and imminente dangerous and pavelles / the which all maner of women of what eſtate or degre ſo euer they be in theyr labor do ſuſtayne and abyde : yea

many tymes With parell of theyr lyfe / of the  
 Whiche there be to many examples neddette  
 here to be reherfed. I thought it shulde be a  
 very charytable and laudable dede : yea and  
 thankefullye to be accepted of all honorable  
 & other honest matrons / yf this lyttell trea-  
 tyse so frutefull and profytable for the same  
 purpose were made Englysh / so that by that  
 meanes it myght be redde and vnderstande  
 of them all / for as touchynge mydwyfes / as  
 there be many of them ryght expert / diligēt /  
 Wyse / circumspecte / and tender aboute suche  
 busynesse : so be there agayne manye mo full  
 vndyscreate / vnrasonable / chozleshe / & farre  
 to seke in suche thynges / the whiche sholde  
 chieflie helpe and socoure the good women  
 in theyr most paynefull labor and thronges.  
 Throughe whose rudenesse and ralsshenesse  
 onely I doubte not / but that a greate nom-  
 ber are caste awaye and destroyed ( the moze  
 petye . ) For this cause and for the honoz of  
 almyghty god / and for the mozte bounde ser-  
 uyce / the which I owe vnto your grace / most  
 gracypous and vertuous Quene / I haue iud-  
 ged my labor & paynes in this behalfe ryght  
 well bestowed / requyrynge all other women  
 of what

of what estate so euer they be / whiche shall  
by readyng of the same fynde lyght and cō-  
forte to yelde and render thankes vnto your  
moſte gracious hyghnes / wyllhyng grate-  
ly that it myght please all honeſte & mother-  
lye mydwyfes dyligently to reade and ouer-  
ſe the ſame / of the which althoughe there be  
many / which do knowe muche moze perad-  
venture / then is here expreſſed / yet am I ſure  
in the readyng of it / theyꝝ vnderſtandyng  
ſhall be muche cleared and haue ſome what  
farther perceuraunce in the ſame. It is no  
ſmall charge the which they take vpon them /  
for yf when anye ſtraunge or peryllous caſe  
doth chaunce / the mydwyfe be ignorant / or to  
ſeke in ſuche thynges which are to be had in  
remembraunce in that caſe / then is the par-  
tie loſte and vtterlye doth peryſhe / for lacke  
of due knowledge requyſite to be had in the  
mydwyfe. Wherefore I beſeche almyghtye  
God / that this my ſymple induſtrye and la-  
bor maye be throughe youre grace vnto the  
vtilite / wealth / and profet / of all Englyſhe  
women / accordyng to my vtter and hartye  
deſyre and entente / to whome alſo I daylye  
praye longe to preferue and proſpere youre  
moſte

VNTO THE

moste gracypous hyghnes bothe to the con-  
tynuall comforte & consolacion of our moste  
redoubted & withoute cōparyson moste  
excellent Chyften Prynce/and also  
the ioye and gladnesse of all  
his louynge subiectes.

Amen.

**Here after begynneth the table of  
this presente boke.**

**A**fter what maner and  
fashyon the byrthe lyeth  
in the mothers wombe, &  
howe many caules it is cō-  
passed and wapped in.  
Cap. i. fol. xi.

**O**f the tyme of byrth, &  
which is called naturall or  
vnnaturall. Ca. ii. fol. xiii.

**O**f easye, and vneasye,  
difficull, or dolorous dely-  
uerance, and the causes of  
it, with the sygnes howe to  
knowe, and foze the same  
Cap. iii. fol. xiiii.

**H**owe a woman with  
chylde shall vse her selfe, &  
what remedies be for them  
that haue harde labour.  
Cap. iiii. fol. xvii.

**R**emedyes and medici-  
nes by the which the laboz  
maye be made moze tolle-  
table, easye, and without  
great payne. Ca. v. fo. xxv.

**C**ertayne pylles & whi-  
che make the laboz easye &  
without payne. fol. xxvii.

**H**owe the secondyne or

secoude byrth shall be for-  
sed to yssue forth, if it come  
not frely of his owne kynd  
Cap. vi. fol. xxviii.

**H**owe that many thyn-  
ges chaunse to the women  
after theyr laboz, and howe  
to auoyde, defende, or to re-  
medye the same. Cap. vii.  
fol. xxxii.

**O**f abozcementes or vn-  
tymelye byrthes, and the  
causes of it, and by what  
remedyes it maye be defen-  
ded, holpen and eased.

Cap. viii. fol. xli.

**O**f deade byrthes, and  
by what sygnes or tokens  
it maye be knowen, and by  
what meanes it maye also  
be expelled. Ca. ix. fo. xlvii.

**H**owe the infant newly  
borne, muste be handled,  
nouryshed, and loked to.  
Cap. x. fol. liii.

**O**f the nurse, and her  
mylke, and howe longe the  
chylde should soucke. fo. lv.

**C. i.**

T H E T A B L E

**¶ The Table of the  
seconde booke.**

- ¶ Of diuers diseases and infirmities which chaunse to chyldren lately borne, & y<sup>e</sup> remedies therfoze. fol. lix.
- ¶ Of y<sup>e</sup> flux or ouermochelosenesse of the belly. fol. lx.
- ¶ To vnloose the chyldre beyng bounden. fol. lxii.
- ¶ Remedye for the crāpe or distention of the members. fol. lxiii.
- ¶ Remedye for the cough and dystyllatyon of the heade. fol. lxiiii.
- ¶ Remedye for shorte wynde, fol. lxv.
- ¶ Agaynste wheles or bladders on the tounge. fol. lxv.
- ¶ Of exulceration or clefture, chappynge, or chynnyng of y<sup>e</sup> mouth. fol. lxvi.
- ¶ Of Apostumation and runnyng of y<sup>e</sup> eares. fol. lxvii.
- ¶ Of Appostumation in the heade. fol. lxviii.
- ¶ Of the swellynge or bolnyng of the eyes. fol. lxix.
- ¶ Of the scum or whyte of the eye. fol. lxx.
- ¶ Agaynste immoderate heate or the feuer. fol. lxxi.
- ¶ Agaynste frettyng or knawynge in the belly. fol. lxxii.
- ¶ Agaynste swellynge of the body. fol. lxxiii.
- ¶ Agaynste often sneesyng. fol. lxxiiii.
- ¶ Of whelkes in the body and the cure. fol. lxxv.
- ¶ Agaynste swellynge of the coddres. fol. lxxvi.
- ¶ Agaynste swellynge of the nauyll. fol. lxxvii.
- ¶ Agaynste vnswelnesse fol. lxxviii.
- ¶ Agaynst peryng. fol. lxxix.
- ¶ Of yerkenesse or appetyte to vomyte. fol. lxxx.
- ¶ Agaynst fearful and terrible dreames. fol. lxxxi.
- ¶ Agaynste the mother. fol. lxxxii.
- ¶ Of shorte brythe, horsenesse, or whystelyng in the throte. fol. lxxxiii.
- ¶ Agaynste tenasmus. fol. lxxxiiii.
- ¶ Agaynst wormes in the belly. fol. lxxxv.



**C** Of chawfynge oꝝ gal-  
lynge in any place of the  
body. fol. lxxv.

**C** Of the fallynge sycke-  
nesse. fol. lxxvi.

**C** Consumptyon oꝝ py-  
nyng awaye of the bodye.  
fol. lxxvii.

**C** Of lassytude, werynesse  
oꝝ heuynesse of the chyldes  
bodye. fol. lxxviii.

**C** Of trymblynge of the  
body, and the membyes of  
the bodye. fol. lxxviiii.

**C** Of the stone. fo. lxxviiii.

**C** Of google eyes, oꝝ lo-  
kyng a squynt. fo. lxxviiii.

**The Table of the  
thyrde booke.**

**C** Of suche thynges the  
whiche shalbe entreated of  
in this thyrde booke.

Cap. i. fol. lxxix.

**C** Of conceptio; and how  
many wayes it maye be  
hyndered oꝝ letted. Ca. ii.  
fol. lxxx.

**C** Howe many wayes con-  
ceptyon maye be letted, &  
howe the causes maye be  
knowen. Cap. iii. fol. lxxxi.

**C** Howe to know whether  
lacke of conception be of  
the woman oꝝ of the man,  
and howe it maye be per-  
ceaued whether she be con-  
ceaued oꝝ no. Cap. iiii.  
fol. lxxxiii.

**C** Of certayne remedies  
and medycynes whiche  
shall cause the wo-  
man to conceaue.

Cap. v.  
fol. lxxxv.

**C** Here endeth the table  
of this booke,

THE TABLE

**F**or bycause that in this booke many tymes be founde certayne measure & waygh-tes of physyke not knowen peradventure to all suche as shal chaunce to reade it/ therefore here brefly I haue set them furthe/ shewyng the value and estimation of them so far as shal be requysite to the better vnderstandyng of suche thynges the whiche ye shal reade in the same treatyse.

The pounce wayght		xxi. ounces.
The ounce	contayneth	viii. drammes.
The dramme		iii. scruples
The scruple		xx. graynes,

**W**here as is written that the scruple contayneth. xx. graynes / ye muste note that by these graynes be vnderstande graynes of barley taken out of the myddell of the eare/ of the whiche. xx. maketh a scruple: so that the pounce contayneth. v. M. vii. C. lxxii. graynes. &c. as folowyth.

The pounce		v. M. vii. C. lxxii. graynes.
The ounce	contayneth	lvi. C. lxxx. graynes.
The dramme		lx. graynes.
The scruple		xx. graynes.

**T**ye shall also note here that many tymes  
ye shall happen vppon straunge names of  
suche thynges the whiche are occupyed a-  
boute infyrmytees spoken of in this booke/  
for the whiche there is no englyshe but are  
vsyd in there owne proper names of greke  
or laten: and they are suche for the mooste  
parte whiche are to be had onely at the Apo-  
thecaries/beyng of them ryght wel knowen  
wherfore when ye shall nede any such thyng  
yf ye sende the same names in your byll to  
the apothecaries they wyll soone spede  
your purpose: neyther do this yf  
ye maye without the aduise of  
some experte and well ler-  
ned physytiane.

**T**here after begynnech the  
fyrste booke.

T H E F Y R S T E

¶ After what maner and fashyon the byrthe  
lyeth in the mothers wombe, and  
howe many caules it is com-  
passed and wrapped in.

¶ Cap. i.



As so muche as oure entent is  
in this boke folowynge to en-  
treate and speake of the byrthe  
of mankynde / and of suche  
thynges whiche happen and  
chaunce to the mother in her labor and tra-  
uayle / in the deliuerance of the same / it shal  
be fyrst veyre necessary to shewe after what  
maner and fashyon the infant lyeth in the  
mothers wombe / and in howe many cau-  
les the same is lapped and wrapped : to the  
farther knowlege and perceuerance of suche  
thynges the whiche we shall entreate of  
hereafter.

¶ Wherefore ye shall vnderstande that the  
byrth lyeth in the mother after this maner :  
Fyrste it lyeth rownde in maner as a bowle  
the handes beyng betwene the knees / and  
the hedde lenyng on the knees : eyther of the  
eyes ioynyng vppon eyther of the knees :  
the ryghte eye vppon the ryghte knee : and  
the

the lefte vpon the lefte / the noose dependyng  
betwene the knees / so that the face and fore-  
parte of the infante is towarde the inwarde  
partes of the woman / lyenge in maner by-  
ryght in the mothers matryce.

**C** Farther ye muste vnderstande that there  
be thre coueres or caules in the whiche the  
byrthe is contayned and lapped: of the whi-  
che the one compassyth & embrasyth rownd  
aboute the byrthe / and the other two caules  
also: and it is called the secondyne seconde  
byrth or the after byrthe: the whiche defen-  
deth the byrthe frome noysum and yll hu-  
mours encreasyng in the matryce after con-  
ception by retensyon of the flowres other-  
wyle wonte to passe and yssue furthe ones  
in the monethe / the whiche yll humours yf  
they sholde touche or come nere to the byrth  
wolde greatlye peryshe and hurte the same.  
But after the deliuerance of the pyncipall  
byrth these humours also with the foresayd  
caule or secondyne yssue furthe / and is cal-  
led the after byrthe.

**T**he seconde caule with the whiche the  
byrth is coueryd / compasseth the same byrth  
frome the nayll downewarde / couerynge  
all

all the inferiour partes of the infant / and this skynne or caule is as it were fulle of plyghtes and wrynckles : and through this caule the byrthe is defended and kepte from yll and sharpe humours as vryne or pyffe yssuyng frome the infante and swette. &c. for so longe as the chylde is in the mothers wombe it sendeth furthe vryne / not by the due membrs but by the bayne whiche procedeth out of the nauell.

**T**he thyrde skynne or caule lyke wyse contayneth all the byrthe in it defendyng also the same frome humours & vryne: and from the boystesnes of the secondyne or fyrst caule and this is called the armoure or defence of the byrthe.

**T**his is the maner of the sytuacion and lodgyng of the infante in the mothers bellye : and these be the thre caules contaynyng and enclosyng in the byrth.

Nowe wyll we  
speake of the  
tyme of  
byrthe.

¶ Of the tyme of byrthe, and whiche  
is called naturall or vnnaturall,

¶ Cap. ii.



And when the tyme of byrthe ap-  
prochyth nere / moſte commenly  
theſe ſygnēs folowynge come be-  
fore: by the which the tyme of la-  
bor is knowen to be at hande.

¶ Firſte certayne dolours and paynes be-  
gynne to growe about the guttes / the nauell /  
and in the raynes of the backe / and lykewyſe  
aboute the thyghes & the other places beinge  
nere to the priuy partes / which lykewyſe then  
beginne to ſwell and to burne and to expell  
humours / ſo that it gyueth playne and eu-  
dent token that the labor is nere.

¶ But ye ſhall note that there is two man-  
ner of byrthes / the one called naturall / the o-  
ther contrarye to nature. Naturall byrthe is  
when the chylde is borne bothe in due ſeaſon  
& alſo in due faſhion. The due ſeaſon is moſt  
commenly after the .ix. moneth or aboute .xl.  
wekes after the conception / althoughe ſome  
be deliuered ſometymes in the ſeuenthe mo-  
neth / and the chylde proueth very well. But  
ſuch as are borne in the eyght moneth / other  
D. i. they

they be dead before the byrth / or els lyue not longe after / as the noble medicine Auicenna doth testifye.

**T**he due fashion of byrthe is this / accordynge as wytnesseth Albert the greate / fyrste the head comineth forwarde / then foloweth the necke and shoulde / the armes with the handes lyenge close to the bodye towarde the fete / the face and forepart of the chylde beyng towarde the face and foreparte of the mother / as it appeareth in the fyrste of the byrthe fygures. For as Albertus writeth / and as we haue reherced before also / before the tyme of delyueraunce the chylde lyeth in the mothers wombe the face and breste beyng towarde the backe of the mother / but when it sholde be delyuered / it is turned clene contrary / the head downewarde / the fete vpwarde / and the face towarde the mothers bellye / and that yf the byrth be natural. Another thyng also is this / that yf the byrth be naturall / the delyuerance is easye withoute longe taryenge or lokynge for it.

**T**he byrth contrarye to nature is / when the mother is delyuered before her tyme / or oute of due season / or after any other fashion  
then



then is here specyfyed before / as when bothe legges procede fyrste / or one alone / with both the handes vp / or both downe / other elles the one vp & the other downe / and diuers otherwise as shalbe hereafter moze clerely Declared

¶ Of easye, and vneasye, difficull, or dolorous delyueraunce, and the causes of it, with the sygnes howe to knowe, and foze the same.

¶ Cap. iii.



Very many be the pavelles / dangerous & stronges which chance to women in theyr labor / whiche ensue & come in dyuers wayes / & for dyuers causes / such as I shal here declare.

¶ Fyrst when the woman that laboreth is conceyued ouer yonge / as before .xij. yee or .xv. yere of aege / which chāseth somtyme / though not verie often / and that the passage be ouer angust streate or narrowe / other naturally / or els for some disease and infirmite / which may happen about that parte / as apostumes / pufthes / pyles / or blysterres / and such other / thowwe the whiche causes nature can not (but with great dolor and payne) open and dilate

D.ij. it

THE FIRST.

it selfe to the expellynge & delyuerance of the chylde. And sometyme the velyke or bladder/ or other intralles beyng about the matrice or wombe be also apostumat & blystered/ whiche beyng greaued / the matrice or wombe lyke- wyle is greaued with them/ and that hynde- reth greatly the deliuerance. Also sometyme in the fundament are emerodes or pyles and other pusses/ chappynge or chynnes which cause greate payne/ also hardnes and difficul- te or byndynge of the belly/ which thinges for the grete and payne that ensueth of them cau- seth the woman to haue lyttell power to help herselfe in her labor.

**C** Farthermore if the partie be weke and of feble complexion/ or of nature very colde/ or to yonge / or very aged/ or to grosse and fatte / or contrarye wyle to spare and leane/ or that she neuer had chylde before/ or that she be ouer ti- morous and fearefull/ dyuers waywarde / or suche one as wyll not be ruled/ remouyng her selfe from one place to another/ all such thyn- ges causeth the labour to be much more payn- full/ cruell/ and dolorous/ then it wolde other- wyle be. Also ye must vnderstande that gene- rallye the byrthe of the man is easyer then the byrth

byrth of the female.

¶ Item yf the chylde be of a fuller & greater groweth than that it maye easelye passe that narrowe passage/or contrarye wyse / yf it be so faynt/weake/and tender/that it can not turne it selfe/or doth it very slowly/or yf the womā haue two chyldezen at ones/ other elles that it with the which she laboꝛeth be a monster / as for example / yf it haue but one body and two heddes/as appeareth in the. xviij. of the byrth fygyures/such as of late was sene in the domination of Werdenberghe .

¶ Agayne whē it procedeth not in due tyme or after due fashion/as when it cometh forth with bothe fete or both knees togyther/or els with one fete onely/or with both fete downeward and both handes bywarde / other els (the which is most perellous ) sydelong/arcelonge/or backelonge/ other hauynge two at a byrth/both procede with their fete fyrst/or one with his fete and the other with his head/by those and diuers other wayes the woman susteyneth greate doloure payne and anguysh.

¶ Item yf the woman suffer aboꝛsmēt/that is to saye byynge forth her chylde in the.iiii. or v. moneth after the conception/whiche is be-

D. iij. foze

foze the due tyme / in this case it shalbe great payne to her / for so muche as (accozdyng to Galenus sayenge) in that tyme the entrance of the wombe is so firmly and strongely enclosed / that scace the poynte of a nedle maye enter in at it .

¶ Also yf the chylde be dead in the mothers bellye it is a verrye perellous thynge / for so muche as it can not be easely turned / nother can it weld or helpe it self to come forth / or yf the chylde be sycke or weakened / so that it can not for feableness helpe it selfe. The whiche thynge maye be foresene & knowen by these tokens: Yf the woman with chylde haue ben longe sycke before her labor / yf she haue ben soze laxed / yf after her conception she haue had dayly & vnwontly her flowres / yf she after one moneth vppon the conception her brestes yelde anye mylke / yf the chylde steare not ne moue at suche tyme as is conuenient for it : these be tokens that it sholde be verrye weake. By what tokens ye shall knowe it is dead / I shall shewe you in the nynt chapter hereafter.

¶ Also there is greate parell in laborynge / when the secondyne or latter byrthe is ouer  
fyne

fyne or stronge / and wyll not sone ryue or  
breake asunder / so that the chylde maye haue  
his easy comyng forth. And contrary wyse  
when it is ouer weake slender or thynne / so  
that it breaketh asunder before that the chylde  
be turned or apte to yssue forth / for then the  
humours which are collecte and gathered to  
gether about this secondyne or seconde byrth  
passe away soner then it sholde do / & the byrth  
shall lacke his due humidite and moystenes /  
whiche sholde cause it the easelyar to procede  
and with lesse payne.

**T**he byrth also is hindered by ouer much  
colde or ouer muche heete / for in ouer muche  
colde the passage and all other poyntes of the  
laborynge woman be coarted and made nar-  
rower then they wolde otherwyse be. Lyke-  
wyse ouer much heate debiliteth / weakeneth  
and faynteth both the woman and the chylde /  
so that neyther of them in that case can well  
welde or helpe them selves for fayntnesse.

**A**nd forther yf the woman haue vled to  
eate comynly such meate or fruytes / whiche  
do exiccat or drye and constrayne or bynde / as  
medlars / chestenuttis / all sowe fruyte / as  
crabbes / chokeperes / and suche other / With  
ouer

ouer muche vse of bergens / & such lyke soure  
sauces / With ryle myll / and many other thyn-  
ges / all this shall greatly hynder the byrth.

¶ Also the vse of colde bathes after the .v.  
moneth folowng the conception or to bathe  
in such water where alome is / yron / or salte / or  
any suche thynges which do coarcte and con-  
strayne / or yf she haue ben oftentimes heauye  
and murnyng / or yll at ease / or yf she haue ben  
kept ouer hungrye and thurstye / or haue vled  
ouer much watche and walkinge / other yf she  
vled a lyttell before her labor thynges of great  
odour smell or sauoure / for suche thynges at-  
tracte and dralwe bywarde the mother or ma-  
trice / the whiche is greate hynderaunce to the  
byrth.

¶ Also yf the womā fele payne onely in the  
backe and aboue the nauell and not vnder / it  
is sygne of harde labor / lykelwyse yf she ware  
wont to be delyuered with greate payne in ty-  
mes passed / is a sygne of great labor alwayes  
in the byrth.

¶ Nowe sygnes and tokens of an expeditie  
and easy delyueraunce be such as be contrary  
to all those that go before. As for example /  
when the woman hath ben wonte in tymes  
passed

passed easelye to be delyuered/and that in her labor she feale but lyttell thronge or dolor / or though she haue greate paynes / yet they remayne not allwayes in the vppar partes / but descend to the nether partes or botome of the bellye.

¶ And to be shorte in all paynefull & troublesome labours / these sygnes betokē & signify good spede and lucke in the labor: vnquietnes / muche stearynge of the chylde in the mothers belly / all the thronges and paynes tomblinge in the fore parte of the botome of the bellye / and when the woman is stronge and myghtye of nature / and such as can well and strongelye helpe her selfe to the expellynge of the byrth. And agayne euell sygnes be those / when she swegethe colde swete : and that her pulces beate and labor ouer soze / and that she her selfe in the laborynge faynt and swoone: these be vnluckye and mortall sygnes.

¶ Howe a woman with chylde shall vse herselfe, and what remedies be for them that haue harde labor.

¶ Cap. iiii.

E. i.

To so



**D** Socoure and helpe such as are  
 in suche difficull pcell of laboz/  
 as we haue spoken of before / ye  
 must obserue / kepe & marke those  
 thynges whiche we shall (by the  
 grace of god) shew you in this chapter folow-  
 ynge. Fyrst the woman with chylde must kepe  
 two dyettes / the one a monethe before her la-  
 boz / the other in the verye laborynge / & aboue  
 all thynges she muste exchue and forbare all  
 suche thynges which maye hynder the byrthe  
 so nere as she can possible / the which we reher-  
 sed in the chapter before / but yf there be anye  
 suche thynges which can not be auoyded / for so  
 much as it commeth by nature or by long con-  
 tynuance and custome: in this case yet ye shall  
 vse some such remedies / the which maye som-  
 what asswage it / mollifye it / or make it more  
 easye or tollerable / so that it hynder the byrth  
 so muche the lesse.

**B**ut yf it so be / that any infirmitie or dy-  
 sease / swellynge / or other apostumation chance  
 about the mother or the preyue parte / or about  
 the velyke or bladder / as the stone / the stran-  
 gurye / and suche lyke: the whiche thynges  
 may cause suche straytenesse and coarctation  
 that



that vnnethe greate and horrible payne / the  
partie can be delyuered or discharged: in these  
cases it behouethe suche thynges to be looked  
vnto and cured before the tyme of labor com-  
meth / by the aduyse of some experte Sur-  
gion .

¶ Also yf the woman be ouer muche consti-  
pat / or bounde all wayes / she muste vse the  
monethe before her labour suche thynges / the  
whiche maye lenifye / mollifye / dissolue / and  
loose the bellye : as aples fryed with sugre ta-  
ken fastynge in the mornynge / and after that  
a draughte of pure wyne alone / or elles tem-  
pered with the iuyce of swete and ripe ap-  
ples . Also to eatte fygges in the mornynge  
fastynge and at nyghte / loosethe welle the  
bellye .

¶ Agayne in this case she muste refrayne  
frome all suche thynges as doo harden / re-  
strayne / and constipat : as be suche thynges /  
the whyche be browled or rosted / & ryse / harde  
egges and myll / and suche lyke .

¶ Also yf farther necessite require she maye  
receaue a clyster / but it muste be very gentell  
and easye tempered other with cheken brothe  
or brothe of other flesshe : she maye vse also

Some other easye and temperat purgation to mollifye and loose her with all: also a suppositar tempered With sope / larde / or the yolke of egges.

¶ And yf it chaunce that (the labor drawynge nere) she ware faynte or syckelye: then muste ye comforte her With good comfortable meate/drynke/holsome and noble electuaries/ and in this tyme must she do all such thinges the whiche can make her apte and sufficiente to her labor/ & to vse suche thynge the which maye laxe/open / and mollifye the nature and passage/so that the byrth maye the more frely procede: and that chieslye in the younger women. The elder Women for because that/that partes in them be somewhat dryer & harder/ therfore they muste vse hote and moyst thynge which haue properte to lenifye and sope/ and that bothe in meate and drynke/ and also in outwarde fomentations / bathynges / suppositaries and anoyntmētes: Anoyntmentes wherewith ye maye sope the priuie place / be these: hennes grese/duckes grese/goose grese/ also oyle olyfe/or lynese oyle/or oyle of fene greke/or the viscolite of holyoke & such other/ and for drinke let her vse good rype Wyne mixed

red with water: also ther must be a considera-  
tion in the dietynge of the woman / that she  
maye vse such thynges the which maye moy-  
sten her / and not make her fatte. Contrarye-  
Wyle let her auoyde such thynges the whiche  
sholde exiccat drye constrayne oz coarte her : &  
that all the monethe before her labor. But a-  
bout. x. dayes before the tyme (yf she fele any  
payne oz grefe) let her vse euery day to washe  
oz bathe her with warme water / in the which  
also that she tary not ouer longe in bathynge  
foz weakening of her: in the bath let her stand  
so chat the water come aboue the nauell a lyt-  
tell / and lette be sodde in the water mallows /  
holyoke / camomell / mercurye / maydenherel  
lynesede / fenegreke sede / and such other thyn-  
ges which haue vertue to mollifye and suple:  
and yf it so be that foz weakenesse of the body  
she maye not endure this bathynge in warme  
water / then with a sponge oz other cloth dyp-  
ped in the foresayde bathe / let her sokynge  
washe her fete / her thyghs / and her pryuy par-  
tes / the whiche thynges shall greatly profet to  
her. But in suche tyme beware ye come not in  
the cōmune hote houses / foz they wolde cause  
you to be feble and faynte / whiche ware yll in

this case.

¶ And when ye are thus bathed or washed / then shall it be very conuenient for you to annoynte with the foresayde greses and oyles your backe / belly / nauell / sydes / and such places as are nere to the prouye partes. Farthermore it shall be greatlye profitable for her to conueye inwarde in to the prouye parte these foresayde oyles or greses with a sponge or other thyng made for the purpose / she iynge byryght the middes of her body most hyst / so that it maye the better remayne within her / and that chieflye / yf the matrice be drye / other elles the partie very leane and spare.

¶ It shall be also verye profytable for her to suffume the nether places with muske / ambre / gallia muscata / whiche putte on embers yelde a goodlye sauour / by the whiche the nether places open the selfe & draw downward.

¶ Also as I sayd before / she must take good hede to her dyette / that she take thynges the whiche maye comfote and strenghten the body / feadyng not ouer muche of any thyng / and to drynke pleasaunt and well sauerynge wyne / or other drynke / also moderatly to exercise the body in doying some thing / stearynge /

movinge/goynge/oz standyng/moze then other  
 wise she was wot to do: these thinges farther  
 the byrth & make it the easyer: & this is the ma-  
 ner of dyette the which we advise the woman  
 to kepe the moneth before her labor oz longer.

¶ Another dyette there is / the whiche she  
 ought to obserue in the tyme of labor / when  
 the stormes and thronges begyn to come on/  
 and the humours / whiche yet hytherto haue  
 remayned about the matrice oz mother collec-  
 ted/nolwe begyn to flowe forth: and this ma-  
 ner of dyette consyseth in two sortes. Fyyste  
 that suche thynge be procured and had in re-  
 dyneffe whiche maye cause the byrth oz labor  
 to be very easye. Secondly to withstande/de-  
 fende & to put awaye so nere as may be the in-  
 stat & present dolours. And as touchinge this  
 poynt / it shalbe very profitable for her for the  
 space of an houre to syt styll/thē rysyng again  
 to go vp & downe a payre of stayres cryeng oz  
 reaching so loude as she cā/so to stere herselfe.

¶ Also it shalbe very good for a tyme to re-  
 tayne and kepe in her brythe / for because that  
 thozow that meanes the guttes and intralles  
 be thrust together and depressed downeward.  
 Also it shalbe verye good to receyue the same  
 medi-

THE FIRST

medicine / the which we shall describe hereafter / for that medicine expelleth and sendeth forth the byrth .

¶ But when the womā perceaueth the matrice or mother to ware lare or loose / and to be dissolved / and that the humours yssue forth in great plente / then shall it be mete for her to lye downe lenynge backward in maner byrtyght. For the which purpose in some regiōs (as in France and Germanye) the mydwifes haue stooles for the purpose / whiche beyng but lowe and not hye frome the grounde / is made soo compase wyse and caue or holowe in the myddes / that that maye be receaued from vnderneath whiche is loked for: and the backe of the stoole lenyng backward / receaueth the backe of the woman / the fashion of the which stoole is set in the begynninge of the byrth fygures hereafter.

¶ And when the tyme of labor is come / in the same stoole ought to be put manye clothes or clowtes in the backe of it / the whiche the midwife may remoue frō one syde to another accordyng as necessite shall require. The mydwife herselfe shall lye before the laboring woman / and shall diligently obserue and wayte howe

howe muche & after what maner the chylde  
 feareth it selfe : also shall with her handes  
 fyrste annoynted with the oyle of almondes  
 or the oyle of whyte lylies rule & directe eue-  
 ry thyng / as shall seme best. Also the myd-  
 wyfe muste enstruete and comfort the partie  
 not onely refresshyng her with good meate  
 and drynke / but also with swete wordes / ge-  
 uynge her good hope of a speedefull deliue-  
 raunce / encouragynge and enstomarking her  
 to pacience and tollerance / byddyng her to  
 holde in her brythe in so muche as she maye /  
 also strekyng gentylly with her handes her  
 belly aboue the navel / for that helpeth to de-  
 presse the byrth downewarde.

¶ But and yf the woman be any thyng  
 grosse / fat / or fleschly it shall be best for her to  
 lye grouelyng / for by that means the matrice  
 is thrust and depressed downewarde / annoy-  
 nte also the prey partes with the oyle of  
 whyte lylies. And yf necessite require it / let  
 not the mydwyfe be afrayde ne asshamed to  
 handle the places and to relaxe and lose the  
 straytes / for so muche as shall lye in her /  
 for that shall helpe wel to the more expedite  
 and quycke labor.

F. i. But

**C** But this must the mydwyfe about all thynges take hede of that she cōpell not the woman to labor / befoze the byrth come forwarde / & shewe it selfe. For befoze that tyme all labor is in vayne / labor as muche as ye lyst. And in this case many tymes it cometh to passe / that the partie hath labored so soze befoze the tyme / that when she sholde labor in dede / her myght and strength is spent befoze in vaine / so that she is not nowe able to helpe her selfe / and that is a peryllous case.

**C** Farthermore when the secondine or seconde byrthe (in the which the byrth is wrapped and conteyned) doth ones appeare / then maye ye knowe that the labor is at hande / wherfoze yf the same secondine breake not of his owne kynde / it shalbe the mydwyfes parte and offyce with her nayles easely and gentely to breake it / and rent it / or yf it maye not so conuenientlye be done / then reyle by betwene your fyngers a pece of it / and cutte it of with a payre of sheeres / or a sharpe knyfe / but soo that ye hurte not the byrthe with the cutte / this done / by and by ensuetly consequētly the flux and flowe of humours / of the whyche I spake befoze / and then  
next



nexte foloweth immediatly the byrthe.

**C** But yf it so chauce the secondine sholde be cutte by the mydwyfe and all the watery parte yshued and spent before due tyme and necessite sholde requyre it / so that the preyue passage be lest exiccat and drye / the byrth not yet appearynge / and by this meanes the labor sholde be hyndered and letted. In this case ye shall annoynt and mollify that preyue passage with the oyle of white lillies / or some of the greses spoken of before / fyrste wharmed and so conueyed in to the preyue partes the whiche thynge wyll cause the waye to be slypperye / soyle / and easye for the byrth to passe. But chiefly in this difficultie sholde profette the whyte of an egge together with the yolke powred in to that same place / whiche sholde cause it to be mooste slypperye and slydynge.

**C** And yf it so be / that the byrthe be of a greate groweth / and the head stycke in the commynge forth / then muste the mydwyfe helpe al that she may / with her handes fyrst annoynted with some oyle openyng and enlargynge the waye / that the yssue maye be the frear : lykewyse muste be done yf she

bare two chyldren at once. And all this is spoken of the naturall byrth when that fyrst procedeth the head / and then the reste of the body ordinatly / as ye maye se in the fyrste of the byrth fygyures folowynge.

**C** ij. But when the byrthe commeth contrarye to nature / then must the mydwyfe do all her diligence and payne / yf it maye be possible / to turne the byrthe tenderlye with her annoynted handes / so that it maye be reduced agayne to a naturall byrthe / as for example: Some tyme it chanceth the chyld to come the legges and both armes and handes downewarde close to the sydes fyrste forthe / as appeareth in the seconde of the byrth fygyures / in this case the mydwyfe must do all her payne with tender handelyng and annoyntyng to receave forthe the chyld / the legges beyng styll close to gether / & the handes lykewyse remainynge / as appeareth in the sayde. ij. figure. Howe be it / it were farre better (yf it maye be by any meanes) that the mydwyfe sholde turne these legges comynge fyrste forthe bywardes agayne by the bellywarde / soo that the heade myghte descende downward by the backe part of the wombe

for then naturally agayne & without parell  
as the fyrste myght it procede & come forth.

**C** iij. Agayne sometyme the byrthe com-  
meth forth with both legges and fete fyrste/  
the handes beinge lyfted vp aboue the head  
of the chylde/and this is the parellouft ma-  
ner of byrth/that is as appeareth in the. iij.  
of the byrth figures. And here must the myd  
wyfe do what she maye to turne the byrth yf  
it maye be possible to the fyrst figure/and yf  
it wyll not be/muste reduce the handes of it  
downe to the sides/& so to reduce it into the  
ij. figure. But yf this also wyll not be: then  
receaue the feate as they come forth/& binde  
them with some fayre lynnene clothe / and so  
tenderly and very softly loose out the byrth  
tyll all be come forth / and this is a very ieo-  
pardous labor.

**C** iiij. Also sometyme the byrth commeth  
forwarde with one fote onely / the other be-  
ynge left vpwarde/as appeareth in the. iiij.  
fygure. And in this case it behoueth the la-  
boyrnge woman to laye her vpryght vppon  
her backe/ holdynge vp her thyghes & belly/  
so that her heade be the lower part of her bo-  
dy: then let the mydwyfe with her hande re-

F. iij.      turne

turne in agayne the fote that commeth oute  
 fyrste in as tender manner as maye be / and  
 warne the womā that laboreth to stere and  
 moue her selfe / so that by the mouynge and  
 sterynge the byrth maye be turned the head  
 downewarde / and so to make a naturall  
 byrth of it / and then to set the woman in the  
 stole agayne / and to do as ye dyd in the fyrste  
 fygyre / but yf it so be that notwithstanding  
 the mothers sterynge and mouynge the  
 byrth do not torne / then muste the mydwyfe  
 with her hande softelye fetche out the other  
 legge whiche remayned behynde / euermore  
 takynge hede of this that by handelynge of  
 the chylde she do not remove ne sette oute of  
 theyr place the two hādes hangyng downe-  
 warde towarde the fete.

**C v.** Lykewise somtyme it cometh to passe  
 that the syde of the chylde cometh forwarde /  
 as appeareth in the .v. fygyre / & then must  
 the mydwyfe do so / that it maye be returned  
 to his naturall fashyon / & so to come forth.

**C vi.** Also sometyme the chylde commeth  
 forth the fete forwarde / the legges beyng  
 abroad / as in the .vi. figure / and then muste  
 the mydwyfe se / that the fete & legges maye  
 be

be toynded to gether / and so to procede & come forth / euermore regarding the handes / as I warned you befoze.

**C** viij. Yf it come with one of the knees oz bothe forewarde / as in the .viij. figure / then muste the mydwyfe putte vp the byrth / tyll such tyme as the legges and fete come ryght forth / and then to do as afoze.

**C** viij. When the chylde commeth hedlonge / one of the handes commyng out and appearyng befoze / as in the .viij. figure / then let the byrth procede no farther / but let the mydwyfe put in her hande and tenderlye by the shoulders thrust in the byrth agayne / so that the hande maye be setteled in his place agayne & the byrth to come forth ordinatly & naturally / as in the first figure / but if by this meanes the hand come not to his conueniēt place / then let the woman lye vpryght with her thyghes & bellye vpwardes / & her head downewardes / so that by that meanes it maye be brought to passe / and then to byrth her to her seate agayne.

**C** ix. But yf it procede with both handes forewardes / then muste ye lykewyse do as afoze : by the shoulders thrustyng it backe agayne

gayne / vntyll suche tyme as the handes lye close to the sydes / and so to come forth as appeareth in the. ix. fygure.

¶ x. But when it commeth arsewarde / as in the. x. fygure maye be sene / then muste the mydwyfe with her handes retorne it agayne / vntyll such tyme that the byrth be turned / the legges and fete forwarde / otherels yf it maye so be / it ware beste that the heade myght come forwarde / and so naturallye to procede .

¶ xi. And yf it so be that it appere & come forth fyrst with the sholders / as in the. xi. fygure / then must ye fayre and softely thrust it backe agayne by the sholders / tyll such tyme as the heade come forewarde.

¶ xii. But when the byrth cometh forth with both handes and bothe fete at once / as in the. xii. fygure / then muste the mydwyfe tenderly take the chylde by the head / and retorne the legges vpwarde / and so to receyue it forth.

¶ xiii. And when it cometh brestewarde / as in the. xiii. figure / the legges and handes bydyngge behynd / then let the mydwyfe take it by the fete or by the head / which that shall be

be moſte apte and commodious to come forwarde/returnynge the reſt ſpwarde / and ſo to receaue it forth/but if it maye be hedlong/ it ſhalbe beſt.

**C xiiij.** Nowe ſometyme it chaunſeth the woman to haue two at a burden / and that bothe procede to gether headlonge/as in the xiiij. figure/ & then muſt the midwyfe receaue the one after the other/but ſo that ſhe let not ſlyppe the one whyleſt ſhe taketh the fyrſte .

**C xv.** Yf bothe come forth at once with theyr fete foreward/ then muſt the mydwyfe be very diligent to receaue fyrſt the one / and then the other/as hath ben ſhewed before.

**C xvi.** When the one cometh hedlonge/ the other fote wyſe / then muſt the mydwyfe helpe the byrth that is moſt nereſt the yſſue/ & it that cometh fotelog (if ſhe ca) to returne it vpon the head / as is ſpoken of before / taking euer the hede/that the one be not noyſd to the other i receauing forth of ether of the.

**C** And to be ſhorre / let the mydwyfe often tymes annoynte and moltifye the waye and paſſage with ſome of the foresayd oyntmentes/to make the womans laboz ſo much the eaſyar / & haue the leſſe thronge trauell and

G. i. payne/

payne / & yf there chaunce to be any apostume /  
 or dysleafe about that places in this tyme by  
 suche annoyntynges to alaye and swage the  
 payne: so that for the tyme it may be the lesse  
 greffe to the partie / as I spoke of before also /  
 and for them that be in this case / it shall be  
 best to lye growelyng / as I said of the grosse  
 fatte and fleschly woman.

¶ Remedies and Medicines by the whiche the  
 laboz maye be made moze tollerable, easy,  
 and without greate payne.

¶ Cap. v.



¶ In suche thynges as helpe the  
 byrth & make it moze easye / are  
 those: Fyrst the womā that la-  
 bozeth must other syt grouling  
 or els vpryght leanyng backe-  
 warde / accordyng as it shall seme conmo-  
 dious and necessarye to the partie / or as she  
 is accustomed. And in wynter or colde whe-  
 ther the chamber wherin she labozeth muste  
 be warmed / but in somer or hote whether /  
 let in the ayre to refreshe her withall / lest be-  
 twene extreme heate and laboz the woman  
 faynt and sounde / and fartyermoze she must  
 be pro-



be prouoked to sneesyng / & that other With  
 the powder of Eleborus / or elles of pepper.  
 Also the sydes of the woman must be strekē  
 downewarde With the handes / Which thing  
 helpeth greatly and farthereth / and let the  
 mydwyfe alway be very diligent prouidyng  
 and seinge What shalbe necessary for the wo  
 man / annoyntinge the priuities with oyle or  
 other such grese as I spoke of before in this  
 fasthion : Take the oyle of Whyte lillies or  
 duckes grese / & With that temper two gray  
 nes wayghte of Safran and one grayne of  
 muske / and with that oyntmente annoynte  
 the secreete partes. Yf this profet nothyng /  
 then vse this suffumigation.

¶ Take myrthe / galbanum / castorium / let  
 those be beten and make lyke pylles of them  
 tempered to gether with bulles gaule / then  
 take a dramme of this pylles / and put it on  
 hote coles / and let the woman receaue the  
 fume and sauoure of it vnderne the.

¶ Another perfume: Take yelowe bym  
 stone / myrthe / mader / galbanum / oppopona  
 cum / of eche lyke much / and temper all these  
 together / makynge of them pylles / and with  
 those also ye may make fume to be receaued

G.ij. vnder

vnderneath. Itē the fume of culuer dunge oz of hawkes dunge by puttyng to of oppoponacuin / is souerayne for the same. All these fumes open the poores benethe / and causeth nature to be the frear in delyueraunce.

¶ Also it is very good to dyp wooll in the iuyce of rue / and the same to conuey into the secreates. Also the powder of aristolochia rotūda / oz the rote called bothoz martis / oz malin terre / oz the sede of staphisagre : any of these wrapped in wooll and conueyed inward prouoketh & calleth forth the byrth.

¶ Item take heleborus / oppoponacū / and wrap them to gether in wooll / and ministre them inward : for that wyll bynge forth & prouoke the byrth / whether it be alyue oz dead. Also the rynde and barke of cassia fistula beaten to powder / and tempered with wyne and dronkē / prouoketh well the byrth.

¶ Item asa fetida of the bygnes & waight of a pese myngled to gether with castorium of the wayght of a dram : beaten to gether & tempered with wyne myxt with water and so dronkē / is very good to prouoke the byrth. Also canell dronke with wine is very good.

¶ Item take a scruple of roses / with the  
Water

water of the seede of fenegreke/cicercula/may  
 denhere/all beaten to gether and soden / and  
 the oyle of blewe flowre de luce a smal quan  
 tite tempered there with all : and then geue  
 it to the woman that laboꝛeth / and it shall  
 prouoke the byꝛthe greatly. Also cassia lig  
 nea and asa fetida dronke With Wyne/be ve  
 ry good foꝛ the same. Also holyoke soden in  
 Water and dronkē / is souerayn foꝛ the same  
 purpose / & it is verry good foꝛ her to walsh  
 her in the Water/ in the whiche this holyoke  
 is decoite and soden in.

**C**ertayne pylles the whiche make the  
 laboꝛ easye and with  
 oute payne.



**L**Ake canell oꝛ cinamome and of  
 sauyne of eche a draim/ of cassia  
 lignea a draim and a halfe / of  
 myrche/aristolochia rotunda/&  
 costemary of eche a draim/of sto  
 rar liquida halfe a draim/and of oppium the  
 wayght of .xij. graynes / bete these all to ge  
 ther / and foꝛme them into pylles / and geue  
 vnto the woman two draims of these pylles  
 With .ij. ounces of good olde wyne.

G. iij.

Item

2. ¶ Item Safrane and Syler Montanum prouoketh the byrth of any lyuyngge thynge / yf it be dronckē: howe be it to a Woman geue neuer passynge a drame at once of Safrane / for greater quantite sholde greatly hurte.

3. ¶ Item take .v. drames of Saayne / of rue or herbe grace one dragm̄ & an halfe / of iuni- per byrres. ij. draim̄s / of asa fetida / armonia- cum / madder / of ech. ij. draim̄s: of these make pylles / geuen to the womā in labor with wa- ter in the whiche is soden saayne and peny ryall / or els with the brothe of cicercula / and the iuyce of rue shall helpe very greatly.

4. ¶ Item take. ij. draim̄s of saayne / of asa fe- tida / armoniacum / & madder / of eche halfe a draim̄ / these temper to gether in pilles / and geue her with wyne. ij. draim̄s of the same.

5. ¶ Item take of aristolochia longa / pepper and myrre / of eche lyke much / confict them to gether with wyne & make pylles of them / & minister them with an ounce of water of the decoction of lupynes / these pylles be of such efficacy and strength that it alleuiateth and vnpayneth the byrthe / it delyuereth the matrice or mother from all maner of byrth / be it alpye or dead.

Item

¶ Item take of whyte bedellium/myrche/ <sup>6.</sup>  
 and sauyne/of eche lyke much : temper these  
 with cassia lignea and hony / and make pyl-  
 les of them of the byggenesse of pesen / & of  
 these pylles geue at eche tyme. v. to the labo-  
 rer/Whiche be of the same myght & strength  
 with the other pylles spoken of here nexte  
 before.

¶ Item take of myrche/castorium/and sto- <sup>7.</sup>  
 rar/of eche one dram/temper them with ho-  
 ny/and make pylles of it / these for this pur-  
 pose excell and passe al other/they be of such  
 vertue and strength in operation.

¶ A plaster to prouoke the byrthe : Take <sup>8. a plaster</sup>  
 Wyld go ward / & seth it in Water/in the same  
 Water temper myrche / the iuyce of rue / and  
 barlye meale / so muche as shalbe sufficient/  
 stampe these thynges to gether / and make  
 it plasterwyle / then laye it to the womans  
 belly betwene the navel and the nether part  
 this plaster shall helpe meruelouslye.

¶ And although many other thynges ther <sup>9.</sup>  
 be the which haue vertue and power to pro-  
 uoke byrth and to help it/yet leuyng all such  
 thynges for breuite and shortenesse we haue  
 set here suche thynges/which are chiefe and  
 most

most principally conducent for the same purpose.

¶ How the Secondyne or seconde byrth shall be forced to yssue forth, yf it come not frelye of his owne kynde.

¶ Cap. vi.



¶ Ere also somtyme it cometh to passe/that the Secondyne/whiche is wonte to come to gether with the byrth/remayne & tary behynde and folowe not. And that for dyuers causes / one is : For because peradventure the Woman hath ben so sore weakened and febllyshed with trauell / dolor / and payne/of that fyrst byrth / that she hath no strength remaynyng to helpe herselfe to the expellyng of this seconde byrth/ another maye be/ that it be entangled / tyed/ or let within the matrice/which chāseth many tymes/or that it be destitute of humours/ so that the Water be flowen frō it soner then it sholde/which shold make the places more slyppery and more easye to passe thoroowe/or els that the places ouer Weryed With longe & sore labor/for payne cōtract or gather together/& enclose themselfe agayne / or that the places

places be swollen for anguyſſhe and payne/  
and ſo let the comynge forth of the ſeconde  
byrthe.

**C** But to be ſhorte of what ſo euer cauſe it  
be thus ſtopped / the mydwyfe in anye wyſe  
muſt fynde ſuch meanes that it maye be vn-  
looled and expulſed. For otherwyſe greate  
inconueniency ſholde chaunſe to the partie/  
and ſpeciallye ſuffocation & chokyng of the  
matrice / whiche alſo muſt ſo much the more  
be takē hede to / for becauſe the ſeconde byrth  
retayned & kept within / wyll ſone putrifye &  
rot : Whereof wyll enſue yll noyſom and pe-  
ſtiferous vapours / aſcendynge to the harte/  
the braynes / and the mydryffe / throughe the  
whiche meanes the womā ſhalbe ſhort wyn-  
ded / faynt harted / often ſoundynge & lyeenge  
without any maner of mouynge or ſtearing  
in the pulces : yee and many tymes is playn-  
ly ſuffocated / ſtrangled / and dead of it : wher-  
fore that none of theſe thinges happen / with  
all diligens and payne it muſte be prouyded  
that the ſecondyne be expelled.

**C** Yf retention of it come by weakenesſe of  
the laborer throughe long trauell / then muſt  
ſhe be recomforted and ſtrēgthed with good

comfortable meates & drynkes which may en-  
harte her/as brothe made of the yolke of eg-  
ges/or With good olde Wyne & good fat and  
tydy flesshe/or byrdes/hennes flesshe / capon/  
partridge/pyginnes/and suche lyke.

¶ And yf retentiō of this secondine come/  
because the place is cōtract to gether agayn/  
otherelles that the matrice is swollen for  
longe payne/then must be vsed such thinges  
to prouoke it oute / the whiche do make the  
Way slypper/sople/and easy for it to procede/  
With the oyles or oynementes spoken of be-  
fore/as oyle of whyte lyllies / of maiorā/and  
of blewe lyllies. Item the beryes of iuniper  
or galbanum beaten to powder and dronke  
with luke warmed Wyne / wyll cause the  
same to yssue out. Itē sothernwood/or elles  
penyryall soden in wyne / and the decoction  
drunken / is of the same vertue.

¶ Item to suffume the secretes With the  
perfumes Wrytten of before/is good for this  
purpose/& the fume of the Water / in whiche  
malious holioke/ and heresutte be soden in/  
receaued beneth/is lyke good. Also to washe  
that partes i Water in which is sodē branne/  
or to holde a lyttell bagfull of soden branne  
to



to the place / and therelbythall to sooke the place / is very profytable.

¶ But yf the retention of the secondyne come by reason that it is entanglyd or fastened in some place of the matrice / so that it wyl not resolue ne lose then make a fume vnderneath of bymstone / yuie leues / and cresses or elles of cresses and fygges .

¶ Also of all odoriferous and swetesmylynge thynges : as ambze / muske / frankencense / gallia muscata and confection nere / the whiche sauoures and perfumes put on the emberres / must be so closely receaued vnderneath / that no part of the smell do ascend to the nose of the woman . For to the nose sholde the sauour of nothyng come / but onely of suche thynges / the whiche stynke or haue abhominable smell : as asa fetida / castorium / mans here or womans here burnt / pecockes fethers burnt . Item in this case it shalbe very good to make a perfume vnderneath of the houe of an asse / which thinges althoughe they be of yll sauoure / yet they be of such nature & efficacie / that they occasionat not onely the secōdine / but also dead byrthes to procede & come forth out of the matrice .

H.ij. And

¶ And in this case also let the woman with holde her brethe inwarde in so muche as she can / for that shall dryue downewarde suche thynges as be in the bodye to be expelled .

Item let her be prouoked to sneese with the powder of eleborus or pepper put in the nose holdynge her mouth and nose soo cloose as maye be .

¶ Also the oyntment / whiche is called bnguentum Basilicon / conueyed into the matrice / is very good / for it mollifyeth the place and draweth out the secondine parforce / the whiche so soone as it is expelled / infude the oyle of rooses in to the same matrice . Item roosewater tempered with a quantite of the powder of holyoke / and dronke / is good to expell the secondine .

¶ And yf it be so that any parte of the secondine do appeare / let the mydwyfe receaue it tenderlye / loosynge it oute fayre and softlye lest it breake / and yf ye doubt that it wyll breake / then let the mydwyfe tye that parte of the whiche she hath handfast to the womans legge or fote / not very strayght / lest it breake / nether very lax / lest it slyp in agayne / and then cause her to sneese . Then yf the se-  
condine

condine tarpe or stycke / so that it come not  
quyckly forewarde / then loose it a lyttell & a  
lyttell very tenderlye wrething it frome one  
syde to another / tyll such tyme as it be gottē  
oute / but ever beware of violent and hastye  
mouyng of it / lest that with the second byrth  
ye remoue the matrice also.

¶ And yf in this meane whyle the women  
faynt or sowne by reasone of great payne en  
suyng of the takynge awaye of this secon  
dine / then muste ye minister such thinges to  
her the which comfort the head and the hart  
as be electuaries whiche are conficte with  
muske / ambre / and the confectiō of precious  
stones / as Diamargariton / and suche other.  
Also suche thynges the whiche comforte the  
stomacke / as Diagalanga / Dia cinamomū /  
and such other which are alwaye in a readi  
nesse at the apothecaries / the which thinges  
she shall receaue with wyne.

¶ Item to remoue the secondine and to ex  
pel it: take rue / horehound / Sotherne wood /  
and motherwort / of eche lyke quantite / and  
then take so muche of the oyle of lylies / as  
maye be sufficient to stype / moysten and soke  
the foresayd herbes in / put all this together

℞. iij. into

Into a glased pottle covered with suche a co-  
 uer that it haue a lyttell hole or vent aboue  
 in the toppe of it / then set this pot ouer the  
 fyre of coles / so that it boyle a whyle / then  
 take it frome the fyre / and sette it vnder the  
 stole where the woman sytteth made for the  
 nonce hauyng a pype made for that purpose  
 of the whiche the one ende ye shall put into  
 the vent or hole of the couer to the pot & the  
 other ende must the partie receaue in to her  
 bodye. And so to syt closed rounde aboute  
 with clothes / that no vapoure or ayre go  
 forth of the pottle hauing a fewe coles vnder  
 it / to kepe it hote / and thus sytte the space of  
 an houre or two / tyll such tyme as the secon-  
 dyne moue and begynne to procede of his  
 owne kynde. And yf it be so that ye profette  
 not this wayes / yet then laye this plaster on  
 the belly betwene the nauell and the secreta-  
 tes / of the whiche we shall speake hereafter /  
 the whiche is of suche operation and effica-  
 cite that it expelleth deade byrthes : yf for all  
 this the secondyne come not forewarde / then  
 leaue it / and vse no more medicines ne reme-  
 dies to that purpose but let it alone / for with  
 in fewe dayes it wyll putrifye and corrupte /  
 and

and dyssolue into a watery substance / thicke  
 lyke bryne / or other fer myxed with water / &  
 so yssue forth. Howbeit in the meane whyle  
 it wyll put the woman to great payne in the  
 heade / in the harte / the stomacke / as we tou-  
 ched before.

**H**owe that many thynges chaunce  
 to the women after theyr labor,  
 and howe to auoyde, defende,  
 or to remedye the same.

**C**ap. vii.



**I**s also to be vnderstanded  
 that many tymes after the de-  
 lyueraunce happeneth to wo-  
 men other the feuer or ague / or  
 swellng or inflation of the bo-  
 dye / other tumblyng in the belly / or els com-  
 motion or settelyng out of order of the mo-  
 ther or matrice. Cause of the which thynges  
 is somtymes lacke of due and sufficient pur-  
 gation and clenng of the flowres after the  
 byrthe / or elles contrarpe wyse ouer muche  
 flowinge of the same / whiche soe doth wea-  
 ken the woman. Also the greate labor and  
 stearyng of the matrice in the byrth.

**T**hen

Then as ofte as it commeth for lacke of  
 due purgation of the flowres / then muste be  
 ministred such thinges / the which maye pro-  
 uoke the same / whether it be by medicines  
 taken at the mouth / or by lotyon & washyng  
 of the fete / or by fumes or odours or impla-  
 stration / or by decoction of herbes seruyng  
 to that purpose / other els by oyntmentes / &  
 suche other thynges / accordyng as the per-  
 sone or the parell doth requyre / of the which  
 thynges fewe or no women be ignoraunt.  
 And ye muste take diligent hede that she be  
 exactly and vtterly purged: to this be agree-  
 ble all suche thynges / the whiche prouoke  
 vryne & open the vaynes / making free waye  
 for the bloude to passe / & sende the humours  
 and matter downe warde / as motherworthe /  
 azure / sauyne / penyryall / parcelye / cheruyll /  
 anyse sede / fenel sede / iuniper byries / rue / bay-  
 byries / germaunder / valeriane / tyme / cino-  
 mome / spykenarde / & suche other. All those  
 thynges as they do prouoke and cause vryne  
 so do they also prouoke and cause the flow-  
 res to depart. howbeit as nere as ye can vse  
 none of these thynges without the counsell  
 of an expert physicion / lest whylest ye helpe  
 one

one place ye hurt another / also to sneese hel-  
peth muche in this matter / & to holde in the  
bze the enclosynge the noose and the mouth.  
Also fumigation made of the yes of salt fyc-  
thes / or of the houe of a horse vnderneath / pro-  
uoketh the flowres. Yf ye profet not by this  
meanes / then yf she be able to bare it / let her  
bloude in the bayne / called Saphena / vnder  
the ancles of the fete / for this puoketh flow-  
res chieflye of all other thynges.

¶ Lyke wyse doo / yf the woman haue the  
ague after her laboz / for that cometh of lyke  
cause by retention of the flowres / and in the  
feuer let her vse to drynke water / in the whi-  
che is decocte barley beaten / or cicer and bar-  
lye to gether / or water in whiche be soden  
Tamarindi / or Waye of mylke / and lette her  
eate cullys made of a cocke / and swete pome  
Granates : for these thynges do prouoke the  
flowres / & mitigateth the immoderat heate /  
refreshynge greatelye the bodye / loosynge  
and openynge suche thynges / the whiche be-  
foze were constricted and cluddered together.

¶ Yf the body after laboz do swell & inflate  
then let her drynke water in the which is so-  
den cicer and cummyne beaten to gether.

I. i.

Item

Item good olde wyne with the electuarium called diamarte / or the whiche is called alca-kengi : of the whiche Auicenna speaketh in his .v. booke. Item gumme serapine / organie / and masticke. Also in this case a glyster made of suche thynges / the which do bayn-quelthe and expelle ventosities and wyndenesse / also a pessarie or suppositar made for that parte of Aristolochia rotunda / squinantum / storax liquida / dozonium / zeduaria.

¶ Agayne yf the woman after her labor haue frettyng and knawynge of the guttes / and payne of the matrice and other secrete partes there aboute / then let her vse the vapour and fume of suche thynges the whiche haue vertue to mitigate swage and alay the payn / as mallowes / holyoke / fenegreke / cummyne / camomell / sauyne / and hemlocke.

¶ Also to annoynt the places with oleum sesaminum / or with oyle of swete almondes And yf no greate heate do aboude in the woman / she maye drynke tryacle or trifera magna with wyne in whiche is decoct motherwort or muggeworke.

¶ Also agaynste paynes in the preynt partes / take penyriall / politaria / six leues of bay tree



tree: sethe them together / and receave the va-  
pour vnder nethe closely. Item take rue / red  
motherwort / southernwood / bete them to ge-  
ther / and temper them with the oyle of peny-  
ryall / and put all together into a pot / and set  
it ouer the fyre a whyle / tyll it be somewhat  
soden together / and then take it of agayne / &  
put it all in to a lyttell rounde linnen bagge  
made for the purpose / the whiche with this  
herbes in it ye shall couaye into the secretes.

¶ Item take camomell & lyne of eche lyke  
much. iiii. handefulles: braye them together  
& sethe them with whyte wyne / & then put it  
in a rounde bagge of linnen / as before was  
done / & conuey it into the womā's prey-  
tes. Itē let her drynke for the same purpose  
ii. graynes of muske with wyne. ¶ Itē take  
white onyons & couer thē vnder the hote as-  
shes the which whē they be wel rosted / beate  
thē to gether with freshe butter vnsalted / &  
make it in maner of a plaster / & then put it in  
a linnē bag / & couey it in to the places / as be-  
fore in the meane whyle perfumyng the pre-  
uy partes with whyte frākencense & storax.

¶ Yf it be so that the womā be vered about  
the backe and loynes after her laboz / take ca-

camomell / and muggewoort / of eche. ij. hand-  
 fulles of woowode / sothernewood of eche  
 one handefull / of motherwort. iij. handeful-  
 les / of cinamome and nutmegges betē small  
 halfe an ounce / decocte all these thynges to-  
 gether / and in the water of this decoction  
 beyng warme / dyp a sponge or other lyn-  
 nen clothes fomentynge / sokynge / and stre-  
 kyng the backe with the same / and so do of-  
 ten tymes / or els put all these foresayde her-  
 bes together soden in a bagge / and laye it  
 plaster wyse to the backe.

**¶** Yf this profette not : take oyle nardine /  
 oyle of whyte lillies / of ech an ounce and an  
 halfe / to the whiche put a dram of nutmeg-  
 ges beaten to small powder / with this an-  
 noynte the backe. Item take oyle of anys /  
 oyle of camomell / of eche an ounce / oyle of  
 Whyte lillies. ij. ounces / of waxe. ij. drams :  
 dissolue all these together over the fyre / and  
 there with annoynt the backe.

**¶** But yf after the labor the flowres yssue  
 more vehementlye & in greater aboundance  
 then they sholde / to the great effeablyshyng  
 of the woman and inducyng of muche lan-  
 gor and paynefulnes : then fyrst shall ye note  
 where

where vpon it cometh: for the cause knownen  
the dysleafe maye the moze readelye be recu-  
red: and causes of it be dyuers: but moſte eſ-  
petiall thoſe that folowe / that is to ſaye: Of  
muchē abundant ſuperfluous bloude con-  
tayned in the hole body: or of muchē commi-  
ſtion of the melancholy humor & the bloude  
to gether / by the which the bloude is enfyred  
and chawfed: and ſo diſtendeth openeth and  
ſetteth abroade the vaynes whiche deſcende  
to the matrice. Alſo the bloude beyngē very  
thynne and wateryſhe: for ſo it penetrateth /  
thryllet / and yſſueth forthē the ſoner. Alſo  
yf the vaynes be very large / & receaue much  
bloude: for in that caſe they ſende forthē the  
moze agayn. Alſo yf the matrice be vnmygh-  
ty & weakened / the vaynes lykewyſe weake  
and large: ſo that they can not retayne nor  
witholde the bloude. Alſo yf the body of the  
womā or the outward partes be very denſe /  
clooſe / and compacte together: ſo that the  
outwarde powres be contracte and ſhut in  
ſuch wyſe that no vapours or ſwette can yſ-  
ſue out at them: then this ſhall cauſe the yll  
humoures (whiche otherwyſe wolde paſſe  
thorough the powres in ſwette) to remayne

J. iij. Within

Within the body / and there to engender and  
 encrease greater fluxe and aboundance of mat-  
 ter / Which procedeth with the flowres & au-  
 gmenteth the quantite of them. Also yf the  
 baynes / whiche be named hemorroides / in  
 the matrice be open and flowe forth. Also yf  
 the matrice be peryshed or otherwyse viciat.  
 Also yf it chauce that the woman haue had  
 a fall / or hath ben thrust or beaten / by all and  
 any of this meanes maye come this inordi-  
 nat fluxe of flowres.

**C** Nowe seynge then that it ensueth by so  
 manyfolde occasions & causes it shalbe mete  
 that womē in this case be nothing ashamed  
 ne abashed to disclose theyr mynde vnto ex-  
 pert phisicians / showyng them euery thyng  
 in it / as they knowe where vppon it sholde  
 come : so that the phisition vnderstandyng  
 the womans mynde / maye the soner by his  
 learnyng and experience consyder the true  
 cause of it / and the very remedy to amend it.  
 And many thinges there be which lease and  
 restrayne this ouer much flowyng of flow-  
 res : bothe electuaries / confections / trochis-  
 kes pouders / clisteres / odoures / suffumigati-  
 ons bathes / plasters and oynementes / of  
 which

whiche for the loue of Women I wyll here  
set forthe the moſte principall and beſt.

¶ Firſte then to ſtynte and reſtrayne the  
owtragiouſ fluxe of flowres it ſhalbe verye  
good to bynde the armes very ſtrayght and  
ſtrongely & not the fete or handes as : ſome  
vnwyſe men do teache / and then to ſet a ven  
toſe or bore or cup of glaſſe with fyre (which  
is called borynge) vnder the breaſtes / but cut  
tyng no part of the ſkynne / layeng alſo lyn  
nen clothes dypped in bynegre on the bellye  
betwene the nauell and the ſecretes : con  
ueyenge alſo into the places ſuche thynges /  
whiche haue vertue to reſtrayne bloude / as  
balauſtium / the rync of pome granate / cara  
be / terra ſigillata / bole armenyacke / ſanguis  
draconis / hematites / the red roſe / whyte fran  
kencenſe / and galles : all thoſe thynges or as  
manye of them as ye can conuenientlye get /  
beate them to powder in lyke portion / and  
temper them with thicke and groſſe wyne /  
making of it a plaſter / the whiche ſo tēpered  
put it in to a lyttell rounde bagge the quan  
tite of a mannes thombe the which ſhe ſhall  
put in to the preyue places.

¶ Item an other plaſter to be miniſtred  
lyke

lykewyse : Take of the bloudestone / called  
 Emathites / bole armenyacke : of eche halfe  
 an ounce : sanguis draconis / licium / of ech. ij.  
 draim̄s : Karabe : the cuppes of Acornes / Ci-  
 presse nuttes / Balaustium or psidiū / of eche  
 one draim̄ : of the scales of yron one draim̄ and  
 an halfe : Turbyntyne and pyche lyke quan-  
 tite / or so muche as shalbe sufficient to make  
 a plaster : beate and braye all these to gether /  
 temperinge it to a plaster : and then do with  
 it as ye dyd with the other before.

¶ An oynemente for the same purpose :  
 Take oyle Myrtine / oyle of rooses / of eche  
 halfe a pounce : Carabe / the scraping of yue-  
 rye / the scrapynge of a gootes horne / redde  
 corall : terra sigillata / whyte frankencense / of  
 eche one ounce / of white waxe. iij. ounces / all  
 those tempered to gether / make them in an  
 oyntment / & therewith annoynt the wombe  
 and the secretes.

¶ A batthe concernynge the same : Take  
 wurme wud / plantayne the more & the lesse  
 the toppes of bynes / freshe brāches of wylde  
 mulberyes / burype daisenes flowes / or bo-  
 loes / wylde peres / medlers or myspylles / of  
 eche. iij. handefulles / of red roose leues the  
 hand=

handfulles / of oke barke. iiii. handfulles / of  
 dayles / of all sortes of thystles / of eche. ij.  
 handfulles : of cinkefoyle / the leues & rotes /  
 tormentyll the rootes / colubzine / of eche an  
 handfull : also of acorne cuppes a saw ser  
 full / of gawles / of acorns pylled / of bursa pa  
 stois / of eche. ij. handfulles : beate all these  
 to powder / cuttyng and brosyng that / that  
 wyll not be beaten to powder / & sethe them  
 to gether in rayne water / or els in water / in  
 the which. x. or. xij. burnt stones haue bene  
 quenched : this done / let the woman bathe  
 herselfe in this water by to the nauell / and  
 whē she cometh forth of the bathe / geue her  
 to drynke. ij. draiñs of electuarium athana  
 sic / or miclete / with plantayne water / or yf  
 she be sore thurstye with red wyne .

¶ And lykewyle ye maye geue vnto her of  
 these electuaries that folow : take good olde  
 roose sugre. ij. ounces / of red corall / burnt  
 yuery / bole armenyacke / of eche two draiñs /  
 of hematites thre draiñs / beate all these thin  
 ges to gether / temperyng it with the roose  
 sugre / & let her receaue of it in the mornynge  
 and euenyng with two draiñs of plantane  
 water / or els the water of bursa pastois.

R. i. Item

an

an  
 of  
 the  
 same  
 parts

**I**tem take the stone Emathites / & rubbe it on a Whetstone / tyll the whetstone seme redde / then washe it of agayne frō the Whetstone with plantayne water / and so do often tymes / vntyll suche tyme that thou haue a good quantite of it / and euery mornynge and euenyng let the woman drynke two or thre sponefulles of the same.

**F**arthermore there be at the apothecaries trochiskes which helpe greatly in this case / as the trochiskes of karabe / and the trochiskes of bole armoniacke whiche muste be ministred a draim or more of ether of them / With .iiij. or .v. sponeful of plantayne water. Who that requyrez farther in this matter let them aske counsell of the phisytions / for we haue set here but suche thynges whiche may seme most necessarye.

**N**owe yf it so be that there be engendred any apostume or other dysease in the preuye places after her labor / then moste the apostumes and deseases be clenfed / purged / & healed / the payne and ache of it mitigated and swaged with the iuyce of the beryes of solatrum and the iuyce of plantane / also the oyle of rooses / so that all these thynges be  
tempt



tempered together / and the places annoynted therewith.

**C** For otherwyle: take the wyte of an egge / womā's mylke / the iuyce of purselayne / and temper all these to gether / and conueye it to the dyseased place / also let a bathe be made of water / in the whiche be soden plida / redde rose leues / the cuppes of acornes / oke barke / tormentyll / colubryne / and cinkefoyle / the leues and the rotes / lette all these thynges be soden together / and in the water the womā to bathe her selfe vp to the nauell : and after that the greued partes be healed and clenfed let the place be annoynted with vnguentum album / or vnguentum rubeum / whiche is to be had at the apothecaries / and with suche other thynges whose propertie be to refrigate and coole. And loke what cure and remedies be mynystred to this places beyng apostumate / or otherwyle deseased / the same also seruethe / yf the matrice or anye other parte of the secretes be rupte or broken.

**C** Manye tymes also it chanceth that the foundament gut commeth forth both in mā and woman / and specially in women in this

R. ij. busy-

THE FIRST

busynesse/by reason of theyꝝ great labor and  
 stryuyng with themselves: Wherfoꝛe in this  
 case it is the mydwifes parte With her hand  
 warmed & wet in whyt wyne / to reduce it  
 backe into his place agayn/ the which yf she  
 can not by this meanes/foꝛ because that per  
 aduventure it be swollen/then let her dissolve  
 butter in whyt wyne warmed / and there in  
 dyp wooll With the which wrappe the same  
 gutte a while/ so doynge often tymes / tyll it  
 be swaged/that it may be returned in agayn  
 and ye maye vse in the stede of wyne luke  
 warme mylke. And when it is thus retur-  
 ned and reduced into his place: take waxe/  
 and melt it to gether with masticke/or whyt  
 frankencense/then sprede it vpon lynnē pla-  
 sterwyle / and laye it ouer the place where it  
 came forth byndynge it to it With a linnen  
 clothe or roller foꝛ partynge of / & let this be  
 done thus so oftē as she goythe to stole after  
 that she hath done/vntyll suche tyme that it  
 be so setteled within / that it come no more  
 oute/and yf ye wyll not occupye waxe / then  
 dyp wooll in the oyle of masticke or of speke  
 nardy/and lay it vnto the place ouer the fun-  
 dament/byndynge it faste vpon the place/as  
 be-

before. ¶ Item another Way: Washhe & soke the gut with the Water in which is decoct & soden such thynges whiche exiccat drye and constryne or combyne / as gaules / cypresse nuttes / spida / karabe / mastick / frankencense / sanguis draconis / and when it is well washed and soaked with this water / then take the powder of an hartes horne burnt / and strue it rounde aboute the gutte / and so restore it agayne in to his place.

¶ Agayne yf it chause / that after the womans labor the matryce be remoued oute of his place / and appeare forth / then lette it be washed and soaked with the water in whiche be soden these thynges followinge: take of cypresse nuttes / spicanarde / psida / balauustum / a corne cuppes / of eche an ounce : of mespylles and vnrype wyld peeres / & vnrype aples / plummes / and damscens or bolous: of eche a handefull and such / of those as be to be powdered beate them to powder and the reste diuide / and cutte them small: then seathe them all to gether in rayn water / or els in water in the whiche stele beyng red hote hath ben often tymes quenched : and in the same water lette the partie

R. iij. bathe

bathe her by to the nauell/or els dyp a spōge  
or a Locke of wooll in it / & therewith wasche  
and soke the same matrice oftentimes then/  
euer With a fayre cleane linnen clothe wype  
it cleane agayne & strew vpon it the pow-  
der folowynge/beaten verrye small and sear-  
ched thorough sylke.

¶ Take of frankencense / karabe / galles /  
pside/balaustie/ cypresse nuttes/alome/anty-  
mony / bole armoniacke / masticke / of eche  
lyke much:beate these to verrye fyne powder/  
and strew the matrice with it / then tender-  
lye reduce it in to his place agayne with  
warne linnen clothes byndynge it by.

¶ But yf so be that the matrice be swollē/so  
that by this meanes it wyll not be restored  
to his naturall place agayne / then dissolve  
butter in Whyte Wyne/as ye dyd before / and  
with the same soke it vnto suche tyme as it  
be asswaged/and then reduce it.

¶ Agayne sometyme it chanseth that the  
womans nauell thorough labor is dyssol-  
ued / so that it openeth it selfe : then make a  
small tente of fyne linnen / and anoynte it  
with this oynement that foloweth/and the  
same put it in to the nauell:take Whyte fran-

ken-

kensence / and beate it to powder / and then  
tēper it with the Whyte of an egge / so that it  
be after the manner of lyquyd honye : With  
this annoynte the nauell within and With-  
oute / annoyntyng also the tente / the Which  
beyng putte in the hole of the nauell bynde  
some clothe ouer it to kepe it in his place.

¶ Item many tymes it chaufeth that tho-  
rowe the greate difficultie and thronges of  
laboz the preuye parte and the fundament  
be come one / by reason of rupture and brea-  
kyng of the same parte in the delyueraunce  
of the chyld / and that by that meanes the  
matrice descendeth and yssueth downe / the  
Whiche thynge chaufeth sometymes by rea-  
son that the same place is very narrowe and  
also tender / and the byrthe bygge / and of  
greate growethe / soo that it procedeth with  
suche violence / that it breakethe the waye  
before it .

¶ When thys myshappe fallethe / then  
fyrste wasshe and soke the matrice / and al-  
soo reduce it to his place agayne / after the  
manner as I tolde you here immediately be-  
fore : then heale these bracke & wounde sow-  
yng of bothe sydes of it to gyther agayne  
with

With a sylken threde / as surgeons do other woundes: and yf that lyke ye not then / may ye cure it otherwyle without sowyng thus.

**T**ake two lyttell peces of linnen cloth / eche of the length of the wounde / & in bredth two fyngers brode: spred the lyttell clothes with some faste cleauynge plaster the which wyll cause the clouthes to stycke fast where they shalbe set / then fasten them the one on the one syde of the ryfte / the other on the other syde / so that nothyng appeare betwene the peces of linnen in the myddes of them / but onely the cleft and ryfte of the wounde in the breadthe of a strawe / then this done / sowe these sydes of linnen together close as before I bed you to sowe the skynne: & when they be thus styched to gether / laye a lyttell lyquyd pytche vpon the seme: and this done the lappes and sydes of the wond vnder the linnen plaster wyll growe to gether agayne & heale / & the may ye remoue your plasters.

**I**tē another way: take camfely dyled / & beate it to powder / also cummyne and cynamome both beaten to powder / ioyne all thre to gether / and strew of this powder into the wounde / and without faute it shall heale.

**C** Of aboꝛcementes oꝛ bntymely byꝛthes and  
the causes of it, and by what remedies it  
maye be defended, holpen & eased.

**C** Cap. viii.



**A** Boꝛcement oꝛ bntymely byꝛth  
is / When the woman is delyue-  
red before due season & before  
the frute be ripe : as in the. iij.  
iiij. oꝛ. v. monethe before the  
byꝛth haue lyfe and sometymes after it hath  
lyfe it is delyuered before it steare beyng by  
some chaunse dead in the mothers wombe.  
Of the which thyng there be many and dy-  
uers causes.

**C** Fyꝛste sometymes the mouth of the ma-  
trice is so large and ample / that it can not co-  
ueniently shytt it selfe together / nether con-  
tayne the feture oꝛ conceptiō / oꝛ it is corrupt  
and infect with such vicyous & yll humours  
that it is so slyppery that the feture slyppeth  
and slydeth forth. Also sometymes the ma-  
trice is apostumated & soꝛe / so that for payne  
it can not contayne the conception.

**C** Item sometyme the cotilydons / that is  
the baynes and synnues by the which the co-  
ception and feature is tyed and fastened in

L. i. the

the matrice (through the which also the fea-  
 ture receaueth noyrishment and fode) be stop-  
 ped with vycous and yll humours / or elles  
 swollen by inflation / so that they breake / by  
 the whiche meanes the feature destitute of  
 his wont noyrishment peryssheth and dyeth /  
 and that mooste commonlye in the seconde or  
 thyrde monethe after conception : wherfore  
 Hypocrates sayth: All suche women whiche  
 be impregnat or conceaued being of a meane  
 state in her bodye / that is to saye / neyther to  
 fat or grosse / ne to spare or leane: yf it chause  
 anye suche to aborce in the seconde or thyrde  
 moneth (no other euident cause appearng)  
 knowe ye for certayne that it ensueth for be-  
 cause the cotilydons be opplete / stopped / and  
 stuffed with yll humours / & be swollen and  
 puffed therewith / that they breake / and so cō-  
 sequētly the feature dyeth for faute of fode.

¶ Item aborcementes sometyme comineth  
 by reason that some of the places about the  
 matrice be diseased and greaued : as yf inte-  
 stinum rectum / whiche is called the funda-  
 ment gutte be exulcerat / hauyng the pyles  
 or hemorroides / or the vycyke or bladder be  
 swollen or encombred with the stone / the  
 stran-



strangurye / or other yll / in these cases thro-  
rough the greate labor and payne the which  
the partie hath in endeuourynge and enfor-  
synge her selfe other to stole or to make wa-  
ter / be engendred greate motions downe-  
warde / by the whiche meanes manye tymes  
the cotyledons be enfringed and broken.

¶ Also abortement maye come of a disease  
called Tenasmus / the whiche is when one  
hath ever greate desyre and luste to the stole  
and yet can do nothyng / neuer the lesse the  
parties greatly do enforce and payne them  
selfe to it / as Hypocrates sayth: The preg-  
nant woman which hath tenasmm / for the  
moste parte aborteth.

¶ Item the coughe / yf it be greuous / cau-  
seth the same / and as the forenamed excellēt  
physytiane sayth / such as are very spare and  
leane and brought lowe evermore lyghtlye  
dothe aborte / for because that as Auicenna  
wryteth: all the meate and fode the whiche  
they receave / turneth to the fode / noysshment /  
and restauration of theyr owne bodyes / and  
so is the conception destitute of fode / wher-  
fore necessarily it dyeth.

¶ Item this chance also commeth by ouer  
L.ij. much

muchē bleedynge or yssuyng of the flowres/  
 when they yssue immoderately. And so sayth  
 Hypocrates: Yf the woman yelde flowres af-  
 ter her conception/it can not be that the fea-  
 ture do longe proue/the which sayeng muste  
 be vnderstande / yf they flowe behementlye/  
 or that the partie be weake and verye spare/  
 or yf it be after the thyrde moneth/for it may  
 be well that in the fyrst and seconde moneth  
 flowres maye yssue/and yet no daunger / for  
 as yet lyttell fode and no yshinent satisfieth  
 the conception.

¶ Item to be let bloude/maye be the cause  
 of aborcement as Hypocrates sayth: whiche  
 muste be vnderstande in suche as haue but  
 lyttell store of blood:but such as haue great  
 copie & plentie of bloude maye without any  
 parell (yf any cause requyre it) be let bloude/  
 so that it be after the. iiii. moneth and before  
 the. vii. Howe be it I wolde that none shold  
 be let bloude/except some greate and vrgent  
 cause dyd requyre it.

¶ Item it maye come by takynge of some  
 stronge purgation before the. iiii. moneth &  
 after the vii. moneth/and yf it be so that any  
 necessitie do so requyre that she muste nedes

receaue

receave a purgation / let it be done betwene the. iij. and the. vij. moneth after the conception: for then maye it be with lest parell / and se that the purgation be very gentell & easy.

¶ Also this maye come by reason of a continuall fluxe / be it bloudy or otherwyse / and specially yf the woman be weake and spare / for by that meanes the conception is greatly weakened and perished. Item ouer much vomitynge may be cause of aboꝛcement / for by ouer muche galpyng and reachyng backwards the cotilydons maye be broken / and so the feature to peryshe.

¶ Item ouer muche famyne or hunger & also sharpe and faruent sycknesse maye be the cause hereof / as the pestelence / apostume in the breste / the soden palsie / the fallynge sycknes. &c. Also ouer muche dronkenesse & excesse fedynge and surfetyng / by the which the byrthe is suffocat and stranged in the bellye and the fode corrupte for lacke of due digestion. Itē yf the byrthe be sycke by anye outwarde or inwarde cause / or yf the seconde in the which the feature is contayned / do breake before his tyme and the humours and waterres of the same flowe and yssue

forth/ causeth the place to be slyppery/ and so  
 the byrth to slyde away vntymely / or yf the  
 mother haue taken very greate colde/ which  
 maye sone chanse in the farre northe partes/  
 or ouer greate heate/ which weakeneth both  
 mother and chylde. And therfore ought wo-  
 men with chylde to eschue muche bathynge  
 or goyng to the hote houses in theyr temyng  
 for that maye do hurte thre wayes/ fyrst that  
 it kenleth & enflameth the ayre or brette con-  
 tained in the body/ and so styfleth the chylde  
 and sometymes the mother to/ secondly that  
 it relaxeth/ dissolueth / and loseth the coty-  
 dōs / and so maketh the byrth to yssue forth/  
 thyrde that the vtter hette of the bathe en-  
 creaseth the inwarde heate of the body/ in so  
 muche that the byrthe not beyng able to su-  
 stayne and abyde the heate naturallye proce-  
 deth for refrigeration & colynge / but in the  
 tyme or about the tyme of labor she may vse  
 bathes / as I declared before for the redyar  
 and more expedite delyuerance.

¶ Item the intemperancie and mutation  
 of the ayre / and whether maye be cause of  
 aboꝛcemente / for as Hypocrates wytteth/

when

when so euer the Wynter is hote & moyst / &  
 the sprynge tyde after colde and drye / suche  
 women in that sprynge tyde maye sone and  
 of a lyghte cause haue aborcement / or yf they  
 aborce not / yet they shall be delyuered with  
 greate payne / and the byrthe shall be verry  
 weake and syckelye / soo that it shall dye  
 strayght / or yf it dye not by and by / it shall  
 proue but verry slenderlye / the cause of the  
 whiche thynge is this : for when that suche  
 wynterynge chaunseth / the hote and moyste  
 whether heateth and moisteth the womans  
 bodye / and by that the bodye is opened / vn-  
 loosed / and resolued / no lesse then though  
 she were euery daye bathed / and vpon this  
 when the sprynge tyde cometh / yf it be colde  
 and drye : fyndynge the body open and vnlo-  
 sed after suche sorte / the colde entryth and  
 percethe the bodye the soner and the more  
 vehementlye / and the byrthe fealyng the  
 soden colde and change of whether / pyneth  
 awaye and dyeth in the mothers bellye / or  
 anone after it is delyuered / or yf it lyue / it  
 lykethe not / nor prouethe not / and greate  
 payne shall it be to kepe lyfe in it.

Item

**I**tem aboꝛcement maye happen by ouer  
 muche stearynge of the bodye in laboꝛyngē/  
 daunſyngē / oꝛ leapyngē : oꝛ by ſome fall oꝛ  
 thruſt agaynſt ſome Wall / oꝛ beatyngē / oꝛ by  
 ſome ſodayne anger / feare / dꝛedde / ſoꝛowe / oꝛ  
 ſome ſoden & vnloked foꝛ ioye . Thus haue  
 I reherſed all the cauſes of the whiche moſt  
 commonlye maye enſue aboꝛcemente oꝛ vn-  
 tymely byꝛth: the which no doubtē is muche  
 moꝛe greſe and payne to the womā then the  
 berye naturall laboꝛ / foꝛ ſuche thynges as  
 chaunſe to man oꝛ woman contrarye to na-  
 ture / oꝛ before nature doth require it / is farre  
 greater greſe then the ſame happenyng and  
 commyngē in his due ſeaſon .

**S**ygnēs wherby ye may foꝛſee aboꝛcemēt.  
 When the woman ſhall laboꝛ before her  
 tyme / theſe ſygnēs are wonte to go before :  
 Fyꝛſte her bꝛeſtes which before were hoole /  
 ſounde / and full / ſhall begyn to were leſſe / to  
 fall / and to flagge : & then euer foꝛ the moſte  
 parte aboꝛcement foloweth . But yf it be ſo  
 that ſhe go with two chyldꝛē at once / yf one  
 of the bꝛeſtes ſwage / whiche before was in  
 good lyknyngē / the other remaynyng ſounde  
 and ſafe / then loke of what ſyde the bꝛeſt is  
 of /

of / and the chylde of that syde is in parell /  
 Wherfore hypocrates wyrteth: Yf the ryght  
 breste flake oz flagge / the masculyne oz male  
 byrth is in parell: yf the left / the female byrth:  
 for because that for the most part whē there  
 be two at once / the one is masculyne and the  
 other feimenyne / the man lyeth in the ryght  
 syde / and the woman in the lefte.

**C** Also an other sygne of aborcement is /  
 when the woman hath greate paynes & do-  
 lours of the matrice / and that she begyn to  
 were redde in the face / and all partes of her  
 bodye to shake and tremble / as though it  
 were in a feuer / or the palsye in the heade.

Item when she feleth greate ache in the yn-  
 ner parte of the eyes toward the braynes /  
 the reste of the bodye taken as it were with  
 a werynesse and languesshyng / these thyn-  
 ges portende and sygnifye aborcement to be  
 at hande / spetiallye yf at the same tyme the  
 flowres yssue also.

**C** Item yf the womans body do swell and  
 inflate with a certayne hardnesse oz styfnesse  
 and that she fele stytches and as it were ven-  
 tolyte oz wynde runnyng frome one syde of  
 the bodye to the other / and yet the belly not

B. i. With

Withstandynge / beyng nothyng the more ponderous or wayghtye / and that the same inflacion do persyst and continue any whyle the woman takynge and eatynge such thynges which haue vertue to discusse and vanquesse ventosite & wyndenesse : this thyng I saye dothe betoken parell of aborcement throughe ventosite and inflacion / and that chieflie aboute the thyrde or fourth moneth after the conception. Now haue I sufficiently declared euident & sufficient signes where by maye be prouyded and forsene the aborcement before it come / nowe wyll I shewe you the remedies / Whereby it maye be auerted and let.

**T**he chiefe remedy to auoyde aborcemēt is: to auoyde & shun all such thynges which maye be cause of it / the whiche I haue competently entreated of alreadye : but yf ye feare aborcement because that the mouth of the matrice be ouer ample and large / then muste ye vse such thynges / whose operation is to contrahē / constrayne / and bynge to gether: as bathes / fumigations / oyntementes / plasters / odours / and suche lyke / of the whiche I spake before in the seuenthe chapter /

and



and suche thynges the whyche repressse and stynte the flowres flowynge ouer muche after the byrthe.

**C** Agayne yf ye feare this parell / because the mouthe of the matrice is moist and slyperye / other because that the cotyledons be replete and fulfilled with viscos humours / and with inflations or ventosytes: then maye ye defende it by vlynge of suche thynges / whose qualitees be to purifye / cleanse / exiccat / or drye / and to repressse ventosytes.

**C** Howe be it / in all this matter lette not to make some experte physytyan of youre counseill / yf ye maye haue suche one / for because that manye suche thynges come / and not all by one waye or meane.

**C** And yf ye doubtte parell / for because that the matrice or other places aboute be infected / exulcerated / or appostumat / or hauyngge the stone or strangurye / and such other thynges / then aske / and vse the aduyse of some well learned medycyne / and he shall shewe you howe all thynges shall be recured.

**C** Yf agayne ye feare aborcement / because the partye is very weake and lowe brought /

**B. ij.** then

then let her feade on such thinges the which moysten and noysse the well or fatten the bo-  
dye / as capon fleshe / kydde / lamme / younge  
beale / partridge / and suche other.

¶ Agayne yf the womā be taken with any  
sharpe and fell decease / then let her be cured  
of the same as shortlye as can be with such  
thynges the whiche appertayne to the cu-  
rynge of suche disease / or yf she haue sustay-  
ned any longe famyne or hunger : then lette  
her be fedde with good meates and drynkes  
moderatlye taken / and yf she haue surfeted  
by ouer muche eatynge and drynkyng ( as  
nowe a dayes mooste commenlye people do )  
then let her absteyne for a tyme / & yf it maye  
be convenientlye done / let her receaue some  
easly & gentyll medicine / which may alleuiat  
and lyghten her of her surfetyng burthen.

¶ Now yf it so be / that the womā abounde  
in bloude / then shall it be very good & lyttell  
to let her bloude / bothe for her selfe and also  
for the byrthe / whiche throughe ouer muche  
abundance of it myght happen to be suffo-  
cated and stranged / of the which thyng al  
so I haue spoken largely before.

¶ Farthermore yf the woman feare abor-  
cement /

cement / by reason of continual coughē / or  
 ouer muchē vomyte and perbrakynge / or the  
 fluxe / or of the disease called tenasmus / or of  
 ouer muchē yssuyngē of bloude / Whether it  
 be by the nose / or other partes of the bodye  
 are thādvyse of a physitiā for remedy / yf for  
 the fragilite / tendernes / and bracke / of the se-  
 condyne she feare this aboꝛcemente / for be-  
 cause that in this case the secondyne shall  
 not be able to holde and contayne the byrth /  
 as for this / there is no other medicine to de-  
 fende it / but onelye that the partie take hede  
 that she hurte not her selfe by ouer much mo-  
 uynge or stearynge / as by laborynge / daun-  
 synge / runnyngē / standynge / faste goynge / or  
 carrynge of ponderous and weyghtye thyn-  
 ges / or leftynge of the same. And to be short /  
 let her with all warynesse take hede and be  
 diligent that she exchue and abstayne frome  
 all such thynge the which might cause and  
 induce aboꝛcement .

**C** Of deade byrthes, and by what sygnes or to-  
 kens it maye be knowen, and by what  
 meanes it maye also be expelled.

**C** Cap. ix.

**M.** iij.

**Rowe**



**I**shalbe nowe conuenient for  
 vs to speake of deade byrthes/  
 howe it shall be knowen that  
 they be deade / and howe they  
 maye be expelled from the mo-  
 ther. Sygnes then that the byrth is dead in  
 the mothers wombe be these: i. Fyrste yf  
 the mothers brestes do sodenlye flake / as I  
 touched before in the. viij. chapter. ii. Yf it  
 moue it selfe no more beyng wout before to  
 steare it selfe. iij. Yf when the mother toz-  
 neth her from the one syde on the other / she  
 feale it fallynge frō the one syde to the other  
 lyke a stone or aded wayght. iiij. Yf her  
 bellye and nauell begyn to were colde / whi-  
 che before was wont to be temperatly hote.  
 v. Yf anye stynkyng & fylthye humours  
 flowe from the matrice / & chieflie after some  
 fell desease. vi. Yf the womans eyes were  
 holowe / & that her coloz change from whyte  
 to swarte and dunne coloure / and that her  
 eyes and nose were astoned / and haue not  
 theyr ryght vse / and her lippes were wan.  
 viij. Yf benethe the nauell and aboute the  
 secrete partes she feale greate thronge and  
 payne / the colour of her face changynge into  
 worste

worſſe and worſſe / otherwyſe then it was  
wonte to do. viij. Yf ſhe haue appetyte to  
eate ſuche thynges / the whiche be agaynſte  
nature / and not wonte to be eaten or dron-  
ken. ix. Yf ſhe be in her ſlepe vexed with  
bayne dreames. x. Yf ſhe be payned con-  
tynuallye with the ſtrangurye / or that ſhe  
enforce her ſelfe muche to the ſtole / and with  
all her power / and yet can not do any thing.

xi. Yf her brythe begynne to ſtynke / the  
whyche thyng lyghtlye happeneth two or  
thre dayes after the byrthe be deade.

xij. Yf her handes put in to verye warme  
water / and then layde on the womans bel-  
lye / and the chylde ſteare not / is a ſygne that  
it is deade.

**O**f all theſe ſygnēs nowe the more that  
come to gether of thē at one tyme & in one p-  
ſon / the ſurer may ye be that the byrth is ded  
the which being ones ded / all diligence muſt  
be had that it may be expelled out of the wo-  
mans body: but here muſt ye ſe agayne whe-  
ther it maye be expelled / the mothers lyfe ſa-  
ued or no / for ſome tyme it chaunſeth that  
the mother dyeth with all / and ſometymes  
the mother dothe well and prospereth.

Whether

**¶** Whether the mother shall be in perill  
 withall or no / by these things shall ye know  
 yf the woman beyng in the labor / some or  
 fare as though she were in a trance / yf her  
 remembraunce faile her / and she were fea-  
 ble and scant able to moue or steare herselfe /  
 yf she (called with a lowde voyce) canne an-  
 swere nothyng at all / or els very lyttell and  
 that verye softelye / as though her voyce be-  
 gan to faile her : yf she be inuaded or taken  
 among in the laborynge with conuulsion or  
 shynkeling to gether : if she refuse or can not  
 broke meate / yf her pulces beate verye faste /  
 the which sygnes when ye se in the woman  
 laborynge : it is an euident tokē that she shall  
 not liue long after her byrth / wherfore comit  
 the cure of her to the handes of almyghyte  
 god / but yf none of these sygnes do appeare /  
 then haue good hope / for the woman shall  
 do well / the byrth beyng once departed :  
 wherfore geue all diligence to the expulcion  
 of it / that the woman maye be delyuered of  
 this dead burthen : the whiche thinge maye  
 be done by two wayes / other by medicines  
 expulsiue / or elles by certayne instrumentes  
 made for the nonce.

**C** Fyyste without instrumentes With this fumigation : take other the houe or dunge of an asse / and put it on coles / and lette the woman receaue the fume vndernethe. Another: take the skynne of an adder / myrthe / castoreum / brymstone / galbanum / oppoponacum / madder that the dyerres occupye / pygeons dunge / or hawkes dunge: beate all these to powder / and temper them with ore gall / and make pylles of it eche of the quantite of a fylbert nutte / and then put one after another in tye coles / and receaue the fume throlwe a pype or conduyte made for that purpose in to the priuities .

**C** Another : take encense / oppoponacum / galbanum / brymstone / of eche lyke muche / beate them to gether and temper them with ore galle / and make pylles of them / and then of the same make fumigations / as before.

**C** A potion for the same purpose: take asa fetida halfe a dram / of rue .iij. drams / of myrthe .ij. drams : & beate them to powder / and geue to the woman at eche tyme a dram of this powder with whyte wyne / or with water in the which sauyne is soden.

**C** Another: take fygges / fenegreke / organ

R. i. nye l

THE FIRST

nye/and sethe them in Water the Which gene  
vnto the woman to Drynke / for this Drynke  
wyl engendre lubrycye and slypperynesse in  
the nether partes/and vse also some of those  
thynges Whiche haue vertue to prouoke the  
byrth/Wherof we entreated before.

5. ¶ Item certayn pessaries or suppositaries  
concernynge the same : take gumme armo-  
niacke/oppoponacum/helleborus niger/ sta-  
phisagre / aristolochia longa / & colocynthis  
without his kernelles : beate all these thyn-  
ges together/temperynge them with ore gall  
and also with the iuyce of fresche rue / then  
make a pessarie of Wollen/and annoynt and  
wet the pessarie with the same/conueynge it  
into the secrete places.

6. ¶ Item another:make a pessarie of wolle  
of the lengthe & thynkenesse of a fynger/ and  
do it in the iuyce of rue in the which is dissol-  
ued a quantitie of scammonie / and do with  
that pessarie/as before.

7. ¶ Item take aristolochia rotunda/sauyne/  
gardécresses/ of eche lyke muche/beate them  
to powder / and temper them with ore gall:  
With this annoynt a pessarie made and orde-  
red as before is spoken of. Item yf the wo-  
man



man drynke the mylke of another woman  
it wyll feare and expell the byrth.

¶ Item take of the iuyce of dyttayne or of  
the powder of the roote of the same herbe. ii.  
Draims / and geue the same to drynke to the  
woman with wyne / excepte she be in greate  
heate / for then shall ye geue it her with luke  
warne water / and this shall expell the dead  
byrth without any parell of the mother.

¶ Item take of myrthe. iiii. drammes / of  
cinamome / galbanum / castorium / of eche two  
drammes : of oppoponacum one draim : all  
those beaten / and tempered to gether with  
ore gall / make pylls of them / wayenge eche  
of them a draim / and with the fume of those  
perfume the nether partes / by this vapoure  
the deade byrthe is broughte forth / infla-  
mation and suffocation of bloude is expel-  
led .

¶ Item take of water mynte / sothern<sup>10</sup>  
wood / muggewort / of eche a handefull / of as-  
phaltum halfe an ounce / of madder two oun-  
ces and an halfe / of camomell / barotum / fe-  
negreke / of eche two ounces : sethe all these  
thynges to gether in rayne water : in the  
whyche lette the woman bathe her selfe /

R. ij. then

then take of hensgrece and duckes grece / of  
 eche. iij. draims: to the which adde two oun-  
 ces of oyle of anues sede / with this oyntmēt  
 annoynt the womā's head comminge out of  
 the bath: then take datestones & beate them  
 to powder a dram and a halfe / with a scru-  
 ple of safrane tempered together with whyt  
 wyne: the which let her immediatlye drynke  
 after she come forth of the bathe.

11. ¶ Item take oppoponacum / & make there  
 of a pessarye the quantitie of a fynger / con-  
 ueye it into the priuities / this expelleth the  
 dead byrth.

12. ¶ Item take of galbanum a dram or some  
 what lesse : of gotes mylke an ounce and a  
 halfe or two ounces in the which the galba-  
 num beyng dissolved / geue it to the woman  
 to drynke.

13. ¶ Item a plaster for the same : take galba-  
 num beaten and tempered with the iuyce of  
 motherworthe / and of this make a plaster by  
 puttyng to of were a certayne quātite / than  
 take a linnen cloth of suche length & bredth  
 that it maye couer all the belly vnder the na-  
 uel to the priuities frō one syde to the other /  
 on this cloth spred this plaster of the thicke-  
 nesse

nesse of a strawe / and laye it to the bellye.  
Item take the tryacle which is called diatef-  
saron : and geue of it to the woman for to  
drynke / and it wyll expell this dead byrth.

**C** But yf all these medicines profette not / <sup>14</sup>  
then muste be vled more seuerer and harde re-  
medyes / with instrumentes / as hokes / ton-  
ges / and suche other thynges made for the  
nonce. And fyrst the woman must be layde a  
longe vpryght / the myddell parte of her bo-  
dye lyeng hyer then all the reste / companyed  
of women assistynge her aboute to comforte  
her / and to keape her downe / that when the  
byrthe is plucked oute she ryse not withall.  
Then let the mydwyfe annoynt her left had  
with the oyle of whyte lyllyes or other that  
may make it sofle and smouth: and holding  
out her fyngers shytting to gether her hand  
let her put it to the matrice to feale and per-  
ceave after what fasthion the dead byrth ly-  
eth in the mothers wombe: so that she maye  
the better putte in hokes and suche other in-  
strumentes to plucke it out with all.

**C** Yf it be so that it lye the head forewarde / <sup>15</sup>  
then fasten a hoke other vpon one of the eyes  
of it / or the rofe of the mouthe / or vnder the

chyn/ on one of the Holders/ whiche of these partes shall seme moſte commodious and handſome to take it oute bye / and the hoke faſtened to drawe it oute verye tenderlye for hurtynge of the woman.

¶ But yf it lye the fete forewarde/ then faſten the hoke on the bone aboue the priuie partes/ or by ſome ribbe/ or ſome of the backe bones/ or of the breſte bones / and when this hoke is thus faſtened/ the midwyfe may not by and by drawe and plucke at it / but holdynge it in her lefte hande/ lette her with her ryghte hande faſten another in ſome other parte of the byrthe ryght agaynſte the fyrſte/ and then tenderlye let her drawe both to gether/ ſo that the byrth may procede and come forth on bothe ſydes equallye / mouynge it from one ſyde to another / tyll ye haue gottē out altogether / and nowe and then to helpe it in the comming forth with the fore fynger well annoynted/ if it chaunce to ſtycke or to be let any where : and as it commeth forth/ alwaye to remoue the hokes farther and farther on the dead byrthe.

¶ Agayne yf it chaunce that one of the handes onely of the byrth do appeare / & that it  
can

can not convenientlye be reduced & returned  
upwarde agayne / by reason of the narrow-  
nesse of the place / then bynde it with a lynnē  
cloth / that it slyp not up agayne / and then to  
plucke it outwarde / vntyll suche tyme that  
the hole arme be out and then with a sharpe  
knyfe cut it of from the body / and euen so do  
yf both handes appeare fyrste at once / or one  
legge or bothe / yf they can not be returned  
backe / to be otherwyle taken out convenient-  
lye / as ye cutte the armee from the sholders /  
soo lykewyle cuttinge the legges frome the  
thyghes / for the which purpose the surgeōs  
haue made instrumentes made for the nonce  
with the which such legges and armes may  
sone be cut frome the bodye / these partes be-  
yng once relecte and cutte frome the bodye /  
then turne the reste / so that it maye easlye  
procede with as lyttell payne to the mother  
as maye be .

¶ Yf it be so that the chyldes head be soo  
swollen by inflation / swellynge / or resorte of  
humours that it wyl not convenientlye yssue  
oute that narrowe places / then let the myd-  
wyfe with a sharpe penknyfe cutte open the  
heade / that the humours contayned in it  
maye

maye yssue and runne forth/ and so the head to waxe lesse able to be plucked out: but yf it so be that not by any suche casualte the head be bygge / but onely of a naturall groweth/ then muste the head be broken in peces / and the partes evermore taken forth with suche instrumentes / as the surgeons haue readye and necessarye for suche purposes.

¶ Agayn yf that after the head were come forth/ yet the breste parte wolde not folowe for greatenesse/ then muste ye breake and cut lyke wyse that parte / vnto suche tyme that it maye be had forth. And euen so lyke wyse/ yf all the rest of the bodye sholde be so swollen that it wolde not procede ne come forth/ then muste it lyke wyse be broken in peces / & so had forth.

¶ Farthermore yf by chance or dysease it come to passe that the mouth of the matrice be exulcerat or apostumat / so that the passage be made the narrower by that meanes / the dryer and the more contracte / then muste ye fyrste studye and endeavour you to soyle and ease the places by oyles & other greces/ suche as I spake of sufficientlye before in the fyfth chapter with bathes and fumigations.

Also

¶ Also yf the dead byrth come sydelonge / then muste ye do what maye be done to conuerte & torne it to such fashon / that it maye moſte easly be brought forth : the matrice & other secretes muste be annoynted / perfumed / and vapoꝛed with suche thinges / the which maye make it moze ample & large / yf it can not be thus had forth the hole : then let it be cut out by peſe mele / as is befoze spoken of. And yf after this delyueraunce the flowres yſſue ouer vehementlye / then vse suche thinges as haue vertue to restrayne them / of the which I haue spoken in the. vii. chapter befoze. But cōtrary to all this / yf it chāse that the woman in her labor dye / & the chyld hauyng lyfe in it / the shall it be mete to kepe open the womā's mouth / and also the nether places / so that the chyld maye by that meanes bothe receaue & also expell ayre & bꝛethe which other wyse myght be stopped / and the to turne her on the left syde / & there to cutte her open / & so to take out the chyld / & they that are borne after this fashon be called cesars / for because they be cut out of theyꝝ mothers belly / wher vpon also the noble Rōma ne cesar the. j. of that name i Rome toke his name.

*a rombarp*

THE FIRSTE

Howe the infante newlye borne, muste be handled, nouryshed, and looked to.

Cap. x.



After that the infant is once borne/by & by the navel must be cutte thre syngers bredthe from the belly / & so knyt vp: then as Auicēna wyrteth/let be strued on the head of that that remayneth/of the powder of bole arme nyacke / & sanguis Draconis/ sarcocolla/myz rha and comyne/of eche lyke much beaten to powder / strewe on the cut of that pece that remayneth/then vppon that bynde a pece of wooll dypped in oyle olyfe that the powder fall not of: some vse fyrst to knyt the nauell/ and after to cutte it so much / as is before reherced .

And farthermore some say that of what length the reste of the nauell is lefte / of the same length shall the chyldes tonge be / yf it be a man chyld. Item Auicenna sayth that dyuers thynges maye be knowen by merkynge of the chyldes nauell/ for as he sayth/ when the woman is deliuered of her fyrste chyld/then beholde the nauell of the childe/  
which



Which yf in that parte of it which is next vn  
to the body it haue neuer a wrynckle/it p<sup>r</sup>oten  
deth and doth signifye perpetuall frō thenf  
forth sterilitie or barennesse / & yf it haue any  
wrynckles in it / then so manye wrynckles / so  
many chyldren shal the womā haue in tyme  
to come. Also some adde to this & saye: that  
yf there be lyttel space betwene these wryn  
ckles in the nauell / then shall there be also  
lyttell space betwene the barynge of the chyl  
dren/yf muche/it syngnifyeth longe tyme be  
twene the barynge of them.

¶ Nowe to returne to our purpose / when  
that the nauel is cut of/ & the reste knytte vp:  
annoynt all the chyldes bodye with the oyle  
of acornes/for that is syngularly good to cō  
firme/stedfast/and to defende the body from  
noysom thinges/ whiche may chaunce from  
without: as smoke/colde/ & suche other thin  
ges which yf the infant be greaued with all/  
streate after the byrth/being yet very tender/  
it sholde hurte it greatly.

¶ After this annoyntyngge wasche the in  
fant with warme water/ and with your fyn  
ger (the nayle beyng p<sup>a</sup>red ) open the chyl  
des nosestrelles / and purge them of the fyl  
thyneffe

thynesse. Item it shalbe good to put a lyttell  
oyle into the eyes : and also that the mother  
oz nource handle so the childe's sytting place  
that it maye be prouoked to purge the belly.  
And chieflie it muste be defended from ouer  
much colde oz ouer muche heate.

¶ After that that the parte extante oz bo-  
ging forth of the nauell is fallen / the whiche  
commonlye chanseth after the thyrde oz. iij.  
daye then on the reste remaynyng strewe the  
powder oz ashes of a calves houe burnt / oz  
of snayle shelles / oz the powder of ledde / cal-  
led redde ledde / tempered with wyne.

¶ Farthermore when the infant is swa-  
deled and layde in cradell / the nource muste  
geue all diligence and hede that she bynde  
euerye parte ryght and in his due place and  
order / and that with all tenderesse and gen-  
tell entreatynge / and not crokedlye and con-  
fusely / the whiche also muste be done oftenty-  
mes in the daye : for in this is it as it is in  
younge and tender ympes / plantes / & twyg-  
ges / the whiche euen as ye bowe them in  
theyr youthe / so wyll they euermore remayn  
vnto aege. And euen so the infante yf it be  
bounde and swadeled / the membyres lyenge  
ryght & strayght / then shall it growe streate  
and bryght / yf it be crokedlye handled / it  
wyll growe lykewyse / and to the yll negli-

gence of many nources may be imputed the crokednesse and deformeite of manye a man and woman / Which otherwyse myght seme as well fauered as any other.

**I**tem let the chylde's eyes be oftentimes wyped and clenfed with a fyne and cleane linnen clothe or with sylke : and let the armes of the infante be verrye strayght layde do wne by the sydes / that they maye growe ryght / and sometyme strokyng the bellye of the chylde before the vesike or bladder to help to ease and to prouoke the chylde to the makinge of water / and when ye laye it in the cradell to slepe / set the cradell in such a place that nether the beames of the sonne by daye nether of the mone by nyght come on the infant : but rather set it in a darke and shadow place : layenge also the head euer somewhat hyer then the reste of the bodye.

**A**nd farther lette it be wasshed two or thre tymes in the daye / and that anone after slepe in the wynter with hote water / in the sommer with luke warme water : nether let it tary long in the water but vnto such tyme as the body begyn to waxe red for hete : but take hede that none of the water come in to the infantes eare / for that shulde greatlye hurte his hearynge another daye.

Then to be shorte/when it is taken oute of the barthe/let it be wyped and handeled with gentell and softe linnen cloth warmed / and then to laye it on her lap the backe byward/ the whiche with her handes let her tenderly stroke and rubbe/ and then to lappe it vpppe/ and to swadell it / & when it is swadeled / to put a drop or two of Water in to the nostrelles of it / is very good for the eye syght. And so laye it to reste.

**C** Of the nurse, and her mylke, and howe longe the chylde sholde soucke.



**A**S concernynge the bryngynge by nourishment and geuyng of sucke to the chylde / it shall be best / yf the mother geue her chylde sucke herselfe / for the mothers mylke is more conuenient and agreeable to the infante then anye other womans / and more dothe it nouryshe it / for because that in the mothers bellye it was wonte to the same and fedde with it / and therfore also it dothe more desyrouslye couet the same / as that / with the which it is best acquēted / and to be shorte / the mothers mylke is most hol-  
soust

comste for the chylde. As Auicenna writeth: it shall be sufficient to geue it sucke twyse or thysse in a daye. And alwayes beware / ye geue not the chylde to much sucke at once in this tender aegge of it / for cloyng of it / and lest also it lothe it / but rather let it haue often of it / and lytell at once / then fewe tymes / and ouer muche at once. For such as be ouer cloyed with the mothers mylke / causethe theyr body to swell and inflate / and in theyr vyne shal it appeare that it is not ouer come ne concocted or digested in the chylde / Which thynge yet yf it channse / let the infant be kept fastinge / vntyll such tyme as that the which it hath receaued already / be compleately digested. Item yf the mothers mylke be somewhat sharpe or egre / lette her neuer geue the chylde her breste fastynge.

¶ Yf it be so that the mother can not geue the infant sucke herselfe / ether for because of syckenesse or that her brestes be sore and her mylke corrupted: then let her chose a holson nurse with these conditions folowynge.

¶ Fyrste that she be of a good coloure and complexion / and that her bulke and breste be of good largenesse. Secondly that it be not

to come after her labor / ne to longe after / so that it be two monethes after her labor at the leste / and that (yf it maye be) suche one whiche had a man chyld / thyrdelye that she be of meane and measurable lykynge / neyther to fatte ne to leane. Fourthelye that she be good and honest of conuersation / neyther ouer hastye or yrefull ne to sad or solemne / neyther to fearefull or timorous : for these affections and qualitees be pernicious and hurtfull to the mylke / corruptynge it / and passe forth through the mylke in to the chyld / makinge the chyld of lyke condition and manners / also that they be not ouer lyght & wanton of behaoure. Fyftelye that her brestes be full and haue sufficient plentie of mylke : and that they be neyther to great / softe / hanginge / and flaggynge / ne to lyttell / harde / or contracte / but of a measurable quantitie.

¶ Also loke vpon her mylke / that it be not blackyshe / blueyshe / greye or reddyshe / neyther sowre / sharpe / saltyshe / or brackyshe / nether thyn & fluye / neyther ouer grosse and thicke : but temperatly whyte and pleasante in taste : and to be shorte : that mylke is beste and mooste to be chosen of the whiche a drop beyng

beynge mylked softelye on the nayle of the thombe holdyng your synger styll/ it rolleth not of/ nether flytteth abrode/ but yf ye moue your hand a lyttell it will syde of by and by: but yf whē it is mylked on the nayle it spred abrode / & flyt by & by/ then is it to thyn: but yf it cleaue styll when that ye moue a lyttell youre hande then is it so spysse & thycke / the meane betwene bothe is beste.

**¶** Yf it be so / that the nourses mylke be to hote or sharpe / then lette her neuer geue the chylde sucke her selfe beyng fastyng.

Sometyme it chaunceth/ that the mothers or nourses mylke dothe fayle or decrease/ the which thyng maye come by dyuers causes: as by syckenesse / by decease in the brestes/ or by takyng of colde in the same/ and so stoppe and cludder the mylke: or for because she lackethe suche thynges / the whiche myght engender mylke/ other by ouer muche fastyng/ hungre/ and thurst: the whiche causes must be well consydered / and then accor dyng to that mynster a remedy.

**¶** Thynges which do augment & encrease mylke / be those: let her vse to eate parsenyp / other the sede or the rote. Also the sede or

¶.i. rote

rote of fenell soden in the brothe made with barley or cicercula : let her eate of that With other meates that she feadeth on. Item to eate shpes breste and the mylke of them is good. Item take an ounce of cowe butter / & dissolue it in warmed wyne / the which lette the nource drynke. Item borynge vnder the brestes / doth well / not cuttynge the skynne.

¶ Item a plaster for the same of frankence / mastycke / and pytche layde to the brestes or vnder the brestes the skynne fyrst being annoynted with oyle / lest it shold cleaue ouer faste to the place. Item it shalbe verye good to rubbe softelye with the hande the brestes / or elles in bathynge after dynner or supper to cause some to sucke her breste.

Item take the oyle of white lyllyes or of violetttes / and myngle with it muske / encense / & laudanum well tempered together / in the same dyppe a pese of wooll / and clappe it to the brestes / and soke them with it. Item washe them / and soke them often tymes With wyne / in the which is decoct and soden myntes / roses / violetttes / and riloaloes. Also to eate of the brothe in the which is soden a henne / with cynamome / maces / and carda-



monum/and also the yowlke of an egge.  
 Item it is good for her to eate freshe chese  
 and mylke/and to refrayne frome all maner  
 of greate labor and harde workes. Also po-  
 tage made of beane meale / rylse / and breade  
 made of fyne flowze / tempered with mylke  
 and sugre/putting to it also a quantite of fe-  
 nell seede or of the leues/is very good for her.

¶ Item take of anys seede / of syler monta-  
 num / of eche. iij. draĩs / of christall beten to  
 powder. ij. draĩs / & as muche of sugre / geue  
 her this to drynke aboute. x. dayes at mo-  
 ning/euening / & inyddaye. Itē take of fenell  
 seede or the leues / & of horehonde of eche. ij.  
 hādfulles / of anis seede iij. draĩs / of safrane  
 beaten one scruple: also of freshe butter. iij.  
 ounces / & sethe all these in sufficient water/  
 makynge hereof a plaster / & the same plaster  
 whylst it is hote / laye it to the nurses brest.

¶ Item take of comyn seede an ounce & an  
 halfe / & of clarifyed hony. iij. ounces: sethe it  
 in. vi. li. wayght of water altogether beyng  
 put into a newe pot & let it sethe to the thyrd  
 parte / & of this decoction geue the nurse thē  
 oftē tymes to drynke. Itē take of beetes well  
 washed one ounce: of cōmyn halfe an ounce  
 ℞. ij. of ho:

T H E F I R S T E

of hony. vi. ounces : of these myngled & tempered to gether / make an electuarie / of the which let her take both in the morninge and eueninge at eche tyme a sponefull. Itē take two draims of crystal beatē into fyne powder & deuyde that in foure equall partes / one of these partes geue vnto the nurse the space of. iij. dayes to drynke / With brothe made other of cicer / or els of peason : also all those thinges folowing encrease & augmēt mylke in the brestes : annes & annes seide / dyll & the seide / horehownde / cardomome / fresche chese / wortes made of olde ehece / cicer / cristal beatē to powder & takē With hony : lettuse / fenell / Wyne in which rosemary or serpillū be sodē. Itē to abstayne frō venery or mans cōpany / for yf she vse that / it shall spende & consume the mylke & make it vnsauery & vnholosome : nether can the chylde well broke it / but most cōmenly shall cast it vp again / because it can not digest it Also it shalbe best that the child sucke not of the mothers breste by and by as sone as it is borne : but rather of some other womans for a daye or two / for because that the creme (as they cal it) streit after the byrth the fyrst daye in all women doth thyeckē and

con-

congeyle. ¶ Item yf it chaunce that the nurse be ouer soze laced / or that she be ouer bounde / so that she take anye medycynes to remedye it / then let another geue the chylde sucke / whylst she be recovered agayne. And when the chylde is layde in cradell to be rocked: rocke not to fast / lest through ouer much rockyng and stearyng the chylde's stomacke torne and the mylke there corrupte for lacke of rest. ¶ Auicen auyseth to geue the chylde sucke two yeres / howe be it amonge vs most commenlye they sucke but one yere. And when ye wyll wene them / then not to do it sodenly / but a lyttell and lyttell / and to make for it lyttell pylles of breade & sugre to eate & accustome it so / tyll it be able to eate all manner of meate : & this shall suffyce for the education and byngyng by of infantes at this tyme / notwithstandinge dyuers other thynges here are lefte vnsproken of / another tyme god willyng we shall declare them at large.

¶ Thus endeth the  
fyyste boke.

THE SECONDE

**O**f dyuers deceases and infirmities whiche  
chaunse to chyldren lately borne, and the  
remedyes therefoze.



**A**lthough there be in manner  
infinite deceases which happē  
to infantes / as Wyteth Hypo-  
crates / Galenus / Rasis / Auicē-  
na / and diuers other: yet for bre-  
uite and shortnesse we wyll reherse here on-  
ly such of them / which moſte commenly hap-  
pen to the ſame / and that be thoſe: Exulcera-  
tion of the gummes / flux of the belly or ouer-  
much looſeneſſe of the ſame / the belly hard-  
bownd / the crampe / the cough / & diſtillation  
of the heade / Short wynded / bladders on the  
tounge / exulceration or chyppe of the  
mouthe / apoſtume in the eares / apoſtume in  
the brayne / ſwellynge and bolnynge of the  
eyes / ſcum or creme of the eyes / the feuer /  
knauwe in the bellye / the body ſwellynge  
and puffed vp / often ſneelynge / Welkes or  
bladders on the bodye / ſwellynge of the cod-  
des / ſwelling of the nauell / vnſlepyneſſe / yer-  
ynge / appetyte to perbake / fearefulnes in  
the dreames / the mother / yſſuyng out of the  
fondament gut / Wormes in the belly / chaw-  
fynge /

fynge / the fallynge syckenesse / the consum-  
syon / the pallye / trymblynge of the partes of  
the bodye / the stone / gogell eyes.

**C** Howe to cure and to remedye all these /  
nowe wyll I shewe in order. Fyyst in exulce-  
ration of the gummes are wonte certayne  
pusthes and as it were wheles grow on the  
gummes or in the corners of the talves / the  
which put the place to muche greuance: and  
to remedie this / it shall be good that ye with  
your fynge rubbe the infātes gummes and  
the pusthes or whelkes with all: and then to  
annoynt the same gummes with oyntment  
made of hennes grese / hares brayne / oyle of  
camomell mixt with honye / other els turpen-  
tyne tempered with hony / then take water /  
and in it sethe camomell and dyll / the which  
water beyng hote : powre it on the chyldes  
heade / holdynge it a fote aboue the heade.

**C** Of the flyx or ouer muche loosenesse  
of the bellye.

For this take the sede of roses / cūmyn / anyse  
and the sede of smalege: beate all those to ge-  
ther and make them plaster wyse / and laye it  
to the chyldes bellye : yf it stynte not by this  
reine:

THE SECONDE

remedye / then take of the coagulū of a kyd  
a halfe peny wayght or a lyttell more / & geue  
it to the chylde to drynke with colde water /  
and all the same daye let the chylde be kepte  
frome suckynge / lest the mylke shulde curde  
in the stomacke of it / but in the meane whyle  
let it eate of the yowlke of poched egges / or  
of whyte breade soden in water .

¶ And farther yf that it whiche the infant  
boydeth be of redde or yelowe colour / then  
lette drynke of the syrups of roses / or of crab-  
bes / other elles of pome granates / tempered  
with a lyttell mynte water.

¶ Item another medycyne: take leuen and  
in water breake it / & let it stype a whyle / then  
strayne it throughe a linnen cloth / then take  
of the syrups of violettes the wayghte of an  
halfe peny / of spodium / called burnt yuerye /  
the wayght of a scruple / of gaules the way-  
ghte a dram and a half: temper all these thin-  
ges to gether / and geue it to the infante to  
drynke.

¶ Item take the sede of sorrell / and beate  
it / then temper it to gether with the yowlke  
of a rosted egge / and geue that to the chylde  
to eate .

Item

¶ Item take a gaulle / & beate it to powder / then sethe it in water with this water / temper barley meale / or the meale of millium / & make a plaster of it / the which laye vnto the chyldes belly. ¶ Yf this profet not : take of acatia & seruse of eche a dram / of opium the wayght of an halfe peny / of sugre a dram / & of all these tempered to gether / make a suppositary of the length of a fynger & an halfe the thychkenesse of two wheten straws twyned to gether / & the same coueye into the infantes fundament / & it shall cease the flyxe.

¶ Itē yf that that cometh frō the chyld / be whytyshe / then take of nutte megges the wayght of the .viij. parte of a dram / and of whyte frākencense a scruple / the which temper it with the iuyce of a quynse / and geue it to the chyld to drynke.

¶ Item take an ounce of safrane / of myrre / a quartar of an ounce and temper them with redde wyne / makyng of it a plaster / the which laye vnto the chyldes bellye.

¶ Item take the meale of barleye / temper it with the iuyce of plantan and a lyttell vinegre / and make it plasterwyle / and laye it to the chyldes belly.

¶ .i.

¶ Item

T H E S E C O N D E

**C** Item take the iuyce of centinodium and the whyte of an egge: and temper them together to the whiche adde the pouder of dꝛyed red roses / the pouder of hematites / mastycke / frankencense / bole armenyacke / sanguis draconis and psida: of all these myxed together make a plaster / and laye it to the infantes bellye .

**C** Item to wasche the chylde with the water in the which be soden leues of red rooses is very good. Item take the iuyce of confery and the iuyce of plantayne the more and the lesse / and in this put claye of an olde furnyse or ouen / and make of it a plaster / and laye it to the chyldes bellye .

**C** To vuloose the chylde beyng bounden.

**V**f the chylde be so bounde / that it can not sege: then make a suppositary of hony soden tyll it be harde and massye / and let the suppositary be of the length of your lyttell fynger / & the byggenesse of two whetestrays boude together / then dyppe it into oyle and conuey it into the chyldes fundament.

**C** Item lyke wyse ye maye make a suppositary of the stalke and rote of betes / or els of the  
the



the rote called oressé or flowre de luce rote/  
made of the quantite befoze spoken of / & con-  
ueyed into the syttyng place of the chylde.

¶ Item to geue to the infant as much ho-  
ny as a peaze to drynke & to rubbe the bellye  
a lyttell / and to sople it with a pece of wooll  
dyped in oyle / or dyped in bulles galle / &  
layde to the nauell. Item ye maye geue vnto  
the nource a medycyne whiche hathe vertue  
to vnbynde and loose / and the next day after  
let the chylde sucke her / and it wyll loose al-  
so the chylde.

¶ Item take of mouse dounge half a dram  
and temper it with the fatte in the kydnees  
of a goote / & make a suppositoꝝ of the same.  
Item take of small mallowes / of greate mal-  
lowes of eche an handefull of fenegreke and  
lynseede of eche an handefull / of holyoke two  
ounces / of fygges the nomber of .x. sethe all  
these together in water / & then stampe them  
in a mortar / and put vnto it of butter and of  
hennes grece .ij. ounces / and of safrane one  
scruple / and make a plaster of it vppon a  
lynnen clothe of the thychkenesse of a strawe /  
and laye it to the chyldes bellye a daye and a  
nyghte.

¶ If this moue not the belly / then take of aloes one dram / of eleborus bothe niger and albus of eche .xv. graynes / beate these to powder / then temper them with thre sponefulles of the iuyce of wallwort or of ore gall: in this licoure dyppe wooll / and laye it to the nauell the bredthe of a hande / and bynde it to the place.

¶ Item take the iuyce of wallwurte and of myll meale and sethe those together / tyll they be thicke / then make a plaster thereof / and laye it to the bellye benethe the nauell.

Item take two handefulles of redde roses and putte them in to a bagge of foure fyn- gers bredthe / then sethe it in the water wher in synthes quenche theyr hote yron / putting to it a lyttell bynegre / the take out the bagge agayne / and wyngge it a lyttell / then laye it to the chyldes stomacke. Item to annoynte the chyldes bellye with butter / the whiche hath styped and stande longe in the rynde of Walnuttis / is very good.

¶ Remedye for the crampe or distention of the membrs.

If it chaunce that the infant be taken with  
the

the deſeaſe/called the crampe / the Which for  
 the moſt parte cometh of indigeſtion and of  
 the Wekenesse of the powre attractyue: & ſpe  
 cially in ſuch chyldren the which be very fat  
 and moyſte / then ſhall ye annoynte the in  
 fant with the oyle of blew flowre de lyce/oz  
 elles Whyte lyllyes / other the oyle of rue. Yf  
 the crampe take the chyld whylſte it ſtret  
 cheth forth the armes/legges/and other mē  
 bres (as we be wont in gapyng oz yanyng)  
 then let it be bathed and waſhed in water/  
 in the whyche capſus barbatus is ſoden in/  
 oz elles annoynted with the oyle of violet  
 tes / and the oyle of ſwete almons tempered  
 to gether/and yf the chyld be in great heate  
 annoynte hym with the oyle of violettes/oz  
 with oyle olyfe/tepered with a lyttell whyte  
 were / and alſo powre on the chyldes heade  
 the oyle of violettes.

¶ Remedy for the coughe and diſtillation  
 of the heade.

Sometymes the chyld is ſore encombred  
 with the coughe and with diſtillatiō oz run  
 nyng of humours oute of the heade / to the  
 noſe/the mouthe and the brest:the which he

Q. iij.

ſhall

THE SECONDE

Shall remedye thus: Fyrst powre warme wa-  
 ter on the chyldes heade holdynge it a fote &  
 a halfe from the chyldes heade/and so do cō-  
 tynuallye the space of halfe an houre/and in  
 the meane whyle put a lyttell honye on the  
 chyldes tonge to chaue vpon/then put your  
 fynger in to the chyldes mouth/and depresse  
 or holde downe the ynnner moste parte or the  
 rote of the tunge nexte to the throte / to pro-  
 uoke the chyldes to vomyte/and to voyde the  
 grosse and viscos humours which be cause  
 of this yll.

**I**tem take gumme arabicke/gumme dra-  
 gaganant/the seede of quynces/the iuyce of lycor-  
 yle/and sugre penedium : all this beaten to-  
 gether/geue euery daye to the chyldes a quan-  
 tite of it with mylke newe mylked. Item  
 take swete almons and blanch them/ & then  
 beate them in a morter/ and then sethe them  
 with the iuyce of fenell/or els the water ther-  
 of:of this decoction geue to the chyldes at eue-  
 nyng and mornynge. Item the water of fe-  
 nell tempered with mylke / and so dronken/  
 is very good.

**A**nd yf it so be that the coughes haue ex-  
 asperat and made roughe the tounge & the  
 rofe

rofe of the mouthe/then take of the feedes of cydonium. ii. sponesfulles:bruse them a lyttel and stype them in warme water the space of two or thre houres:then strayne the byscose and grosse water frō them throughe a strainer/and that remayneth / frye it to gether in a fryenge panne with sugre penidium & the oyle of swete almons therof makynge an electuarium:the which geue vnto the chylde to receaue : yf the chylde haue great heate with the coughe/then adde vnto the same electuarie the iuyce of a swete pome granate.

¶ Item agaynst the coughe & ouer muche heate : take of whyte poppe / and dragagant two draims/of the granes of Gowards. iiii. draims / and beate all these to gether / & geue of it to the chylde with the water in whiche reasons haue ben soden.

¶ Item take reasons/and takynge out the sede or graynes of it : sethe them to gether with water in a fryenge panne / so that they burne not to the botom of the pan/then take it from the fyre/and beate it well in a mortar temperynge there with all sugre penidium/and geue of this in the mornynge & euenyng to the chylde.

Agayne

**C** Agayne yf the coughe come of a colde cause / then take a lyttell myrre beaten to powder / and temper it with a quantite of warmed hony and the oyle of swete almondes / and of this geue vnto the chylde.

**C** Farthermore the nurse muste auoyde all such thynges the whiche maye engender coughe: as bynegre / ouer muche salted meates / nuttes / and all sharpe thynges. Also she muste annoynt the chylde's brest with butter and with dialtheas.

**C** Item for the coughe: take reasons / and frye them in a fryenge panne / then stampe them in a mortar / and to that adde as much of sugre penidium / with a lyttell oyle of violettes / and make an electuarie of these / and geue to the chylde the mountenaunce of a hassell nutte.

**C** Remedye for shorte wynde.

Manye tymes chaunceth also to infantes difficultie of bresthyngge or shortewyndenesse / the which to remedye: take lyne sede / & beate it / and geue it on the chylde with hony: but yf the desease encrease on the chylde / & that the wyne pipes in maner seme stopped / then annoynt

annoynte Well the eares / and all the places about the eares with oyle olyfe / and also the tounge for to prouoke vomyte / and then pōwe a lyttell warme Water in to the chyl- des mouthe / and geue to it a lyttell lynese de tempered with hony and beaten / made after the fashyon of an electuarie.

¶ Item yf the chylde haue besydes this also the flux : then geue vnto it the syrupe of myrche decocte with hony / other elles dates soden with mylke / and the meale of Wheate.

¶ Agaynst wheles oz bladders on the tounge.

Item sometymes happeneth to chyldren wheles and blysters on theyr tounge and mouth / whiche thynge cometh of the sharpe- nesse and egrenesse of the nources mylke / the mouthe & tounge of the infant beyng so ten- der that the lest thing that toucheth it / shall offende it / wherefore besydes that it is great payne to the chylde thus to be blystered by the egrenesse of the mylke it is also verye pe- rillous & dangerous / for such wheles which be not rype and seme blacke / betoken death / whiche yf they be whyte oz yelowyshe / then they be of lesse perill. Agaynst this yll : take

R. i.

violet.

biolettes / roses / and xylocaracta / and temper all these beatynge them to gether / & laye of it vpon the blysters.

¶ Item take the iuyce of letuse / the iuyce of solatrum / and the iuyce of purcelayne / whiche when they be well commyrte and tempered to gether / annoynt there with the whelkes. And yf the foresayde blysterres or whelkes be blackyshe / then adde to the foresayde iuyces lycorise beaten to powder.

¶ Item yf the same be very moyst / then take myrche / galles / the rync of frankencense : bete them well to gether / and temper them with hony / and annoynte the chyldes tonge there with.

¶ Item take the iuyce of sharpe mulberies other els of vnrype grapes / which is called bergeus / & with that annoynt the tonge. It is verye good to washe the tunge with wyne / & then to strewe vpon it the powder of galles / or elles of the barke or rynde of frankencense.

¶ Yf ye wyll haue a quyckar medicine in operation & a sharper / then take bole armenye / psida and sumach of eche. iij. dramms / also of galles. ij. dramms of aloine one dram : all these



these beate together & serche them throughe  
a serchar / & strew that powder on the blyster  
res. Itē yf this wheles be reddyshe & cause  
inuche spettyll to gather to gyther in that  
place / then lette the nurse vse suche thinges  
which are moyst & colde / and let her chawwe  
in her mouthe verye small a fewe fatches / of  
the which laye on the infātes mouth & tūge.

¶ Itē amidum tēpered together with rose  
water / & put on the chylde's tunge / is good.  
Itē take the iuyce of pome granates / the iuy  
ce of quynces / or the iuyce of ozynges / & do of  
this on the chylde's tunge in lyke maner / but  
yf the wheles or blysters be somewhat ye-  
lowyshe then to these iuyces spoken of before  
adde the iuyce of lettuce & of purcelayne.

¶ But yf the wheles seme whytyshe / then  
take of myrre / & of safrane / of eche one draim /  
of sugre candy. ij. draims / and beate these to  
pouder and laye of it on the wheles and the  
tunge.

¶ Of exulceration or clefture, chappynge, or  
chynynge of the mouthe.

Sometymes by reason of the hardenesse  
of the nources pappes the chylde's lypes &  
R. y. mouth

mouth be exulcerat haunynge in manner of cleftes and chynnes in them and in this case take tozed wooll/and dyppe it in the iuyce of plantayne / or elles in butter molten / or in freshe hens grese euery of thē beyng warme and with this annoynte the mouth and lyp- pes of the chylde.

**C** Of Apostumation and runnyng of the eares.

When that humours and matter yssueth out of the eares which properly commeth of abundant humours in all the body / & most spetially in the head / thē take a pese of wooll / and dyppe it in hony mixt with redde wyne / to the which is put also a lyttell quantite of alome beaten to powder / or of safrane / then make of the same as it ware a tente / and put it in the childes eare / & when the wooll hath sucked and drawen to it the humour and fylthynesse of the eare / then take it out / and put in newe / and if that / the which commeth out of the eare be as matter / then take of soden hony and tempered with water / put of it in to the eares / or elles take the powder of galles temperynge it with bynegre / and do lyke wyse .

But

¶ But yf the chylde haue greate payne & dolor by wyndynesse / ventosyte and the humours in this place / then sethe organnye or myrthe with oyle olyfe and so beyng warme put of it in to the eares.

¶ Of Appostumation in the heade.

Yf there be any appostume engendred in the heade (whiche many tymes chaunseth) the whiche causethe the checkes and eyes to be greateye payned / and the eye sight to waxe wannyshe or tawnye / then must be applyed suche thynges whiche maye refrigerat and coole the braynes: as take of the iuyce of go-wardes and the iuyce of colatrum / and the iuyce of purcelayne / and temper them with the oyle of roses / in this dyp a pese of wooll and laye it to the head / and as ofte as it wareth drye / dippe it agayne / and lyke wyse laye it to the heade.

¶ Of the swellynge or bolnyng of the eyes.

Agaynst swellynge & bolnyng of the eyes: take licium / and temper it with womans mylke / and put of it into the chyldes eye / and bynde it to the place with fyne and softe lyn-

## THE SECONDE

nen clothe/then afterwarde wasche the eyes with water in whiche camomell and basyll haue ben soden in. Yf that in this swellynge the eyes be not redde / neyther the browes swollen / then take myrthe / aloes / safrane / & the leues of roses / and temper all these / and stype them in olde wyne: and bynde it to the chyldes eyes with some linnen clothe / & into the chyldes nose put a quantite of ambze dissolved in womans mylke.

### ¶ Of the scum or whyte of the eye.

Agaynst the scum or whyte of the eye which for the most parte happeneth to chyldre thoroowe ouer much cryeng & wepyng: take the iuyce of solatrum / and droppe of the same in to the chyldes eye / and yf by the same chance the bayne of the eyes were reddyshe / or be swollen / then annoynt them with the same iuyce .

### ¶ Agaynst immoderat heate or the feuer.

Yf the infant be in great & vehement heate contrary to nature / the whiche is called a feuer. Fyyst it shalbe the nources parte to eate and vse suche thynges the whiche coole and moysten.

moyste Also to geue vnto the infant of these  
thynges folowynge : the iuyce of pome gra-  
nate/the Water of gourdes/sugre/With a lyt-  
tell camphere myxed here With all/tempered  
well to gether. Itē it is very good to prouo-  
ke it to swetyng. ¶ Itē take of the iuyce of  
Wormewood/ of plantayne / malows/ & syn-  
grene / and temper them all to gether / in the  
Whiche also myrte barley meale / and make a  
plaster of all these/ and laye it to the chyldes  
breste. Itē take the oyle of roses & the oyle  
of poplar/ & myrte them to gether With this  
oyntment beyng colde/ annoynt the chyldes  
forehead/the temples/the armes / the hādes  
about the wystes & pulces / & the fete about  
the ancles. Itē take of barley meale and of  
dried roses & powdered/ & temper these with  
the water of roses & the water of endyue / &  
make therof a plaster / the which laye to the  
chyldes brest.

¶ Also as often as the chyld is washed/  
let it be done With water in whiche is soden  
such thynges whiche coole/as lectuse/purce-  
layne/endyue/plantane / and such other.

¶ Agaynst frettyng or knawynge in the belly.

## THE SECONDE

Yf the chylde be vexed with frettyng and knowyng in the belly / the which thyng ye shall know by the immoderat cryeng of the chylde / and that it turneth from one syde to another with greate cryenge / then shall you take warme water / oyle olyfe / and a lyttell ware / temperyng them to gether / and herein dyppe a pece of wooll / and therewith soke the chylde's belly oftentymes.

### ¶ Agaynst swellynge of the bodye.

When the chylde's bodye or any parte thereof is swollen and puffed vp / then take the toppes of elder tree / and of walworthe : and sethe them in white wyne / & therein lay the infante / specially yf it be not takē with ouer greate heate / but yf so be that with swellynge in the heade the bellye be swollen also / then take myrthe / aloes epaticus / & safrane / and beate them all to gether / and temper them with the iuyce of beanes / and laye it to the chylde's heade.

### ¶ Agaynst often sneesyng.

Sometymes the infantes be sore troubled and vexed with often starnutatiō and sneesyng

lynge / Which thynge yf it come of the appo-  
stume in the head: then shal ye minister such  
thynge to the heade whiche refrigerat and  
coole / Whether it be oyles / oyntmentes / iuy-  
ces of herbes or other thynge. Yf this come  
of anye other cause then of appostume / then  
take basilicum / be it grene or drye / and put of  
the iuyce or powder of it into the childes nose  
but yf this sneesyng come and begyn with  
heate / & that the chylde eyes seme as they  
grewe inwarde for payne of this sneesyng /  
then laye to thylde heade the leaues of pur-  
celayne / or gowarde cut in thynne peces and  
tempered with the oyle of rooses and barley  
meale / and also the yowke of an egge.

**C** Of whelkes in the body and the cure.

These whelkes yf they appeare blacke vpon  
the body / they sygnify parell of lyfe / and  
so muche the more the greater quantite that  
there is of them / but yf they seme whytyshe  
or reddyshe / it is no parell / & maye easelye be  
cured: wherfore take the leues of the red rose  
the leues of myrtylles & of tamariscus / and  
sethe these in water / and in that water wette  
a lynnē cloth / & soke therewith the whelkes.

S. i. Item

Item like wyle it is good to annoynt the same with the oyle of roses / of myrrilles / & tamariscus. Yf the Welke be Whyte or reddyshe / then let them be rype / before ye minister any thyng to them / & when they be open & begyn to matterye / then annoynte them with the oyntemente of ceruse. Item it shalbe verye good for the same purpose to wash the same Welkes with mulsuin & hydromell / in whiche salt peter hath ben styped & dyssolued.

¶ Agaynst swellng of the coddres.

Manye tymes chaunseth to chyldren (thorowe ouer much cryenge) swellng aboute the coddres / & sometymes burstennesse & swellng in the ynner parte of the thyghts. Against this yll take the sede of ameos: bete it & temper it with the yolke of an egge / & laye it to the swellng or burstennesse / and thereto bynde it with some gentell linnen clothe. Item take bytter luyynes & myre / and stype them in wyne / and sethe them together makynge hereof a plaister / the whiche laye to the greued parte.

¶ Item take of alome. xiiij. dramis / of galles. xi. dramis : beate them / and sethe them together



gether in redde wyne/tyl it be thicke/of this  
 laye on the greued place/holdyng also vpon  
 it a sponge dypped in water / myrt With vy-  
 negre/ofte tymes renuyng the same When  
 it is wasted. Also you maye take the afore-  
 sayde decoction/puttyng vnto it a quantite  
 of sylfe/and sethyng them to gether/& make  
 a plaster of it/ & spredde it on a linnen cloth/  
 and so bynde it to the place/and often tymes  
 to renue it.

**¶** Agaynste swellynge of the nauell.

Also sometymes the chyldes nauell swell-  
 leth / & specially streyte after the byrth When  
 it is cutte/for this take spyke celytke/whiche  
 some call mary maudelyne flowre/the whi-  
 che women vse to put in lye / & sethe it in the  
 oyle of sesamū myxed with turpentyne/then  
 in this dyp wooll / & laye it on the place the  
 thychkenesse of a synger.

**¶** But yf so be that this swellynge come of  
 ouer muche cryenge/cough/or of a strooke or  
 fall/then take luyynes & the pouder of fayre  
 olde linnen clothe burnt to pouder/and tem-  
 per these with red wyne / & then in this dyp  
 a pese of towe/and laye it to the nauell.

S.ij. Agaynst

## ¶ Agaynst vnſleppneſſe.

Agaynſte vnſleppneſſe / that is / When the chylde is deſtitute and wanteth his due and naturall reſte / all the whyle cryeng and we-  
 pinge / for this take the ſtaikes of poppe / and  
 the ſede with all / and temper it with the oyle  
 of lectuſe and the oyle of poppe / all theſe be-  
 ynge myxt to gether / bynde them with ſome  
 linnen clothe to the forehead & temples of  
 the chylde.

¶ But yf this vnſleppneſſe come of the im-  
 purite and ylnesse of the nurſes mylke (as  
 many tymes it doth) then take of the oyle of  
 violettes / and put vnto it a lyttell quantite  
 of bynegre / and of this lycoure drop often ty-  
 mes in to the chyldeſ noſethrylles / or elles  
 take the oyle of rooſes / and temper it with  
 the wyce of letuce / and therewith annoynte  
 the heade and ſtomacke of the chylde / & far-  
 ther ſe that the nurſes mylke be amended.

¶ Item take the ſyrupe of whyte poppe / &  
 geue of it to the chylde to drynke / annoynting  
 the foreheade and temples with the oyle of  
 violettes / in whiche is put a lyttell quantite  
 of ſafrane and of oppium.

## ¶ Agaynſte verpynge.

Agaynſt

Agayn st verynge: take a natte of ynde/ and  
beate it/ temperynge it with sugre/ and geue  
it to the chyld to eate: this verynge cometh  
other of ouer muche meate / or for lacke of  
meate and emptynesse of the stomacke.

¶ As often as it commeth by the aboun-  
dance of meate & coldenesse of the stomacke/  
then annoynte the stomacke with the oyle  
of bays warmed / other els laye to the sto-  
macke a plaster made of the seede of dyll bea-  
ten and tempered with the iuyce of myntes.

¶ But yf it come by defecte and lacke of  
meate and emptynesse of the stomacke / take  
the oyle of violettes / or of rooses / or the iuyce  
of endyue / or of anye other suche herbes / the  
which haue power to infrigidat & coole / and  
temper the same with womans mylke / and  
annoynte therewith the chyldes stomacke.  
Also geue the chyld to feade vpon mylke &  
other good and holsome thynges to suppe  
neyther passe not greatly / though the chyld  
reiecte and vomyte by agayne that the whi-  
che it receaueth / for soo muche euer wyll re-  
mayne in the stomacke that shalbe sufficient  
to sustayne it and to moysten it.

¶ Of yerkenesse or appetyte to vomyte  
Agaynst

THE SECONDE

Agaynst ouer muche appetyte to vomyte/  
 bete. iij. graynes of cloues/ and geue it to the  
 chyld. Item take of mastycke/ whyte fran-  
 kensence/ and the leues of the redde roose/ so  
 muche as shalbe sufficient/ and all these bea-  
 ten to gether/ temper them with the iuyce of  
 myntes / and make a plaster of it layenge it  
 to the chyldes stomacke : but yf the chyldes  
 vomitynge be very vehement / then put vn-  
 to these foresayd thynge a quantite of byne-  
 gre.

¶ Item take fyne meale/ and bake it so hote/  
 tyll it waxe browne / then beate it to pouder  
 agayne/ puttynge it in to bynegre / & to these  
 adde the yowlike of an egge harde rosted /  
 mastycke/ frankensence/ & gumme arabycke/  
 and temper all these with the iuyce of myn-  
 tes/ makynge of it a plaster the which lay to  
 the chylde's stomacke/ & to the chylde's mouth  
 holde a warme toste of breade.

¶ Causes of this yll be. iij. the fyrste/ yf the  
 childe haue taken more mylke then it is able  
 to concocte & digeste: the seconde/ yf the nour-  
 ses mylke be ouer thynne/ waterysh/ and flu-  
 yde: the thyrde/ yf the same mylke be impure  
 fecu-

feculent and corrupte : these causes pronoke  
 boomyte / and specialllye yf the chylde alsoo  
 haue a weake and waterys the stomacke /  
 wherfore ye must helpe the infante after this  
 maner: fyrste lette the chylde sucke lesse then  
 it dyd before / and then alsoo marke that the  
 whiche the chylde dothe perbrake / whether  
 it sauer sharpeye lyke byntgre / and that it  
 be whytys the : for yf it be soo / then take of  
 whyte frankensence. viij. graynes / of dzyed  
 rue. xx. graynes : beate these to pouder / and  
 geue it to the chylde to dzyinke / with the sy-  
 rupe of redde rooses.

¶ Or elles lette the nurse chawe comyn /  
 and so put it into the chyldes mouth / geue  
 alsoo of the syrups of pome granates / with  
 the pouder of dzye myntes to the chylde.

¶ Item take of riloaloes one draim / of gal-  
 les. x. graynes : beate all those to pouder / tem-  
 per it with the syrups of rooses / puttynge to  
 it a lyttell of nutmegges / and geue of this  
 to the chylde to dzyinke euer before it sucke /  
 alsoo to the stomacke of the chylde laye this  
 plaster.

Take

**T**ake mastiicke / accatia / riloaloes / galles / whyte frankencense / toasted breade / of eche lyke much / beate them to gether puttyng to of redde rooses and temperyng it with the syrupe of rooses / and so laye it to the chyldes stomacke .

**B**ut yf it so be that the perbrakyng of the chyldes sauer not after the fashyon of vynegre / but after some other so wxe sauour / & that it be not whytyshe / but pale & grayeshe then geue it the iuyce of quynces / and laye this plaster vnto the chyldes stomacke : take barley meale / wylde mulberyes / and psida / beate all these to gether / and temper it with roose water / and laye it to the chyldes stomacke .

**A**nd farthermore yf the chyldes stomacke be some what wateryshe and slowe in digestion / then annoynte it with the water of roses / in the which muske hath ben dyssolued / or elles the water of myrtylles : and geue it to drynke the iuyce of quynces with a lyttell cloues and sugre / or with a scruple of nutmegges / there with tempered and myxed .

**A**gaynst fearefull and terrible dreames.

Also

Also sometyne the chyldren be vexed and vnquyeted with fearefull and terrible dreames in theyr slepe / which thinge for the most parte commeth of the aboundaunce of fode and ouer muche meate or drynke / and thus may it be reinedyed: Fyyste take hede that ye laye not the chyldre to sleape streyte after it hath fedde / and also let it lycke a lyttell hony swaloyng it downe / so that by it such thynges the which be some what harde to digest and concocte / maye the soner be digested / and the refuse the more easlye to descende in to the guttes.

¶ Item euery daye geue to the infant halfe a dram of the electuarie / called diamuscum / or diapliris. Also tryacle in this case is very good taken with mylke / as sayth Rasis.

¶ Agaynst the mother.

Sometymes chyldre haue a deseace / which is called the mother / and is in maner a spyce of the fallynge syckenesse / and soze troubleth the chyldre whilst they sucke: sygnes of this deseace / are those: often cryenge / startelynge in the sleape / vnslapynes / vehement heate / and stynckyng of the brythe / and this passiō

L. i.

com-

commeth many tymes by vnperfet digestiō/  
 When the chylde hath receaued more mylke  
 then it can well away with all/therfore whē  
 ye wyll remedye this/fyrste lette the nurses  
 mylke be amended and rectified / that it be  
 the better to digeste/ then also geue to the in-  
 fant euery daye halfe a scruple of diamuscū/  
 or diapliris/for the same also is tryacle with  
 mylke very souerayne.

**C** Of thozte bzythe, hoysenesse, or whystelynge  
 in the throte.

We spake here befoze of thozte bzythynge/  
 and howe it sholde be cured/but sometymes  
 it encreaseyth / & waxeth more & more in such  
 wyse / that the chylde in his sleape can scarce  
 and with greate payne bzythe/whiche also it  
 doth with muche noyse and whystelynge in  
 the throte/for this:take lynesede well beaten  
 temper it with clarified hony/& let the chylde  
 nowe and then lycke of it / but yf the chylde  
 haue but meane heate with it : then take cū-  
 myne beaten and tempered with clarified  
 hony/and let the infant lycke of it.

**C** Agaynst yssuyng forth of the foundament gut.



For the yffuyngge forth of this gutte / when the childe laboreth to ease it selfe: take psida / myrtyl / acorne cuppes / red roses dꝛyed / burnt hartes hornes / burnt alome / gotes howfe / ba laustia / and gawles / of eche lyke muche / and sethe all these to gether with water so longe tyll the water haue receaued the strength of the ingredience / and with this water beyng warme / washe the chylde.

¶ Agaynst tenasmus.

Tenasmus is a desease when the chylde enforseth it selfe to stoole / and yet can do nothyng / the which thinge oftentimes chaunseth to chyl dren moſte com menly procedyng of colde agaynst the which ye shall vse these remedies: take garden cresses / and cummy nede of eche lyke muche: beate them to gether and temper them with olde butter / and geue it to dꝛynke to the chylde with colde water.

¶ Item take turpentyne and laye of it vpon cooles / whose fume let the chylde receaue bene the in the fundamente / the fume beyng enclosed round about with clothes. Itē take tarre / and lyke wyse make fume of it receauyng the fume as before.

L.ij. Agaynst

THE SECONDE

¶ Agaynste wormes in  
the bellye.

Sometymes there breade Wormes in the guttes of the byggenes and quantite of such as are wonte to be in olde cheese / and sometime in the bellye be engendred Wormes of the byggenes of earth Wormes / called easis: agaynst these vse this remedye: take the water of centuinodia / & geue it to the chylde to drynke with mylke.

¶ Item take of whyte corall / the scrappyng of yuerye / of hartes horne burnt / & of yreos / of eche a scruple / of sugre candy two ounces and an halfe / of the water of centuinodia / so muche as shall be sufficiente to temper all these thinges before / and of this make suppositaryes / ministrynge to the chylde every daye the weyght of two draims.

¶ Otherwyle accordyng to Rasis mynde: take of cummyne seede as much as shall be sufficient / & temper it with ore gawle / makinge thereof a plaster / the whiche ye shall laye to the infantes nauell.

¶ Item oyle olyfe taken / is verye good to kyll all maner of wormes. Item agaynst the small wormes which brede in the gutte nere  
to the

to the fundament: take of the fynest cotten/  
and there of make suppositaryes the whiche  
ye shal annoynt with the oyle of woowood  
oz of rue / oz of the kernelles of peches / oz the  
oyle of bytter almondes / and so to conuey it  
in to the chyldes syttyng place.

¶ Item it shall greatly profet the chyld /  
yf it be washed in the water / in which is so-  
den woowood and the leues of peches.

¶ Item an oyntment for the same / take of  
woowood and of luyynes / of eche. ij. draims  
of siler montanum / cuminy / cockle / centory /  
and centonicum / and of hartes horne burnt  
of eche. iij. draims : all these thynges beaten  
to gether / temper them in the oyle of woowood  
oz of bytter almons the wayght of. ij.  
ounces : puttyng to it. iij. draims weyght of  
waxe : and make here of an oyntemente and  
annoynt the chyldes bellye and bodye there  
with by the fyre oz in some warme place.

¶ Item take of cockle. ij. draims : of woowood  
wood & mastycke of eche one draim : of aloes /  
redde corall of eche. ij. draims : of coryandre  
preparat. vi. draim : beate all these well to ge-  
ther : adde also to these of rie meale. iij. oun-  
ces : of luyynes beaten to powder. vi. draims :

L. iij. of

of safrane. ij. draiñs / temper all these in two ounces of the iuyce of rue / or of the oyle of rue / and. iij. ounces of the iuyce of worne-wood / or of the oyle of the same / and make hereof a plaster / and laye it vnto the chyldes nauell the bredthe of a hande.

¶ Item agaynst the greate and longe wormes: take of the iuyce of woowood / & of ore galle / of bothe. ij. ounces / of colocynthis. viij draiñs / temper all these well to gether ad- dyngge to it a lyttell wheten meale / and make hereof a plaster / the which laye to the nauell of the chylde. Item a bathe for the same / take woowood and gaulles / and sethe them in water / lette the chylde be bathed vp to the nauell.

¶ Of chawfynge or gallyng in any place of the body.

Agaynste gawllynge or chawfynge of the chyldes skynne / by reason of the accrimonye and sharpenesse of bryne & swette: take myrtum / and beate it to pouder / and strew of it on the place. Item take of Fryos / of the red rose / of cyperum / or tragachantum / so much as shalbe though sufficient / and beate them all / or parte of them / and strew of the pou-  
der

der on the chafed place. Itē take of the oyle of roses one ounce / of whyte frankensence. i. dram / and melt these to gether / and thē take viij. graynes of camphere dissolved in roose Water and myxt there with all / & of all this make an oyntment / and annoynt the chafed place there with all. Also vnguentum albu and vnguentum rubeum be good for this purpose.

### ¶ Of the fallynge syckenesse.

Sometymes these infantes be bered & encōbred with the fallynge syckenesse / and that two maner of ways: one is that it hath this dyscease streyt forth with the byrthe / cause of the whiche is colde and yll humours in the head and braynes / another is: that it taketh this infirmite after the byrth by some accidē tall causes / in whiche case yf it leue not the chylde beyng a man chylde befoze he be. xxv. yeare of aege / and the woman chylde aboute the tyme of hauynge her fyrste flowres / yf it forsake them not in this space / neyther by the myghte of nature / neyther of medycynes / then is it lyke neuer to departe frome them.

Agayne

**A**gayne yf this dysease come not by nature but by some accidētall cause afterward/ then geue diligente hede / that the nurses mylke be very good / and conueniente to the chyldes nature. And for the same purpose yf necessite requyre it / shalbe very good to purge and clense the nurses head with due and mete medycynes / and she muste auoyde all suche thynges the whiche do infrigidat / and to suffer the childe to receaue no more mylke at once then it maye be able well to digeste.

**F**arthermore powre nowe and then into the chyldes nosetrelles of the oyle of castorium / or the oyle of costum / or of enforbium: also let the childe smell to rue / and to asa fetida. Item lette hange aboute the chyldes necke the sedes of peony / gathered in the decrease of the moone. Also yf nede be / geue to the childe tryacle to drynke. Item it is good to geue vnto the childe of the renette of an hare to drynke with aqua mulsa / but all that daye the whiche the childe receaueth this / it muste abstayne from mylke and suckynge. Item to hange biscum quercinum which is gathered in marche the moone decreasinge / aboute the chyldes necke / is verye good / dyuers

uers other thinges there be Which might be here reherſed / but this ſhalbe ſuffitient.

¶ Conſumption oꝝ pꝑnyngꝛ awaye of the body.

When the infante falleth awaye / and the fleſſhe rebateth remaynyngꝛ nothyngꝛ but as it ware ſkynne and bone / and thereby the chylde Wareth ſyckely / then let the infant be often bathed in Water / in Which hath ben ſoden the head & the fete of a ramme / ſo longe tyll the fleſſhe parte frome the bones of his owne accorde / and euery tyme that the chylde commeth forth of the bathe / fyrſt let it be wyꝑed and dꝑꝑed cleane / & then annoynt it with this oꝑntmente : take freſſhe butter / oyle of violettes / oꝝ oyle of rooſes / of eche .ij. Draꝑms / of ſwynes grece .vi. Draꝑms / of whyte wax .iij. Draꝑms : melt all theſe thynges to gether / and make an oꝑntment of it / annoyntyngꝛ there with the chyldeſ body.

¶ Item take whyte ware / ſwenes grece / ſhepes talloꝛe / freſſhe butter / melt all theſe thinges together / & ſtrayne them / making of it an oꝑntmēt to annoynt the chylde withall.

¶ Of laſſitude, weꝑneſſe, oꝝ heꝑneſſe of the chyldeſ bodye.

¶ i.

Some

THE SECONDE

Some tymes it chaunseth that the chyldes membris of the body be so feable/as though it hath the palsye / so that with that partes of the bodye the chyld can not helpe it selfe/ neyther can it leste by the handes/ armes/ ne stande on the fete/ yf the chyld have this dyssease whylst it sucketh/ then let the nurse be comforted and strengthned with such thynges the whiche haue vertue to heate and to drye. Also let the nurse fede onely on roasted or fryed meate/ & that she forbare fro mylke/ fyssh/ and harde or salt poudered fleshe.

¶ Farthermore let not the nurse vse any watered wyne/ or myxed : & let her bathe the childe euer before that she geue it sucke/ after annoyntynge it with the oyle of castorium/ or the oyle of costum / & let the chylde drynke euerye daye a quantite of this electuarie following: Take wyld mynt/ cynamome/ cummyne/ drye roses/ masticke/ fenugreke/ valeriane/ aineum / dozonicum / zedoarium/ cloues/ saunders/ riloaloes/ of eche a draim/ of muske halfe a draim/ beate all those to powder/ & confycte them with clarified wyne / makynge thereof an electuarie / of the whyche euerye daye geue vnto the chyld the. iij. parte of a draim



draim to drynke. Yf the chylde haue this dy-  
sease in euerye parte of his bodye / then take  
an ounce of Were / and a draim of euforbium /  
temper them to gether with oyle olyfe / and  
make hereof a plaster / and laye it to the ray-  
nes of the backe.

**C** Of trymblyng of the bodye and the  
membres of the bodye.

Yf the chylde happen to be vexed with trym-  
blyng and quakyng of the bodye or the par-  
tes thereof / so that ye feare that shyncklyng  
of the parte / or that the fallynge syckenesse  
sholde ensue / then remeady it after this mea-  
nes : take the oyle of rooses / and the oyle of  
nardus / and temper them to gether / war-  
myng it / and there with annoyntyng the  
backe boke or raynes and the other shakynge  
membres / ye maye also take any other oyle  
the whiche hathe vertue to warme and cale-  
fy / as the oyle of bays / and suche other.  
Yf thou can not cure it by this meanes / then  
demaunde farther counceill of the physy-  
tyons.

**C** Of the stone.

U. g.

Yf the

THE SECONDE

Yf the chylde be emcombred with the stone  
 or with anye other thynge the whiche maye  
 lette and stoppe the vryne / the whiche maye  
 be knowen by these tokens: Fyrst yf he haue  
 the stragury / yf it be prouoked often to pyss  
 and yet can do but lyttell at once / and that  
 with greate payne and dolour / yf the vryne  
 be thynne and clere / and also (beynge a man  
 chylde) yf the prycke be euer standynge : all  
 which thynge ye shall remedye thus :

¶ Fyrst bathe the chylde in water wherin  
 is decocte malous / holyoke / lynsede / and pa-  
 ritorye / then geue it to drynke some suche  
 thynge which hath qualite to prouoke vryne  
 and also when the nurse layeth it to sleape /  
 let her annoynte the pryue partes with oyle  
 and geue the chylde to drynke the water of  
 mulberyes with mylke / or otherwysse : take  
 the bloude of a gote / and the powder of a  
 burnt scorpion / with the oyle of scorpions / or  
 the oyle of whyte lyllyes tempered plaster-  
 wysse / and laye it to the chylde's bellye aboue  
 the pryue membris.

¶ Of google eyes, or lokynge a squint.

Yf the chylde haue google eyes / or that it  
 loke

loke a squynt/then fyrst set the cradel in such  
a place / that the lyght maye come directelye  
and ryght in the chyldes face/ neyther in the  
one syde/ neyther in the other/neyther aboue  
the heade / leste it torne the syghte after the  
lyght. Also marke / on whiche syde that the  
eyes do gogle / and let the lyghte come vnto  
it on the cōtrary syde/so to retozne the syght.  
And in the nyght seASON set a candell on the  
contrarye syde/so that by this meane the go-  
glynge of the eyes maye be retozned to the  
ryghte place. And farther it shall be good to  
hange clothes of diuers and freshe coloures  
on the contrary syde / and spetially of the co-  
loure of lyght grene/or yelowe/for the chyld  
shall haue pleasure to beholde these strange  
coloures / and in retoznyng the eye syghte  
towarde suche thynges/it shall be occasion to  
rectifye the syght agayne : and this shall  
be sufficient for this tyme of the dysea-  
ses of chyldren/after they be borne  
makynge here an ende of this  
seconde boke.

A. iij.

Of such

THE THIRDE

¶ Of suche thynges the which shalbe entreated of in this thyrde boke.

¶ Cap. i.



In these two precedente boke we haue sufficientelye for this tyme declared such thinges the which are wont to happen vn to women befoze theyr labor/ in theyr labor/ & also after theyr labor/ and farther of such infirmities and deseases/ which are wont to bere the infant after it is delyuered into this world / with competent remedies for the same.

¶ And here in this thyrde boke (by the leaue of god) shall brefelye be declared suche thynges whiche maye farther or hynder the conception of man / whiche as it maye be by diuers meanes letted and hyndered/ so also by many other wayes it maye be farthered and amended. Also to knowe by certayne sygnes and tokens whether the woman be conceaued or no/ & whether the conception be male or female/ and finally certayne remedies and medycynes to farther and helpe concepciō/ & so to conclude this small tracte or treatyre.

¶ Here

**C** Of conception, & howe many wayes it maye  
be hyndered or letted. **C** Cap. ii.



Here is nothyng vnder heauen  
which so manifestly & playnlye  
doth declare & shewe the mag-  
nificēt myghtynesse of that om-  
nipotēt lyuing god / as doth the  
perpetuall and continuall generation & con-  
ception of lyuyng thynge here in earth / by  
the whiche is saued / prologed / & augmented  
the kynd of al thinges. And where that this  
almighty lord & creator hath so institute &  
ordeyned / that no syngular thynge in it selfe  
(here vpon the earth) sholde contynually re-  
mayne & abyde / yet hath he geuen from the  
begynnyng and instincted such a power and  
vertue vnto these mortall creatures / that  
they maye engender and produce other lyke  
thinges vnto them selfe / & vnto theyr owne  
similitude / in the which alway is saued the  
seede of posterite / were not this prouisiō had  
by almyghtye god / the nature & kynde of all  
maner of thinges wold sone peryshe & com to  
an ende / the which vertue & power of genera-  
tiō many times doth halt & misse / by defect &  
the cōtrary dispositiō in the partes generāt.

As ye

THE THIRDE

As ye maye evidentlye see in the sowynge of corne and all other maner of seade / so that there be in all maner of generation thre principal partes cōcurrēt to the same: the sower / the seade sownen / and the receptacle or place receauynge and contaynyng the seade. Yf there be faute in any of these thre / then shall there neuer be due generation / vnto suche tyme as the faute be remoued or amended. The earth vnto all seades is as a mother & nource contaynyng / clyppynge and embrasyng them in her wombe / seadyng and fostering them as the mother doth the chyld in her belly or matrice / vntyll suche tyme as they come vnto the growyth / quantite / & perfection due vnto theyr nature and kynd: but yf this seade cōceaued in the bowelles of the earth do not proue or fructifye / then be thou sure that either there is lette in the sower / in the seade / or elles in the earthe. The earthe maye be ouer watery / the / dankest / or ouer hote and drye / or elles full of stones / grauell / or other rubyshe / or ful of yll weedes / which maye strangle and choke the good corne in his growynge / also the seade maye be putrified / or otherwyle viciat and corrupted / and

Co

to the lyfe & sprete of it banyshed awaye and destroyed. The sower maye vnozdynatiue strew and caste the seade on the earthe. &c. So that yf there be let in none of these thre partes concurrent to generation/ or that the lettes be remoued & done away/ then doubtlesse will ensue multiplicacion and encrease-  
mēt of that kynde/ of the which the seade cometh/ accordyng to the naturall enclination the whiche almyghtye god hath enplanted and set in the kynde of all thynges.

¶ Howe many wayes conception maye be letted,  
and howe the causes maye be knowen.

¶ Cap. iiii.

**E**very thyng then the whiche doth encrease in his kynd must fyrst be receaued in the wombe & matrice of the mother/ which is apte and conueniente for the receate of such seade. And as I sayde before/ as there maye be defecte and lacke in the mother receauynge the seade/ soo maye there be faute and defecte in the sower/ & in the seade it selfe also.

¶ And in woman there maye be foure ge-  
nerall

nerall causes / by the whiche the conception may be impedyte and let: ouer much calidite or heate of the matrice / ouer much coldnesse / ouer muche humidite or moystnesse / & ouer much dryenesse. Any of these foure qualitees exceadyng temperancye / maye be sufficient causes to lette due conception.

¶ Wherfore the ryght excellent physitian Hypocrates in the .v. booke of his Amphorysmes sayth: All such Women the which haue colde and dense matrices / can not conceaue / nor such as haue moyste and watery the matrices can cōceauē / for the powre of the seade is extynguyshed in it. Also hauyng drye matrices / conceaue not / for the seade peryssheth for lacke of due nutriment and fode / but that matrice the whiche hath all these qualities in temperancye / that is fruytfull / this is Hypocrates sayenge / the which thing also may be well perceaued by a famylyer example of the sowynge of corne.

¶ For yf it be sowed in ouer colde places / such as be in the partes of a countrey / called Sithia / and in certayne places of Almayne / or in such places where is contynuall snowe or froste / or where the sonne doth not shyne /  
in this



in this places the seade or grayne sowen/  
wyl never come to profe / nor fructifye / but  
throughe the vehemente coldnesse of the  
place in the whiche it is conceaued / the lyfe  
and quyknesse of the grayne is vtterlye de-  
stroyed and adnyhilat.

¶ And farther as concernyng ouer muche  
humidite: Yf ye sowe your grayne in a fen or  
marysse and watery grounde / the seade wyl  
peryshe throughe the ouer much aboundāce  
of water whiche extynguysheth the lyuely-  
nesse and the naturall power of the grayne  
and seade .

¶ Lyke wyse yf it be sowen in such a coun-  
trye or place where is ouer greate heate / not  
sepered with water & rayne / or yf the yere be  
so drye / that there can no rayne at al to alay  
the extreme & faruēt heate of the sonne / then  
shall the seade sowen whyther & drye away /  
and the power of it be consumed & burnt.

¶ Also yf it be sowen in drye places / where  
never commeth rayne / or on the sande / and  
grauelye places / in suche a place the grayne  
can neuer take / ne proue / ne be conceaued in  
it to come to any fruyte or profet .

¶ Wherefoze yf the matrice be distempe-  
red

red by the excesse of any of these foure qualities / then must ye reduce it agayne to temperancie by suche remedies / as I shall shewe you hereafter. Lykewyse maye there be defecte and lacke in the man / as yf the seade be ouer hote / the which the woman shall feale / as it were burning hote / or to cold the which he shall feale / as it were in maner colde as yse / or to fluye or thynne. &c. Dyuers other other wayes also it maye be letted / whyche shall not nede here to be reherced.

¶ Nowe yf the woman can not conceaue / the cause comynge of ouer muche frigidite and coldenesse in the matrice / that shall she knowe by these tokens: she shall feale greate cold about the sydes / the raynes of the backe and the matrice / her byrne shall appeare whyte and thynnysh / and sometymes also somewhat spysse and thicke / and all maner of colde thynges shall noye her / hote thynges shall greatly comfort her.

¶ But yf it come by ouer muche humidite of the matrice / that shall she knowe by these sygnes: Yf the bodye of her be of a fatte and grosse disposition / yf with her flowres yssue forth at the begynnyng and the latterende of them

of them certayne vylscous and waterye substance/and that her vrine be whyte/thycke/and sometyme as it were mylke. Alsoo that she feale greate colde and payne aboute the matrice & pryue partes / & muche dolour in her sydes and in the raynes of her backe.

¶ And when ouer much heate or dryeth in the matrice / is cause of the hynderaunce of conception/then is the vrine hye colored/red or yelowe/beynge thynne With certayne mo-tes appearng in the water/the womā hath greate thyrste/and bytter ryllynge or belking oute of the stomacke in to the mouthe. And manye tymes they that are in this case / are verry spare and leane in all theyr bodye / ha-uyng also but small quantite of flowres/the whiche thynge maye happen other by ouer muche watche/or ouer much fastynge/labor/trauell/sorowe/sykenesse. &c. But suche wo-men which naturally are thus spare & lene/maye verry hardely be brought to a tempe-rance agayne & be made apte to conceaue. And this shalbe sufficiente for this tyme to knowe whiche qualite by his excesse causeth sterilitie/nowe wyll we shewe howe it shalbe knownen whether lacke of conception be in

THE THIRDE

the woman or elles in the man/and howe to knowe whether the woman be conceaued or no/accoordynge to the mynde of ryght expert doctors of physycke.

**C**Howe to knowe whether lacke of conception be of the woman or of the man, and howe it maye be perceaued whether she be conceaued or no.

**C**Cap. iiii.



If ye be desyrous to know whether the man or the woman be hynderance in conception: lette eche of them take of whete and barlye cornes/and of beenes of eche. viij. the which they shall suffer to be steyped in theyr seueral byrne/the space of. xxiiij. houres/then take. ij. pottes/suche as they set gylflowres in/ fyll them with good earth/ & in the one let be set the whete/ barlye / & beanes/styped in the mans water/ & in the other the whete / barlye/and beanes/ styped in the womans water / and euerye mornynge the space of eight or ten dayes/ lette eche of them with theyr proper byrne/water the sayd seedes sowne in the forenamed pottes/ & marke whose

whose potte dothe proue / & the seades therein  
contained dothe growe / in that partie is not  
the lacke of conception / but see that there  
come no other water or rayne on the pot-  
tes .

¶ Item accordynge to Hypocrates wytyng  
yf ye wyl knowe whether the faute be in the  
woman or no / then lette the woman receaue  
in to her body vndernethe / beyng well and  
closely closed round about the fume of some  
odoriferous perfume / as laudanum / storax /  
calamyte / lignum aloes / muske / ambre / and  
suche other / and yf the odour and sauour of  
suche thynges assende thoroowe her body vp  
vnto her nose / ye shall vnderstande / that  
sterilite commeth not of the womans parte /  
yf not : then is the defecte in her.

¶ Item yf she take garlycke beyng pyllid  
out of the huskes / and conueye of it into the  
pyuie partes / and yf the sente of it assende  
vp through the bodye vnto the nose / the wo-  
man is fautelesse / yf not : then is there lacke  
in her. These are sygnes to knowe whether  
the lacke be in the man or the woman.

¶ Whether she be conceaned alreadye or  
no / ye shall knowe by these sygnes : fyrste  
the

THE THIRDE

the flowres yssue not in so great quantite as they are wont/ but were lesse and lesse / and in maner nothinge at all commeth from them. Also the brestes begyn to waxe rounder/ harder / and styffar then they were wonte to be/ the woman shall longe after certayne thynges otherwyse the she was vsed to do before that tyme. Also her byne waxeth spysse and thyrkysshe/ by retention of the superfluyties. Also the woman fealethe her matrice verye faste ipe enclosed and shytted/ in so muche that as hypocrates saythe / the poynte of a nedle maye scace enter.

¶ Item to knowe whether she be conceaued or no/ accordyng to hypocrates mynde/ in the. v. of his Ampho. geue vnto the woman when she is goyng to bedde a quantite of mellicratum to drynke / and yf after that drynke she feale greate payne/ gnawing/ and tumblyng in her belly/ then be ye sure / that she is conceaued: yf not / she is not conceaued/ this mellicratum is a drynke made of one parte wyne / an other parte water soden together/ with a quantite of hony.

¶ But if ye be desyrous to knowe whether the conception be man or woman: then lette  
a droppe

a droppe of her mylke or twayne be mylked on a smothe glasse / or a bryght knyfe / other elles on the nayle of one of her fyngers / and yf the mylke flewe and spredde abrode vpon it / by and by then is it a woman chylde : but yf the droppe of mylke contynue and stande styll vppon that / the whiche it is mylked on / then is it sygne of a man chylde. Item yf it be a male / then shall the woman with childe be well coloured / and lyghte in goynge / her belly rounde / bygger towarde the right syde then the lefte / for alwayes the man chylde lyeth in the ryghte syde / the woman in the lefte syde.

**C** Of certayne remedies and medycynes which shall cause the woman to conceaue.

**C** Cap. v.



**A**l sterilitie then for the mooste parte ensueth and commeth of the dystemperancye of one of these. iiii. forenamed qualities / wherfore the remedye and cure of the same when it chaunseth / must be done by such thynges / the whiche haue contrarpe power & operation to the excessyue qualities

**P. i.** for

THE THIRDE

¶ Item a suppolytary made of hares dunge and hony tempered to gether / is verye excellent for the same purpose / but let the womā abstayne from all maner of salte and sharpe meates / and vse to drynke good odouiferous and pleasaunt Wynes alayd with Water.

¶ Also to drynke of the wyne in whiche is dissolued muske / or elles viscus quercinus / is good to helpe to conception / also the herte bone of an herte / and the scrapynge of yuery is verye good for the same.

¶ Item a suppolytary for the same / which hath ben many tymes well proued for that purpose : Take garlycke pyllid and clenfed from the huskes / and sethe it in the oyle of rooses / or elles the oyle of maioran vnto the tyme that it be dyssolued / and that all the moystenes be departed from it / then take it out of the oyle agayne / and stampe it / & then wrappe it in wooll / and conuaye it suppolytary wyle in to the pryue partes / and there keape it the space of a daye : this thynge is maruelous good for conception / and hath ben well proued.

¶ Dyuers other lettes of conception and remedies for the same myght here haue ben  
 decla.



the laste quartar of the moone is almoste fynished: let her bathe herself in a bathe / wher in is decocte & soden caprifolium / malowes / frenche malowes / holyoke / rooses / iunyper beryes / parytarpe / wyde myntes / bay leues / myrtylles / sauyne / camomell / pynpernell / myntes / maioram / cytron leues / basyll / penyryall / and suche other. But before that she bathe her in this water / it shalbe best for her to be purged and censed from the colde humours With theodoricon / or with benedictar / or with the pylls which be called sinequibz esse nolo / to be had at the apothecaryes / and then let her enter in to this foresayde bathe / and when she commeth forth of the bathe agayne / then let her take of diamargariton / or of muscata / to the quãtite of a nutte / Dyrnkynge it with good and odoriferous or well smellynge wyne / other elles let her take of this electuarpe folowynge / whiche is verye excellent for that purpose .

Take of spyke / nuttemegges / cloues / zedoarium / galyngale / longe peper / dye roses / storax / alypta muscata / of eche of these lyke muche / then take of the roote of tormentyll as muche as of all the other forenamed thinges

V. ij. ges

THE THIRDE

ges to gether / and beate all these to powder /  
 temperynge them With a sufficiente quātite  
 of clarifyed honye / to the whiche also adde a  
 lyttell of pure muske. Of this electuarium  
 bothe euenynge and mornynge the space of  
 ten dayes let the woman take to the moun-  
 tenaunce of a nutte With good odoriferous  
 Wyne bathynge her selfe also euery daye the  
 space of the sayde ten dayes: at her comynge  
 forth of the bathe / receauynge of the foresaid  
 electuarie / then also let her perfume her pry-  
 uities with the sauoure and fume of lauda-  
 num / frankencense / riloaloes / storax / ambze /  
 alypta / rilobalsamum / and suche other thin-  
 ges. And after this let her make a supposy-  
 tarie annoynted with magna trifera / or es-  
 dra / With the powder of olibanum / and the  
 oyle of bays myrte and tempered to gether /  
 and let her retayne this supposytarie in her  
 pryuities all the day tyme the foresayd space  
 of ten dayes / and then at the ten dayes ende  
 (the man and woman accompanyng toge-  
 ther) god wyllynge / she shalbe conceaued / &  
 these be the remedies yf the defecte & lacke  
 of conception come by reason of coldnesse  
 and moystnesse.

But

**C** But yf it come by distemperaunce of the matrice in hote and drye / fyrste lette the humour which is cause of it / be purged by conueniente medycynes / & then euery nyght the space of ten dayes let her bathe herselfe in warme water / nothing elles beyng put vnto it / & in this batthe let her remayne not long / and at her cōminge forth geue her to drynke of trifera magna / With watered wyne / and after this receaue she the vapoure & fume of the decoction of these herbes vnderneath into her pryncy partes: take violettes / beerefote / parytarye / and penyryall / sethe them in water: and then conuaye in to the same place a supposytary of trifera magna With the powder of olibanum.

**C** Item a suppositarye whiche is wonderfull good in expellynge and dowyng awaye suche thynges whiche let conception: take of siler montanum beaten to powder. ij. draams / of the renatte of an hare the. iij. parte of a dram / and temper these to gether with clarified honye and the oyle of bayes / & annoynt here with a supposytarye / the whiche let the woman retayne in her secretes the space of a daye and a nyght.

V. iij.      Item

for by that shall it be reduced to his temperance agayne.

¶ As yf that coldenesse and moystenesse exceeding temperance in the matrice be occasion of sterilitie/then muste she applie such thynges to that place / the whiche be of nature hote & drye/ the whiche maye calify and warme the place / and alsoo drye by the yll moystenes and humoures contayned in the same / hynderynge conception.

¶ Wherefore take of sawyne / baytreleues / the flowres of camomell / melylote / maiorā / caprifolium / herba paralytis / cytron leues / and such other thynges of aromatyccall and hote nature : and sethe these in water together / and let the woman receaue the vapour and fume hereof vndernethe in to her bodye through some cōduite or pype made for that purpose: her clothes beyng close about her / that none of the vapour or ayre yssue oute / & ouer this let her lye all a nyght / yf she may / receauyng euer the fume hereof in to her bodye / and in the mornynge let her accompany with her husbände / and she shall conceaue.

¶ A bathe also for the same purpose: When the tyme of her flowres aboute the ende of  
the

declared / Whiche for breuite and shortenesse  
we for this tyme do let passe / makynge here  
an ende of this treatyse / the whiche we  
haue composed and translated  
oute of Laten / to the ho-  
nour of God / the vti-  
lie and profette of  
all honeste ma-  
trones.

Deo gratias.

Printed at London  
by. T. R.

Anno Domini. M. CCCC. XL.



