The Tudor Facsimile Texts

The Nature of the Four Elements

Date of Composition and Printing, *c.* 1510–20

Reproduced in Facsimile, 1908

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

The Nature of the Four Elements

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MCMVIII

The Nature of the Four Elements

The only known copy of the original of this facsimile came to the British Museum from the Garrick Collection. It is now numbered "643 b. 45, impf." Eight leaves are missing in the middle (Sig. D*), and the conclusion is also lost. These* lacunæ *are indicated by inserted slips in the present edition.*

The date of composition and printing may range between 1510 *and* 1520, *but nothing is known nor can inferences be drawn with any degree of certainty. The author is unknown.*

Mr. Herbert of the Manuscripts Department, British Museum, after comparing this reproduction with the original, says, "The whole collotype is extremely exact in its correspondence with the book, except for a very slightly greater thickness and blurriness throughout." This tendency to over-heaviness in printing, to a certain extent inseparable from collotype work, I hope to reduce to a minimum by using a slightly harder paper for future issues.

JOHN S. FARMER.

¶ A new iuterlude and a mery of the nature of the.iiij. elementſ declarynge many pro per poyntſ of phylosophy naturall/and of dyuers straunge landys/and of dyuers straunge effectſ & cauſis/whiche interlude yf ꝯ hole matter be playd wyl conteyne the ſpace of an hour and a halfe/ but yf ye lyſt ye may leue out muche of the ſad mater as the meſſengers pte/and ſome of naturys parte and ſome of experyens pte & yet the matter wyl de pend conuenyently / and than it wyll not be paſte thre quarters of an hour of length.

¶ Here folow the namys of the pleyers.

¶ The meſſengere/Nature naturate/Humanyte Studyous deſire/Senſuall appetyte/The tauer ner / Experyence / yngnorauncе/Alſo yf ye lyſt ye may bryngе in a dyſgyſynge.

¶ Here folow dyuers matters whiche be in this interlude conteynyd.

¶ Of the ſytuacyon of the.iiij.elementſ that is to ſey the yerth the water the ayre and fyre/& of theyr qualyteſe and propereſe/and of the generacyon & corrupcyō of thyngſ made of ꝯ cōmyxion of them

¶ Of certeyn conclusions puynge ꝑ the yerth must nedes be roūde & ꝑ it hengyth in ꝑ mydds of the firmamēt / & ꝑ it is in circūferēce a boue. xij. M. myle

¶ Of certeyn conclusions puynge that the see lyeth rounde vppon the yerth.

¶ Of certeyne poynts of cosmography / as how & where ꝑ see coueryth ꝑ yerth / & of dyuers straūge regyons & landys and whiche wey they lye / and of the new founde landys and ꝑ maner of ꝑ people.

¶ Of the generacyon and cause of stone & metall and of plantis and herbys.

¶ Of the generacyon and cause of well springs & ryuers / and of the cause of hote fumys that come out of the of ꝑ yerth / and of ꝑ cause of the bathys of water in the yerth whiche be ypetually hote.

¶ Of the cause of the ebbe and flode of the see

¶ Of the cause of rayne snowe and hayle

¶ Of the cause of the wyndys and thonder

¶ Of the cause of the lyghtnynge of blasyng sterrys and flamys fleynge in the ayre

THabōudant grace of the power deuyne
Whiche doth illumyne ỳ wozld inuyzon
Preserue this audyēce and cause them to inclyne
To charyte this is my petycyon
Foz by your pacyens and suppoztacyon
A lytyll interlude late made and preparyd
Befoze your presence here shall be declaryd
¶ whiche of a few conclusyons is contriuyd
And poynts of phylosophy naturall
But though the matter be not so well declaryd
As a great clerke coude do noz so substancyall
yet the auctour hereof requiryth you all
Though he be yngnozant and can lytyll skyll
To regarde his only intent and good wyll
¶ whiche in his myndé hath oft tymes ponderyd
what nombze of boks in our tonge maternall
Of toyes and tryfellys be made and imprynty
And few of them of matter substancyall
Foz though many make boks yet vnneth ye shall
In our englyshe tonge fyndé any warks
Of connynge that is regardyd by clerks
¶ The greks the romays with many other mo
In their moder tonge wroz warks excellent
Than yf clerks in this realme wolde take payn so

Conſyderyng that our tonge is now ſuffycyent
To expoun any hard ſentence euydent
They myght yf they wolde in our englyſhe tonge
Wryte workys of graunte ſomtyme amonge
¶ For dyuers prengnaunt wyttes be in this lande
As well of noble men as of meane eſtate
Whiche nothynge but englyſhe can vnderſtande
Than yf commynge laten bokys were tranſlate
Into englyſhe/wel correct and approbate
All ſubtell ſciens in englyſhe myght be lernyd
As well as other people in their owne tonges dyd
¶ But now ſo it is that in our englyſhe tonge
Many one there is that can but rede & wryte
For his pleaſure wyll oft preſume amonge
New bokys to compyle and balates to indyte
Some of loue or other matter not worth a myte
Some to opteyn fauour wyll flatter and gloſe
Some wryte curyous termes nothyng to purpoſe
¶ Thus euery man after his fanteſye
Wyll wryte his conſeyte be it neuer ſo rude
Be it vertuous vycyous wyſedome or foly
Wherfore to my purpoſe thus I conclude
Why ſhold not than the auctour of this interlude
Utter his owne fanteſy and conſeyte alſo
As well as dyuers other now a dayes do
¶ For wyſedome and foly is as it is takyn

For ý one callyth wysedome a nother callyth foly
yet amonge moste folke that man is holdyn
moste wyse/whiche to be ryche studyeth only
But he that for a cõmyn welth bysyly
Studyeth and laboryth and lyuyth by godde law
Except he war ryche men count hym but a daw
¶ So he that is ryche is euer honouryd
All though he haue got it neuer so fallsely
The pore beynge neuer so wyse is reprouyd
This is the oppynyon moste cõmynly
Thorowe out the worlde/and yet no reason why
Therfore in my mynde whan that all suche dawis
Haue babelyd what they cã no force of .ii. strawis
¶ For euery man in reason thus ought to do
To labour for his owne necessary lyuynge
And than for the welth of his neyghbour also
But what dyuylish mynde haue they which musig
And labourynge all their lyfe do no nother thyng
But bryge ryches to their owne possessyon
Nothyng regardige their neyghbours distruccis
¶ Yet all the ryches in the worlde that is
Rysyth of the grounde by goddys sendynge
And by the labour of pore mennys handys
And though thou ryche mã haue therof ý kepynge
yet is not this ryches of thy gettynge
Nor oughtyst not in reason to be preysyd ý more

For by other mēnys labour it is got before
¶ A great wytted man may sone be enrychyd
That laboryth and studyeth for ryches only
But how shall his cōscyens than be discharged
For all clerks affirme that that man presysely
Whiche studyeth for his owne welth pryncypally
Of god shall deserue but lytyll rewarde
Except he the cōmyn welth somwhat regarde
¶ So they sey that that man occuppyed is
For a cōmyn welth whiche is euer laboryngc
To relcue pore people with temporall goodys
And that it is a cōmyn good act to bryngc
People from vyce and to vse good lyuyngc
Lyke wyse for a cōmyn welth occuppyed is he
That bryngyth them to knowlege ꝑ yngnorāt be
¶ But man to knowe god is a dyffyculte
Except by a meane he hym selfe inure
Whiche is to knowe godds creaturys that be
As furst them that be of the grosyst nature
And than to know them that be more pure
And so by lytyll and lytyll ascendyngc
To know godds creaturys & meruclous werkige
¶ And this wyse man at the last shall come to
The knowlege of god and his hyc magestc
And so to lerne to do his dewte and also
To deserue of his goodnes partener to be
Wherfore in this work declaryd shall ye see

Furst of the elementis the sytuacyon
And of their effectis the cause and generacyon
¶ And though some mē thynke this matter to hye
And not mete for an audyence vnlernyd
Ye thynke for man nothynge more necessary
Than this to know though it be not vsyd
For a matter more lowe can not be arguyd
For though the elementis goddys creaturis be
yet they be most grose and lowyst in degre
¶ Howdare men presume to be callyd clerkes
Dysputynge of hye creaturis celestyall
As thyngys inuysyble and goddes hye warkys
And know not these vysyble thyngys inferyall
So they wolde know hye thynges & know nothige
Of the yerth here wheron they dayly be (at all
Nother the nature forme nor quantyte
¶ wherfore it semyth nothynge conuenyent
A man to study and his tyme to be stowe
Furst for the knowlege of hye thynges excellent
And of lyght matters beneth nothynge to know
As of these.iiij.elementis here below
whose effectis dayly appere here at eye
Such thiges to know furst / were most mete study
¶ whiche matter before your presence shortly
In this interlude here shall be declaryd
without great eloquence i ryme rudely
Because the compyler is but small lernyd

This worke with rethoryk is not adournyd
For perhappis in this matter muche eloquence
Sholde make it tedyous or hurt the sentence
But because some folke be lytyll disposyd
To sadnes/but more to myrth and sport
This phylosophycall work is myxyd
With mery conseytis to gyue men cõfort
And occasyon to cause them to resort
To here this matter/wherto yf they take hede
Some lernynge to them therof may prede
But they that shall nowe this matter declare
Openly here vnto this audyence
Beholde I prey you see where they are
The pleyers begyn to appere in presence
I se well it is tyme for me to go hens
And so I wyll do/therfore now shortly
To god I cõmyt all this hole company

Hic intrat natura naturata Humanyte & Studyous desire portãs figurã

Natura Naturata

The hye myghty most excellent of all
The fountayn of goodnes verteu & cõnyng
Whiche is eterne of power most potencyall
The ylecyon and furst cause of euery thynge
I meane that only hye nauture naturynge

Lo he by his goodnes hath ordeynyd and create
Ye here his mynyster callyd nature naturate
¶ Wherfore I am the verey naturate nature
The immedyate mynyster for the preseruacyon
Of euery thynge in his kynde to endure
And cause of generacyon and corrupcyon
Of that thynge that is brought to distruccyon
A nother thynge styll I bryngeforth a gayne
Thus wonderfly I worke and neuer in vayne
¶ The great world be holde lo deuydyd wōderfly
In to two regyons wherof on I call
The etheriall region with the heuyns hye
Conteynynge the planettys sterris & speris all
The lower region callyd the elementall
Conteynynge these .iiij. elementis be loo
The fyre the ayre the water and yerth also
¶ But yet the elementis and other bodyes all
Beneth / take theyr effectys and operacyons
Of the bodyes in the region ethereall
By theyr influens and constellacyons
They cause here corrupcyons and generacyons
For yf the mouyng of a boue sholde onys cease
Beneth sholde be nother increse nor decrese
¶ These elementis of them selfe so syngle be
Unto dyuers formys can not be deuydyd
yet they cōmyx to gyder dayly ye see

wherof dyuers kyndes of thynge be ingenderyd
whiche thynge eft sonys whan they be corruptyd
yche element I reduce to his furst estate
So that nothynge can be vtterly adnyhelate
¶ For though the forme and facyon of any thyng
That is a corporall body be distroyed
yet euery matter remaynyth in his beynge
wherof it was furst made and formyd
For corrupcyon of a body cõmyxyd
ys but the resolucyon by tyme and space
Of euery element to his owne place
¶ For who that wyll take any body corporall
And do what he can it to distroy
To bycke it or grynde it into pouder small
To washe to drown to bren it or to dry
yet the ayre and fyre therof naturally
To their owne ꝓper places wyll ascende
The water to the water the yerth to ꝑ yerth tende
¶ For yf hete or moysture of any thynge certayne
By fyre or be water be consumyd
yet yerth or asshes on yerth wyll remayne
So the elementts can neuer be distroyed
For essencyally ther is nowat this tyde
As muche fyre ayre water yerth as was
Euer before this tyme nether more nor las
¶ wherfore thou man now I spcke to the

Remembre that thou art compound and create
Of these elementis as other creaturis be
yet they haue not all lyke noble estate
For plantis and herbys growe and be insensate
Brute bestis haue memory and their wyttes fyue
But thou hast all those and soule intellectyue
¶ So by reason of thyne vnderstandynge
Thou hast domynyon of other bestis all
And naturally thou sholdyst desire cōynge
To knowe straunge effectes and causys naturall
For he that studyeth for the lyfe bestyall
Is voluptuous pleasure and bodely rest
I account hym neuer better than a best

¶ Humanyte.

¶ O excellent prynce and great lorde nature
I am thyne owne chylde and formyd instrument
I beseche thy grace take me to thy cure
And teche me suche seyens thou thikyst expedyēt

¶ Nature.

¶ Than syth thou art so humble and beneuolent
That thynge that is mete for thy capasyte
And good for thy knowlege I shall Instructe the
¶ Furst of all thou must consyder and see
These elementis whiche do yche other penetrate
And by contynuall alteracyon they be
Of them selfe dayly corruptyd and generate

The yerth as a poynt or center is sytuate
In the mydde of the worlde/with ye water Joyned
with the ayre & fyre rounde & hole inuyronyd
¶ The yerth of it selfe is ponderous and heuy
Colde and dry of his owne nature ppet
Some parte lyeth dry contynually
And parte therof couerd ouer with water
Some with the salt see some with freshe ryuer
whiche yerth and the water to gyder with all
So Joynyd make a rounde fygure sperycall
¶ So the water whiche is colde & moyst is foūde
In and vppon the yerth fyllynge the holones
In dyuers partis lynge with ye yerth rounde
yet the hyllys and mounteyns of ye yerth excesse
Take nothynge of hit a way the roundnes
In comparyson bycause they be so small
No more than the prikkes do that be on a gall
¶ The ayre whiche is hote and moyst also
And the fyre whiche is euer hote and dry
About the yerth and water Joyntly they go
And compasse them euery where orbycularly
As the whyte a boute the yolke of an egg doth lye
But the ayre in the lower parte moste remaynyth
The fyre naturally to the hyer tendyth
¶ The etheryall region whiche conteynyth
The sterrys and planettys and cuery spere

About the elementis dayly mouyth
And couerytb them rounde about euery where
Euery sterre and spere in straunge maner
Upon his owne poles mouyth dyuersly
Whiche now to declare were to longe to tary
¶ The fyre and the ayre of their naturys be lyght
Therfore they moue by naturall prouydence
The water bycause it is ponderous in weyght
Mouyth not naturally but by violence
Of the sterris and planettes by whose influence
The see is compellyd to ebbe and flowe dayly
And freshe waters to spryngē contynually
¶ And though ỳ the water be grose and heuy
yet nothynge so grose as the yerth I wys
Therfore by hete it is vapoyrd vp lyghtly
And in the ayre makyth cloudys and mystes
But as sone as euer that it grosely is
Gederyd to gyder / it descendyth a gayne
And causyth vppon ỳ yerth hayle snow & rayne
¶ The yerth because of his ponderosyte
Auoydyth equally the mouynges great
Of all extremytes and sperys that be
And tendyth to the place that is most quiet
So in the myddys of all the sperys is set
Formast abiect from all maner mouynge
Where naturally he restyth & mouyth nothynge

¶ Marke well now how I haue the shewyd & tolde
Of euery element the very sytuacyon
And qualyte, wherfore this fygure beholde
For a more manyfest demonstracyon
And by cause thou sholdyst not put to oblyuyon
My doctryne, this man callyd studyous desire
With the shall haue contynuall habytacyon
The styll to exhort more seyens to adquire
¶ For ý more ý thou desyrest to know any thynge
Therin thou semyst the more a man to be
For that man that desireth no maner cõynge
All that wyle no better than a best is he
Why ben the eyes made but only to see
The leggys to bere the body of a creature
So euery thynge is made to do his nature
¶ So lyke wyse reason wit and vnderstondyng
ys gyuen to the man for that thou sholdyst i dede
Knowe thy maker & cause of thyne owne beynge
And what ý worlde is & wherof thou doest pceds
Wherfore it be houyth the of vetey nede
The cause of thyngs furst for to lerne
And than to knowe & laude the hye god eterne

¶ Humanyte.

¶ O glorious lorde and prynce moste plesant
Greatly am I now holdyn vnto the
So to illumyne my mynd that was yngnorant

with such noble doctryne as thou hast here shewed
wherfore I promyse vppon my sydelyte (me
My dylygence to do to kepe in memory
And the for to honour styll ppetually

Studyous desire

And syth it hath pleasyd thy grace to admyt
Me vppon this man to gyue attendaunce
with thy doctryne here shewyd I shall dkkyn his
And dayly put hym in remembraunce (wyt
His courage and desyre I shall also inhaunce
So that his felycyte shall be most of all
To study and to serche for causys naturall

Nature.

Well than for a season I wyll departe
Leuynge you to gyder here both twayne
what I haue shewid man prynt well in thyne hert
And marke well this fygure ý here shall remayne
wherby thou maist perceyue many thynges more
Concernynge ý matter I spake of before (playn
And wham that I shall resort here a gayne
Of hye poynts of cõynge I shall shew ý more

Studyous desire.

Now humanyte call to your memory
The cõynge poynts that nature hath declaryd
And though he haue shewed dyuers points a many
Of the elementis so wonderfly formed

yet many other cauſys there are wolde be lernyd
As to knowe the generacyon of thyngſ all
Here in the yerth / how they be ingendryd
As herbys plantys well ſpryngſ ſton and metall

Humanyte.

Thoſe thyngſ to knowe for me be full expediēt
But yet i thoſe poyntſ whiche nature late ſhewyd
My mynde in them as yet is not cōtent (me
For I can nō maner wyſe perceyue nor ſee
Nor proue by reaſon why the yerth ſholde be
In the myddſ of ȳ fyrmament hengyng ſo ſmall
And the yerth with the water to be roūde with all

Studyous deſire.

Me thynkyth my ſelfe as to ſome of thoſe pointſ
I coude gyue a ſufficyent ſolucyon
For furſt of all thou muſt nedys graunt this
That the yerth is ſo depe and botom hath non
Or els there is ſome groſe thyng hit ſtōdyth vpon
Or els that it hangyth thou muſt nedſ conſent
Euyn in the myddſ of the fyrmament

Humanyte.

What than go forth with thyne argument

Studyous deſire.

Thā marke well in ȳ day or in a wynters nyght
The ſone and mone and ſterris celeſtyall
In the eſt furſt they do apere to thy ſyght

A after in the west they do downe fall
A a ayne in the morowe next of all
wi .xxiiij. houres they be come Iust
To est poits again where thou sawist them furst
¶ Can yf the erthe shulde be of endles depnes
Or shulde stande vpon any other grose thynge
It shulde be an impedyment dowtles
To the sone mone and sterris in their mouynge
They shulde not so in the est agayne spryngc
Therfore in reason it semyth moste conuenyent
The yerth to hange in ỳ mydds of the fyrmamẽt

Humanyte.

¶ Thyne argument in ỳ poynt doth me cõfoũde
That thou hast made but yet it puytht not ryght
That the yerth by reason shulde be rounde
For though ỳ fyrmament with his sterris bryght
Compas aboute the yerth eche day and nyght
yet the yerthe may be playne paduentnre
Quadrant triangle or some other fygure

Studyouse desyre.

¶ That it can not be playne I shall well pue the
Be cause the sterris that a ryse in the oryent
Appere more soner to them that there be
Than to the other dwellynge in the occident

The eclypse is therof a playne experymente
Of the sone or mone which whane it dothe fy
Is neuer one tyme of the day in placys all
Yet the eclyps generally is alwaye
In the hole worlde as one tyme beynge
But whan we that dwell here see it in ꝑ mydday
They in the west partis see it in the mornynge
And they in the est beholde it in the euenyng
And why that sholde so be no cause can be found
But onely by reason that the yerthe is rownde

Thumanyte.

That reason proueth the yerth at the lest
One wayes to be rownde I cannot gayne say
As for to accompt frome the est to the west
But yet not withstondynge all that it may
Lese hys rowndenesse by some other waye

Studyous desyre.

Na no dowte yt is rownde euery where
which I coulde proue thou shoudest not say nay
yf I had therto any tyme and leser
But I knowe a man callyd experyens
Of dyuers instrumentys is neuer without
Cowde proue all these poyntys & yet by his seyes
Can tell how many myle the erthe is a bowte

In many other straũge cõcluſiõs no dowte
Hys inſtrumentys cowde ſhew thẽ ſo certayn
That euery rude carter ſhold them playne playn

Humanyte.

Now wolde to god I had ý man now here
For the contembtacyon of my mynde

Studyons deſyre.

Yf ye wyll I ſhall for hym enquere
And bryngе hym heder yf I can hym fynde

Humanyte.

Then myght I ſay ye were to me ryght kynde

Studyous deſyre.

I ſhall aſſay by god that me dere bought
For cunnyng is the thynge ý wolde be ſought

Senſuall apetyte.

well hyet quod hykman when ý he ſmot
Hys wyſſe on the buttocks with a bere pott
Aha now god euyn fole god euyn
It is euen the knaue that I mene
Haſt thou done thy babelyng

Studyous deſyre.

Ye peradventure what than

Senſuall apetyte.

Thã hold downe thy hede lyke a pretty mã & take (my dylyſſyng.

Benedicite/ I graut to the/ this ydor
And gyue the absoluction
For thy sothfaws/ stande vp Jack daw
I be shrew thy faders sone
¶ Make rome sys and let vs be mery
With hufka galand synge tyll on the bery
And let the wyde worlde wynde
Synge fryska Joly with hey troly loly
For I se well it is but a foly
For to haue a sad mynd
¶ For rather than I wolde vse suche foly
To pray to study or be pope holy
I had as lyf be ded
By goggys body I tell you trew
I speke as I thynke now eis I be shrew
Euyn my nett felowes hed
¶ Master humanyte syr be your leue
I were ryght loth you to greue
Though I do hym dyspyse
For yf ye knewe hym as well as I
ye wolde not vse his company
Nor loue hym in no wyse
¶ Syr he loketh lyke an honest man
Therfore I merueyll that ye can

Hu.

This wyse hym deprave.

Sen. Though he loke neuer so well
I promyse you he hath a slyre wde meu

Hu. Why so I prey you tell

Sen. For he lauerth lyke a knaue

St. Holde your peace syr ye mys take me
what I trowe that ye wolde make me
Lyke to one of your kyn

Sen. Harke syrs here ye not how boldly
He callyth me knaue agayne by polycy
The deuyll pull of his skyn
I wolde he were hangyd by the throte
For by the messe I loue hym not
we two can neuer a gre
I am content syr with you to tary
And I am for you so necessary
ye can not lyue without me

Hu. why syr I say what man be ye

Sen. I am callyd sensuall apetyte
All craturs to me delyte
I comforte the wyttys fyue
The tastyng smellyng & hetynge
I refresh the syght and felynge
To all creaturs a lyue

For when the body wexith hongry
For lacke of fode or ellys thursty
Than with drynkes plesaund
I restore hym out of payne
And oft refresshe nature agayne
With delycate vyand
With plesaunde sound of armonye
The herynge alwaye I satysfy
I dare this well report
The smellynge with swete odour
And the syght with plesaunte fygour
And colours I comfort
The felynge that is so plesaunte
Of euery member fote or hande
What pleasure therin can be
By the towchynge of soft & harde
Of hote or colde nought in regarde
Excepte it come by me

Hu. Than I cannot see the contrary
But ye are for me full necessary
And ryght conuenyent.

Stu. ye syr beware yet what ye do
For yf you forsake my company so
Lorde nature wyll not be contente.

Of hym ye shall neuer lerne good thyng
Nother vertu nor no other cōynge
This dare I well say
Sen. Mary auaunt knaue I the defye
Dyde nature for dyde hym my cōpany
what sayst thou therto speke openly
Hu. As for that I know well nay
Sen. No by god I am ryght sure
For he knoweth well no creature
without me can lyue one day
Hu. Syr I pray you be contente
It is not vtterly myne intente
your company to exyle
But onely to haue cōmunycacyon
And a pastyme of recreacyon
with this man for a whyle
Stu. well for your pleasure I wyll departe
Sen. Now go knaue go I beshrew thy hart
The deuyll sende the forward
Sen. Now by my trouth I meruell gretly
That euer ye wolde vse the company
So mythe of suche a knaue
For yf ye do no nother thynge
But euer study and to be mustynge

As he wolde haue you it wyll you bryngē
At the last vnto your graue
Cye shulde euer study pryncypall
For to comfort your lyfe naturall
With meets and drynkes dilycate
And other pastymes & pleasures amonge
Dauēsynge laughynge or plesaunt songe
This is mete for your estate

Hu. Be cause ye sey so I you prayse
That I haue musyd & studyed such wyse
Me thynketh my wyttes wery
My nature desyreth some refresshynge
And also I haue ben so longe fastynge
That I am somwhat hongry

Sen. Well than wyll ye go with me
To a tauerne where ye shall se
Good pastaunte & at your lyberte
Haue what so euer ye wyll

Hu. I am content so for to do
Yf that ye wyll not fro me go
But kepe me company styll

Sen. Cōpany qō a/ye ȳ I shall poynt deuyse
And also do you good and trew seruyce
And therto I plyght my trouthe

And yf that I euer forsake you
I pray god the deuyl take you
Hu. ¶ Mary I thanke you for that othe
Sen. ¶ A myschyfe on it my tonge too
wyll tryp somtyme what so euer I do
But ye wot what I mene well
Hu. ¶ ye no force let this matter passe
But seydest eui now thou knewyst where
A good tauerne to make solas (was
where is that I prey the tell
Sen. ¶ Mary at the dore euyn here by
yf we call any thynge on hye
The tauerner wyll answere
Hu. ¶ I prey the than call for hym nowe
Sen. ¶ Mary I wyll / How tauerner how
why doste thou not appere
Tauer ¶ who is that calleth so hastely
ner. I shrew thyne hert speke softely
I tell the I am not here
Sen. ¶ Than I be shrew ỳ page of thyne age
Come hyther knaue for thyne auauntage
why makyst thou hit so tow
Ta. ¶ For myne auaũtage mary thã I come
Beware syrs how let me haue rome
Lo here I am what seyst thou

Sen. Mary thus here is a gentylman I say
That nother ete nor drynke this day
Therfor tell me I the praye
yf thou haue any good wyne
Ta. ye shall haue spayneshe wyne & gascoyn
Rose coloure whyt claret rampyon
Tyre caprycke and malueseyne
Sak raspyce alycaunt ruinney
Greke ipocrase new made clary
Suche as ye neuer had
For yf ye drynke a draught or too
yt wyll make you or ye thens go
By goggs body starke madde
Sen. I wot thou art not without good wyne
But here is a gentylmã hath lyst to dyne
Canst thou get hym any good mete
Ta. what mete mayster wolde ye haue
Hu. I care not so god me saue
So that it be holsome to ete
I wolde we had a good stewyd capon
Sen. As for capons ye can gette none
The kyngys taker toke vp eche one
I wot well there is none to get

Ca. Though all capons be gone what than
yet I can get you a stewed hen
That is redy dyght.
Hu. yf she be fat yt wyll do well
Ca. Fat or lene I cannot tell
But as for this I wot well
She lay at the stewes all nyght.
Hu. Thou art a mad gest be this lyght.
Sen. ye syr it is a felow that neuer faylys
But cāst get my mayster a dyshe of quaslinal byrdes swalowes or wagtayls
They be lyght of dygestyon.
Ca. Lyght of dysgestyon for what reason
Sen. For physyk puttyth this reason therto
Bycause those byrdes fle to & fro
And be contynuall mouynge
Ca. Then know I a lyghter mete than ý
Hu. I pray the tell me what
Ca. yf ye wyll nedys know at short & longe
It is euyn a womans tounge
For that is euer sterynge
Hu. Syr I pray the let suche fantesies be
And come hedet nere & harke to me
And do after my byddynge.

Goo purvey vs a dyner euyn of the most
Of all mauer dysshes both sod and rosse
That thou canst get spare for no cosse
yf thou make thye course

Ta. ¶ Thau ye get nother gose nor swane
But a dysshe of dreggys a dysshe of brane
A dysshe of drasse and I trowe than
ye can not get thye worse

Hu. ¶ What horson woldyst thou purvey
Bran drasse & stynkynge dreggs I sey
I holde the mad I trowe

Ta. ¶ Gouges passyon sayd ye not thus
That I shulde purvey you thye course
And these be course I nowe (dysshes

Hu. ¶ Thye course dysshes qd a
what mad fole thou mys takest me clene
I se well thou wotest not what I mene
And vnderstandyst a mys
I mene this wyse I wolde haue the
To purvey mete so great plente
That thou sholdyst of necessyte
Serue them at thye courtys
¶ That is to vnderstande at one word
Thou shuldest bryngge them vnto ye bord

At thyſe ſeuerall tymes.

Ta. ¶ What than I ſe well ye wyll make a feſte

Du. ¶ Ye by the rode euyn with the greteſt.

Sen. ¶ By my trouth than do ye beſt.
Euyn after my mynde
But ye muſt haue more company.

Du. ¶ That is trewe and ſo wolde I gladly
If I knewe any to fynde

Sen. ¶ Why wyll ye folowe my counſell

Du. ¶ Ye

Sen. ¶ Than we wyll haue lytell nell
A pyper wenche ſhe daunſyth well
And Jane with the blacke lace.
We wyll haue bounſynge heſſe alſo,
And two or thre proper wenchis mo,
Ryght fery and ſmotter of face.

Du. ¶ Now be it ſo thou art launce pere.

Ta. ¶ Thā I pceyue ye wyll make gode chere.

Du. ¶ Why what ſhulde I els do.

Ta. ¶ If ye thynke ſo beſt than, wyll I
Go before and make all thynge redy,
Agayne ye come therto.

Du. ¶ Mary I prey the do ſo.

Ta. ¶ Than farewell ſyrs for I am gone

Hu. And we shall folow the anon
without any tarryng
Sen. Then it is best syr ye make hast
For ye shall spende here but tyme i wast
And do no nother thynge
Hu. Cyf ye wyll let vs goo by and by
Sen. I pray you be it for I am redy
No man better wyllynge
Exeat Sen. & Hu. Intrat Expiés. & Stu.
Now cosyn experpens as I may say
ye are ryght welcom to this contrey
without any faynyng.
Expiés Syr I thanke you therof hertely
And I am as glad of your company
As any man lyuynge.
Stu. Syr I vnderstonde that ye haue be
In many a strannge countree
And haue had grete fylycyte
Straunge causes to seke and fynde
Ex. Ryght fair syr I haue rydden & gone
And seen straunge thynges many one
In affryk/europe and ynde
Bothe est & west I haue ben fair
North also and seen the sowth stere

Bothe by see and lande
And ben in sondry nacyons
with peple of dyuers condycyons
Stu. Maruelous to vnderstonde.
Syr yf a man haue suche corage
Or deuocyon in pylgrymage
Iheruzalem vnto
For to accompt the nexte way
How many myle is it I you pray
Ex. From hens theder to goo
Syr as for all suche questyons
Of townes to know the sytuacyon
How ferr they be a sunder
And other poyntes of cosmogrpfy
ye shall neuer lerne then more surely
Then by that fugure yonder
For who that fygure dyd fyrst deuyse
It semeth well he was wyse
And perfyte in thts seyens
For bothe the se and lande also
Lye trew and iust as they sholde do
I know by experyens.
Stu. who thynke you brought here this fygure
Ex. ¶ I wot not

Stu. ¶ Certes lorde nature
Hym selfe not longe a gone
¶ whiche was here personally
Declarynge hye phylosophy
And lafte this fygure purposely
For humanytes instruccyon
Er. ¶ Dowtles ryght nobly done
Stu. Syr this realme ye knou is callid ēglāde
Somtyme brettayne I vnderstonde
Therfore I prey you poit with your hāde
In what place it shulde lye
Er. ¶ Syr this ys ynglande lyenge here
And this is skotlāde ý Joyneth hym nere
Compassyd a boute euery where
With the occian see rownde
¶ And next from them westwardly
Here by hym selfe alone doth ly
Irelande that holsome grounde
¶ Here than is the narowe seey
To Calyce and Boleyne the next wey
And flaunders in this pte
Here lyeth fraunce next hym ioynynge
And spayñ southwarde frō thēs stādynge
And portyngale in this quart

This contrey is callyd Italye
Beholde where Rome in ỳ mydde doth ly
And Naples here be yonde
And this lytell See that here is
Is callyd the Gulfe of Venys
And here venys doth stande
¶ As for almayne lyeth this way
Here lyeth denmarke and norway
And northwarde on this syde
There lyeth Islonde where mē do fyshe
But be yonde that so colde it is
No man may there abyde
¶ This See is called the great Oceyan
So great it is that neuer man
Coude tell it sith the worlde began
Tyll nowe within this. xx. yere
westwarde be founde new landes
That we neuer harde tell of before this
By wrytynge nor other meanys
yet many nowe haue ben there
¶ And that contrey is so large of rome
Muche lenger than all cristendome
without fable or gyle
For dyuers maryners haue it tryed
And sayled streyght by the coste syde
Aboue. v. thousand myle

¶ But what cõmodytes be within
No man can tell nor well Imagin
But yet not longe a go
Some men of this coutrey went
By the kynges noble consent
It for to serche to that entent
And coude not be brought therto
¶ But they that were they venteres
Haue cause to curse their maryners
Fals of promys and dissemblers
That falsly them be trayed
Whiche wold take no paine to saile farther
Than their owne lyst and pleasure
Wherfore that vyage and dyuers other
Suche kaytyffes haue distroyed
¶ O what a thynge had be than
yf that they that be englyshe men
Wyght haue ben the furst of all
That there shulde haue take possessyon
And made furst buyldynge & habytacion
A memory perpetuall
And also what an honorable thynge
Bothe to the realme and to the kynge
To haue had his domynyon extendynge
There into so farre a grounde
Whiche the noble kynge of late memory

The moste wyse prynce the. viij. Henry
Causyd furst for to be founde
¶ And what a great merito youse dede
It were to haue the people instructed
To lyue more vertuously
And to lerne to knowe of men the maner
And also to knowe god they maker
Whiche as yet lyue all bestly
For they nother knowe god nor the deuell
Nor neuer harde tell of heuyn nor hell
Wrytynge nor other scripture
But yet in the stede of god almyght
The honour the sone for his great lyggt
For that doth them great pleasure
¶ Buyldynge nor house they haue nõ at (all
But wodes/cotes/and cauys small
No merueyle though it be so
For they vse no maner of yron
Nother in tole nor other wepon
That shulde helpe them therto
¶ Copper they haue whiche is founde
In dyuers places aboue the grounde
yet they dyg not therfore
For as I sayd they haue non yrpn
Wherby they shuld in the yerth myne
To serche for any wore

¶ Great haboundauace of woddꝰ ther be
Moste parte byr and pyne aple tre
Great ryches myght come therby
Both pyche and tarre and sope asthys
As they make in the eest landes
By brynnynge therof only
¶ Fyshe they haue so great plente
That in hauyns take and slayne they be
With stauys withouten fayle
Nowe frenchemen & other haue foūde the
That yerely of fyshe there they lad (trade
A boue an. C. sayle
¶ But in the south parte of that contrey
The people there go nakyd alway
The lande is of so great hete
And in the north parte all the clothes
That they were is but bestꝰ skynnes
They haue no nother fete
But howe the people furst began
In that contrey or whens they cam
For clerkes it is a questyon
Other thynges mo I haue in store
That I coude tel therof but now no more
Tyll a nother season
Stu. ¶ Thā at your pleasure shew some other
yt lyketh me so wel your cōmynige (thige

ye can not talke a mys
Ex. ¶ Thã wyl I tornе a gayne to my matter
Of Cosmogryfy where I was erē
Beholde take hede to this
¶ Loo estwarde beyonde ꝟ great oceyan
Here entereth the see callyd mediterrān
Of .ij.M.myle of lengthe
The Soudans contrey lyeth here by
The great Turke on ꝟ north syde doth ly
A man of mercyylous strengthe
¶ This sayde north pte is callyd europa
And this south pte callyd affrica
This eest pte is callyd ynde
But this newe landꝭ founde lately
Ben callyd america by cause only
Americus dyd furst them fynde
¶ Loo Jhrsin lyeth in this contrey
And this be yonde is the red see
That moyses maketh of mencyon
This quarter is India minor
And this quarter India maior
The lande of prester Johñ
¶ But northwarde this way as ye se
Many other straunge regions ther be
And people that we not knowe
But estwarde on the see syde

A prynce there is that rulyth wyde
Callyd the Cane of catowe
And this is called the great eest see
whiche goth all a longe this wey
Towardes the newe landis agayne
But whether that see go thyther dyrectly
Or if any wyldernes bytwene them do ly
No man knoweth for certeyne
But these newe landes by all cosmografye
Frome the cane of catous lande cā not lye
Lytell paste a thousande myle
But from those newlandes mē may sayle
Estwarde a cū to englāde agaie playne
where we began ere whyle
Lo all this parte of the yerth whiche I
Haue here discryuyd openly
The north parte we do it call
But the south pte on the other syde
ys as large as this full and as wyde
whiche we knowe nothynge at all
Nor whether ꝑ moste pte be lande or see
Nor whether the people that there be
Be bestyall or connynge
Nor whether they knowe god or no
Nor howe they beleue nor what they do
Of this we knowe nothynge

Lo is not this a thynge wooderfull
How that
Et subito studyouse desire dicat.
Stu. Pese syr no more of this matter
Beholde where humanyte cōmeth here
Sen. How sey you maister humanyte
I prey you haue ye not be mere
And had good recreacyon
Hu Yes I thanke the therof euery dell
For we haue faryd meruclously well
And had good cōmunycacyon
Ta. What how maister where be ye now
Sen. What I shrewe the what haste hast thou
That thou spekyst so hye
Ta. So hye qd a I trow ye be mad by saynt (gyle
For dyd ye not ere whyle
Make poyntment openly
To come agayne all to supper
There as ye were to day at dyner
And yet ye poynted not playne
What mete that ye wyll haue dresst
Nor what delycat ye loue best
Me thynke you farre ouer sayne
Hus As for myne owne pte I care not
Dresse what mete thou louest spare not
What so euer thou doest best thynke

Ta. ¶ Now if ye put it to my lyberte
Of all metes in the wolde that be
By this lyght I loue best drynke
Sen. ¶ It semyth by thy face so to do
But my maister wyll haue mete also
what so euer it cost
Ta. ¶ By god syr than ye must tell what
Hu. At thy discressyon I force nat
whether it be soden or rost
Ta. ¶ Well syr than care not let me a lone
ye shall se that all thynge shall be done
And ordeyned well and fyne
Hu. ¶ So I require the herteiy
And in any wyse specyally
Let vs haue a cuppe of newe wyue
Tn. ¶ ye shall haue wyne as newe as can be
For I may tell you in pryuyte
Hit was brued but yester nyght
Hu. ¶ But that is nothynge for my delyte
Ta. ¶ But than I haue for your apetyte
A cup of wyne of olde claret
There is no better by this lyght
Hu. ¶ Well I trust the well I nowe
Ta. ¶ But on thynge if it please you nowe
ye se well I take muche payne for you
I trust ye wyll se to me

Hu. Tye I pmyse the get the hens
And in this matter do thy dylygence
And I shall well rewarde the
Sen. By cause thou lokyst for a rewarde
One thynge for the I haue ppared
That here I shall the gyffe
Thou shalte haue a knauys skyn
For to put thy body therin
For terme of thy lyfe
Ta. Now gramercy my gentyll brother
And therfore thou shalt haue nother
For voydynge of stryfe
Sen Nowe farewell gentyll Johñ
Ta. Than farewell fole for I am gone
Sen. A byde torne ones a gayne harke what
yet there is a nother thynge (I sey
wolde do well at our maisters wassyynge
Hu. What thynge is that I the prey
Sen. Mary thus canst thou tell vs yet
where is any rose water to get
Ta. ye that I can well purney
As good as euer you put to your nose
For there is a feyre wenche callyd rose
Dystylleth a quarte euery day
Sen. By god I wolde a pynt of that
were powryd euyn vpon thy pate

Bekore all this presence

Ta. Cyet I had leuer she and I
where both to gyther secretly
In some corner in the spence
For by god it is a prety gyrle
It is a worlde to se her whyrle
Daunsynge in a rounde
O lorde god how she wyll tryp
She wyll bounce it she wyll whyp
ye clene aboue the grounde

Hu. Cwell let all suche matters passe I sey
And get the hens and goo thy way
Aboute this other matter

Ta. CThan I goo streyght lo fare ye well

Sen. CBut loke yet thou remembre euerydell
That I spake of full ere

Ta. Cyes I warrant you do not fere

CExeat Tauerner.

Hu. CGoddis lorde seist not who is here now
what studyo? desire what newis with you

Stu Cye shall knowe syr or I go

Sen. Cwhat art thou here I se well I
The no knauys the worse company

Stu. CThy lewde condyeyons thou doest styll
As thou art wont to do (occupy

Hu. CBut I sey who is this here in presence

Stu. ¶ Syr this is the man callyd experiens
That I spake of before
Hu. ¶ Experyens why is this he
Syr ye ar ryght welcome vnto me
And shall be euer more
Expe. ¶ Syr I thanke you therof hertely
But I assure you feythfully
I haue small courage here to tary
As longe as this man is here
Sen. ¶ why horson what eylyst at me
Ex. ¶ For thou hast euer so leude a pperte
Science to dispyse and yet thou art he
That nought canst nor nought wylt lere
Sen. ¶ Mary Quaũt knaue I make god auowe
I thynke my selfe as cõynge as thou
And that shall I proue shortly
I shall put the a questyon now come nere
Let me se how well thou canst answere
How spellest this worde tom Couper
In trewe artografye
Ex. ¶ Tom couper qõ a a wyse questyõ herdly
Sen. ¶ Cye I tel ẏ agayne yet/tom couper how spel
Lo he hath forgotten ye may se (lyst it
The furste worde of his a b c.
Harke fole harke I wyll teche the
P.a.pa.t.c.r.ter.do to gyther tom couper

ys not this a sore matter
Loo here ye may se hym puyd a fole
He had more nede to go to scole
Than to come hyther to clatter

Stu. ¶ Certeyne this is a solucyon
Mete for suche a boyes questyon

Hu. ¶ Sensuall apetyte I prey the
Let passe all suche trykles and vanyte
For a wyle it shall not longe be
And departe I the require
For I wolde talke a worde or two
With this man here or he hens go
For to satysfy my desyre

Sen. ¶ Why goggis soule wyll ye so shortly
Breke poyntment with yonder company
Where ye shulde come to supper
I trust ye wyll not breke pmys so

Hu. ¶ I care not greatly yf I do
yt is but a taucrne matter

Sen. ¶ Than wyll I go shew them what ye sey

Hu. ¶ Spare not if thou wylt go thy wey
For I wyll here tary

Sen. ¶ Thã a dew for a whyle I tel you playne
But I pmyse you whã I come a gayne
I shall make yonder knauys twayne
To repent and be sory

Ex. Nowe I am full glad that he is gone
Stu So am I for good wyll he do none
To no man lyuynge
But this is the man with whome ye shall
I trust be well content with all
And glad of his cõmynge
For he hath expownyd connyngly
Dyuers poyntes of Cosmogryfy
In fewe wordes and shorte clause
Hu. So I vnderstand he hath gode science
And that he hath by playne expience
Lernyd many a straunge cause
Stu. Ye syr and I say for my pte
He is the cõnyngest man in that arte
That euer I coude fynde
For aske what questyon ye wyll do
Howe the yerth is rounde or other no
He wyll satysfye your mynde
Ex. Why what doute haue ye therin founde
Thynke ye the yerth shulde not be rounde
Or elles howe suppose ye
Hu. One wey it is rounde I must consent
For this man prouyd it euydent
Towarde the eest and occydent
It must nedis rounde be
Ex. And lykewyse from the south to north

Hu. That poynt to proue were sũ thãke worth
Ex. Yes that I can well proue
For this ye knowe as well as I
ye se the north starre in the skye
Marke well ye shall vnethe it spye
That euer it doth remoue
But this I assure you if you go
Northwarde an hundreth myle or two
ye shall thynke it ryseth
And how that it is nere aproched
The poynt ouer the top of your hed
whiche is callyd your zenyth
Yet yf ye go the other wey
Southwarde. x. or. xii. dayes Iorney
ye shall then thynke anon
It discended and come more nye
The sercle ptynge the yerth and skye
As ye loke streyght with your eye
whiche is callyd your oryson
But ye may go southwarde so farre
That at the last that same starre
wyll seme so farre downe ryght
Clere vnder neth your oryson
That syght therof can you haue non
The yerth wyll stop your syght
This puyth of necessyte

That the yerth must nedis rounde be
This conclusyon doth it trye

Hu. ¶ Nowe that is the perist conclusyon
That euer I herde for by reason
No man may hit deuye
But sir if that aman sayle farre
Upon the see wyll than that starre
Do there as on the grounde

Ex. Tye doutles sayle northward ryse it wyl
And sayle southwarde it falleth styl
And that prouyth the see rounde

Stu. ¶ So dothe it in myne oppynyon
But knowe you any other conclusyon
To proue it rounde saue that alone

Ex. Tye that I knowe ryght well
As thus marke well whan ẏ see is clere
That no storme nor wawe therõ doth pere
This maryners can tell
¶ Than if a fyre be made on nyght
Upon the shore that gyueth great lyght
And a shyp in the see farre
They in the toppe the fyre se shall
And they on hache nothynge at all
yet they on haches be nerẽ
¶ Also on the see where men be saylynge
Farre frome lande they se nothynge

But the water and the skye
yet whan they drawe the lande more nere
Than the hyll toppes begyn to apere
Styll the nere more hye and hye
As though they were styll growynge faste
Out of the see tyll at laste
whan they come the shore to
They se the hyll toppe fote and all
whiche thynge so coude not be fall
But the see lay rounde also

Hu. Me thynketh your argumēt sō what hard

Ex. ¶ Than ye shall haue it more playnly
If ye haue great desyre (declared
For here loo by myne instrumentis
I can shew the playne exprimentis

Hu. ¶ Therto I you requyre

Ex. ¶ With all my herte it shall be done
But for the furst conclusyon
That I spake of the fyre
Be this the seey that is so rounde
And this the fyre vpon the grounde
And this the shyp that is here
ye knowe well that a mannes syght
Can neuer be but in a lyne ryght

Hu. ¶ Iust you say that is clere

Ex. ¶ Marke well than may not ỳ mānis eye

Signature D, *eight leaves in fours, is missing from the original copy.*

With argyng here they? foryw
That is not wo?th iij. strawes
I loue not this hoteson losophers
No? this great cõnyng extromers
That tell how far it is to the sterres
I hate all maner connyng
I wolde ye knew it I am Ignorance
A lo?de I am of gretter pusans
Than the kynge of ynglande o? fraunce
ye the grettyst lo?d lyuyng
I haue seruaũt? at my retynew
That longe to me I assure you
Here with in ynglande
That with me yngno?ance dwell styll
And terme of lyfe cõtynew wyll
I boue v C. thowsand

Sen. Gogg? naylys I haue payed sõ of the I
yng. why man what eylyth ẏ so to blow (tro
Sen. For I was at a sh?ewd fray
yng. Hast thou any of them slayn than
Sen. ye I haue slayn them euery man
Saue them that ran away
yng. why is any of them skapyd & gone
Sen. ye by gogg? body euerychone
All that euer were there

E.j.

yng. ¶ why than they be not all slayne
Sen. No but I haue put some to payne
For one horson therewas ÿ torned again
And streyght I cut of his ere
yng. ¶ Than thou hast made a cut hym purs
Sen. ye but yet I seruyd a nother wors
I smot of his legge by the hard ars
As sone as I met hym there
yng. ¶ By my trouth that was a mad dede
Thou sholdest haue smyt of his hed
Thã he sholde neuer haue troublid ÿ more
Sen. ¶ Tushe than I had ben but mad
For there was a nother man that had
Smyt of his hed before
yng. ¶ Thã thou hast quyt ÿ lyke a tal knyght
Sen. ¶ ye that I haue by this lyght
But I sey can you tell me ryght
Where becam my maister
yng. ¶ What he that you call humanyte
Sen. ¶ ye
yng. ¶ I wot neuer except he be
Hyd here in some corner
Sen. ¶ Goggys body and trew ye sey
For yonder lo beholde ye may
Se where the mad fole doth ly

yng. ¶ Now on my feyth and treuth it
Hit were euyn great almys
To smyte his hed from his body
Sen. Nay god forbed ye sholde do so
For he is but an innocent lo
In maner of a fole
For as sone as I speke to hym agayne
I shall torne his mynde clene
And make hym folowe my skole
yng. ¶ Thã byd hym ryse let vs here hym speke
Sen. ¶ Now ryse vp maister huddy peke
your tayle totyth out be hynde
Fere not man stande vp by and by
I warrant you ryse vp boldly
Here is non but is your frynde
Hu. ¶ I cry you mercy maister dere
yng. why what is cause thou hydest the here
Hu. ¶ For I was almoste for fere
Euyn clene out of my mynde
Sen. ¶ Nay it is the study that ye haue had
In this folysche losophy hath made you (mad
And no nother thynge Iwys
yng. ¶ That is as trewe as the gospell
Therfore I haue great meruell
That euer thou wylt folowe the counsell
Of yonder two knauys

O syr ye know ryght well this
That when any man is
In other mens company
He must nedes folow the appyte
Of such thynges as they delyte
Som tyme amonge perdy
yng. But such knaues wold alway haue ÿ
To put all thy mynd & felicite
In this folysh cōnyng to study
which if thou do wyll make ÿ mad
And alway to be pensyf & sad
Thou shalt neuer be mery
Sen. Mery quod a/no I make god auow
But I pray ÿ mayster hark on word now
And aunswere this thyng
whether thought you it better chere
At the tauerne where we were ere
Or ellys to clatter with these knaues here
Of theyr folysh cunnynge
Hu. Nay I can not say the contrary
But ÿ I had mych myryer company
At the tauerue than in this place
Sen. Than yf ye haue any wyt or brayn
Let vs go to the tauerne agayn
And make some mery solace
yng. yf he wyll do so thā doth he wysely

Hu. By my troth I care not gretely
For I am indyfferent to all company
whether it be here or there
Sen. Then I shall tell you what we wyll do
Mayster yngnorans you & he also
Shall tary both syll here
And I wyll go fet hyther a cōpany
That ye shall here thē syng as swetly
As they were angellſ clere
And yet I shall bryng hydyr a nother
Of lusty bluddſ to make dysport (sort
That shall both daunce & spryng
And tome clene aboue ý ground
with fryscas & with gambawdſ round
That all the hall shall ryng
And ý done with in an howre or twayn
I shall at the towne agayne
Prepare for you a banket
Of metys that be most delycate
And most plesaunt drynkſ & wynes ther
That is possyble to get (ate
which shall be in a chamber feyre
Replete with sote & fragrāt eyre
Preparyd poynt deuyse
with damaske water made so well
That all ý howse therof shall smell

As it were pardyse
¶ And after that if ye wyll touche
A feyre wenche nakyd in a couche
Of a softe bed of downe
For to satisfye your wantō lust
I shall apoynt you a trull of trust
Not a feyrer in this towne
¶ And whau ye haue taken your delyte
And thus satisfyed the appetyte
Of your wyttis fyue
ye may sey than I am a seruaunt
For you so necessary and plesaunt
I trowe non suche a lyue

Hu. ¶ Nowe by the wey that god dyd walke
It cōforthe myne herte to here the talke
Thy mache was neuer seyn

yng. ¶ Than go thy wey by and by
And bryngе in this company
And he and I wyll here tary
Tyll thou come agayne

Hu. ¶ And I prey the hertely also

Sen. ¶ At your request so shall I do
Lo I am gone nowe fare well
I shall bryngе them in to this hall
And come my selfe formast of all
And of these reuellis be chefe mer shall

And order all thynge well

Cyngnorauce.

¶ Nowe set thy hert on a mery pyn
Agayns these lusty bludds come in.
And drye fantesys a wey.

Hu. And so I wyll by heuyn kynge
If they other daunce or synge
Haue a monge them by this day

Cyngn orauce.

¶ Than thou takyst good & wyse weys
And so shalt thou best please
All this hole company
For the folyshe arguynge ý thou hast had
with that knaue experiens ý hath made
All these folke therof wery
¶ For all they that be nowe in this hall
They be the most pte my seruaunts all
And loue pryncypally
Disports as daunsynge syngynge
Toys trykuls laughynge gestynge
For connynge they set not by

Hu. I se well suche company euer more
As sensuell appetyte is gone fore
wyll please well this audyens

yng. Tye that I suppose they wyll
But pease harke I prey the be styll

I wene they be not far hens

¶ Then the daunsers with out the hall syng this wyse and they with in answer or ellys they may say it for nede.

¶ The daunsers & Sensuall.

Pease sys pease now pease sys all

¶ Humanyte & yngnorans.

why who is that so hye doth call

¶ The daunsers.

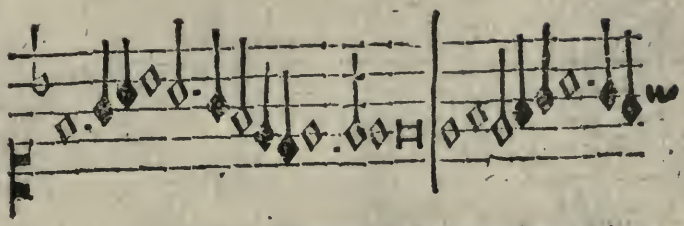
Sylence I say be you among

For we be dysposyd to syng a song

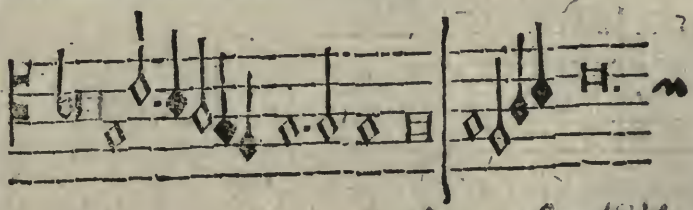
¶ Humanyte & yngnorans.

Come in then boldely a mong this presens

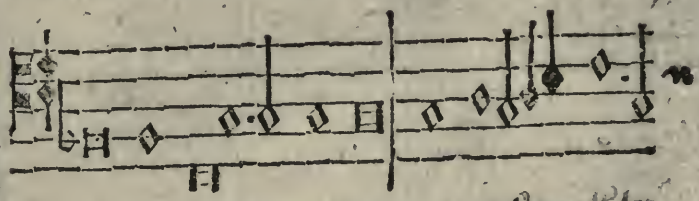
For here ye shall haue good audyens.



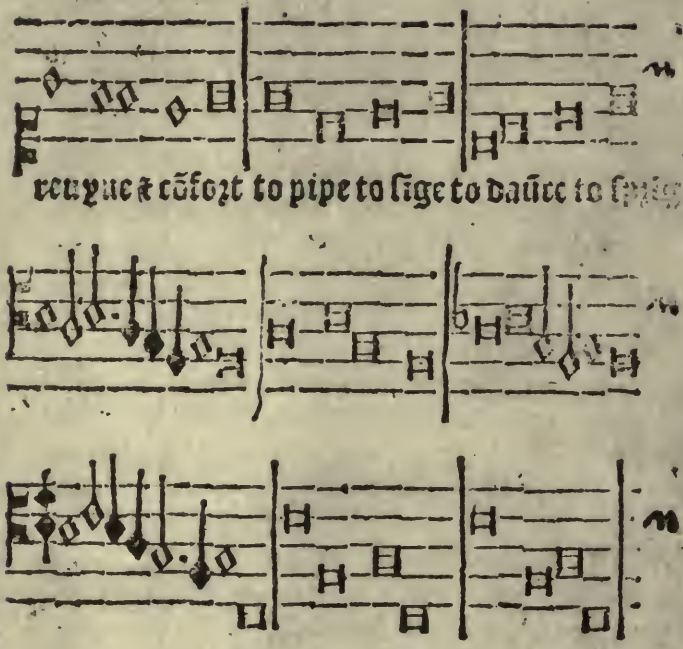
Tyme to pas with goodly sport our spryte to

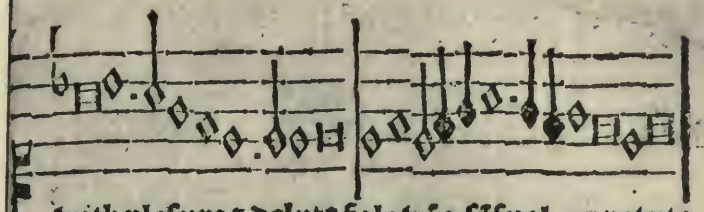


Tyme to pas &c. wyth goodly sport our spryte to

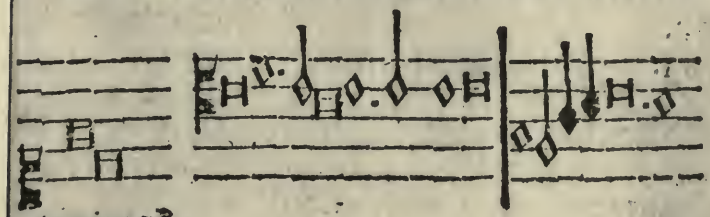


Tyme to pas &c. wyth goodly sport our spryte to

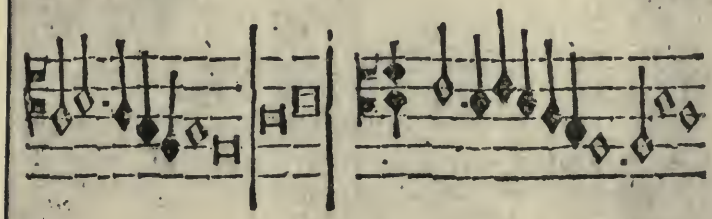

reuyue & cõfort to pipe to ſige to daũce to

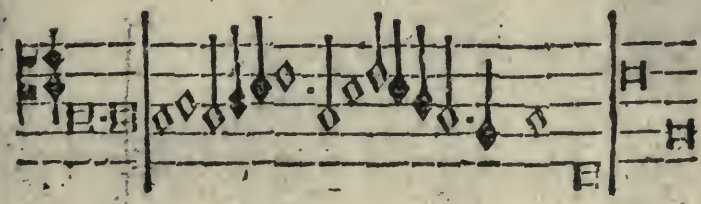


with plesure & delyte folowig sēsual appetyte



to pipe &c.





yng. I can you thank ꝑ is done well
It is pyte ye had not a mynstrell
For to augment your solas
Sen. As for mynstrell it maketh no force
ye shall se me daunce a cours
without a mynstrell be it better or wors
Folow all I wyll lede a trace
Hu. Now haue a monge you by this lyght
yng. That is well sayd be god almyght
Make rome syrs & gyt them place
¶ Than he syngyth this song & daunyth with all
And euermore maketh countenaunce accordyng
To the mater & all ꝑ other answer lyke wyte
¶ Daunce we/ daunce we. praunce we praunce we
So merely let vs daunce ey/ so merely &c
And I can daunce it gyngerly & I &c
And I can fote it by & by & I &c
And I can pranke it pperly
And I can countenaunse comely
And I can kroke it curtesly
And I can lepe it lustly
And I can torn it trymly
And I can fryske it freshly
And I can loke it lordly
yng. I can the thanke sensuall apetyte
That is ꝑ best daunce with out a pype

sensuall apetite must syg this song and his countenaunce answerd by lyke wyse

That I saw this seuen yere

Hu. This daunce wold do mych better yet
yf we had a kyt or taberet
But alas ther is none here

Sen. Then let vs go to ȳ tauerne agayne
There shall we be sure of one or twayn
Of mynstrells ȳ can well play

yng. Then go I pray ye by & by
And purueyſome mynstrell redy
And he & I wyll folow shortly
As fast as euer we may

Hu. Ther with I am ryght well content

Sen. Then wyll I go in contynent
And prepare euery thyng
That is metely to be done
And for lacke of mynstrells ȳ mean seasō
Now wyll we begyn to syng

Now we wyll here begyn to syng
For daunce can we nomore
For mynstrells here be all lackyng
To ȳ tauerne we wyll therfore

¶ Et exeūt cantando ꝛc.

Hu. Now yf that sensuall appetyte cā fynd
Any good mynstrells after hys mynd
Dowt not we shall haue good spoꝛt

yng. And so shall we haue foꝛ a sucrte
But what shall we do now tell me
The meane whyle foꝛ our cōfoꝛt

Hu. Then let vs some lusty balet syng

yng. Nay syꝛ by ꝑ heuyn kyng
Foꝛ me thynkyth it serupth foꝛ no thyn
All suche peuysh pꝛykyeryd song

Hu. Pes man pꝛyksong may not be dispysy
Foꝛ ther with god is well plesyd
Honowꝛyd pꝛaysyd & serupd
In the churche oft tymes among

yng. Is god well pleasyd trowst thou therby
Nay nay foꝛ there is no reason why
Foꝛ is it not as good to say playnly
Gyf me a spade
As gyf me a spa ve va ve va ve vade
But yf thou wylt haue a song ꝑ is good
I haue one of robyn hode
The best that euer was made

Hu. Then a feleshyp let vs here it

yng. But there is a boꝛdon thou must bere it
Oꝛ ellys it wyll not be

hu. ¶ Than begyn and care nocto,
¶ Downe downe downe &c.
yng. ¶ Robyn hode in barnysdale stode
And lent hym syl a mapyll thystyll
Thā cam our lady & swete saynt andrewe
Slepyst thou wakyst thou geffrey coke
¶ A. C. wynter the water was depe
I can not tell you how brode
He toke a gose nek in his hande
And ouer the water he went
¶ He start vp to a thystell top
And cut hym downe a holyn clobe
He stroke ꝑ wyn betwene the hornys
That fyre sprange out of the pyggꝭ tayle
¶ Jak boy is thy bowe I broke
Or hath any mā done ꝑ wryguldy wrage
He plukkyd muskyllys out of a wyllowe
And put them in to his sachell
¶ Wylkyn was an archer good
And well coude handell a spade
He toke his bend bowe in his hand
And set hym downe by the fyre
¶ He toke with hym. lx. bowes and ten
A pese of befe a nother of baken
Of all the bydes in mery englond
So merely pypys the mery botell

Nature.

Well Humanyte now I see playnly
That thou hast vsyd muche foly
The whyle I haue ben absent
Hu. Syr I trust I haue done nothynge
That shold be contrary to your pleasynge
Nor neuer was myne intent
For I haue folowed the counsell clere
As ye me bad of studyouse desire
And for necessyte a monge
Somtyme sensuall appetyte counsell
For without hym ye knowe ryght well
My lyfe can not endure longe

Nature.

Though it be for the full necessary
For thy cõfort somtyme to satysfy
Thy sensuall appetyte
yet it is not conuenyent for the
To put therin thy felycyte
And all thy hole delyte
For if thou wylt lerne no sciens
Nother by study nor experiens
I shall the neuer auaunce
But in the worlde thou shalt dure than
Dyspysed of euery wyse man
Lyke this rude best ygnoraunce

The conclusion of this interlude is lost.

y