The Tudor Facsimile Texts

The Nature of the Four Elements

Four Elements printing, c. 1510–20
imile, 1908
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Date of Composition and Printing, c. 1510-20
Reproduced in Facsimile, 1908
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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 interlude and a mery of the nature of the iii. element: declaring many proper points of philosophy naturall and of dyuers strange landys and of dyuers strange effects and causis. Whiche interlude if hole matter be playde wyl conteyne the space of an hour and a halfe: but if ye lyst ye may leaue out suche of the said matter as the messengers pre and some of naturys parte and some of experyens parte yet the matter wyl be pend conuenently: and than it wyl not be passe the three quarters of an hour of length.

There folow the names of the players.

The messengers: Nature naturall/ Humilipte Studious desirfe/ Sensuall appetite/ The tauerner/ Experyence/ yngnorante/ Also if ye lyst ye may byrne in a dyngylenge.

There folow dyuers matters whiche be in this interlude conteynyd.

Of the situatione of the iii. elements: that is to saye the yeft the water the axe and fyre of the three qualitez and proportitez and of the generatione and corruptione of thyngs made of 5 conyonct of them.
Of certeyn selutions puyngge that the yerth must nedes be coude  
by hymynge in 
perhynge of the leyre
mauntere  
it is in circuiterre a boure. In myle
Of certeyn selusions puyngge that the see yeth 
rounde upon the yerth.

Of certeyne poynte of cosinographye as howe 
where the see couereth the yerth  
of dyuers straige regions of landsys and whiche wep the yve and of 
the new sounte landsys and maner of people.

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

Of the generacyon and cause of well puyngge  
ypers and of the cause of hote burns that came 
out of the of the yerth  
and of the cause of the bathys 
of water in the yerth whiche be perpetually hote.

Of the cause of the ebebe and slyde of the see

Of the cause of raynesnowe and hople

Of the cause of the wynys and thonder

Of the cause of the lyghtenyngge of blasyng ster-
rys and flamps sleyngge in the aye
The messenger:

T habondant grace of the power deuyned which both illumyne y world inpyton
Presere this audyence and cause them to inclyne
to charyte this is my peteyon
For by your paciens and suppostacyoti
lyttil interlude late made and preparyd
Before your presence here shal be declaryd
of a few conclusiouns is contruyd
And pointes of phylosophy naturall
But though the matter be not so well declaryd
As a great clerke coude do noz so substantyall
yet the auctour here of requireth you all
Though he be ignozant and cau lyttil skyll.
to regarde his only intecit and good wyll
Of which in his mynde hath oft tyntes ponderyd
what number of boks in our tonge macternall
Of tayes and tryfelyes be made and impizynytu
And few of them of matter substantyall
For though many make boks yet ynicel ye shal
In our englyshe tongue fynde any work
Of contrynge that is regardyd by clerks.

The greke the roinaus with many other nio
In their moder tonge wrot workes excellent
Than yf clerke in this realme wolde take payn to
I. is.
Confyderung that our tounge is now suffycient
To expoun any hard sentence expedit
They myght yf they wolde in our englyshe tounge
Wyte wykys of graupye somtyme amonge
Cfo dyuers þe engnaunte wyte he in this lande
As wel of noble men as of meane estat
 WHICH the nothyng but englyshe can understande.
Than þe connyinge latern bokys were translat
In to englyshe wel tozzet and appropate
All subtelte learnis in englyshe myght be lernyd
As well as other people in their owne tonge dyd
But now so it is that in our englyshe tounge
Many one there is that can but rede a wyte
For his pleasure wyll oft presume amonge
New bokys to compile and balate to indyte
Some of loue or other matter not worth a wyte
Some to opteyn sauour wyll flatter and gloxe
Some wyte curyous termes nothyng to purpose
Thus every man after his fantasie
Wyll wyte his conceypte lest neuer so rude
Be it reteous byeous wyledome or soly
whereof to my purpose thus I conclude
why thid not than the auctour of this interlude
Utter his owne fantasie and conceypte also
As well as dyuers other now a dayes do
Cfo wyledome and soly is as it is takyn
For the one calleth wysedome another calleth folly
Yet amongst moste folke that man is holdyn
Moste wyle whene to be rych the studyeth only
But he that for a comyn welth byly
Studye th and laboure th and lyeth by goddes lawe
Except he war rych men count hym but a daw.
So that is rych is ever honourely
Although he haue got it neuer so fallely
The po are yeone neuer so wyle is reproudy
This is the oppynyon moste comyny
Thou owke out the worde and yet no reason why
Therefore in my mynde when that all ryche dawes
Have habulyd what they can no force of.
There is
For every man in reason thus ought to do
To laboure for his owne necessary lyngynge
And than for the welth of his neybhour also.
But what drylysh mynde haue they which muslig
And labourynge all their lyfe do no nother thynge.
But lyke ryches to their owne postlypon
Nothingyn regardyge their neybours distruction
Yet all the ryches in the worde that is
Liythe of the grounde by goddes lendyngge
And by the labour of poore mens handys
And though thou rych may have therof 
kepyng
Yet to no thys ryches of thy gettyng
Noz oughtst yth not in reason to be peryd by y moke
A.iv.
For by other men's labour it is got before
A great witty man may one be encryped
That laboysth and studyeth for riches only
But how shall his coûps ens than be discharged
For all clerkes asserue that that man presicely
Whiche studyeth for his owne welth pryucyally
Of God shall deserve but lytyll rewarde
Except he the coûyn welth somewhat regarde
So they sey that that man occuppeth is
For a coûyn welth whiche is ever laboynge
To recue poze people with tempoxall goodys
And that it is a coûyn good act to byynge
People from byrc and to use good lyynge
Lyke wyse so a coûyn welth occuppeth is he
That byngyngh them to knowlege yngnozat be
But man to knowe god is a diysculle
Except by a syne he hym selfe inure
Whiche is to knowe goddes creaturys that be
As furst them that be of the grolyst nature
And than to know them that be moare pure
And so by lytyll and lytyll ascendynge
To know goddes creaturys mericous, werkys.
And this wyse man at the last shall come to
The knowlege of god and his hye mageste
And so to lerne to do his dewte and alse
To deserve of his goodnes partesence to be
Wherefore in this woork descripyd shall ye see
Furst of the element is the sytuacyon
And of their effectis the cauie and generacyon
And though some me thinke this matter to by
And not mame soz an audyence vulerny
He thinke soz man nothyng more necessary
Than this to know though it be not byd
Noz a matter more lowe can not be arguyd
For though the elementis goddys creaturis be
Yet they be most grose and lowyst in dege
How dare men presume to be callyd clerke
Wyputynge of hye creaturis celestiall
As thynys in byple and goddys hye warke
And know not these byple thynys inversall
So they wolde nowe hye thynge & know nothynge
Of the yreth here wherou they dayly be (at all)
Nother the nature for me noz quantyte
Cwherefore it sempth nothyng concygnent
A man to study and his tyme to be showe
Furst soz the knowlge of hye thynge excellent
And of lygte matters beneth nothyng to know
As of these tiss elementis here below
whose effectis dayly apperce here at ey
Such thynge to nowe furt / were moste mete study
Cwhiche matter before your presence mostly
In this interlude here shal be declarde
without great eloquence i tyme rudey
Because the compyle is but small lerned
This worke with rethoryk is not a dounryd
For perhaps in this matter much eloquence.
Sholde make it teINYous or hurt the sentence.
But because some folke helptyll dispysyd
To sadness but noye to myyth and spoyt.
This phylosophykeall worke is mypyd
With myr py conceptis to gyue men cyssoe
And occasyon to cause them to refoyt.
To here this matter wherto ye they take hede
Some lernynge to them therof may peede.
But they that shall nowe this matter declare
Ope styly here into this audiencye.
Be holde I prey you see where they are.
The players begin to appere in presencye.
I se well it is tymes for me to go hens.
And so I wyll do therefore nowe shortly.
To god I compt all this hole company.

Chie intrat natura naturata hum-
nyte et Studpyous desyre postas figura

Chie Naturata

The bye myghty most excelent of all
The soutayn of goodnes vertu & coryng
Which is exercyse of power most potentally.
The pscoryng and first cause of every thinge.
I meane that only bye nature naturynge.
Lo he by his goodnes hath ordeynyd and create
We here his mynystere callyd nature naturate •
Wherefore I am the very naturate nature
The immediate mynystere for the preternature
Of every thynge in his kynde to endure,
And cause of generation and corruption
Of that thynge that is brought to destruction
Another thynge styll I bynyng forth a gayne
Thus wonderfull I worke and never in byne
The great world be holde to deuyped wodersly
In to two regions whereof on I call
The ethernal region with the hevyns hye,
Conteynyng the planetys hevnis & spers all
The lower region callyd the elementall,
Conteynyng thefe i.e. elements be too
The hye the ayle the water and yerth also
But yet the elements and other bydes all
Beneeth take theye effects and operation
Of the bydes in the region ethernal
By theye influences and constellation
They cause here corruption and generation
For of the mynystere a bourre sholde ony cease
Beneeth sholde be nother increase nor decrease
There elements of them selve so syngle be
Unto dryers foymys can not be deuyped
Yet they compye to gyder dayly yelee
whereof byuers kyndes of thynges be ingenereyd
where the thynges fere fepns whan they be corrupyped
ye the element I reduce to his furtst estate
So that noughtyng can be utterly aduyehelate
Foit though the xoume and facypn of any thyng
That is a coypoall body be distroyed
yet euerly matter remainyth in his beyng
whereof it was furtst made and foundyd
Foit coypoall of a body corrupyped
ys but the resolution by tyne and space
Of every element to his owne place
Foit who that wyll take any body coypoall
And do whate he can it to distroy
To breke it or giynde it into pouder small
To walke to drowne to byen it or to by
yet the axe and fyre therof naturally
To their owne ppe places wyll ascende
The water to the water the yerth to yerth tende
Foit yhez o2 mowlstrate of any thynges certayne
By fyre o2 be water be confunyed
yet yerth o2 ashyes on yerth wyll remayne
So the elementts can never be distroyed
Foit effenpyally ther is nowat this tyde
As weyte the axe water yerth as was
Euer before this tynde nether more noz las
Whereof thou man now I speke to the.
Remember that thou art compound and create
Of these elements as other creatures be
Yet they have not all like noble estate
For plants and herbs growe and be infuclide
But beestis have memory and their wyrs fyue
But thou hast all those and soule intellectue
CSo by reason of thyn undestandinge
Thou hast domynyon of other bestis all
And naturally thou sholdyst desire conyngge
To knowe straunge effectes and causys naturall
For he that studyeth for the lyfe best yall
As voluptuous pleasure and bodely rest
I account hym neuer better than a best
Chumanyte.
CDexcellent pynee and great lordes nature
I am thyne owne chylde and sompyd instrument
I beleeche thy grace take me to thy cure
And teche me suche seperst thou thikyst expedyt
CNature.
CThan lyth thou art so humble and bencuolent
That thyngs that is more for thy capalyte.
And good for thy knowlege I shall Instructe the
CFuesst of all thou must consider and see
These elements wyche do yhe other penetrat
And by continual alteration they be
Of them selte dayly coyyptyd and generate.
The yerth as a poiynet or center is sytuate
In the myddle of the worlde, with 5 water, Joyned
with the ayre & syre rounde & hole inuironyd.
C. The yerth of it selfe is pondeorous and heuy
Colde and dry of his owne nature, pper.
Some parte lyeth dry continuall
And parte therof coueryd ouer with water
Some with the salt see some with freshe syure
Whiche yerth and the water to gyder with all
So Joyned make a rounde sygure sperecall.
C. So the water whiche is colde & moyst is soude.
In and uppon the yerth sylyng the holones
In dyuers partes liyng with yerth rounde
Yet the syllys and mountyns of yerth excelse.
Take nothyng of hit a way the roundnes
In companyon bycause they be so small.
No more than the pykses do that be on a gall
C. The ayre whiche is hote and moyst alfo.
And the syre whiche isuer hote and dry.
About the yerth and water Joyned they go
And compasseth every where oxbicularly.
As the whyte a boute the polke of an egg doth ly.
But the ayre in the lower parte moste remaynynth.
The syre natural to the yer ther tendyth
C. The ether all region whiche conteynyth
The sterres and planetys and cuyry spere.
About the elementis dayly mouyth
And cveryth them rounde a bout every where.
Every sferre and spher in strange maner
Upon his diuiue poles mouyth dyuerfly
Whiche howe to declare were to longe to cary
The ype and the ype of their natures be lyght
Therefore they move by naturall prouydence
The water because it is ponderous in weyght
Mouyth not naturally but by yvolence
Of the sferis and planetes by whose influence
The lee is compellyd to ebbe and flowe dayly
And fresse waters to spynge continually
(And though the water be grose and heuy
yet nothyng so grose as the perth I wys)
Therefore by hete it is vapooryd by lyghtely
And in the ayre maketh cloudys and mystes
But as soon as ever that it grosetly is
Gerofyd to gyder / if descendeth a gayne
And caulth upp on yperth haple showus rayne
(Therfor because of his ponderosyte
A vopoityd equally the mouypge grete
Of all extremites and sperys that be
And cendyth to the place that is most quiet
So in the myodyg of all the sperys is set
Formall abiert from all maner mouynge
Therere naturally he restyth & mouyth nothyng
Clarke well now how I have the chinky tolde
Of every element the very situation
And qualyte, wherefore this figure beholde
For a more manysest demonstration
And by cause thou holdest not put to obli upon
My doctrine, this man called studious desire
With the shall haue continual habitation
The styll to exhort more eyens to adquire
For more thou desyst to know any thyngs
Therein thou leyst the more a than to be
For that man that desirith no mater conyng
All that yple no better than a best is he
Why ben the eyes made but only to see
The leggys to here the body of a creature
So euer thyng is made to do his nature
So lyke wyse reason witt and understondynge
ys gycen to the man for that thou holdest i bede:
Knowe thy maker a cause of thyne owne byng
And what is world it is a wherof thou doest prede
wherefore it be ouyng the of very newly
The caufe of thyngs for to lerne
And than to knowe a laude the hpy god eterne
Chumanyte.

Gloynous lovd and pynce moste pleyne
Greatly am I now holdyn into the
So to illumyne my mynd that was yngnozant
With such noble doctrine as thou hast here shewed wherefore I promise by my dyelyseme (me) my dylygence to do to kepe in memory And the loze to honour byll perpetually CStudyous desire CAnd byth it hath pleasyd thy grace to aduance Me bypon this man to gyue attendaunce With thy doctrine here the wyd I shall akny his And dayly pul hym in remembraunce (wyete his courage and desyre I shall also inhauence So that his felyeplete shall be most of all To study and to serche for causys naturall CNature CWell than for a season I wyll departe Leuyse you to gyder here both twayne what I have shewed man pynxt well in thynke here And marke well this figure here I shall remayne Werby thou mayst perceyue many thinges more Concernyng pynxt matter I spake of before (playn And what that I shall resere here a gayne Othepynxt of conynge I shall shewe the more CStudyous desire CNow when ye do call to your memery The conynge pynxt that nature hath declared And though he have shewed byuers poysst & many Of the clmentis so wonderly copiued
Yet many other caulis there are wolde be lernyd
As to knowe the generasyon of thyngs all
Here in the yerth / how they be ingendyd
As herbs plantys well sphyngston and meall

Chumanyte.

CThose thyngs to knowe so; me be full expediet
But yet i those points whiche nature late the wyd
My mynde in them as yet is not cöntent (me
For i can no maner wyse percepue no; see
No; roose by reason why the yerth volde be
In the mynde of s sphyngament hangynge to small
And the yerth with the water to be roude with all

CStudyous delie.

CHe sphyngeth my selfe as to some of those poynct
I coude gyue a suffeyent solucion
For suffet of all thou mght nedys graunt this
That the yerth is to depe and botom hath non
O; els there is some grose sphyng hit stodeth upon
O; els that it hangyth thou mght nedys content
Evyn in the mynde of s sphyngament

Chumanyte.

CWhat chang go forth with thyne argument
CStudyous delie.

CTha marke well in s day of in a wynters nyght
The sone and thone and sferis celestyal
In the elk furest they do spere to thy lyghte
Master in the west they do downe fall
A Mayne in the moye next of all
With a ratiue houres they ar come. Just
To set poire again where thou sawest them frue
\[\text{CT.}\]jan of the erthe Guld be of endles degnes
Or shulde stand upon any other groe thyng
It shulde be an impediment dowtes.
To the lone mone and steris in theyr moynge.
They shulde not so in the est agayne spunge
Therefor in reason it semeth moste conuenient
The yerth to hange in the myddle of the hymynent
Humungynce.

Theyn argument in why poynct doth me esforce
That thou hast made but yet it purpeth not ryght.
That the yerth by reason shulde be rounde.
For though the hymynent with his steris bynght:
Commas aboute the yerth euere day and nyght
Yet the yerth may be playne pacuentire.
Quadrant triangle of some other syngure.
Studyouse desyue.

That it can not be playne I shall well pue the
Be cause the steris that a ryse in the oppent
Appere more woner to them that there be
Than to the other dwellynge in the occident
B. i.
The eclipse is thereof a playne experymente
Of the cone or cone which whane it doth the sy
Is never one tyne of the day in placeys all
Yet the eclipse generally is alwaye
In the hole wo:ilde as one tyne beynyge
But shan we that dwell here see it in anytay
They in the west part is see it in the mornyng
And shan in the est beholde it in the evenyng
And why that shalde so be no cause can be found
But onely by reason that the yerthe is rownde

Chumanyte,
That reason proueth the yerth at the left
Rowndayes to be rownde I cannot gayne say
As so: to accompt frome the est to the west,
But yet not withstondyng all that it may
Lesse hys rowndenesse by some other waye

Studiuos de lyte.
Na no doubt ye is rownde every where
which I could proue thou shoudest not say nay
ye I had therfe any tyne and lesse
But I knowe a man callelyd experyens
Of byners instrumentys is never without
Rowde proue all these poynys & yet behis eye:
Can tel how many inyle the erthe is a bowte
in many other straunge ciscusions no doyte
ty ys instrumentys solde they thay to cectayn
at cery rude carter thold thay playte playn
Chumanyte.
Now wolde to god I had 
y man nowere
For the contemtaryon of my mynde
C Studyons desyze.
cyy ye wyll I shall to hym enquere
And byngye hym befor ys I can hym kynde
Chumanyte.
Then myght I say ye were to one ryght kynde
C Studyons desyze.
I shall assay by god that we berc bought
For cunning is the thynge ys wolde be fought
C Sensual apetye.
well hyet quod hykman when ys he smot
Hy pys wynse on the buttock with a bere pott
Aha now god euyne sole god euyne
It is euyn the knaye than I ncen
Hast thou done thy bablyng
C Studyons desyze.
cye peraduenture what than
C Sensual apetye. (my blyssynge
Tha hold downe thy hede hyke a pertye ma e take
This wyse hym deplaine.

Senh. Though he loke never so well
      I promyse you he hath a thywe wolde tell
Vnr. Why do I say you tell
Senh. For he sayeth lyke a knaue
St. Holde your pease lyke me mys take me
      what I trowe that ye wolde make me
      lyke to one of your hym
Senh. That lykis here ye not how boldy
      he calleth me knaue againste my polycy
      The bawyll pull of his hym
      I wolde he were hanged by the bynde
      For by the inesel I Iowve hym lat
      we two can never a tre
      I say content ly with you to say
      And I am so; you to necessary
      ye can not love without the

Vr. Wherfore I say what man be ye

Senh. I am callely felow all apercye
      All craturys to me delvre
      I conforte the wyttyys ynde
      The tayling tayling the ynde
      I restore the right and selvyng
      To all craturys a lyne.
For thou the body wert bold by
For lacke of sodse or elles thirsty
Than with dynkes plesaund
I resto hym out of payne
And oft refre stre the nature agayne
With delicate by and
With plesaunde sound of armony
The herpyge alwaye I satysfy
I haste this well reporte
The smellynge with twete odoe
And the lyghte with plesaunte fy gob
And colours I comfoze
The felynge that is so plesaunte
Of every member fote or hande
What pleasure therin can be
By the towchynge of lost or harde
Of scote oye 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 convenient.

Stu. dys beware yet what ye do
For ye for take my company so
Lozde nature byll not be conteyne.
Of hym pe shall never tellen good thing
Nother vertu no; no other conjynge
This dare I well say

Sen. Mary auntyt kwaue I the devys
Byde natur alle byde hym my compty
what sayst thou thereto speke openly

Hu. As soo that I know well say

Sen. No by god I am ryght sure
Foz he knoweth well no creature
Without me can lyue one day

Hu. Sy? I pray you be contente
It is not vterly myne intente
Your company to exyle
But onely to have comynye carpyon
And a pastyme of recreacyon
With this man soo a while

Stu. Well soo your pleasure I will departed

Sen. Now go kwaue go I bel hy wyth harte
The demyl lende the soo wynde

Sen. Now by my trouthe I meruell gyetal
That ever ye wolde vs the company
So myche of suche a kwaue
Foz ye do no nother thyng
But ever study and to be merynge,
As he wolde haue you it wyll you bynge
At the last in to your graue
Cyne shulde cune; study byncypall
For to confort your lyfe naturall
With metis and dynces dilecate
And other pastymes & pleasures a monge
Daulonge laughyenge or pleautant longe
This is mete fo2 your estate

Bu. C Becau se ye ley fo I you pynple
That I haue musyd & studyd lych wyse
We thynketh my wytyes wery
By nature desyreth cume restefhyngge
And also I haue ben fo longe fauynge
That I am somewhat hongry

Sen. C well than wyll ye go with me
To a tauerne wherc ye shall se
Good pastauce & at your lyverte
Have what so cuer ye wyll

Bu. CI am content so fo2 to do
Yf that ye wyll not fo me go
But kepe me company wyll

Sen. C Company go a pe & I shall poynpt deynpe
And also do you good and frew servyce
And therto I plyght my trouthe
And ye that I ever so take you
I pray god the devil take you
Hu. C Wary I thank you so that othe
Sen. C Am I lychfe on it my tonge too
will tryp somesyme what to euer I do
But ye wot what I intene well
Hu. C Ye no forre let this matter passe
But seydest eui now thou kin wyf where
A good tauerne to make solas
(was
where is that I trye the tell
Sen. C Wary at the dore evyn here by
ye we call any thynge on bye
The tauerne wyll answer we
Hu. C I pray ye the than call for hem nowe
Sen. C Wary I wyll / How tauerne how
why dosse thou not appere
Tauer. C who is that calleth so hastily
ner. I shew thynye hert speke softly
I tell the Ian nothere
Sen. C Than I be the new page of thyne age
Come hyther knowe for thyny advaunage
why makyst thou hile to tow
Ta. C For myne advaunage mary that I come
Beware lyf now let me haue comte
Lo here I am what leyst thou
Sen. Mary thus here is a gentleman I say
That nother ete now bryanke this day
Therefo' tell me I the praye
Ye thou haue any good wyne

T a. ye shall haue spayne the wyne & galcoyn
Rose colour whyte claret rampyon
Tyre capryck and maluesyne

Sab ratpyce alpcaunt runnep
Gycke ipozaze new made clary
Suche as ye neuer had
For ye dyynke a draught o2 too
Ye wyll make you o2 ye thens go
By goggs body starkke madde

Sen. I wot thou art not without good wyne
But here is a gentylman hath lyft to dyne
Canst thou get hym any good mete

T a. what mete mayster wolde ye haue

Hu. I care not to god me lauce
So that it be holosome to ete

T a. I wolde we had a good newd capon

Sen. As for capons ye can gette none
The kyng ys taken toke by eche one.

I wot well there is none to get
Though all capons be gone what than yet I can get you a stewed hen
That is redy byght.

If she be fat ye will do well
Fat o' lene I cannot tell
But as for this I woot well
She lay at the stewes all nyght.

Thou art a mad gest be this nyght.
Ye say it is a felow that neuer layps
But caste yet my mayster a dyght of qua-
Ainal by; des twa wese o; wagtayle
They be lyght of dygestyon.

Lyght of dygestyon fo; what reason
For phylyk putteth this reason therto
Becaus those by; desile to a seco
And be contynuall mounyng

Then know I a lyghter mete than y
I pray the tell me what
Ye ye well nedps know at that e longe
It is cuyn a womans tounge
For that is euor sterpyng

Sy I pray the let cuchy fanteses be
And come heber nere sharke to me
And do after my byddynge.
God peruue vs a dyner cupyn of the most
Of all mauer dyshes both cod and roste
That thou canst get space toz nd cote
vt thou make the course

Ca. I Thau ve get norther gote nor swane
But a dyche of dreggs a dyche of diane
A dyche of diane and I trowe that
ve can not get the wyle

Hu. Cwhat holion boldyst thou peruue
Bian diane a thylynge dreggs I ley
I holde the mad I trowe

Ca. Tooure yall on lad ye not thus
That I sholde peruue you the course
And thele be course I do we (dyshes

Hu. Cthe course dyshes go a
What mad tole thou myys taken me thine
If wyll thou wotest not what I wene
And understandest a myys
I wene this wyle I wolde have the
To peruue me to great plente
That thou sholdyst at necessyte
Serue theim at the course

C That is to understand at one dyde
Thou shulde be lyte them unto y boor
At the severall tympes,

Clype that I se well ye will make a fethe

Clype by the cote clype with the grete

Clype my trouth than do ye bette

Eyer after my wynde

But ye must have more company.

CThat is trewe and to wolde I gladde

If I knewe any to fynde.

CWhy wolde ye folowe my counsell.

CWe.

CThan we will have lytell well.

A poper menche the dauntles well,

And Jane with the blacke lace.

We will have bountinge bete al so,

And two o poore menches mo.

Ryte fey and lypper of face.

CNow be it to you art salunte here.

CThis I preve ye wolde make gode therre.

CWhy what thyne the I els do.

CIf ye thinke to bel than well I

So before and make all thynges redy.

Agayne ye come ther to.

CMary I pre the do so.

CThan farewel by zs to I am gone
Chu. And we shall follow the and
     without any tarrying
Sen. Then it is best by ye make haste
     For ye shall spend here but tyme I wole
     And do no nother thinge
Hu. Trye ye will let vs goo by and by
Sen. I pray you be it so? I am redy
     No man better bylyng
     Now esyn exerpons as I may lay
     ye are ryght welcom to this courtre
     without any saynyng.
Erpies Sy; I thank you therof hertely
     And I am as glad of your company
     As any man leyng
Stu. Sy; I understonde that ye have be
     In many a strange countree
     And haue had grete slypcyte
     Strange caules to seke and synde
Er. Ryght fair ly? I haue rydden & gone
     And seen strange thynges many one
     In astryk/europe and ynde
     Bothe est & west I haue ben far
     North also and seen the souther sterp
Bothe by see and landle
And ben in condry nacyons
with peple of dyuers condayons
Stu. Marvelous to understande.
Syf a man have suche cozage
Or deuoyon in pylgrymage
Iherusalem unto
Foz to accompt the necte way
How many myle is it I you pray
Ex. From hens theder to goo
Syf as fo; all suche questyons
Of townes to know the situacyon
How ferd they be a sunder
And other poynes of cosmogrophy
ye thall neuer lerne then moe surely
Then by that fugure yonder
Foz who that sygure dyd fyld deuylle
It semeth well he was wyse
And perfyte in this sevens
Foz bothe thes le and landle also
Lye trew and just as they sholde do
I know by experyens.
Stu. who thynke you brought here this sygure
Ex. CI wot not