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THE HORSE, THE SHEEP AND THE GHOOS
BY JOHN LYDGATE

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L98 +
1906

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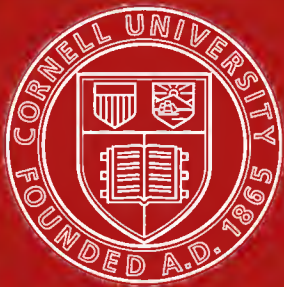
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The horse, the sheep, and the ghoos

A
lytell treatyse
of
the horse, the sheep, and the ghoos
by
John Lydgate

Printed at Westminster
by Wynkyn de Worde
about 1499

Cambridge
at the University Press
1906

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© 1906

Among the collections of tracts in Bishop Moore's library presented to the University in 1715 by King George the First the volume marked AB. 4. 58 was one of the most remarkable. It contained one book printed by Pynson, and no less than twenty-five printed by Wynkyn de Worde, five of them at Westminster.

The Horse, the Sheep, and the Goose now reproduced was the twenty-fifth tract in the volume. No other copy of it is known to exist.

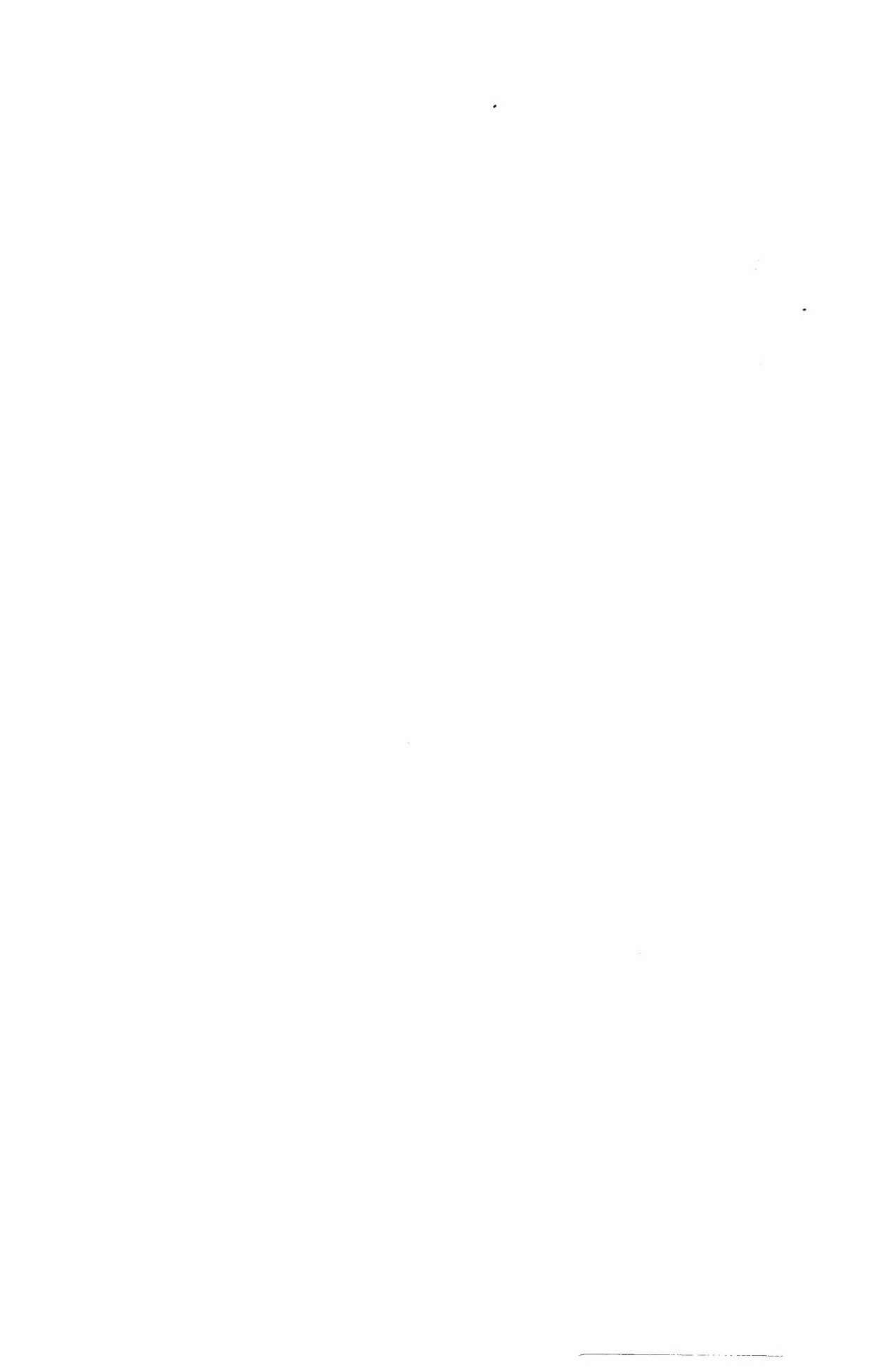
The woodcut which serves as a frontispiece must have been one of a set designed to illustrate an edition of Reynard the Fox. Mr Duff has noticed two other cuts from the same set; but the book for which they were made has entirely disappeared.

FRANCIS JENKINSON

1906 July 8

I certify that I have printed 250 copies only of this facsimile, that the impressions have been rubbed off the plates and the negatives destroyed.

P. DUJARDIN



25.



at

There begynneth a lptell treatyse of
the hoise/the lhycep/and the ghoos.

On euerys/plees and dylcordes
Bytwene persones were two or thre
Sought out the groundes by recordes
This was the custome of antyquyte
Juges were sette/that hadde autoirpte
The caas conceyued standynge Indifferant
Bytwene partyes to gyue Jugement

Partyes assembled of hyghe and lowe degree
Were admptted to shewen in sentence
Grouded of theyr quarels flawe made hem free
Without excepcon to come in audyence
By the presydent/commaunded fyrste scplence
Freedom gyue/the partyes not to spare
By tytell of ryght theyr greues to declare

Upon this mater shortly to conclude
Nought pore agone as J reherse shall
I founde to purpose a lympltyude
Full craftely depaynted vpon a wall
Tweyne ltytynge in estate R pall
The fyerle lyon famole in all Royames
And themper pall egle percyng the sonne beames

These were the dredefull Juges tweyne
By theyr estate ltytynge I toke hepe
a ij

That herde the partyes by and by complayne
The hors the ghoss and the symple shepe.
The processe was not to perfounde ne depe
Of theyr debate but contruyed of a fable
Whiche of hem was to man moost prouffycable

Eche for his partye proudeley gan procede
To force hym selte by recorde of scrypture
By phylolophers as clerkes seen and rede
The prerogatyues / gyuen hem by nature
Whiche of these thre / to euery creature
In republyca / auayleth moost a man
For his partye thus fyrste the hoise began

The hoise.

To procede byefly and not longe to tarye
Fyrrste for the troughte that I doo not erre
What beest is founde in all thynges so necessarye
As is the hoise bothe nyghe and ferre
And soo notable to man in peas and warre
Hors in cronycles who soo redeth a ryghe
Hauē saued ofte a many a worthy knyghte

Marcypall prowesse in especyall
God hath by hoise gyue to warrpours
Recorde of Alplaundre whos hoise Surcyfall
Made hym escape fro many sharpe hours
The golden chare of olde conquerours
Towarde the tryumphe for knyghtly dedes
Conceptued hit was with foure whyte stedes

¶ Remembre Hector the trojan champion
¶ Whoos horse was called Whylom galathe
¶ Upon whos backe pleyed the lyon
¶ Full ofte lythes he made the Grekes flee
¶ The stede of Perleus was called Pygale
¶ With swyfte wynges/peotes layen the same
¶ Was for his swyftnesse named the horse of fame

A

¶ Eques ab equo is sayd of verry ryght
¶ And chyualer is sayd of chyualtye
¶ In duche a rydder is called a knyght
¶ Aragon tonge dooth also specepe
¶ Cauaiozo/whiche is that partye
¶ Is named of woilhypp and toke begynnyng
¶ Of spors of golde and chyefly of rydynge

A

¶ These Emperours these prynces & these knynges
¶ Whan they beyn armed in byght plate & mayle
¶ Without horse what were theyr mustrynges
¶ Theyr brode baners or theyr ryche apparayle
¶ Tofore ther enemyes to she we heyn in batayle
¶ Without horse/spere/swerde/ne shelde
¶ Myght lytell auayle for to holde a felde

A

¶ The hardy prykers vpon horse backe
¶ Be sente to some what grounde is best to take
¶ In theyr ordenaunce that ther be no lacke
¶ By prouydence how they the felde shall make
¶ An horse wyll wepe for his maysters sake

a ij

¶ Chalice remeinbreth the swerde / rynges / glasse
¶ Presented were vpon a stede of brasle

¶ Betwene two hylles the prophete Zacharye
¶ Sawe stedes four / the fyrste of henn was rede
¶ In chares four the felde to magnetye
¶ And the seconde was blacke it is no drede
¶ The thyrde was whyte hodye necke and hede
¶ The fourth dyuerse of colours / wonder stronge
¶ And to knyghthode all these colours longe

¶ The rede hoise was token of hardynesse
¶ Whiche apperteyneth to eucry manly knyght
¶ The cole blacke hewe a sygne of sobernesse
¶ Foraylle oppreslyd to helpe in theyr ryght
¶ The whyte mylke stede that was glad of syght
¶ Tokenech & knyghthode treuly sholde entende
¶ Holy chitche maydens and wydowes to defende

¶ The manyfolde colours to speke in generall
¶ The sondry vertues and condycions
¶ As the foure vertues called cardynall
¶ Longynge to knyghthode tenrece theyr renons
¶ In re publica / called the champpons
¶ Trought to sustene and shewe hemselfe stronge
¶ Bounde by oydre to see no man haue wronge

¶ Withouten hoise Justes he tournayll
¶ May not beholde in warre ne in pres

Thor in palastre hood playes marcyall
Of horse doo fayle may come to none entrees
Ne noman sochly dare put hym in pries
Withouten horse for thorte conclusyon
To atteyne the palme of tryumphall querdog

Lower degrees ther bey of horse also
Doo grete prouffyte/to euery comonte
The plough ne carte myght nought do
Without horse/daply ye may see
Tyllonge were losse ne were we horses perde
The bely marchauite to his anauntage
Ner thyppe and horse coude haue no carpage

The thyppe by lykenesse is called an hors of tree
Full notably who can vnderstande
To lede men and carpe them ouer the see
As done horse whan they come to lande
The poore man eke ledech in a bande
His tytell capull/his corne his mele to selle
And whan hit is grouden bryngeth it fro þ melle

In wynter seASON to make beall chere
The horse is nedefull wood and turf to carpe
Wyne fruyte & oyle to serue thurgh the yere
Is brought to byneters and to potecarpe
Dyuerle drugges and many a letuarpe
Sondry bales and shortly all bytayll
Of the carpage horse haue the trauayll

They ne otes playnly who lyste leife
May fro the felde ner the medes grene
To the garner neyther to the berne
Without horse be carped hit is sene
And vnto purpose. I saye as Friene
Ther is no best rekene as I began
Soo necessarye/as horse is vnto man

Auguste is a season mery and glad
Whan euery tree with newe fruyte is lade
With draught of horse the sheeps ben home lad
That moneth passed/the leeuys gyn to fade
Whiche made in somer a plelaüt lusty shade
What done horse than to speke in wordes pleyd
The seconde croppe they carpe home of ryweyd

By draught of horse fro ryuers and welles
Sauges be brought to brewers for good ale
Lede stone tymbre carpage of belles
We bynge to chirches in trought this is no tale
We lede clothe sakes and many a large male
And gladly somers be sente to fomy
With gardeuyandes/how myght hors be forborn

Ye prudent Iuges the egle and the lyon
What I haue sayd doth wysely aduertysle
Weyeth this mater in your dyscrecyon
Where ghoos or sheep playnly to deuyse
Of theyr nature may in ony wyle

Trustely deme ye/late hit not be spared
Vnto an hors be lykened and compared

That I haue tolde is trought and noo faynyng
Noo wyght of realon agayne hit may applye
Ghoos ne gander ne grene gosselynge
But yf they entre the boundes of enuye
Lete her come forth and laye for her partye
Ghoos yes truste me wel for the I wyl not spare
Lyke as I fele my verdyte to declare

Where as thou haste vnto thy pasture
But one place/to make in thy repayre
Hit is graunted to me by nature
To abyde on water/londe & eyer
Now amonge floures and grenes that be fayer
Now bathe in rpuers swymme in many a ponde
For stome or shoure as drye as on the londe

To myne entent mo thynges ye may see
As meny experte knowen that bey olde
Whan wylde ghees hye in thayre vp fleen
With theyr wynges dysplayed and vnfolde
A pronostyque of snowe and frolle colde
Ralendes bynng playnly for to laye
Agayne wynter how meny sholde pourueye

The greses of ganders is good in medycyne
With sondry gommes tempied for the goute

Tynnetle aches to swayed and declynie
In the xremptee to drawe the malpce oute
Fechers of ghees whan they falle or moute
To gadre hem vp herdes hem delyte
To selle to fletchers the graye with the whyte

Mey plucke stalkes out of my wynges tweyne
Some to portrepe some to note or wryte
Whan Rethoricyenis haue doo theyr bespe peyne
Fresshe epytles and lettres to endyte
Without wrytynge auayleth not a myte
For yf pennes and wrytynge were awepe
Of remembraunce thay were losse the keye

Of ghees also the dede is prouyd ofte
In many a contree and many a regyon
To make pylowes and fetterbeddes losse
Of pudence mey plucken of the doug
Thus to make a playne comparyson
As pylowes ben to chambres agreable
Soo is harde strawe lytter for the stable

The fyne of ghees and grene gholcynges
Gadred is many amonge the herbes lote
Agayne brennyng scaldyng and other thynges
Tempred with oyle or butter dooth bothe
To swage payne perceeth to the rote
But hors douge as tefule is caste awaye
Is good for furneyes tempred with claye

¶ A deed hoile is but a foule carayne
¶ Thayer Infectynge it is soo corruptable
¶ But a fatte ghoos whan hit is newe slayne
¶ In dyllhes of golde a mussell greable
¶ Is serued vpon a kynges table
¶ Swymmyng a lyue in watter cristallyne
¶ Tenderly rosted requyreth to haue wyne

¶ Thurgh all the londe of Butes albyon
¶ For fethers arowes as I reherse can
¶ Ghoos is the beste to make comparyson
¶ Except fethers of pecok and of sway
¶ Be bowe and arowes syth the warre began
¶ Haue Englyshe men remembred in stoye
¶ Of theyr enemyes hadde many a vycioye

¶ Hoile in the felde may mustre with grete pryde
¶ Whan they of trompetteys here the bloody sownd
¶ But whan an arowe hath percyd his syde
¶ To groude he gooth & caste his mayster down
¶ Entryng the felde he pleyeth the lyon
¶ What foloweth after / his carayne synketh soze
¶ Saue skynne and shone ther leueth nomore

¶ Myghty captaynes and knyghtes in the felde
¶ Make theyr wardes in theyr ordenaunce
¶ Fyrste men of armes with polar spere & shelde
¶ Sette in ordre dewe to haue the gouernaunce
¶ Whiche at pepters toke the kyng of fraunce

2 2 2

Thank to the ghoos moost be gyuen of ryght
Whiche in the felde soo proudeley toke her flyght

Slouth of my flyght for hasty necligence
Of presumpcion / the ghoos was lette behynde
Whan the famous & the worthy duke of clarence
Rode on Bayarde with his eyes blynde
Flyght of my fethers was put out of mynde
And for he lette that daye of me no force
So ytell or nought what auapled hym his horse

Bookes olde remembre well in sentence
Whylom whan Rome by his fooy was take
The Capytol kepte of with grete defence
Noyle of a gandre / the captayne dyde wake
Whiche remembred / they lette vp for his sake
In theyr Temples wyde and olde
A large gandre forged all of fyne golde

His waker noyle was theyr sauatowne
By whiche the captayne ranne vpon the walle
Thus by a gandre recouered was the towne
Called of the worlde the cyte moost ryalle
Cyte of cytees that daye moost pryncypalle
Was euer hois in booke that ye can rede
Pro re publyca / that dyde suche a dede

In the booke named of cheualrye destpne
The storpe telleth as in sentemente

There were chydery of the ryall lyne
Born with chaynes/ & whan they were of rente
They tourned to swannes by enchaütemence
Toke theyr flyght the trought is full clere
And as swannes they swamme in the ryuere

This storpe is full autentike and olde
In frenche compyled oft red and seyn
Of thylke chaynes was made a cupe of golde
Whiche is yet kepte as some folkes seyn
And by dyscent hit longeth in certeyn
To the herfordes ye shall soo fynde in dede
Cerpyously who soo lyste the storpe to rede

And semblably /not longe here to fory
Telle this tale as for my partye
Ther was a man in lombardy born
To a ghoos ytornd by craftte of soicerpe
And so abode seuen yere me lyste not to lye
This wrytte fyll of /thay stode he vp a man
And bode in scrupce with the duke of Melay

And for he was a man of hyghe degree
Born of good blood and notable in substaüce
This kynrede gyueth a ghoos for theyr lyuerec
The layd meruayle to put in remembraüce
Peple alle thynges Justely in balaüce
And lete the hoise leue his boost and roos
To make comparyson with gander or ghoos

¶ Within Rome the gander was despyd
¶ Set in theyr Temples of grete affectyon
¶ By Senatours of the towne magnetyed
¶ As chyef protectour & lauer of the toun
¶ Lete horse & sheep laye theyr boost a doun
¶ But yf the Ram wit' his brassy belle
¶ Can for the sheep some better stoyre telle

¶ The Ram seeketh for the sheep
¶ The sheep was symple & lothe to make a fraye
¶ Lyke a beest dysposed to mekenesse
¶ The sturdy Ram his aduocate was that daye
¶ Tofore the Judges he gan hym dresse
¶ With an exordye of latyn he dyde expresse
¶ *Beate purpurea ut rectoris regum*
¶ *In duti sunt arietes ouium*

¶ Of this notable ryall hys scrypture
¶ The blessyd doctour Augustyn as I rede
¶ Be a man goostly fayre of fygure
¶ Of a meke sheep thus he doth procede
¶ Called Maria a mayde in thought & dede
¶ Brought forth a lambe of moost vertu
¶ The lambe of grace whos name was Jhesu

¶ Augustyn called this lambe in estate
¶ By manyfolde recorde of scrypture
¶ The ryall lambe of colour purpurate
¶ Whiche for mankynde lyste passyon tendure
¶ Borne of a mayde by grace agayne nature

¶ Whan he by mene of her humylyte
¶ Toke the clothyng of our humanityte

¶ Borne by dyscete to be bothe priest & kynge
¶ Kyng by successyon fro Dauid down by lyne
¶ Of purppl rede was his ryall clothyng
¶ This agnus dei born of a pure virgyne
¶ Whiche wysse awaye all venyn serpentyne
¶ On caluarie / whan he for man was deed
¶ With his pure blood purpurate and reed

¶ This paschall lambe without spot all whyte
¶ By his passyon in Bofra steyned rede
¶ Whiche cam from Edom this lambe of delvte
¶ That gaf his bodye to man in forme of brede
¶ On sherthursdaye tofore that he was dede
¶ Was ther euer founde in scrypture
¶ Of hoile or ghoos so solempne a fygure

¶ This lambe was cryste that lyneally cam
¶ By dyscete conuoyed de pee de gre
¶ From the patryarke called Abraham
¶ By Vsaac and Jacob so down to Velle
¶ Whiche by vertue of his humylyte
¶ Wiste to be called the blessed Jhesu
¶ For his mekenesse the lambe of moost vertu

¶ And for to reherce worldely comodyties
¶ By re publica / make noo comparyson

¶ There is noo best / whiche in all degrees
¶ Neyther Tygre / Dypphant / ne Gryffon
¶ Alle thynges rekened thurgh every regyon
¶ Dooth so grete prouffte / hoise / ghoos / ne leaue
¶ As dooth the sheep unto the eale of man

¶ Lete be thy boost thou hoise & thy Jangelyng
¶ Laye down thy trappours forged of plate & mayle
¶ Calle of thy sadell of golde so freschly shynynge
¶ What may bydell or doces now auayle
¶ This goostly lambe hath done a grete batayle
¶ By his mekenesse he offred vp for man
¶ Glad in purpyll daynguyllhed hath Sathan

¶ The ghoos may carie the hoise payke & passet
¶ Neyther of hem in processe may atteyne
¶ For to be sette or put in remembraunce
¶ Agayne the lambe though they dysdeyne
¶ For comon prouffyt he passech boche twayne
¶ Wepe and conlydere bytwene poore and ryche
¶ To hym in valowe they be no thyng. lyche

¶ Of Butes albyou his wulle is chref rycheffe
¶ In pryce surmoitynge every other thyng
¶ Saue grayne & come marchautes all expresse
¶ Wulle is thref trefoure in this londe growynge
¶ To ryche & poore this best fynde clothyng
¶ All nacpons afferme hit vp to the fulle
¶ In all the worlde is no better wulle

Of the sheep also cometh pellet and eke felle
Sadred in this londe for grete marchaūdyse
Carped ouer the see where men may hit selle
The wulle skynnes causen men to ryle
In to grete rycheſſe in many londry wyse
The sheep also tourneth to grete prouffyte
To helpe of may bereth furrer black & whyte

There is also made of the sheeps skynne
Dylches & gloues to dryue away the colde
Therof also is made good parchemynne
To wryte of bookes & quayers manyfolde
The Ram of Cholchos bare a flees of golde
The flees of Gedeon with dewe delectable
Was of Maria a fygure full notable

His fleſſhe his naturall restauracyon
As some men ſey after grete ſekeneſſe
Roſted or loden hollow is moton
Dopleth with grewell / phelycyens expreſſe
Full nutrycyfe after grete accelle
The sheep also conc'udynge doubtles
Of his nature loueth reſte and pees

Of the sheep is calle away no chyng
His hornes for noches to haſtes go his bone
To londe grete prouffyte doth his tyrtelyng
His talowe ſerued for plasters mo than one
For harpe ſtrenges his toppes ſerue echone

Of whos hede boyled with wulle and all
Ther cometh a gely & an oynement ryall

For the ache of bones & also for brolure
Hit remedyeth and doth ease blyue
Causeth men of starke Joyntes to require
Deed senewes restoreth agayne to lyue
Blacke shepes wulle with oyle olyue
These men of armes with charmes proued good
At a strapt nede can well staunce blood

Into the wolfe contrarpe of nature
As layen auctours is this humble beste
Loueth no debate for whiche eche creature
For his partpe he wolde lyue in reste
Wherfore ye Juges I holde hit for the beste
Rem pub'ycan/ye sholde of ryght preferre
Alwaye consyderynge þe peas is better thap

In this mater bypely to concludre
Peas to preferre as to my deuple
By many olde proude symplytude
Make no delaye /gyue the shepe the pryce
Of one assent syth that ye be wyle
Lete all waire and stryue be lette a syde
And vpon peas do with the sheep abyde
The hoise.

Nay sayd the hoise your request is wronge
All thynge consydered me were loth to erre

The sheep is cause and hath be full losige
Of newe stryues and of mortall werre
The circumstaunce me lyste not to deferre
Thy wulle was cause and grete occasyon
Why that the proude duke of Bourgon

Cam tofore Calays with flemynges not a fewe
Whiche gaf the saches & sarplers of the toung
To Gaüt & Bugges his freedom for to shewe
Of thy wulles / he hyght hem possessyon
His boustous bastyle fyrste was beten down
Hymselfe vnnethe escaped with the lyfe
What / but thy wulles was cause of this stryfe

Were rychele is of wulles and suche good
Wey drawe thyder that ben recheles
As souldyours that braynles be and wood
To gete bagage they put hemselfe in pices
Thus causest y warre / & sayst thou louest pees
And yf ther were no warre ne batayle
Lytell or nought the grete horle sholde auayle
The ghoos.

No sayd the ghoos nor my fetchers whyte
Without warre sholde do none auantage
Ner hoked arrows prouffyte but a lyte
To mete our enemyes magre cheyr bylage
And from them to laue vs fro damage
Flyght of fetchers despyte of sheep echoone
Shall vs defende agayne our mortall foone

**¶ The boyle holdynge
with the ghoos.**

¶ Soth qd the boyle as in my Inwarde syght
¶ Without warre afore as I you tolde
¶ We may not saue/ne kepe our ryght
¶ Our garylouns ner castellys olde
¶ But here this sheep ruckynge in his folde
¶ Sette lycell store of swerde nor arowes hene
¶ Whan he in peasmay pasture on the grene

¶ Yf hit so stode that no warre were
¶ Loste were the crafte of armorers
¶ What sholde auayle polar swerde or spere
¶ Or these daggers wrought by cuttellers
¶ Bowes/crossbowes/arowes of fletchers
¶ All these Instrumentes for the warre is wrought
¶ Yf warres were stynt they sholde serue of nought

¶ There occupacyon sholde haue none encras
¶ Ryghthode sholde not floure in his astate
¶ In euery contre yf that ther were peas
¶ No men of armes sholde be fortunate
¶ I proue that peas is grounde of all debate
¶ For in fyue spekes lyke as is a whele
¶ Tourned all the world who consydereth wele

¶ Begynne fyrste at peas whiche causeth rychele
¶ And rychele is chorygnall of pryde

Thyde causeth for lache of tyghtwysnesse
Warre byt wene rames loke on every tyde
Sherkes contrarpe in peas wyll not abyde
Thus fynally who can consydere and see
Warre is chyef grounde & cause of pouertes

Thit is full harde to knowe ony astate
Double bylage lokech out of enery hood
Surete is losse **T**ruste is passe the date
Thyrste hath take his leue ouer the flood
Lawe can do no thynge without good
Theeft hath leue to go out at large
Of the comons myscule hath take the charge

And thou desyre thy selfe to auance
Pooie or ryche whether that thou be
Belowely and gentyll in thy gouernaunce
Good rule doubteles may best preferre the
If thou be gentyll hurte not thy degre
And thou be pooie doo all that thou can
To vse good maners for maner maketh man

Atte thy mele be glad in contenaunce
Ay mete and dryke be thou m. surable
Beware of surfete and mysgouernaunce
They cause mey ofte to be vnresonable
Suffre no thynge be sayd at thy table
That ony man may hurte or dysplease
For good mete & drynke arech Joye and ease

Uf thy goodes to the not suffyle
Conforme the euer to that thou haste
Gouerne lo thy selfe in suche a wyse
In thyn expensles make noo waste
Grete excelle causech vnrhyft in haste
Beware betwme here this in thyn herte
My rule maketh ofte many meny to smarte

Beware of nouellys that be newe broughe
Though they be plelaüt/loke faste thy lyppe
An hasty worde may be to soie bought
Close thy mouth lest thy tonge cryppe
To thy selfe/loke thou make noba whyppe
Shurte not thy selfe/lest thou soie rewe
For thyn owne eale/kepe thy tonge in mew

The worlde so wyde the ayer so remuable
The scly man so lytell of stature
The graue and gounde of clotynge soo mutable
The fyre so hote and subtyll of nature
The water neuer in one/what creature
That made is of these foure thus flytynge
May endure stable & perseuere in abydynge

The further I goo/the more behynde
The more behynde/the ner my wayes ende
The more I seche/the worse can I fynde
The lygher leue/the lother for to wende
The truer I serue/the ferther out of mynde

Though I go louse I am tyed with a lynne
Is it fortune or Infortune thus I fyne

ExPLICIT.

A n hare to his forme is	a Crane dysplayde
h oldrynge or lenynge	a Pecok dysfygured
a Douue lyttech	a Curlewe vnioynted
a herte is herbozed	a Pytore vntached
a knyght is herbozed	a felant eyled
a buche is lodged	a patryche cyled
a Squyer is lodged	a Woodcok thyed
a Roo is bedded	All smale byrdes thyed
a Poman is bedded	a Pygge hedet & lyded
P f an herte stande he	a Lambe & hyde thuldied
st alleth	a herte pf he be chalyd he
P f a buche stande he	wyll despie to haue a
h erkenyth	ryuer. As soone as he
P f a roo stande he fereth	taketh the ryuer he suz
a Dere broken	leth/pf he take ouer the
a Shoos reryd	ryuer he crosseth/pf he
a Swanne lyfte	retome he recolleth/&
a Lapon sawlyd	pf he take with the stre
a Henne spoyled	me he fleteth/pf he sa
a Chekyn frusthed	ke agayn the stre me he
a Malarde vnbraised	beteth or els bekrth/pf
a Lony unlaced	he take the londe he
a Heroy dysmembred	fleeth.

ExPLICIT.



