

The
Early English Bestiary

based on the
Latin *Physiologus* of Theobaldus Episcopus

Excerpts from

An Old English Miscellany
containing
*A Bestiary, Kentish Sermons, Proverbs of Alfred,
Religious Poems of the thirteenth century,
from Manuscripts in the British Museum, Bodleian Library,
Jesus College Library, etc.*

edited
With Introduction and Index of Words
by the
Rev. Richard Morris, LL.D.

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Introduction to the Digital Edition

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Author: Richard Morris (1833-1894) was an English philologist, born in London. In 1871 he was ordained in the Church of England, and from 1875-1888 was head master of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys, near London. His first published work was *The Etymology of Local Names* (1857). Between 1862 and 1880 he prepared twelve volumes for the Early English Text Society, edited Chaucer (1866) and Spenser (1869) from the original manuscripts, and published *Specimens of Early English* (1867). His educational works, *Historical Outlines of English Accidence* (1872), *Elementary Lessons in Historical English Grammar* (1874) and *English Grammar* (1874), had a large sale and exercised a real influence. The rest of his life he devoted to the study of Pali, on which he became a recognized authority, editing a number of texts and doing translations into English for the Pali Text Society.

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Two typographic conventions have been copied from the printed edition: words or

partial words that were abbreviated in the manuscript and were expanded in the printed text are shown in *italics*; words or partial words that were missing from the manuscript and were supplied by the editor (Morris) are shown in [square brackets]. In the early English text of the printed edition the archaic long “s” (ſ) was used; in this edition the long “f” has been replaced with the modern “s” to avoid confusion with “f”. The early English “eth” characters (Ð and ð) have been retained; these are equivalent to the modern “th”.

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Preface

(excerpts)

A BESTIARY comes from Arundel MS. 292, in the British Museum,¹ of about the middle of the thirteenth century. It is translated from the Latin *Physiologus* of Theobaldus.² Appendix I. contains the original text from which our Early English version was made [see page 37].

This BESTIARY has been thrice printed; twice by Mr. Thos. Wright, (1) in *Altdeutsche Blätter*, vol. ii, Leipzig, 1837, (2) in *Reliquiae Antiquae*, and by Mätzner in his *Early English Specimens* (*Altenglische Sprachproben*).

The dialectic peculiarities of this treatise have already been discussed in my preface to *The Story of Genesis and Exodus*, to which I must refer the reader for further information.

Scraps from the *Bestiary* with its curious moralizations are frequently to be met with in our old English authors, and even in Elizabethan writers.

It will not be deemed, we hope, out of place to notice here, that Chaucer quotes a line of our *Bestiary*, probably from the Latin version (*mirie ge singeð ðis mere*), in his *Nonne Prestes Tale*,

and Chaunteclere so free
Sang merier than the mermayde in the see;
For Phisiologus seith sikerly,
How that thay singen wel and merily.

Without reference to a *Bestiary*, what meaning has the following passage in Lylly, where he compares flatterers to “Panthers which haue a *sweete smel*, but a deuouring minde”? (*Euphues*, ed. Arber, p. 149). A reference to p. 24 of the present volume makes the matter very clear and intelligible.³

In another passage in Lylly (p. 341) we are told that the *Wood Culver* “plucketh of hir fethers in winter to keepe others from colde”; and our *Bestiary* tells us, among other things, that this fond dove acts as a mother to other birds.⁴

RICHARD MORRIS

*King's College, London
September, 1871*

¹ Now in the British Library.

² See Preface to *Popular Treatises on Science*, edited for the Historical Society of Science, by Thos. Wright, M.A., F.S.A., London, 1841.

³ See description of the Panther in *Poems from the Exeter MS.*, ed. Thorpe.

⁴ Duue ne harmeð none fugele ne mid bile ne mid fote. and fedeð bridles þeh hie ne ben noht hire (*O. E. Homilies*, 2nd Series, p. 49).

A Bestiary

[From British Library, Arundel MS. 292, leaf 4 *a*.]

Natura leonis j^a.

De leun stant on hille,
and he man hunten here,
Oðer ðurg his nese smel,
Smake ðat he negge,
Bi wile weie so he wile
To dele niðer wenden,
Alle hise fet steppes
After him he filleð,
Drageð dust wið his stert
ðer he steppeð,
Oðer dust oðer deu,
ðat he ne cunne is finden,
driueð dun to his den
ðar he him bergen wille.

ij^a.

An oðer kinde he haueð,
wanne he is ikindled
tille lið ðe leun,
ne stireð he nout of slepe
Til ðe sunne haueð sinen
ðries him abuten,
ðanne reiseð his fader him
mit te rem ðat he makeð.

iji^a.

De ðridde lage haueð ðe leun,
ðanne he lieð to slepen
Sal he neure luken
ðe lides of hise egen.

Significacio prime nature.

Welle heg is tat hil,
ðat is heuen riche,

The Lion stands on a hill.
If he hears a man hunting
or scents him approaching,

4

in fleeing he erases his track
on the ground with his tail,

8

and thus he escapes to his den,
12 where he may rest in safety.

When the cub is first born, he
16 stirs not until the sun has
thrice shone about him, then
his father rouseth him
with his cries.

20

The lion sleeps
24 with his eyes open.

The high hill is heaven's kingdom.

28

vre louerd is te leun,
 ðe liueð ðer abuuen;
 wu ðo him likede
 to ligten her on erðe,
 Migte neure diuel witen,
 ðog he be derne hunte,
 hu he dun come,
 Ne wu he dennede him
 in ðat defte meiden,
 Marie bi name,
 ðe him bar to manne frame.

ij^a et ij^a.

Ðo ure drigten ded was,
and doluen, also his wille was,
 In a ston stille he lai
 til it kam ðe dridde dai,
 His fader him filstnede swo
 ðat he ros fro dede ðo,
 vs to lif holden,
 wakeð so his wile is,
 So hirde for his folde;
 He is hirde, we ben sep;
 Silden he us wille,
 If we heren to his word
 ðat we ne gon nowor wille,

Natura aquile.

Kiðen i wile ðe ernes kinde,
 Also ic it o boke rede,
 wu he neweð his guðhede,
 hu he cumeð ut of elde,
 Siðen hise limes arn unwelde,
 Siðen his bec is al to-wrong,
 Siðen his * fligt is al unstrong,
and his egen dimme;
 Hereð wu he neweð him.
 A welle he sekeð ðat springeð ai
 boðe bi nignt *and* bi dai,
 ðer-ouer he flegeð, *and* up he teð,
 til ðat he ðe heuene seð,
 ðurg skies sexe *and* seuene

Christ is the lion, who
descended from that hill
and lighted here on earth.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 32 | Though the devil was a cunning
hunter, yet he never knew from
whence our Lord came, nor how
he housed himself in the maid
Mary for man's salvation. |
| 36 | |
| 40 | When our Lord was dead and
buried, he lay still in the tomb
until the third day, and then he
rose from the dead that he
might give us life. |
| 44 | |
| 48 | He is our shepherd and we are
his sheep. |
| 52 | If we are obedient to him, he will
shield us and keep us from
going astray. |
| 56 | I will now tell you how the
EAGLE renews his youth, and
how he gets rid of his old age,
when his limbs have become
unwieldy, and his beak altogether
awry; |
| 60 | [* leaf 4 b.] when his flight
is weak and his eyes dim. |
| 64 | He seeks a well—over which he
flies, ‘through skies six and
seven,’ and, hovering in the light
of the sun, he regains his eyesight. |

til he cumeð to heuene;
 So rigt so he cunne
 he houeð in ðe sunne;
 ðe sunne swideð al his fligt,
and oc it maked his egen brigt,
 Hise feðres fallen for ðe hete,
and he dun mide to ðe wete
 Falleð in ðat welle grund,
 ðer he wurdeð heil *and* sund,
and cumeð ut al newe,
 Ne were his bec untrewe.
 His bec is get biforn wrong,
 ðog hise limes senden strong,
 Ne maig he tilen him non fode
 him self to none gode,
 ðanne goð he to a ston,
and he billeð ðer-on,
 Billeð til his bec biforn
 haueð ðe wrengðe forloren,
 Siðen wið his rigte bile
 takeð mete ðat he wile.

Significacio.

Al is man so is tis ern,
 wulde ge nu listen,⁵
 Old in hise sinnes dern,
 Or he bicumeð cristen;
and tus he neweð him ðis man,
 ðanne he nimeð to kirke,
 Or he it biðenken can,
 hise egen weren mirke;
 Forsaket ðore satanas,
and ilk sinful dede;
 Takeð him to ihesu crist,
 for he sal ben his mede;
 Leueð on ure loue[r]d crist,
and lereð prestes lore;
 Of hise egen wereð ðe mist,
 wiles he dreccheð ðore.
 his hope is al to gode-ward,

- 68
- 72 With scorched wings he drops down into the well, where he would become whole and sound,

- 76 were it not for his distorted beak, which prevents him from procuring his food.
- 80
- Then goes he to a stone and pecks thereon until his beak loses its distortion.
- 84 Afterwards with his ‘right bill’ he gets what ‘meat he will.’

- 88 Man is like an EAGLE.
- 92 Before he becomes a Christian he is old in his sins.
- 96 He renews himself by going to church, by there renouncing the devil and every sinful deed,
- 100 and by betaking himself to Christ.
- 104 He then believes on Christ, and learns ‘priest-lore.’
- 104 He learns of God’s love, which

⁵ MS listlen.

*and of his luue he lereð,
ðat is to sunne sikerlike,
ðus his sigte he beteð;
Naked falleð in ðe funt-fat,
and cumeð ut al newe,
buten a litel; wat is tat?
his muð is get untrewe;
his muð is get wel unkuð
wið pater noster and crede
Fare he norð, er fare he suð,
leren he sal his nede;
bidden bone to gode,
and tus his muð rigten;
tilen him so ðe sowles fode,
ðurg grace off ure drigtin.*

Natura serpentis. j^a.

AN wirm is o werlde,
wel man it knoweð,
Neddre is te name
ðus he him neweð,
ðanne he is forbroken and forbroiden,
and in his elde al forwurden.
Fasteð til his fel him slakeð,
ten daies fulle,
ðat he if lene and mainles
and iuele mai gangen
he crepeð cripelande forð,
his craft he ðus kiðeð,
Sekeð a ston ðat a ðirl is on,
Narwe, buten he nedeð him,
Nimedð vnneðes ðurg,
for his fel he ðer leteð;
his fles forð crepeð,
walkeð to ðe water-ward,
wile ðanne drinken.
Oc he speweð or al ðe uenim
ðat in his brest is bred
fro his birde time,
drinkeð siðen inog,
and tus he him neweð.

restores his sight.

- 108 Naked, he falls into the font, and comes out all new, save a little —for his mouth as yet has not uttered pater noster nor creed.

112

- 116 But he may soon learn what is needful, and so set his mouth right and procure for himself his soul's food.

[leaf 5 a.]

- 120 A SERPENT thus renews himself after he has become worn out with old age.

124

- 128 He fasts for ten days until his skin 'slack' and he becomes lean and weak.

- 132 Then creeping forth he seeks a stone with a hole in it; he forces himself through the aperture, and so gets rid of his skin.

136

- 140 Then he seeks a spring where he takes a drink, and spues out all the venom, 'bred in his breast from his birth-time,' and now drinking his fill he is altogether renewed.

ij^a.

Danne ðe neddre is of his hid naked,
and bare of his brest after,
If he naked man se
ne wile he him nogt neggen,
oc he fleð fro him
als he fro fir sulde.
If he cloðed man se,
cof he waxeð,
For up he rigteð him
redi to deren,
to deren er to ded maken,
if he it muge forðen.
wat if ðe man war wurðe,
and weren him cunne,
figteð wið ðis wirm
and f[a]reð on him figtande;
ðis neddre siðen he nede sal,
makeð sold of his bodi,
and sildeð his heued;
litel him is of hise limes,
bute he lif holde.

- 144 When the adder is thus rid of his skin and of his venom, if he spy a naked man, he will flee from him as from fire;
148 but if he see a clothed man he at once prepares to attack him.

152

- 156 Unless the man be wary and fight the adder he will receive injury or perhaps his death-wound.

160

164

[*Significacio.*]

Knov cristene man
wat tu crift higest
Atte kirke dure,
ðar ðu cristned were:
ðu higtes to leuen on him,
and hise lages luuien,
to helden wit herte
ðe bodes of holi k[i]rke.
If ðu hauest is broken,
Al ðu forbreðes,
forwurðes *and* forgelues,
Eche lif to wolden,
Elded art fro eche blis,
So ðis wirm o werld is;
Newe ðe fordi
so ðe neddre doð;

- Each Christian man has promised to believe in Christ, and to love his laws, and to follow the commands of holy church.

172

- 176 If thou hast broken them,
thou art become altogether feeble and incapable of obtaining eternal life.

Renew thyself as the adder does.

180

It is te ned.

Feste ðe of stedefastnesse,
and ful of ðewes;
and help ðe poure * men
ðe gangen abuten.

Ne deme ðe nog[t] wurdi,
ðat tu dure loken
up to ðe heueneward;
Oc walke wið ðe erðe
mildelike among men;
no mod ðu ne cune,
mod ne mannes vncost;
oc swic of sineginge;
and bote bid tu ðe ai,
boðe bi nigt *and* bi dai,
ðat tu milce mote hauen
of ðine misdedes.

ðis lif bitokneð ðe sti
ðat te neddre gangeð bi,
and tis is ðe ðirl of ðe ston
ðat tu salt ðurg gon.
Let ðin filðe fro ðe,
so ðe wirm his fel doð
Go ðu ðan to godes hus
ðe godspel to heren,
ðat is soule drink,
sinnes quenching.
Oc or sei ðu in scrifte
to ðe prest sinnes tine,
feg ðe ðus of ði brest filde,
and feste ðe forðward
fast at tin herte,
ðat tu firmest higtes.

ðus art tu ging *and* newe;
forðward be ðu trewe.
Nedeð ðe ðe deuel nogt,
for he no mai ðe deren nogt;
oc he fleð fro ðe
so neddre fro de nakede.
On ðe cloðede ðe neddre is cof,
and te deuel cluer on sinnes;
Ai ðe sinfule

Confirm thee in steadfastness and
in all virtues, assist the poor,

184 [* leaf 5 b.]

188

and walk meekly among men;
show no pride, but leave off
sinning, and pray night and
day for forgiveness of thy
misdeeds.

196

This is the path by which the
200 serpent goeth, and this is the hole
in the stone that thou must
go through.

204 Go to God's house and hear the
Gospel (the soul's drink and sin's
quenching).

208 By shrift, get rid of thy breast-filth,
by performing what thou didst first
promise at thy baptism.

212

Then wilt thou become young
and new.

216 The devil will flee from thee, as
the serpent from a naked man.

220 As the adder is always ready to
hurt a clothed man, so is the
devil to hurt the sinner.

bisetten he wile,
and wið al mankin
he haueð nið *and* win;
wat if he leue haue
of ure heuen louerd
for to deren us,
So he ure eldere or dede;
do we ðe bodi in ðe bale,
and bergen ðe soule,
ðat is ure heued geuelic,
helde we it wurðlic.

224 Against all mankind the
devil bears hatred.

228

But let us mortify our bodies
and so preserve our souls.

232

De mire is magti,
mikel ge swinkeð
In sumer *and* in softe weder,
So we ofte sen hauen;
In ðe heruest
hardilike gangeð,
and renneð rapelike,
and resteð hire seldom,
and fecheð hire fode
ðer ge it mai finden,
gaddreð ilkines sed
boðen of wude *and* of wed,
Of corn *and* of gres,
ðat ire to hauen es,
haleð to hire hole,
ðat siðen hire helpeð
ðar ge wile ben winter * agen;
caue ge haueð to crepen in,
ðat winter hire ne derie;
Mete *in* hire hule ðat
ðat ge mugē biliuen.
ðus ge tileð ðar,
wiles ge time haueð,
so it her telleð;
oc finde ge ðe wete,
corn ðat hire gwemeð,
Al ge forleteð ðis oðer seð
ðat ic er seide;

The Ant is mighty, much she toils
in summer and in mild weather.

236

In harvest time she takes little
rest, but is constantly employed in
procuring her food, which consists
of seeds of various kinds,
of corn and oil grass.

244

248 These she drags to her hole and
stores them up against the winter,
[* leaf 6 a.]
when she suffers no harm, having
enough in her hole to keep
her alive.

256

Wheat she likes best of all seeds,

260

Ne bit ge nowt de barlic
beren abuten;
oc suneð it *and* sakeð forð,
so it same were.
get is wunder of ðis wirm
more ðanne man weneð,
ðe corn ðat ge to caue bereð
al get bit otwinne,
ðat it ne forwurðe
ne waxe hire fro,
er ge it eten wille.

but avoids barley.

264

268 The corn that she takes to her
cave she bites in two lest it
perish before she consumes it.

272

Significacio.

De mire muneð us
mete to tilen,
Long liuenoðe,
ðis little wile
ðe we on ðis werld wunen
for ðanne we of wenden,
ðanne is ure winter;
we sulen hunger hauen
and harde sures,
buten we ben war here.
do we forði so doð ðis der,
ðanne be we derue
On ðat dai ðat dom sal ben,
ðat it ne us harde rewe
Seke we ure liues fod,
ðat we ben siker dere,
So ðis wirm in winter is,
ðan ge ne tileð nummore.
ðe mire suneð ðe barlic,
ðanne ge fint te wete;
ðe olde lage we ogen to sunen,
ðe newe we hauen moten.
ðe corn ðat ge to caue bereð,
all ge it bit otwinne,
ðe lage us lereð to don god,
and forbedeð us sinne.
It bet⁶ us erðliche⁷ bodes,

The ANT admonishes us to labour
for our livelihood the while we are
in this world.

276

Death is our winter time, and
unless we have been prudent
here we shall then suffer
hunger and hardships.

280
284 Let us imitate, then, this little
creature, and on doomsday we
shall not have cause for sorrow.

288

This animal shuns barley
when she finds wheat.

292 So ought we to shun the old
law and keep to the new.

296

The Law teacheth us to do good
and to forsake sin, but it does not
feed body and spirit alike.

⁶ MS *ben*.

and bekued euelike;
It fet ðe licham and te gost
oc nowt o geuelike;
vre louerd *crist* it leue us
ðat his lage us fede,
nu *and* o domesdei,
and tanne we hauen nede.

300

But Christ's law will feed us
always, now and on doomsday
and when we have need.

Natura cerui.

De hert haueð kindes two,
and forbisnes oc al so:
ðus it is on boke set,
ðat man clepeð fislologet.
He drageð ðe neddre of de ston
ðurg his nese up on-on,
of ðe stoc er of ðe ston,
for it wile ðerunder gon;
and sweleð it wel swiðe,
ðeroft him brinneð siðen
of ðat attrie ðing,
wiðinnen he * haueð brenning:
he lepeð ðanne wið mikel list,
of swet water he haueð ðrist;
he drinkeð water gredilike
til he is ful wel sikerlike,
Ne haueð ðat uenim non migt
to deren him siðen non wigt.
oc he werpeð er hise hornes
in wude er in ðornes,
and gingid him ðus of wilde der,
So ge hauen nu lered her.

308
The HART has two properties.

312
He draws out the adder from
the stone with his nose and
swallows it.

316
The venom causeth the hart
to burn.

[* leaf 8 b.]
Then he rushes to the water and
drinks greedily until he is full.

324
The venom is thereby rendered
harmless.
Then he sheds his horns,
and thus this 'wild deer'
renews himself.

328

Significacio prima.

Alle we atter dragen off ure eldere,
ðe broken drigtnnes word ðurg ðe neddre;
ðer-ðurg haueð mankin
boðen nið *and* win,
golsipe⁷ *and* giscing,
giuernesse *and* wissing,

332
All we draw poison from our
elders who sinned through the
adder, where-through mankind
have both envy and strife,
lasciviousness and covetousness,
greed and lust, pride and

⁷ MS ebriche.

⁸ MS kolsipe.

pride and ouerwene;
swilc after i-mene.
Ofte we brennen in mod,
and wurðen so we weren wod;
ðanne we ðus brennen
bihoueð us to rennen
to cristes quike welle,
ðat we ne gon to helle;
drinken his wissing,
it quenchet ilc siniging;
forwerpen pride euril[c] del,
so hert doð hise horns;
gingen us tus to godeward,
and gemen of siðen forðward.

Natura ij^a:

De hertes hauen anoðer kinde,
ðat us og alle to ben minde.
Alle he arn off one mode;
For if he fer fecchen sode,
and he ouer water ten,
wile non at nede oðer flen;
Oc on swimmeð bi-forn,
and alle ðe o oðre folegen,
weðer so he swimmeð er he wadeð
Is non at nede ðat oðer lateð,
Oc leigeð his skinbon
on oðres lendbon.
gef him ðat biforn teð
Bilimpes for to tirgen,
Alle ðe oðre cumen mide,
and helpen him for to her[t]jen,
beren him of ðat water grund
up to ðe lond al heil *and* sund,
and forðen here nede
ðis wune he hauen hem bi-twen,
ðog he an hundred to-giddre ben.

presumption.

336

Oft do we burn in rage, and
become as it were mad. When we
thus burn then should we run to
Christ's living well—and there
drink his lore, which quenches sin.

344

Let us cast off pride like the hart
does his horns, and become new
creatures in God and so ensure
our salvation.

348

Harts are all of one mind—for,
if they cross a river in search of
food, they keep close together.

352

356

Each lays his shin-bone on the
360 other's loin-bone.

If the foremost one gets tired
the others assist him to reach
the land.

364

Such is their custom, though a
368 hundred of them be together.

Significacio⁹ ij^a.

De hertes costes we ogen to munen,
 Ne og ur non oðer to sunen,
 oc eurilc luuen oðer,
 also he were his broder,
 wurðen stedefast his * wine,
 ligten him of his birdene,
 helpen him at his nede;
 god giueð ðer-fore mede:
 we sulen hauen heuenriche,
 gef we bitwixen¹⁰ us ben briche
 ðus is ure louerdes lage,
 luuelike to fillen,
 her-of haue we mikel ned,
 ðat we ðar-wið ne dillen.

Natura wulpis.

A wilde der is
 ðat is ful of fele wiles,
 fox is hire to name,
 for hire queðsipe;
 husebondes hire haten,
 for hire harm dedes
 ðe coc *and* te capun
 ge feccheð ofte in ðe tun,
and te gandre *and* to gos,
 bi ðe necke *and* bi ðe nos,
 haleð is to hire hole;
 for-ði man hire hatieð,
 hatien *and* hulen
 boðe men *and* fules.
 Listneð nu a wunder,
 ðat of der doð for hunger:
 goð o felde to a furg,
and falleð ðar-inne,
 In eried loud er in erðchine.
 forto bilarfen fugeles;

- 372 Let us imitate the hart and assist our neighbours as though they were our brothers.
- [* leaf 7 a.]
- 376 Let us lighten their burdens and help them in time of need.
- 380 Heaven will be the reward for our charity.
- 380 And it is our Lord's will that we should so do.

- 384 The Fox is a cunning animal, as its name shows.
- 388 Husbandmen hate her for her deeds of harm. For the cock and the capon she often seizes, as well as the gander and the goose, by the neck and by the nose, and takes them to her hole.
- 396
- 400 When the fox is hungry she goes to a furrow and falls therein for to entrap birds.

⁹ MS significacio.

¹⁰ MS ben twixen.

Ne stereð ge nogt of ðe stede
 a god stund deies,
 oc dareð so ge ded were,
 Ne drageð ge non onde
 ðe rauen is swiðe redi,
 weneð ðat ge rotieð,
and oðre fules hire fallen bi
 For to winnen fode,
 derflike wiðuten dred;
 he wenan ðat ge ded beð,
 he wullen¹¹ on ðif foxes fel;
and ge it wel feleð,
 liglthe ge lepeð up
and letteð hem sone,
 gelt hem here billing
 raðe wið illing,
 tetogeð *and* tetireð hem
 mid hire teð sarpe,
 Fret hire fille,
and goð ðan ðer ge wille.

Significacio.

Twifold forbisne in ðis der
 to frame we mugen finden her,
 warsipe *and* wisedom
 wið deuel *and* wið iuel man;
 ðe deuel dereð dernelike,
 he lat he ne wile us nogt biswike,
 he lat he ne wile us ðon non loð,
and bringeð us in a sinne *and* ter he us sloð,
 he bit us don ure bukes wille,
 eten *and* drinken wið unskil,
and in ure skemting
 he doð raðe a foxing,
 he billeð one ðe foxes fel
 wo so telleð idel spel,
and he tireð on his ket
 wo so him wið sinne fet,
and deuel geld swilk billing
 wið same and wið sending,

- 404 For a good hour of the day she lies there as if she were dead, without even drawing a breath.
- 408 The raven and other birds thinking it is carrion,
- 412 without fear pounce on the fox's skin, who on feeling them, leaps up and rewards them for their pecking,
- 416
- 420 by tearing them to pieces with her sharp teeth, and then, having eaten her fill, goes where she lists.
- 424 In the fox we see two qualities, prudence and wisdom.
- 428 The same we see in the devil, who appears as if he would not harm us.
- 432 He bids us obey our carnal will in order to betray us.
- 436 [* leaf 7 b.]
He who tells idle tales and indulges in sin, pecks on the fox's skin and tears his flesh; and the devil requites the sinner by leading him to murky hell.
- 440

¹¹ ? billen or pullen.

and for his sinfule werk
ledeð man to helle mark.

Significacio.

Ðe deuel is tus ðe [fox] ilik
mið iuele breides *and* wið swik;
and man al so ðe foxes name
arn wurði to hauen same;
for wo so seieð oðer god,
and ðenkeð iuel on his mod,
fox he is *and* fend iwis,
ðe boc ne legeð nogt of ðis;
So was herodes fox *and* flerd,
ðo crist kam in-to ðis middel-erd,
he seide he wulde him leuen on,
and ðogte he wulde him fordon.

Natura aranèè.¹²

Seftes sop ure seppande,
sene is on werlde,
leiðe *and* lodlike,¹³
ðus we it leuen,
manikines ðing
alle mane to wissing.
ðe spinnere on hire swid ge weveð,
festeið atte hus rof,
hire fodredes
o rof er on ouese,
so hire is on elde;
werped ðus hire web,
and weueð on hire wise.
ðanne ge it haueð al idigt.
ðeðen ge drieveð,
hitt hire in hire hole,
oc ai ge it biholdeð
til ðat ðer fleges faren
and fallen ðer-inne,
wiðeren in ðat web,

444 The devil and the wicked man
with their crafts are like the fox,
and deserve shame.

448 He who with fair words means
evil is a fox and a devil.

452 Herod was such an one, for he
said that he would believe on
Christ when he really intended
to kill him.

456 Our creator has created loathsome
things for man's instruction.

460
464 The SPIDER spins her a web and
fastens it to the eaves of a house.

468 When it is finished she
hides herself in her hole,

472 until she spies a fly struggling in
her web.

¹² MS iranèè.

¹³ MS loldike.

and wilens ut wenden;
 ðanne renneð ge rapelike,
 for ge is ai redi,
 nimeð anon to ðe net
 and nimeð hem ðere,
 bitterlike ge hem bit
and here bane wurðeð,
 drepeð *and* drinkeð here blod,
 doð ge hire non oðer god,
 bute fret hire fille,
and dareð silden stille.

Significacio.

Ðis is wirm bitokneð ðe man
 ðat oðer biswikenð
 on stede er on stalle,
 stiller er lude,
 in mot er in market,
 er oni oðer wise,
 he him bit
 ðan he him bale selleð,
and he drinkeð his blod
 wanne he him dreueð,
and ðo freteð hem¹⁴ al,
 ðan he him iuel werkeð.

Natura cetegrandie.

Cethegrande is a fis
 ðe moste ðat in water is;
 ðat tu * wuldes seien get,
 gef ðu it soge wan it flet,
 ðat it were á neilond
 ðat sete one ðe se sond.
 ðis fis ðat is vnride,
 ðanne him hungreð he gapeð wide,
 vt of his ðrote it smit an onde,
 ðe swetteste ðing ðat is o londe;
 ðer-fore oðre fisses to him dragen,
 wan he it felen he aren fagen,
 he cumen *and* houen in his muð,

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 476 | Then runs she quickly, seizes
the fly, |
| 480 | and bitterly bites it, and so kills it,
and drinks its blood. |
| 484 | Having had her fill she again
goes and hides herself. |
| 488 | This ‘worm’ betokens the man
who deceives another, openly or
privately, in moot, or in market. |
| 492 | He bites his neighbour when
he brings him to grief;
he drinks his blood when he |
| 496 | annoys him; and he devours him
when he brings evil upon him. |

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 500 | The WHALE is the largest of all
fish.
[* leaf 8 a.] |
| 504 | It looks like an island when it is
afloat. |
| 508 | When he is hungry he gapes
and out comes a sweet scent, by
which numbers of fishes are
drawn into his mouth. |

¹⁴ ? him.

of his swike he arn uncuð;
 ðis cete ðane hise chaueles lukeð,
 ðise fissem alle in sukeð,
 ðe smale he wile ðus biswiken,
 ðe grete maig he nogt bigripen.
 ðis fis wuneð wið ðe se grund,
 and liueð ðer eure heil *and* sund,
 til it cumed ðe time
 ðat storm stireð al ðe se,
 ðanne sumer *and* winter winnen;
 ne mai it wunen ðer-inne,
 So droui is te sees grund,
 ne mai he wunen ðer ðat stund,
 oc stireð up *and* houeð stille;
 wiles ðar¹⁵ weder is so ille,
 ðe sipes ðat arn on se fordriuen,
 loð hem is ded, *and* lef to liuen,
 biloken hem *and* sen ðis fis,
 an eilond he wenan it is,
 ðer-of he aren swiðe fagen,
and mid here migt ðar-to he dragen,
 sipes on festen,
and alle up gangen;
 Of ston mid stel in ðe tunder
 wel to brennen one ðis wunder,
 warmen hem wel *and* heten *and* drinken;
 ðe fir he feleð *and* doð hem sinken,
 for sone he diueð dun to grunde,
 he drepeð hem alle wið-uten wunde.

Significacio.

Dis deuel is mikel wið wil *and* magt,
 So wicches¹⁶ hauen in here craft,
 he doð men hungren *and* hauen ðrist,
and mani oðer sinful list,
 tolleð men to him wið his onde,
 wo so him folegeð he findeð sonde;
 ðo arn ðe little in leue lage,
 ðe mikle ne maig he to him dragen

- 512 When the whale closes his jaws he sucks in all these fishes. But it is only the little fish he thus ensnares, the big ones he cannot seize.
 516 The whale abides at the bottom of the sea in fair weather.
- 520 A storm causes him to come to the surface of the sea.
- 524
- 528 Sailors seeing it mistake it for an island, and cast anchor and land upon it.
- 532
- 536 To warm themselves they light a fire.
- 540 The whale feeling the heat, dives down to the bottom of the sea and drowns them all.

544 The devil is like the whale; he tempts men to follow their sinful lusts, and in return they find ruin.

548 It to the weak in faith, the little ones that he thus beguiles.

¹⁵ ? ðat.

¹⁶ MS *witches*.

ðe mikle, i mene ðe stedefast
in rigte leue mid fles *and* gast.
wo so listneð deueles lore,
on lengðe it sal him rewen sore;
wo so festeð hope on him,
he sal him folgen to helle dim.

Natura Sirene.

In ðe se senden
selcuðes manie;
ðe mereman is
a meiden ilike
on brest *and* on bodi,
oc al ðus ge is bunden;
fro ðe noule niðerward
ne is ge no man like,
oc fis to fuliwis
mid finnes waxen.
ðis wunder wuneð
in wankel stede,
ðer ðe water sinkeð,
sipes ge sinkeð,
and scaðe ðus werkeð
mirie ge singeð ðis mere,
and haueð manie stefnes,
manie *and* sille,
oc it ben wel ille;
sipmen here steringe forgeten
for hire stefninge,
slumeren *and* slepen,
and to late waken,
ðe sipes sinken mitte suk,¹⁷
ne cumen he nummor up.
Oc wise men *and* warre
agen cunen chare,
ofte arn atbrosten,
mid he[re] brest ouel;
he hauen herd told of ðis mere
ðat tus unie-mete,
half man *and* half fis,

- 552 He who listens to the devil's lore
will rue it sore. He who puts his
trust in him will follow him
to dark hell.

[* leaf 8 b.]

In the sea are many wonders.

- 556 The MERMAID is like a maiden as
to breast and body—in other
respects, she is like a fish.

560

- 564 This marvel dwells in treacherous
parts of the sea, and causes ships
to sink.

568

- 572 Merry she sings, and hath many
shril 'voices,' but they are all
bad, for they cause shipmen to
slumber and to sleep, and to forget
their steering.

576

Thus with treachery she
sinks their ships.

580

- 584 By this queer beast, half man and
half fish, something is betokened.

¹⁷ ? suik.

sum ðing tokneð bi ðis.

Significacio.

Fele men hauen ðe tokning
of ðis forbisnede ði[n]g,
wiðuten weren wulues¹⁸ fel,
wiðinnen arn he wulues al;
he speken godcundhede,
and wikke is here dede;
here dede is al vncuð
wið ðat spekeð here muð;
twifold arn on mode,
he sweren bi ðe rode,
bi ðe sunne and bi ðe mone,
and he ðe legen sone,
mid here sage *and* mid here song
he ðe swiken ðer imong,
ðin agte wið swiking,
ði soule wið lesing.

Natura elephantis.

Elpes arn in Inde riche,
on bodi borlic berge ilike;
he to-gaddré gon o wolde,
so sep ðat cumen ut of folde,
and behinden he hem sampnen
ðanne he sulen oðre strenen;
Oc he arn so kolde of kinde
ðat no golsipe is hem minde,
til he noten of a gres,
ðe name is mandragores,
Siðen he bigeten on,
and two ger he ðer-mide gon.
ðog he ðre hundred ger
on werlde more wunedan her,
bigeten he neuermor non,
so kold is hem siðen blod *and* bon;
ðanne ge sal hire kindles beren,
In water ge sal stonden,

- 588 Many men are like the mermaid;
592 they speak fair but their deeds
are evil.
596 They swear by the rood, by the
sun and moon, and lie both in
their saw (word) and in their song.
600 They will destroy both a man's
goods and his soul by their
treachery.
604 ELEPHANTS are found in India,
and have burly bodies and are
gregarious.
608 They have no concupiscence
until they have eaten of the
mandrake.
612 Two years they go with young,
and give birth to one only.
616 [leaf 9 a.]
620 They bring forth their young

¹⁸ ? sepes or lambes.

In water to mid side,
 ðat wanne hire harde tide,
 ðat ge ne falle niðer nogt,
 ðat is most in hire ðogt,
 For he ne hauen no lið
 ðat he mugen risen wið.
 Hu he resteð him ðis der,
 ðanne he walkeð wide,
 herkne wu it telleð her,
 for he is al unride.
 A tre he sekeð to fuligewis,
 ðat is strong *and* stedefast is,
 and leneð him trostl[i]ke ðer-bi,
 ðanne he is of walke weri.
 ðe hunte haued biholden ðis,
 ðe him wille swiken,
 wor his beste wune is,
 to don hise willen;
 Sageð ðis tre *and* under-set,
 o ðe wise ðat he mai bet,
and hileð it wel ðat he it nes war,
 ðanne he makedð ðer-to char,
 him seluen sit olon,bihalt,
 weðer his gin him out biwalt.¹⁹
 ðanne cumeð ðis elp unride,
and leneð him up on his side,
 slepeð bi ðe tre in ðe sadue,
and fallen boden so to-gaddr;
 gef ðer is noman ðanne he falleð,
 he remeð *and* helpe calleð,
 remeð reufulike on his wise,
 hopeð he sal ðurg helpe risen;²⁰
 ðanne cumeð ðer on gangande,
 hopeð he sal him don ut standen,
 Fikeð *and* fondeð al his migt,
 ne mai he it forðen no wigt;
 Ne canna²¹ ðan non oðer,
 oc²² remeð mid his broðer,

standing in the water.

624 Great care they take not to fall,
 for they have no power to raise
 themselves.

628 When the elephant wishes
 to rest himself he seeks a strong
 tree and leaneth thereby.

632

636 The hunter takes note of the
 beast's haunt, and saws the tree,

640 and watches the result of his
 labours.

644

648 When the elephant comes
 and leans against the tree,
 then both together fall.

652 Loud he cries for help, and many
 an one of the herd tries in vain to
 help him out of his plight.

656

¹⁹ MS *biwarlt*.

²⁰ MS si-sen; margin ri[sen].

²¹ Read *ne can he*.

²² MS o; oc in the margin.

manie *and* mikle cume ðer sacande,²³
 wenен him on stalle maken,
 oc for ðe helpe of hem alle
 ne mai he cumen so on stalle;
 ðanne remen he alle a rem,
 so hornes blast oðer belles drem,
 For here mikle reming
 rennande cumed a gunpling,
 raðe to him luted,
 his snute him under puted,
and mitte helpe of hem alle
 ðis elp he reisen on stalle;
and tus * atbrested ðis huntess breid,
 oðe wise ðat ic haue gu seid.

significacio.

Ðus fel adam ðurg a tre,
 vre firste fader, ðat fele we
 Moyses wulde him reisen,
 migte it no wigt forðen;
 After him prophetes alle
 migte her non him maken on stalle,
 on stalle, i seie, ðer he er stod,
 to hauen heuenriche god.
 he suggeden *and* sorgeden *and* weren in ðogt,
 wu he migten him helpen ovt;
 ðo remeden he alle onder²⁴ steuene
 alle hege up to ðe heuene,
 for here care *and* here calling
 hem cam to crist heuen king;
 he ðe is ai in heuene mikel,
 wurð her man, *and* tus was litel,
 drowing ðolede in ure manhede,
and tus adam he under-gede,
 reisede him up, *and* al mankin,
 ðat was fallen to helle dim.

660

664 Then they all set up a loud cry
 like the blast of a horn,
 then a ‘youngling’ comes and
 helps up the old one by means
 of his ‘snout,’ and thus enables
 him to escape the hunter’s snare.

672 [* leaf 9 b.]

Thus did Adam fall through a tree.

676 Moses in vain tried to raise him.

Afterwards the prophets tried to
 restore man to his former position.

680

684 A cry went up to heaven, and
 Christ came down to their aid.

688 He became man, and by death
 went, as it were, under Adam and
 raised him out of ‘dim hell.’

692

²³ MS *sacande*, margin se[cande].

²⁴ ? wonder or on der.

Natura turturis.

IN boke is ðe turtres lif
writen o rime, wu lagelike
ge holdeð luue al hire lif time;
gef ge ones make haueð,
fro him ne wile ge siðen
munedð wimmen hire lif,
ic it wile gu reden;
bi hire make ge sit o nigt,
o dei ge goð *and* flegeð.
wo so seit he sundren ovt,
i seie ðat he legeð.
Oc if hire make were ded,
and ge widue wore,
ðanne flegeð ge one *and* fareð,
non oðer wile ge more;
buten one goð *and* one sit,
and hire olde luue abit,
In herte haueð him nigt and dai,
so he were oliue ai.

Significacio.

List ilk lefful²⁵ man her-to,
and herof ofte reche
vre sowle atte kirke dure
ches hire crist to meche,
he is ure soule spouse,
luue we him wið migte,
and wends we neure fro him-ward
be dai ne be nigte;
ðog he be fro ure sigte faren,
be we him alle trewe,
non oðer louerd ne leue²⁶ we
ne non * luue newe;
leue we ðat he liueð ai
up on heuen-riche,
and ðeðen he sal cumen eft,
and ben us alle briche,

The TURTLE-DOVE keeps to one
mate, and never will she leave him.

696

She is a pattern to women.

700

Day and night they are together.

Whosoever says that they part
company, I say he lies.

If her mate dies, she never chooses
another, but waiteth for her old
love, and keepeth him in her
heart, night and day, as if he
were still alive.

712

Each Christian man chooses
Christ for his mate at the
church door.

716

He is our soul's spouse, and we
ought never to forsake him, nor to
be untrue to him though he be
absent from us.

720

724 [* leaf 10 a.]

Let us take no new love, but
believe that he ever liveth in
heaven's kingdom.

728

²⁵ MS *lefful*.

²⁶ ? *luue*.

for to demen alle men,
oc nout on geuelike,
hise loðe men sulen to helle faren,
hise leue to his riche.

Natura pantere.

Panter is an wilde der,
Is non fairere on werlde her;
he is blac so bro of qual,
mið wite spottes sapen al,
wit *and* trendled als a wel,
and itt bicumeð him swiðe wel.
wor so he wuneð ðis panter,
he fedeð him al mid oðer der,
of ðo ðe he wile he nimeð ðe cul
and fet him wel til he is ful.
In his hole siðen stille
ðre dages he slepen wille,
ðan after ðe ðridde dai
he riseð *and* remeð lude so he mai,
ut of his ðrote cumeð a smel
mid his rem forð oueral,
ðat ouer-cumeð haliweie
wið swetnesse, ic²⁷ gu seie,
and al ðat eure smelleð swete,
be it drie be it wete.
For ðe swetnesse off his onde,
wor so he walkeð o londe,
wor so he walked, er wor so he wuneð,
Ilk der ðe, him hereð to him cumeð,
and folegeð him up one ðe wold,
for ðe swetnesse ðe is gu haue told.
ðe dragunes one ne stiren nout
wiles te panter remeð ogt,
oc daren stille in here pit,
als so he weren of dede offrigt.

Significacio.

Crist is tokned ðurg ðis der,
wos kinde we hauen told gu her;

He will come on doomsday to
judge all men, but not all alike.
His foes shall go to hell, but
his beloved ones to heaven.

732

The PANTHER is a beautiful wild
animal.

736

He is of a black colour with
white spots like a rounded wheel.

740

He feeds on other animals, and
having eaten his fill, he goes
to sleep in his cave for three days.

744

Then he rises and cries aloud, and
out of his mouth comes a ‘smell’
surpassing balsam in sweetness.

748

The sweetness of his breath
entices a number of animals to
follow him, except the dragon
which lies trembling in its den.

752

760

764

Christ is the Panther.

²⁷ MS it.

for he is faier ouer alle men,
so euen sterre ouer erðe fen;
ful wel he taunedede his luue to man,
wan he ðurg holi spel him wan,
and longe he lai her *in* an hole,
wel him dat he it wulde ðolen;
ðre daies slep he al on on,
ðanne he ded was in blod *and* bon,
vp he ros *and* rémede i-wis²⁸
of helle pine, of heuene blis,
and steg to heuene uvemest,²⁹
ðer wuneð wið * fader *and* holi gast.
Amonges men a swete [s]mel
he let her of his holi spel,
wor-ðurg we mugen folgen him
in-to his godcundne se fin.
and ðat wirm ure wiðerwine,
wor so of godes word is dine,
ne dar he stiren, ne noman deren,
ðer³⁰ wile he lage *and* luue beren.

Natura columbe et significacio.

De culuer haueð costes gode,
alle wes ogen to hauen in mode,
seuene costes in hire kinde,
alle it ogen to ben us minde,
ge ne haueð in hire non galle,
simple *and* softe be we alle;
ge ne liueð nogt bi lagt;
Ilc robbing do we of bac.³¹
ðe wirm ge leteð *and* liueð bi ðe sed,
of cristes lore we haue ned;
wið oðre briddes ge doð as moder,
so og ur ilk to don wið oðer;
woning *and* groning is lic hire song,
bimene we us, we haven don wrong.
In water ge is wis of heukeles come,

He is fairer than all others.

- 768 Well he showed his love to man,
when he died for him, and lay
three days in a hole.

- 772 But up he rose the third day
and ascended to heaven.
- 776 [* leaf 10 b.]
A sweet smell came from his holy
lore, where-through we may follow
him into his Divine presence.
- 780 But the devil will not show
himself wherever he hears the
din of ‘God’s word.’
- 784

The DOVE has seven good habits.

- 788 She has no ‘gall’ in her.
Let us all be ‘simple and soft.’
She lives not by plunder.
- 792 Let us avoid all robbery.
She picks up seed only, and avoids worms.
Of Christ’s lore, we all have need.
- 796 She acts as a mother to the young of
other birds. Let us assist one another.
Her song is a mournful plaint.
Let us bewail our sins.
In water she is aware of the coming of

²⁸ MS *in wif.*

²⁹ MS *vuellest.*

³⁰ ? *ðe.*

³¹ ? *hac = ac*, also.

and we in boke wið deules nome;
In hole of ston ge make hire nest,
In cristes milce ure hope is best.

800 the hawk. So in the book are we taught
to flee from the devil.
In a hole of the rock she makes her nest.
In Christ's mercy our hope is best.

Glossarial Index

In the following glossary/index, the numbers refer to the line numbers where the word is found in the poem. The list is alphabetic; words beginning with or containing the “eth” characters Ð and ð are ordered as though they use the modern “Th”; since “u” and “v” are interchangeable in the poem, they are listed together here. The notations in italics indicate the grammatical use of the word.

- | | |
|--|---|
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Atbrosten. <i>See</i> Atbrested.
Atte = at þe, at the, 167.
Atter, <i>s.</i> poison, venom, 145, 329. A.S. <i>attor</i> .
Attri, <i>adj.</i> poisonous; <i>def.</i> -e, 317.

Bac, 792, of bac = aback = away, but more probably <i>hac</i> (so in MS.) = <i>hagt</i> = <i>agt</i> , mind, rh. with <i>lagt</i> . Maetzner suggests <i>hac</i> = <i>ac</i> = also.
Bale, <i>s.</i> evil, misery, 230, 494.
Bane, <i>s.</i> destruction, 482.
Bar. <i>See</i> Beren.
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Bec, <i>s.</i> beak, 58, 77.
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Bergen, <i>v. inf.</i> shelter, 14; save, protect, 231.
Berges, <i>s. pl.</i> mountains, 605.
Bet, <i>adv.</i> better, ? best, 641.
Bet, <i>v. ind. pres.</i> 3 s. offers, 299.
Bete, <i>v. inf.</i> improve, amend, make amends; <i>ind. pres.</i> 3 s. beteð, 107.
Bi, <i>prep.</i> by, 5.
Bi-cumen, <i>v. inf.</i> become, turn (to); <i>ind. pres. sg.</i> 3 bicumeð, 91; suits, 738.
Bidden, <i>v. inf.</i> ask, pray for, 116; <i>imp.</i> 2 s. bid, 194.
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Bilirten, <i>v. inf.</i> deceive, 403.
Biliuen, <i>v. inf.</i> live by, 254.
Billeð, <i>v. 3 s.</i> bills, pecks, 83, 84, 436.
Billing, <i>s.</i> pecking, 418, 440.
Biloken, <i>p. p.</i> look about, 529.
Bimene, <i>subj. pres. pl.</i> bemoan, lament, 798.
Birde, <i>s.</i> birth, 141.
Birdene, <i>s.</i> burden, 375.
Bisetten, <i>v. inf.</i> attack, 223.
Biswiken, 515, Biswike, 429, <i>v. inf.</i> deceive; <i>ind. pres.</i> 3 s. biswikeð, 488.
Biten, <i>v. bite;</i> <i>ind. pres. sg.</i> 3 bit, 269, 296.
Biðenken, <i>v. inf.</i> consider, 94.
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|--|---|

Bitterlike, *adv.* bitterly, 481.
Bi-twen, *prep.* between, 368.
Bitwixen, *prep.* betwixt, 379.
Biwalt, *v. ind. pres. 3 s.* deceiveth, 645.
Blac, *adj.* black, 735.
Blast, *s.* 665.
Blis, *s.* bliss, joy, 177.
Boc, *s.* book, 451.
Bodes, *pl.* commands, 172, 299.
Boden, *pron.* both, 649.
Bodi, *s.* 161.
Boke, *d. s.* book, 54, 309.
Bon, *s.* bone, 619.
Bone, *s.* prayer, 116.
Borlic, *adj.* burly, huge, 605.
Boðe, *conj.* both, 63.
Boðen, *conj.* both, 245, 332.
Bred, *p. p.* 140.
Breid, *s.* deceit, guile, 672; *pl.* breides, 445.
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Brenning, *s.* burning, 318.
Brest, *s.* breast, 140.
Briche, *adj.* ? useful, 379, 728.
Briddes, *s. pl.* young birds, 795.
Brigt, *adj.* bright, 71.
Brinneð, *v. 3 s.* burns, 316.
Bro, *s. ? blo*, colour, 735.
Broder, *s.* brother, 373.
Broken, *p. p.* broken, 173.
Broðer, *s.* brother, 659.
Bukes, *s. g. s.* body's, 432.
Bunden, bound, limited, 560.
Buten, *conj.* except, 110, but, 709.

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Capun, *s.* capon, 390.
Care, *s.* sorrow, 686.
Cauē, *s.* cave, 251, 268.
Cete, *s.* whale, 513.
Cethegrande, *s.* whale, 499.
Char, *s.* turn, resort, 643.
Chare, *v. inf.* turn, return, 581.
Chaeles, *s. pl.* jaws, 513.
Clepeð, *ind. pres. 3 s.* called, 310.
Cliuer, *adj.* ? keen, 221.

Cloðed, *p. p.* clothed, 150; *def. -e*, 220.
Coc, *s.* cock, 390.
Cof, *adj.* bold, 151, 220.
Come, *s.* coming, 799.
Corn, *s.* 246.
Costes, *s. pl.* habits, manners, 370, 785.
Craft, *s.* 131, 542.
Crede, *s.* creed, 113.
Crepen, *v. inf.* creep, 251; *ind. pres. 3 s.* crepeð, 130.
Cripelande, *i. p.* crawling, 130.
Cristen, *adj.* Christian, 91.
Cristned, *p. p.* christened, 168.
Cul, *s. ? buttocks*, 741.
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Cunne, *v. inf.* know, be able; *ind. pres. sg. 3 can*, 94; *pl.* cunen, 581; *subj. pres. sg. cune*. 12, 68; *imp. 2 s.* cune, 191, ? show.

Dai, *s.* day, 43, Dei, 702; *g. s.* deies, 405; *pl.* dages, 744, daies, 127.
Dareð, *v. ind. pres. 3 s.* lies still, 406, 486; *pl.* daren, 761.
Dat, *miswritten for Ðat*, 770.
De, *miswritten for Ðe*, 219, 311.
Deað, Ded, *s.* death, 528; *d. s.* dede, 45.
Ded, *adj.* dead, 40.
Dede, *s.* deed, 97.
Defte, *adj.* mild, 37.
Del, *s.* part, portion, 345.
Dele, *s. d. s.* dale, 6.
Demen, *v. inf.* judge, 729.
Den, *s.* 13.
Denede, *v. pret. 3 s.* denned, housed, 36.
Der, *s.* animal, 283, 327.
Dere, *miswritten for Ðere*, there, 288.
Derflike, *adv.* violently, 412.
Derne, *adj.* secret, sly, 34; Dern, 90.
Dernelike, *adv.* secretly, 428.
Derue, *adj. pl.* bold, strong, 284.

Derye, *v. inf.* hurt, injure, damage; *deren* 153; *ind. pres.* 3 *s.* *dereð*, 428; *subj.* *pres.* *sg.* *derie*, 252.
Deu, *s.* dew, 11.
Deuel, *s.* devil, 216; *g. s.* *deules*, 800.
Dillen, *v. subj. pres. pl.* oppose, 383.
Dim, *adj.* 554; *pl.* dimme, 60.
Dine, *s.* din, sound, 782.
Diuel, *s.* devil, 33.
Diueð, *v. ind. pres.* 3 *s.* dives, 539.
Dog, *conj.* though, nevertheless, 34, 79.
Doluen, *p. p.* buried, 41.
Dom, *s.* judgement, 285.
Domesdei, *s.* day of judgement, 305.
Don, *v. inf.* do, cause, 798.
Dragen, *v. inf.* draw, 548; *ind. pres.* 3 *s.* drageð, 9, 311; *pl.* dragen, 329.
Dragunes, *s. pl.* dragons, 759.
Dred, *s.* fear, 412.
Drem, *s.* sound, 665.
Drepeð, *v. ind. pres.* 3 *s.* kills, 483, 540.
Dreueð, *v. ind. pres.* 3 *s.* troubles, 496.
Dridde, *miswritten for* Dridde, third, 43.
Drie, *adj.* 752.
Dryhten, *s.* lord; Drigten, 40; *gen.* Drigtnnes, 330.
Drink, *s.* 206.
Drinken, *v. inf.* drink, 138.
Driuin, *v. inf.* drive; *ind. pres.* 3 *s.* driueð, 13, 470.
Droui, *adj.* troubled, turbib, 523.
Drowing, *miswritten for* Drowing, suffering, passion, 690.
Dun, *adv.* down, 13.
Dure, *v. subj. pres. sg.* dare, 187.
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Eft, *adv.* again, 727.
Egen, *s. pl.* eyes, 26, 60.
Eilond, *s.* island, 530.
Elde, *s.* old age, 56, 125.
Elde (?), 466.
Elded, *p. p.* become old, 177.
Eldere, *s. pl.* parents, forefathers, 229, 329; Elderne, 192.
Elp, *s.* elephant, 646, 671; *pl.* elps, 604.

Erðe, *s.* earth, 32.
Er, *.conj.* or, 313, 326, 489-492.
Er, *adv.* before, 272.
Eried, *adj.* plowed, 402.
Ern, *s.* eagle, 88; *g. s.* -es, 53.
Erðchine, *s.* cleft in the earth, 402.
Erðliche, *adj.* earthly, 299.
Es = is, 247.
Eten, *v. inf.* eat, 272.
Eulike, *adj.* heavenly (things), 300.
Euen-sterre, *s.* evening star, 766.
Eure, *adv.* ever, 518, 751.
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Fagen, *adj.* glad, 510, 531.
Faier, *adj.* fair, 765; *comp.* fairere, 734.
Fallen, *v. inf.* fall; *ind. pres. pl.* fallen, 72; *p. p.* fallen, 693.
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Fen, *s.* dirt, 766.
Feond, *s.* fiend, devil; Fend, 450.
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Fet-steppes, *s. pl.* footsteps, 7.
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Fikeð, *v. ind. pres. 3 s.* is busy, fidges, 656.
Fille, *s.* fill, 422, 485.
Fillen, *v. inf.* fill, fulfil, 381; *ind. pres. 3 s.* filleð, 8.

Filsten, *v. inf.* support, help; *nd. pret. sg.* 3
filstnede, 44.

Filðe, *s.* filth, foulness, 202; Filde (a
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Fin, *adj.* fine, fair, 780.

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546.

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Fir, *s.* fire, 149, 538.

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Fleges, *s. pl.* flies, 473.

Flegeð, *v. ind. pres.* 3 s. flies, 64, 702.

Fleon, *v. inf.* fly, flee; *nf.*flen, 354; *ind.*
pres. sg. 3. fleð, 148.

Flerd, deceit, 452.

Fles, *s.* flesh, 136.

Flet, *v. ind. pres.* 3 s. floats, 502.

Fligt, *s.* flight, 59, 70.

Fod, *s.* food, 287, Fode, 80, 118.

Fodredes, *s. pl.* means or mode of getting
food, sustenance, 464.

Folde, *s.* fold (of sheep), 48, 607.

Folgen, *v. inf.* follow, 554; *ind. pres. sg.* 3.
folegeð, 546, 757; *pl.*folegen, 356.

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forbedeð, 298.

Forbisne, *s.* example, 424; *pl.* forbisnes, 308.

Forbisned, *adj.* serving as an example; *d. s.*
-e, 589.

Forbreðes, *v. ind. pres.* 2 s. decayest, 124.

Forbroken, *p. p.* broken up (with age), 124.

Fordon, *v. inf.* destroy, ruin, 455.

Fordriuen, *p. p.* driven, 527.

Forgelues, *v. ind. pres.* 2 s. forfeits, 175.

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3. forleteð, 260.

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s. forsaket, 96.

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270; *p. p.* forwurden, 125.

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Ging, *adj.* young, 214.

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Giuen, *v. inf.* give; *ind. pres. 3 s.* giueð, 377.

Guernesse, *s.* greediness, gluttony, 334.

God, *s.* god, 377; *d. s.* gode, 116.

God, *adj.* good, 405.

Godcundhede, *s.* divinity, 592.

Godcundnesse, *s.* divinity, 780.

Golsipe, *s.* lasciviousness, 333, 611.

Gon, *v. inf.* go, walk; *ind. pres. sg.* 3. goð,
82; *pl.* gon, 606; *subj. pres. pl.* gon, 53;
imp. sg. 2. go, 204.

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Heuen-lord, *s.* lord of heaven, 227.
Heuen-riche, *s.* kingdom of heaven, 28.
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Hus-rof, *s.* house roof, 463.

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Idel, *adj.* idle, vain, 437.
Idigt, *p. p.* arranged, 469.
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 Wið, *prep.* with, 9, 86, near, 517.
 Wiðeren, *v. ind. pres. pl.* struggle, 475.
 Wiðerwine, *s.* adversary, 781.
 Wiðinnen, *adv.* within, 318, 591.
 Wiðuten, *adv.* without, 590; *prep.* 412.
 Wod, *adj.* mad, 338.
 Wold, *s.* wood, weald, 757.
 Wolden, *v. inf.* wield, possess, 176.
 Woning, *s.* lamentation, 797.
 Wor, *adv.* where, 638.
 Wore = were, 706.
 Wor-so, *adv.* whereso, 739, 754.
 Wor-ðurg, *adv.* wherethrough, 779.
 Wos = whose, 764.
 Wo so, whoso, whoever, 437, 553.
 Wrengðe, *s.* crookedness, 85.
 Writen, *p. p.* wrote, 695.
 Wrong, *p. p.* wrung, twisted, crooked, 78; wrong, *s.* 798.
 Wu, *adv.* how, 31, 55.
 Wude, *s.* wood, 245, 326.
 Wulf, *s.* wolf; *g. s.* wulues, 590; *pl.* wulues, 591.
 Wullen, *miswritten for* billen, 414.
 Wunde, *s.* wound, 540.
 Wunder, *s.* wonder, 266, 398, miracle.
 Wune, *s.* custom, 368, 638.
 Wunen, *v. inf.* dwell, 522; *pl.* wunen, 277; *subj. pret. pl.* wunedēn, 617.
 Wurdeð, *v. ind. pre. or fut. sg.* 3. become, turn (to), be, 75, wurdeð, 482; *pl.* wurðen, 338; *pret. 3 s.* wurð, 689; *subj. pres. sg.* wurðe, 156.
 Wurdi, *miswritten for* Wurði, *adj.* worthy, 186.
 Wurði, *adj.* worthy, 447.
 Wurðlic, *adv.* worthily, 233.

INCIPIT LIBER FISIOLOGUS A THETBALDO ITALICO COMPOSITUS.

[MS = Harleian MS. 3093, Ad. = Additional MS. 10,415. Ar. = Arundel MS. 243.]

Tres leo naturas <i>et</i> tres habet inde figuras. Quas ego <i>christe tibi ter</i> seno carmine ³² scripsi. [Altera diuini memorant animalia libri ³³] De quibus apposui quæ rursus ³⁴ mistica noui. Temptans diuersis si possem scribere metris. <i>Et numero nostrum</i> ³⁵ complent simul addita soldum.	[leaf 36, col. 2.]
Nam leo stans fortis super alta cacumina montis. Qualicunque uia uallis descendit ad ima. Si uenatorem <i>per notum</i> sentit hodorem ³⁶ Cauda cuncta linit quæ pes uestigia figit. Quatinus inde ³⁷ suum non possit querere lustrum.	4
Qui ³⁸ quociens dormit nunquam sua lumina claudit. Natus non uigilat dum sol se tercio girat. Sed dans rugitum pater eius suscitat illum. Tunc quasi uiuescit tunc sensus quinque capescit.	8
Sic tibi qui celsi resides in culmine cæli. Cum libuit tandem terrenam uisere partem. Vt genus humanum releuares crimine lapsum. Non penitus notum fuit ulli demoniorum.	12
Viscera MARIE tibi <i>christe</i> fuisse cubile. <i>Et qui te genuit triduum post surgere facit</i> ³⁹ Cum mortis uindex ⁴⁰ crucis mortem ⁴¹ ipse subires. Tu nos custodis tu ⁴² nullo tempore dormis.	16
Perugil ut pastor ne demat de grege raptor. Esse ferunt aquilam ⁴³ super omne uolatile primam. ⁴⁴ Quæ sic se renouat quando senecta grauat.	20 24

³² That is, in the thrice six or eighteen lines, 7-24. Some copies wrongly read *bisseno*.

³³ From Ad.

³⁴ Ad. rursus *que*. Ar. que prorsus.

³⁵ Ar. *nostro*.

³⁶ Ad. *odorem*.

³⁷ Ar. *ille*.

³⁸ Ad. Et.

³⁹ Ad. fecit.

⁴⁰ MS. *undex*.

⁴¹ MS. *mortem crucis*. Ad. *crucis mortem*

⁴² Ar. *qui*. Ad. *quod*.

⁴³ Ad. *aquilas*.

⁴⁴ Ad. *primas*.

Fons ubi sit quærit qui nunquam surgere desit.	28
It super hunc cælo fitque propinqua deo.	
[Tunc sibi sol ambas accendit feruidus alas.	
Et minuit grandes a[!]leuiatque graues.] ⁴⁵	
Tunc quoque caligo consumitur igne propinquο	[leaf 36, back]
Quam confert oculis uita uetusta suis.	32
Mox ruit et fo[n]tis liquidis se mergit in undis	
Vtque cadit nido sic noua fit ⁴⁶ subito.	
Est autem rostrum quo carpitur esca retortum.	
Vix ualet ex aliquo sumere pauca cibo.	36
Sed feriens petram uel mordens ut solet escam	
Atterit obliquum sic capit inde cibum.	
Est homo peccatis que sunt ab origine matris.	
Qualis adest aquila sed renouatur ita.	40
Nubes transce[n]dit solisque incendia sentit.	
Mundum cum pompis despiciendo suis.	
Fit nouus in christo ter mersus gurgite uiuo. ⁴⁷	
De se sum uiuus fons ait ⁴⁸ ille pius.	44
Obterit ⁴⁹ obliquum per uerba precancia rostrum. ⁵⁰	
Quod christus petra [sit] ⁵¹ firmat apostolus id.	
Iam nouus est panem ⁵² super omnia mella suaue[m]. ⁵²	
Panis id est christus. fit sine morte cibus.	48

DE SERPENTE

Iam senex serpens nouus esse gaudet.	
Atque ieunans macie perhorret.	
Pellis effeta tremit. ossa neruis.	
Sola manent his. ⁵³	52
Querit angustum lapidis foramen.	
Vix mouens sese ueniens que tandem.	
Inde pertransit spoliat que carnem.	
Pelle uetusta.	56
Quoslibet riuos repetens aquarum.	
Vt sitim perdat uomit ante uirus.	

⁴⁵ From Ad.

⁴⁶ MS. sit. Ad. fit.

⁴⁷ Ar. sacro.

⁴⁸ Ar. Desorsum viuus fons fluit.

⁴⁹ Ad. & Ar. Os terit.

⁵⁰ Ad. christum. Ar. crestum.

⁵¹ From Ad.

⁵² MS. panis ... suauis ; Ad. & Ar. panem ... suaue[m].

⁵³ MS. mantis.

In aquis ergo minus hunc timebo.		
Absque ueneno.	60	
Si uirum quemquam sine ueste spectat.		
Longius serpens ut ab igne cessat.		
At uidens illum qui fert amictum.		
Surgit in ipsum. ⁵⁴	64	
Quem uir ut uincit sequiturque multum.		
Negligit corpus facit inde scutum.		
Verticis uero tenet usque curam.		
Ne moriatur.	68	
Fonte qui sacro semel es nouatus.		
Denuo pecca[n]s silicernus extas.		
ErGo sis semper imitator anguis.		
Cum ueterascis.	72	
Sit cibus parcus minuantur artus.		
Vnde non mandis miserios iuuabis.		
Penitens defle dominoque semper ⁵⁵		
dic miserere.	76	
Signat hunc callem lapidis foramen.		
Signat et christum petra nam per ipsum.		
Fit nouus quisque capit atque ⁵⁶ uitam.		
Fine carentem.	80	
Cuius ad celsum uenie[n]do templum.		
Vt bibas sacrum beatumque uerbum.		[leaf 36, back, col. 2]
Euomas primum, quod habes nocium.		
Corde uenenum.	84	
Corde sunt iræ magis angue nigræ.		
Et velud ⁵⁷ matres odium creantes.		
Corde sunt rixæ inuidiæque nigræ.		
Non bene amicæ.	88	
Corde conceptis furiis superbis.		
Et quoequales ⁵⁸ superos que tempnis.		
Plena sunt istis aliis que multis.		
Corda uenenis.	92	
His quidem purus quasi ueste nudus.		
Dæmones anguis tipicus fugabis.		
Noctis ut cæcas reprimit tenebras.		

⁵⁴ Ad. illum.

⁵⁵ Ad. sepe.

⁵⁶ Ad. inde.

⁵⁷ MS. Velud *et*. Ad. Et uelut.

⁵⁸ Ad. coequales.

Orbita solis.	96
<i>Sed tamen</i> multas paciere pugnas.	
<i>Atque</i> dum uiues in agone fies.	
<i>Vnde</i> serpentes imitare prudens.	100
Verticis auctor.	
<i>Via nouus uitam sine fine dignam.</i>	
<i>Semper illesum caput est habendum.</i>	
<i>Hoc caput dico quod habes in ipso.</i>	104
Principe christo.	

DE FORMICA

<i>Exemplum nobis prebet formica laboris.</i>	
<i>Quando suo solitum portat in ore cibum.</i>	
<i>Inque suis factis res monstrat spirituales.</i>	
<i>Quas quia iudeus non amat inde reus.</i>	108
<i>Vt ualeat brumæ fieri secura future.</i>	
<i>Est calor. interea non requiescit ea.</i>	
<i>Nosque laboremus fratres dum tempus habemus.</i>	
<i>Securi fieri tempore iudicii.</i>	112
<i>Hæc frumenta legit. si comperit ordea spernit.</i>	
<i>Ipse nouam legem colligo non ueterem.</i>	
<i>Sed ne de pluuiis aspersum germinet udis.</i>	
<i>Aut ea ne pereat esse quod hinc nequeat.</i>	116
<i>Granum quod legit prudens formica bipartit.</i>	
<i>Hoc est quod binas lex habet una vias.</i>	
<i>Quæ terrena sonat simul et celestia monstrat.</i>	
<i>Nunc mentem pascit et modo corpus alit.</i>	120
<i>Nos utinam replete famis ut formido recedat.</i>	
<i>Tempore iudicii quod simile⁵⁹ est hiemi.</i>	

DE VVLPE

<i>Plena dolis multis uocatur subdola uulpis.</i>	
<i>Hanc amat⁶⁰ agricola quod rapit altilia.</i>	124
<i>Si[n]⁶¹ habet illa famem. que desunt inuenit artem.</i>	
<i>Qua sibi cracantes prendere possit aues.</i>	
<i>In terram scissam se tendit namque supinam.</i>	
<i>Et quasi mortua sit flamina nulls trahit.</i>	128

⁵⁹ MS. similæ.

⁶⁰ Ar. odit.

⁶¹ Ad. Sin.

Cornix aut ater coruus putat esse cadauer.	[leaf 37]
Insidet ut comedat. morsibus excoriat.	
Illa leuis surgit subitoque uolatile sumit.	
Dentibus et tristem reddit edendo uicem.	132
Inde tenet duplam quam prodest nosse figuram.	
Nunc zabulo similis par aliquando uiris.	
Mortuus est uere quod ⁶² mortem fecit habere.	
Nos et dissimulat quod mala non faciat.	136
Cuius edit carnem qui rem facit omnis inanem.	
Hoc est peccatum quodlibet atque malum.	
Quem quasi deglutit cum secum ad tartara ducit.	
Dæmon ab insidiis. uulpeculæ est similis.	140
Et cum fraude uiri sunt uulpis nomine digni.	
Quales hoc omnes tempore sunt homines.	
Herodesque fuit. qui christum querere iussit.	
Credere se simulans prendere dissimulans.	144

DE CERUO

Ceruus habere duas naturas atque figuras.	
Dicitur a phisio cum docet inde logo.	
Nam quamuis grandes cum narribus extrahat angues.	
De caueis terre de latebris ue petræ.	148
Quos uorat et tetro mox feruescente ueneno.	
Estuat ad liquidas pergere fontis aquas	
Quas cum forte bibit his plenus toxica uincit.	
Se iuuenemque facit cornua quando iacit.	152
Nos quoque cum prisci serpentis fraude reuicti.	
Virus contrahimus urimur et facibus	
Hoc est luxuria quæ fert odium uel et iram.	
Aut etiam nimia eris auaricia.	156
Ad fontem uiuum debemus currere christum.	
Qui cum nos udat sumpta uenena fugat.	
Et sumus his dempti ⁶³ iuuenes factique superni. ⁶⁴	
Quæ quasi cornua sunt cum miseros feriunt.	160
Cornua sunt homini quæ portant uertice cerui.	
Sed non dedecori inde uidentur heri.	
Si fluuios tranant par nant pariterque peragrant.	
Longius et pergunt pascua quando petunt.	164

⁶² Ad. qui.

⁶³ Ad. demptis.

⁶⁴ Ad. superbis.

Portant suspensum gradientes ordine mentum. Alter in alterius clunibus impositus. Hunc retinent usum si sint uel in agmine centum. Sed qui precedit fessus ad ima redit.	168
Sic se uertentes cuncti mutuoque fere[n]tes. Nunquam deficiunt atque uiam peragunt. Per tales mores alienos ferre labores. Cum pietate monent atque iuuare docent.	[leaf 37, col. 2]
Sic lex <i>est christi</i> nobis complenda magistri. Cuius qui faciet pascua repperiet. ⁶⁵	172

DE ARANEA

Vermis araneus exiguus. Plurima fila net assiduus.	176
Texere que studet artificus. Retia sunt ea musca tibi.	
Vt uolitans capiaris ibi. Dulcis et utilis esca sibi.	180
Huic placet illud opus tenue. Sed sibi nil ualet ut fragile.	
Quaelibet aura trahit patulum. Rumpitur et cadit in nichilum.	184
Hos sequitur homo uermiculos. Decipiendo suos socios.	
Quos comedit faciens miseros. Et placet inde sibi nimium.	188
Quando nocere potest alium. Ille tamen mala quique facit.	
Cum moritur. quasi tela cadit. Quo modo dictus araneus it.	192

DE BALENA

Est super omne pecus quod uiuit in æquore cætus. Monstrum grande satis cum super extat aquis. Prospiciens illum montem putat esse marinum. Aut quod in oceano insula sit medio.	196
Hic si quando famem quam fert sepissime grandem. Alleu[i]are uelit ca[l]lidus. os aperit. ⁶⁶	

⁶⁵ MS. reppereriet.

⁶⁶ MS. asperit.

Vnde uelud florum se flatus reddit hodorum.		
Ad se pisciculos ⁶⁷ ut tra[h]at exiguos.	200	
Exiguos tantum quoniam comprehe[n]dere magnvm.		
Perfectumque nequit. sed nec in ore premit.		
Piscis pisciculos claudit degluti[t] et illos.		
Non sic non sic iam sorbit ille ionam.	204	
Si sit tempestas cum uadit uel uenit estas.		
Et pelagus fundum turbidat omne suum.		
Continuo summas se tollit cætus ad undas.		
Est promunctorium ce[r]nere non modicum. ⁶⁸	208	
Huic religare citam pro tempestate carinam.		
Nautæ festinant. ut que foras saliant.		
Accendunt uigilem quem nauis portitat ignem.		
Vt cale se faciant ⁶⁹ aut comedenda quoquant	212	[leaf 37, back]
Utque focum sentit tunc se fugiendo remergit.		
Vnde prius ⁷⁰ uenit sicque carina perit.		
Uiribus est zabulus quasi cetus corpore magnus.		
Vt mon[s]trant magni quos facit ille magi.	216	
Mentes cunctorum qui sunt ubicunque uirorum.		
Esurit atque sitit quosque potest perimit.		
Sed modicos fidei trahit in dulcedine uerbi.		
Namque fide firmos non trahit ille uiros.	220	
In quo confidit quisquis uel spem sibi ponit.		
Ad stigium rapitur quam male decipitur.		

DE SIRENIS

Sirenæ sunt monstra maris resonancia multis ⁷¹		
Vocibus et modulis cantus formancia multis	224	
Ad quas incaute ueniunt sepissime naute.		
Quæ faciunt sompnum nimia dulcedine uocum		
Et modo naufragium modo dant mortale periculum.		
Quo qui fugerunt hii tales esse tulerunt.	228	
Ex umbilico sunt ut pulcherrima uirgo.		
Quod que facit monstrum uolucres sunt inde deorsum.		

⁶⁷ MS. pisciculos.

⁶⁸ MS. moduum.

⁶⁹ MS. faciunt.

⁷⁰ MS. primum. Ad. prius.

⁷¹ magnis is written above this word.

DE HONOCENTAURIS

- Est honocentauris eadem natura biformis.
 In quibus est asinus humano corpore mixtus. 232
 Quam plures homines si[c]⁷² sunt in more biformes.
 Vnum dicentes aliud tibi mox facientes.
 Qui foris ut fantur sic intus non operantur.
 Vtpote sunt multi qui de uirtute locuti. 236
 Clunibus indulgent his o quam pulpita fulgent.

DE HELEPHANTE

- Corpore tam grandes apud indos sunt elepha[n]tes.
 Vt bene firmares montibus esse pares.
 Hii simul incedunt ut oues cum pascua querunt. 240
 Aduersi coeunt cum sibi conueniunt.
 Atque semel pariunt quamuis tot tempora uiuunt.
 Hoc est ter centum nec faciunt geminum.
 Ast unum generans et per duo tempora gestans. 244
 Cum facit⁷³ in magna ne cadat extat aqua.
 Non habet ut surgat. quia nunquam crura recuruat.
 Si qua forte ruit. hoc genitrix timuit.⁷⁴
 Cum uult pausare. uel somno se recreare. 248
 Incumbit ligno corporis exiguo.
 Quam notat atque secat uenator et obice celat.
 Clamque sedens spectat dum requiem repeatat.
 Ille uelud quondam securus ad a[r]boris umbram.
 Cum uenit incumbit cumque ruente ruit.
 Sin homo non aderit gemit et tum denique barrit.
 Tunc unus currit. qui releuare cupit.
 Sed nequit et satagit complorans his quoque barrit. 256
 Multi uel magni tunc uenient alii.
 Cum nequeunt omnes contendunt mittere uoces.
 Ad quas fit subitus paruulus ac minimus.
 Cuius et est mirum promiscida subleuat illum. 260
 Et sic predictas effugit insidias.
 Deque pilis huius si sit sub domate fumus.

⁷² Ad. sic.

⁷³ Ar. parit.

⁷⁴ Ad. metuit.

Serpentes cedunt quæque uenena gerunt.	
Sic homo primus adam per lignum cum cecidit iam.	264
Quem moyses uoluit tollere nec potuit.	
Post hunc prophete uoluerunt. nec potuere.	
Ipsorum precibus uenit. ad hunc dominus.	
Qui cum sit paruuus quoniam deus est homo factus.	268
Sic reueauit eum in comedendo reum.	
Cuius hodor plenus de uerbis scilicet eius.	
Si cui rite uenit inde beatus erit.	
Omne quod est uicum fugiet de corde per ipsum.	272
Causa de hinc læti nulla nocebit ei.	

DE TVRTVRE

Tvrtur inane. nescit amare.	
Nam semel uni. Nupta marito.	
Semper adibit [cum simul ipso]. ⁷⁵	276
Nocte dieque iuncta manebit.	
Absque marito. Nemo uidebit.	
Sed uiduata. Si caret ipso.	
Non tamen ultra. Nubet amico.	280
Sola uolabit. Sola sedebit.	
Et quasi uiuum. Corde tenebit.	
Opperiensque. Casta manebit.	
Sic anima extat. ⁷⁶ Queque fidelis.	284
Facta uirili. Federe felix.	
Namque maritus. Est sibi christus.	
Cvm sua de se. Pectora replet.	
Et bene uiuens. Semper adheret.	288
Non alienum. Querit amicum.	
Quamlibet orcus Sumserit illum.	
Quem superesse. Credit in æthre.	
Inde futurum. Spectat eundem.	292
Vt microcosmum. Iudicet omnem.	

DE PANTHERA.

Est quadrupes panter quo non ⁷⁷ pulcrior alter.	
Qui niger ex albo conspergit orbiculato.	
Diuersis pastus uenatibus et saciatus.	296

⁷⁵ From a printed copy.

⁷⁶ MS. est.

⁷⁷ MS. non est.

Se recipit. dormitque cauo. prostratus in antro.		
Post triduum surgit. tum uero denique rugit.		
Exit hodor talis de gutture tamque suavis.		[leaf 39]
Qui uirtute sua superat uel aromata multa.	300	
Ad quem mox tendit quœ uocem belua sentit.		
Ac sectatur cum nimia dulcedine plenum.		
Sic faciunt omnes. soli pantéra dracones.		
Cum sonat aut fugiunt aut segnes corpore fiunt.	304	
In caueisque latent. ipso nec tempore parent.		
Est autem christus panther per mistica dictus.		
Qui superest homines forma collatus ad omnes.		
Et satur ille fuit quia quot uult tot sibi sumit.	308	
Et somnum cepit cum nos moriendo redemit.		
Rugitum misit postquam do morte reuixit.		
Celos ascendens ubi regnat cum patre presens.		
Quem gentes cuncte sunt sic credendo secute.	312	
Aut fugit atque latet nec ab ipso tempore paret.		
Serpens antiquus qui nobis est inimicus.		
Namque palam nulos licet audet fallere multos.		
Quos cum defendat qui secla per omnia regnat.	316	
Carmine finito sit laus et gloria christo.		
Cui sinon alii placeant hec metra tebaldi.		

EXPLICIT LIBER PHISIOLOGI