

**Alexander, de Villa Dei**



# **The Earliest Arithmetics in English**

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This text includes characters that will only display in UTF-8 (Unicode) file encoding:

ȝ, ƿ (yogh, long s)  
ŋ, þ (n with curl, crossed l: see below)  
φ (Greek phi, sometimes used in printed text for 0)

If any of these characters do not display properly, or if the apostrophes and quotation marks in this paragraph appear as garbage, you may have an incompatible browser or unavailable fonts. First, make sure that the browser's "character set" or "file encoding" is set to Unicode (UTF-8). You may also need to change your browser's default font.

In *The Crafte of Nombrynge*, final **n** was sometimes written with an extra curl as **n̄**. It has been rendered as **ŋ** for visual effect; the character is not intended to convey phonetic information. In the same selection, the numeral "0" was sometimes printed as Greek φ (phi); this has been retained for the e-text. Double **I** with a line **H** is shown as **ꝥ**. The first few occurrences of **d** (for "pence") were printed with a curl as **ḋ**. The letter is shown with the same **d** used in the remainder of the text.

The word "withdraw" or "*with*draw" was inconsistently hyphenated; it was left as printed, and line-end hyphens were retained. All brackets [ ] are in the original.

The diagrams in "Accomptynge by Counters" may not line up perfectly in all browsers, but the contents should still be intelligible.

The original text contained at least five types of marginal note. Details are given at the [end of the e-text](#).

Typographical errors are shown in the text with [mouse-hover popups](#). Other underlined words are cross-references to the [Index of Technical Terms](#) and the [Glossary](#).

# The Earliest Arithmetics in English

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(added by transcriber)

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# The Earliest Arithmetics in English

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION

BY

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## INTRODUCTION

The number of English arithmetics before the sixteenth century is very small. This is hardly to be wondered at, as no one requiring to use even the simplest operations of the art up to the middle of the fifteenth century was likely to be ignorant of Latin, in which language there were several treatises in a considerable number of manuscripts, as shown by the quantity of them still in existence. Until modern commerce was fairly well established, few persons required more arithmetic than addition and subtraction, and even in the thirteenth century, scientific treatises addressed to advanced students contemplated the likelihood of their not being able to do simple division. On the other hand, the study of astronomy necessitated, from its earliest days as a science, considerable skill and accuracy in computation, not only in the calculation of astronomical tables but in their use, a knowledge of which latter was fairly common from the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries.

The arithmetics in English known to me are:—

- (1) Bodl. 790 G. VII. (2653) f. 146-154 (15th c.) *inc.* "Of angrym ther be IX figures in numbray . . ." A mere unfinished fragment, only getting as far as Duplation.
- (2) Camb. Univ. LI. IV. 14 (III.) f. 121-142 (15th c.) *inc.* "Al maner of thyngis that prosedeth ffro the frist begynnnyng . . ."
- (3) Fragmentary passages or diagrams in Sloane 213 f. 120-3 (a fourteenth-century counting board), Egerton 2852 f. 5-13, Harl. 218 f. 147 and
- (4) The two MSS. here printed; *Eg.* 2622 f. 136 and *Ashmole* 396 f. 48. All of these, as the language shows, are of the fifteenth century.

The *Crafte of Nombrynge* is one of a large number of scientific treatises, mostly in Latin, bound up together as *Egerton MS.* 2622 in the British Museum Library. It measures 7" × 5", 29-30 lines to the page, in a rough hand. The English is N.E. Midland in dialect. It is a translation and amplification of one of the numerous glosses on the *de algorismo* of Alexander de Villa Dei (c. 1220), such as that of Thomas of Newmarket contained in the British Museum *MS. Reg.* 12, E. 1. A fragment of another translation of the same gloss was printed by Halliwell in his *Rara Mathematica* (1835) p. 29.<sup>1</sup> It corresponds, as far as p. 71, l. 2, roughly to p. 3 of our version, and from thence to the end p. 2, ll. 16-40.

The *Art of Nombryng* is one of the treatises bound up in the Bodleian *MS. Ashmole* 396. It measures 11½" × 17¾", and is written with thirty-three lines to the page in a fifteenth century hand. It is a translation, rather literal, with amplifications of the *de arte numerandi* attributed to John of Holywood (Sacrobosco) and the translator had obviously a poor *MS.* before him. The *de arte numerandi* was printed in 1488, 1490 (*s.n.*), 1501, 1503, 1510, 1517, 1521, 1522, 1523, 1582, and by Halliwell separately and in his two editions of *Rara Mathematica*, 1839 and 1841, and reprinted by Curze in 1897.

Both these tracts are here printed for the first time, but the first having been circulated in proof a number of years ago, in an endeavour to discover other manuscripts or parts of manuscripts of it, Dr. David Eugene Smith, misunderstanding the position, printed some pages in a curious transcript with four facsimiles in the *Archiv für die Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften und der Technik*, 1909, and invited the scientific world to take up the "not unpleasant task" of editing it.

*Accomptynge by Counters* is reprinted from the 1543 edition of Robert Record's *Arithmetic*, printed by R. Wolfe. It has been reprinted within the last few years by Mr. F. P. Barnard, in his work on *Casting Counters*. It is the earliest English treatise we have on this variety of the Abacus (there are Latin ones of the end of the fifteenth century), but there is little doubt in my mind that this method of performing the simple operations of arithmetic is much older than any of the pen methods. At the end of the treatise there follows a note on merchants' and auditors' ways of setting down sums, and lastly, a system of digital numeration which seems of great antiquity and almost world-wide extension.

After the fragment already referred to, I print as an appendix the 'Carmen de Algorismo' of Alexander de Villa Dei in an enlarged and corrected form. It was printed for the first time by Halliwell in *Rara Mathematica*, but I have added a number of stanzas from various manuscripts, selecting various readings on the principle that the verses were made to scan, aided by the advice of my friend Mr. Vernon Rendall, who is not responsible for the few doubtful lines I have conserved. This poem is at the base of all other treatises on the subject in medieval times, but I am unable to indicate its sources.

Ancient and medieval writers observed a distinction between the Science and the Art of Arithmetic. The classical treatises on the subject, those of Euclid among the Greeks and Boethius among the Latins, are devoted to the Science of Arithmetic, but it is obvious that coeval with practical Astronomy the Art of Calculation must have existed and have made considerable progress. If early treatises on this art existed at all they must, almost of necessity, have been in Greek, which was the language of science for the Romans as long as Latin civilisation existed. But in their absence it is safe to say that no involved operations were or could have been carried out by means of the alphabetic notation of the Greeks and Romans. Specimen sums have indeed been constructed by moderns which show its possibility, but it is absurd to think that men of science, acquainted with Egyptian methods and in possession of the abacus,<sup>2</sup> were unable to devise methods for its use.

## The Pre-Medieval Instruments Used in Calculation.

The following are known:—

- (1) A flat polished surface or tablets, strewn with sand, on which figures were inscribed with a stylus.
- (2) A polished tablet divided longitudinally into nine columns (or more) grouped in threes, with which counters were used, either plain or marked with signs denoting the nine numerals, *etc.*
- (3) Tablets or boxes containing nine grooves or wires, in or on which ran beads.
- (4) Tablets on which nine (or more) horizontal lines were marked, each third being marked off.

The only Greek counting board we have is of the fourth class and was discovered at Salamis. It was engraved on a block of marble, and measures 5 feet by 2½. Its chief part consists of eleven parallel lines, the 3rd, 6th, and 9th being marked with a cross. Another section consists of five parallel lines, and there are three rows of arithmetical symbols. This board could only have been used with counters (*calculi*), preferably unmarked, as in our treatise of *Accomptynge by Counters*.

## Classical Roman Methods of Calculation.

We have proof of two methods of calculation in ancient Rome, one by the first method, in which the surface of sand was divided into columns by a stylus or the hand. Counters (*calculi*, or *lapilli*), which were kept in boxes (*loculi*), were used in calculation, as we learn from Horace's schoolboys (Sat. 1. vi. 74). For the sand see Persius l. 131, "Nec qui abaco numeros et secto in pulvere metas scit risisse," Apul. Apolog. 16 (*pulvisculo*), Mart. Capella, lib. vii. 3, 4, *etc.* Cicero says of an expert calculator "eruditum attigisse pulverem," (de nat. Deorum, ii. 18). Tertullian calls a teacher of arithmetic "primus numerorum arenarius" (de Pallio, *in fine*). The counters were made of various materials, ivory principally, "Adeo nulla uncia nobis est eboris, *etc.*" (Juv. XI. 131), sometimes of precious metals, "Pro calculis albis et nigris aureos argenteosque habebat denarios" (Pet. Arb. Satyricon, 33).

There are, however, still in existence four Roman counting boards of a kind which does not appear to come into literature. A typical one is of the third class. It consists of a number of transverse wires, broken at the middle. On the left hand portion four beads are strung, on the right one (or two). The left hand beads signify units, the right hand one five units. Thus any number up to nine can be represented. This instrument is in all essentials the same as the Swanpan or Abacus in use throughout the Far East. The Russian *stchota* in use throughout Eastern Europe is simpler still. The method of using this system is exactly the same as that of *Accomptynge by Counters*, the right-hand five bead replacing the counter between the lines.

## The Boethian Abacus.

Between classical times and the tenth century we have little or no guidance as to the art of calculation. Boethius (fifth century), at the end of lib. II. of his *Geometria* gives us a figure of an abacus of the second class with a set of counters arranged within it. It has, however, been contended with great probability that the whole passage is a tenth century interpolation. As no rules are given for its use, the chief value of the figure is that it gives the signs of the nine numbers, known as the Boethian "apices" or "notae" (from whence our word "notation"). To these we shall return later on.

## The Abacists.

It would seem probable that writers on the calendar like Bede (a.d. 721) and Helpericus (a.d. 903) were able to perform simple calculations; though we are unable to guess their methods, and for the most part they were dependent on tables taken from Greek sources. We have no early medieval treatises on arithmetic, till towards the end of the tenth century we find a revival of the study of science, centring for us round the name of Gerbert, who became Pope as Sylvester II. in 999. His treatise on the use of the Abacus was written (c. 980) to a friend Constantine, and was first printed among the works of Bede in the Basle (1563) edition of his works, l. 159, in a somewhat enlarged form. Another tenth century



treatise is that of Abbo of Fleury (c. 988), preserved in several manuscripts. Very few treatises on the use of the Abacus can be certainly ascribed to the eleventh century, but from the beginning of the twelfth century their numbers increase rapidly, to judge by those that have been preserved.

The Abacists used a permanent board usually divided into twelve columns; the columns were grouped in threes, each column being called an “arcus,” and the value of a figure in it represented a tenth of what it would have in the column to the left, as in our arithmetic of position. With this board counters or jetons were used, either plain or, more probably, marked with numerical signs, which with the early Abacists were the “apices,” though counters from classical times were sometimes marked on one side with the digital signs, on the other with Roman numerals. Two ivory discs of this kind from the Hamilton collection may be seen at the British Museum. Gerbert is said by Richer to have made for the purpose of computation a thousand counters of horn; the usual number of a set of counters in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was a hundred.

Treatises on the Abacus usually consist of chapters on Numeration explaining the notation, and on the rules for Multiplication and Division. Addition, as far as it required any rules, came naturally under Multiplication, while Subtraction was involved in the process of Division. These rules were all that were needed in Western Europe in centuries when commerce hardly existed, and astronomy was unpractised, and even they were only required in the preparation of the calendar and the assignments of the royal exchequer. In England, for example, when the hide developed from the normal holding of a household into the unit of taxation, the calculation of the geldage in each shire required a sum in division; as we know from the fact that one of the Abacists proposes the sum: “If 200 marks are levied on the county of Essex, which contains according to Hugh of Bocland 2500 hides, how much does each hide pay?”<sup>3</sup> Exchequer methods up to the sixteenth century were founded on the abacus, though when we have details later on, a different and simpler form was used.

The great difficulty of the early Abacists, owing to the absence of a figure representing zero, was to place their results and operations in the proper columns of the abacus, especially when doing a division sum. The chief differences noticeable in their works are in the methods for this rule. Division was either done directly or by means of differences between the divisor and the next higher multiple of ten to the divisor. Later Abacists made a distinction between “iron” and “golden” methods of division. The following are examples taken from a twelfth century treatise. In following the operations it must be remembered that a figure asterisked represents a counter taken from the board. A zero is obviously not needed, and the result may be written down in words.

(a) Multiplication.  $4600 \times 23$ .

Thousands					
H u n d r e d s	T e n s	U n i t s	H u n d r e d s	T e n s	U n i t s
		4	6		
		1	8		
	1	2			
	1	2			
	8				
1		5	8		
				2	3

Multiplicand.

600 × 3.

4000 × 3.

600 × 20.

4000 × 20.

Total product.

Mmultiplier.

(b) Division: direct.  $100,000 \div 20,023$ . Here each counter in turn is a separate divisor.

H.	T.	U.	H.	T.	U.
	2			2	3
1	2				
	2				
	1	9	9		

Divisors.

Place greatest divisor to right of dividend.

Dividend.

Remainder.

Another form of same.

				8		Product of 1st Quotient and 20.
	1	9	9	2		Remainder.
				1	2	Product of 1st Quotient and 3.
	1	9	9		8	<b>Final remainder.</b>
				4		Quotient.

(c) Division by Differences.  $900 \div 8$ . Here we divide by (10-2).

		H.	T.	U.		
				2		Difference.
				8		Divisor.
		<sup>4</sup> 9				<b>Dividend.</b>
		<sup>4</sup> 1	8			Product of difference by 1st Quotient (9).
			2			Product of difference by 2nd Quotient (1).
		<sup>4</sup> 1				Sum of 8 and 2.
			2			Product of difference by 3rd Quotient (1).
				4		Product of difference by 4th Quot. (2). <b>Remainder.</b>
				2		4th Quotient.
			1			3rd Quotient.
			1			2nd Quotient.
			9			1st Quotient.
		1	1	2		<b>Quotient. (Total of all four.)</b>

Division.  $7800 \div 166$ .

Thousands						
H.	T.	U.	H.	T.	U.	
				3	4	Differences (making 200 trial divisor).
			1	6	6	Divisors.
		<sup>4</sup> 7	8			<b>Dividends.</b>
		1				Remainder of greatest dividend.
			1	2		Product of 1st difference (4) by 1st Quotient (3).
			9			Product of 2nd difference (3) by 1st Quotient (3).
		<sup>4</sup> 2	8	2		New dividends.
			3	4		Product of 1st and 2nd difference by 2nd Quotient (1).
		<sup>4</sup> 1	1	6		New dividends.
				2		Product of 1st difference by 3rd Quotient (5).
			1	5		Product of 2nd difference by 3rd Quotient (5).
			<sup>4</sup> 3	3		New dividends.
			1			Remainder of greatest dividend.
				3	4	Product of 1st and 2nd difference by 4th Quotient (1).
			1	6	4	<b>Remainder</b> (less than divisor).
				1		4th Quotient.
				5		3rd Quotient.
			1			2nd Quotient.
			3			1st Quotient.
				4	6	<b>Quotient.</b>

Division.  $8000 \div 606$ .

Thousands					
H.	T.	U.	H.	T.	U.
				9	
				4	
			6		6
		48			
		1			
			9	4	
		41	9	4	
			3		
				9	4
		41	3	3	4
			3		
				9	4
			7	2	8
			6		6
			1	2	2
				1	
				1	
				1	
				1	
				1	
			1	3	

Difference (making 700 trial divisor).

Difference.

Divisors.

**Dividend.**

Remainder of dividend.

Product of difference 1 and 2 with 1st Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Remainder of greatest dividend.

Product of difference 1 and 2 with 2nd Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Remainder of greatest dividend.

Product of difference 1 and 2 with 3rd Quotient (1).

New dividends.

Product of divisors by 4th Quotient (1).

**Remainder.**

4th Quotient.

3rd Quotient.

2nd Quotient.

1st Quotient.

**Quotient.**

The chief Abacists are Gerbert (tenth century), Abbo, and Hermannus Contractus (1054), who are credited with the revival of the art, Bernelinus, Gerland, and Radulphus of Laon (twelfth century). We know as English Abacists, Robert, bishop of Hereford, 1095, "abacum et lunarem compotum et celestium cursum astrorum rimatus," Turchillus Compotista (Thurkil), and through him of Guilielmus R. . . . "the best of living computers," Gislebert, and Simonus de Rotellis (Simon of the Rolls). They flourished most probably in the first quarter of the twelfth century, as Thurkil's treatise deals also with fractions. Walcher of Durham, Thomas of York, and Samson of Worcester are also known as Abacists.

Finally, the term Abacists came to be applied to computers by manual arithmetic. A MS. Algorithm of the thirteenth century (Sl. 3281, f. 6, b), contains the following passage: "Est et alius modus secundum operadores sive practicos, quorum unus appellatur Abacus; et modus ejus est in computando per digitos et junctura manuum, et iste utitur ultra Alpes."

In a composite treatise containing tracts written a.d. 1157 and 1208, on the calendar, the abacus, the manual calendar and the manual abacus, we have a number of the methods preserved. As an example we give the rule for multiplication (Claud. A. IV., f. 54 vo). "Si numerus multiplicat alium numerum auferatur differentia majoris a minore, et per residuum multiplicetur articulus, et una differentia per aliam, et summa proveniet." Example,  $8 \times 7$ . The difference of 8 is 2, of 7 is 3, the next article being 10;  $7 - 2$  is 5.  $5 \times 10 = 50$ ;  $2 \times 3 = 6$ .  $50 + 6 = 56$  answer. The rule will hold in such cases as  $17 \times 15$  where the article next higher is the same for both, i.e., 20; but in such a case as  $17 \times 9$  the difference for each number must be taken from the higher article, i.e., the difference of 9 will be 11.

## The Algorithmists.

Algorithm (augrim, augrym, algram, agram, algorithm), owes its name to the accident that the first arithmetical treatise translated from the Arabic happened to be one written by Al-Khowarazmi in the early ninth century, "de numeris Indorum," beginning in its Latin form "Dixit Algorithmi. . . ." The translation, of which only one MS. is known, was made about 1120 by Adelard of Bath, who also wrote on the Abacus and translated with a commentary Euclid from the Arabic. It is probable that another version was made by Gerard of Cremona (1114-1187); the number of important works that were not translated more than once from the Arabic decreases every year with our knowledge of medieval texts. A few lines of this translation, as copied by Halliwell, are given on p. 72, note 2. Another translation still seems to have been made by Johannes Hispalensis.

Algorithm is distinguished from Abacist computation by recognising seven rules, Addition, Subtraction, Duplation, Mediation, Multiplication, Division, and Extraction of Roots, to which were afterwards added Numeration and

Progression. It is further distinguished by the use of the zero, which enabled the computer to dispense with the columns of the Abacus. It obviously employs a board with fine sand or wax, and later, as a substitute, paper or parchment; slate and pencil were also used in the fourteenth century, how much earlier is unknown.<sup>5</sup> Algorism quickly ousted the Abacus methods for all intricate calculations, being simpler and more easily checked: in fact, the astronomical revival of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries would have been impossible without its aid.

The number of Latin Algorisms still in manuscript is comparatively large, but we are here only concerned with two—an Algorism in prose attributed to Sacrobosco (John of Holywood) in the colophon of a Paris manuscript, though this attribution is no longer regarded as conclusive, and another in verse, most probably by Alexander de Villedieu (Villa Dei). Alexander, who died in 1240, was teaching in Paris in 1209. His verse treatise on the Calendar is dated 1200, and it is to that period that his Algorism may be attributed; Sacrobosco died in 1256 and quotes the verse Algorism. Several commentaries on Alexander's verse treatise were composed, from one of which our first tractate was translated, and the text itself was from time to time enlarged, sections on proofs and on mental arithmetic being added. We have no indication of the source on which Alexander drew; it was most likely one of the translations of Al-Khowarazmi, but he has also the Abacists in mind, as shewn by preserving the use of differences in multiplication. His treatise, first printed by Halliwell-Phillipps in his *Rara Mathematica*, is adapted for use on a board covered with sand, a method almost universal in the thirteenth century, as some passages in the algorism of that period already quoted show: "Est et alius modus qui utitur apud Indos, et doctor hujusmodi ipsos erat quidem nomine Algos. Et modus suus erat in computando per quasdam figuras scribendo in pulvere. . . ." "Si voluerimus depingere in pulvere predictos digitos secundum consuetudinem algorismi . . ." "et sciendum est quod in nullo loco minorum sive secundorum . . . in pulvere debent scribi plusquam sexaginta."

## Modern Arithmetic.

Modern Arithmetic begins with Leonardi Fibonacci's treatise "de Abaco," written in 1202 and re-written in 1228. It is modern rather in the range of its problems and the methods of attack than in mere methods of calculation, which are of its period. Its sole interest as regards the present work is that Leonardi makes use of the digital signs described in Record's treatise on *The arte of nombrynge by the hand* in mental arithmetic, calling it "modus Indorum." Leonardo also introduces the method of proof by "casting out the nines."

## Digital Arithmetic.

The method of indicating numbers by means of the fingers is of considerable age. The British Museum possesses two ivory counters marked on one side by carelessly scratched Roman numerals IIIV and VIII, and on the other by carefully engraved digital signs for 8 and 9. Sixteen seems to have been the number of a complete set. These counters were either used in games or for the counting board, and the Museum ones, coming from the Hamilton collection, are undoubtedly not later than the first century. Frohner has published in the *Zeitschrift des Münchener Alterthumsvereins* a set, almost complete, of them with a Byzantine treatise; a Latin treatise is printed among Bede's works. The use of this method is universal through the East, and a variety of it is found among many of the native races in Africa. In medieval Europe it was almost restricted to Italy and the Mediterranean basin, and in the treatise already quoted (Sloane 3281) it is even called the Abacus, perhaps a memory of Fibonacci's work.

Methods of calculation by means of these signs undoubtedly have existed, but they were too involved and liable to error to be much used.

## The Use of "Arabic" Figures.

It may now be regarded as proved by Bubnov that our present numerals are derived from Greek sources through the so-called Boethian "apices," which are first found in late tenth century manuscripts. That they were not derived directly from the Arabic seems certain from the different shapes of some of the numerals, especially the 0, which stands for 5 in Arabic. Another Greek form existed, which was introduced into Europe by John of Basingstoke in the thirteenth century, and is figured by Matthew Paris (V. 285); but this form had no success. The date of the introduction of the zero has been hotly debated, but it seems obvious that the twelfth century Latin translators from the Arabic were perfectly well acquainted with the system they met in their Arabic text, while the earliest astronomical tables of the thirteenth century I have seen use numbers of European and not Arabic origin. The fact that Latin writers had a convenient way of writing hundreds and thousands without any cyphers probably delayed the general use of the Arabic notation. Dr. Hill has published a very complete survey of the various forms of numerals in Europe. They began to be common at the middle of the thirteenth century and a very interesting set of family notes concerning births in a British Museum manuscript, Harl.

4350 shows their extension. The first is dated Mij<sup>c</sup>. lviii., the second Mij<sup>c</sup>. lxi., the third Mij<sup>c</sup>. 63, the fourth 1264, and the fifth 1266. Another example is given in a set of astronomical tables for 1269 in a manuscript of Roger Bacon's works, where the scribe began to write MCC6. and crossed out the figures, substituting the "Arabic" form.

## The Counting Board.

The treatise on pp. 52-65 is the only one in English known on the subject. It describes a method of calculation which, with slight modifications, is current in Russia, China, and Japan, to-day, though it went out of use in Western Europe by the seventeenth century. In Germany the method is called "Algorithmus Linealis," and there are several editions of a tract under this name (with a diagram of the counting board), printed at Leipsic at the end of the fifteenth century and the beginning of the sixteenth. They give the nine rules, but "Capitulum de radicum extractione ad algorithmum integrorum reservato, cujus species per cifrales figuras ostenduntur ubi ad plenum de hac tractabitur." The invention of the art is there attributed to Appulegus the philosopher.

The advantage of the counting board, whether permanent or constructed by chalking parallel lines on a table, as shown in some sixteenth-century woodcuts, is that only five counters are needed to indicate the number nine, counters on the lines representing units, and those in the spaces above representing five times those on the line below. The Russian abacus, the "tchatui" or "stchota" has ten beads on the line; the Chinese and Japanese "Swanpan" economises by dividing the line into two parts, the beads on one side representing five times the value of those on the other. The "Swanpan" has usually many more lines than the "stchota," allowing for more extended calculations, see Tylor, *Anthropology* (1892), p. 314.

Record's treatise also mentions another method of counter notation (p. 64) "merchants' casting" and "auditors' casting." These were adapted for the usual English method of reckoning numbers up to 200 by scores. This method seems to have been used in the Exchequer. A counting board for merchants' use is printed by Halliwell in *Rara Mathematica* (p. 72) from Sloane MS. 213, and two others are figured in Egerton 2622 f. 82 and f. 83. The latter is said to be "novus modus computandi secundum inventionem Magistri Thome Thorleby," and is in principle, the same as the "Swanpan."

The Exchequer table is described in the *Dialogus de Scaccario* (Oxford, 1902), p. 38.

1. Halliwell printed the two sides of his leaf in the wrong order. This and some obvious errors of transcription—"ferye" for 'ferthe,' 'lest' for 'left,' etc., have not been corrected in the reprint on pp. 70-71.

2. For Egyptian use see Herodotus, ii. 36, Plato, *de Legibus*, VII.

3. See on this Dr. Poole, *The Exchequer in the Twelfth Century*, Chap. III., and Haskins, *Eng. Hist. Review*, 27, 101. The hidage of Essex in 1130 was 2364 hides.

4. These figures are removed at the next step.

5. Slates are mentioned by Chaucer, and soon after (1410) Prosdocimo de Beldamandi speaks of the use of a "lapis" for making notes on by calculators.

## The Earliest Arithmetics in English.

# The Crafte of Nombryng.

Egerton 2622.

leaf 136 a.

## **H**Ec algorismus ars presens dicitur; in qua Talibus indorum fruimur bis quinque figuris.

This boke is called þe boke of algorym, or Augrym after lewder vse. And þis boke tretys þe Craft of Nombryng, þe quych crafte is called also Algorym. Ther was a kyng of Inde, þe quich heyth Algor, & he made þis craft. And after his name he called hit algorym; or els anoper cause is quy it is called Algorym, for þe latyn word of hit s. Algorismus comes of Algos, grece, *quid est ars*, latine, craft on englis, and rides, *quid est numerus*, latine, A nombur on englys, inde *dicitur* Algorismus per addicionem huius sillabe mus & subtraccionem d & e, *quasi ars numerandi*. ¶ fforthermore 3e most vndirstonde þat in þis craft ben vsid teen figurys, as here bene writen for ensampul, 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1. ¶ Expone þe too versus afore: this present craft ys called Algorismus, in þe quych we vse teen signys of Inde. Questio. ¶ Why ten figuris of Inde? Solucio. for as I haue sayd afore þai were fonde fyrst in Inde of a kynge of þat Cuntre, þat was called Algor.

A derivation of Algorism.

Another derivation of the word.

on and Numeration.

¶ **Prima significat unum; duo vero secunda;**  
¶ **Tercia significat tria; sic procede sinistre.**  
¶ **Donec ad extremam venias, que cifra vocatur.**

versus [in margin].

### ¶ **Capitulum primum de significacione figurarum.**

leaf 136 b. In þis verse is notifide þe significacion of pese figuris. And þus expone the verse. Þe first signifiyth one, þe secunde signifiyth tweyne, þe thryd signifiyth thre, & the fourte signifiyth 4. ¶ And so forthe towarde þe lyft syde of þe tabul or of þe boke þat þe figures bene writene in, til þat þou come to the last figure, þat is called a cifre. ¶ Questio. In quych syde sittes þe first figure? Solucio, forsothe loke quich figure is first in þe ryȝt side of þe bok or of þe tabul, & þat same is þe first figure, for þou schal write bakeward, as here, 3. 2. 6. 4. 1. 2. 5. The figure of 5. was first write, & he is þe first, for he sittes on þe ryȝt syde. And the figure of 3 is last. ¶ Neuer-þe-les wen he says ¶ **Prima significat vnum &c.**, þat is to say, þe first betokenes one, þe secunde. 2. & fore-þer-more, he vndirstondes noȝt of þe first figure of euery rew. ¶ But he vndirstondes þe first figure þat is in þe nombur of þe forsayd teen figuris, þe quych is one of pese. 1. And þe secunde 2. & so forth.

Expositio versus.  
The meaning and place of the figures.

Which figure is read first.

¶ **Quelibet illarum si primo limite ponas,**  
¶ **Simpliciter se significat: si vero secundo,**  
**Se decies: sursum procedas multiplicando.**  
¶ **Namque figura sequens quamuis signat decies plus.**  
¶ **Ipsa locata loco quam significat pertinente.**

versus [in margin].


leaf 137 a. ¶ Expone þis verse þus. Euery of pese figuris bitokens hym selfe & no more, yf he stonde in þe first place of þe rewele / this worde Simpliciter in þat verse it is no more to say but þat, & no more. ¶ If it stonde in the secunde place of þe rewele, he betokens tene tymes hym selfe, as þis figure 2 here 20 tokens ten tyme hym selfe, *þat is twenty, for he hym selfe betokenes tweyne, & ten tymes tvene is twenty.* And for he stondis on þe lyft side & in þe secunde place, he betokens ten tyme hym selfe. And so go forth. ¶ ffor euery figure, & he stonde aftur a-noper toward the lyft side, he schal betokene ten tymes as mich more as he schul betoken & he stode in þe place þere þat þe figure a-fore hym stondes. loo an ensampulle. 9. 6. 3. 4. Þe figure of 4.

Expositio [in margin].


An explanation of the principles of notation.

þat hase þis schape . betokens bot hymselfe, for he stondes in þe first place. The figure of


An example: units,

3. þat hase þis schape . betokens ten tymes more þen he schuld & he stde þere þat þe figure


tens,

of 4. stondes, þat is thretty. The figure of 6, þat hase þis schape . betokens ten tymes more



pan he schuld & he stode pere as þe figure of . stondes, for þere he schuld tokyne bot sixty, & now he betokens ten tymes more, þat is sex hundryth. The figure of 9. þat hase þis schape

hundreds,

. betokens ten tymes more þane he schuld & he stode in þe place þere þe figure of sex stondes, for þen he schuld betoken to 9. hundryth, and in þe place þere he stondes now he betokens 9. þousande. Al þe hole nombur is 9 thousande sex hundryth & foure & thretty. ¶ fforthermore, when þou schalt rede a nombur of figure, þou schalt begyne at þe last figure in the lyft side, & rede so forth to þe ryȝt side as here 9. 6. 3. 4. Thou schal begyn to rede at þe figure of 9. & rede forth þus. 9. thousand sex hundryth thrity & foure. But when þou schalle write, þou schalt begynne to write at þe ryȝt side.

thousands.  
Howto read the  
number.

leaf 137 b.

### ¶ Nil cifra significat sed dat signare sequenti.

Expone þis verse. A cifre tokens noȝt, bot he makes þe figure to betoken þat comes aftur hym more þan he schuld & he were away, as þus 1ϕ. here þe figure of one tokens ten, & yf þe cifre were away <sup>1</sup> & no figure by-fore hym he schuld token bot one, for þan he schuld stonde in þe first place. ¶ And þe cifre tokens nothyng hym selfe. for al þe nombur of þe ylke too figures is bot ten. ¶ Questio. Why says he þat a cifre makys a figure to signifye (tyf) more &c. ¶ I speke for þis worde significatyf, ffor sothe it may happe aftur a cifre schuld come a-nopur cifre, as þus 2ϕϕ. And ȝet þe secunde cifre shuld token neuer þe more excep he schuld kepe þe order of þe place. and a cifre is no figure significatyf.

The meaning and use  
of the cipher.

### ¶ Quam precedentes plus ultima significabit p>

Expone þis verse þus. Þe last figure schal token more þan alle þe oper afore, thouȝt þere were a hundryth thousand figures afore, as þus, 16798. Þe last figure þat is 1. betokens ten thousand. And alle þe oper figures ben bot betokene bot sex thousand seuyne hundryth nynty & 8. ¶ And ten thousand is more þen alle þat nombur, ergo þe last figure tokens more þan all þe nombur afore.

The last figure means  
more than all the  
others, since it is of  
the highest value.

leaf 138 a. ¶ *Post predicta scias breuiter quod tres numerorum  
Distincte species sunt; nam quidam digiti sunt;  
Articuli quidam; quidam quoque compositi sunt.*

## ¶ Capitulum 2<sup>m</sup> de triplice divisione numerorum.

¶ The auctor of þis tretis departys þis worde a nombur into 3 partes. Some nombur is called digitus latine, a digit in englys. *Somme* nombur is called articulus latine. An Articul in englys. Some nombur is called a composyt in englys. ¶ Expone þis *verse*. know þou *aftur* þe forsayd rewles þat I sayd afore, þat pere ben thre spices of nombur. Oone is a digit, Anoper is an Articul, & þe toper a Composyt. *versus*.

Digits.  
Articles.  
Composites.

### Articles, and Composites.

#### ¶ Sunt digiti numeri qui citra denarium sunt.

¶ Here he telles qwat is a digit, Expone *versus* sic. Nomburs digitus bene alle nomburs þat ben *with-inne* ten, as nyne, 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.

What are digits.

#### ¶ Articupli decupli degitorum; compositi sunt Illi qui constant ex articulis degitisque.

¶ Here he telles what is a composyt and what is an articul. Expone sic *versus*. ¶ Articulis ben<sup>2</sup> alle þat may be deuidynt into nomburs of ten & nothyng leue ouer, as twenty, thretty, forty, a hundred, a thousand, & such oper, ffor twenty may be departyt in-to 2 nomburs of ten, fforty in-to foure nomburs of ten, & so forth.

What are articles.

leaf 138 b. Compositys ben nomburs þat bene componyt of a digyt & of an articulle as fouretene, fyftene, sextene, & such oper. ffortene is componyd of foure þat is a digit & of ten þat is an articulle. fffytene is componyd of 5 & ten, & so of all oper, what þat þai ben. Short-lych euery nombur þat begynnes *with* a digit & endyth in a articulle is a composyt, as fortene bygennynge by foure þat is a digit, & endes in ten.

What numbers are  
composites.

#### ¶ Ergo, proposito numero tibi scribere, primo Respicias quid sit numerus; si digitus sit Primo scribe loco digitum, si compositus sit Primo scribe loco digitum post articulum; sic.

¶ here he telles how þou schalt wyrch whan þou schalt write a nombur. Expone *versum* sic, & fac iuxta *exponentis sentenciam*; whan þou hast a nombur to write, loke fyrst what maner nombur it ys þat þou schalt write, whether it be a digit or a composit or an Articul. ¶ If he be a digit, write a digit, as yf it be seuen, write seuen & write þat digit in þe first place toward þe ryght side. If it be a composyt, write þe digit of þe composit in þe first place & write þe articul of þat digit in þe secunde place next toward þe lyft side. As yf þou schal write sex & twenty. write þe digit of þe nombur in þe first place þat is sex, and write þe articul next *aftur* þat is twenty, as þus 26. But  
leaf 139 a. whan þou schalt sowne or speke *or rede an Composyt þou schalt first sowne þe articul & aftur þe digit, as þou seyst by þe comyne speche, Sex & twenty & nouzt twenty & sex. versus.*

How to write a  
number,  
if it is a digit;  
if it is a composite.

How to read it.

#### ¶ Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram, Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris.

¶ Here he tells how þou schal write when þe nombre þat þou hase to write is an Articul. Expone *versus* sic & fac *secundum sentenciam*. Ife þe nombur þat þou hast write be an Articul, write first a cifre & *aftur* þe cifer write an Articulle þus. 2φ. fforthermore þou schalt *vndirsonde* yf þou haue an Articul, loke how mych he is, yf he be *with-ynne* an hundred, þou schalt write bot one cifre, afore, as here .9φ. If þe articulle be by hym-silf & be an hundred euene, þen schal þou write .1. & 2 cifers afore, þat he may stonde in þe thryd place, for euery figure in þe thryd place schal token a hundred tymes hym selfe. If þe articul be a thousand or thousandes<sup>3</sup> and he stonde by hym selfe, write afore 3 cifers & so forþ of al oper.

How to write Articles:  
tens,  
hundreds,  
thousands, &c.

#### ¶ Quolibet in numero, si par sit prima figura, Par erit & totum, quicquid sibi continuatur; Impar si fuerit, totum tunc fiet et impar.

¶ Here he teches a generale rewle þat yf þe first figure in þe rewle of figures token a nombur þat is euene al þat nombur of figurys in þat rewle schal be euene, as here þou may see 6. 7. 3. 5. 4.  
leaf 139 b. Computa & proba. ¶ If þe first figure token an nombur þat is ode, alle þat nombur in þat rewle schalle be ode, as here 5 6 7 8 6 7. Computa & proba. *versus*.

To tell an even  
number  
or an odd.

#### ¶ Septem sunt partes, non plures, istius artis; ¶ Addere, subtrahere, duplare, dimidiare,



¶ Here telles þat þer be[n] .7. spices or partes of þis craft. The first is called addicio[n], þe secunde is called subtraccio[n]. The thryd is called duplacio[n]. The 4. is called dimydicio[n]. The 5. is called multiplicacio[n]. The 6 is called diuisio[n]. The 7. is called extraccio[n] of þe Rote. What all þese spices bene hit schalle be tolde singillatim in here caputule.

The seven rules.

¶ **Subtrahis aut addis a dextris vel mediabis:**

Thou schal begynne in þe ryght side of þe boke or of a tabul. loke were þou wul begynne to write latyn or englys in a boke, & þat schalle be called þe lyft side of the boke, þat þou writest toward þat side schal be called þe ryght side of þe boke. Versus.

Add, subtract, or halve, from right to left.

**A leua dupla, diuide, multiplica.**

Here he telles þe in quych side of þe boke or of þe tabul þou schalle be-gyne to wyrch duplacio[n], diuisio[n], and multiplicacio[n]. Thou schal begyne to worch in þe lyft side of þe boke or of þe tabul, but yn what wyse þou schal wyrch in hym **dicetur singillatim in sequentibus capitulis et de vtilitate cuiuslibet artis & sic Completur leaf 140. prohemium & sequitur tractatus & primo de arte addicionis que prima ars est in ordine.**

Multiply or divide from left to right.

**Addere si numero numerum vis, ordine tali  
Incipe; scribe duas primo series numerorum  
Primam sub prima recte ponendo figuram,  
Et sic de reliquis facias, si sint tibi plures.**

¶ Here by-gynnes þe craft of Addicio[n]. In þis craft þou most knowe foure thynges. ¶ Fyrst þou most know what is addicio[n]. Next þou most know how many rewles of figurys þou most haue. ¶ Next þou most know how many diuers casys happes in þis craft of addicio[n]. ¶ And next qwat is þe profet of þis craft. ¶ As for þe first þou most know þat addicio[n] is a castyng to-gedur of twoo nomburys in-to one nombre. As yf I aske qwat is twene & thre. Þou wyl cast þese twene nombres to-gedur & say þat it is fyue. ¶ As for þe secunde þou most know þat þou schalle haue tweyne rewes of figures, one vndur another, as here þou mayst se. ¶ As for þe thryd þou most know þat there ben foure diuerse cases. As for þe forthe þou most know þat þe profet of þis craft is to telle what is þe hole nombur þat comes of diuerse nomburis. Now as to þe texte of oure verse, he teches there how þou schal worch in þis craft. ¶ He says yf þou wilt cast one nombur to anoper nombur, þou most by-gynne on þis wyse. ¶ ffyrst write two rewes of figuris & nombris so þat þou write þe first figure of þe hyer nombur euene vndir the first figure of þe nether nombur, And þe secunde of þe nether nombur euene vndir þe secunde of þe hyer, & so forthe of euery figure of both þe rewes as þou mayst se.

Four things must be known:

what it is;

how many rows of figures;

how many cases; what is its result.

How to set down the sum.

leaf 140 b.

¶ **Inde duas adde primas hac condicione:  
Si digitus crescat ex addicione priorum;  
Primo scribe loco digitum, quicunque sit ille.**

¶ Here he teches what þou schalt do when þou hast write too rewes of figuris on vnder an-oper, as I sayd be-fore. ¶ He says þou schalt take þe first figure of þe heyer nombre & þe fyrst figure of þe neper nombre, & cast hem to-geder vp-on þis condicion. Thou schal loke qweper þe number þat comys pere-of be a digit or no. ¶ If he be a digit þou schalt do away þe first figure of þe hyer nombre, and write pere in his stede þat he stode Inne þe digit, þat comes of þe ylke 2 figures, & so wrich forth on oper figures yf pere be ony moo, til þou come to þe ende toward þe lyft side. And lede þe nether figure stonde still euer-more til þou haue ydo. ffor pere-by þou schal wyte wheper þou hast done wel or no, as I schal tell þe afterward in þe ende of þis Chapter. ¶ And loke allgate þat þou begynne to worch in þis Craft of Addi\*cio[n] in þe ryzt side, here is an ensampul of þis case. Caste 2 to foure & þat wel be sex, do away 4. & write in þe same place þe figure of sex. ¶ And lete þe figure of 2 in þe nether rewe stonde stil. When þou hast do so, cast 3 & 4 to-gedur and þat wel be seuen þat is a digit. Do away þe 3, & set pere seuen, and lete þe neper figure stonde stille, & so worch forth bakward til þou hast ydo all to-geder.

Add the first figures;

rub out the top figure;

write the result in its place.

Here is an example.

leaf 141 a.

**Et si compositus, in limite scribe sequente  
Articulum, primo digitum; quia sic iubet ordo.**

¶ Here is þe secunde case þat may happe in þis craft. And þe case is þis, yf of þe casting of 2 nomburis to-geder, as of þe figure of þe hyer rewe & of þe figure of þe neper rewe come a

Suppose it is a Composite, set down

Composyt, how schalt pou worch. þus pou schalt worch. Thou shalt do away þe figure of þe hyer nomber þat was cast to þe figure of þe neþer nomber. ¶ And write þere þe digit of þe Composyt. And set þe articul of þe composit next after þe digit in þe same rewe, yf þere be no mo figures after. But yf þere be mo figuris after þat digit. And þere he schall be rekend for hym selfe. And when þou schalt adde þat ylke figure þat berys þe articulle ouer his hed to þe figure vnder hym, þou schalt cast þat articul to þe figure þat hase hym ouer his hed, & þere þat Articul

leaf 141 b. schal token hym selfe. lo an Ensampull of all. Cast 6 to 6, & þere-of wil arise twelue. do 326  
away þe hyer 6 & write þere 2, þat is þe digit of þis composit. And þen write þe articulle 216.  
þat is ten ouer þe figuris hed of twene as þus. Now cast þe articulle þat standus vpon 1  
þe figuris of twene hed to þe same figure, & reken þat articul bot for one, and þan 322  
þere wil arise thre. þan cast þat thre to þe neþer figure, þat is one, & þat wul be foure. 216.  
do away þe figure of 3, and write þere a figure of foure. and lete þe neþer figure  
stonde stil, & þan worch forth. vnde versus.

¶ **Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram,**  
¶ **Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris,**  
**Vel per se scribas si nulla figura sequatur.**

¶ Here he puttes þe thryde case of þe craft of Addicion. & þe case is þis. yf of Addicion of 2 figuris a-ryse an Articulle, how schal þou do. thou most do away þe heer figure þat was addid to þe neþer, & write þere a cifre, and sett þe articuls on þe figuris hede, yf þat þere come ony after. And wyrch þan as I haue tolde þe in þe secunde case. An ensampull. Cast 5 to 5, þat wyll 25.  
be ten. now do away þe hyer 5, & write þere a cifer. And sette ten vpon þe figuris hed of 2. 15

leaf 142 a. And reken it but for on þus. lo an Ensampulle And þan worch forth. But yf þere come no figure after þe cifre, write þe articul next hym in þe same rewe as here cast 5 to 5, and it  
wel be ten. do away 5. þat is þe hier 5. and write þere a cifre, & write after hym þe articul

5	1
5	20
	15

10
5

¶ **Si tibi cifra superueniens occurrerit, illam**  
**Dele superpositam; fac illic scribe figuram,**  
**Postea procedas reliquas addendo figuras.**

¶ Here he puttes þe fourt case, & it is þis, þat yf þere come a cifer in þe hier rewe, how þou schal do. þus þou schalt do. do away þe cifer, & sett þere þe digit þat comes of þe addicion as þus In þis ensampul ben alle þe foure cases. Cast 3 to foure, þat wol be seuē. do away 4. & 10084.  
write þere seuē; þan cast 4 to þe figure of 8. þat wel be 12. do away 8, & sett þere 2. 17743  
þat is a digit, and sette þe articul of þe composit, þat is ten, vpon þe cifers hed, & reken it for hym selfe þat is on. þan cast one to a cifer, & hit wulle be but on, for noȝt & on makes but one. þan cast 7. þat stondes vnder þat on to hym, & þat wel be 8. do away þe cifer & þat 1. & sette þere 8. þan go forthermore. cast þe oper 7 to þe cifer þat stondes ouer hym. þat wul be bot

leaf 142 b. seuē, for þe cifer betokens noȝt. do away þe cifer & sette þere seuē, & þen go forþermore & cast 1 to 1, & þat wel be 2. do away þe hier 1, & sette þere 2. þan hast þou do. And yf þou haue wel ydo þis nomber þat is sett here-after wel be þe nomber þat schalle aryse of alle þe addicion as here 27827. ¶ Sequitur alia species.

raft of Subtraction.

**A numero numerum si sit tibi demere cura**  
**Scribe figurarum series, vt in addicione.**

¶ This is þe Chapter of subtraccion, in the quych þou most know foure nessessary thynges. the first what is subtraccion. þe secunde is how many nombers þou most haue to subtraccion, the thryd is how many maners of cases þere may happe in þis craft of subtraccion. The fourte is qwat is þe profet of þis craft. ¶ As for þe first, þou most know þat subtraccion is drawynge of one nowmber oute of anoper nomber. As for þe secunde, þou most knowe þat þou most haue two rewes of figuris one vnder anoper, as þou addyst in addicion. As for þe thryd, þou moyst know þat foure maner of diuerse casis mai happe in þis craft. ¶ As for þe fourt, þou most know þat þe profet of þis craft is whenne þou hasse taken þe lasse nomber out of þe more to telle what þere leues ouer þat. & þou most begynne to wyrch in þis craft in þe ryght side of þe boke, as þou diddyst in addicion. Versus.

¶ **Maiori numero numerum suppone minorem,**  
¶ **Siue pari numero supponatur numerus par.**

leaf 143 a. ¶ Here he telles þat þe hier nomber most be more þen þe neþer, or els euen as mych. but he may not be lasse. And þe case is þis, þou schalt drawe þe neþer nomber out of þe hyer, & þou mayst not do þat yf þe hier nomber were lasse þan þat. ffor þou mayst not draw sex out of 2. But þou mast draw 2 out of sex. And þou maiste draw twene out of twene, for þou schal leue noȝt of þe hier twene vnde versus.

the digit, and carry the tens.

Here is an example.

Suppose it is an Article, set down a cipher and carry the tens.

Here is an example.

What to do when you have a cipher in the top row.

An example of all the difficulties.

Four things to know about subtraction:

the first;  
the second;  
the third;  
the fourth.

Put the greater number above the less.

**¶ Postea si possis a prima subtrahe primam  
Scribens quod remanet.**

Here is þe first case put of subtraccion, & he says þou schalt begynne in þe ryght side, & draw þe first figure of þe neþer rewe out of þe first figure of þe hier rewe. qwether þe hier figure be more þen þe neþer, or euen as mych. And þat is notified in þe vers when he says "Si possis." Whan þou has þus ydo, do away þe hiest figure & sett þere þat leues of þe subtraccion, lo an Ensampulle 234

122 draw 2 out of 4. þan leues 2. do away 4 & write þere 2, & latte þe neþer figure stonde stille, & so go for-by oper figuris till þou come to þe ende, þan hast þou do.

**¶ Cifram si nil remanebit.**

leaf 143 b. ¶ Here he puttes þe secunde case, & hit is þis. yf it happe þat qwen þou hast draw on neþer figure out of a hier, & þere leue noȝt after þe subtraccion, þus þou schalt do. þou schalle do away þe hier figure & write þere a cifer, as lo an Ensampull Take foure out of foure þan leus noȝt. þerefore do away þe hier 4 & set þere a cifer, þan take 2 out of 2, þan leues noȝt. do away þe hier 2, & set þere a cifer, and so worch whare so euer þis happe.

The first case of subtraction.

Here is an example.

Put a cipher if nothing remains.

Here is an example.

24
24

**Sed si non possis a prima demere primam  
Precedens vnum de limite deme sequente,  
Quod demptum pro denario reputabis ab illo  
Subtrahe totalem numerum quem proposuisti  
Quo facto scribe super quicquid remanebit.**

Here he puttes þe thryd case, þe quych is þis. yf it happe þat þe neþer figure be more þen þe hier figure þat he schalle be draw out of. how schalle þou do. þus þou schalle do. þou schalle borro .1. oute of þe next figure þat comes after in þe same rewe, for þis case may neuer happ but yf þere come figures after. þan þou schalt sett þat on ouer þe hier figures hed, of the quych þou woldist y-draw oute þe neyþer figure yf þou haddyst y-myȝt. Whanne þou hase þus ydo þou schalle rekene þat .1. for ten. ¶. And out of þat ten þou schal draw þe neyþermost figure, And alle þat leues þou schalle *add the answer to the top number. adde to þe figure on whos hed þat .1. stode. And þen þou schalle do away alle þat, & sett þere alle that arisys of the addicion of*

Suppose you cannot take the lower figure from the top one, borrow ten;

take the lower number from ten;

Example.

How to 'Pay back' the borrowed ten.

leaf 144 a. *þe ylke 2 figuris. And yf yt happe þat þe figure of þe quych þou schalt borro on be hym self but 1. If þou schalt þat one & sett it vpon þe oper figuris hed, and sett in þat 1. place a cifer, yf þere come mony figures after. lo an Ensampul. take 4 out of 2. it wyl not be, þerefore borro one of þe next figure, þat is 2. and sett þat ouer þe hed of þe fyrst 2. & rekene it for ten. and þere þe secunde stondes write 1. for þou tokest on out of hym. þan take þe neþer figure, þat is 4, out of ten. And þen leues 6. cast to 6 þe figure of þat 2 þat stode vnder þe hedde of 1. þat was borwed & rekened for ten, and þat wylle be 8. do away þat 6 & þat 2, & sette þere 8, & lette þe neþer figure stonde stille. Whanne þou hast do þus, go to þe next figure þat is now bot 1. but first yt was 2, & þere-of was borred 1. þan take out of þat þe figure vnder hym, þat is 3. hit wel not be. þer-fore borowe of the next figure, þe quych is bot 1. Also take & sett hym ouer þe hede of þe figure þat þou woldest haue y-draw oute of þe nether figure, þe quych was 3. & þou myȝt not, & rekene þat borwed 1 for ten & sett in þe same place, of þe quych place þou tokest hym of, a cifer, for he was bot 1. Whanne þou hast þus ydo, take out of þat 1. þat is reket for*  
leaf 144 b. *ten, þe neþer figure of 3. And þere leues 7. cast þe ylke 7 to þe figure þat had þe ylke ten vpon his hed, þe quych figure was 1, & þat wol be 8. þan do away þat 1 and þat 7, & write þere 8. & þan wyrch forth in oper figuris til þou come to þe ende, & þan þou hast þe do. Versus.*

2122
1134

**¶ Facque nonenarios de cifris, cum remeabis  
¶ Occurrant si forte cifre; dum dempseris vnum  
¶ Postea procedas reliquas demendo figuras.**

¶ Here he puttes þe fourte case, þe quych is þis, yf it happe þat þe neþer figure, þe quych þou schalt draw out of þe hier figure be more þan þe hier figur ouer hym, & þe next figure of two or of thre or of foure, or how mony þere be by cifers, how wold þou do. Þou wost wel þou most nede borow, & þou mayst not borow of þe cifers, for þai haue noȝt þat þai may lene or spare. Ergo<sup>4</sup> how woldest þou do. Certayn þus most þou do, þou most borow on of þe next figure significatyf in þat rewe, for þis case may not happe, but yf þere come figures significatyf after the cifers. Whan þou hast borowede þat 1 of the next figure significatyf, sett þat on ouer þe hede of þat figure of þe quych þou wold haue draw þe neþer figure out yf þou hadest myȝt, & reken it for ten as þou diddest in þe oper case here-a-fore. Whan þou hast þus y-do loke how mony cifers þere were bye-twene þat figure significatyf, & þe figure of þe quych þou woldest haue y-draw the neþer figure, and of euery of þe ylke cifers make a figure of 9. lo an Ensampulle after. Take 4 out of 2. it wel not be. borow 1 out of þe next figure significatyf, þe quych is 4, & þen leues 3. do away þat figure of 4 & write þere 3. & sett þat 1 vpon þe figure of 2 hede, & þan take 4 out of ten, & þan þere leues 6. Cast 6 to the figure of 2, þat wol be 8. do

A very hard case is put.

Here is an example.

40002
10004



away þat 6 & write þere 8. When þou hast þus y-do make of euery 0 between 3 & 8 a figure of 9, & þan worch forth in goddes name. & yf þou hast wel y-do þou<sup>5</sup> schalt haue þis number

39998
10004

Sic.

**¶ Si subtraccio sit bene facta probare valebis**  
**Quas subtraxisti primas addendo figuras.**

¶ Here he teches þe Craft how þou schalt know, when þou hast subtrayd, wheþer þou hast wel ydo or no. And þe Craft is þis, ryght as þou subtrayd þe neþer figures fro þe hier figures, ryȝt so adde þe same neþer figures to þe hier figures. And yf þou haue well y-wroth a-fore þou schalt haue þe hier nombre þe same þou haddest or þou be-gan to worch. as for þis I bade þou

leaf 145 b. schulde kepe þe neþer figures styлле. lo an *Ensampulle of alle þe 4 cases togedre. worche welle þis case And yf þou worch welle when þou hast alle subtrayd þe þat hier nombre here, þis schalle be þe nombre here foloyng when þou hast subtrayd.*

40003468
20004664

How to prove a subtraction sum.

Here is an example.

*And þou schalt know þus. adde þe neþer rowe of þe same nombre to þe hier rewe as þus, cast 4 to 4. þat wol be 8. do away þe 4 & write þere 8.*

*by þe first case of addicion. þan cast 6 to 0 þat wol be 6. do away þe 0, & write þere 6. þan cast 6 to 8, þat wel be 14. do away 8 & write þere a figure of 4, þat is þe digit, and write a figure of 1. þat schall betoken ten. þat is þe articul vpon þe hed of 8 next after, þan reken þat 1. for 1. & cast it to 8. þat schal be 9. cast to þat 9 þe neþer figure vnder þat þe quych is 4, & þat schalle be 13. do away þat 9 & sett þere 3, & sett a figure of 1. þat schall be 10 vpon þe next figuris hede þe quych is 9. by þe secunde case þat þou hadest in addicion. þan cast 1 to 9. & þat wol be 10. do away þe 9. & þat 1. And write þere a cifer. and write þe articulle þat is 1. betokenynge*

leaf 146 a. *10. vpon þe hede of þe next figure toward þe lyft side, þe quych is 9, & so do forth tyl þou come to þe last 9. take þe figure of þat 1. þe quych þou schalt fynde ouer þe hed of 9. & sett it ouer þe next figures hede þat schal be 3. ¶ Also do away þe 9. & set þere a cifer, & þen cast þat 1 þat stondes vpon þe hede of 3 to þe same 3, & þat schalle make 4, þen caste to þe ylke 4 the figure in þe neyþer rewe, þe quych is 2, and þat schalle be 6. And þen schal þou haue an Ensampulle aȝeyn, loke & se, & but þou haue þis same þou hase mysewroȝt.*

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Our author makes a slip here (3 for 1).

He works his proof through,

and brings out a result.

of Duplation.

**Sequitur de duplacione**

**Si vis duplare numerum, sic incipe primo**  
**Scribe figurarum seriem quamcunque velis tu.**

¶ This is the Chapture of duplacion, in þe quych craft þou most haue & know 4 thinges. ¶ Þe first þat þou most know is what is duplacion. þe secunde is how many rewe of figures þou most haue to þis craft. ¶ þe thryde is how many cases may<sup>6</sup> happe in þis craft. ¶ þe fourte is what is þe profet of þe craft. ¶ As for þe first. duplacion is a doublynge of a nombre. ¶ As for þe secunde þou most haue on nombre or on rewe of figures, the quych called numerus duplandus. As for þe thrid þou most know þat 3 diuerse cases may hap in þis craft. As for þe fourte. qwat is þe profet of þis craft, & þat is to know what a-risȝt of a nombre I-doublyde. ¶ fforþer-more, þou most know & take gode hede in quych side þou schalle be-gyn in þis craft, or ellis þou mayst spyl alle þi laber þere aboute. certeyn þou schalt begyn in the lyft side in þis Craft. thenke wel ouer þis verse. ¶ <sup>7</sup>A leua dupla, diuide, multiplica. <sup>7</sup>

leaf 146 b. *¶ This is the Chapture of duplacion, in þe quych craft þou most haue & know 4 thinges. ¶ Þe first þat þou most know is what is duplacion. þe secunde is how many rewe of figures þou most haue to þis craft. ¶ þe thryde is how many cases may<sup>6</sup> happe in þis craft. ¶ þe fourte is what is þe profet of þe craft. ¶ As for þe first. duplacion is a doublynge of a nombre. ¶ As for þe secunde þou most haue on nombre or on rewe of figures, the quych called numerus duplandus. As for þe thrid þou most know þat 3 diuerse cases may hap in þis craft. As for þe fourte. qwat is þe profet of þis craft, & þat is to know what a-risȝt of a nombre I-doublyde. ¶ fforþer-more, þou most know & take gode hede in quych side þou schalle be-gyn in þis craft, or ellis þou mayst spyl alle þi laber þere aboute. certeyn þou schalt begyn in the lyft side in þis Craft. thenke wel ouer þis verse. ¶ <sup>7</sup>A leua dupla, diuide, multiplica. <sup>7</sup>*

Four things must be known in Duplation.

Here they are.

Mind where you begin.

The sentens of þes verses afore, as þou may see if þou take hede. As þe text of þis verse, þat is to say, ¶ Si vis duplare. þis is þe sentence. ¶ If þou wel double a nombre þus þou most be-gynn. Write a rewe of figures of what nombre þou welt. versus.

Remember your rules.

**Postea procedas primam duplando figuram**  
**Inde quod excrescit scribas vbi iusserit ordo**  
**luxta precepta tibi que dantur in addicione.**

¶ Here he telles how þou schalt worch in þis Craft. he says, fyrst, when þou hast writen þe nombre þou schalt be-gyn at þe first figure in the lyft side, & doubulle þat figure, & þe nombre þat comes þere-of þou schalt write as þou diddyst in addicion, as ¶ I schal telle þe in þe case. versus.

How to work a sum.

uses of the Craft of Duplation.

leaf 147 a. ¶ **Nam si sit digitus in primo limite scribas.**

¶ Here is þe first case of þis craft, þe quych is þis. yf of duplacion of a figure arise a digit. what schal þou do. þus þou schal do. do away þe figure þat was doublede, & sett þere þe diget þat comes of þe duplacion, as þus. 23. double 2, & þat wel be 4. do away þe figure of 2 & sett þere a figure of 4, & so worch forth tille þou come to þe ende. versus.

If the answer is a digit, write it in the place of the top figure.

**¶ Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram,**

**¶ Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris;  
¶ Vel per se scribas, si nulla figura sequatur.**

¶ Here is þe secunde case, þe quych is þis yf þere come an articulle of þe duplacion of a figure þou schalt do ryȝt as þou diddest in addicion, þat is to wete þat þou schalt do away þe figure þat is doublet & sett þere a cifer, & write þe articulle ouer þe next figuris hede, yf þere be any afterwarde toward þe lyft side as þus. 25. begyn at the lyft side, and doubulle 2. þat wel be 4. do away þat 2 & sett þere 4. þan doubul 5. þat wel be 10. do away 5, & sett þere a 0, & sett 1 vpon þe next figuris hede þe quych is 4. & þen draw downe 1 to 4 & þat wol be 5, & þen do away þat 4 & þat 1, & sett þere 5. for þat 1 schal be rekened in þe drawynge togedre for 1. wen þou hast ydon þou schalt haue þis nombre 50. yf þere come no figure after þe figure þat is addit, of þe quych addicion comes an articulle, þou schalt do away þe figure þat is doublet & sett þere a 0. & write þe articul next by in þe same rewe toward þe lyft syde as þus, 523. double 5 þat woll be ten. do away þe figure 5 & set þere a cifer, & sett þe articul next after in þe same rewe toward þe lyft side, & þou schalt haue þis nombre 1023. þen go forth & double þe oper nombres þe quych is lyȝt y-nowȝt to do. versus.

leaf 147 b.

If it is an article,  
  
put a cipher in the place, and 'carry' the tens.

If there is no figure to 'carry' them to, write them down.

**¶ Compositus si sit, in limite scribe sequente  
Articulum, primo digitum; quia sic iubet ordo:  
Et sic de reliquis faciens, si sint tibi plures.**

¶ Here he puttes þe Thryd case, þe quych is þis, yf of duplacion of a figure come a Composit. þou schalt do away þe figure þat is doublet & set þere a digit of þe Composit, & sett þe articulle ouer þe next figures hede, & after draw hym downe *with* þe figure ouer whos hede he stondes, & make þere-of an nombre as þou hast done afore, & yf þere come no figure after þat digit þat þou hast y-write, þan set þe articulle next after hym in þe same rewe as þus, 67: double 6 þat wel be 12, do away 6 & write þere þe digit of 12, þe quych is 2, and set þe articulle next after toward þe lyft side in þe same rewe, for þere comes no figure after. þan double þat oper figure, þe quych is 7, þat wel be 14. the quych is a Composit. þen do away 7 þat þou doublet & sett þe þe diget of hym, the quych is 4, sett þe articulle ouer þe next figures hed, þe quych is 2, & þen draw to hym þat on, & make on nombre þe quych schalle be 3. And þen yf þou haue wel y-do þou schalle haue þis nombre of þe duplacion, 134. versus.

leaf 148 a.

If it is a Composite,  
write down the digit,  
and 'carry' the tens.

Here is an example.

**¶ Si super extremam nota sit monadem dat eidem  
Quod tibi contingat si primo dimidiabis.**

¶ Here he says, yf ouer þe fyrst figure in þe ryȝt side be such a merke as is here made, W, þou schalle fyrst doubulle þe figure, the quych stondes vnder þat merke, & þen þou schalt doubul þat merke þe quych stondes for haluende on. for too haluedels makes on, & so þat wol be on. cast þat on to þat duplacion of þe figure ouer whos hed stode þat merke, & write it in þe same place þere þat þe figure þe quych was doublet stode, as þus 23<sup>W</sup>. double 3, þat wol be 6; doubul þat halue on, & þat wol be on. cast on to 6, þat wel be 7. do away 6 & þat 1, & sett þere 7. þan hase þou do. as for þat figure, þan go to þe oper figure & worch forth. & þou schall neuer haue such a merk but ouer þe hed of þe furst figure in þe ryȝt side. And ȝet it schal not happe but yf it were y-halued a-fore, þus þou schalt vnderstonde þe verse. ¶ Si super extremam &c. Et nota, talis figura<sup>W</sup> significans medietatem, unitatis veniat, i.e. contingat uel fiat super extremam, i.e. super primam figuram in extremo sic versus dextram ars dat: i.e. reddit monadem. i.e. vnitatem eidem. i.e. eidem note & declinatur hec monos, dis, di, dem, &c. ¶ Quod ergo totum hoc dabis monadem note continget. i.e. eveniet tibi si dimidiasti, i.e. accipisti uel subtulisti medietatem alicuius unius, in cuius principio sint figura numerum denotans imparem primo i.e. principiis.

leaf 148 b.

How to double the mark for one-half.

This can only stand over the first figure.

raft of Mediation.

**¶ Sequitur de mediacione.**

**Incipe sic, si vis aliquem numerum mediare:  
Scribe figurarum seriem solam, velut ante.**

¶ In þis Chapter is taȝt þe Craft of mediacioun, in þe quych craft þou most know 4 thynges. ffurst what is mediacion. the secunde how mony rewe of figures þou most haue in þe wyrchyng of þis craft. þe thryde how mony diuerse cases may happ in þis craft. <sup>8</sup> ¶ As for þe furst, þou schalt vnderstonde þat mediacion is a takyng out of halfe a nombre out of a holle nombre, as yf þou wolde take 3 out of 6. ¶ As for þe secunde, þou schalt know þat þou most haue one rewe of figures, & no moo, as þou hayst in þe craft of duplacion. ¶ As for the thryd, þou most vnderstonde þat 5 cases may happe in þis craft. ¶ As for þe fourte, þou schalle know þat the profet of þis craft is when þou hast take away þe haluende of a nombre to telle qwat þere schalle leue. ¶ Incipe sic, &c. The sentence of þis verse is þis. yf þou wold medye, þat is to say,

leaf 149 a.

The four things to be known in mediation:  
the first  
the second;

the third;  
the fourth.

take half out of þe holle, or halfe out of halfe, þou most begynne þus. Write one rewe of figures of what nombre þou wolte, as þou dyddyst be-fore in þe Craft of duplacion. *versus.*

Begin thus.

**¶ Postea procedas medians, si prima figura  
Si par aut impar videas.**

¶ Here he says, when þou hast write a rewe of figures, þou schalt take hede wheþer þe first figure be euen or odde in nombre, & vnderstonde þat he spekes of þe first figure in þe ryȝt side. And in the ryȝt side þou schalle begynne in þis Craft.

See if the number is even or odd.

**¶ Quia si fuerit par,  
Dimidiabis eam, scribes quicquid remanebit:**

leaf 149 b. ¶ Here is the first case of þis craft, þe quych is þis, yf þe first figure be euen. þou schal take away fro þe figure euen halfe, & do away þat figure and set þere þat leues ouer, as þus, 4. take halfe out of 4, & þan þere leues 2. do away 4 & sett þere 2. þis is lyȝt y-nowȝt. *versus.*

If it is even, halve it, and write the answer in its place.

Mediation of an Odd Number.

**¶ Impar si fuerit vnum demas mediare  
Quod non presumas, sed quod superest mediabis  
Inde super tractum fac demptum quod notat vnum.**

Here is þe secunde case of þis craft, the quych is þis. yf þe first figure betokene a nombre þat is odde, the quych odde schal not be mediete, þen þou schalt medye þat nombre þat leues, when the odde of þe same nombre is take away, & write þat þat leues as þou diddest in þe first case of

If it is odd, halve the even number less than it.

þis craft. Whan þou hayst write þat. for þat þat leues, write such a merke as is here <sup>w</sup> vpon his hede, þe quych merke schal betoken halfe of þe odde þat was take away. lo an Ensampull. 245. the first figure here is betokenynge odde nombre, þe quych is 5, for 5 is odde; þere-fore do away þat þat is odde, þe quych is 1. þen leues 4. þen medye 4 & þen leues 2. do away 4. & sette þere

Then write the sign for one-half over it. Here is an example.

2, & make such a merke <sup>w</sup> vpon his hede, þat is to say ouer his hede of 2 as þus. 242. <sup>w</sup> And þen worch forth in þe oper figures tyll þou come to þe ende. by þe furst case as þou schalt

leaf 150 a. vnderstonde þat þou schalt neuer make such a merk but ouer þe first figure hed in þe ryȝt side. Wheþer þe other figures þat comyn after hym be euen or odde. *versus.*

Put the mark only over the first figure.

Cases of the Craft of Mediation.

**¶ Si monos, dele; sit tibi cifra post nota supra.**

¶ Here is þe thryde case, þe quych yf the first figure be a figure of 1. þou schalt do away þat 1 & set þere a cifer, & a merke ouer þe cifer as þus, 241. do away 1, & sett þere a cifer with a merke

If the first figure is one put a cipher.

ouer his hede, & þen hast þou ydo for þat 0. as þus 0 <sup>w</sup> þen worch forth in þe oper figurys till þou come to þe ende, for it is lyȝt as dyche water. vnde *versus.*

**¶ Postea procedas hac condicione secunda:  
Impar si fuerit hinc vnum deme priori,  
Inscribens quinque, nam denos significabit  
Monos predictam.**

leaf 150 b. ¶ Here he puttes þe fourte case, þe quych is þis. yf it happen þe secunde figure betoken odde nombre, þou schal do away on of þat odde nombre, þe quych is significatiue by þat figure 1. þe quych 1 schall be rekende for 10. Whan þou hast take away þat 1 out of þe nombre þat is signifiede by þat figure, þou schalt medie þat þat leues ouer, & do away þat figure þat is medied, & sette in his styde halfe of þat nombre. ¶ Whan þou hase so done, þou schalt write a figure of 5 ouer þe next figures hede by-fore toward þe ryȝt side, for þat 1, þe quych made odd nombre, schall stonde for ten, & 5 is halfe of 10; so þou most write 5 for his haluendelle. lo an Ensampulle, 4678. begyn in þe ryȝt side as þou most nedes. medie 8. þen þou schalt leue 4. do away þat 8 & sette þere 4. þen out of 7. take away 1. þe quych makes odde, & sett 5. vpon þe next figures hede afore toward þe ryȝt side, þe quych is now 4. but afore it was 8. for þat 1 schal be rekenet for 10, of þe quych 10, 5 is halfe, as þou knowest wel. Whan þou hast þus ydo, medye þat þe quych leues after þe takynge away of þat þat is odde, þe quych leuyng schalle be 3; do away 6 & sette þere 3, & þou schalt haue such a nombre after go forth to þe next 5 figure, & medy þat, & worch forth, for it is lyȝt ynowȝt to þe certayn. 4634.

What to do if any other figure is odd.

Write a figure of five over the next lower number's head. Example.

**¶ Si vero secunda dat vnum.**

**Ille deleta, scribatur cifra; priori**

**¶ Tradendo quinque pro denario mediato;  
Nec cifra scribatur, nisi deinde figura sequatur:  
Postea procedas reliquas mediando figuras  
Vt supra docui, si sint tibi mille figure.**



leaf 151 a. ¶ Here he puttes þe 5 case, þe quych is þis: yf þe secunde figure be of 1, as þis is here 12, þou schalt do away þat 1 & sett þere a cifer. & sett 5 ouer þe next figure hede afore toward þe riȝt side, as þou diddest afore; & þat 5 schal be halde of þat 1, þe quych 1 is rekent for 10. lo an Ensampulle, 214. medye 4. þat schalle be 2. do away 4 & sett þere 2. þen go forth to þe next figure. þe quych is bot 1. do away þat 1. & sett þere a cifer. & set 5 vpon þe figures hed afore, þe quych is now 2, & þen þou schalt haue þis nombre 5 202, þen worch forth to þe nex figure. And also it is no maystery yf þere come no figure after þat on is medyet, þou schalt write no 0. ne nowȝt ellis, but set 5 ouer þe next figure afore toward þe ryȝt, as þus 14. medie 4 then leues 2, do away 4 & sett þere 2. þen medie 1. þe quich is rekende for ten, þe haluendel þere-of wel be 5. sett þat 5 vpon þe hede of þat figure, þe quych is now 2, & do away þat 1, & þou schalt haue þis nombre yf þou worch wel, vnde versus. 5 2,

If the second figure is one, put a cipher, and write five over the next figure.

Howto halve fourteen.

prove the Mediation.

# ¶ Si mediacio sit bene facta probare valebis ¶ Duplando numerum quem primo dimediasti

leaf 151 b. ¶ Here he telles þe how þou schalt know wheþer þou hase wel ydo or no. doubul þe nombre þe quych þou hase mediet, and yf þou haue wel y-medyt after þe dupleacion, þou schalt haue þe same nombre þat þou haddyst in þe tabulle or þou began to medye, as þus. ¶ The furst ensampulle was þis. 4. þe quych lmediet was laft 2, þe whych 2 was write in þe place þat 4 was write afore. Now doubulle þat 2, & þou schal haue 4, as þou hadyst afore. þe secunde Ensampulle was þis, 245. When þou haddyst mediet alle þis nombre, yf þou haue wel ydo þou schalt haue of þat mediacion þis nombre, 122<sup>w</sup>. Now doubulle þis nombre, & begyn in þe lyft side; doubulle 1, þat schal be 2. do away þat 1 & sett þere 2. þen doubulle þat oper 2 & sett þere 4, þen doubulle þat oper 2, & þat wel be 4. þen doubul þat merke þat stondes for halue on. & þat schalle be 1. Cast þat on to 4, & it schalle be 5. do away þat 2 & þat merke, & sette þere 5, & þen þou schal haue þis nombre 245. & þis was þe same nombur þat þou haddyst or þou began to medye, as þou mayst se yf þou take hede. The nombre þe quych þou haddist for an Ensampul in þe 3 case of mediacion to be mediet was þis 241. whan þou haddist mediet alle

How to prove your mediation.

First example.

The second.

The third example.

leaf 152 a. þis nombur truly by euery figure, þou schall haue be þat mediacion þis nombur 120<sup>w</sup>. Now dowbul þis nombur, & begyn in þe lyft side, as I tolde þe in þe Craft of duplacion. þus doubulle þe figure of 1, þat wel be 2. do away þat 1 & sett þere 2, þen doubul þe next figure afore, the quych is 2, & þat wel be 4; do away 2 & set þere 4. þen doubul þe cifer, & þat wel be noȝt, for a 0 is noȝt. And twyes noȝt is but noȝt. þefore doubul the merke aboue þe cifers hede, þe quych betokenes þe haluendel of 1, & þat schal be 1. do away þe cifer & þe merke, & sett þere 1, & þen þou schalt haue þis nombur 241. And þis same nombur þou haddyst afore or þou began to medy, & yf þou take gode hede. ¶ The next ensampul þat had in þe 4 case of mediacion was þis 4678. Whan þou hast truly ymedit alle þis nombur fro þe begynnyng to þe endyng, þou schalt haue of þe mediacion þis nombur Now doubul this nombur & begyn in þe lyft side, & doubulle 2 þat schal be 4. do away 2 and sette þere 4; þen doubule 3, þat wol be 6; do away 3 & sett þere 6, þen doubul þat oper 3, & þat wel be 6; do away 3 & set þere 6, þen doubul þe 4, þat welle be 8; þen doubul 5. þe quych stondes ouer þe hed of 4, & þat wol be 10; cast 10 to 8, & þat schal be 18; do away 4 & þat 5, & sett þere 8, & sett that 1, þe quych is an articul of þe Composit þe quych is 18, ouer þe next figures hed toward þe lyft side, þe quych is 6. drav þat 1 to 6, þe quych 1 in þe dravyng schal be rekente bot for 1, & þat 1 & þat 6 togedur wel be 7. do away þat 6 & þat 1. the quych stondes ouer his hede, & sett ther 7, & þen þou schalt haue þis nombur 4678. And þis same nombur þou hadyst or þou began to medye, as þou mayst see in þe secunde Ensampul þat þou had in þe 4 case of mediacion, þat was þis: when þou had mediet truly alle the nombur, a principio usque ad finem. þou schalt haue of þat mediacion þis nombur Now doubul 1. þat wel be 2. do away 1 & sett þere 2. þen doubul 0. þat will be noȝt. þefore take þe 5, þe quych stondes ouer þe next figures hed, & doubul it, 10. & þat wol be 10. do away þe 0 þat stondes betwene þe two figuris, & sette þere in his stid 1, for þat 1 now schal stonde in þe secunde place, where he schal betoken 10; þen doubul 2, þat wol be 4. do away 2 & sett þere 4. & þou schal haue þus nombur 214. þis is þe same nombur þat þou hadyst or þou began to medye, as þou may see. And so do euer more, yf þou wil knowe wheþer þou hase wel ymedyt or no. ¶ doubulle þe nombur þat comes after þe mediacion, & þou schal haue þe same nombur þat þou hadyst or þou began to medye, yf þou haue welle ydo. or els doute þe noȝt, but yf þou haue þe same, þou hase faylide in þi Craft.

The fourth example.

The fifth example.

raft of Multiplication.

Sequitur de multiplicatione.

e down a Multiplication Sum.

# Si tu per numerum numerum vis multiplicare Scribe duas quascunque velis series numerorum

Ordo servetur vt vltima multiplicandi  
Ponatur super anteriorem multiplicantis  
A leua relique sint scripte multiplicantes.

¶ Here begynnes þe Chaptre of multiplicaciō, in þe quych þou most know 4 thynges. ¶ Ffirst, qwat is multiplicaciō. The secunde, how many cases may hap in multiplicaciō. The thryde, how many rewes of figures þere most be. ¶ The 4. what is þe profet of þis craft. ¶ As for þe first, þou schal vnderstonde þat multiplicaciō is a bryngynge to-geder of 2 thynges in on nombur, þe quych on nombur conteynes so many tymes on, howe *many tymes þere ben vnytees in þe nowmbre of þat 2, as twyes 4 is 8. now here ben þe 2 nombres, of þe quych too nowmbres on is betokened be an aduerbe, þe quych is þe worde twyes, & þis worde thryes, & þis worde foure sythes*<sup>9</sup> & so furth of such other lyke wordes. ¶ And tweyn nombres schal be tokenyde be a nowne, as þis worde foure showys þes tweyn nombres y-broth in-to on hole nombur, þat is 8, for twyes 4 is 8, as þou wost wel. ¶ And þes nombre 8 conteynes as oft tymes 4 as þere ben vnites in þat other nombre, þe quych is 2, for in 2 ben 2 vnites, & so oft tymes 4 ben in 8, as þou wottys wel. ¶ ffor þe secunde, þou most know þat þou most haue too rewes of figures. ¶ As for þe thryde, þou most know þat 8 maner of diuerse case may happe in þis craft. The profet of þis Craft is to telle when a nombre is multiplyed be a noþer, qwat commys þere of. ¶ fforthermore, as to þe sentence of oure verse, yf þou wel multiply a nombur be a-noþer nombur, þou schalt write a rewe of figures of what nomburs so euer þou welt, & þat schal be called Numerus multiplicandus, Anglice, þe nombur the quych to be multiplied. þen þou schalt write another rewe of figures, by þe quych þou schalt multiplie the nombre þat is to be multiplied, of þe quych nombur þe furst figure schal be write vnder þe last figure of þe nombur, þe quych is to be multiplied. And so write forthe toward þe lyft side, as here you may se, And þis one nombur schalle be called numerus multiplicans. Anglice, þe nombur multipliynge, for he schalle multiply þe hyer nounbur, as þus one tyme 6. And so forth, as I schal telle the afterwarde. And þou schal begyn in þe lyft side. ¶ ffor-þere-more þou schalt vnderstonde þat þere is two manurs of multiplicaciō; one ys of þe wyrchyng of þe boke only in þe mynde of a mon. fyrst he teches of þe fyrst maner of duplaciō, þe quych is be wyrchyng of tabuls. Afterwarde he wol teche on þe secunde maner. vnde versus.

67324
1234

Four things to be known of Multiplication: the first:

the second:  
the third:  
the fourth.

The multiplicand.

How to set down the sum.

Two sorts of Multiplication: mentally, and on paper.

tiply one Digit by another.

In digitum cures digitum si ducere maior  
Per quantum distat a denis respice debes  
¶ Namque suo decuplo totiens delere minorem  
Sitque tibi numerus veniens exinde patebit.

¶ Here he teches a rewle, how þou schalt fynde þe nounbre þat comes by þe multiplicaciō of a digit be anoper. loke how many [vny]tes ben. bytwene þe more digit and 10. And reken ten for on vnite. And so oft do away þe lasse nounbre out of his owne decuple, þat is to say, fro þat nounbre þat is ten tymes so mych is þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicaciō. As yf þou wol multiply 2 be 4. loke how many vnitees ben bytwene þe quych is þe more nounbre, & betwene ten. Certen þere wel be vj vnitees bytwene 4 & ten. yf þou reken þere with þe ten þe vnite, as þou may se. so many tymes take 2. out of his decuple, þe quych is 20. for 20 is þe decuple of 2, 10 is þe decuple of 1, 30 is þe decuple of 3, 40 is þe decuple of 4, And þe oper digetes til þou come to ten; & whan þou hast y-take so many tymes 2 out of twenty, þe quych is sex tymes, þou schal leue 8 as þou wost wel, for 6 times 2 is twelue. take [1]2 out of twenty, & þere schal leue 8. bot yf bothe þe digettes *leaf 155 a.* ben y-lyech mych as here. 222 or too tymes twenty, þen it is no fors quych of hem tweyn þou take out of here decuple. als many tymes as þat is fro 10. but neuer-þe-lesse, yf þou haue hast to worch, þou schalt haue here a tabul of figures, where-by þou schalt se a-nonȝ ryght what is þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicaciō of 2 digittes. þus þou schalt worch in þis figure.

How to multiply two digits.  
Subtract the greater from ten;

take the less so many times from ten times itself.  
Example.

Better use this table, though.

1									
2	4								
3	6	9							
4	8	12	16						
5	10	15	20	25					
6	12	18	24	30	36				
7	14	21	28	35	42	49			
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64		



9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

yf þe figure, þe quych schalle be multiplied, be euene as mych as þe diget be, þe quych þat oper figure schal be multiplied, as two tymes twayn, or thre tymes 3. or sych other. loke qwere þat figure sittes in þe lyft side of þe triangle, & loke qwere þe diget sittes in þe neper most rewe of þe triangle. & go fro hym vpwarde in þe same rewe, þe quych rewe gose vpwarde til þou come

leaf 155 b. agaynes þe oper digette þat sittes in þe lyft side of þe triangle. And þat nounbre, þe quych þou fyn\*des þere is þe nounbre þat comes of the multiplicacion of þe 2 digittes, as yf þou wold wete qwat is 2 tymes 2. loke quere sittes 2 in þe lyft side in þe first rewe, he sittes next 1 in þe lyft side al on hye, as þou may se; þe[n] loke qwere sittes 2 in þe lowyst rewe of þe triangle, & go fro hym vpwarde in þe same rewe tylle þou come a-zenenes 2 in þe hyer place, & þer þou schalt fynd ywrite 4, & þat is þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacion of two tymes tweyn is 4, as þow wotest welle. yf þe diget. the quych is multiplied, be more þan þe oper, þou schalt loke qwere þe more diget sittes in þe lowest rewe of þe triangle, & go vpwarde in þe same rewe tyl <sup>10</sup> þou come anendes þe lasse diget in the lyft side. And þere þou schalt fynde þe nombre þat comes of þe multiplicacion; but þou schalt vnderstonde þat þis rewle, þe quych is in þis verse. ¶ In digitum cures, &c., noþer þis triangle schalle not serue, bot to fynde þe nounbres þat comes of the multiplicacion þat comes of 2 articuls or composites, þe nedes no craft but yf þou wolt multiply in

leaf 156 a. þi mynde. And þere-to þou schalt haue a craft afterwarde, for þou schall wyrch with digettes in þe tables, as þou schalt know afterwarde. versus.

tiplied by one Composite by another.

¶ **Postea procedas postremam multiplicando**  
**[Recte multiplicans per cunctas inferiores]**  
**Condicionem tamen tali quod multiplicantes**  
**Scribas in capite quicquid processerit inde**  
**Sed postquam fuit hec multiplicare figure**  
**Anterorentur serei multiplicantis**  
**Et sic multiplica velut isti multiplicasti**  
**Qui sequitur numerum scriptum quiscunque figuris.**

¶ Here he teches how þou schalt wyrch in þis craft. þou schalt multiplie þe last figure of þe nombre, and quen þou hast so ydo þou schalt draw alle þe figures of þe neper nounbre more taward þe ryzt side, so qwen þou hast multiplyed þe last figure of þe heyer nounbre by alle þe neper figures. And sette þe nounbir þat comes þer-of ouer þe last figure of þe neper nounbre, & þen þou schalt sette al þe oper figures of þe neper nounbre more nere to þe ryzt side. ¶ And whan þou hast multiplied þat figure þat schal be multiplied þe next after hym by al þe neper figures. And worch as þou dyddyst afore til þou come to þe ende. And þou schalt vnderstonde þat euery figure of þe hier nounbre schal be multiplied be alle þe figures of the neper nounbre, yf þe hier nounbre be any figure þen one. lo an Ensampul here folowyng. þou schalt

2465.
232

leaf 156 b. begyne to multiplie in þe lyft side. Multiply 2 be 2, and twyes 2 is 4. set 4 ouer þe hed of þat 2, þen multiplie þe same hier 2 by 3 of þe nether nounbre, as thryes 2 þat schal be 6. set 6 ouer þe hed of 3, þan multiplie þe same hier 2 by þat 2 þe quych stondes vnder hym, þat wol be 4; do away þe hier 2 & sette þere 4. ¶ Now þou most antery þe nether nounbre, þat is to say, þou most sett þe neper nounbre more toward þe ryzt side, as þus. Take þe neper 2 toward þe ryzt side, & sette it euen vnder þe 4 of þe hyer nounbre, & antery alle þe figures þat comes after þat 2, as þus; sette 2 vnder þe 4. þen sett þe figure of 3 þere þat þe figure of 2 stode, þe quych is now vndur þat 4 in þe hier nounbre; þen sett þe oper figure of 2, þe quych is þe last figure toward þe lyft side of þe neper number þere þe figure of 3 stode. þen þou schalt haue

leaf 157 a. such a nombre. ¶ Now multiply 4, þe quych comes next after 6, by þe last 2 of þe neper nounbur toward þe lyft side. as 2 tymes 4, þat wel be 8. sette þat 8 ouer þe figure the quych stondes ouer þe hede of þat 2, þe quych is þe last figure of þe neper nounbre; þan multiplie þat same 4 by 3, þat comes in þe neper rewe, þat wol be 12. sette þe digit of þe composyt ouer þe figure þe quych stondes ouer þe hed of þat 3, & sette þe articule of þis composit ouer al þe figures þat stondes ouer þe neper 2 hede. þen multiplie þe same 4 by þe 2 in þe ryzt side in þe neper nounbur, þat wol be 8. do away 4. & sette þere 8. Euer more qwen þou multiplies þe hier figure by þat figure þe quych stondes vnder hym, þou schalt do away þat hier figure, & sett þer þat nounbre þe quych comes of multiplicacion of ylke digittes. Whan þou hast done as I haue byde þe, þou schalt haue suych an order of figure as is here, þen take and antery þi neper figures. And sett þe fyrst figure of þe neper figures<sup>11</sup>

leaf 157 b. vndre be figure of 6. ¶ And draw al þe oper figures of þe same rewe to hym-warde, as þou diddyst afore. þen multiplie 6 be 2, & sett þat þe quych comes ouer þere-of ouer al þe oper figures hedes þat stondes ouer þat 2. þen multiply 6 be 3, & sett alle þat comes þere-of vpon alle þe figures hedes þat standes ouer þat 3; þan multiplie 6 be 2, þe quych stondes vnder þat 6, þen do away 6 & write þere þe digitt of þe composyt þat schal

464465
232

1
82
4648[65]
232.

How to use it.  
The way to use the  
Multiplication table.

How to multiply one  
number by another.

Multiply the 'last'  
figure of the higher by  
the 'first' of the lower  
number.

Set the answer over  
the first of the lower:  
then multiply the  
second of the lower,  
and so on.  
Then antery the lower  
number:

as thus.

Now multiply by the  
last but one of the  
higher:  
as thus.

come þereof, & sette þe articul ouer alle þe figures þat stondes ouer þe hede of þat 3 as here, þen antery þi figures as þou diddist afore, and multipli 5 be 2, þat wol be 10; sett þe 0 ouer all þe figures þat stonden ouer þat 2, & sett þat 1. ouer the next figures hedes, alle on hye towarde þe lyft side. þen multiplie 5 be 3. þat wol be 15, write 5 ouer þe figures hedes þat stonden ouer þat 3, & sett þat 1 ouer þe next figures hedes toward þe lyft side. þen multiplie 5 be 2, þat wol be 10. do away þat 5 & sett þere a 0, & sett þat 1

11
121
828
464825
232

leaf 158 a.

ouer þe figures hedes þat stonden ouer 3. And þen þou schalt haue such a nounbre as here stondes aftur.\* ¶ Now draw alle þese figures downe togeder as þus, 6.8.1. & 1 draw togedur; þat wol be 16, do away alle þese figures saue 6. lat hym stonde, for þow þou take hym away þou most write þer þe same azene. þerefore late hym stonde, & sett 1 ouer þe figure hede of 4 toward þe lyft side; þen draw on to 4, þat wol be 5. do away þat 4 & þat 1, & sette þere 5. þen draw 4221 & 1 togedur, þat wol be 10. do away alle þat, & write þere þat 4 & þat 0, & sett þat 1 ouer þe next figures hede toward þe lyft side, þe quych is 6. þen draw þat 6 & þat 1 togedur, & þat wol be 7; do away 6 & sett þere 7, þen draw 8810 & 1, & þat wel be 18; do away alle þe figures þat stondes ouer þe hede of þat 8, & lette 8 stonde stil, & write þat 1 ouer þe next figuris hede, þe quych is a 0. þen do away þat 0, & sett þere 1, þe quych stondes ouer þe 0. hede. þen draw 2, 5, & 1 togedur, þat wol be 8. þen do away alle þat, & write þere 8. ¶ And þen þou schalt haue þis nounbre, 571880.

11
1101
1215
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4648
232

Antery the figures again, and multiply by five:

Then add all the figures above the line:

and you will have the answer.

uses of this Craft.

leaf 158 b.

¶ **Sed cum multiplicabis, primo sic est operandum, Si dabit articulum tibi multiplicacio solum;**

**Proposita cifra summam transferre memento.**

¶ Here he puttes þe fyrst case of þis craft, þe quych is þis: yf þere come an articulle of þe multiplicacion ysette before the articulle in þe lyft side as þus multiplie 5 by 2, þat wol be 10; sette ouer þe hede of þat 2 a 0, & sett þat on, þat is þe articul, in þe lyft side, þat is next hym, þen þou schalt haue þis nounbre ¶ And þen worch forth as þou diddist afore. And þou schalt vnderstonde þat þou schalt write no 0. but whan þat place where þou schal write þat 0 has no figure afore hym noþer after. versus.

51
23.

1051.
23

What to do if the first multiplication results in an article.

¶ **Si autem digitus excreuerit articulusque.**

**Articulus<sup>12</sup> supraposito digito salit vltra.**

¶ Here is þe secunde case, þe quych is þis: yf hit happe þat þere come a composyt, þou schalt write þe digitte ouer þe hede of þe neþer figure by þe quych þou multiplieth þe hier figure; and sett þe articulle next hym toward þe lyft side, as þou diddist afore, as þus 83.

83 Multiply 8 by 8, þat wol be 64. Write þe 4 ouer 8, þat is to say, ouer þe hede of þe neþer 8; & set 6, þe quych is an articul, next after. And þen þou schalt haue such a nounbre as is here, And þen worch forth.

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What to do if the result is a composite number.

leaf 159 a.

¶ **Si digitus tamen ponas ipsum super ipsam.**

¶ Here is þe thryde case, þe quych is þis: yf hit happe þat of þi multiplicacion come a digit, þou schalt write þe digit ouer þe hede of þe neþer figure, by the quych þou multiplieth þe hier figure, for þis nedes no Ensampul.

What if it be a digit.

¶ **Subdita multiplica non hanc que [incidit] illi**

**Delet eam penitus scribens quod prouenit inde.**

¶ Here is þe 4 case, þe quych is: yf hit be happe þat þe neþer figure schal multiplie þat figure, þe quych stondes ouer þat figures hede, þou schal do away þe hier figure & sett þere þat þat comys of þat multiplicacion. As yf þere come of þat multiplicacion an articuls þou schalt write þere þe hier figure stode a 0. ¶ And write þe articuls in þe lyft side, yf þat hit be a digit write þere a digit. yf þat hit be a composit, write þe digit of þe composit. And þe articul in þe lyft side. al þis is lygt y-nowȝt, þerefore þer nedes no Ensampul.

The fourth case of the craft.

¶ **Sed si multiplicat aliam ponas super ipsam**

**Adiunges numerum quem prebet ductus earum.**

¶ Here is þe 5 case, þe quych is þis: yf þe neþer figure schul multiplie þe hier, and þat hier figure is not recte ouer his hede. And þat neþer figure hase oper figures, or on figure ouer his hede by multiplicacion, þat hase be afore, þou schalt write þat nounbre, þe quych comes of þat, ouer alle þe ylke figures hedes, as þus here: Multiply 2 by 2, þat wol be 4; set 4 ouer þe hede of þat 2. þen<sup>14</sup> multiplies þe hier 2 by þe neþer 3, þat wol be 6. set ouer his hede 6, multiplie þe hier 2 by þe neþer 4, þat wol be 8. do away þe hier 2, þe quych stondes ouer þe hede of þe figure of 4, and set þere 8. And þou schalt haue þis nounbre here And antery þi figures, þat is to say, set þi neþer 4 vnder þe hier 3, and set þi 2 other figures nere hym, so þat þe neþer 2 stonde vndur þe hier 6, þe quych 6 stondes in þe lyft side. And þat 3 þat stondes vndur 8, as þus aftur ȝe may se, Now worch forthemore, And

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The fifth case of the craft.

leaf 160 a.

**¶ Si supraposita cifra debet multiplicare  
Prorsus eam deles & ibi scribi cifra debet.**

¶ Here is þe 6 case, þe quych is þis: yf hit happe þat þe figure by þe quych þou schal multiplie þe hier figure, þe quych stondes ryght ouer hym by a 0, þou schalt do away þat figure, þe quych ouer þat cifre hede. ¶ And write þere þat nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicaciō as þus, 23. do away 2 and sett þere a 0. vnde versus.

The sixth case of the craft.

**¶ Si cifra multiplicat aliam positam super ipsam  
Sitque locus supra vacuus super hanc cifram fiet.**

¶ Here is þe 7 case, þe quych is þis: yf a 0 schal multiply a figure, þe quych stondes not recte ouer hym, And ouer þat 0 stonde no thyng, þou schalt write ouer þat 0 anoper 0 as þus: multiplie 2 be a 0, it wol be nothyng. write þere a 0 ouer þe hede of þe neþer 0, And þen worch forth til þou come to þe ende.

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03

The seventh case of the craft.

**¶ Si supra<sup>15</sup> fuerit cifra semper est pretereunda.**

¶ Here is þe 8 case, þe quych is þis: yf þere be a 0 or mony cifers in þe hier rewe, þou schalt not multiplie hem, bot let hem stonde. And antery þe figures beneþe to þe next figure sygnificatyf as þus: Ouer-lepe alle þese cifers & sett þat neþer 2 þat stondes toward þe ryght side, and sett hym vndur þe 3, and sett þe oper nether 2 nere hym, so þat he stonde vndur þe thrydde 0, þe quych stondes next 3. And þan worch. vnde versus.

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The eighth case of the craft.

**¶ Si dubites, an sit bene multiplicacio facta,  
Diuide totalem numerum per multiplicantem.**

¶ Here he teches how þou schalt know wheþer þou hase wel I-do or no. And he says þat þou schalt deuide alle þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicaciō by þe neþer figures. And þen þou schalt haue þe same nounbur þat þou hadyst in þe begynnyng. but zet þou hast not þe craft of dyuision, but þou schalt haue hit afterwarde.

How to prove the multiplication.

**¶ Per numerum si vis numerum quoque multiplicare ¶ Tantum per normas subtiles  
absque figuris  
Has normas poteris per versus scire sequentes.**

¶ Here he teches þe to multiplie þe þowȝt figures in þi mynde. And þe sentence of þis verse is þis: yf þou wel multiplie on nounbre by anoper in þi mynde, þou schal haue þereto rewles in þe verses þat schal come after.

Mental multiplication.

**¶ Si tu per digitum digitum vis multiplicare  
Regula precedens dat qualiter est operandum.**

¶ Here he teches a rewle as þou hast afore to multiplie a digit be anoper, as yf þou wolde wete qwat is sex tymes 6. þou schalt wete by þe rewle þat I tægt þe before, yf þou haue mynde þerof.

Digit by digit is easy.

**¶ Articulum si per reliquum reliquum vis multiplicare In proprium digitum debet  
vterque resolui.**

**¶ Articulus digitos post se multiplicantes  
Ex digitus quociens retenerit multiplicari  
Articuli faciunt tot centum multiplicati.**

¶ Here he teches þe furst rewle, þe quych is þis: yf þou wel multiplie an articul be anoper, so þat both þe articuls bene with-Inne an hundreth, þus þou schalt do. take þe digit of bothe the articuls, for euery articul hase a digit, þen multiplie þat on digit by þat oper, and loke how mony vnytes ben in þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicaciō of þe 2 digittes, & so mony hundrythes ben in þe nounbre þat schal come of þe multiplicaciō of þe ylke 2 articuls as þus. yf þou wold wete qwat is ten tymes ten. take þe digit of ten, þe quych is 1; take þe digit of þat oper ten, þe quych is on. ¶ Also multiplie 1 be 1, as on tyme on þat is but 1. In on is but on vnite as þou wost welle, þerefore ten tymes ten is but a hundryth. ¶ Also yf þou wold wete what is twenty tymes 30. take þe digit of twenty, þat is 2; & take þe digitt of thrytty, þat is 3. multiplie 3 be 2, þat is 6. Now in 6 ben 6 vnites, ¶ And so mony hundrythes ben in 20 tymes 30\*, þerefore 20 tymes 30 is 6 hundryth euen. loke & se. ¶ But yf it be so þat one articul be with-Inne an hundryth, or bytwene an hundryth and a thowsande, so þat it be not a þowsande fully. þen loke how mony vnytes ben in þe nounbur þat comys of þe multiplicaciō<sup>16</sup> And so mony tymes<sup>16</sup> of 2 digittes of ylke articuls, so mony thowsant ben in þe nounbre, the qwych comes of þe multiplicaciō. And so mony tymes ten thowsand schal be in þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicaciō of 2 articuls, as yf þou wold wete qwat is 4 hundryth tymes [two hundryth]. Multiply 4 be 2,<sup>17</sup> þat wol be 8. in 8 ben 8 vnites.

The first case of the craft.  
Article by article;

an example:

another example:

¶ And so mony tymes ten thousand be in 4 hundryth tymes [2]<sup>17</sup> hundryth, þat is 80 thousand. Take hede, I schall telle þe a generale rewle whan þou hast 2 articuls, And þou wold wete qwat comes of þe multiplicaciō of hem 2.

Mental multiplication.  
Another example.

leaf 160 b.

leaf 161 a.

leaf 161 b.



multiply be digit of pat on articuls, and kepe pat nounbre, þen loke how many cifers schuld go before pat on articuls, and he were write. Als many cifers schuld go before þat other, & he were write of cifers. And haue alle þe ylke cifers togedur in þi mynde, a-rowe ychoŋ after other, and in þe last plase set þe nounbre þat comes of þe multiplicacioŋ of þe 2 digittes. And loke in þi mynde in what place he stondes, where in þe secunde, or in þe thryd, or in þe 4, or where ellis, and loke qwat þe figures by-token in þat place; & so mych is þe nounbre þat comes of þe 2 articuls y-multiplied to-gedur as þus: yf þou wold wete what is 20 thousand tymes 3 þowsande. multiply þe digit of þat articulle þe quych is 2 by þe digitte of þat oper articul þe quych is 3, þat wol be 6. þen loke how many cifers schal go to 20 thousand as hit schuld be write in a tabul. certainly 4 cifers schuld go to 20 þowsant. ffor þis figure 2 in þe fyrst place betokenes twene. ¶ In þe secunde place hit betokenes twenty. ¶ In þe 3. place hit betokenes 2 hundryth. .¶ In þe 4 place 2 thousand. ¶ In þe 5 place hit betokenes twenty þowsant. þefore he most haue 4 cifers a-fore hym þat he may stonde in þe 5 place. kepe þese 4 cifers in thy mynde, þen loke how many cifers goŋ to 3 thousand. Certayn to 3 thousante goŋ 3 cifers afore. Now cast ylke 4 cifers þat schuld go to twenty thousand, And thes 3 cifers þat schuld go afore 3 thousand, & sette hem in rewe ychoŋ after oper in þi mynde, as þai schuld stonde in a tabulle. And þen schal þou haue 7 cifers; þen sett þat 6 þe quych comes of þe multiplicacioŋ of þe 2 digittes after þe ylke cifers in þe 8 place as yf þat hit stode in a tabul. And loke qwat a figure of 6 schuld betoken in þe 8 place. yf hit were in a tabul & so mych it is. & yf þat figure of 6 stonde in þe fyrst place he schuld betoken but 6. ¶ In þe 2 place he schuld betoken sixty. ¶ In the 3 place he schuld betoken sex hundryth. ¶ In þe 4 place sex thousand. ¶ In þe 5 place sixty þowsant. ¶ In þe sext place sex hundryth þowsant. ¶ In þe 7 place sex þowsant thousandes. ¶ In þe 8 place sixty þowsant thousandes. þefore sett 6 in octauo loco, And he schal betoken sixty þowsant thousandes. And so mych is twenty þowsant tymes 3 thousand, ¶ And þis rewle is generale for alle maner of articuls, Whethir þai be hundryth or þowsant; but þou most know well þe craft of þe wyrchyng in þe tabulle leaf 163 a. or þou know to do þus in þi mynde after þis rewle. Thou most þat þis rewle holdyþe note but where þere ben 2 articuls and no mo of þe quych ayther of hem hase but on figure signifyf. As twenty tymes 3 thousand or 3 hundryth, and such opur.

Another example.

Notation.

Notation again.

Mental multiplication.

¶ **Articulum digito si multiplicare oportet**  
**Articuli digit[i] sumi quo multiplicare]**  
**Debemus reliquum quod multiplicatur ab illis**  
**Per reliquo decuplum sic summam latere nequibit.**

¶ Here he puttes þe thryde rewle, þe quych is þis. yf þou wel multiply in þi mynde, And þe Articulus be a digitte, þou schalt loke þat þe digitte be with-Inne an hundryth, þen þou schalt multiply the digitte of þe Articulle by þe oper digitte. And euery vnite in þe nounbre þat schalle come þere-of schal betoken ten. As þus: yf þat þou wold wete qwat is twyes 40. multiplie þe digitte of 40, þe quych is 4, by þe oper diget, þe quych is 2. And þat wolle be 8. And in þe nombre of 8 ben 8 vnites, & euery of þe ylke vnites schuld stonde for 10. þere-fore þere schal be 8 tymes 10, þat wol be 4 score. And so mony is twyes 40. ¶ If þe articul be a hundryth or be 2 hundryth And a þowsant, so þat hit be notte a thousand, worch as þou dyddyst afore, saue þou schalt rekene euery vnite for a hundryth.

The third case of the craft;

an example.

¶ **In numerum mixtum digitum si ducere cures**  
**Articulus mixti sumatur deinde resoluas**  
**In digitum post fac respectu de digitis**  
**Articulusque docet excrecens in diriuando**  
**In digitum mixti post ducas multiplicantem**  
¶ **De digitis vt norma** <sup>18</sup>[docet] de [hunc]  
**Multiplica simul et sic postea summa patebit.**

Here he puttes þe 4 rewle, þe quych is þis: yf þou multipli on composit be a digit as 6 tymes 24, <sup>19</sup>þen take þe diget of þat composit, & multiply þat digitte by þat oper diget, and kepe þe nombur þat comes þere-of. þen take þe digit of þat composit, & multiply þat digit by anoper diget, by þe quych þou hast multipliyed þe diget of þe articul, and loke qwat comes þere-of. þen take þou þat nounbur, & cast hit to þat other nounbur þat þou seche as þus yf þou wel wete qwat comes of 6 tymes 4 & twenty. multiply þat articulle of þe composit by þe digit, þe quych is 6, as yn þe thryd rewle þou was taugt, And þat schal be 6 score. þen multiply þe diget of þe composit, þe quych is 4, and multiply þat by þat other diget, þe quych is 6, as þou wast taugt in þe first rewle, yf þou haue mynde þerof, & þat wol be 4 & twenty. cast all ylke nounburs to-gedir, & hit schal be 144. And so mych is 6 tymes 4 & twenty.

The fourth case of the craft:

Composite by digit.

Mental multiplication.

multiply without Figures.

¶ **Ductus in articulum numerus si compositus sit**  
**Articulum purum comites articulum quoque**  
**Mixti pro digitis post fiat [et articulus vt]**  
**Norma iubet [retinendo quod extra dicta ab illis]**

**Articuli digitum post tu mixtum digitum duc  
Regula de digitis nec precipit articulusque  
Ex quibus excrescens summe tu iunge priori  
Sic manifesta cito fiet tibi summa petita.**

¶ Here he puttes þe 5 rewle, þe quych is þis: yf þou wel multiply an Articul be a composiþ, multiplie þat Articul by þe articul of þe composiþ, and worch as þou was tauȝt in þe secunde rewle, of þe quych rewle þe verse begynnes þus. ¶ *Articulum si per Relicum vis multiplicare.* þen multiply þe diget of þe composiþ by þat opir articul aftir þe doctrine of þe 3 rewle. take þerof gode hede, I pray þe as þus. Yf þou wel wete what is 24 tymes ten. Multiplie ten by 20, þat wel be 2 hundryth. þen multiply þe diget of þe 10, þe quych is 1, by þe diget of þe composiþ, þe quych is 4, & þat wol be 4. þen reken euery vnite þat is in 4 for 10, & þat schal be 40. Cast 40 to 2 hundryth, & þat wol be 2 hundryth & 40. And so mych is 24 tymes ten.

leaf 164 b.

The fifth case of the craft:  
Article by Composite.  
  
An example.

work without Figures.

**¶ Compositum numerum mixto si[c] multiplicabis  
Vndecies tredecim sic est ex hiis operandum  
In reliquum primum demum duc post in eundem  
Vnum post denum duc in tria deinde per vnum  
Multiplicesque demum intra omnia multiplicata  
In summa decies quam si fuerit tibi doces  
Multiplicandorum de normis sufficiunt hec.**

¶ Here he puttes þe 6 rewle, & þe last of alle multiplicacion, þe quych is þis: yf þou wel multiplie a composiþ by a-noper composiþ, þou schalt do þus. multiplie þat on composiþ, qwych þou welt of the twene, by þe articul of þe toper composiþ, as þou were tauȝt in þe 5 rewle, þen multiplie þat same composiþ, þe quych þou hast multiplied by þe oper articul, by þe digit of þe oper composiþ, as þou was tauȝt in þe 4 rewle. As þus, yf þou wold wete what is 11 tymes 13, as þou was tauȝt in þe 5 rewle, & þat schal be an hundryth & ten, afterwarde multiply þat same composiþ þat þou hast multiplied, þe quych is a .11. And multiplie hit be þe digit of þe oper composiþ, þe quych is 3, for 3 is þe digit of 13, And þat wel be 30. þen take þe digit of þat composiþ, þe quych composiþ þou multiplied by þe digit of þat oper composiþ, þe quych is a 11. ¶ *Also of the quych 11 on is þe digit. multiplie þat digitt by þe digett of þat other composiþ, þe quych diget is 3, as þou was tauȝt in þe first rewle in þe begynnyng of þis craft. þe quych rewle begynnes “In digitum cures.” And of alle þe multiplicacion of þe 2 digitt comys thre, for onys 3 is but 3. Now cast alle þese nounbers togedur, the quych is þis, a hundryth & ten & 30 & 3. And al þat wel be 143. Write 3 first in þe rygth side. And cast 10 to 30, þat wol be 40. set 40 next aftur towarde þe lyft side, And set aftur a hundryth as here an Ensampulle, 143.*

leaf 165 a.

The sixth case of the craft:  
Composite by Composite.  
Mental multiplication.  
An example

of the sixth case of the craft.

(Cetera desunt.)

1. In MS, 'awiy.'
2. 'ben' repeated in MS.
3. In MS. 'thausandes.'
4. Perhaps "So."
5. 'hali' marked for erasure in MS.
6. 'moy' in MS.
7. 'Subtrahas aut addis a dextris vel mediabis' added on margin of MS.
8. After 'craft' insert 'the .4. what is þe profet of þis craft.'
9. After 'sythes' insert '& þis wordes fyue sithe & sex sythes.'
10. 't'l' marked for erasure before 'tyl' in MS.
11. Here 'of þe same rew' is marked for erasure in MS.
12. 'sed' deleted in MS.
13. 6883 in MS.
14. 'þen' overwritten on 'þat' marked for erasure.
15. 'Supra' inserted in MS. in place of 'cifra' marked for erasure.
- 16–16. Marked for erasure in MS.
17. 4 in MS.
18. docet. decet MS.
19. '4 times 4' in MS.

# The Art of Nombryng.

A TRANSLATION OF

John of Holywood's De Arte Numerandi.

[Ashmole MS. 396, fol. 48.]

**Boys seying in the begynnyng of his Arsemetrike:—Alle Fol. 48. thynges that bene fro the first begynnyng of thynges have procedede, and come forthe, And by resoun of nombre ben formede; And in wise as they bene, So owethe they to be knowene; wherfor in vniuersalle knowlechyng of thynges the Art of nombrynge is best, and most operatyfe.**

Therefore sithen the science of the whiche at this tyme we intendene to write of standithe alle and about nombre: ffirst we most se, what is the propre name therofe, and fro whens the name come: Afterwarde what is nombre, And how manye spices of nombre ther ben. The name is clepede Algorisme, hade out of Algore, other of Algos, in grewe, That is clepede in englishe art other craft, And of Rithmus that is callede nombre. So algorisme is clepede the art of nombryng, other it is had ofe en or in, and gogos that is introduccioun, and Rithmus nombre, that is to say Interduccioun of nombre. And thirdly it is hade of the name of a kyng that is clepede Algo and Rythmus; So callede Algorismus. Sothely .2. manere of nombres ben notified; Formalle,<sup>1</sup> as nombre is vnitees gadrede to-gedres; Materialle,<sup>2</sup> as nombre is a colleccioun of vnitees. Other nombre is a multitude hade out of vnitees, vnitee is that thyng wher-by euery thyng is callede oone, other o thyng. Of nombres, that one is clepede digitalle, that othere Article, Another a nombre componede oper myxt. Another digitalle is a nombre *with-in* .10.; Article is pat nombre that may be dyvydede in .10. parties egally, And that there leve no residue; Componede or medlede is that nombre that is come of a digite and of an article. And vndrestande wele that alle nombres betwix .2. articles next is a nombre componede. Of this art bene .9. spices, that is forto sey, numeracioun, addicioun, Subtraccioun, Mediaccioun, Duplacioun, Multiplacioun, Dyvysiou, Progressiou, And of Rootes the extraccioun, and that may be hade in .2. maners, that is to sey in nombres quadrat, and in cubices: Amonge the whiche, ffirst of Numeracioun, and afterwarde of pe opers by ordure, y entende to write.

The name of the art.

Derivation of  
Algorism.  
Another.

Another.  
Kinds of numbers.

The 9 rules of the Art.

## or I. Numeration.

Fol. 48 b.

### Forsothe numeracioun is of euery numbre by competent figures an artificiale representacioun.

Sothly figure, difference, places, and lynnes supposen o thyng other the same, But they ben sette here for dyuers resons. ffigure is clepede for protraccioun of figuracioun; Difference is callede for therby is shewede euery figure, how it hathe difference fro the figures before them: place by cause of space, where-in me writethe: lynnes, for that is ordeynede for the presentacioun of euery figure. And vnderstonde that ther ben .9. lymytes of figures that representen the .9. digites that ben these. 0. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1. The .10. is clepede theta, or a cercle, other a cifre, other a figure of nought for nought it signifyethe. Nathelesse she holdyng that place givethe others for to signifye; for with-out cifre or cifres a pure article may not be writte. And sithen that by these .9. figures significatifes loynede *with* cifre or *with* cifres alle nombres ben and may be representede, It was, nether is, no nede to fynde any more figures. And note wele that euery digite shalle be writte *with* oo figure allone to it aproprede. And alle articles by a cifre, ffor euery article is namede for oone of the digitis as .10. of 1.. 20. of 2. and so of the others, &c. And alle nombres digitalle owen to be sette in the first difference: Alle articles in the seconde. Also alle nombres fro .10. til an .100. [which] is excludede, with .2. figures mvst be writte; And yf it be an article, by a cifre first put, and the figure y-writte towarde the lift honde, that signifiethe the digit of the whiche the article is namede; And yf it be a nombre componede, first write the digit that is a part of that componede, and write to the lift side the article as it is seide be-fore. Alle nombre that is fro an hundrede tille a thousande excludede, owithe to be writ by .3. figures; and alle nombre that is fro a thousande til .x. Ml. mvst be writ by .4. figures; And so forthe. And vnderstonde wele that euery figure sette in the first place signifyethe his digit; In the seconde place .10. tymes his digit; In the .3. place an hundrede so moche; In the .4. place a thousande so moche; In the .5. place .x. thousande so moche; In the .6. place an hundrede thousande so moche; In the .7. place a thousande thousande. And so infynyty mvltiplying by *these* .3. 10, 100, 1000. And vnderstande wele that competently me may sette vpon figure in the place of a thousande, a

Figures, differences,  
places, and limits.

The 9 figures.  
The cipher.

The numeration

of digits,  
of articles,

of composites.

The value due to  
position.

Fol. 49.

prike to shewe how many thousande the last figure shalle represent. We writene in this art to the lift side-ward, as arabiene writene, that weren fynders of this science, othere for this resoun, that for to kepe a custumable ordre in redyng, Sette we alle-why the more nombre before.

Numbers are written from right to left.

II. Addition.

Addicioun is of nombre other of nombres vnto nombre or to nombres aggregacioun, that me may see that that is come therof as excrement. In addicioun, 2. ordres of figures and .2. nombres ben necessary, that is to sey, a nombre to be addede and the nombre wherto the addicioun sholde be made to. The nombre to be addede is that pat sholde be addede therto, and shalle be vnderwriten; the nombre vnto the whiche addicioun shalle be made to is that nombre that resceyuethe the addition of pat other, and shalle be writen above; and it is convenient that the lesse nombre be vnderwrit, and the more addede, than the contrary. But whether it happe one other other, the same comythe of, Therfor, yf þow wilt adde nombre to nombre, write the nombre wherto the addicioun shalle be made in the omest ordre by his differences, so that the first of the lower ordre be vndre the first of the omyst ordre, and so of others. That done, adde the first of the lower ordre to the first of the omyst ordre. And of suche addicioun, other þere growith therof a digit, An article, other a composede. If it be digitus, In the place of the omyst shalt thou write the digit excrecyng, as thus:—

Definition.

How the numbers should be written.

The method of working.  
Begin at the right.

If the article; in the place of the omyst put a-way by a cifre writte, and the digit transferrede, of þe whiche the article toke his name, toward the lift side, and be it addede to the next figure folowyng, yf ther be any figure folowyng; or no, and yf it be not, leve it [in the] voide, as thus:—

The resultant	2
To whom it shal be addede	1
The nombre to be addede	1

The Sum is a digit, or an article,

Resultans	2	7	8	2	7
Cui debet addi	1	0	0	8	4
Numerus addendus	1	7	7	4	3

The resultant	10
To whom it shalle be addede	7
The nombre to be addede	3

And yf it happe that the figure folowyng wherto the addicioun shalle be made by [the cifre of] an article, it sette a-side;

Fol. 49 b. In his place write the [digit of the] Article as thus:—And yf it happe that a figure of .9. by the figure that me mvst adde [one] to,

In the place of that 9. put a cifre *and* write þe article toward þe lift honde as bfore, and thus:—or a composite. And yf<sup>3</sup> [therefrom grow a] nombre componed,<sup>4</sup> [in the place of the nombre] put a-way<sup>5</sup>

[let] the digit [be]<sup>6</sup> writ þat is part of þat composide, and þan put to þe lift side the article as before, and þus:—The translator's note. This done, adde the seconde to the seconde, and write above oper as before. Note wele þat in addicions and in alle spices folowyng, whan he seithe one the other shalle be writen aboue, and me most vse euer figure, as that euery figure were sette by halfe, and by hymselfe.

The resultant	17
To whom it shalle be addede	10
The nombre to be addede	7

The resultant	10
To whom it shalle be addede	9
The nombre to be addede	1

The resultant	12
To whom it shalle be addede	8
The nombre to be addede	4

III. Subtraction.

Subtraccioun is of .2. proposede nombres, the fyndyng of the excesse of the more to the lasse:

Other subtraccioun is ablacioun of o nombre fro another, that me may see a some left. The lasse of the more, or even of even, may be *withdraw*; The more fro the lesse may *neuer* be. And sothly that nombre is more that hath the more figures, So that the last be signyficatifes: And yf ther ben as many in that one as in that other, me most deme it by the last, other by the next last. More-ouer in *with-drawyng* .2. nombres ben necessary; A nombre to be *withdraw*, And a nombre that me shalle *with-draw* of. The nombre to be *with-draw* shalle be writ in the lower ordre by his differences; The nombre fro the whiche me shalle *with-draw* in the omyst ordre, so that the first be vnder the first, the seconde vnder the seconde, And so of alle others. Withe-draw therfor the first of the lowere ordre fro the first of the ordre above his hede, and that wolle be other more or lesse, oper egalle.

Definition of Subtraction.

How it may be done.

What is required.

Write the greater number above.  
Subtract the first figure if possible.

yf it be egalle or even the figure sette beside, put in his place a cifre. And yf it be more put away *perfro* als many of vnitees the

The remanent	20
--------------	----

lower figure conteynethe, and writ the residue as thus Fol. 50.

Wherof me shalle <i>withdraw</i>	22
The nombre to be <i>withdraw</i>	2

<i>Remanens</i>	2	2	1	8	2	9	9	9	8
-----------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

The remanent	2	2
--------------	---	---



A quo sit subtraccio	8	7	2	4	3	0	0	4
Numerus subtrahendus	6	5	7	[6]	.	.	.	6

Wherof me shalle <i>with-draw</i>	2	8
Pe nombre to be <i>withdraw</i>		6

And yf it be lesse, bycause the more may not be *with-draw* ther-fro, borow an vnyte of the next figure that is worthe 10. Of that .10. and of the figure that ye wolde have *with-draw* fro be-fore to-gedre loynede, *with-draw* pe figure be-nethe, and put the residue in the place of the figure put a-side as *pus*:—If the second figure is one. And yf the figure wherof me shal borow the vnyte be one, put it a-side, and write a cifre in the place perof, lest the figures folowing faile of thaire nombre, and pan worche as it shewith in this figure here:—

The remanent	1	8
Wherof me shalle <i>with-draw</i>	2	4
The nombre to be <i>with-draw</i>	0	6

And yf the vnyte wherof me shal borow be a cifre, go farther to the figure signyficatife, and ther borow one, and retoumyng bake, in the place of euery cifre pat ye passide ouer, sette figures of .9. as here it is specifiende:—

The remanent	3	0	9	8
Wherof me shal <i>with-draw</i>	3	1		2
The nombre to be <i>with-draw</i>	.	.		3

And whan me comethe to the nombre wherof me intendithe, there remayneth alle-ways .10. ffor pe whiche .10. &c. The reson why pat for euery cifre left behynde me setteth figures ther of .9. this it is:—If fro the .3. place me borowede an vnyte, that vnyte by respect of the figure that he came fro representith an .C., in the place of that cifre [passed over] is left .9., [which is worth ninety], and yit it remayneth as .10., And the same resone wolde be yf me hade borowede an vnyte fro the .4., .5., .6., place, or any other so vpwarde. This done, withdraw the seconde of the lower ordre fro the figure above his hede of pe omyst ordre, and wirche as before. And note wele that in addicion or in subtraccioun me may wele fro the lift side begynne and ryn to the right side, But it wol be more profitabler to be do, as it is taught. And yf thow wilt prove yf thow have do wele or no, The figures that thow hast withdraw, adde them *ayene* to the omyst figures, and they wolde accorde *with* the first that thow haddest yf thow have labored wele; and in like wise in addicioun, whan thow hast addede alle thy figures, *withdraw* them that thow first addest, and the same wolde retoume. The subtraccioun is none other but a *prouffe* of the addicioun, and the contrarye in like wise.

Fol. 50 b.

#### or IV. Mediation.

**M**ediacioun is the fyndyng of the halfyng of euery nombre, that it may be seyne what and how moche is euery halfe. In halfyng ay oo order of figures and oo nombre is necessary, that is to sey the nombre to be halfede. Therfor yf thow wilt half any nombre, write that nombre by his differences, and begynne at the right, that is to sey, fro the first figure to the right side, so that it be signyficatife other represent vnyte or eny other digitalle nombre. If it be vnyte write in his place a cifre for the figures folowyng, [lest they signify less], and write that vnyte *without* in the table, other resolue it in .60. *myntes* and sette a-side half of *tho minutes* so, and reserve the remenaunt *without* in the table, as thus .30.; other sette *without* thus .*di*: that kepeth none ordre of place, Nathelesse it hathe signyficacioun. And yf the other figure signyfie any other digital nombre fro vnyte forthe, *oper* the nombre is ode or evene.

If it be even, write this half in this wise:—And if it be odde, Take the next even vndre hym conteynede, and put his half in the place of that odde, and of pe vnyte that remayneth to be halfede do thus:—Then halve the second figure. This done, the seconde is to be halfede, yf it be a cifre put it be-side, and yf it be signyficatife, *other it is even or ode*: If it be even, write in the place of pe nombres wipede out the halfe; yf it be ode, take the next even vnder it *contenythe*, and in the place of the Impar sette a-side put half of the even: The vnyte that remayneth to be halfede, respect hade to them before, is worthe .10.

Halfede	2	2
to be halfede	4	4

halfede	2	3	[di]
To be halfede	4	7	

Dyvide that .10. in .2., 5. is, and sette a-side that one, and adde that other to the next figure precedent as here:—And yf pe addicioun sholde be made to a cifre, sette it a-side, and write in his place .5.

And vnder this *foume* me shalle write and worche, tille the totale nombre be halfede.

Halfede		
to be halfede		

If it is not possible 'borrow ten,' and then subtract.

If the second figure is a cipher.

A justification of the rule given. Why it is better to work from right to left. How to prove subtraction, and addition.

Definition of mediation.

Where to begin.

If the first figure is unity.

What to do if it is not unity.

If it is odd, add 5 to the figure before.

doubledde	2	6	8	9	0	10	17	4
to be doubledde	1	3	4	4	5	5	8	7

Duplicacioun is agregacion of nombre [to itself] pat me may se the nombre growen. In doublyng ay is but one ordre of figures necessarie. And me most begynne *with* the lift side, other of the more figure, And after the nombre of the more figure representithe. *In the other* .3. before we begynne alle way fro the right side and fro the lasse nombre, *In this spice and in alle other folowyng we wolle begynne fro the lift side, ffor and me bigon the double fro the first, omwhile me myght double oo thyng twyes. And how be it that me myght double fro the right, that wolde be harder in techyng and in workyng. Therfor yf thou wolt double any nombre, write that nombre by his differences, and double the last. And of that doublyng other growithe a nombre digital, article, or componede. [If it be a digit, write it in the place of the first digit.]* If it be article, write in his place a cifre and transferre the article towarde the lift, as thus:—And yf the nombre be componede, write a digital that is part of his composicioun, and sette the article to the lift hande, as thus:—That done, me most double the last save one, and what growethe perof me most worche as before. And yf a cifre be, touche it not. But yf any nombre shalle be addede to the cifre, in pe place of pe figure wipede out me most write the nombre to be addede, as thus:—In the same wise me shalle wirche of alle others. And this probacioun: If thou truly double the halfis, and truly half the doubles, the same nombre and figure shalle mete, suche as thou labourede vpon first, And of the contrarie.

double	10
to be doubled	5

doubled	16
to be doubled	8

doubled	6	0	6
to be doubled	3	0	3

Doubled	6	1	8
to be doubled	3	0	9

Definition of Duplation.

Where to begin.

Why.

What to do with the result.

How to prove your answer.

Multiplicacioun of nombre by hymself other by another, *with propositide* .2. nombres, [is] the fyndyng of the thirde, That so oft conteynethe that other, as ther ben vnytes in the oper. In multiplicacioun .2. nombres pryncipally ben necessary, that is to sey, the nombre multiplying and the nombre to be multiplide, as here;—twies fyve. [The number multiplying] is designede aduerbially. The nombre to be multiplide resceyvethe a *nominalle* appellacioun, as twies .5. 5. is the nombre multiplide, and twies is the nombre to be multiplide.

Resultans	9	1	0	1	3	2	6	6	8	0	0	8
Multiplicandus	.	.	5	.	.	4	.	3	4	0	0	4
Multiplicans	.	2	2	.	3	3	2	2	2	.	.	.

Fol. 51 b. Also me may thervpone to assigne the .3. nombre, the whiche is clepede product or provenient, of takyng out of one fro another: as twyes .5 is .10., 5. the nombre to be multiplide, and .2. the multipliant, and. 10. as before is come therof. And vnderstonde wele, that of the multipliant may be made the nombre to be multiplide, and of the contrarie, remaynyng euer the same some, and herofe comethe the comen speche, that seithe all nombre is convertede by Multiplying in hymselfe.

Product.

And ther ben .6 rules of Multiplicacioun; ffirst, yf a digit multiplie a digit, considre how many of vnytees ben betwix the digit by multiplying and his .10. bethe to-gedre accomptede, and so oft *with*-draw the digit multiplying, vnder the article of his *denominacioun*. Example of grace. If thou wolt wete how moche is .4. tymes .8., <sup>11</sup>se how many vnytees ben betwix .8. <sup>12</sup> and .10. togeder rekenede, and it shewith that .2.: withdraw therfor the quaternary, of the article of his *denominacion* twies, of .40., And ther remayneth .32., that is, to some of alle the multiplicacioun. Wher-vpon for more evidence and declaracion the seide table is made. Whan a digit multipliethe an article, thou most bryng the digit into pe digit, of pe whiche the article [has] <sup>13</sup> his name, and euery vnyte shalle stonde for .10., and euery article an .100.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	4	6	8	10	10 <sup>10</sup>	14	16	18	20
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	56	60
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90

There are 6 rules of Multiplication.

Whan the digit multiplieth a nombre componede, þou most bryng the digit into aiper part of the nombre componede, so þat digit be had into digit by the first rule, into an article by þe seconde rule; and afterwarde loyne the produccioun, and þere wol be the some totale.

5	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Resultans	1	2	6	7	3	6	1	2	0	1	2	0	8
Multiplicandus			2		3	2		6					4
Multiplicans		6	3	2	3			2	0		3	0	2

- (1) Digit by digit. See the table above.
- (2) Digit by article.
- (3) Composite by digit.

Whan an article multiplieth an article, the digit wherof he is namede is to be brought into the digit wherof the oper is namede, and euery vnyte wol be worthe *Fol. 52. an .100., and euery article. a .1000.* Whan an article multiplieth a nombre componede, thow most bryng the digit of the article into aither part of the nombre componede; and loyne the produccioun, and euery article wol be worthe *.100., and euery vnyte .10., and so wol be the some be opene.* Whan a nombre componede multiplieth a nombre componede, euery part of the nombre multiplying is to be hade into euery part of the nombre to be multipliede, and so shalle the digit be hade twies, onys in the digit, that other in the article. The article also twies, ones in the digit, that other in the article. Therfor yf thow wilt any nombre by hymself other by any other multiplie, write the nombre to be multipliede in the ouer ordre by his differences, The nombre multiplying in the lower ordre by his differences, so that the first of the lower ordre be vnder the last of the ouer ordre. This done, of the multiplying, the last is to be hade into the last of the nombre to be multipliede. Wherof than wol be grow a digit, an article, other a nombre componede.

- (4) Article by article.
- (5) Composite by article.
- (6) Composite by composite.

Howto set down your numbers.

If the result is a digit,

If it be a digit, even above the figure multiplying is hede write his digit that come of, as it appereth here:—an article, And yf an article had be writ ouer the figure multiplying his hede, put a cifre per and transferre the article towarde the lift hande, as thus:—

The resultant	6
To be multipliede	3
þe nombre multiplieng	2

And yf a nombre componede be writ ouer the figure multiplying is hede, write the digit in the nombre componede is place, and sette the article to the lift hande, as thus:—

The resultant	1	0
to be multipliede		5
þe nombre multiplieng		2

This done, me most bryng the last save one of the multiplieng into the last of þe nombre to be multipliede, and se what comythe therof as before, and so do *with alle*, tille me come to the first of the nombre multiplying, that must be brought into the last of the nombre

to be multipliede, wherof growithe oper a digit, an article, other a nombre componede.

If it be a digit, In the place of the ouerer, sette a-side, as here: If an article happe, there put a cifre in his place, and put hym to the lift hande, as here:

Resultant	6	6
to be multipliede		3
the nombre multiplieng	2	2

or a composite. Multiply next by the last but one, and so on.

Fol. 52 b.

Resultant	1	2
to be multipliede		4
the nombre multiplieng		3

If it be a nombre componede, in the place of the ouerer sette a-side, write a digit that <sup>14</sup> is a part of the componede, and sette on the left honde the article, as here: Then antery the multiplier one place.

That done, sette forwarde the figures of the nombre multiplying by oo difference, so that the first of the multipliant be vnder the last save one of the nombre to be multipliede, the other by o place sette forwarde. Than me shalle brynge the last of the multipliant in hym to be multipliede, vnder the whiche is the first multipliant. And than wol be growe oper a digit, an article, or a componede nombre.

If it be a digit, adde hym even above his hede; If it be an article, transferre hym to the lift side; And if it be a nombre componede, adde a digit to the figure above his hede, and sette to the lift hande the article. And alle-ways euery figure of the nombre multipliant is to be brought to the last save one nombre to be multipliede, til me come to the first of the multipliant, where me shalle wirche as it is seide before of the first, and afterwarde to put forwarde the figures by o difference and one tille they alle be multipliede. And yf it happe that the first figure of þe multipliant be a cifre, and þoue it is sette the figure signyficatife, write a cifre in the place of the figure sette a-side, as thus, etc.:

The resultant	1	1	0
to be multipliede			5
þe nombre multiplying		2	2

The resultant	1	3 <sup>15</sup>	2
to be multipliede			4
þe nombre multipliant		3	3

Work as before.

How to deal with ciphers.

The resultant	1	2	0
to be multipliede			6
the multipliant		2	0

And yf a cifre happe in the lower order be-twix the first and the last, and even above be sette the figure signyficatif, leve it vntouchede, as here:—

And yf the space above sette be voide, in that place write thow a cifre. And yf the cifre happe betwix be first and the last to be multipliede, me most sette forwarde the ordre of the figures by thaire differences, for oft of duccioun of figures in cifres nought is the resultant, as here,

Fol. 53.

*wherof it is evident and open, yf that the first figure of the nombre be to be multipliede be a cifre, vndir it shalle be none sette as here:—*

Resultant	3	2	0 <sup>16</sup>
To be multipliede	8		0
The multipliant	4		

Vnder[stand] also that in multiplicacioun, divisioun, and of rootis the extraccioun, competently me may leve a mydel space betwix .2. ordres of figures, that me may write there what is come of addyng other withe-drawyng, lest any thyng sholde be ouer-hippede and sette out of mynde.

The resultant	2	2	6	4	4
To be multipliede			2	2	2
The multipliant	1	0	2		

Resultant	8	0	0	8
to be multipliede	4	0	0	4
the multipliant	2	.	.	.

How to deal with ciphers.

Leave room between the rows of figures.

## or VII. Division.

For to dyvyde oo nombre by another, it is of .2. nombres proposede, It is forto depart the moder nombre into as many partis as ben of vnytees in the lasse nombre. And note wele that in makynge of dyvysioun ther ben .3. nombres necessary: that is to sey, the nombre to be dyvydede; the nombre dyvydyng and the nombre exaunt, other how oft, or quocient. Ay shalle the nombre that is to be dyvydede be more, other at the lest evene with the nombre the dyvysere, yf the nombre shalle be made by hole nombres. Therfor yf thow wolt any nombre dyvyde, write the nombre to be dyvydede in pe ouerer bordure by his differences, the dyvisere in the lower ordure by his differences, so that the last of the dyviser be vnder the last of the nombre to be dyvyde, the next last vnder the next last, and so of the others, yf it may competently be done; as here:—

The residue		2	7
The quotient			5
To be dyvydede	3	4	2
The dyvyser		6	3

Residuū			8			2	7		2	6
Quociens		2	1	2	2		5			9
Diuidendus	6	8	0	6	6	3	4	2	3	3
Diuiser	3	2		3		6	3		3	4

Definition of division.

Dividend, Divisor, Quotient.

How to set down your Sum.

An example.

Examples.

And ther ben .2. causes whan the last figure may not be sette vnder the last, other that the last of the lower nombre may not be with-draw of the last of the ouerer nombre for it is lasse than the lower, other how be it, that it myght be with-draw as for hymself fro the ouerer the remenaunt may not so oft of them above, other yf pe last of the lower be even to the figure above his hede, and be next last oper the figure be-fore pat be more pan the figure above sette. These so ordeynede, me most wirche from the last figure of pe nombre of the dyvyser, and se how oft it may be with-draw of and fro the figure aboue his hede, namly so that the remenaunt may be take of so oft, and to se the residue as here:—

Fol. 53.<sup>2</sup>

The residue		2	6
The quocient			9
To be dyvydede	3	3	2
The dyvyser		3	4

And note wele that me may not withe-draw more than .9. tymes nether lasse than ones. Therfor se how oft pe figures of the lower ordre may be with-draw fro the figures of the ouerer, and the nombre that shewith pe quocient most be writ ouer the hede of pat figure, vnder the whiche the first figure is, of the dyviser; And by that figure me most withe-draw alle oper figures of the lower ordir and that of the figures aboue thaire hedis. This so done, me most sette forwarde pe figures of the diuiser by

o difference towards the right honde and worche as before; and thus:—

Residuū									.	1	2
quociens				6	5	4			2	0	0
Diuidendus	3	5	5	1	2	2	8	8	6	3	7
Diuisor		5	4	3			4	4	2	3	

When the last of the divisor must not be set below the last of the dividend.

How to begin.

An example.

Where to set the quotiente

Examples.



The quocient				6	5	4
To be dyvydede	3	5	5	1	2	2
The dyvyser		5	4	3		

And yf it happe after þe setting forwarde of the figures þat þe last of the divisor may not so oft be *withdraw* of the figure above his hede, above þat figure vnder the whiche the first of the diuiser is writ me most sette a cifre in ordre of the nombre quocient, and sette the figures forwarde as before þe o difference alone, and so me shalle do in alle nombres to be dyvidede, for where the dyviser may not be *with-draw* me most sette there a cifre, and sette forwarde the figures; as here:—

The residue					1	2
The quocient				2	0	4
To be dyvydede	8	8	6	3	7	0
The dyvyser	4	4	2	3		

And me shalle not cesse fro suche setting of figures forwarde, nether of settinge of þe quocient into the dyviser, neþer of subtraccioun of the dyvyser, tille the first of the dyvyser be *with-draw* fro þe first to be dividede. The whiche done, or ought, <sup>17</sup> oper nought shalle remayne: and yf it be ought, <sup>17</sup> kepe it in the tables, And euer yny it to þe divisor. And yf þou wilt wete how many vnytees of þe divisioun wol growe to the

*nombre of the divisere, the nombre quocient wol shewe it: and whan suche divisioun is made, and þou lust prove yf thou have wele done or no, Multiplie the quocient by the divisor, And the same figures wolle come ayene that thou haddest bifore and none other. And yf ought be residue, than with addicioun therof shalle come the same figures: And so multiplicacioun provithe divisioun, and dyvisioun multiplicacioun: as thus, yf multiplicacioun be made, divide it by the multipliant, and the nombre quocient wol shewe the nombre that was to be multipliede, etc.*

A special case.

Another example.

*What the quotient shows. Howto prove your division, or multiplication.*

Fol. 53.<sup>3</sup>

or VIII. Progression.

Progressioun is of nombre after egalle excesse fro oone or tweyne take agregacioun. of progressioun one is naturelle or contynuelle, þat oper broken and discontynuelle. Naturelle it is, whan me begynnethe *with* one, and kepethe ordure ouerlepyng one; as .1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6., etc., so þat the nombre folowyng passithe the other be-fore in one. Broken it is, whan me lepithe fro o nombre tille another, and kepithe not the contynuel ordire; as 1. 3. 5. 7. 9, etc. Ay me may begynne *with* .2., as þus; .2. 4. 6. 8., etc., and the nombre folowyng passethe the others by-fore by .2. And note wele, that naturelle progressioun ay begynnethe *with* one, and Intercise or broken progressioun, omwhile begynnythe *with* one, omwhile *with* twayne. Of progressioun naturell .2. rules ther be yove, of the whiche the first is this; whan the progressioun naturelle endithe in even nombre, by the half therof multiplie þe next totale ouerere nombre; Example of grace: .1. 2. 3. 4. Multiplie .5. by .2. and so .10. comethe of, that is the totale nombre þerof. The seconde rule is suche, whan the progressioun naturelle endithe in nombre ode. Take the more porcioun of the oddes, and multiplie therby the totale nombre. Example of grace 1. 2. 3. 4. 5., multiplie .5. by .3, and thryes .5. shalle be resultant. so the nombre totale is .15. Of progresioun intercise, ther ben also .2. <sup>18</sup> rules; and þe first is pis: Whan the Intercise progression endithe in even nombre by half therof multiplie the next nombre to þat halfe as .2. <sup>18</sup> 4. 6. Multiplie .4. by .3. so þat is thryes .4., and .12. the nombre of alle the progressioun, wolle folow. The seconde rule is this: whan the progressioun intercise endithe in ode, take þe more porcioun of alle þe nombre, and multiplie by hymselfe; as .1. 3. 5. Multiplie .3. by hymselfe, and þe some of alle wolle be .9., etc.

Definition of Progression. Natural Progression. Broken Progression.

The 1st rule for Natural Progression. The second rule.

The first rule of Broken Progression.

The second rule.

Fol. 53.<sup>4</sup>

or IX. Extraction of Roots.

Here folowithe the extraccioun of rotis, and first in nombre quadrates. Wherfor me shalle se what is a nombre quadrat, and what is the rote of a nombre quadrat, and what it is to draw out the rote of a nombre. And before other note this divisioun: Of nombres one is lyneal, anoper superficialle, anoper quadrat, anoper cubike or hoole. lyneal is that þat is considrede after the processe, havyng no respect to the direccioun of nombre in nombre, As a lyne hathe but one dymensioun that is to sey after the lengthe. Nombre superficial is þat comethe of ledyng of oo nombre into another, wherfor it is called superficial, for it hathe .2. nombres notyng or mesuryng hym, as a superficialle thyng hathe .2. dimensions, þat is to sey lengthe and brede. And for bycause a nombre may be hade in another by .2. maners, þat is to sey other in hymselfe, oper in anoper, Vnderstonde yf it be had in hymself, It is a quadrat. ffor dyvisioun write by vnytes, hathe .4. sides even as a quadrangille. and yf the nombre be hade in a-noper, the nombre is superficiel and not quadrat, as .2. hade in .3. makethe .6. that is þe first nombre superficielle; wherfor it is open þat alle nombre quadrat is superficiel, and not conuertide. The rote of a nombre quadrat is þat nombre that is had of hymself, as twies .2. makithe 4. and .4. is the first nombre quadrat, and 2. is his rote. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1. / The rote of the more quadrat .3. 1. 4.

The preamble of the extraction of roots. Linear, superficial, and solid numbers.

Superficial numbers.

Square numbers.

The root of a square number.

2. 6. The most nombre quadrat 9. 8. 7. 5. 9. 3. 4. 7. 6. / the remenent ouer the quadrat .6. 0. 8. 4. 5. / The first caas of nombre quadrat .5. 4. 7. 5. 6. The rote .2. 3. 4. The seconde caas .3. 8. 4. 5. The rote .6. 2. The thirde caas .2. 8. 1. 9. The rote .5. 3. The .4. caas .3. 2. 1. The rote .1. 7. The 5. caas .9. 1. 2. 0. 4. The rote 3. 0. 2. The solide nombre or cubike is pat pat comythe of double ledyng of nombre in nombre; And it is clepede a solide body that hathe per-in .3 [dimensions] pat is to sey, lengthe, brede, and thiknesse. so pat nombre hathe .3. nombres to be brought forthe in hym. But nombre may be hade twies in nombre, for other it is hade in hymselfe, oper in a-noper. If a nombre be hade twies in hymself, oper ones in his quadrat, pat is the same, pat a cubike is, And is the same that is solide. And yf a nombre twies be hade in a-noper, the nombre is clepede solide and not cubike, as twies .3. and pat .2. makithe .12. Wherfor it is opyne that alle cubike nombre is solide, and not conuertide. Cubike is pat nombre pat comythe of ledyng of hymselfe twyes, or ones in his quadrat. And here-by it is open that o nombre is the roote of a quadrat and of a cubike. Natheles the same nombre is not quadrat and cubike. Opyne it is also that alle nombres may be a rote to a quadrat and cubike, but not alle nombre quadrat or cubike. Therfor sithen pe ledyng of vnyte in hymself ones or twies nought comethe but vnytes, Seithe Boice in Arsemetrike, that vnyte potencially is al nombre, and none in act. And vndirstonde wele also that betwix euery .2. quadrates ther is a meene proporcionalle, That is openede thus; lede the rote of o quadrat into the rote of the oper quadrat, and pan wolle pe meene shew.

Fol. 54.

Residuum			0				4			0					0		
Quadrante	4	3	5	6	3	0	2	9	1	7	4	2	4	1	9	3	6
Duplum	1	2			1	0			2	6				[8]	19		
Subduplum		6		6		5		5	1	3		2			4		4

Also betwix the next .2. cubikis, me may fynde a double meene, that is to sey a more meene and a lesse. The more meene thus, as to bryng the rote of the lesse into a quadrat of the more. The lesse thus, If the rote of the more be brought into the quadrat of the lesse.

## er X. Extraction of Square Root.

To<sup>20</sup> draw a rote of the nombre quadrat it is What-euer nombre be proposede to fynde his rote and to se yf it be quadrat. And yf it be not quadrat the rote of the most quadrat fynde out, vnder the nombre proposede. Therfor yf thou wilt the rote of any quadrat nombre draw out, write the nombre by his differences, and compt the nombre of the figures, and wete yf it be ode or even. And yf it be even, than most thou begynne worche vnder the last save one. And yf it be ode *with* the last; and forto sey it shortly, al-weyes fro the last ode me shalle begynne. Therfor vnder the last in an od place sette, me most fynde a digit, the whiche lade in hymselfe it puttithe away that, pat is ouer his hede, oper as neighe as me may: suche a digit founde and *withdraw* fro his ouerer, me most double that digit and sette the double vnder the next figure towarde the right honde, and his vnder double vnder hym. That done, than me most fynde a-noper digit vnder the next figure bfore the doubled, the whiche Fol. 54 b. brought in double settethe a-way alle that is ouer his hede as to rewarde of the doubled: Than brought into hymself settithe all away in respect of hymself, Other do it as nye as it may be do: other me may *with-draw* the digit<sup>21</sup> [last] founde, and lede hym in double or double hym, and after in hymselfe; Than loyne togeder the *produccione* of them bothe, So that the first figure of the last *product* be addede before the first of the first *productes*, the seconde of the first, *etc.* and so forthe, subtrahe fro the totale nombre in respect of pe digit.

The residue													5	4	3	2	
To be quadrede	4	1	2	0	9	1	5	1	3	9	9	0	0	5	4	3	2
The double		4	0				2		4			6		0			0

Notes of some examples of square roots here interpolated. Solid numbers. Three dimensions of solids.

Cubic numbers.

All cubics are solid numbers.

No number may be both linear and solid.

Unity is not a number. Examples of square roots.

A note on mean proportionals.

To find a square root.

Begin with the last odd place.

Find the nearest square root of that number, subtract,

double it, and set the double one to the right.

Find the second figure by division. Multiply the double by the second figure, and add after it the square of the second figure, and subtract. Examples.

And if it hap pat no digit may be founde, Than sette a cifre vndre a cifre, and cesse not tille thou fynde a digit; and whan thou hast founde it to double it, neper to sette the doublede forward nether the vnder doublede, Till thou fynde vndre the first figure a digit, the whiche lade in alle double, setting away alle that is ouer hym in respect of the doublede: Than lede hym into hymselfe, and put a-way alle in regarde of hym, other as nyghe as thou maist. That done, other ought or nought wolbe the residue. If nought, than it shewithe that a nombre componede was the quadrat, and his rote a digit last founde *with* vndere-double other vndirdoubles, so that it be sette be-fore: And yf ought<sup>22</sup> remayne, that shewith that the nombre proposede was not quadrat,<sup>23</sup> but a digit [last found with the subduple or subduples is]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36
3	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81
4	32	48	64	80	96	112 <sup>24</sup>	128	144
5	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225
6	72	108	144	180	216	252	288	324
7	98	147	196	245	294	343	393	441
8	128	192	256	320	384	448	512	576
9	168	243	324	405	486	567	648	729 <sup>25</sup>

The rote of the most quadrat conteynede vndre the nombre proposede. Therfor yf thou wilt prove yf thou have wele do or no, Multiplie the digit last founde *with* the vnder-double oper vnder-doublis, and thou shalt fynde the same figures that thou haddest before; And so that nought be the *residue*. And yf thou have any residue, than *with the addicoun perof that is reseruede with-out in thy table, thou shalt fynde thi first figures as thou haddest them before, etc.*

Fol. 55.

er XI. Extraction of Cube Root.

Heere folowithe the extraccioun of rotis in cubike nombres; wherfor me most se what is a nombre cubike, and what is his rote, And what is the extraccioun of a rote. A nombre cubike it is, as it is before declarede, that comethe of ledyng of any nombre twies in hymselfe, other ones in his quadrat. The rote of a nombre cubike is the nombre that is twies hade in *hym*-selfe, or ones in his quadrat. Wherthurghe it is open, that euery nombre quadrat or cubike have the same rote, as it is seide before. And forto draw out the rote of a cubike, It is first to fynde þe nombre proposede yf it be a cubike; And yf it be not, than thou most make extraccioun of his rote of the most cubike vndre the nombre proposide his rote founde. Therfor proposede some nombre, whos cubical rote þou woldest draw out; First thou most compt the figures by fourthes, that is to sey in the place of thousandes; And vnder the last thousande place, thou most fynde a digit, the whiche lade in hymself cubikly puttithe a-way that þat is ouer his hede as in respect of hym, other as nyghe as thou maist. That done, thou most trebille the digit, and that triplat is to be put vnder the .3. next figure towarde the right honde, And the vnder-trebille vnder the trebille; Than me most fynde a digit vndre the next figure before the triplat, the whiche *with* his vnder-trebille had into a trebille, afterwarde other vnder[trebille]<sup>26</sup> had in his *produccioun*, puttethe a-way alle that is ouer it in regarde of<sup>27</sup> [the triplat. Then lade in hymself puttithe away that þat is over his hede as in respect of hym, other as nyghe as thou maist:] That done, thou most trebille the digit ayene, and the triplat is to be sette vnder the next .3. figure as before, And the vnder-trebille vnder the trebille: and than most thou sette forwarde the first triplat *with* his vndre-trebille by .2. differences. And than most thou fynde a digit vnder the next figure before the triplat, the whiche withe his vnder-triplat had in his triplat afterwarde, other vnder-treblis lad in *product* It sittethe a-way all that is ouer his hede in respect of the triplat than had in hymself cubikly,<sup>28</sup> or as nyghe as ye may.

Fol. 55 b.

Residuum					5				4		1	0	1	9
Cubicandus	8	3	6	5	4	3	2	3	0	0	7	6	7	
Triplum			6	0						1	8			4
Subtriplum	2			0		[3]			6		7		2	

Nother me shalle not cesse of the fyndyng of that digit, neither of his triplacioun, neper of the triplat-is<sup>29</sup> anterioracioun, that is to sey, setting forwarde by .2. differences, Ne therof the vndre-triple to be put vndre the triple, Nether of the multiplicacioun perof, Neither of the subtraccioun,

Special cases.

The residue.

This table is constructed for use in cube root sums, giving the value of  $ab.^2$

How to prove the square root without or with a remainder.

Definition of a cubic number and a cube root.

Mark off the places in threes.  
Find the first digit; treble it and place it under the next but one, and multiply by the digit.  
Then find the second digit.  
Multiply the first triplate and the second digit, twice by this digit.  
Subtract.

Examples.

Continue this process till the first figure is reached.

till it come to the first figure, vnder the whiche is a digitalle nombre to be founde, the whiche with his vndre-treblis most be hade in tribles, Afterwarde *without* vnder-treblis to be hade into produccioun, setting away alle that is ouer the hede of the triplat nombre, After had into hymselfe cubikly, and sette alle-way that is ouer hym.

Also note wele that the production comynge of the ledyng of a digite founde<sup>30</sup> me may adde to, and also *with-draw* fro of the totale nombre sette above that digit so founde.<sup>31</sup> That done ought or nought most be the residue. If it be nought, It is open that the nombre

proposede was a cubike nombre, And his rote a digit founde last *with* the vnder-triples: If the rote therof wex bade in hymselfe, and afterwarde product they shalle make the first figures. And yf ought be in residue, kepe that *without* in the table; and it is opene that the nombre was not a cubike. but a digit last founde *with* the vndirtriplis is rote of the most cubike vndre the nombre proposede conteynede, the whiche rote yf it be hade in hymselfe, And afterwarde in a product of that shalle growe the most cubike vndre the nombre proposede conteynede, And yf that be addede to a cubike the residue reseruede in the table, wolke make the same figures that ye hade first. \*And yf no digit after the anterioracioun<sup>32</sup> may not be founde, than put there a cifre vndre a cifre vndir the thirde figure, And put forward be figures. Note also wele that yf in the nombre proposede ther ben no place of thowsandes, me most begynne vnder the first figure in the extraccioun of the rote. some vsen forto distingue the nombre by threes, and ay begynne forto wirche vndre the first of the last temary other uncomplete nombre, the whiche maner of operacioun accordethe *with* that before.

To be <u>cubicede</u>	1	7	2	8	3	2	7	6	8
The triple			3	2				9	
The vnder triple			1	2		[3]		3	3

Examples.

The residue.

Special cases.

Special case.

Fol. 56.

The residue						0						1	1	
The cubicandus	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	4	2	4	1	9
The triple			33	0	0					6				
The vndertriple	[2]			0	0			2			6	2		

Examples.

And this at this tyme suffisethe in extraccioun of nombres quadrat or cubikes *etc.*

of Numbers, &c.

1 2 3 4 5  
 one. x. an. hundrede *td*> a thowsande *td*> x. thowsande *td*>  
 6 7  
 An hundrede thowsande *td*> A thowsande tymes a thowsande *td*>

x. thowsande tymes a thowsande / An hundrede thowsande tymes a thowsande A thowsande  
 thowsande tymes a thowsande / this is the x place *etc.*

[Ende.]

A table of numbers;  
 probably from the  
 Abacus.

1. MS. Materialle.
2. MS. Formalle.
3. 'the' in MS.
4. 'be' in MS.
5. 'and' in MS.
6. 'is' in MS.
7. 6 in MS.
8. 0 in MS.
9. 2 in MS.
10. *sic*.
11. 'And' inserted in MS.
12. '4 the' inserted in MS.
13. 'to' in MS.
14. 'that' repeated in MS.
15. '1' in MS.
16. Blank in MS.
17. 'nought' in MS.
18. 3 written for 2 in MS.



- [19.](#) 7 in MS.
- [20.](#) runs on in MS.
- [21.](#) 'so' in MS.
- [22.](#) 'nought' in MS.
- [23.](#) MS. adds here: 'wher-vpone se the table in the next side of the next leefte.'
- [24.](#) 110 in MS.
- [25.](#) 0 in MS.
- [26.](#) double in MS.
- [27.](#) 'it hymselfe' in MS.
- [28.](#) MS. adds here: 'it settethe a-way alle his respect.'
- [29.](#) 'aucterioracioun' in MS.
- [30.](#) MS. adds here: '*with* an vndre-triple / other of an vndre-triple in a triple or triplat is And afterwarde *with* out vndre-triple other vndre-triplis in the product and ayene that product that comethe of the ledynge of a digit founde in hymselfe cubicalle'  $p>$
- [31.](#) MS. adds here: 'as ther had be a divisioun made as it is openede before.'
- [32.](#) MS. anteriocacioun.
- [33.](#) 4 in MS.

# Accomptynge by counters.

The original text was printed as a single continuous paragraph, with no break between speakers; all examples were shown inline. It has been broken up for this e-text.

116 b.

## ¶ The seconde dialoge of accomptynge by counters.

Mayster.

Nowe that you haue learned the commen kyndes of Arithmetyke with the penne, you shall se the same art in *counters*: whiche feate doth not only serue for them that can not write and rede, but also for them that can do bothe, but haue not at some tymes theyr penne or tables redye with them. This sorte is in two fourmes *commonly*. The one by lynes, and the other without

lynnes: in that  $\overset{t}{y}$  hath lynes, the lynes do stande for the order of places: and in  $\overset{t}{y}$  that hath no lynes, there must be sette in theyr stede so many counters as shall nede, for eche lyne one, and they shall supplye the stede of the lynes.

S. By examples I shuld better perceauie your meanyng.

117 a M. For example of the lynes:

Lo here you se .vi. lynes whiche stande for syxe places so that the

nethermost standeth for  $\overset{e}{y}$  fyrst place, and the next aboue it, for the second:

and so vpward tyll you come to the hyghest, which is the syxte lyne, and standeth for the syxte place. Now what is the valewe of euery place or lyne,

you may perceauie by the figures whiche I haue set on them, which is

accordynge as you learned before in the Numeration of figures by the penne: for the fyrste place is the place of vnities or ones, and euery counter set in that lyne betokeneth but one: *and* the seconde lyne is the place of 10, for euery counter there, standeth for 10. The thyrd lyne the place of hundredes: the fourth of thousandes: *and* so forth.

	1	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0	0	0
x	1	0	0	0	0
	1	0	0		
	1	0			
	1				

Numeration.

117 b. S. Syr I do perceauie that the same order is here of lynes, as was in the other figures *by places*, so that you shall not nede longer to stande about Numeration, excepte there be any other difference.

M. Yf you do vnderstande it, then how wyll you set 1543?

S. Thus, as I suppose.

M. You haue set  $\overset{e}{y}$  places truely, but your figures be not mete for this vse: for the metest figure in this behalfe, is the figure of a counter round, as you se here, where I haue expressed that same summe.

x	1
	5
	4
	3

S. So that you haue not one figure for 2, nor 3, nor 4, and so forth, but as many digettes as you haue, you set in the lowest lyne: and for euery 10 you set one in the second lyne: and so of other. But I know not by what reason you set that one counter for 500 betwene two lynes.

x	o			
	o			
	o	o	o	o
	o	o	o	o

118 a. M. you shall remember this, that when so euer you nede to set downe 5, 50, or 500, or 5000, or so forth any other number, whose numerator is 5, you shall set one counter for it, in the next space aboue the lyne that it hath his denomination of, as in this example of that 500, bycause the numerator is 5, it must be set in a voyd space: and bycause the denominator is hundred, I knowe that his place is the voyde space next aboue hundredes, that is to say, aboue the thyrd lyne. And farther you shall marke, that in all workynge by this sorte, yf you shall sette downe any summe betwene 4 and 10, for the fyrste parte of that number you shall set downe 5, & then so many counters more, as there reste numbers aboue 5. And this is true bothe of digettes and articles. And for example I wyll set downe this summe 287965,

118 b. which summe yf you marke well, you nede none other examples for to lerne the numeration of *this forme*. But this shal you marke, that as you dyd in the other kynde of arithmetike, set a pricke in the places of thousandes, in this worke you shall sette a starre, as you se here.

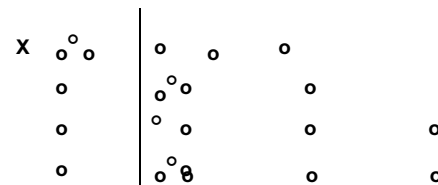
x	o		o
	o	o	o
x	o	o	o
	o	o	o
	o	o	o
	o		

S. Then I perceave numeration, but I praye you, howe shall I do in this arte to adde two summes or more together?

Addition.

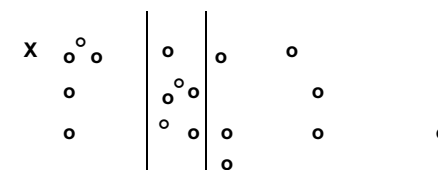
M. The easiest way in this arte is, to adde but 2 *summes* at ones together: how be it you may adde more, as I wyll tell you anone. Therfore when you wyll adde two *summes*, you shall fyrst set downe one of them, it forseth not whiche, *and* then by it drawe a lyne crosse the other lynes. And afterward set downe the other *summe*, so that that lyne may be betwene them, as yf you wolde adde 2659 to 8342, you must set your *summes* as you se here.

119 a. And then yf you lyst, you may adde the one to the other in the same place, or els you may adde them both together in a newe place: which waye, bycause it is moste playnest, I wyll showe you fyrst. Therfore wyl I begynne

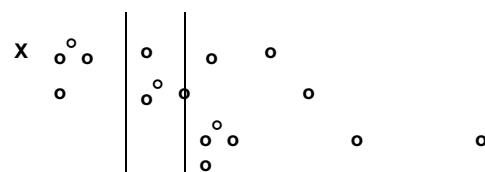


at the vnites, whiche in the fyrst *summe* is but 2, *and* in y<sup>e</sup> second *summe* 9, that maketh 11, those do I take vp, and for them I set 11 in the new rounge, thus,

Then do I take vp all y<sup>e</sup> articles vnder a hundred, which in the fyrst *summe* are 40, and in the second *summe* 50, that maketh 90: or you may saye better, that in the fyrste *summe* there are 4 articles of 10, and in the seconde *summe* 5, which make 9, but then take hede that you sette them in theyr *ryght lynes* as you se here.



Where I haue taken awaye 40 from the fyrste *summe*, and 50 from y<sup>e</sup> second, and in theyr stede I haue set 90 in the thyrd, whiche I haue set playnely y<sup>t</sup> you myght well perceauie it: how be it seyng that 90



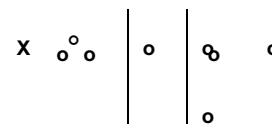
with the 10 that was in y<sup>e</sup> thyrd rounge all redy, doth make 100, I myghte better for those 6 counters set 1 in the thyrd lyne, thus:

For it is all one *summe* as you may se, but it is beste, neuer to set 5 counters in any lyne, for that may be done with 1 counter in a hygher place.

S. I iudge that good reason, for many are vnnefull, where one wyll serue.

120 a. M. Well, then wyll I adde forth of hundredes: I fynde 3 in the fyrste *summe*, and 6 in the seconde, whiche make 900, them do I take vp *and* set in the thyrd rounge where is one hundred all redy, to whiche I put 900, and it wyll be 1000, therfore I set one counter in the fourth lyne for them all, as you se here.

Then adde I y<sup>e</sup> thousandes together, whiche in the fyrst *summe* are 8000, *and* in y<sup>e</sup> second 2000, that maketh 10000: them do I take vp from those two places, and for them I set one counter in the fyfte lyne, and then appereth as you se,

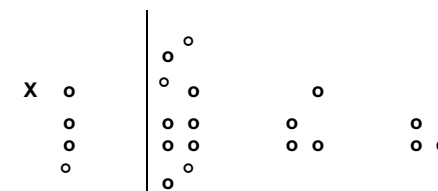


to be 11001, for so many doth amount of the addition of 8342 to 2659.

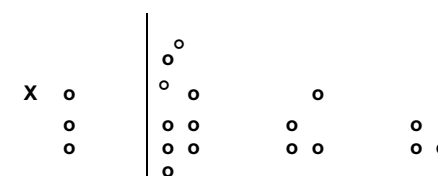
120 b. S. Syr, this I do perceave: but how shall I set one *summe* to an other, not chaungynge them to a thyrd place?

M. Marke well how I do it: I wyll adde together 65436, and 3245, whiche fyrste I set downe thus.

Then do I begynne with the smalest, which in the fyrst *summe* is 5, that do I take vp, and wold put to the other 5 in the seconde *summe*, sauynge that two counters can not be set in a voyd place of 5, but for them bothe I must set 1 in the seconde lyne, which is the place of 10, therfore I take vp the 5 of the fyrst *summe*, *and* the 5 of the seconde, and for them I set 1 in the second lyne, as you se here.

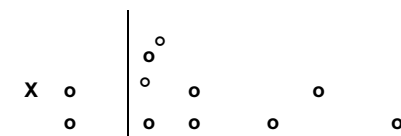


121 a. Then do I lyke wayes take vp the 4 counters of the fyrst *summe* *and* seconde lyne (which make 40) and adde them to the 4 counters of the same lyne, in the second *summe*, and it maketh 80, But as I sayde I maye not conueniently set aboue 4 counters in one lyne, therfore to those 4 that I toke vp in the fyrst *summe*, I take one also of the seconde *summe*, and then haue I taken vp 50, for whiche 5 counters I sette downe one in the space



ouer y<sup>e</sup> second lyne, as here doth appere.

121 b. *and then is there 80, as well w<sup>t</sup> those 4 counters, as yf I had set downe y<sup>e</sup> other 4 also. Now do I take the 200 in the fyrst *summe*, and adde them to the 400 in the seconde *summe*, and it maketh 600, therfore I take vp the 2 counters in the fyrst *summe*, and 3 of them in the seconde *summe*, and for*



them 5 I set 1 in  $y^e$  space above, thus.

Then I take  $y^e$  3000 in  $y^e$  fyrste summe, vnto whiche there are none in the second summe agreynge, therfore I do onely remoue those 3 counters from the fyrste summe into the seconde, as here doth appere.

122 a

And so you see the hole summe, that amounteth of the addytion of 65436 with 3245 to be 6868[1]. And yf you haue marked these two examples well, you nede no farther enstruction in Addition of 2 only summes: but yf you haue more then two summes to adde, you may adde them thus.

Fyrst adde two of them, and then adde the thyrd, and

$y^e$  fourth, or more yf there be so many: as yf I wolde adde 2679 with 4286 and 1391. Fyrste I adde the two fyrste summes thus. And then I adde the thyrd thereto thus.

122 b.

And so of more yf you haue them.

x

x

x

ction on the Counting Board.

S. Nowe I thynke beste that you passe forth to Subtraction, except there be any wayes to examyn this maner of Addition, then I thynke that were good to be knowen nexte.

M. There is the same profe here that is in the other Addition by the penne, I meane Subtraction, for that onely is a sure waye: but consyderynge that Subtraction must be fyrste knowen, I wyl fyrste teache you the arte of Subtraction, and that by this example: I wolde subtracte 2892 out of 8746. These summes must I set downe as I dyd in Addition: but here it is best to set the lesser number fyrste, thus.

116 a (sic).

Then shall I begynne to subtracte the greatest nombres fyrste (contrary to

the vse of the penne)  $y^t$  is the thousandes in this example: therfore I fynd amongst the thousandes 2, for which I withdrawe so many from the seconde summe (where are 8) and so remayneth there 6, as this example showeth.

116 b.

Then do I lyke wayes with the hundredes, of whiche in the fyrste summe I fynde 8, and is the seconde summe but 7, out of whiche I can not take 8, therfore thus muste I do: I muste loke how moche my summe dyffereth from 10, whiche I fynde here to be 2, then must I bate for my summe of 800, one thousande, and set downe the excesse of hundredes, that is to saye 2, for so moche 100[0] is more then I shuld take vp. Therfore from the fyrste summe I take that 800, and from the second summe where are 6000, I take vp one thousande, and leue 5000; but then set I downe the

200 unto the 700  $y^t$  are there all redye, and make them 900 thus.

117 a.

Then come I to the articles of ternes where in the fyrste summe I fynde 90, and in the seconde summe but only 40: Now consydering that 90 can not

be bated from 40, I loke how moche  $y^t$  90 doth dyffer from the next summe aboute it, that is 100 (or elles whiche is all to one effecte, I loke how moch 9 doth dyffer from 10) and I fynd it to be 1, then in the stede of that 90, I do take from the second summe 100: but consyderynge that it is 10 to moche,

I set downe 1 in  $y^e$  nexte lyne beneth for it, as you se here.

Sauynge that here I haue set one counter in  $y^e$  space in stede of 5 in  $y^e$  nexte lyne. And thus haue I subtracted all saue two, which I must bate from the 6 in the second summe, and there wyll remayne 4, thus.

117 b.

So  $y^t$  yf I subtracte 2892 from 8746, the remayner wyll be 5854, And that this is truely wrought, you maye proue by Addition: for yf you adde to this remayner the same summe that you dyd subtracte, then wyll the formar summe 8746 amount agayne.

S. That wyll I proue: and fyrst I set the summe that was subtracted, which was

o o  
o

o  
o o  
o  
o o  
o

x o  
o  
o o  
o o

x o  
o  
o o  
o o

x o  
o  
o o  
o

x o  
o o  
o o  
o

+ o o  
o o  
o o  
o

+ o  
o o  
o o  
o

+ o  
o o  
o o  
o

+ o  
o o  
o o  
o

= o  
o

Subtraction.

2892, and then the remayner 5854, thus.

Then do I adde fyrst  $y^e$  2 to 4, whiche maketh 6, so take I vp 5 of those counters, and in theyr stede I sette 1 in the space, as here appereth.

118 a. Then do I adde the 90 nexte aboue to the 50, and it maketh 140, therefore I take vp those 6 counters, and for them I sette 1 to the hundredes in  $y^e$  thyrd lyne, and 4 in  $y^e$  second lyne, thus.

Then do I come to the hundredes, of whiche I fynde 8 in the fyrst summe,

and 9 in  $y^e$  second, that maketh 1700, therefore I take vp those 9 counters, and in theyr stede I sette 1 in the .iiii. lyne, and 1 in the space nexte beneth, and 2 in the thyrd lyne, as you se here.

118 b. Then is there left in the fyrste summe but only 2000, whiche I shall take vp from thence, and set *in the same lyne in  $y^e$  second summe, to  $y^e$  one  $y^t$  is there all redy: and then wyll the hole summe appere (as you may wel se) to be 8746, which was  $y^e$  fyrst grosse summe, and therefore I do perceauie, that I hadde well subtracted before.*

And thus you may se how Subtraction maye be tryed by Addition.

S. I perceauie the same order here w<sup>t</sup> counters,  $y^t$  I lerned before in figures.

M. Then let me se howe can you trye Addition by Subtraction.

S. Fyrste I wyl set forth this example of Addition where I haue added 2189 to 4988, and the hole summe appereth to be 7177,

119 a. Nowe to trye whether that summe be well added or no, I wyll subtract one of

the fyrst two summes from the thyrd, and yf I haue well done  $y^e$  remayner wyll be lyke that other summe. As for example: I wyll subtracte the fyrst summe from the thyrd, whiche I set thus in theyr order.

Then do I subtract 2000 of the fyrst summe from  $y^e$  second summe, and then remayneth there 5000 thus.

Then in the thyrd lyne, I subtract  $y^e$  100 of the fyrst summe, from the second

119 b. summe, where is onely 100 also, and then in  $y^e$  thyrd lyne resteth nothyng. Then in the second lyne with his space ouer hym, I fynde 80, which I shuld subtract *from the other summe, then seyng there are but only 70 I must take it out of some hygher summe, which is here only 5000, therefore I take vp 5000, and seyng that it is to moch by 4920, I sette downe so many in the seconde rourne, whiche with the 70 beyng there all redy do make 4990, & then the summes doth stande thus.*

Yet remayneth there in the fyrst summe 9, to be bated from the second summe, where in that place of vnities dothe appere only 7, then I muste bate a hygher summe, that is to saye 10, but seyng that 10 is more then 9 (which I shulde abate) by 1, therefore shall I take vp one counter from the seconde lyne, and set downe the same in the fyrst or lowest lyne, as you se here.

120 a. And so haue I ended this worke, and the summe appereth to be  $y^e$  same, whiche was  $y^e$  seconde summe of my addition, and therefore I perceauie, I haue wel done.

M. To stande longer about this, it is but folye: excepte that this you maye also vnderstande, that many do begynne to subtracte with counters, not at the hyghest summe, as I haue taught you, but at the nethermoste, as they do vse to adde: and when the summe to be abatyd, in any lyne appeareth greater then the other, then do they borowe one of the next hygher rourne,

as for example: yf they shuld abate 1846 from 2378, they set  $y^e$  summes thus.

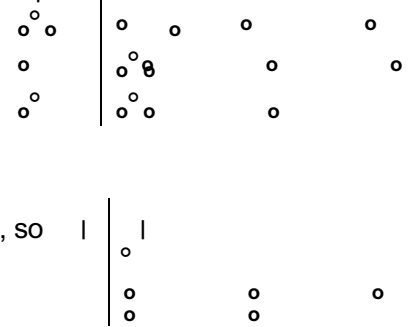
120 b. And fyrste they take 6 whiche is in the lower lyne, and his space from 8 in the same rourne, in  $y^e$  second summe, and yet there remayneth 2 counters in the lowest lyne. Then in the second lyne must 4 be subtracte from 7, and so remayneth there 3. Then 8 in the thyrd lyne and his space, from 3 of the second summe can not be, therefore do they bate it from a hygher rourne, that is,



from 1000, and bycause that 1000 is to moch by 200, therfore must I sette downe 200 in the thyrd lyne, after I haue taken vp 1000 from the fourth lyne: then is there yet 1000 in the fourth lyne of the fyrst summe, whiche yf I

withdrowe from the seconde summe, then doth all  $y^e$  figures stande in this order.

- 121 a. So that (as you se) it differeth not greatly whether you begynne subtraction at the hygher lynes, or at the lower. How be it, as some menne lyke the one waye beste, so some lyke the other: therfore you now knowyng bothe, may vse whiche you lyst.



### ication by Counters.

But nowe touchyng Multiplication: you shall set your numbers in two rouses, as you dyd in those two other kyndes, but so that the multiplier be set in the fyrste rouse. Then shall you

Multiplication.

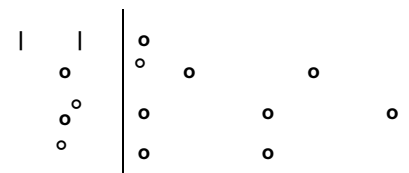
begyn with the hyghest numbers of  $y^e$  seconde rouse, and multiply them fyrst after this sort. Take that ouermost lyne in your fyrst workyng, as yf it were the lowest lyne, setting on it some mouable marke, as you lyst, and loke how many counters be in hym, take them vp, and for them set downe the hole multiplyer, so many tymes as you toke vp counters, reckenyng, I saye that lyne for the vnites: and when you haue so done with the hygheest number then come to the

- 121 b. nexte lyne beneth, and do euen so with it, and so with  $y^e$  next, tyll you haue done all. And yf there be any number in a space, then for it shall you take  $y^e$  multiplyer 5 tymes, and then must you reckon that lyne for the vnites whiche is nexte beneth that space: or els after a shorter way, you shall take only halfe the multiplyer, but then shall you take the lyne nexte aboue that space, for the lyne of vnites: but in suche workyng, yf chaunce your multiplyer be an odde number, so that you can not take the halfe of it iustly, then muste you take the greater halfe, and set downe that, as if that it were the iuste halfe, and farther you shall set one counter in the space beneth that line, which you reckon for the lyne of vnities, or els only remoue forward the same that is to be multiplied.

S. Yf you set forth an example hereto I thynke I shal perceauue you.

M. Take this example: I wold multiply 1542 by 365, therfore I set  $y^e$  numbers thus.

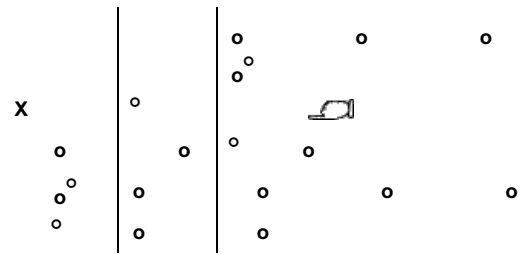
- 122 a. Then fyrste I begynne at the 1000 in  $y^e$  hyghest rouse, as yf it were  $y^e$  fyrst place, & I take it vp, settinge downe for it so often (that is ones) the multiplyer, which is 365, thus, as you se here: where for the one counter taken vp from the fourth lyne, I haue sette downe



other 6, whiche make  $y^e$  summe of the multiplyer, reckenyng that fourth lyne, as yf it were the fyrste: whiche thyng I haue marked by the

hand set at the begynnyng of  $y^e$  same, S. I perceauue this well: for in dede, this summe that you haue set downe is 365000, for so moche doth amount of 1000, multiplied by 365.

- 122 b. M. Well then to go forth, in the nexte space I fynde one counter which I remoue forward but take not vp, but do (as in such case I must) set downe the greater halfe of my multiplyer (seyng it is an odde number) which is 182, and here I do styll let that fourth



place stand, as yf it were  $y^e$  fyrst:

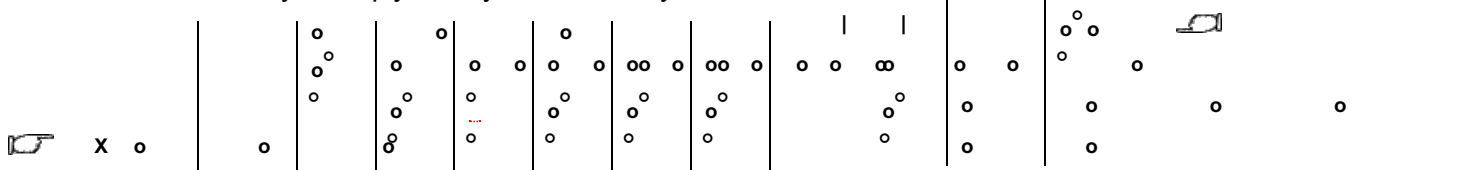
as in this fourme you se, where I haue set this

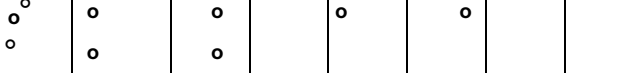
multiplication with  $y^e$  other: but for the ease of your vnderstandyng, I haue set a lytell lyne betwene them: now shulde they both in one summe stand thus.

- 123 a. Howe be it an other fourme to multiplye suche counters in space is this: Fyrst to remoue the fynger to the lyne

nexte benethe  $y^e$  space, and then to take vp  $y^e$  counter,

and to set downe  $y^e$  multiplyer .v. tymes, as here you se.

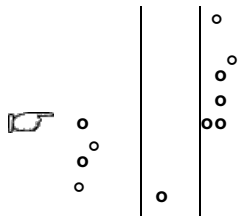




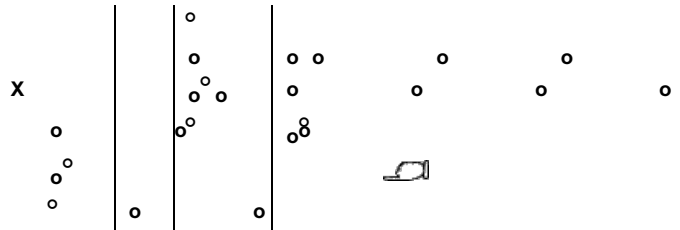
Which summes yf you do adde together into one summe, you shal perceauce that it wyll be  $y^e$

123 b. same  $y^t$  appeareth of  $y^e$  other working before, so that *bothe sortes are to one entent, but as the other is much shorter, so this is playner to reason, for suche as haue had small exercyse in this arte. Not withstandynge you maye adde them in your mynde before you sette them downe, as in this example, you myghte haue sayde 5 tymes 300 is 1500, and 5 tymes 60 is 300, also 5 tymes 5 is 25, whiche all put together do make 1825, which you maye at one tyme set downe yf you lyste. But nowe to go forth, I must remoue the hand to the nexte counters, whiche are in the second lyne, and there must I take vp those 4 counters, settinge downe for them my multiplier 4 tymes, whiche thyng other I maye do at 4 tymes seuerally, or elles I may gather that hole summe in my mynde fyrste, and then set it downe: as to saye 4 tymes 300 is 1200: 4 tymes 60*

124 a. *are 240: and 4 tymes 5 make 20:  $y^t$  is in all 1460,  $y^t$  shall I set downe also: as here you se.* whiche yf I ioyn in one summe with the formar numbers, it wyll appeare thus.



Then to ende this multiplycation, I remoue the fynger to the lowest lyne, where are onely 2, them do I take vp, and in theyr stede do I set dowhe twyse 365, that is 730, for which I set *one in the space above*

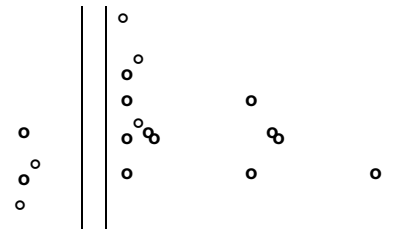


124 b. *the thyrd lyne for 500, and 2 more in the thyrd lyne with that one that is there all redye, and the reste in theyr order, and so haue I ended the*

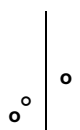
*hole summe thus.*

Wherby you se, that 1542 (which is the number of yeares syth Ch[r]ystes incarnation) beyng multiplyed by 365 (which is the number of dayes in one

yeare) dothe amounte vnto 562830, which declareth  $y^e$  number of daies sith Chrystes incarnation vnto the ende of 1542<sup>1</sup> yeares. (besyde 385 dayes and 12 houres for lepe yeares).

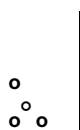


125 a. S. Now wyll I proue by an other example, as this: 40 labourers (after 6 d.  $y^e$  day for eche man) haue wrought 28 dayes, I wold know what theyr wages doth amount vnto: In this case muste I worke doublely: fyrst I must multiplye the number of the labourers by  $y^e$  wages of a man for one day, so wyll  $y^e$  charge of one daye amount: then secondarely shall I multiply that charge of one daye, by the hole number of dayes, *and* so wyll the hole summe appeare: fyrst therefore I shall set the summes thus.

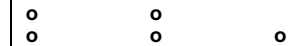


Where in the fyrste space is the multiplyer ( $y^t$  is one dayes wages for one man) *and* in the seconde space is set the number of the worke men to be multiplyed: then saye I, 6 tymes 4 (rekenynge that second lyne as the lyne of vnites) maketh 24, for whiche summe I shulde set 2 counters in the thyrd lyne, and 4 in the seconde,

125 b. *therefore do I set 2 in the thyrd lyne, and let the 4 stand styll in the seconde lyne, thus.\** So *apwereth* the hole dayes wages to be 240d'. that is 20 s. Then do I multiply agayn the same summe by the number of dayes and fyrste I sette the numbers, thus.



Then bycause there are counters in dyuers lynes, I shall begynne with the hyghest, and take them vp, settinge for them the multiplyer



so many tymes, as I toke vp counters,  $y^t$  is twyse, then wyll  $y^e$  summe stande thus.

126 a. Then come I to  $y^e$  seconde lyne, and take vp those 4 counters, settinge for them the multiplyer foure tymes, so wyll the hole summe appeare thus.\*

So is the hole wages of 40 workemen, for 28 dayes (after 6d'. eche daye for a man) 6720d'. that is 560 s. or 28 l'i.



n on the Counting Board.

M. Now if you wold proue Multiplycation, the surest way is by Dyuisioun: therfore wyll I ouer passe

Diuisioun.

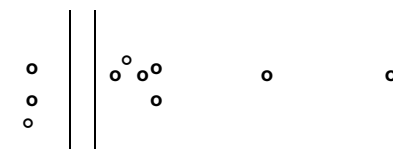
it tyll I haue taught you  $y^e$  arte of Diuisioun, whiche you shall worke thus. Fyrste sette downe the

Diuisor for feare of forgettyng, and then set the number that shalbe deuided, at  $y^e$  ryghte syde,

so farre from the diuisor, that the quotient may be set betwene them: as for example: Yf 225 shepe cost 45 l*i*. what dyd euery shepe cost? To knowe this, I shulde diuide the hole summe, that is 45 l*i*. by 225, but that can not be, therefore must I fyrste reduce that 45 l*i*. into a lesser denomination, as into shylynges: then I multiply 45 by 20, and it is 900, that summe shall I diuide

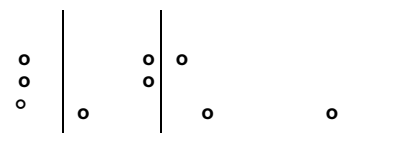
126 b.

by the number of *shepe, whiche is 225, these two numbers therefore I sette thus.* Then begynne I at the hyghest lyne of the diuident, and seke how often I may haue the diuisor therin, and that maye I do 4 tymes, then say I, 4 tymes 2 are 8, whyche yf I take from 9, there resteth but 1, thus

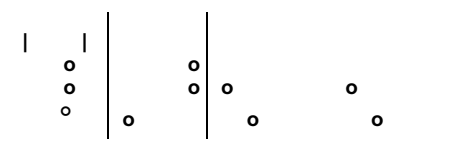


127 a.

And bycause I founde the diuisor 4 tymes in the diuident, I haue set (as you se) 4 in the myddle rounge, which is the place of the quotient: but now must I take the reste of the diuisor as often out of the remayner: therefore come I to the seconde lyne of the diuisor, sayeng 2 foure tymes make 8, take 8 from 10, and there resteth 2, thus.



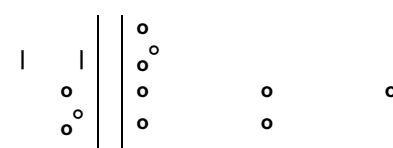
Then come I to the lowest number, which is 5, and multiply it 4 tymes, so is it 20, that take I from 20, and there remayneth nothyng, so that I se my quotient to be 4, whiche are in valewe shylynges, for so was the diuident: and therby I knowe, that yf 225 shepe dyd coste 45 l*i*. euery shepe coste 4 s.



127 b.

S. This can I do, as you shall perceau by this example: Yf 160 sowldyars do spende euery moneth 68 l*i*. what spendeth eche man? Fyrst *bycause I can not diuide the 68 by 160, therefore I wyll turne the poundes into pennes by multiplicacion, so shall there be 16320 d*'*. Nowe muste I diuide this summe by the number of sowldyars, therefore I set them in order, thus.*

Then begyn I at the hyghest place of the diuident, sekyng my diuisor there, whiche I fynde ones, Therefore set I 1 in the nether lyne.



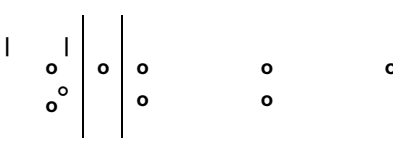
M. Not in the nether line of the hole summe, but in the nether lyne of that worke, whiche is the thyrd lyne.

S. So standeth it with reason.

128 a.

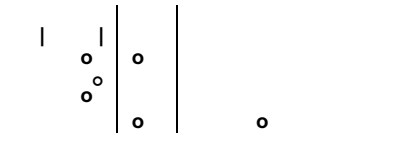
M. Then thus do they stande.

Then seke I agayne in the reste, how often I may fynde my diuisor, and I se that in the 300 I myghte fynde 100 thre tymes, but then the 60 wyll not be so often founde in 20, therefore I take 2 for my quotient: then take I 100 twyse from 300, and there resteth 100, out of whiche with the 20 (that maketh 120) I may take 60 also twyse, and then standeth the numbers thus,



128 b.

*where I haue sette the quotient 2 in the lowest lyne: So is euery sowldyars portion 102 d*'*. that is 8 s. 6 d*'*.*

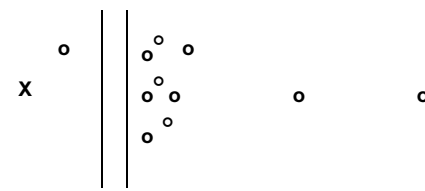


M. But yet bycause you shall perceau iustly the reason of Diuision, it shall be good that you do set your diuisor styll agaynst those nombres from whiche you

do take it: as by this example I wyll declare. Yf y<sup>e</sup> purchase of 200 acres of ground dyd coste 290 l*i*. what dyd one acre coste? Fyrst wyl I turne the poundes into pennes, so wyll there be 69600 d*'*. Then in settinge downe these numbers I shall do thus.

129 a.

Fyrst set the diuident on the ryghte hande as it oughte, and then the diuisor on the lefte hande agaynst those numbers, from which I entende to take hym fyrst as here you se, wher I haue set the diuisor two lynes hygher then is theyr owne place.

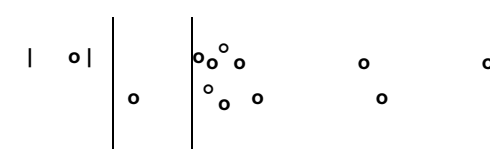


S. This is lyke the order of diuision by the penne.

M. Truth you say, and nowe must I set y<sup>e</sup> quotient of this worke in the thyrd lyne, for that is the lyne of vnities in respect to the diuisor in this worke. Then I seke howe often the diuisor maye be founde in the diuident, and that I fynde 3 tymes, then set I 3 in the thyrd lyne for the quotient, and take awaye that 60000 from the diuident, and farther I do set the diuisor one line lower, as yow se here.

129 b.

*And then seke I how often the diuisor wyll be taken from the number agaynste it, whiche wyll be 4 tymes and 1 remaynyng.*



S. But what yf it chaunce that when the diuisor is so remoued, it can not be ones taken out of the diuident agaynste it?

M. Then must the diuisor be set in an other line lower.

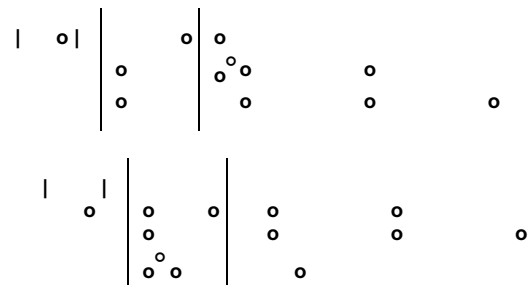
S. So was it in diuision by the penne, and therefore was there a cypher set in the quotient: but howe shall that be noted here?

M. Here nedeth no token, for the lynes do represente the places: onely loke that you set your quotient in that place which standeth for vnities in respect of the diuisor: but now to returne to the example, I fynde the diuisor 4 tymes in the diuident, and 1 remaynyng, for 4 tymes 2 make

8, which I take from 9, and there resteth 1, as this figure sheweth:  
and in the myddle space for the quotient I set 4 in the seconde lyne,

130 a.

whiche is in this worke the place of vnities. Then remoue I y<sup>e</sup> diuisor to the next lower line, and seke how often I may haue it in the dyuidend, which I may do here 8 tymes iust, and nothyng remayne, as in this fourme, where you may se that the hole quotient is 348 d', that is 29 s. wherby I knowe that so moche coste the purchase of one aker.



S. Now resteth the profes of Multiplication, and also of Diuision.

130 b.

*M. Ther best profes are eche one by the other, for Multiplication is proued by Diuision, and Diuision by Multiplication, as in the worke by the penne you learned.*

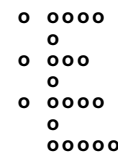
S. Yf that be all, you shall not nede to repete agayne that, y<sup>t</sup> was sufficyently taughte all redye: and excepte you wyll teache me any other feate, here maye you make an ende of this arte I suppose.

*M. So wyll I do as touchynge hole nomber, and as for broken nomber, I wyll not trouble your wytte with it, tyll you haue practised this so well, y<sup>t</sup> you be full perfecte, so that you nede not to*

*doubte in any poynte that I haue taught you, and thenne maye I boldly enstruchte you in y<sup>e</sup> arte of fractions or broken nomber, wherin I wyll also shoue you the reasons of all that you haue nowe learned. But yet before I make an ende, I wyll shoue you the order of comen castyng, wher in are bothe pennes, shylynges, and poundes, procedynge by no grounded reason, but onely by a receaued fourme, and that dyuersly of dyuers men: for marchauntes vse one fourme, and auditors an other: Merchants' Casting Counters.*

131 a.

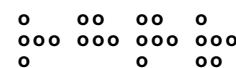
But fyrste for marchauntes fourme marke this example here,  
in which I haue expressed this summe 198 l'i. 2 19 s. 11 d'. So that you maye se that the lowest lyne serueth for pennes, the next aboue for shylynges, the thyrde for poundes, and the fourth for scores of poundes. And farther you maye se, that the space betwene pennes and shylynges may receaue but one counter (as all other spaces lyke wayes do) and that one standeth in that place for 6 d'. Lyke wayes betwene the shylynges and the poundes, one counter standeth for 10 s. And betwene the poundes and 20 l'i. one counter standeth for 10 poundes. But besyde those you maye see at the left syde of shylynges, that one counter standeth alone, and betokeneth 5 s. So agaynste the poundes, that one counter standeth for 5 l'i. And agaynst the 20 poundes, the one counter standeth for 5 score poundes, that is 100 l'i. so that euery syde counter is 5 tymes so moch as one of them agaynst whiche he standeth. Now for the accompt of auditors take this example.



Merchants' casting.

131 b.

where I haue expressed y<sup>e</sup> same summe 198 l'i. 19 s. 11 d'. But here you se the pennes stande toward y<sup>e</sup> ryght hande, and the other encreasyng orderly toward the lefte hande. Agayne you maye se, that auditours wyll make 2 lynes (yea and more) for pennes, shylynges, and all other valewes, yf theyr summes extende therto. Also you se, that they set one counter at the ryght ende of eche rowe, whiche so set there standeth for 5 of that rouse: and on the lefte corner of the rowe it standeth for 10, of y<sup>e</sup> same row. But now yf you wold adde other subtracte after any of both those sortes, yf you marke y<sup>e</sup> order of y<sup>t</sup> other feate which I taught you, you may easely do the same here without moch teachynge: for in Addition you must fyrst set downe one summe and to the same set the other orderly, and lyke maner yf you haue many: but in Subtraction you must sette downe fyrst the greatest summe, and from it must you abate that other euery denomination from his dewe place.



Auditors' casting.

132 a.

S. I do not doubte but with a lytell practise I shall attayne these bothe: but how shall I multiply and diuide after these fourmes?

*M. You can not duely do none of both by these sortes, therfore in suche case, you must resort to your other artes.*

S. Syr, yet I se not by these sortes how to expresse hundreddes, yf they excede one hundred, nother yet thousandes.

132 b.

*M. They that vse such accomptes that it excede 200 in one summe, they sette no 5 at the lefte hande of the scores of poundes, but they set all the hundredes in an other farther rowe and 500 at the lefte hand therof, and the thousandes they set in a farther rowe yet, and at the lefte syde therof they sette the 5000, and in the space ouer they sette the 10000, and in a hygher rowe 20000, whiche all I haue expressed in this example,*



which is 97869 l'i. 12 s. 9 d' ob. q. for I had not told you before where, nother how you shuld set downe farthynges, which (as you se here) must be set in a voyde space sydelynge beneth the pennies: for q one counter: for ob. 2 counters: for ob. q. 3 counters: *and* more there can not be, for 4 farthynges do make 1 d'. which must be set in his dewe place.

oooo  
o  
oo  
o ooo  
ooo  
o oooo  
o  
oo  
o  
ooo  
oo  
o

133 a.

s' Casting Counters.

And yf you desyre y<sup>e</sup> same summe after audytors maner, lo here it is.

ooo oo o ooo o oo o ooo oo

But in this thyng, you shall take this for sufficyent, and the reste you shall obserue as you maye se by the working of eche sorte: for the dyuers wittes of men haue inuented dyuers and sundry wayes almost vnnumerable. But one feate I shall teache you, whiche not only for the straungenes and secretnes is moche pleasaunt, but also for the good commoditie of it ryghte worthy to be well marked. This feate hath ben vsed aboue 2000 yeares at the leaste, and yet was it neuer comenly knowen, especyally in Englysshe it was neuer taughte yet. This is the arte of nombrynge on the hand, with diuers gestures of the fyngers, expressyng any summe conceaued in the mynde. *And fyrst to begynne, yf you wyll expresse any summe vnder 100, you shall expresse it with your lefte hande: and from 100 vnto 10000, you shall expresse it with your ryght hande, as here orderly by this table folowyng you may perceau.*

133 b.

¶ Here foloweth the table  
of the arte of the  
hande

The arte of nombrynge by the hande.

134

1	10	100	1000
2	20	200	2000
3	30	300	3000
4	40	400	4000
5	50	500	5000
6	60	600	6000
7	70	700	7000
8	80	800	8000
9	90	900	9000

134 b.

In which as you may se 1 is expressed by y<sup>e</sup> lyttle fynger of y<sup>e</sup> lefte hande closely and harde



	croked.	
	<sup>3</sup> 2 is declared by lyke bowynge of the weddynge fynger (whiche is the nexte to the lyttell fynger) together with the lytell fynger.	2
	3 is signified by the myddle fynger bowed in lyke maner, with those other two.	3
	4 is declared by the bowyng of the myddle fynger and the rynge fynger, or weddynge fynger, with the other all stretched forth.	4
	5 is represented by the myddle fynger onely bowed.	5
	And 6 by the weddynge fynger only crooked: and this you may marke in these a certayne order. But now 7, 8, and 9, are expressed <i>with</i> the bowynge of the same fyngers as are 1, 2, and 3, but after an other fourme.	6
	For 7 is declared by the bowynge of the lytell fynger, as is 1, saue that for 1 the fynger is clasped in, harde <i>and 135 a. rounde, but for to expresse 7, you shall bowe the myddle ioynte of the lytell fynger only, and holde the other ioyntes streyght.</i>	7
	S. Yf you wyll geue me leue to expresse it after my rude maner, thus I vnderstand your meanyng: that 1 is expressed by crookyng in the lyttell fynger lyke the head of a bysshoppes <u>bagle</u> : and 7 is declared by the same fynger bowed lyke a gybbet.	
	M. So I perceauue, you vnderstande it.	
	Then to expresse 8, you shall bowe after the same maner both the lyttell fynger and the rynge fynger.	8
	And yf you bowe lyke wayes with them the myddle fynger, then doth it betoken 9.	9
	Now to expresse 10, you shall bowe your fore fynger rounde, and set the ende of it on the hyghest ioynte of the thombe.	10
135 b.	And for to expresse 20, you must set your fyngers streyght, and the ende of your thombe to the partition of the fore moste and myddle fynger.	20
	30 is represented by the ioynyng together of y <sup>e</sup> headdes of the foremost fynger and the thombe.	30
	40 is declared by settinge of the thombe crossewayes on the foremost fynger.	40
	50 is signified by ryght stretchyng forth of the fyngers ioyntly, and applyenge of the thombes ende to the partition of the myddle fynger <i>and</i> the rynge fynger, or weddynge fynger.	50
	60 is formed by bendyng of the thombe croked and crossyng it with the fore fynger.	60
	70 is expressed by the bowynge of the foremost fynger, and settinge the ende of the thombe between the 2 foremost or hyghest ioyntes of it.	70
	80 is expressed by settinge of the foremost fynger crossewayes on the thombe, so that 80 dyffereth thus from 40, that for 80 the forefynger is set crosse on the thombe, and for 40 the thombe is set crosse ouer y <sup>e</sup> forefinger.	80
136 a.	<i>90 is signified, by bendyng the fore fynger, and settinge the ende of it in the innermost ioynte of y<sup>e</sup> thombe, that is euen at the foote of it. And thus are all the numbers ended vnder 100.</i>	90
	S. In dede these be all the numbers from 1 to 10, <i>and</i> then all the tenthes within 100, but this <u>teacyed</u> me not how to expresse 11, 12, 13, <i>etc.</i> 21, 22, 23, <i>etc.</i> and such lyke.	11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 23
	M. You can lytell vnderstande, yf you can not do that without teachyng: what is 11? is it not 10 and 1? then expresse 10 as you were taught, and 1 also, and that is 11: and for 12 expresse 10 and 2: for 23 set 20 and 3: and so for 68 you muste make 60 and there to 8: and so of all other sortes.	
	But now yf you wolde represente 100 other any number aboue it, you muste do that with the ryghte hande, after this maner.	100
	You must expresse 100 in the ryght hand, with the lytell fynger so bowed as you dyd expresse 1 in the left hand.	
136 b.	And as you expressed 2 in the left hande, the same fasshyon in the ryght hande doth declare 200.	200
	The fourme of 3 in the ryght hand standeth for 300.	300
	The fourme of 4, for 400.	400
	Lykewayes the fourme of 5, for 500.	500

The fourme of 6, for 600. And to be shorte: loke how you did expresse single vnities and tenthes in the lefte hande, so must you expresse vnities *and* tenthes of hundredes, in the ryghte hande.

S. I vnderstande you thus: that yf I wold represent 900, I must so fourme the fyngers of my ryghte hande, as I shuld do in my left hand to expresse 9, And as in my lefte hand I expressed 10, so in my ryght hande must I expresse 1000.

And so the fourme of euery tenthe in the lefte hande serueth to expresse lyke *number* of thousandes, so y<sup>e</sup> fourme of 40 standeth for 4000.

The fourme of 80 for 8000.

600  
900  
1000  
4000  
8000  
9000

137 a.

\*And the fourme of 90 (whiche is the greatest) for 9000, and aboue that I can not expresse any number. *M.*

No not with one fynger: how be it, *with* dyuers fyngers you maye expresse 9999, and all at one tyme, and that lacketh but 1 of 10000. So that vnder 10000 you may by your fyngers expresse any summe. And this shal suffice for Numeration on the fyngers.

And as for Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Diuision (which yet were neuer taught by any man as farre as I do knowe) I wyll enstruct you after the treatyse of fractions.

And now for this tyme fare well, and loke that you cease not to practyse that you haue learned. S. Syr, with moste hartly mynde I thanke you, bothe for your good learnyng, *and* also your good counsel, which (god wyll) I truste to folow.

Finis.

- [1.](#) 1342 in original.
- [2.](#) 168 in original.
- [3.](#) Bracket (I) denotes new paragraph in original.

For this e-text, the brackets have been omitted in favor of restoring the paragraph breaks. Numbers 200 and up were printed as separate paragraphs and are unchanged. Sidenote 4 was missing and has been supplied by the transcriber; the pairs 5, 6 and 9, 10 (originally on one line) have been separated.

## APPENDIX I.

### A Treatise on the Numeration of Algorism.

[From a MS. of the 14th Century.]

To alle suche even nombrys the most have cifrys as to ten. twenty. thirtty. an hundred. an

thousand and suche other. but ye schal vnderstonde that a cifre tokeneth nothinge but he maketh other the more significatyf that comith after hym. Also ye schal vnderstonde that in nombrys composyt and in alle other nombrys that ben of diverse figurys ye schal begynne in the ritht syde and to rekene backwarde and so he schal be wryte as thus—1000. the sifre in the ritht side was first wryte and yit he tokeneth nothinge to the secunde no the thridde but thei maken that figure of 1 the more significatyf that comith after hem by as moche as he born oute of his first place where he schuld yf he stode ther tokene but one. And there he stondith now in the ferye place he tokeneth a thousand as by this rewle. In the first place he tokeneth but hymself. In the secunde place he tokeneth ten times hymself. In the thridde place he tokeneth an hundred tymes hymself. In the ferye he tokeneth a thousand tymes hymself. In the fyfye place he tokeneth ten thousand tymes hymself. In the sexte place he tokeneth an hundred thousand tymes hymself. In the seveth place he tokeneth ten hundred thousand tymes hymself, &c. And ye schal vnderstond that this worde nombre is partyd into thre partyes. Somme is callyd nombre of digitys for alle ben digitys that ben withine ten as ix, viii, vii, vi, v, iv, iii, ii, i. Articles ben alle thei that mow be devyded into nombrys of ten as xx, xxx, xl, and suche other. Composittys be alle nombrys that ben compond of a digyt and of an articule as fourtene fyftene thrittene and suche other. Fourtene is compond of four that is a digyt and of ten that is an articule. Fyftene is compond of fyve that is a digyt and of ten that is an articule and so of others . . . . . But as to this rewle. In the firste place he tokeneth but himself that is to say he tokeneth but that and no more. If that he stonde in the secunde place he tokeneth ten tymes himself as this figure 2 here 21. this is oon and twenty. This figure 2 stondith in the secunde place and therfor he tokeneth ten tymes himself and ten tymes 2 is twenty and so forye of every figure and he stonde after another toward the lest syde he schal tokene ten tymes as moche more as he schuld token and he stode in that place ther that the figure afore him stondeth: lo an example as thus 9634. This figure of foure that hath this schape 4 tokeneth but himself for he stondeth in the first place. The figure of thre that hath this schape 3 tokeneth ten tyme himself for he stondeth in the secunde place and that is thritti. The figure of sexe that hath this schape 6 tokeneth ten tyme more than he schuld and he stode in the place yer the figure of thre stondeth for ther he schuld tokene but sixty. And now he tokeneth ten tymes that is sexe hundrid. The figure of nyne that hath this schape 9 tokeneth ten tymes more than he schulde and he stode in the place ther the figure of 6 stondeth inne for thanne he schuld tokene but nyne hundryd. And in the place that he stondeth inne now he tokeneth nine thousand. Alle the hole nombre of these foure figurys. Nine thousand sexe hundrid and foure and thritti.

## APPENDIX II.

### Carmen de Algorismo.

[From a B.M. MS., 8 C. iv., with additions from 12 E. 1 & Eg. 2622.]

Hec algorismus ars presens dicitur<sup>1</sup>; in qua Talibus Indorum<sup>2</sup> fruimur his quinque figuris.

0. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1.

Prima significat unum: duo vero secunda:

Tercia significat tria: sic procede sinistre

Donec ad extremam venies, qua cifra vocatur;

<sup>3</sup>[Que nil significat; dat significare sequenti.]

Quelibet illarum si primo limite ponas,

Simpliciter se significat: si vero secundo,

Se decies: sursum procedas multiplicando.<sup>4</sup>

[Namque figura sequens quevis signat decies plus,

Ipsa locata loco quam significet pereunte:

Nam precedentes plus ultima significabit.]

<sup>5</sup>Post predicta scias quod tres breuiter numerorum Distincte species sunt; nam quidam digiti sunt;

Articuli quidam; quidam quoque compositi sunt.

[Sunt digiti numeri qui citra denarium sunt;

Articuli decupli degitorum; compositi sunt

Illi qui constant ex articulis digitisque.]

Ergo, proposito numero tibi scribere, primo

Respicias quis sit numerus; quia si digitus sit,

<sup>5</sup>[Una figura satis sibi; sed si compositus sit,]

24	Primo scribe loco digitum post articulum fac Articulus si sit, cifram post articulum sit, [Articulum vero reliquenti in scribe figure.] Quolibet in numero, si par sit prima figura, Par erit et totum, quicquid sibi continetur;	
28	Impar si fuerit, totum sibi fiet et impar.	
32	Septem <sup>6</sup> sunt partes, non plures, istius artis; Addere, subtrahere, duplare, dimidiare; Sexta est diuidere, set quinta est multiplicare; Radicem extrahere pars septima dicitur esse. Subtrahis aut addis a dextris vel mediabis; A leua dupla, diuide, multiplicaque; Extrahe radicem semper sub parte sinistra.	
36	Addere si numero numerum vis, ordine tali Incipe; scribe duas primo series numerorum Prima sub prima recte ponendo figuram, Et sic de reliquis facias, si sint tibi plures.	Addition.
40	Inde duas adde primas hac condicione; Si digitus crescat ex addicione priorum, Primo scribe loco digitum, quicumque sit ille; Si sit compositus, in limite scribe sequenti	
44	Articulum, primo digitum; quia sic iubet ordo. Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram, Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris; Vel per se scribas si nulla figura sequatur.	
48	Si tibi cifra superueniens occurrerit, illam Deme suppositam; post illic scribe figuram: Postea procedas reliquas addendo figuras.	
52	A numero numerum si sit tibi demere cura, Scribe figurarum series, vt in addicione; Maiori numero numerum suppone minorem, Siue pari numero supponatur numerus par.	Subtraction.
56	Postea si possis a prima subtrahe primam, Scribens quod remanet, cifram si nil remanebit. Set si non possis a prima demere primam; Procedens, vnum de limite deme sequenti; Et demptum pro denario reputabis ab illo,	
60	Subtrahe totaliter numerum quem proposuisti. Quo facto, scribe supra quicquid remanebit, Facque novenarios de cifris, cum remanebis, Occurrant si forte cifre, dum demseris vnum;	
64	Postea procedas reliquas demendo figuras.	
68	<sup>7</sup> [Si subtracio sit bene facta probare valebis, Quas subtraxisti primas addendo figuras. Nam, subtractio si bene sit, primas retinebis, Et subtractio facta tibi probat additionem.]	Proof.
72	Si vis duplare numerum, sic incipe; solam Scribe figurarum seriem, quamcumque voles que Postea procedas primam duplando figuram; Inde quod excrescet, scribens, vbi iusserit ordo, Juxta precepta que dantur in addicione.	Duplation.
76	Nam si sit digitus, in primo limite scribe; Articulus si sit, in primo limite cifram, Articulum vero reliquis inscribe figuris; Vel per se scribas, si nulla figura sequatur: Compositus si sit, in limite scribe sequenti	
80	Articulum primo, digitum; quia sic iubet ordo: Et sic de reliquis facias, si sint tibi plures.	
84	<sup>8</sup> [Si super extremam nota sit, monadem dat eidem, Quod tibi contingit, si primo dimidiabis.] Incipe sic, si vis aliquem numerum mediare: Scribe figurarum seriem solam, velud ante; Postea procedens medias, et prima figura Si par aut impar videas; quia si fuerit par, Dimidiabis eam, scribens quicquid remanebit;	Mediation.
88	Impar si fuerit, vnum demas, mediare,	

	Nonne presumas, sed quod superest mediabis; Inde super tractum, fac demptum quod notat unum; Si monos, dele; sit ibi cifra post nota supra.	
92	Postea procedas hac condicione secunda: <sup>9</sup> Impar <sup>10</sup> si fuerit hic vnum deme priori, Inscribens quinque, nam denos significabit Monos prædictam: si vero secunda dat vnam,	
96	Illa deleta, scribatur cifra; priori Tradendo quinque pro denario mediato; Nec cifra scribatur, nisi inde figura sequatur: Postea procedas reliquas mediando figuras,	
100	Quin supra docui, si sint tibi mille figure. <sup>11</sup> [Si mediatio sit bene facta probare valebis, Duplando numerum quem primo dimidiasti.]	
104	Si tu per numerum numerum vis multiplicare, Scribe duas, quascunque volis, series numerorum; Ordo tamen seruetur vt vltima multiplicandi Ponatur super anteriorem multiplicantis;	Multiplication.
108	<sup>12</sup> [A leua relique sint scripte multiplicantes.] In digitum cures digitum si ducere, major Per quantes distat a denis respice, debes Namque suo decuplo tociens delere minorem; Sicque tibi numerus veniens exinde patebit.	
112	Postea procedas postremam multiplicando, Iuste multiplicans per cunctas inferiores, Condicione tamen tali; quod multiplicantis Scribas in capite, quicquid processerit inde;	
116	Set postquam fuerit hec multiplicata, figure Anterorentur seriei multiplicantis; Et sic multiplica, velut istam multiplicasti, Qui sequitur numerum scriptum quicunque figuris.	
120	Set cum multiplicas, primo sic est operandum, Si dabit articulum tibi multiplicacio solum; Proposita cifra, summam transferre memento. Sin autem digitus excrescerit articulusque,	
124	Articulus supraposito digito salit ultra; Si digitus tamen, ponas illum super ipsam, Subdita multiplicans hanc que super incidit illi Delet eam penitus, scribens quod provenit inde;	
128	Sed si multiplices illam posite super ipsam, Adiungens numerum quem prebet ductus earum; Si suprainpositam cifra debet multiplicare, Prorsus eam delet, scribi que loco cifra debet,	
132	<sup>12</sup> [Si cifra multiplicat aliam positam super ipsam, Sitque locus supra vacuus super hanc cifra fiet;] Si supra fuerit cifra semper pretereunda est; Si dubites, an sit bene multiplicando secunda,	
136	Diuide totalem numerum per multiplicantem, Et reddet numerus emergens inde priorem. <sup>13</sup> [Per numerum si vis numerum quoque multiplicare Tantum per normas subtiles absque figuris	Mental Multiplication.
140	Has normas poteris per versus scire sequentes. Si tu per digitum digitum quilibet multiplicabis Regula precedens dat qualiter est operandum Articulum si per reliquum vis multiplicare	
144	In proprium digitum debebit uterque resolvi Articulus digitos post per se multiplicantes Ex digitis quociens teneret multiplicatum Articuli faciunt tot centum multiplicati.	
148	Articulum digito si multiplicamus oportet Articulum digitum sumi quo multiplicare Debemus reliquum quod multiplicaris ab illis Per reliquo decuplum sic omne latere nequibit	
152	In numerum mixtum digitum si ducere cures Articulus mixti sumatur deinde resolvas In digitum post hec fac ita de digitis nec Articulusque docet excrescens in detinendo	



156	In digitum mixti post ducas multiplicantem De digitis ut norma docet sit juncta secundo Multiplica summam et postea summa patebit Junctus in articulum purum articulumque	
160	<sup>14</sup> [Articulum purum comittes articulum que] Mixti pro digitis post fiat et articulus vt Norma jubet retinendo quod egreditur ab illis Articuli digitum post in digitum mixti duc	
164	Regula de digitis ut percipit articulusque Ex quibus excrescens summe tu junge priori Sic manifesta cito fiet tibi summa petita. Compositum numerum mixto sic multiplicabis	
168	Vndecies tredecem sic est ex hiis operandum In reliquum primum demum duc post in eundem Unum post deinde duc in tertia deinde per unum Multiplices tertia demum tunc omnia multiplicata	
172	In summa duces quam que fuerit te dices Hic ut hic mixtus intentus est operandum Multiplicandorum de normis sufficiunt hec.] Si vis dividere numerum, sic incipe primo;	Division.
176	Scribe duas, quascunque voles, series numerorum; Majori numero numerum suppone minorem, <sup>15</sup> [Nam docet ut major teneat bis terve minorem;] Et sub supprima supprimam pone figuram,	
180	Sic reliquis reliquas a dextra parte locabis; Postea de prima primam sub parte sinistra Subtrahe, si possis, quociens potes adminus istud, Scribens quod remanet sub tali conditione;	
184	Ut totiens demas demendas a remanente, Que serie recte ponentur in anteriori, Unica si, tantum sit ibi decet operari; Set si non possis a prima demere primam,	
188	Procedas, et eam numero suppone sequenti; Hanc uno retrahendo gradu quo comites retrahantur, Et, quotiens poteris, ab eadem deme priorem, Ut totiens demas demendas a remanenti,	
192	Nec plus quam novies quicquam tibi demere debes, Nascitur hinc numerus quociens supraque sequentem Hunc primo scribas, retrahas exinde figuras, Dum fuerit major supra positus inferiori,	
196	Et rursum fiat divisio more priori; Et numerum quotiens supra scribas pereunti, Si fiat saliens retrahendo, cifra locetur, Et pereat numero quotiens, proponas eidem	
200	Cifram, ne numerum pereat vis, dum locus illic Restat, et expletis divisio non valet ultra: Dum fuerit numerus numerorum inferiore seorsum Illum servabis; hinc multiplicando probabis,	
204	Si bene fecisti, divisor multiplicetur Per numerum quotiens; cum multiplicaveris, adde Totali summæ, quod servatum fuit ante, Reddeturque tibi numerus quem proposuisti;	Proof.
208	Et si nil remanet, hunc multiplicando reddet, Cum ducis numerum per se, qui provenit inde Sit tibi quadratus, ductus radix erit hujus, Nec numeros omnes quadratos dicere debes,	Square Numbers.
212	Est autem omnis numerus radix alicujus. Quando voles numeri radicem querere, scribi Debet; inde notes si sit locus ulterius impar, Estque figura loco talis scribenda sub illo,	
216	Que, per se dicta, numerum tibi destruat illum, Vel quantum poterit ex inde delebis eandem; Vel retrahendo duplex retrahens duplando sub ista Que primo sequitur, duplicatur per duplacionem,	
220	Post per se minuens pro posse quod est minuendum. <sup>16</sup> Post his propones digitum, qui, more priori Per precedentes, post per se multiplicatus,	

224 Destruat in quantum poterit numerum remanentem,  
Et sic procedens retrahens duplando figuram,  
Preponendo novam donec totum peragatur,  
Subdupla propriis servare docetque duplatis;  
Si det compositum numerum duplicatio, debet  
228 Inscribi digitus a parte dextra parte propinqua,  
Articulusque loco quo non duplicata resessit;  
Si dabit articulum, sit cifra loco pereunte  
Articulusque locum tenet unum, de duplicata resessit;  
232 Si donet digitum, sub prima pone sequente,  
Si supraposita fuerit duplicata figura  
Major proponi debet tantummodo cifra,  
Has retrahens solito propones more figuram,  
236 Usque sub extrema ita fac retrahendo figuras,  
Si totum deles numerum quem proposuisti,  
Quadratus fuerit, de dupla quod duplicasti,  
Sicque tibi radix illius certa patebit,  
240 Si de duplatis fit juncta supprima figura;  
Radice per se multiplices habeasque  
Primo propositum, bene te fecisse probasti;  
Non est quadratus, si quis restat, sed habentur  
244 Radix quadrati qui stat major sub eadem;  
Vel quicquid remanet tabula servare memento;  
Hoc casu radix per se quoque multiplicetur,  
Vel sic quadratus sub primo major habetur,  
248 Hinc addas remanens, et prius debes haberi;  
Si locus extremus fuerit par, scribe figuram  
Sub pereunte loco per quam debes operari,  
Que quantum poterit supprimas destruat ambas,  
252 Vel penitus legem teneas operando priorem,  
Si suppositum digitus suo fine repertus,  
Omnino delet illic scribi cifra debet,  
A leva si qua sit ei sociata figura;  
256 Si cifre remanent in fine pares decet harum  
Radices, numero mediam proponere partem,  
Tali quesita radix patet arte reperta.  
Per numerum recte si nosti multiplicare  
260 Ejus quadratum, numerus qui pervenit inde  
Dicetur cubicus; primus radix erit ejus;  
Nec numeros omnes cubicatos dicere debes,  
Est autem omnis numerus radix alicujus;  
264 Si curas cubici radicem quærere, primo  
Inscriptum numerum distinguere per loca debes;  
Que tibi mille notant a mille notante suprema  
Initiam, summa operandi parte sinistra,  
268 Illic sub scribas digitum, qui multiplicatus  
In semet cubice suprapositum sibi perdat,  
Et si quid fuerit adjunctum parte sinistra  
Si non omnino, quantum poteris minuendo,  
272 Hinc triplans retrahe saltum, faciendo sub illa  
Que manet a digito deleta terna, figuram  
Illi propones quo sub triplo asocietur,  
Ut cum subtriplo per eam tripla multiplicatur;  
276 Hinc per eam solam productum multiplicabis,  
Postea totalem numerum, qui provenit inde  
A suprapositis respectu tolle triplate  
Addita supprimo cubice tunc multiplicetur,  
280 Respectu cujus, numerus qui progredietur  
Ex cubito ductu, supra omnes adimetur;  
Tunc ipsam delens triples saltum faciendo,  
Semper sub ternas, retrahens alias triplicatas  
284 Ex hinc triplatis aliam propone figuram,  
Que per triplatas ducatur more priori;  
Primo sub triplis sibi junctis, postea per se,  
In numerum ducta, productum de triplicatis:  
288 Utque prius dixi numerus qui provenit inde

Cube Root.

A suprapositis has respiciendo trahatur,  
 Huic cubice ductum sub primo multiplicabis,  
 Respectumque sui, removebis de remanenti,  
 292 Et sic procedas retrahendo triplando figuram.  
 Et proponendo nonam, donec totum peragatur,  
 Subtripla sub propriis servare decet triplicatis;  
 Si nil in fine remanet, numerus datus ante  
 296 Est cubicus; cubicam radicem sub tripla prebent,  
 Cum digito juncto quem supprimo posuisti,  
 Hec cubice ducta, numerum reddant tibi primum.  
 Si quid erit remanens non est cubicus, sed habetur  
 300 Major sub primo qui stat radix cubicam,  
 Servari debet quicquid radice remansit,  
 Extracto numero, decet hec addi cubicato.  
 Quo facto, numerus reddi debet tibi primus.  
 304 Nam debes per se radicem multiplicare  
 Ex hinc in numerum duces, qui provenit inde  
 Sub primo cubicus major sic invenietur;  
 Illi jungatur remanens, et primus habetur,  
 308 Si per triplatum numerum nequeas operari;  
 Cifram propones, nil vero per hanc operare  
 Set retrahens illam cum saltu deinde triplata,  
 Propones illi digitum sub lege priori,  
 312 Cumque cifram retrahas saliendo, non triplicabis,  
 Namque nihil cifre triplacio dicitur esse;  
 At tu cum cifram protraxeris aut triplicata,  
 Hanc cum subtriplo semper servare memento:  
 316 Si det compositum, digiti triplacio debet  
 Illius scribi, digitus saliendo sub ipsam;  
 Digito deleteo, que terna dicitur esse;  
 Jungitur articulus cum triplata pereunte,  
 320 Set facit hunc scribi per se triplacio prima,  
 Que si det digitum per se scribi facit illum;  
 Consumpto numero, si sole fuit tibi cifre  
 Triplato, propone cifram saltum faciendo,  
 324 Cumque cifram retrahe triplam, scribendo figuram,  
 Preponas cifre, sic procedens operare,  
 Si tres vel duo serie in sint, pone sub yma,  
 A dextris digitum servando prius documentum.  
 328 Si sit continua progressio terminus nuper  
 Per majus medium totalem multiplicato;  
 Si par, per medium tunc multiplicato sequentem.  
 Set si continua non sit progressio finis:  
 332 Impar, tunc majus medium si multiplicabis,  
 333 Si par per medium sibi multiplicato propinquum.

1. “Hec præsens ars dicitur algorismus ab Algore rege ejus inventore, vel dicitur ab *al*gos quod est ars, et *rodos* quod est numerus; quæ est ars numerorum vel numerandi, ad quam artem bene sciendum inveniebantur apud Indos bis quinque (id est decem) figuræ.”

—*Comment. Thomæ de Novo-Mercatu*. MS. Bib. Reg. Mus. Brit. 12 E. 1.

2. “Hæ necessariae figuræ sunt Indorum characteros.” *MS. de numeratione*. Bib. Sloan. Mus. Brit. 513, fol. 58. “Cum vidissem Yndos constituisse ix literas in universo numero suo propter dispositionem suam quam posuerunt, volui patefacere de opere quod sit per eas aliquidque esset levius discentibus, si Deus voluerit. Si autem Indi hoc voluerunt et intentio illorum nihil novem literis fuit, causa que mihi potuit. Deus direxit me ad hoc. Si vero alia dicam preter eam quam ego exposui, hoc fecerunt per hoc quod ego exposui, eadem tam certissime et absque ulla dubitatione poterit inveniri. Levitasque patebit aspicientibus et discentibus.” MS. U.L.C., li. vi. 5, f. 102.

3. From *Eg.* 2622.

4. 8 C. iv. inserts Nullum cipa significat: dat significare sequenti.

5. From 12 E. 1.

6.

En argorisme devon prendre

Vii especes . . . .  
 Adision subtracion  
 Doubloison mediacion  
 Monteploie et division  
 Et de radix eustracion  
 A chez vii especes savoir  
 Doit chascun en memoire avoir  
 Letres qui figures sont dites  
 Et qui excellens sont ecrites.—MS. *Seld. Arch.* B. 26.

[7.](#) From 12 E. 1.

[8.](#) From 12 E. 1.

[9.](#) 8 C. iv. inserts Atque figura prior nuper fuerit mediando.

[10.](#) *I.e.* figura secundo loco posita.

[11.](#) So 12 E. 1; 8 C. iv. inserts—

Si super extremam nota sit monades dat eidem  
 Quod contingat cum primo dimiabis  
 Atque figura prior nuper fuerit mediando.

[12.](#) 12 E. 1 inserts.

[13.](#) 12 E. 1 inserts to l. 174.

[14.](#) 12 E. 1 omits, *Eg.* 2622 inserts.

[15.](#) 12 E. 1 inserts.

[16.](#) 8 C. iv. inserts—

Hinc illam dele duplans sub ei psalliendo  
 Que sequitur retrahens quicquid fuerit duplicatum.

# INDEX OF TECHNICAL TERMS<sup>1</sup>

**algorisme**, [33/12](#); **algorym**, **augrym**, [3/3](#); the art of computing, using the so-called Arabic numerals.

The word in its various forms is derived from the Arabic *al-Khowarazmi* (i.e. the native of Khwarazm (Khiva)). This was the surname of Ja'far Mohammad ben Musa, who wrote a treatise early in the 9th century (see p. xiv).

The form *algorithm* is also found, being suggested by a supposed derivation from the Greek ἀριθμός (number).

**antery**, [24/11](#); to move figures to the right of the position in which they are first written. This operation is performed repeatedly upon the multiplier in multiplication, and upon certain figures which arise in the process of root extraction.

**anterioracioun**, [50/5](#); the operation of moving figures to the right.

**article**, [34/23](#); **articul**, [5/31](#); **articuls**, [9/36](#), [29/7.8](#); a number divisible by ten without remainder.

**cast**, [8/12](#); to add one number to another.

'Addition is a *casting* together of two numbers into one number,' [8/10](#).

**cifre**, [4/1](#); the name of the figure 0. The word is derived from the Arabic *sifr* = empty, nothing. Hence *zero*.

A cipher is the symbol of the absence of number or of zero quantity. It may be used alone or in conjunction with digits or other ciphers, and in the latter case, according to the position which it occupies relative to the other figures, indicates the absence of units, or tens, or hundreds, etc. The great superiority of the Arabic to all other systems of notation resides in the employment of this symbol. When the cipher is not used, the place value of digits has to be indicated by writing them in assigned rows or columns. Ciphers, however, may be interpolated amongst the significant figures used, and as they sufficiently indicate the positions of the empty rows or columns, the latter need not be indicated in any other way. The practical performance of calculations is thus enormously facilitated (see [p. xvi](#)).

**componede**, [33/24](#); **composyt**, [5/35](#); with reference to numbers, one compounded of a multiple of ten and a digit.

**conuertide** = conversely, [46/29](#), [47/9](#).

**cubicede**, [50/13](#); **to be c.**, to have its cube root found.

**cubike nombre**, [47/8](#); a number formed by multiplying a given number twice by itself, e.g.  $27 = 3 \times 3 \times 3$ . Now called simply a cube.

**decuple**, [22/12](#); the product of a number by ten. Tenfold.

**departys** = divides, [5/29](#).

**digit**, [5/30](#); **digitale**, [33/24](#); a number less than ten, represented by one of the nine Arabic numerals.

**dimydicion**, [7/23](#); the operation of dividing a number by two. Halving.

**duccioun**, multiplication, [43/9](#).

**duplacion**, [7/23](#), [14/15](#); the operation of multiplying a number by two. Doubling.

**imediety** = halved, [19/23](#).

**intercise** = broken, [46/2](#); intercise Progression is the name given to either of the Progressions 1, 3, 5, 7, etc.; 2, 4, 6, 8, etc., in which the common difference is 2.

**lede into**, multiply by, [47/18](#).

**lyneal nombre**, [46/14](#); a number such as that which expresses the measure of the length of a line, and therefore is not *necessarily* the product of two or more numbers (*vide* Superficial, Solid). This appears to be the meaning of the phrase as used in *The Art of Nombryng*. It is possible that the numbers so designated are the prime numbers, that is, numbers not divisible by any other number except themselves and unity, but it is not clear that this limitation is intended.

**mediacioun**, [16/36](#), [38/16](#); dividing by two (see also **dimydicion**).

**medlede nombre**, [34/1](#); a number formed of a multiple of ten and a digit (*vide* componede, composyt).

**medye**, [17/8](#), to halve; **mediete**, halved, [17/30](#); **ymedit**, [20/9](#).

**naturelle progressioun**, [45/22](#); the series of numbers 1, 2, 3, etc.

**produccioun**, multiplication, [50/11](#).

**quadrat nombre**, [46/12](#); a number formed by multiplying a given number by itself, e.g.  $9 = 3 \times 3$ , a square.

**rote**, [7/25](#); **roote**, [47/11](#); root. The roots of squares and cubes are the numbers from which the squares and cubes are derived by multiplication into themselves.

**significatyf**, significant, [5/14](#); The significant figures of a number are, strictly speaking, those other than zero, e.g. in 3 6 5 0 4 0 0, the significant figures are 3, 6, 5, 4. Modern usage, however, regards all figures between the two extreme significant figures as significant, even when some are zero. Thus, in the above example, 3 6 5 0 4 are considered significant.

**solide nombre**, [46/37](#); a number which is the product of three other numbers, e.g.  $66 = 11 \times 2 \times 3$ .

**superficial nombre**, [46/18](#); a number which is the product of two other numbers, e.g.  $6 = 2 \times 3$ .

**ternary**, consisting of three digits, [51/7](#).

**vnder double**, a digit which has been doubled, [48/3](#).

**vnder-trebille**, a digit which has been trebled, [49/28](#); **vnder-triplat**, [49/39](#).

**w**, a symbol used to denote half a unit, [17/33](#).



1. This Index has been kindly prepared by Professor J. B. Dale, of King's College, University of London, and the best thanks of the Society are due to him for his valuable contribution.

## GLOSSARY

Words whose first appearance is earlier than the page cited in the Glossary are identified in supplementary notes, and both occurrences are marked in the main text.

**ablacioun**, taking away, [36/21](#)  
**addyst**, haddest, [10/37](#)  
**agregacioun**, addition, [45/22](#). (First example in N.E.D., 1547.) **a-~~g~~enenes**, against, [23/10](#)  
**allgate**, always, [8/39](#)  
**als**, as, [22/24](#)  
**and**, if, [29/8](#);  
    &, [4/27](#);  
    & yf, [20/7](#)  
**anendes**, towards, [23/15](#)  
**aproprede**, appropriated, [34/27](#)  
**apwereth**, appears, [61/8](#)  
**a-risyȝt**, arises, [14/24](#)  
**a-rowe**, in a row, [29/10](#)  
**arsemetrike**, arithmetic, [33/1](#)  
**ayene**, again, [45/15](#)  
**bagle**, crozier, [67/12](#)  
**bordure** = ordure, row, [43/30](#)  
**borro**, *inf.* borrow, [11/38](#); *imp.* s. **borowe**, [12/20](#);  
    *pp.* **borwed**, [12/15](#);  
    **borred**, [12/19](#)  
**boue**, above, [42/34](#)  
**caputule**, chapter, [7/26](#)  
**certayn**, assuredly, [18/34](#)  
**clepede**, called, [47/7](#)  
**competently**, conveniently, [35/8](#)  
**compt**, count, [47/29](#)  
**contynes**, contains, [21/12](#); *pp.* **contenythe**, [38/39](#)  
**craft**, art, [3/4](#)  
**distingue**, divide, [51/5](#)  
**egalle**, equal, [45/21](#)  
**excep**, except, [5/16](#)  
**excludede**, excluded, [34/37](#)  
**excressent**, resulting, [35/16](#)  
**exeant**, resulting, [43/26](#)  
**expone**, expound, [3/23](#)  
**ferye** = ferþe, fourth, [70/12](#)  
**figure** = figures, [5/1](#)  
**for-by**, past, [12/11](#)  
**fors; no f.**, no matter, [22/24](#)  
**forseth**, matters, [53/30](#)  
**forye** = forþe, forth, [71/8](#)  
**fyfye** = fyftþe, fifth, [70/16](#)  
**grewe**, Greek, [33/13](#)  
**haluendel**, half, [16/16](#);

**haldel**, [19/4](#);

*pl.* **haluedels**, [16/16](#)

**hayst**, hast, [17/3](#), 32

**hast**, haste, [22/25](#)

**heer**, higher, [9/35](#)

**here**, their, [7/26](#)

**here-a-fore**, heretofore, [13/7](#)

**heyth**, was called, [3/5](#)

**hole**, whole, [4/39](#);

**holle**, [17/1](#);

**hoole**, of three dimensions, [46/15](#)

**holdype**, holds good, [30/5](#)

**how be it that**, although, [44/4](#)

**lede** = lete, let, [8/37](#)

**lene**, lend, [12/39](#)

**lest**, least, [43/27](#)

**lest** = left, [71/9](#)

**leue**, leave, [6/5](#);

*pr.* 3 s. **leues**, remains, [11/19](#);

First used in [10/40](#)

**leus**, [11/28](#);

*pp.* **laft**, left, [19/24](#)

**lewder**, more ignorant, [3/3](#)

**lust**, desirest to, [45/13](#)

**lyȝt**, easy, [15/31](#)

**lymytes**, limits, [34/18](#);

**lynes**, [34/12](#);

**lynees**, [34/17](#);

Lat. limes, *pl.* limites.

**maystery**, achievement;

**no m.**, no achievement, *i.e.* easy, [19/10](#)

**me**, *indef. pron.* one, [42/1](#)

First used in [34/16](#)

**mo**, more, [9/16](#)

**moder** = more (Lat. majorem), [43/22](#)

**most**, must, [30/3](#)

First used in [3/12](#)

**multipliede, to be m.** = multiplying, [40/9](#)

**mynvtes**, the sixty parts into which a unit is divided, [38/25](#)

**mysewroȝt**, mis-wrought, [14/11](#)

**nether**, nor, [34/25](#)

**nex**, next, [19/9](#)

**noȝt**, nought, [5/7](#)

First used in [4/8](#)

**note**, not, [30/5](#)

**oo**, one, [42/20](#); **o**, [42/21](#)

First used in [34/27](#) (oo); [33/22](#) (o) **onest**, uppermost, higher, [35/26](#); omyst, [35/28](#)

**omwhile**, sometimes, [45/31](#)

First used in [39/17](#)

**on**, one, [8/29](#)

**opyne**, plain, [47/8](#)

**or**, before, [13/25](#)

**or** = þe oper, the other, [28/34](#)

**ordure**, order, [34/9](#);

row, [43/1](#)

Word form is "order"

**other**, or, [33/13](#), [43/26](#);

Note also "one other other" in [35/24](#)

**other . . . or**, either . . . or, [38/37](#)

First used in [37/5](#)

**ouerer**, upper, [42/15](#)

**ouerhippede**, passed over, [43/19](#)

**recte**, directly, [27/20](#)

First used in [26/31](#)

**remayner**, remainder, [56/28](#)

**representithe**, represented, [39/14](#)  
**resteth**, remains, [63/29](#) First used in [57/29](#)  
**rewarde**, regard, [48/6](#)  
**rew**, row, [4/8](#)  
**rewle**, row, [4/20](#), [7/12](#); rewele, [4/18](#);  
**rewles**, rules, [5/33](#)  
**s.** = scilicet, [3/8](#)  
**sentens**, meaning, [14/29](#)  
**signifye(tyf)**, [5/13](#). The last three letters are added above the line, evidently because of the word 'significatyf' in l. 14. But the 'Solucio,' which contained the word, has been omitted.  
**sithen**, since, [33/8](#)  
**some**, sum, result, [40/17](#), 32 First used in [36/21](#)  
**sowne**, pronounce, [6/29](#)  
**singillatim**, singly, [7/25](#)  
**spices**, species, kinds, [34/4](#) First used in [5/34](#)  
**spyl**, waste, [14/26](#)  
**styde**, stead, [18/20](#)  
**subtrahe**, subtract, [48/12](#); pp. **subtrayd**, [13/21](#)  
**sythes**, times, [21/16](#)  
**tagt**, taught, [16/36](#)  
**take**, *pp.* taken;  
**t. fro**, starting from, [45/22](#)  
**taward**, toward, [23/34](#)  
**thought**, though, [5/20](#)  
**trebille**, multiply by three, [49/26](#)  
**twene**, two, [8/11](#) First used in [4/23](#)  
**pow**, though, [25/15](#)  
**powgt**, thought;  
**be þ.**, mentally, [28/4](#)  
**pus** = þis, this, [20/33](#)  
**vny**, unite, [45/10](#)  
**wel**, wilt, [14/31](#)  
**wete**, wit, [15/16](#);  
**wyte**, know, [8/38](#);  
*pr.* 2 s. **wost**, [12/38](#)  
**wex**, become, [50/18](#)  
**where**, whether, [29/12](#)  
**wherthurghe**, whence, [49/15](#)  
**worch**, work, [8/19](#); First used in [7/35](#)  
**wrich**, [8/35](#);  
**wyrch**, [6/19](#);  
*imp.* s. **worch**, [15/9](#); First used in [9/6](#)  
*pp.* **y-wroth**, [13/24](#)  
**write**, written, [29/19](#); First used in [4/5](#)  
**y-write**, [16/1](#)  
**wryrchynge** = wyrchyng, working, [30/4](#)  
**w<sup>t</sup>**, with, [55/8](#)  
**y-broth**, brought, [21/18](#)  
**ychon**, each one, [29/10](#)  
**ydo**, done, added, [9/6](#) First used in [8/37](#)  
**ylke**, same, [5/12](#)  
**y-lyech**, alike, [22/23](#)  
**y-mygt**, been able, [12/2](#)  
**y-nowgt**, enough, [15/31](#);  
**ynovgt**, [18/34](#)

yove, given, [45/33](#)

y<sup>t</sup>, that, [52/8](#)

y-write, v. [write](#).

y-wroth, v. [worch](#).

## MARGINAL NOTES

**Headnotes** have been moved to the beginning of the appropriate paragraph. Headnotes were omitted from the two Appendixes, as sidenotes give the same information.

**Line Numbers** are cited in the Index and Glossary. They have been omitted from the e-text except in the one verse selection (App. II, *Carmen de Algorismo*). Instead, the Index and Glossary are linked directly to each word.

### **Numbered Notes:**

Numbered sidenotes show page or leaf numbers from the original MSS. In the e-text, sidenote numbers have been replaced with simple asterisks.

Footnotes give textual information such as variant readings. They have been numbered sequentially within each title.

**Sidenotes** giving a running synopsis of the text have been kept as close as possible to their original format and location.