**f. 16r**

and for adu*er*sytes • þan art þow a very syster •• and whan thow

sorwyst for þow art so long fro þ*e* blysse of heuyn þa*n* art

þ*u* a very spowse • & a wyfe • for it longyth to þe wyfe to be

w*yth* hir husbond • & no very ioy to han • tyl sche come to hys

p*re*sens .;.

**T**hys creatur whan owyr lord ^Ih*esu* c*rist* had forȝouyn hir hir //

~~as~~ synne • as is wrete*n* be forn • had a desyr to se

þo plac*ys* wher he was born • & wher he sufferyd

hys passyon • & wher he deyd • w*yth* oþ*er* holy plac*ys* wher he

was in hys lyue • & also aft*yr* hys Resurrexyon •• As sche was

in þese desyres owyr lord bad hir in hir mend • ii • ȝer er þa*n* sche

went þ*at* sche schuld gon to Rome to Ih*erusa*l*e*m *&* to seynt Iamys •

ffor sche wold fayn a gon but sche had no good to go • w*yth* & þan

sche seyd to owyr lord • wher schal I han good to go *wyth* to þes

holy placys •[ ower lord seyd a ȝen to hir I • schal send þ*e* frend*ys*

a nowe • in dyu*er*s co*n*treys of ynglond to help þe •• And dowt*yr*

I xal go w*yth* þe in eu*ery* contre • & ordeyn for þ*e* I • ~~l~~ xal ledyn

þe thyder & brynge þe a geyn in safte [& noon englysch

man schal deyn in þe schyp þ*at* þow art in / I xal kepe þ*e* fro

alle wykked mennys power • And dowt*yr* I sey to þ*e* I wyl þ*at* þ*u*

were clothys of whyte & no*n* oþ*er* colo*wr* •for þ*u* xal be*n* arayd

aft*yr* my wyl •• A der lord / yf I go arayd on oþ*er* man*er* þa*n* oþ*er*

chast women don I drede þ*at* þe pepyl wyl slawndyr me • þ*e*i

wyl sey I am an ypocryt & wondryn vp on me • [ȝa dowt*yr*

þe mor wondryng þ*at* þow hast for my lofe •• þ*e* mor þ*u* plesyst

me • Than þ*i*s creatur durst no*n* oþ*e*r wyse do • þa*n* sche was

comawndyd in hir sowle • And so sche went forth w*yth* hir

husbond in to þ*e* cu*n*tre for he was eu*yr* a good man & an esy

man to hir • þow þ*at* he su*m*tyme for veyn / dred lete hir a lone

for a tyme •[ ȝet he resortyd eu*yr* mor a geyn to hir & had

co*m*passion of hir • & spak for hir as he durst for dred of þe

pepyl •[ but alle oþ*er* þat went w*yth* hir forsokyn hir • & ful

falsly þ*e*i accusyd hir thorw te*m*ptacyon of þ*e* deuyl •/ of •/

**f. 16v**

thyng*ys* þat sche was neu*yr* gylty in [& so dede o ma*n* which sche trostyd

gretly on • & p*ro*ferydhy*m* self to gon w*yth* hir in to þe contr*e* wherþorw

sche was rygth glad • trostyng he wold wel supportyn hir & helpy*n*

hir wha*n* sche had nede •• for he had ben dwellyng long tyme w*yth*

an Ankyr co*m*mensowr in dyuinyte • & an holy man • & þ*at* Ankyr

was þ*i*s womans co*n*fesso*wr* • & so hys s*er*uawnt toke leue be hys

owyn steryng to gon w*yth* þ*i*s creatur in to þe contr*e* • & hir

owyn Mayden went w*yth* hir • also long as þ*e*i ferd wel • & no

ma*n* seyd no thyng a geyns hem • but as sone as þ*e* pepyl

thorw entysyng of owyr gostly enmy • & be þe sufferawns of

owyr lord • spak a geyn þ*i*s creatur • for sche wept so sor • & seyd

sche was a fals ypocryte • & falsly deceyued þ*e* pepyl • & thretyd

hir to be brent •[ þa*n* þe forseyd ma*n* was holdyn so holy a ma*n*

& þ*at* sche trustyd so mech up on • utt*yr*ly rep*re*uyd hir and fowely

despysed hir & wold no forþ*er* gon w*yth* hir •7[ hir Mayden seyng

dysese on eu*er*ysyde • wex boystows a ȝens hir Maystres •• sche

wold not obeyn ne folwyn hir cownsel • Sche let hir gon

a lone in many good townys • & wold not gon w*yth* hir • And

eu*yr* hir husbond was redy whan alle oþ*er* fayled & went w*yth*

hir • wher owyr lord wold sende hir • allwey trostyng þ*at* al was

for þe best • & xuld comyn to good ende • wha*n* god wold •• & at

þ*i*s tyme he led hir to spekyn w*yth* þ*e* Bysshop of lynkoln whech

hygth philyp and a bod • iii • wekys er þei mygth speke wyth

hym [for he was not at hom at hys paleys •• Wha*n* þ*e* Bysshop

was comyn hom & herd seyn how swech a woma*n* had abe//

dyn hym so long to speke w*yth* hy*m* • a non he sent for hir in

gret hast • to wetyn hir wylle •• & þa*n* sche cam to hys p*re*sens

& salutyd hy*m* & he derly wolcomyd hir •• & seyd he had long

desyred to speke w*yth* hir • & he was rygth glad of hir comyng •

And so sche p*ra*yd hym þ*at* sche mygth speke w*yth* hy*m* in cownsel

& schewyn hy*m* þe secret*ys* of hir sowle • & he lymyt hir a //

tyme co*n*uenyent þ*er*to •• Wha*n* þe tyme ca*m* • sche schewyd hy*m*

hyr medytacyons & hy co*n*templacyons • & oþ*er* secret thyng*ys* //

**f. 17r**

boþe of qwyk & of ded •[ as owyr lord schewyd to hir sowle he was

rygth glad to heryn hem & suffryd hir beny*n*gly to sey what hir lysted

[& co*m*mendyd gretly hir felyng*ys* & hir *c*o*n*templacyons • seyyng þei

wer hy maters & ful deuowt maters • & enspyred of þeholy gost

/cownselyng hir sadly þ*at* hir felyng*ys* schuld be wretyn & sche

seyd þ*at* it was not godd*ys* wyl þ*at* þei schuld be wretyn so soon

ne þei wer wretyn xx ȝer aft*yr* & mor • And þa*n* sche seyd

ferpermor • My lord yf it lyke ȝow I am comawndyd in my sowle

þ*at* ȝe schal ȝyue me þemantyl & þeryng • & clothyn me al //

in whygth clothys •• And yf ȝe clothyn me in erth • owyr lord

Ih*es*u cryst xal clothyn ȝow in heuyn • as I vndyrstond be re//

uelacyon •[ þan þ*e* Bysshop seyd to hir • I wyl fulffyllen ȝo*wr*

desyr ȝyf ȝo*wr* husbond wyl co*n*sentyn þ*er*to •[ þa*n* sche seyd to þe

bysshop • I p*re*y ȝow late myn husbond come to ȝo*wr* p*re*sens • & ȝe

xal hery*n* what he wyl sey • & so hyr husbond cam before þ*e*

Bysshop • And þe Bysshop askyd hym • Iohn is it ȝo*wr* wyl þ*at* ȝo*wr*

wyf xal take þe mantyl & þeryng & leuyn chast & ȝe boþe*n*

ȝa my lord he seyd [& in tokyn þ*at* we boþenvowyn to leue //

chast • her I offyr myn hand*ys* in to ȝowyr •[ & he put hys

handys be twen þeBysshoppys hand*ys* & þe bysshop dede no

mor to us at þ*at* day •• saue he mad us rygth good cher And

seyd we wer rygth wolcom •• An oþ*er* day þis creatur cam

to mete at þerequest of þ*e* bysshop • And sche saw hym

ȝeuyn w*yth* hys hand*ys* er he set hym to mete to • xiii • powyr

men • xiii pens & xiii lovys w*yth* oþ*er* mete & so he dede eu*er*y

day •/ þ*i*s creatur was steryd to hy deuocyon w*yth* þ*i*s sygth •

/& ȝaf god p*re*ysyng & worshepyng • þ*at* he ȝaf þebysshop g*ra*ce

to don þ*e*sgood dedys • w*yth* plentyuows wepyng •• in so mych

þ*at* alle þebysshopys meny wer gretly m*er*veylyng what hyr

eyled • And sythen sche was set to mete w*yth* many worthy

clerkys & p*re*stys & swyers of þ*e* bysshoppys • And þ*e* bysshop

hym self sent hir ful gentylly of hys owyn mees • ~ :~

**f. 17v**

þe clerkys askyd þ*i*s creatur many hard qwestyons • þe wych sche

be þe grace of Ih*es*u resoluyd • so • þ*at* hir answerys lykyd þ*e* Bysshop

rygth wel • And þe clerkys had ful gret m*er*uayl of hir þ*at* sche

answeryd so redyly & p*re*gnawntly • Wha*n* þe bysshop had ety*n*

he sent for þ*i*s creatur in to hys chawmbyr seying to hir •

[Margery ȝe & ȝo*wr* husbond spak to me for to ȝyfe ȝow þe

Mantyl & þe ryng for whech cause I haue take my cown//

sel • & my cownsel wyl not ȝyf me to p*ro*fesseȝow in so

synguler a clothyng w*yth* owtyn bett*yr* avysement • And ȝe sey

be þe g*ra*ce of god ȝe wyl go to Ier*usa*l*e*m • þ*er*forp*ra*yth to god

þ*at* it may abyden tyl ȝe come fro Ier*usa*l*e*m þ*at* ȝe be bett*yr* p*re*uyd

& knowyn • on þe next day þ*i*s creatur went to chirch &

p*ra*ydto god w*yth* alle hyr spyrit*ys* þ*at* sche mygth han knowlach

how sche xuld ben gou*er*nd in þ*i*s mat*er* • And what answer

sche mygth gife to þe bysshop •• Owyr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st an//

sweryd to hir souel mend in þ*i*s man*er* •• Dowt*yr* sey þebysshop

þ*at* he dredyth mor þe schamys of þe world þa*n* þe p*ar*fyt

lofe of god • Sey hym I xuld as wel han excusyd hym

ȝyf he had fulfyIlyd þ*i* wyl • as I dede þe chyldren of

Isr*ae*lwhan I bad hem borwe þe good*ys* of þe pepyl of

egypt & gon a wey þ*er*wyth • þ*er*for dowt*yr* sey hym • þow

he wyl not don it now it xal be don an oþ*er* tyme wha*n*

god wyl • & so sche dede hir massage to þ*e* bysshop of lyn//

colne as sche had in comawndment •[ þa*n* he p*re*yd hyre

to gon to þe ~~erchsh~~ [also strike in red] Archbusshop of Cawnt*yr*bery Arundel

& p*re*ynhym to grawntyn leue to me Bysshop of lyncoln •

for to ȝeuyn hir þe mentyl & þe ryng • in as mech as sche

was not of hys dyocyse • þ*i*s cawse he feyned thorw cownsel

of hys clerk*ys* for þei louyd not þ*i*s creatur •• Sche seyd • ser

I wyl go ty[o over y] my lord of cawt*yr*bery w*yth* rygth good wyl / for oþ*er*

cawsys & materys whech I haue to schewe to hys reu*er*ens •

As for þ*i*s cawse I xal not gon for god wyl not I aske hym

**f. 18r**

þ*er*aftyr •[ þan sche toke hir leue of þe bysshop of lyncolne &

he ȝaf hir xxvi • schelyngys & viii d to byen hyr clothy*n*g

wyth & for to p*re*yfor hym .;.

**T**han went þ*i*s creatur forth to london w*yth* hir husbo*n*d

vn to lambhyth þ*er* þe Erchebisshop lay at þ*at* tyme

And as þei comyn in to þe halle at aft*yr* noon

ther wer many of þe Erchebysshoppys clerk*ys* & *o*þ*er* rekles

men • boþ*e* swyers & ȝemen whech swory*n* many gret oþ*i*s •

& spokyn many rekles word*ys* • & þ*i*s creatur boldly vndyr//

name hem & seyd þei schuld ben dampnyd but þ*e*i left

her sweryng & oþ*er* synnes þ*at* þei vsyd •[ & w*yth* þat cam forth

a woma*n* of þe same town in a pylche & al for schod

þ*i*s creatur • bannyd hir • & seyd ful cursydly to hir in þ*i*s man*er*

I wold þ*u* wer in smythfeld & I wold bery*n* a fagot to bren

þe with it is pety þ*at* þow leuyst •[ þ*i*s creatur stod stylle

& answeryd not & hir husbond suffred w*yth* gret peyn / &

was ful sory to heryn hys wyfe so rebukyd •• Than þe

Erchbusshop sent for þ*i*s creatur in to hys gardeyn •//

Whan sche cam to hys p*re*sens sche salutyd hy*m* as sche cowd

p*ra*ynghym of hys gracyows lordshyp to grawnt hir ~~to~~

auctoryte of chesyng hyr co*n*fesso*wr* •*•* & to be howselyd euery

sonday ȝyf god wold dysposen hir þ*er*tovndyr hys lett*yr* and

hys seel thorw al hys p*ro*uynce •[ & he grawnt it her ful beny*n*gly

all hir desyr w*yth* owtyn any sylu*er* er gold •[ ne he wold latyn

hys clerk*ys* takyn anything for wrytyn ne for seelyng of

þe lett*yr* • Whan þ*i*s creatur fond þ*i*s grace in hys sygth • sche

was wel comfortyd & strengthyd in hir sowle • & so sche

schewyd þ*i*s worshepful lord hir man*er* of leuyng • & swech

grace as god wrowt in hyr mende & in hir sowle • to wety*n*

what he wold sey þ*er*toȝyf he fond any defawte eyþ*yr* in

hyre co*n*te*m*placyon • er in hir wepyng • & scheteld hy*m* also

þe cawse of hyr wepyng •• And þe maner ofdalya[wns]

**f. 18v**

þat owyr lord dalyid to hyr sowle • And he fond no defawt

þerin •• but a p*re*vyd [in red he p*re*syd] hir man*er* ofleuyng • & was rygth glad •

þ*at* owyr m*er*cyful lord crystIh*es*u • schewyd swech grace in

owyr days • blyssed mot hebe •[ þan þ*i*s creatur boldly

spak to hym for þe correccyonof hys meny •• seying

w*yth* reu*er*ens • My lord •’ owyralderes lord al myty god//•’

hath not ȝon ȝow ȝowyrbenefys • & gret good*ys* of þe

world • to mayten w*yth* hys tretowrys • & hem þ*at* slen hy*m*

eu*er*yday be gretothys sweryng •• ȝe schal answer for

hem • les þa*n* ȝecorrectyn hem • or ellys put he*m* owt

of ȝo*wr* s*er*uyse •• fful beny*n*gly & mekely he suffred hir to

sey hir entent • & ȝaf a fayr Answer • hir supposyng it

xuld ben þe bett*yr* • & so her dalyawns co*n*tynuyd tyl ster//

rys apperyd in þe fyrmament •[ þa*n* sche toke hir leue

& hyr husbond also • Sythen þei comyn a ȝen to //

london & many worthy mendesyred to heryn hir

dalyawns • & hir comunycacyon forhir co*m*munyca//

cion was so mech in þ*e* lofe of god • þ*at* þe herars

wer oftyn tyme steryd þ*er* thorw to wepynrytȝt sadly

[& so sche had þ*er* rygth gret cher • & hirhusbond • be

cawse of hir as long as þei wold abyden in þe

cyte •• Aft*yr*ward þei comyn a geyn to lenne • & þa*n*

went þ*i*s creatur to þe Ankyr at þe frer p*re*chowrys

in lenne • & teld hym what cher sche had had • and

how sche had sped whyl sche was in þe contr*e* •• And

he was rygth glad of hir comyng hom • & held it

was gret Myracle hir comyng & hir goyng to & fro

And he seyd to hir I haue herd mych euyl langwage

of ȝow syth ȝe went owt •• & I haue ben sor cownseld

to leue ȝow & no mor to medyl w*yth* ȝow • & þ*er* is be//

hyt[e] me gret frenschepys w*yth* condycyon • yf I leue ȝow •

f. **19r**

And I answeryd for ȝowþ*us* •[ ȝyf ȝe wer in þe same plyte

þ*at* ȝe wer wha*n* we partyd a sundyr •’ I durst wel say • ȝe

wer a good woman •• a louere of god & hyly inspyred w*yth*

þ*e* holy gost • And I wyl not forsake hyr for no lady in

þ*i*s reme for to speke w*yth* þe lady & leuyn hir • for raþ*ar*

I schuld leue þe lady & speke w*yth* hir • ȝyf I mygth not

don boþen • þa*n* I xuld don þe co*n*t*ra*rye •\\ // Rede fyrst

þ*e* xxi chapetr • & þ*an* þ*i*s chapetre aft*yr* þat •;• it begy*n*nes th*us* i*n* þ*e* tyme

**O**N a day long befor þ*i*s tyme whyl thys c*re*at*ur* þ*e* vi lefe eft*er*

was beryng chylder & sche was newly delyueryd

of a chyld •[ owyr lord cryst Ih*es*u seyd to hir sche

xuld no mor chyldren beryn & þ*er*for he bad hyr gon to

Norwych • & sche seyd • A der lord how xal I gon • I am

boþe feynt & feble • drede þe not • I xal make þe stro*n*g

i now •• I byd þ*e* gon to þ*e* vykary of seynt Stefenys and

sey þ*at* I gret hym wel • & þ*at* he is an hey chosyn sowle

of myn • & telle hym he plesyth me mech w*yth* hys p*re*chy*n*g •

[&• schew hym thy p*re*uytes & my*n* cownselys swech as

I schewe þ*e* • Than sche toke hyr wey to Norwych ward

& cam in to hys cherch • on a thursday • a lytyl be for

noon And þe vykary went vp & down w*yth* a noþ*er* p*re*st

whech was hys gostly fadyr • þ*at* leuyd wha*n* þ*i*s boke was

mad • & þ*i*s creatur was clad in blak clothy*n*g þ*at* tyme •

Sche salutyd þ*e* vykary p*re*yng hym þ*at* sche mygth speke

w*yth* hym an owyr or ellys tweyn • owyrs at aft*yr* none •

wha*n* he had etyn in þe lofe of god • he lyftyng vp hys

handys & blyssyng hym • seyd •• benedicite what cowd a woma*n*

ocupyn an owyr er tweyn owyrs in þe lofe of ow*yr* lord •

I xal neu*yr* ete mete tyl I wete what ȝe kan sey of owyr

lord god • þe tyme of on owyr •/ þa*n* he sett hym down in

þe chirche • sche syttyng a lytyl be syde schewyd hym all

þe wordys whech god had reuelyd to hyr in hyr so[wle]

**f. 19v**

Sythen sche schewyd hym al hyr man*er* of levyng • fro hyr chyldhod

as ny as it wolde come to hir mende • how vnkynd sche had ben

a geyn owyr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st •how prowde & veyne sche had ben in

hir aport • how obstynat a geyns þe lawes of god • & how en//

vyows a geyn hir euyn c*ri*sten • Sythen wha*n* it plesyd owyr

lord c*ri*st Ih*es*u how sche was chastysed w*yth* many tribulacyons •

& horrybyl temptacyons • & aft*yr*ward how sche was fed and

comfortyd w*yth* holy medytacyons • & specyal in þe mende of

owyr lord*ys* passyon • & whyl sche dalyed in þe passyon of

owyr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st• Sche herd so hedows a melodye þ*at* sche

mygth not ber it [þan þ*i*s creatur fel down • as yf sche

had lost hir bodyly strength • & lay stylle a gret whyle •

desyryng to put it a way • & sche mygth not [þan knew

sche wel be hir feyth þ*at* þ*er* was gret ioye in hevyn • Wher

þe lest poynt of blys w*yth* owtyn any co*m*p*ar*ysonpasseth al

þe ioye þat eu*yr* myt be thowt er felt in þ*i*s lyfe • Sche

was gretly strengthyd in hir feyth & mor bold to tellyn þe

vykary her felyng*ys* whech sche had be reuelacyons boþen

of qwyk & of ded & of hys owyn self •• Sche teld hym

how sum tyme þe ffadyr of hevyn dalyd to hir sowle

as pleynly and as veryly as o frend spekyth to a noþ*er* be

bodyly spech • Su*m* tyme þe secu*n*de p*er*sone in t*ri*nyte •• su*m*//

tyme alle thre p*er*son*ys* in t*ri*nite & o substawns in god//

hede dalyid to hir sowle • & informyd hir in hir feyth •

& in hys lofe • how sche xuld lofe hym • worshepyn hy*m* •

& dredyn hym •• so excellently •: þ*at* sche herd neu*yr* boke • neyþ*yr*

hyltons boke • ne p*ri*dis[crossed through in red] boke • ne Stimul*us* amor*is* • ne in//

cendiu*m* amoris •^ ne no*n* o*þer* þ*at* eu*yr* sche herd redy*n* þ*at* spak

so hyly of lofe of god • but þ*at* sche felt as hyly in wer//

kyng in hir sowle • yf sche cowd or ellys mygth a sche//

wyd as sche felt •• Su*m*tyme owyr lady spak to hir mend •

[Sumty]me seynt petyr • Su*m*tyme seynt powyl • su*m*tym seynt

**f. 20r**

kateryn er what seynt in heuyn sche had deuocyon to a//

peryd to hir sowle • & tawt hir how sche xuld louyn owyr lord •

[& how sche xuld plesyn hym her dalyawns was so swet •• so

holy & so devowt • þat þ*i*s creatur myt not oftyn tymes

beryn it but fel down & wrestyd w*yth* hir body & mad won//

dyrful cher & contenawns w*yth* boystows sobbyng*ys* • & gret

plente of terys • Su*m*tyme seyng /Ih*es*u m*er*cy) su*m* tyme I dey)

& þ*er*formech pepyl slawndryd hir not • ^beleuyng it was

þe werke of god •• but þ*at* su*m* euyl spyrit vexid hir in hir

body • er ellys þ*at* sche had su*m* bodyly sekenesse • Notw*yth*stondy*n*g

þeRumo*wr* • & grutchyng of þepepyl a ȝen hir •• [þ*i*s holy

man vykary of seynt Stefenys chyrch of Norwych •

whom god hath exaltyd • & þorw m*er*uelyows werk*ys* sche//

wyd & p*re*uydfor holy • eu*yr* held w*yth* hir & supportyd hir a//

ȝen hir enmys in to hys powyr • Aft*yr* þetyme þ*at* sche

be þebyddyng of god had schewyd hym hir man*er* of

gouemawns & leuyng • for he trustly beleuyd þ*at* sche was

wel lernyd in þelawe of god • & indued w*yth* grace of þ*e*

holy gost • to whom it longyth to enspyr wher he wyl •

& þow hys voys be herd it is not wyst of þewerld fro

when it comyth • er whedyr it goth • Thys holy vykary •

aft*yr* þ*i*s tyme was co*n*fesso*wr* • to þ*i*s creatur al wey wha*n*

sche cam to Norwych • & howsyld hir w*yth* hys owyn

handys • & wha*n* sche was on a tyme moneschyd to aper

be for certeyn offycerys of þe Bysshop • to Answer to

certeyn Artyculys whech xuld be put a geyn hir be þ*e*

steryng of envyows pepyl •[ þegood vykary p*re*ferryng

þelofe of god be for any schame of þeworld • went w*yth*

hir to her hir examynacyon & delyueryd hir fro þe

malys of hyr enmys •/ & þa*n* was it reuelyd to þ*i*s creatur

þ*at* þegood vykary xuld leuyn sevyn ȝer aft*yr* & þa*n* he

sculd passyn hens w*yth* gret g*ra*ce ••And he dede as sche [had ...]

**f. 20v**

**T**hys creatur was chargyd & comawndyd in hir sowle þ*at*

sche schuld go to a whyte frer in þe same Cyte of Norwy*ch*

whech hyte Wyllya*m* Sowthfeld • a good ma*n* and an holy

leuar • to schewyn hym þe grace þat god wrowt in hir as sche

had don to þe good vykary be forn • Sche dede as sche was

comawndyd & cam to þe frere on a for noon • & was w*yth* hy*m*

in a chapel a long tyme • & schewyd hym hir meditacyons •

& swech as god wrowt in hir sowle • to wetyn yf sche wer

dysceyued be any illusyons or not • Thys good man þe

white frer eu*yr* whyl sche teld hir felyng*ys* • heldyng up hys

hand*ys* seyd Ih*es*u • M*er*cy & grem*er*cy • Syst*er* he seyd • dredyth ȝe

not of ȝo*wr* man*er* of leuyng • for it is þe holy gost werky*n*g

plentyuowsly hys g*ra*cein ȝo*wr* sowle • [thankyth hy*m* heyly of

hys goodnes for we alle be bowndyn to þa*n*kyn hy*m* for ȝow

/þat now in owyr days wel inspir hys g*ra*ce in ȝow •• to þe//

help & co*m*fort of us alle • whech arn supportyd be ȝo*wr* p*re*yers

/& be swech oþ*er* as ȝe ben • And we arn p*re*s*er*vydfro many

myschevys & dysesys whech we schuld sufferyn & worthily

for owyr trespas • N [over n] ne wer swech good creaturys a mong

vs • blyssed be al myty god • for hys goodnes • And þ*er*for syst*er*

I cownsel ȝow þ*at* ȝe dyspose ȝow to receyuyn þe ȝyft*ys* of

god as lowly • & mekely • as ȝe kan • & put non obstakyl ne

obieccyon a ȝen þe goodnes of þ*e* holy gost •• ffor he may

ȝevyn hys ȝyft*ys* wher he wyl • & of vnworthy he makyth

worthy •• of synful he makyth rygtful •/ hys m*er*cy is eu*yr* redy

vn to vs •• les þa*n* þe fawt be in owyr self •• for he dwellyth

not in a body soget to syn •• he fleth al fals feyny*n*g & fals//

hede •• he askyth of us • a lowe • a meke •& a contryte hert •

w*yth* a good wyl •• [owyr lord seyth hym self my spyrit schal

restyn vp on a meke man • a co*n*tryte ma*n* • & dredyng my

wordys •• Syst*er* I trost to owyr lord ȝe han þese co*n*dicyons

eyþ*yr* in ȝo*wr* wyl • or in ȝo*wr* affeccyon • er ellys in bothyn •/ & I

[held]e not þ*at* owyr lord suffryth hem to be dysceyued endlessly •

**f. 21r**

þ*at* settyn al here trost in hym & no thyng sekyn ne desyryn

but hym only • as I hope þat ȝe don • And þ*er*forbeleuyth fully

þ*at* owyr lord louyth ȝow & werkyth hys g*rac*ein ȝow • I p*re*ygod

incres it • & co*n*tinu it • to hys eu*yr* lestyng worshep for hys m*er*cy : ~

The beforn seyd creatur was mech comfortyd boþe in body &

in sowle be þ*i*s good ma*n*nys word*ys* • & gretly strengthyd in hir

feyth • & þa*n* sche was bodyn be owyr lord • for to gon to an

Ankres in *þe* same Cyte whych hyte dame Ielyan /& so

sche dede & schewyd hir þ*e* grace þ*at* god put in hir sowle

of co*m*pu*n*ccyon contricyon swetnesse & deuocyon co*m*passyon

with holy meditacyon & hy co*n*templacyon • & ful many

holy spechys & dalyawns • þ*at* owyr lord spak to hir sowle •

And many wondirful reuelacyons whech sche schewyd to þ*e*

Ankres to wetyn yf þ*er* wer any deceyte in hem •[ for þ*e*

Ankres was expert in swech thyng*ys* & good cownsel cowd

ȝeuyn •/ þe Ankres hery*n*g þ*e* m*er*uelyow*s* goodnes of owyr

lord hyly thankyd god • w*yth* al hir hert • for hys visitacyon

[cownselyng þ*i*s creatur to be obedyent • to þ*e* wyl of

owyr lord god & fulfyllyn w*yth* al hir mygthys • what

eu*yr* he put in hir sowle / yf it wer not a geyn þ*e* wor//

shep of god & p*ro*fyteof hir euyn c*ri*sten [for yf it wer

þa*n* it wer nowt þemevyng of a good spyryte • but

raþ*ar* of an euyl spyrit •[ þ*e* holy gost meuyth neu*yr* a þing

a geyn charite •/ & yf he dede he wer co*n*traryows to hys

owyn self / for he is al charite • Also he meuyth a sowle

to al chastnesse •• for chast leuars be clepyd þ*e* temple

of þeholy gost • & þeholy gost makyth a sowle stabyl &

stedfast in þerygth feyth • & þerygth beleue •• And a

dubbyl ma*n* in sowle is eu*yr* vnstabyl • & vnstedfast in

al hys weys •• he þ*at* is eu*yr* mordowtyng • is lyke to þ*e*

flood of þe see ••/ þe whech is mevyd & born a bowte w*yth*

þewynd • & þ*at* ma*n* is not lyche to receyuen þ*e* ȝyftys

of god •• What creatur þ*at* hath þes tokenys he m[uste]

**f. 21v**

stedfastlych belevyn þ*at* þe holy gost dwellyth in hys sowle • And

mech mor wha*n* god visyteth a creatur w*yth* terys of co*n*trisyon

deuosyon er co*m*passyon • he may & owyth to leuyn þ*at* þe holy

gost is in hys sowle •• Seynt powyl seyth þ*at* þe holy gost

Askyth for vs w*yth* morny*n*gg*ys* & wepyng*ys* vnspekable • þ*at* is to

seyn • he makyth vs to askyn & p*re*yn w*yth* morny*n*gg*ys* & wepyng*ys*

so plentyvowsly • þ*at* þe terys may not be nowmeryd Ther

may non euyl spyrit ȝeuyn þ*e*s tokenys for ^S Ierom seyth

þ*at* terys t*ur*mentyn mor þe devylle þa*n* don þe peynes

of helle • god & þe deuyl ben eu*yr*mor co*n*traryows • & þei xal

neu*yr* dwellyn to gedyr in on place • & þe devyl hath

no powyr in a mannys sowle • holy wryt seyth þ*at* þ*e* sowle

of a rytful man is þe sete seet of god • & so I trust syst*er* þ*at* ȝe

ben • I p*re*y god grawnt ȝow p*er*seuerawns •• settyth al ȝo*wr* trust

in god • & feryth not þe langage of þe world • for þ*e* mor

despyte schame & repref þ*at* ȝe haue in þ*e* world þe mor

is ȝo*wr* meryte in þe sygth of god •• pacyens is necessary vn

to ȝow • for in þ*at* schal ȝe kepyn ȝo*wr* sowle •7 [mych was þ*e* holy

dalyawns þ*at* þe Ankres & þ*i*s creatur haddyn be comowny*n*g

in þ*e* lofe of owyr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st many days þ*at* þei were

to gedyr •• Thys creatur schewyd hyr man*er* of leuyng to

many a worthy clerke • to worshepful doctorys of divinyte •

boþe Religiows men & oþ*er* of seculer abyte • & þei seyden

þ*at* god wrowt gret grace w*yth* hir • & bodyn sche xuld not

ben aferde • þ*er* was no disseyte in hir man*er* of leuyng ••

[þei cownseld hir to be p*er*seuerawnt •• for here most dred

was þ*at* sche xuld t*ur*nyn & not kepyn hir p*er*feccyon • sche

had so many enmys & so mech slawndyr • þ*at* hem semyd

sche myte not beryn it w*yth* owtyn gret g*ra*ce & a mygty

feyth •• [oþ*er* whech had no knowlach of hir man*er* of gou*er*nawns

saue only be sygth owtforth • er ellys be iangelyng of oþ*er*

personys • p*e*ru*er*tyng þe dom of trewth • seyd ful euyl of hir

[& cau]syd hir to haue mech enmyte • & mech dysese mor

**f. 22r**

þ*an* sche xuld haue ellys had • had her euyl la*n*gage ne ben •7

Neuyr þe lesse þe Ankyr of þe frer p*re*chowrys in lenn whech was

p*ri*ncipal gostly fadyr to þ*i*s creatur as is wretyn be forn • toke it

on charge of hys sowle þ*at* hir felyng*ys* wer good & sekyr & þ*at* þer

was no disseyt in hem • And he be þe spiryt of p*ro*phecye teld

hir wha*n* sche xuld gon to Ier*usa*l*e*m ward • sche xuld haue mech

t*ri*bulacyon w*yth* hir mayden • And how owyr lord xuld asayn

hir scharply & p*re*uyn hir ful streytly •/ þa*n* seyd sche a geyn

A good ser what xal I þa*n* do wha*n* I am fer fro hom & in

strawnge cu*n*treys • & my mayden be a ȝens me • þa*n* is my

bodily comfort a go *•* & gostly co*mf*ort of any confesso*wr* as ȝe

beth wot I not wher to haue •• Dowt*yr* drede ȝe nowt • for

owyr lord schal co*m*fort ȝow hys owyn self • hoose co*m*fort

passyth alle oþeris •/ & whan al ȝo*wr* frend*ys* han forsakyn //

ȝow owyr lord schal makyn a brokyn bak ma*n* to lede ȝow

forth wher ȝe wyl be •• & so it be fel as þe Ankyr had p*ro*phe//

cyed in eu*er*y poynt • And as I trust xal be wretyn more

pleynly aft*yr*ward • Than þ*i*s creatur in a man*er* co*m*pleyny*n*g

seyd to þe Ankyr •• Good ser what xal I do • he þ*at* is my con//

fesso*wr* • in ȝo*wr* absens is rygth scharp vn to me • he wyl not be//

levyn my felyng*ys* •• he settyth nowt by hem •he heldyth hem

but tryfelys & iapys • & þ*at* is a gretpeyn vn to me • for I

lofe hym wele • & I wold fawynfolwyn hys cownsel •• The

Ankyr answeryng a ȝen to hir seyd • it is no wondyr dowt*yr*

yf he kan nowt beleuyn in ȝo*wr* felyng*ys* so sone • he knowyth

wel ȝe han ben a synful woma*n* / & þ*er*for he wenyth þ*at* god

wold not ben homly w*yth* ȝow in so schort tyme • aft*yr* ȝo*wr con*u*er*syon•

I wold not for al þ*i*s world ben so scharp to ȝow as he is •

God for ȝo*wr* m*er*ytehath ordeynd hym to be ȝo*wr* scorge • & faryth

w*yth* ȝow as a smyth w*yth* a fyle þ*at* makyth þe yron to be bryte

& cler to þe sygth • whech be forn aperyd rusty dyrke [&]

euyl colowryd •/ þe mor scharp þ*at* he is to ȝow [þe mor]

**f. 22v**

clerly schinyth ȝo*wr* sowle in þe sygth of god / & god hath ordeyned me

to be ȝo*wr* norych & ȝo*wr* comfort • beth ȝe lowe & meke & thanke god

boþ*e* of on & of oþ*er* *•* On atyme be forn þ*i*s creatur went to hir

p*ra*erys for to wetyn what answer sche xuld ȝeuyn to þe wedow

/sche was comawndyd in hir spyryt • to byddyn þe wedow levyn

hir co*n*fesso*wr* • þ*at* was þ*at* tyme • yf sche wold plesyn god • And gon

to þe Ankyr at þ*e* ffrer p*re*chowrys in lenn • & schewyn hym

hir lyfe • Whan þ*i*s creatur dede þ*i*s massage þe wedow wold

not levyn hir wordys ne hir gostly fadyr neyþ*yr* • les þa*n* god

wold ȝevyn hir þ*e* same grace þ*at* he ȝaf þ*i*s creatur • And sche

chargyd þ*i*s creatur þ*at* sche xuld no mor comyn in hir place

& for þ*i*s creatur teld hir þ*at* sche had to fele lofe of affecyon

to hir gostly fadyr • þ*er* for þe wedow seyde it had ben good to

þ*i*s creatur þ*at* hir lofe & hir affeccyon wer set as hir was •

[than owyr lord bad þ*i*s creatur don wryten a lett*yr* & send it

hir • A Mayst*yr* of dyuynite wrot a lett*yr* at þe request of þ*i*s

creatur & sent to þe wedow • w*yth* þese clawsys þ*at* folwyn • On

clause was þ*at* þe wedow xuld neu*yr* han þe g*ra*ceþ*at* þ*i*s creatur

had • A noþ*er* was þow þ*i*s creatur come neu*yr* in hir howse

it plesyd god ryt wel • Owyr lord seyd eftsonys to þ*i*s creatur

it wer bett*yr* to hir þa*n* al þ*i*s world & hir lofe wer sett as

thyn is • & I byd þe gon to hir gostly fadyr & telle hym • for

he wyl not belevyn þi word*ys* þei schal be departyd a su*n*dyr

er þa*n* he be war • & þei þ*at* ben not of hir cownsel xal knowy*n*

it er þa*n* •he [strike in red] wheþ*yr* he wyl or not •• lo dowt*yr* her mayst þow

se how hard it is to dep*ar*tyn a man fro hys owyn wyl ••

/& all þ*i*s p*ro*cesse was fulfyllyd in trewth • as þe creatur had

seyd be forn • twelue ȝer aft*yr*ward [þa*n* þ*i*s creatur suffryd

mech tribulacyon & gret heuynesse for sche seyd þese

wordys as owyr lord bad hir sey •[ & euyr sche encresyd

in þ*e* lofe of god & was mor bold þa*n* sche was be forn .;.

**f. 23r**

**B**E fornþ*i*s creatur went to Ier*usa*l*e*mowyr lord sent hir

to a worshipful lady þ*at* sche xuld spekyn w*yth* hir in

cownsel • & do hys erden ][overwritten eraend] vn to hir •• þe lady wold not

speke w*yth* hir les þa*n* hir gostly fadyr wer p*re*sent • & sche seyd

sche was wel plesyd & þa*n* whan þe ladys gostly fadyr was

comyn þei wentyn in toa chapel al thre to gedyr And

þa*n* þ*i*s creatur seydw*yth* gret reu*er*ens & many teerys •• Madam •’•’

owyr lordIh*es*u c*ri*st bad me telle ȝow þ*at* ȝo*wr* husbond is in

p*ur*gatory & þat ȝe schal ben savyd but it schal be long er

he come to hevyn •• And þa*n* þelady was dysplesyd & seyd

hir husbond was a good ma*n* • sche levyd not þ*at* he was in

p*ur*gatory • hir gostly fadyr held w*yth* þ*i*s creatur & seyd it //

mygth rygth wel ben so as sche seyd • & co*n*fermyd hir word*ys*

w*yth* many holy talys • And þa*n* þis lady sent hir dowt*yr* w*yth*

~~many~~oþ*er* meny w*yth* hir •’ to þeAnkyr whech was p*ri*ncypal

confesso*wr* to þ*i*s creatur • þ*at* he schuld forsakyn hir & ellys he

xuld lesyn hir frenshep •• The Ankyr seyd to þemassanger*ys*

þ*at* he wold not forsakyn þ*i*s creatur for no ma*n* in erthe ••

for to swech creaturys as wold inq*wi*ryn of hym hir man*er*

of gou*er*nawns & how he held of hir • he seyd sche was

godd*ys* owyn s*er*uawnt • And also he seyd sche was þ*e* tab*er*nakyl

of god • And þeAnkyr seyd vn to hir owyn p*er*sone• for to

strengthyn hir in hir feyth •• þow god toke fro ȝow al teerys

& dalyawns beleuyth neu*yr* þe les þ*at* god louyth ȝow / & þat

ȝe schal be ryt sekyr of hevyn • for þ*at* ȝe haue had be for

tyme for teerys w*yth* lofe • is þegrettest ȝeft þ*at* god may

ȝevyn in erth •/ & al men þ*at* louyn god owyn to thankyn

hym for ȝow •• Also þ*er* was a wedow p*re*yd þ*i*s creatur to

p*re*ynfor hir husbond • & wete yf he had ony nede of help

& as þ*i*s creatur p*re*yd for hym • sche was answeryd þ*at* hys

sowle xuld be xxx ȝer in p*ur*gatory • les þa*n* he had bett*yr*

frendys in erthe •• thus sche teld þ*e* wedow & seyd ȝy[f ȝe]

wyl don almes for hym • iii • pownd er • iiii • in m[essys]

**f. 23v**

& almes ȝeuyng to powyr folke ȝe schal hyly plesyn god & don þe

sowle gret esse •[ þ*e* wedow toke lytyl hede at hir word*ys* & let it pa//

syn forth •/ þa*n* þ*i*s creatur went to þe Ankyr & teld hym how

sche had felt & he seyd þe felyng was of god & þe dede in þe

self was good þow þe sowle had no nede þ*er* of& cownseld

it xuld be fulfylled •/ þa*n* þ*i*s creatur teld þ*i*s mat*er* to hir gostly

fadyr þ*at* he xuld speke to þe wedow & so it was long tyme

þ*at* þ*i*s creatur herd no mo of þ*i*s mat*er* Aft*yr*ward owyr lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st

seyd to þ*i*s creatur • þ*at* thyng I bad xuld a be don for þesowle it

is not don Aske now þi gostly fadyr & so sche dede & he seyd

it was not don sche seyd a ȝen My lord Ih*es*u c*ri*st teld me so

rygth now .;.

**O**N a day as þ*i*s creatur was heryng hir messe a ȝong

man and a good p*re*stheldyng up þe sac*ra*ment in hys

hand*ys* ou*yr* hys hed þe sacrament schok & flekeryd

to & fro as a dowe flekeryth w*yth* hir weng*ys* /& wha*n* he held

up þe chalys w*yth* þe p*re*cyows sac*ra*ment þ*e* chalys mevyd to & fro

as it xuld a fallyn owt of hys handys •[ Whan þe sacre

was don þ*i*s creatur had gret m*er*ueyle of þe steryng &

mevyng of þe blyssed sac*ra*ment desyring to se mor sacreys

& lokyng yf it wold don so a ȝen / þ*an* seyd owyr lord Ih*es*u

crist toþe creatur • þow xalt no mor sen it in þ*i*s maner

þ*er* forthank god þ*at* þow hast seyn •7[ My dowt*yr* bryde say me

neu*yr* in þ*i*s wyse • þa*n* seyd þ*i*s creatur in hir thowt •[ lord

what betokenyth þ*i*s •/ It betokenyth veniawnce •/ A good lord

what veniawnce •/ þa*n* seyd owyr lord a ȝen to hir þ*er* xal be

an erdene tel it whom þow wylt in þe name of Ih*es*u •/

[for I telle þe forsoþe rygth as I spak to seynt Bryde • ryte

so I speke to þe dowt*yr* / & I telle þe trewly it is trewe eu*er*y

word þ*at* is wretyn in • brides boke / & be þe it xal be knowy*n*

for very trewth And þow xalt faryn wel dowt*yr* in spyte

of alle thyn enmys •/ þe mor envye thei han to þ*e* for my

[gr]acel • þe bett*yr* xal I lofe þe / I wer not rygthful god but

[I louy]d þe for I knowe þe bett*yr* þa*n* þow dost þi self •• What

[þat euyr men] seyn of þe • þow seyst I haue gret paciens • in //

**f. 24r**

þe syn of þe pepyl And þow seyst soth [but yf þow sey þe

synne of þe pepyl as I do þow xuldyst haue mech more

m*er*vayle in my pacyens & mech mor sorwe in þe synne

of þe pepyl þa*n* þow hast •/ þa*n* þe creatur seyd • Alas der//

worthy lord what xal I do for þe pepyl •/ Owyr lord answe//

ryd it is i now to þe to don as þow dost •/ þa*n* sche p*re*yed

M*er*cyful lord c*ri*st Ih*es*u in þe is al m*er*cy & grace & goodnes •

haue m*er*cypyte & co*m*passyon of hem •• Schew þi m*er*cy &

thy goodnes vp on hem / help hem • send hem very co*n*tri//

cyon & late hem neu*yr* deyn in her synne •/ Owyr m*er*cy//

ful lord seyde / I may no mor dowt*yr* of my rytfulnesse

do for hem þa*n* I do •/ I send hem p*re*chyng & techyng • pesty//

lens & bataylys hungyr and famynyng losse of her good*ys*

w*yth* gret sekenesse & many *o*þ*er* t*ri*bulacyons • & þei wyl

not leuyn my word*ys* • ne þei wyl not knowe my vysitacyon •

& þ*e*rforI xal sey to hem þ*at* I made my s*er*uawnt*ys* to p*re*y

for ȝow & ȝe despysed her werk*ys* & her leuyng .;.

**I**N þe tyme þ*at* þ*i*s creatur had reuelacyons owyr lord

seyd to hir / dowt*yr* þow art w*yth* childe • sche seyd a ȝen •

A lord how xal I þa*n* do for kepyng of my chylde ••7

/owir lord seyd • dowt*yr* drede þe not I xal ordeyn for an

kepar •/ lord I am not worthy to heryn þe spekyn & þ*us*

to comown w*yth* myn husbond •/ ner þe lesse it is to me

gret peyn & gret dysese •/ þ*er*for is it no synne to þ*e* dowt*yr*

for it is to þe raþ*ar* mede & m*er*yte • & þow xalt haue neu*yr*

þe lesse g*ra*ce /for I wyl þ*at* þow bryng me forth mor frwte •

þa*n* seyd þe creatur • lord Ih*es*u þ*i*s man*er* of leuyng longyth

to thy holy maydens •/ ȝa dowt*yr* trow þow rygth wel þ*at* I

lofe wyfes also • And specyal þo wyf*ys* whech woldy*n* levyn

chast ȝyf þei mygtyn haue her wyl & don her besynes

to plesyn me as þow dost •• ffor þow þe state of mayden//

hode be mor p*ar*fyte& mor holy þan þe state of wedew//

hode • & þe state of wedewhode mor p*ar*fyteþa*n* þe state [of]

**f. 24v**

wedlake • ȝet dowt*yr* • I lofe þe as weI as any mayden in þ*e* world •

• þ*er* may no man let me to lofe whom I wele • & as mech as I wyl •

/for lofe dowt*yr* qwenchith al synne • & þ*er*for aske of me þ*e* ȝyft*ys*

of lofe • þ*er* is no ȝyft so holy as is þe ȝyft of lofe • ne no þing

to be so mech desyred as lofe • for lofe may p*ur*chasyn what

it can desyren • & þ*er*for dowt*yr* • þow mayst no bett*yr* plesyn

god þa*n* co*n*tynuly to thinkyn on hys lofe • Than þ*i*s creatur

askyd owyr lord Ih*es*u how sche xuld best louyn hym • And

owyr lord seyd haue mende of þi wykydnesse & thynk

on my goodnes [sche seyd a geyn • I am þe most vnworþ*i*

creatur þ*at* eu*yr* þow schewedyst g*ra*cevn to in erth • A dowt*yr*

seyd owyr lord • fere þe nowt I take non hede what a

man hath ben • but I take hede what he wyl ben • Dowt*yr*

þow hast despysed þi self • þ*er*forþow xalt neu*yr* be des//

pysed of god • haue mend dowt*yr* what Mary Mawdelyn//

was • Mary Eypcyan Seynt powyl • & many oþ*er* seyntys

þ*at* arn now in hevyn • for of vnworthy I make worthy

[& of synful I make rytful / & so haue I mad þ*e* worthy

to me ••[ onys louyd & eu*yr*mor lovyd w*yth* me [þ*er* is no seynt

in heuyn þ*at* þow wylt speke wyth • but he xal com to þ*e* •

Whom þ*at* god louyth • þei louyn • Wha*n* þ*u* plesyst god þow

plesyst hys modyr • & al þe seynt*ys* in heuyn • Dowt*yr* I

take wytnesse of my modyr • of alle þe Awngelys in

heuyn • & of alle þe seynt*ys* in hevyn • þ*at* I loue þe w*yth* all

myn hert • & I may not forberyn [overwritten: forgetyn] þi lofe •• Owyr lord seyd

þa*n* to hys blysful modyr • blyssed modyr telle ȝe my dowt*yr*

of þe gretnesse of loue • I haue vn to hir • Than þ*i*s creat*ur*

lay stylle al in wepyng & sobbyng • as hir hert xuld a

brostyn for þeswetnesse of spech þ*at* owyr lord spak on

to hir sowle •• A swythe aft*yr* • þe qwen of m*er*cy goddys

modyr • dalyed to þesowle of þ*i*s creatur • seying • My der//

worthy dowt*yr* • I bryng þe sekyr tydyng*ys* wytnessyng my

swet sone Ih*es*u • w*yth* alle Awngelys & alle seynt*ys* in heuyn

whech louyn þe ful hily •• Dowt*yr* • I am thy modyr • þi lady •//

**f. 25r**

and thy maystres • for to teche þe in al wyse • how þ*u* schalt

plese god best •• Sche tawt þ*i*s creatur & informyd hir so //

wondyrfully • þ*at* sche was abaschyd to speke it or telle it to

any • þe maters wer so hy & so holy saf only to þe Ankyr •

whech was hir p*ri*ncypal co*n*fesso*wr* • for he cowde most skyl

in swech thyng*ys* • & he chargyd þ*i*s mater be v*er*tu of obe//

dyens to tellyn hym what þ*at* eu*yr* sche felt & so sche dede .;.

**A**S þ*i*s creatur lay in co*n*templacyon for wepy*n*g

in hir spiryt sche seyde to owyr lord Ih*es*u cryst •

A lord Maydenys dawnsyn now m*er*yly in heuyn •’

[xal not I don so • for be cawse I am no mayden • lak [E over k? ul for h above?] of may//

denhed is to me now gret sorwe • Me thynkyth I wolde

I had ben slayn whan I was takyn fro þe funt ston • þ*at*

I xuld neu*yr* a dysplesyd þ*e* • & þa*n* xuldyst þ*u* blyssed lorde

an had my maydenhed w*yth* owtyn ende • A der god I haue not

lovyd þe alle þ*e* days of my lyue • & þ*at* sor r*e*wyth me • I haue

ronnyn a wey fro þe • & þow hast ronnyn aft*yr* me • I wold fal//

lyn in dyspeyr & þ*u* woldyst not suffer me • A dowt*yr* how

oftyn tymes haue I teld þe þ*at* thy synnes arn forȝoue

þe • & þ*at* we ben onyd i*n* loue to gedyr ^ w*yth* owtyn ende /• þ*u* art to

me a synguler ~~i~~ lofe dowt*yr* • & þ*er*for I behote þ*e* • þ*u* • schalt

haue a synguler g*ra*cein hevyn • dowt*yr* & I be hest þe þ*at* I shal

come to þin ende at þi deyng • w*yth* my blyssed modyr &

myn holy Awngelys • & twelve apostelys • Seynt kat*er*yne •

seynt Margarete • Seynt Mary Mawdelyn • & many oþer

seynt*ys* þ*at* ben in hevyn • whech ȝevyn gret worshep to me •

for þe g*ra*ce • þ*at* I ȝeue to þe ^thy god & þi lord Ih*es*u •/ þow þart drede

no grevows peynes in þi deyng • for þ*u* xalt haue thy

desyre • þ*at* is to haue mor mynde of my passyon • þa*n* on

þin owyn peyne ••[ þ*u* xalt not dredyn þe devyl of helle •

for he hath no powyr in þ*e* • he dredyth þe mor þa*n* thow

dost hym • he is wroth w*yth* þ*e* • for þ*u* turmentyst hym mor •

w*yth* þi wepyng • þa*n* doth al þe fyer in helle •• þ*u* wynnyst

many sowlys fro hym w*yth* þi wepyng • & I haue be hygth

**f. 25**v

þe þ*at* þ*u* xuldyst noon oþ*er* p*u*rgatory han þan slawndyr & speche of þe

world •/ for I haue chastysed þe my self as I wolde be many gret

dred*ys* & t*ur*mentriis þ*at* þ*u* hast had • wyth euyl spyrit*ys* boþin slepy*n*g

& wakyng many ȝerys • ~~& þ~~*~~er~~*~~for~~ / & þ*er*for I schal p*re*s*er*uyn þe at

þin ende • thorw my m*er*c*y* • þat þei schal no powyr haue o*uyr* þe

neyþ*yr* in body ne in sowle ••[ it is gret g*ra*ce & myracle þ*at* þ*u* hast

thy bodyly wytt*ys* for þe vexacyon þ*at* þ*u* hast had *w*yth hem a for

tyme •• I haue also dowt*yr* chastised þe w*yth* þe drede of my //

godhede • & many tymes haue I feryd þ*e* w*yth* gret tempest*ys* of

wynd*ys* • þ*at* þ*u* wendyst veniawns xuld a fallyn on þ*e* for synne •

I haue p*re*uydþe be many t*ri*bulacyons • many gret heuynes •

& many grevows sekenes • in so mech • þ*at* þ*u* hast ben a noyted

for deed / & al thorw my g*ra*ce hast þ*u* skapyd •[ þ*er*for drede þe

nowt dowt*yr* for w*yth* my*n* owyn hand*ys* whech wer nayled to

þe crosse I xal take þi sowle fro þi body • w*yth* gret myrthe

& melodye • w*yth* swet smellys & good odowrys • & offyr it to

my fadyr in heuyn þ*er* þ*u* xalt se hym face to face • wonyng

w*yth* hym w*yth* owtyn ende •• Dowt*yr* þu xalt be ryte wolcome to

my fadyr & to my modyr & to alle my seynt*ys* in hevyn

for þ*u* hast ȝouyn hem drynkyn ful many tymes • w*yth* teerys

of thyn eyne •[ alle myn holy seynt*ys* xal enioyenof þ*i* comy*n*g

hom •• þ*u* xalt be fulfyllyd of al man*er* lofe þ*at* þ*u* coueytyst •/ þa*n*

xalt þ*u* blysse þ*e* tyme þ*at* þ*u* wer wrowte • & þ*e* body þ*at* þ*e* hath dere

bowte •• he xal ioyen in þ*e* & þ*u* in hym w*yth* owtyn ende •• Dowt*yr*

I be hote þ*e* • þ*e* same g*ra*ce • þ*at* I be hyte seynt kateryne seynt

Margarete • seynt barbara • & seynt Powle • in so mech þat

what creatur in erth vn to þ*e* day of dom • aske þ*e* any

bone & beleuyth þ*at* god louyth þ*e* he xal haue ~~is~~ hys bone •

& er ellys a bett*yr* thing • þ*er*for ~~&~~ [strike in red] þei þ*at* beleuyn þ*at* god louyth

þ*e* •þei xal ben blyssed w*yth* owtyn ende •• The sowlys in p*ur*ga//

tory xal ioyn in þi comyng hom • for þei knowyn wel þ*at* god

louyth þ*e* specyaly [& men in erth schal ioyn in god for þe ••

**f. 26r**

for he xal werkyn meche g*ra*ce for þe• And makyn al þeworld to kno//

wyn þ*at* god louyth þe [þ*u* hast bedespysed for my lofe • & þ*er*for þ*u*

xalt be worshepyd formy lofe •• Dowt*yr* whan þ*u* art in heuyn

þ*u* xaltmown askyn what þ*u* wylt & I xal grawnte þ*e* al þi

desyr • I haue telde þebe for tyme þ*at* þ*u* art a synguler louer •

/ & þ*er*for þ*u* xalt haue a synguler loue in heuyn / a synguler

reward / & a synguler worshep / & for as mech as þ*u* art a //

mayden in þi sowle • I xal take þ*e* be þeon hand in hevyn / &

my Modyr be þeoþ*er* hand / & so xalt þ*u* dawnsyn ^gostly in hevyn w*yth*

oþ*er* holy maydens & v*ir*gynes • for I may clepyn þ*e* dere a bowte

& myn owyn derworthy derlyng • I xal sey to þ*e* my*n* owyn

blyssed spowse • Welcome to me w*yth* al man*er* of ioye & gladnes •

her to dwellyn w*yth* me & neu*yr* to departyn fro me w*yth* owtyn ende •

but eu*yr* to dwellyn w*yth* me in ioy & blysse • whech non eye may

se ne eer heryn ne tu*n*ge telle ne no*n* hert thynkyn • þat I

haue ordeynd for þe & for alle my s*er*uawnt*ys* þe whech desy//

ryn to lofe me & plesyn me as þ*u* dost •;• deo gra*tia*s i*n* et*er*n*a*m

Ther cam onys a vykary to þ*i*s creatur p*re*yng hir

to p*re*yfor hym • & ^to wetyn whedyr he xuld mor plese

god to leuyn hys cure & hys benefyce • or to kepe

it stylle for hym thowt he p*ro*fyted not a mong hys parys//

shonys •[ þ*e* creatur beyng in hir p*re*yers hauyng mende of þ*i*s

mat*er* • c*ri*stseyde vn to hir spyrite •• bydde þ*e* vykary • kepyn stylle

hys cure & hys benefyce / & don hys diligence in p*re*chyng &

techyng of hem hys owyn p*er*sone • & su*m*tyme p*ro*curyn oþ*er* to

teche hem my lawys • & my comawndment*ys* • so þ*at* þ*er* be no //

defawte in hys p*ar*te• & ȝyf þei do neu*yr* þe bett*y*r • hys mede

xal neu*yr* be þe lesse • & so sche dede hir massage & ^as sche was

comawndyd & þe vykary kept stylle hys cur •7

As þ*i*s creatur was in a cherch of seynt Margarete in þe

qwer • wher a cors was p*re*sent • & he þ*at* was husbond of þ*e* same

cors • whyl sche leuyd was þ*er* in good hele for to offeryn

hir messe peny • aft*yr* þ*e* custom of þe place •[ owyr lord seyd //

**f. 26v**

to þe forseyd creatur • lo dowt*y*r þe sowle of þ*i*s cors is in p*ur*gatory

& he þ*at* was hir husbond is now in good hele / & ȝet he xal ben

ded in schort tyme / & so it be fel as sche felt be reuelacyon •

Also as þ*i*s creatur lay in þe qwer in hir p*re*yers a p*re*stcam

to hir & p*re*yde hir to p*re*yfor a woma*n* whech layin poynt of

deth •[ as þ*i*s creatur gan to p*re*yfor hir• owyr lord seyd to hir •

Dowt*yr* it is gret nede to p*re*yfor hir • for sche hath ben a wykkyd

woman & sche xalbe ded •/ & sche seyd a ȝen •• lord as þ*u* louyst

mesaue hir sowle • fro dampnacyon • & þa*n* sche weptw*yth*

plentyuows teerys for þ*at* sowle [ & owyr lordgrawntyd hir

m*er*cyfor þe sowle • comawndyng hir top*re*yfor hir • Thys

creaturys gostly fadyr cam to hir• mevyng hir to p*re*yfor

a woma*n* whech lay in pointof deth to mannys sygthe •

[& a non owyr lord seydsche xuld levyn & faryn wel & so

sche dede •• A good man whech was a gret frend to þis

creatur • & an helply to þe powyr pepyl • was strongly

seke many wekys togedyr • & mech mone was mad for

hym •• for men wend he xuld neu*yr* a leuyd • hys peyn was

so wondyrful inalle hys ioynt*ys* & in al hys body •• Owyr

lord Ih*es*useyd to hir spirite •• Dowt*yr* be not abaschyd • for þ*i*s

man he schal levyn & faryn rygth wel / & so he leuyd //

many ȝerys aft*yr* in good helth & p*ro*sp*e*rte •• An oþ*er* good ma*n*

whech was a lyster lay seke also [& wha*n* þ*i*s creature

p*re*yd for hym it was answeryd to hir mende• þ*at* he xulde

languryn a whyle • & sythen he xuld ben dedw*yth* þ*at* same

sekenesse [& so he was in schort tymeaft*yr* •7[ Also a wor//

shepful woman & as men leuyd an holy woma*n* whech

was a specyal frende to þ*i*s creatur • wasryte seke & mech

pepyl wend sche xuld a be ded [þa*n* þ*i*s creatur p*re*yng for

hyr • Owyr lord seyd sche xalnot deyn þ*i*s • x • ȝer •• for ȝe

schal aft*yr* þ*i*s makyn fulmery to gedyr • & han ful good

comunycacyon as ȝe han had be for / & so it was in //

trewth þ*i*s holy womanleuyd many ȝerys aft*yr* •7[ Many //

**f. 27r**

mo swech reuelacyons þ*i*s creatur had in felyng •[ hem alle for to

wryten it xuldbe lettyng p*er*auentur of mor p*ro*fyte • þes be wretyn

for to schewyn þe homlynes & Þe goodlynes of owyr m*erc*yful

lord c*ri*st Ih*es*u • & for no co*m*mendacyon of þe creatur •• þ*es* felyng*ys*

& swech oþ*er* many mo þa*n* be wretyn boþ*e* of leuyng & of deyng •

of su*m*me to be sauyd • of su*m*me to be dammyd • weryn to þ*i*s c*re*at*ur*

gret peyn & ponyschyng • Sche had leu*ar* a sufferyd any bodyly

penawns þa*n* þes felyng*ys* • & sche mygth a put hem a wey • for

þe dred þ*at* sche had of illusyons & deceyt*ys* of hir gostly enmys •

Sche had su*m*tyme so gret trubbyl w*yth* swech felyng*ys* whan it

fel not trewe to hir vndyrstandyng • þ*at* hir co*n*fesso*wr* feryd þat

sche xuld a fallyn in dyspeyr þ*er*w*yth* *•*•And þa*n* aftyr hir t*ur*bele

& hir gret fere • it xuld ben schewyd vn to hir sowle • how

þ*e* felyng*ys* xuld ben vndyrstondyn .;.

**T**he p*re*st whech wrot þ*i*s boke for to p*re*uyn þ*i*s creat*ur*ys

felyng*ys* • many tymes & dyuers tymes • he askyd

hir qwestyons & demawnd*ys* of thyng*ys* þ*at* wer for

to komyn • vn sekyr & vncerteyn • as þ*at* tyme to any creatur

what xuld be þe ende ^ p*re*ynghir þei [correction in black] sche wer loth & not wylly

to do swech thyng*ys* • for to p*re*yto god þ*er*for • & wetyn whan owyr

lord wold visiten hir w*yth* deuocyon what xuld be þ*e* ende [and

trewly w*yth* owtynany feyny*n*g tellyn hym how sche felt • &

ellys wold he not gladlych a wretyn þe boke •• And so þ*i*s c*re*a*tur*

sumdel for drede • þ*at* he wold ellys ^not a folwyd hir entent for

to wryten þ*i*s boke •• compellyd •’•’ dede as he p*re*yd hir • & telde

hym hir felyng*ys* • what xuld be fallyn in swech materys as

he askyd hir •• ȝyf hir felyng*ys* wer trewth • & þ*us* he p*re*uyd he*m*

for very trewth [& ȝet he wold not alwey ȝeuyn credens

to hir word*ys* • & þ*at* hyndryd hym in þ*i*s man*er* þ*at* folwyth •[ It

be fel on a tyme þ*at* þ*er* cam a ȝong man to þ*i*s p*re*st • whech

ȝong man • þe p*re*ste neu*yr* sey be forn •• co*m*pleynyng to þe p*re*ste

of pou*er*te •& disese whech he was fallyn in be infortunyte •

expleyntyng þe cawse of infortunyte [seying also • he [had]

**f. 27v**

takyn holy orderys for to be a p*re*ste • for a lytil hastynes hym self

defendyng as he mygth not chesyn les þa*n* he wold a be ded •

• thorw p*ur*sute of hys enmys • he smet a man or ellys tweyn •

wher thorw as he seyde wer ded • or ellys lyche for to be ded •

[& so he was fallyn in to irregularite • & mygth not executy*n*

hys orderys w*yth* owtyn dispensacyon of þe cowrt of Rome

[& for þ*i*s cawse he fled fro hys frend*ys* • & durst not comyn

in hys contre • for drede to be takyn for her deth •7[ þ*e* forseyd

p*re*ste ȝeuyng credens to þe ȝong mannys word*ys* • in as //

mech as he was an amyabyl p*er*sone fayr feturyd • wel fa//

ueryd • in cher & in cuntenawns • sad in hys langage • and

dalyawns • p*re*stly in hys gestur & vestur • hauyng co*m*passyo*n*

of hys disese • p*ur*posyng to getyn hym frend*ys* in to hys rele//

vyng • & comfort • went to a worshepful • burgeys in lenn

a Meyrs pere • & a m*er*cyful man • whech lay in gret seknes •

/ & long tyme had don co*m*pleynyng to hym • & to hys wyfe

a ful good woman • of þe myschef of þ*i*s ȝong man • trusty*n*g

to haue fayr almes • as he oftyn tyme had for oþ*er* þ*at* he

askyd for • it happyd þ*e* creatur of whom þ*i*s boke is wrety*n*

to ben þ*er* p*re*sent • & herd how þe p*re*ste co*m*pleyned for þ*e* ȝong

man • & how þ*e* p*re*ste p*re*ysed hym • & sche was sor mevyd i*n*

hir spiryt a geyns þ*at* ȝong man • & seyd þei haddy*n* many

powyr neybowrys • whech þei knewyn wel a now hady*n*

gret nede to ben holpyn & relevyd • & it was mor almes

to helpyn hem þ*at* þei knewyn wel for wel dysposyd folke •

[& her owyn neybowrys • þa*n* oþ*er* strawngerys whech þei

knew not • for many spekyn & schewyn ful fayr owtward

to þe sygth of þe pepyl • god know*yth* what þei arn in her

sowlys • The good man & hys wife thowtyn þ*at* sche seyd

rygth wel & þ*er*for þei woldyn grawntyn hym non almes •

[at þ*at* tyme • þe p*re*st*e* was euyl plesyd w*yth* þ*i*s creatur & wha*n*

he mett w*yth* hir a lone • he rehersyd how sche had lettyd hy*m*

[þ*at* he mygth non almes getyn for þe ȝong man whech was

[a] wel dysposyd man as hym thowt & co*m*mendyd mech //

**f. 28r**

hys gouernawns •[ þe creatur seyd • Sere god knowyth what hys gou*er*naw*n*s

is • for þ*at* I wot of I sey hym neu*yr* • & ȝet I haue vndyrstondyng what

hys gou*er*nawns xuld be •[ & þ*er*for ser yf ȝe wyl do be my cownsel

& aft*yr* þ*at* I fele • lathyth hym chesyn & helpyn hym selfe • as wel

as he can • & medyl ȝe not w*yth* hym • for he xal dysceyue ȝow at

þe last ••[ þ*e* ȝong man resortyd alwey to þe p*re*steflateryng hym •

& seyng þ*at* he hath good frend*ys* in oþ*er* plac*ys* •whech xuld helpy*n*

hym ȝyf þei wysten wher he wer • & þ*at* in schort tyme & also

þei woldyn thankyn þo p*er*sonys þ*at* had supportyd hy*m* in hys

dysese •[ The p*re*ste trustyng it xuld be as þis ȝong ma*n* teld //

hym lent hym sylu*er* w*yth* good wyl to helpyn hym w*yth •*[þe ȝong ma*n*

p*re*yed þe p*re*steto haue hym excused if he sey hym not of too

days er thre •[ for he xuld gon a lytyl wey & comyn a geyn in

schort tyme & bryng hym a ȝen hys sylu*er* rygth wel & trewly

The p*re*ste hauyng co*n*fidens in hys p*ro*mysse • was wel co*n*tent

grawntyng hym good lofe & leue vn to þe day whech he had

p*ro*mysed to come a geyn •• Whan he was gon •’• þ*e* forseyde //

creatur hauyng vndyrstondyng be felyng in hir sowle •’•

as owyr lord wold schewyn þ*at* he was an vntrewe man

& no mor wold come a geyn • sche for to p*re*ve wheþ*yr* hir fe//

lyng was trewe or fals • askyd þe p*re*ste wheþ*yr* þe ȝong man

was þ*at* he had p*re*ysed so mech • The p*re*ste seyd he walkyd a lytil

way & trustyd þ*at* he wold come a geyn • Sche seyd sche sup//

posyd þ*at* he wold no mor se hym • ne no mor he dede neu*yr*

aft*yr* [& þa*n* he repentyd hym þat he had not don aft*yr* hir

cownsel • In schort tyme aft*yr* þ*i*s was passyd comyth an

oþ*er* fals schrewe • an elde man to þ*e* same p*re*ste & p*ro*feryd

hym a portose • a good lytyl boke for to selle • þ*e* p*re*ste went

to þe forseyd creatur p*re*yng hir to p*re*y*e* for hym & wetyn

whedyr god wolde he xulde by þe boke er not / & whyl sche

p*re*yd he cheryd þe man as weI as he cowde & sythen he

cam a geyn to þ*i*s creatur & askyd how sche felt • Syr

sche seyth • byith no boke of hym for he is not to trustyn

vp on [ & þ*at* xal ȝe wel knowyn ȝyf ȝe medyl w*yth* hy[m]

**f. 28v**

Than þe p*re*ste p*re*yde þe man þ*at* he mygt se þ*i*s boke / þe man seyde

he hath it not vp on hym •/ þe p*re*ste askyd how he cam þ*er* by *•*/he

seyd he was executor to a p*re*ste whech was of hys kynred • & he

chargyd hym to sellyn it & dysposyn it for hym • /ffadyr seyde

þe p*re*ste be cawse of reu*er*ens why p*ro*fyr ȝe me þ*i*s boke raþar

þan ^to oþ*er* men or oþ*er* p*re*stys whan þ*er* arn many mo thryftyare

richare p*re*stysin þ*i*s cherch þa*n* I am • & I //wel //wot ȝe had neu*yr*

no knowlach of me be fore þ*i*s tyme / for soþ*e* syr he seyde

no mor I had / neu*yr* þ*e* les I haue good wyl w*yth* ȝo*wr* p*e*rsone • & also

it was hys wyl þat awt it be for • þ*at* ȝef I knew any ȝong

p*re*ste þ*at* me thowt sad & wel dysposyd • þ*at* he xuld han þ*i*s boke

be fore any *o*þ*er* man • & for lesse prys þa*n* any oþ*er* man • þ*at* he myt

p*re*y for hym / & þese cawsys mevyn me to come to ȝow raþer

þan to anoþ*er* man •[ þe p*re*ste askyd wher was hys dwelling •7//

Ser he seyde • but fyve myle fro þ*i*s place in penteney Abbey

/ þer haue I ben seyd þe p*re*ste & I haue not sey ȝow / no ser seyd

he a geyn [I haue be þ*er* but lytyl whyle • & now haue I ther

a lyuery þankyd be god • þe p*re*ste p*re*yd hym þ*at* he mygth haue

a sygth of þe boke / & lokyn yf þei mygth acordyn • he seyde

sere I hope to be her a geyn þe next woke & bryng it w*yth* me

& ser I be hote ȝow ȝe schal haue it before any oþ*er* man ȝyf

ȝow lyke it •/ þ*e* p*re*ste þankyd hym for hys good wyl • & so they

partyd a sundyr but þe man wold neu*yr* comy*n* at þ*e* p*re*ste

aft*yr* • & þan þe p*re*ste knew wel þ*at* þe forseyd creaturys felyng

was trewe .;.

**F**Erthermore her folwyth a rygth notabyl matere

of þe creaturys felyng • & it is wretyn her for

conuenyens • in as mech as it is in felyng leche

to þe materys þat ben wretyn be forn • not wythstondyng

it befel long aft*yr* þe materys whech folwyn •• It happyd in

a worshepful town wher was o parysch cherch • & tweyn

chapelys annexid • þe chapellys hauyng & mynystryng alle

sacrament*ys* except only c*ri*stenyng & purificacyons • thorw

sufferawns of þe p*e*rson whech was a Monke of seynt //

[be]net*ys* ordyr • sent fro þ*e* hows of Norwych • kepy*n*g resydens //

**f. 29r**

w*yth* •iii • of hys bretheryn in þe worshepful town be forn wretyn

Thorw su*m*me of þe parischenys desyry*n*g to make þe chapelys

lych to þe parysch church • p*ur*suyng a bulle fro þ*e* cowrt of Rome • fel

gret ple & gret heuynes be twen þe p*ri*owr whech was her p*er*son

& curat • & þe forseyd paryschenys þ*at* desyred to haue fvntys &

purificacyons in þe chapelys lych as wery*n* in þ*e* parysch cherch

/ & specyaly in þe on chapel whech was þe grett*ar* & þ*e* fayrare •

/ þei wold haue a funte • þ*er* was p*ur*suyd a bulle • in þe whech

was grawntyd a funte to þe chapel so it wer no derogacyon

to þe parysch church / þe bulle was put in ple & diuers days

wer kept be forme of lawe to p*re*uyn wheþ*yr* þe funte • ȝyf it

wer had xuld ben derogacyon to þe parysch chyrch or nowt •

/ þe paryschenys whech p*ur*suyd weryn rygth strong & haddyn

gret help of lordshyp • & also þ*e* most of aIle þei wer ryche //

men worshepful Marchawnt*ys* & haddyn gold a now whech

may spede in eu*er*y nede / & þ*at* is rewth •’ þ*at* mede xuld spede er

þa*n* trewth •• Neu*yr* þe lesse þe p*ri*owr whech was her p*er*son •’•

þei he wer powyr •’ manfully he wythstod hem • thorw þe help of

su*m*me of hys paryschenys whech wer hys frend*ys* • & louedyn

þ*e* worshep of her parysch chyrch • So long þ*i*s mat*er* was in

ple þ*at* it be gan yrkyn hem on boþ*e* sydes • & it was neu*yr* þ*e* nerar

an ende •/ þan was þe mat*er* put in myn lord of Norwych Alnewyk

to say if he mygth be trety bryng it to an ende •’ laboryd þ*i*s mat*er*

diligently • & for to settyn rest & pes he p*ro*feryd þ*e* forseyd parys//

chenys • mych of her desyre w*yth* certeyn condycyons in so mech

*þat* þei þ*at* heldyn w*yth* þ*e* p*er*son& w*yth* her parysch chyrche weryn

ful sory • dredyng gretly þ*at* þei þ*at* suyd for to haue a funte

xuld obteyn & getyn her intent & so makyn þ*e* chapel eqwal

to þe parysch church • Than þe p*re*st*e* whech aft*yr*ward wrot þ*i*s

boke went to þe creatur of whom þ*i*s tretys makyth me*n*cyon •

as he had don be forn in þe tyme of ple • & askyd hir how

sche felt in hir sowle in þ*i*s mat*er* • wh*e*þ*yr* þei xuld haue a fu*n*te

in þe chapel or nowt • Syr seyd þe creatur “ drede ȝe not

for I vndyrstond in my sowle þow þei woldyn ȝev[en hem]

**f. 29v**

a buschel of Nobelys • þei xuld not haue it •• A modyr seyd þe

p*re*ste • My lord of Norwych hath p*ro*feryd it hem w*yth* certeyn

condycyons • & þei haue a tyme of avysementfor to sey

nay or ȝa • wheþ*yr* þei wyl • And þ*er*forI ama ferd þei wyl

not deny it but be ryt glad to haue it •Thys creatur

p*re*ydto god þ*at* hys wyl myt be fulfyllyd •& for as mech

as sche had be reuelacyon • þ*at* þei xuldnot haue it • Sche

was þe mor bold to p*re*ynowyr lord towythstonde her

intent • & to slakyn her bost • And so asowyr lord wolde

þei obeyd not ne lyked not þe menyswhech wer p*ro*fe//

rydhem • for þei trostyd fully to han herentent be //

lordshep & be p*ro*cesof lawe • & as god wolde þei wer

decyuyd of her entent • And for þei wold han al • þei

lost al • And so blyssed mot god ben • þe parysch cherch

stod stylle in her worshep • & hyr degre • as sche had

don ii • hundryd ȝer befor & mor • And þe inspiracyon

of owyr lord • was be exp*er*iens p*re*uyd for very sothfast

& sekyr in þe forseyd creatur .;.

**W**han tyme cam þ*at* þ*i*s creatur xuld vysiten þo

holy plac*ys* wher owyr lord was whyk & ded •/as

sche had be reuelacyon ȝerys a forn • sche p*re*yd

þe parysch p*re*ste of þe town þ*er* sche was dwellyng • to sey for

hir in þe pulpyt • þ*at* yf any man er woman þ*at* cleymyd

any dette of hir husband or of hir •/ þei xuld come & speke

wyth hir er sche went & sche w*yth* þe help of god / xulde

makyn a seth to ech of hem • þ*at* þei schuldyn heldyn he*m*

content / & so sche dede •• Sythen sche toke hir leue at

hir husbond • & of þe holy ankyr • whech had teld hir

beforn þe p*ro*cess of hir goyng • & mech dysese þ*at* sche

xuld sufferyn be þe wey • And whan alle hir felaschep

forsoke hir •• how a broke bakkyd man xuld ledyn hire

forth in safte •• thorw þe help of owyr lord & so it be

[fel inl dede • as it xal be wretyn aft*yr*warde • Than //

**f. 30r**

sche toke hir leue of Mayst*yr* Rob*er*t & p*re*yd hym of hys blyssyng •

& so forth of oþ*er* frend*ys* • & þa*n* sche went forth to Norwych and

offeryd at þe Trinite • & sythen sche went to ȝermowth &

offeryd at an ymage of owyr lady & þ*er* sche toke hir schyp •

& þe next day þei cam to a gret town hyte Seryce •• wher

owyr lord of hys hey goodnesse vysited þ*i*s creatur wyth

abundawnt teerys of cont*ri*cyon for hir owyn synnes • And

su*m*tyme for oþ*er* mennys synnes also • And specyaly sche

had teerys of co*m*passion in þe mende of owyr lordys //

passion • And sche was howselyd eche sonday wher þat

tyme was & place co*n*uenient þ*er*to•w*yth* gret wepyngys

& boystows sobbyng*ys* • þ*at* many men m*er*ueyled & wonderyd

of þe gret grace þ*at* god wrowt in hys creatur • Thys cre//

atur had etyn no flesch ne drunkyn no wyn • iiii • ȝere •

er sche went owt of ynglond • And as now hyr gostly

fadyr chargyd hir be v*er*tu of obediens þ*at* sche xulde //

bothyn etyn flesch & drynkyn wyn • & so sche dede a lytyl

whyle • Sythen sche p*re*yd hir co*n*fesso*wr* •’•he wolde heldyn hir

excused þow sche ete no flesch • and suffred hir to do as sche

wold for a tyme as hym lykyd • And sone aft*yr* thorw meuyng

of su*m*meof her cu*m*pany hyr co*n*fessowr was dysplesyd for

sche ete no flesch / & so was mech of alle þ*e* cu*m*pany And

þei wer most displesyd for sche wepyd so mech / & spak alwey

of þe lofe & goodness of owyr lord / as wel at þe tabyl as

in oþ*er* place / & þ*er*for schamfully þei repreuyd hir & al to che//

dyn hir & seyden • þei wold not suffren hir as hir husbond

dede • whan sche was at hom & in Inglond • And sche seyd

mekely a geyn vn to hem • owyr lord al mygty god is as

gret a lord her as in Inglond • & as gret cawse haue I to

lofe hym her as þ*er* •blyssed mot he be •• ffor þes word*ys* hir

felaschep was wroþar þa*n* þei wer be forn • whose wreth

& vnkyndnesse to þ*i*s creatur • was mat*er* of gret heuynes •

for þei wer holdyn ryt good men & sche desyred gr[ etly]

her lofe • ȝyf sche myth • an had it to þe plesawns [of god]

**f. 30v**

& þan sche seyd to oon of hem specyaly •/ ȝe do me meche

schame & gret greuawns •• he answeryd ageyn anoon / I

p*re*ygod þ*at* þe deuelys deth mote ouyr go þe sone • & raþe &

many mo cruel word*ys* • he seyd to hir • þa*n* sche cowde rehersy*n*

and sone aft*yr* su*m*me of þe cu*m*pany • on whech sche trostyd

best • & hir owyn Mayden also • seyden sche xuld no leng*ar*

gon in her felaschep • & þei seyden þei woldyn han a wey

hyr mayden fro hir • þ*at* sche xuld no stru*m*pet be in hyr //

cu*m*pany • & þa*n* on of hem he had hir gold in kepyng • left

hir a nobyl w*yth* gret angyr & tene • to go wher sche wolde •

& helpyn hir self as wel as sche myth • for w*yth* hem þei

seyden sche xuld no leng*ar* abyde • & forsokyn hir þ*at* nygth

/ þa*n* on þe next morwyn þ*er* com to hir • on of hercu*m*pany

a Man whech louyd hir wel • p*re*ynghir þ*at* sche wold go to

hys felaws & mekyn hir on to hem • &p*re*y*n* hem þ*at* sche

myth go stylle in her cu*m*pany • tylsche come at Constawns

/ & so sche dede & wentforth w*yth* hem tyl sche cam at

Constawns • w*yth* gretdissese & gret turbyl •’• for þei dedyn

hir mech shame &mech rep*re*fe as þei wenty in dyuers

plac*y*s • Theycuttyd hir gown so schort • þ*at* it come but

lytil be nethynhir kne • & dedyn hir don on a whyte

canwas in ma*ner* of a sekkyn gelle • for sche xuld ben

holdyn a fool • & þe pepyl xuld not makyn of hir • ne

han hir in reputacyon • þei madyn hir to syttyn at þe

tabelys ende be nethyn alle oþ*er* • þ*at* sche durst ful euyl

spekyn a word • & not w*yth*stondyng al her malyce • sche

was had in mor worshep þ*an* þei wher þ*at* eu*yr* þ*e*i comyn

/ & þe good man of þe hows þ*er* þei wer hostellyd • þow

sche sat lowest at þ*e* tablys ende • wold al wey cheryn

hir be for hem alle • as he cowde & myth • & sent hir

of hys owyn mees • of swech s*er*uyseas he had • & þ*at*

greuyd hir felawshep ful euyl • As þei went be þ*e* wey

[to] Constawns ward it was teld hem þei xuldyn ben

[harmyd] • & han gret disese • les þa*n* þei had gret grace •