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YALE STUDIES IN ENGLISH

ALBERT S. COOK, EDITOR

III

THE LIFE OF ST. CECILIA

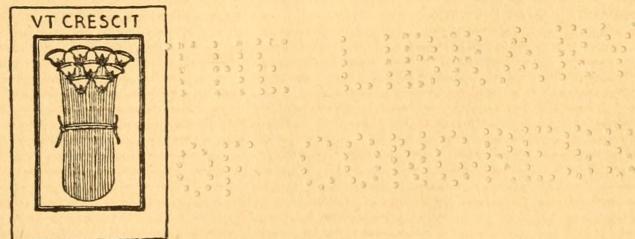
FROM

MS. ASHMOLE 43 AND MS. COTTON TIBERIUS E. VII

WITH INTRODUCTION, VARIANTS, AND GLOSSARY

BY

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LAMSON, WOLFFE AND COMPANY

BOSTON, NEW YORK AND LONDON

1898

*ASHMOLE MS. [fol. 185 back to 188 back].*

- S Eyn Cecile of noble kunne : ibore was at rome.  
 Our lord crist heo louede wel : ar heo fram cradel come  
 Heo lette hire baptise stilliche : as we fi[n]dep iwrite.  
 Gerne heo bed ihesu crist : hire maidenhod to wite.  
 5 poru hire frendes strengþe : ispoused heo was to a man.  
 Of gret nobleie & richesse : þat het valerian.  
 pis maide werede robe of pal : & clopes swiþe riche.  
 Gerlans & tresours al of golde : þe here next hire liche.  
 Wen þe menstrales songe hor song : of hor menstrasie. f. 186.  
 10 pis maide stilliche song of god : & seynte marie.  
 Of þe sauter heo song þis vers : þat mest was In hire poȝt.  
 ‘Let lord myn herte vn-wemmed be : þat Ine be confounded  
 noȝt.’  
 As heo was anyȝt in riche bedde : wiþ hire lord ibroȝt.  
 Sone hadde þis fole mon : of folie hire bisoȝt.  
 15 “Suete heorte” quaþ þis maide : “uor loue þat þou hast to me.  
 Grante þat ich þe mote telle a lute priuete.  
 & þat ich me mote scryue to þe : as conseil priue”  
 “Tristiliche þou miȝt” quaþ þis oper : “to soþe ich bihote þe.”  
 “Suete heorte” quaþ þis maide : “In warde icham ido.  
 20 An angel is my wardeyn : & my lefmon also.  
 Vaste he stont her by me : & ȝif he vnderȝete.  
 þat þou by-nome my maidenhod : uor noþing he nolde lete.  
 þat he nolde harde smyte : & by-nyme þe þi miȝte  
 Vor al þe nobleie þat þou hast : þe ne halt noȝt aȝen him fiȝte  
 25 Ac ȝif he seop þat þou louest me : In good lif & clene.

Legenda Aurea.

Cæcilia, virgo præclarissima, ex nobili Romanorum genere exorta, et ab ipsis cunabilis in fide Christi nutrita, absconditum semper evangelium Christi gerebat in pectore, et non diebus neque noctibus a colloquiis divinis et oratione cessabat, suamque virginitatem conservari a domino exorbat. Cum autem cuidam juveni, nomine Valeriano, desponsata fuisset, et dies nuptiarum instituta esset, illa subitus ad carnem cilicio erat induita, et desuper de auratis vestibus tegebatur, et cantantibus organis illa in corde soli domino decantabat dicens: “fiat, domine, cor meum et corpus meum immaculatum, ut non confundar;” et biduanis et triduanis jejuniis orans commendabat domino, quod timebat. Venit autem nox, in qua suscepit una cum sponso suo cubiculi secreta silentia, et ita eum alloquitur: “o dulcissime atque amantissime juvenis, est mysterium, quod tibi confitear, si modo tu juratus asseras, tota te illud observantia custodire.” Jurat Valerianus, se illud nulla necessitate detegere, nulla prodere ratione. Tunc illa ait: “angelum Dei habeo amatorem, qui nimio zelo custodit corpus meum. Hic si vel leviter senserit, quod tu me polluto amore contingas, statim feriet te, et amittes florem tuæ gratissimæ juventutis, si autem cognoverit, quod me sincero amore diligas, ita

MSS. Laud 108; Cmb. R. 3. 25.

1. L. seinte Cecilie, C. saint Cecelie (reg.) ; L. kynde, C. kunde; L. I-bore, C. bore | 2. L. oure, C. oure; L. louerd (reg.) L.ȝe (reg.); C. loued; C. or; | 3 L. let, C. lete; C. hure (reg.); L. baptiȝe, C. baptyse; L. C. Stilleliche (reg.); L. fynden; L. I-wryte, C. ywryte; | 4. L. bad, C. bade; C.-hode (reg.); | 5. C. þorwe; L. pp. I-(reg.), C. spoused; C. suyþe (MS. supþe?) | 6. C. grete; L. nobleye, C. nobley; L. his name was, C. hete; | 7. C. wered; C. palle; | 8. L. garlaundes, C. garlounz; L. tressoures, C. trassoures; C. nexte: | 9. L. whane ȝe herde menstrales song, ȝe song in hire menstralcie, C. wan myn-

MS. Bodley 799. [fol. 286a-288b.]

**S**eint Sisile of nobil kin bore was at Rome ;  
 Oure Lord Crist ghe louid wel er ghe fro cradil come ;  
 ghe leet here baptise stillelich, as we finde write,  
 gerin ghe had Ihesu Crist here maydinhood to kepe.  
 5 porw<sup>g</sup> here frendus strengbe, spousid ghe was to a man  
 Of gret nobley and ryches, þat heet Valerian.  
 pis mayde was cloþid in pal þat were swyþe ryche,  
 Garland also of gold, and her nex here lyche.  
 Whan mynstralus song here song of here mynstralsyge,  
 10 pis mayde stilleliche song of God and Seint Maryse.  
 Of þe sauter ghe song a vers þat mest was in here þouȝt,  
 "Leet, Lord, myn herte vnwemmed be, þat I comfounde be nouȝt."  
 As ghe was anyȝt be here lord in ryche beed I-brought,  
 Sone þis fool mon of foly here be-souȝt.  
 15 "Swete hert," quod þis mayd, "for loue þou hast to me,  
 Grant me þat I telle alyte preuite,  
 And þat I mowe schriue to þe as conseyl preue."  
 "Trewly þou myȝt," quod þis ober, "to soþe I be-hote þe."  
 "Swete lemmun," quod þe mayd, "In ward I am do,  
 20 An aungel is my wardeyn, and my lemmun al-so,  
 ffast he stont her be me, and gif he oundir-gete  
 þat þou be-nome my maydinhood, for noþing nold he lette  
 þat he nold be hard smyt, and be-neme be bi myȝt.  
 For al þe nobley þat þou hast, þou no myȝt agen him fyȝt;  
 25 But gif he se þat þou louist me in good lyf and clene,

C 39.  
[originally  
cxxvij]

MS. Cotton Cleopatra D ix. [fol. 155b-158b.]

Seint Cecile of noble kinne. ibore was at Rome,  
 Oure louerd crist geo louede wel. er geo fram cradel come ("Sancta Cecilia.")  
 f. 155 b.  
 Stilliche geo let hire cristne. as we findeþ iwrite  
 Lurne geo bad oure lord crist. þat he scholde hire maidenhod wite  
 5 Supþe þorus strengþe of hire frendes. ywedded geo was to a man  
 Of grete nobleie and richesse inouȝt þat het Valerian.  
 þis maide werede robe of pal. and cloþes swiþe riche  
 Gerlauns and tressours al of gold. þe her next hire liche  
 Whan þis minestralles songen her songes. in hire minestrancie  
 10 þis maide stilliche gan singe. of god and seint marie  
 A uers of þe sauter hire songe was. and þeron was mest hire þouȝt  
 Let lord min hert wiþoute wem beo. þat ȝ ne beo confounded nouȝt  
 A nist as geo was in hire bed. mid hire lord ibrogst.  
 Son he hadde of folie. þis clene þinge bisouȝt  
 15 Swete hert þis maide seide. for loue þat þou hast to me  
 Graunte me þat ich þe mot telle. a lutel in priuete  
 þat ich me mowe þeroft schriue to þe. and þat þou hit wole hele  
 Certes lemmun þis man seide. to noman telle ich nele  
 Swete lemmun þis maide sede. in warde icham ido  
 20 An angel of heuene is mi wardeyn. and mi lemmun also  
 Wel faste he stod here bi me. gif he hit underȝete  
 þat þou binome min maidenhod. for noþint he nolde hit lette  
 f. 156. (at top  
of the page, "De  
Sancta Cecilia.")  
 þat he be nolde wel hard smite. and binime þe al þin migte  
 Of bi strengþe and of þin noble stat. for þou migte nouȝt wiþ him figte  
 25 Ac gif he seoþ þat þou louest me. in gode loue and clene

stralis songen of menstralcie | 10. C. L. stiliche; C. songe; L. moder marye; 11. L. psalter; L. hire song was; C. fers; L. wer-on; L. mast, C. moste; L. þout; | 12. L. lat, C. late; C. hert; L. wiþout wem; L. it, C. ic; L. confundet; L. naut; | 13. L. a-nyȝt, C. a nyȝt; L. bed; C. myd; L. i-brouȝt; | 14. L. man; C. foly; L. be-sout; | 15. L. C. swete herte (reg.); L. seyde, C. sede; C. haste; | 16. L. y, C. ic (reg.); L. mowe (reg.); L. litel; | L. schryue, C. schryuen; L. þt þou it will'e hele, C. conceit; | 18. L. "certes lemmun," þis ȝungman seyde, "noþing telle I nele," C. truliche; | 19. L. C. lemmun; L. seyde, C. sede; C. icam; | 20. L. Aungel (reg.); L. of heuene; L. lemmun, C. leman; L. þer-to, C. al so; | 21. L. C. faste; L. stant, C. stante; C. here; | 22. L. be-nome; C. nold; | 23. L. ne wolle, C. nold; L. be-nyme, C. bynym; L. myȝtte, C. myȝt; | 24. L. C. of; L. ȝungness & of noble state, C. nobley; L. ne myȝth, C. ne myȝt; L. wiþ; L. fyȝtthe, C. fyȝt; | 25. L. wiste, C. sey; L. loudest, C. loue; L. gode, C. goud; L. C. floue; | 26. L. wolde;

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- He wole þe wite as he doþ me : & ech vuel fram þe ȝe[m]e "
- "Lif þou wolt, lefmon : þat ich ileue þis.  
 þe angel þou most scewe me : þat ich him ise iwis.  
 Lif ich mai þat soþe ise : þat þou hast þat soþe ised  
 30 In clannesse ichulle þi wille do : al after þi red.  
 Lif ich ise þat In folie louest : an noþer þen me.  
 I nele bileyue uor noþing : þat I nele him sle & þe."  
 "Swete heorte" quaþ þis maide : "ȝif! þou wolt þen angel ise.  
 þou most bileyue on ihesu crist : & icristned be. (1 MS. þ ȝif)  
 35 Lif þou wolt so þou miȝt him ise : & wite he wole ous fram helle  
 & so gret Ioie worþ of our loue : þat no tonge ne mai telle.  
 Ac þre mile henne þou most go : to þe wei of apie.  
 þou schalt þere vynde pouere men : on ihesu crist crie.  
 Sei þat ich þe to hem sende : þat hi þe teche anon.  
 40 To Seyn Vrban þe olde mon : vor þou most to him gon  
 & priue conseil wiþ him speke : uor he þe schal baptise.  
 þen angel þou schalt þenne ise : & he schal ous boþe wise."  
 Valerian aros anon : as our lord him ȝef wille.  
 To þe stude þat þis maide bad : uorþ he wende wel stille.  
 45 þis pouere men him teȝte anon : to þe olde mon Seyn Vrban.  
 In an old stude uor-let : per as ne com no man.  
 Among olde puttes & burles : as me cristene men þreu.  
 After þat hi Imartred were : ware me eny 'ikneu. (1MS. meeny.)  
 To is fet he vel adoun : anon so he to him com.  
 50 & sede þat cicile him sende þuder : to esce cristendom.  
 "Louerd Ihered be þi miȝte" : sede Seyn Vrban.  
 "Is þis þe luper werreour : þat me clepeþ valerian.

quoque diligit te sicut me, et ostendet tibi gloriam suam."

Tunc Valerianus, nutu Dei correctus, ait: "si vis, ut credam tibi, ipsum angelum mihi ostende, et si vere probavero, quod angelus sit, faciam quod hortaris; si autem virum alium diligis, te et illum gladio feriam." Cui Cæcilia dixit: "si in Deum verum credideris et te baptizari promiseris, ipsum videre valebis. Vade igitur in tertium milliarium ab urbe via, quæ Appia nuncupatur, et pauperibus, quos illic invenies, dices: 'Cæcilia me misit ad vos, ut ostendatis mihi sanctum senem Urbanum, quoniam ad ipsum habeo secreta mandata, quæ perferam.' Hunc, dum tu videris, indica ei omnia verba mea; et postquam ab eo purificatus fueris et redieris, angelum ipsum videbis." Tunc Valerianus perrexit, et secundum signa quæ acceperat, sanctum Urbanum episcopum intra sepulchra martirum latitantem invenit; cumque ei omnia verba Cæciliæ dixisset, ille manus ad cœlum expandens cum lacrymis ait: "domine Jesu Christe, seminator casti consilii, suscipe semenum fructus, quos in Cæcilia

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L. wytte, C. wyty; L. als; L. deþ, L. al; L. C. yuel; L. fro; L. ȝene, C. ȝeme; | 27. L. wilt; L. seide V.; C. lemman sede he; C. leue; | 28. L. þen; L. angel; L. C. schewe; L. I (reg.); L. C. se; L. I-wis, C. ȝywys; | 29. L. wanne; C. so[ȝ?]: L. i-se, C. yse; L. i-seyd, C. ysede; | 30. L. clenesse; L. for-soþe, C. ic wole; C. alle; C. þy; C. rede; | 31. L. C. se; L. anoþer, C. & oþer; L. C. þan; | 32. L. no-þing ne schal ȝou helpe, C. nelle leue for; L. ne, C. nelle; | 33. L. seyde, C. guod; L. & þou wile þe aungel se, C. þan; | 34. L. bileyen, C. mostelyuen; C. ybaptized; | 35. L. wilt; L. C. schalt; L. sen, C. se; L. he wile wytte, C. wele wyten þe; L. fro; | 36. C. such; L. ioye; L. C. oure; L. tunge; | 37. L. henne ouer; L. gon; L. C. wey; | 38. C. þer; L. C. fynde; L. [pore], C. poure; C. man; C. in; L. faste, L. ȝeme; | 39. C. hym; L. he, C. ic; C. tell; | 40. L. Whar is; L. þe holi old man, C. þe holy man; C. moste; | 41. L. ffor,

- He wole þe loue as he doþ me, *and* ech euil fro þe ȝeme." "Lif þou wolt, leman," quod þis oþer, "þat I be-leue þis, þe aungel þou most schewe me, þat I hym se, I-wis, *And* gif I may be soþ se, of þat þou hast I-seyd,
- 30 In clennesse I wole do þy wille, *and* after þy reed, *And* gif I se þat þou in foly louist oþer þan me, I nele leue for noþing, þat I nele sle him *and* þe." "My swete hert," quod þe mayde, "gif þou be aungel se, þou most be-leue on Ihesu Crist *and* I-cristenyd be;
- 35 Lif þou wolt so þou mygt hym se, *and* he vs wole kepe fro helle, So gret ioyȝe worþ of oure loue þat no tonge may it telle. But þre myle þou most hennus go, to þe wey of appyȝe, þou schalt finde þere pore men, on Ihesu Crist gerne cryȝe; Sey þat I þe to hem sent, þat þey þe teche anon
- 40 To Seint Vrban, þe holy man, for þou most to him gon, Apreue conseyl with him to spek, for he þe schal baptyse; þe aungel þou schalt þanne se, *and* he schal vs boþe wyse." Valerian roos a-non, as oure Lord hym gaf þe wille, To þe stede as þe mayde bad, *and* wente forþ wel stille.
- 45 þe pore men hym taugte anon to þe old man Seint Vrban, In an olde stede al forlete, þer ne com no maner man, Among old pittus and berielus, þer me cristin men þrew After þat þey martrid were, whan me any of hem knew. To his feet he fel doun anon, þo he to him com,
- 50 *And* seyde þat Sicile him sente þedir, to lerne Cristindom. "Lord, heryid be þy myȝt." seyde Seint Vrban, "Is þis þe liþer verrour, þat me clepiþ, Valerian?"

f. 286 b.

- Wite he wole þe : as he doþ me, *and* al uuel fram þe ȝeme  
Lif þou wolt seide valerian. þat ich ileoue þis  
þben angel þou most schewe me. þat ich seo him iwis  
And gif ich mai þe soþ iseo. þat þou hast soþ isede
- 30 In clanness ichulle þi wille do. al after his rede  
And gif ich seo þat in folie. þou louest anoþer þan me  
Noþinge schal hit me binime. þat y nelle slee him *and* þe  
Swete hert seide þis maide. gif þou wolt þe angel iseo  
þþou most bileoue on iesu crist. *and* icristned also beo
- 35 Iseo him þou schalt gif þou wolt so. *and* wite he þe wolle fram helle  
So grete ioie schal of oure loue beo. þat no tonge þerof mai telle  
Ac henne ouere þreo miles þou most go. to þe hulle of apie  
Pore men þou schalt þer finde. *and* on iesu crist gurne crie  
Seie þat ich þe to hem sende. *and* hi þe teche anon
- 40 Whar is seint Vrban þe holi man. for þou wolt to him gon  
For priue conseil þou woldest wiþ him speke. *and* he þe schal baptize  
And þan þou schalt þen angel iseo. *and* don as he þe wole wise  
Valerian þo aros anon. as oure lord him gaf wille  
To þe stude as þis maide bad. he wende him forþ wel stille
- 45 þis pore men him taugte anon. to þe holi seint vrban  
He fonde him in an old forlete stude. þeras noman ne com  
To his fet he fel adoun. anon þo he to him com  
And seide þat Cicilie him þider sende. to aský cristendom  
Whar þis beo þe luþer werrour. þat me clupeþ Valerian

C. & in; L. conseil, C. conceyl; L. þou wilt; C. myd (reg.); L. ȝ, C. for; L. C. baptiȝe; | 42. L. þan C. þe; L. þanne, C. þan; L. & do as he þe wile wise, C. boþ; | 43. L. a-ros; L. a-non; L. oure louerd, C. god; L. C. gaf; | 44. L. C. stede; L. þe, C. as heo sede; L. forþ; C. welle; | 45. L. pore, C. poure; L. taute, C. teyten; C. man; | 46. L. C. stede; L. for-late, C. forlete; L. þat wonede neuere man; | 47. C. amonge; C. old; L. burieles, C. buryeles; L. as, C. þer as; L. men, C. cristen; C. yrew; | 48. L. he, C. hý; L. martred, C. martred; L. men anye kneu, C. wan me any knew; | 49. L. feet, C. fete; L. ful, C. felle; L. a-doun, C. adoune; L. als-sone as [he], C. þo he; L. C. come; | 50. L. seyde; L. cesilie, C. cecele; L. send; L. þider, C. þude[þ ?]; L. asken, C. habbe; L. dome; | 51. C. lord; L. I-herd, C. yheryed; L. myȝte, C. myȝt; L. C. seyde; | 52. L. Weþer þis be þat, C. ne ys þis þe; L. Luþere; L. werreor, C. werreoure; L. men; L. clepuþ, C. clypeþ; | 53. L. were, C. where; L. haue y-mad, C. made; | 54. L.

- War cicile habbe Imad him : þat was er so wilde.  
 & more tiraunt þen eny wolf : as a lomb þus milde."
- 55 þo com þer go a suyþe old mon : & aligþte fram heuene þer.  
 Hor wiþ wite vestemens · a suyþe uair writ he ber  
 þo valerian him isei · adoun he vel uor drede.  
 Seyn Vrban him nom vp : & gan him uorþ lede.  
 þis halwe of heuene him tok þis writ : & bed him uorte rede.
- 60 Valerian radde þis writ : þat þes wordes sede.  
 'O lord is & on billeue : & on baptisinge.  
 O god & fader of alle þat beþ : þat ouer al is in eche þinge'  
 "Ileuestou" quaþ Seyn vrban : "þat þou dest her ise"  
 "þer nys noping" quaþ þis oper : "þat bet to leue be."
- 65 After þis wite mon he bihuld : he nuste war he bicom.  
 Seyn Vrban him nom anon & ȝaf him cristendom (MS. is.)  
 To Seyn Cicile he wende aȝen : þo he hadde ibe þer<sup>1</sup> i-fulle  
 He vond hire chambre liȝt wippinne : & swiþe suote smulle.  
 He uond Cecile his gode spouse : & an angel bi hire stonde.
- 70 Brigtore þen eny leome : to gerlans he huld an honde.  
 Of rosen & of lylion suote : þat on cicile he toke.  
 & þat oper ualerian : as we fi[n]dep in boke.  
 "Witeþ þis" he sede "In trewe loue ; wiþ chast bodi & clene  
 Ich hem habbe fram heuene ibroȝt : our lord it dop ȝou lene."
- 75 Vor welluwe ne olde neuer hi nelleþ : ac euer ilaste  
 þe two maner floures þat þer beþ : nelleþ neuer hor heu caste.  
 þe lilie tokeneþ ȝoure maidenhod : þat is so wit & suote.  
 þe rose bitokeneþ ȝoure martirdom · uor þeron deie ȝe mote.  
 & vor þou dest valerian cecilie red sone.
- 80 Wat þou of my lord bist : he wole grante þi bone."

eminasti, domine Jesu Christe, pastor bone, Cæcilia famula tua quasi apis tibi argumentosa deseruit; nam sponsum, quem quasi leonem ferocem accepit, ad te quasi agnum mansuetissimum destinavit." Et ecce subito apparuit senex quidam niveis vestibus induitus, tenens librum aureis litteris scriptum. Quem videus Valerianus præ nimio timore quasi mortuus cecidit, et a sene levatus, sic legit: "unus Deus, una fides, unum baptismus, unus Deus et pater omnium, qui super omnes, et per omnia, et in omnibus nobis." Cumque haec legisset, dixit ei senior: "credis ita esse an adhuc dubitas?" Tunc exclamavit dicens: "non est aliud, quod verius credi possit, sub caelo." Statimque illo disparente, Valerianus a sancto Urbano baptismus suscepit, et rediens, Cæciliam cum angelo loquentem in cubiculo invenit. Angelus autem duas coronas ex rosis et liliis in manu habebat, et unam Cæciliæ, et alteram Valeriano tradidit, dicens: "istas coronas immaculato corde et mundo corpore custodite, quia de paradiso Dei eas ad vos attuli; nec unquam marcescent, nec odorem amittent, nec ab aliis, nisi quibus castitas placuerit, videri poterunt. Tu autem, Valeriane, quia utili consilio credidisti, pete quodecum-

tyrant, C. tyraunt; L. C. þan; L. C. any; L. als; C. lombe; L. now; | 55. L. swiþe; C. olde; L. C. man; L. a lyȝtthe, C. þat a lyȝt; L. fro; | 56. L. whyte, C. whyt; C. vestemens; L. swiþe; L. fair, C. faire; L. wryt, C. wryte; C. bere; | 57. L. it; L. I-sey, C. sey; L. a-doun, C. a doun; L. fel, C. felle; L. C. for; | 58. C. nome; L. aȝen; L. C. forþ; | 59. L. halewe, C. angel; C. toke; L. þat, C. þe; C. wryte; L. bad, C. bade; L. forto, C. þeron; | 60. L. tok it anon, C. þe wryte; L. & þus þe; | 61. L. on; C. o; L. billeue; C. o; L. baptiȝingge, C. baptyȝyng; | 62. L. on; C. & al; C. þat is; L. oueral; L. þingge, C. þyng; —63. L. I-leuestou þis; C. my leue sone; C. sede; L. C. dost, C. here; L. I-se, C. se; | 64. C. is noȝt; C.

"Wher, Sysile haue mad him, þat was so wilde,  
Amore tyraunt þan a wolf, as alomb, mylde."  
 55 þo þer com an old man, fro heuin he alyȝt þer,  
Cloþid in whit *vestementus*, and a fayr writ ber.  
þo Valerian him seyȝ, he fel adoun for drede.  
Seint Vrban nom him vp, and forþ gan hym lede.—  
þe Halw of Heuin took him þe writ, and bad him *rede*,—  
 60 "On lord is on to be-leue, and on baptysing,  
On God and Fadir of alle, þat beþ, and ouer al is, and ech þing"  
"Leuistow her-on," quod Seint Orban, "þat þou dost here se,"  
"þer is noþing," quod þis oper, "þat bet to leue may be."  
After þis whit mon he be-held, he nyste wher he be com.  
 65 Seint Vrban hym nom anon, and ȝaf hym Cristindom.  
To Sycile he wente agen, þo he hadde be þer his fille.  
He fond here chaumbir lyȝt with-inne, and of sote smelle,  
He fond Sysile his spouse, and aungel wɪt here stond  
Bryȝter þan eny sonne; to garlondus he bar an hond  
 70 Of rosis and of lylis soot; þat on, Sysile, he took.  
And þe oper, Valerian, as we finde in book,  
"Kepiþ þese," he seyd, "in trewe loue, wit chast body and clene,  
I hem haue fro Heuin brought, oure Lord hem gow doþ lene;  
For falwe, ne elde, neuer þey nele, but euer I-lych laste,  
 75 þe two maner of flourus þat beþ þer-on, nele neuere here heu caste."  
"þe lylly be-tokeneþ goure maydinhood, þat is so whit and sote,  
þe rose be-tokenyþ goure martirdom, forþ on deyȝe ge mote;  
And, for þou dedist, Valerianan, Secilis reed so sone,  
What þou of my lord biddist, he wil grant by bone."

50 Louerd þat Cicilie haþ imad. him þat was so wilde      49-50 Blank line in MS.  
And more tiraunt þan eni wolf. as a lombe so milde  
þþo com þer gon a swiþe old man, alite fram heuene þer<sup>1</sup>      (1 MS. per.)  
Al hor wiþ white uestemens. and a wel faire writ he ber  
Anon so ualerian iseig him come. adoun he fel for drede  
 55 Seint vrbn him nom vp anon. and forþ he gan him lede  
þis halwe of heuene him toke þis writ. and bad he scholde hit rede  
Valerian anon radde þis writ. þat þes wordes sede  
O god is and on billeoue. and on cristendom  
And fader and lord of alle þinge. þat fleshe and blod among ous nom.  
 60 Ileouest þis seide seint vrbn. þat þou dost þere iseo      f. 156 b  
þþer nis þinge in þis world he oper seide. þat betere ileoued mai beo  
He biheolde after þis old man. he miste whar he bicom  
Seint vrbn þo him nom anon. and ȝaf him cristendom  
To Cecilie son he wende agen, þo he hadde ibeo þer his fulle  
 65 He fonde hire chambre wel ligt wipinne. and swiþe swote smulle  
And founde Cecilie his trewe wif. and an angel bi hire stond  
þat was brigtore þan eni leom. tweie gerlauns he hulde an hond  
Of rose and lylie hi weren imad. þat on Cecilie he tok  
þat oper he tok ualerian : as we findeþ in bok  
 70 Witeþ þeos he seide in trewe loue. wiþ chaste bodi and clene  
Ich hem habbe fram heuene ibrougte. oure Lord hem doþ gou lene  
þþe lylie tokneþ goure maidenhood. þat is so white and swote  
þþe rose tokneþ goure martirdom. for þerinne deie ge mote  
For þat þou dost ualerian. Ceciles red so sone  
 75 What so þou of mi lord dost bidde. he wole graunte þi bone.

sede; C. louyng; | 65. L. whyte, C. þe whyt; L. beheld, C. byheld; L. wher, C. ware; L. be-cam; C. by-come; | 66. L. a-non; C. nome; | 67. L. sein Cecilie; L. was þare (reg.) is fulle, C. be þer his fulle; | 68. L. fond, C. founde; C. Schaumbre; L. lyȝt; L. wiþ-inne, C. with In; C. ful of swete smyllie; | 69. C. fonde; | 70. L. bryȝttere, C. bryȝtur; L. C. þan; L. C. any; L. lome; C. lyȝt; L. twey, C. two; L. garlondes, C. garlauns; L. hadde, C. held; L. on; | 71. L. rose, C. swete ros; L. lylie, C. lylly; L. tok; | 72. C. þe; L. fynden; L. bok; | 73. L. in, C. myd chaste loue; L. chaste body; | 74. L. i-brought, C. broȝt; L. C. oure; L. C. hem; | 75. L. ffor-falewe, C. falewy, C. olden; L. wille þei nat; L. euere he willeþ laste, C. more laste; | 76. L. manere; L. beþ on, C. beþ here on; L. nelle; L. neuere; L. hor; C. hewe; | 77. L. be-tokneþ, C. bytokneþ; L. whyt, C. whit; L. C. swote; | 78. C. marterdom; L. for (reg.); C. deyȝe; | 79. C. dyst; C. Cecilijs; C. rede; L. C. so sone; | 80. L. what; C. oure; L. be-sekest, C. beste;

- "I ne wilny noþing so muche" : sede ualerian.  
 "As þat tybors my broþer" : were cristeneman."  
 "My lord wole" quap þis angel : "ȝeue him þulke grace.  
 þat boþe ȝe scholleþ at one tyme be : Imartred In one place."  
 85 þe angel wende wiþ þis word : me nuste war he bicom.  
 þis two clene þinges wiþ Ioie Inou : hor eiper to oþer nom  
 Tibors com to þe chambre : to speke wiþ is broþer þere  
 He stod stille & bihuld aboute : as he nuste war he were.  
 "Broþer" he sede "hou geþ þis : þis tyme of þe ȝere.  
 90 So suote smul ne smulde ich neuere : me þencþ as ich do here  
 pei þis hous were vol of rede rosen : & of wite lilion also  
 I ne miȝte hem verisore smul : me þencþ pen ich nou do.  
 So vol icham of þis smul : & so muche it is In my þoȝt. f. 187.  
 þat I not hou icham sodenliche : In oþer witte ibroȝt."  
 95 "Leue broþer" quap valerian : "gerlans we habbeþ here.  
 Of floures þat þou ne miȝt ise : bote þou were our Iuere  
 Ac so as þou hast þem suote smul : þer-of þoru our bone.  
 Lif þou wolt bileue as we dop : þou miȝt hem ise sone."  
 "Leue broþer" quap þis oþer : "weþer is it sop þis  
 100 Oþer ich stonde in metynge : & mete þat it so is."  
 "In metynge" quap valerian : "we habbeþ euer ibe.  
 Nou we beþ verst of slepe awaked : nou we mowe uerst ise."  
 "Suxtou bet nou" quap þis oþer : "pen þou hast er ido."  
 "Le" sede valerian : "wel me bi-houeþ so  
 105 Vor my lordes angel of heuene : haþ iȝeue me sigt  
 & vor our loue he wole þe also : ȝif þou wolt bileue arȝt"

que volueris, et conquereris." Cui Valerianus: "nihil mihi in hac vita exstitit dulciss, quam unicus fratriis  
 mei affectus, peto igitur, ut et veritatem ipse tecum agnoscat." Cui angelus: "placet domino petitio  
 tua; et ambo cum palma martirii ad dominum venietis." Post hoc, ingressus Tiburtius, frater Valeriani,  
 cum nimium rosarum sensisset odorem, dixit: "miror, hoc tempore roseus hic odor et liliorum unde  
 respiret; nam si ipsas rosas vel lilia in manibus meis tenerem, nec sic poterant odoramenta tantae mihi  
 suavitatis infundere; confiteor vobis, ita sum reiectus, ut putem me totum subito immutatum." Cui  
 Valerianus: "coronas habemus, quas tui oculi videre non præalent, floreo colore et niveo candore  
 vernantes; et sicut me interpellante odorem sensisti, sic et, si credideris, videre valebis." Cui Tiburtius:  
 "in somnis hoc audio, an in veritate ista tu loqueris, Valeriane?" Cui Valerianus: "in somnis usque  
 modo fuimus, sed jam nunc in veritate manemus." Ad quem Tiburtius: "unde hoc nosti?" Et  
 Valerianus: "angelus domini me docuit, quem tu videre poteris, si tu purificatus fueris, et omnibus  
 ydolis abrenuntiaveris." (Huic miraculo de coronis rosarum Ambrosius attestatur in præfatione sic  
 dicens: 'sancta Cæcilia sic cœlesti est dono repleta, ut martirii palmarum assumeret; ipsum mundum est  
 cum thalamis exsecrata; testis est Valeriani conjugis et Tiburtii provocata confessio, quos, domine,  
 angelica manu odoriferis floribus coronasti; viros virgo duxit ad gloriam, mundus agnoverit, quantum  
 valeat devotio castitatis.' Hæc Ambrosius.) Tunc Cæcilia evidenter ostendit ei, omnia ydola esse

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L. wille; L. þe; L. C. graunte; L. sone; | 81. L. wille, C. wylne; C. no þyng; L. miche; L. seyde, C.  
 seide; | 82. L. Bote, C. but; L. Tiburst; L. wiþ me; C. cristen man; | 83. C. sede; L. aungel, C. þe a.; L.  
 wile ȝiuen þat ilke, C. ȝyue hym suche; | 84. L. C. &; C. boþ; L. schulle, C. schullen; L. C. o; L. I-  
 martired, C. martred; L. o, C. a; | 85. L. aungel, C. angle; C. þat; L. he, C. hȳ nust; L. wher, C. ware; L.  
 be-com, C. bycome; | 86. C. þes twey; L. þinges, C——; L. ech of oþer; C. nome; | 87. L. C. Tiburs; C.  
 come; L. spak, C. spake; C. with; L. C. his; C. þer; | 88. C. stode; L. beheld, C. byhelde. L. al-a-

- 80 "I ne desire no þing so moch," seyde Valerian,  
 "As Tyburs, my broþer, were wit me in Cristindam."  
 "My Lord wille," quod þe aungel, "ȝeue hym þat grace,  
 And boþe ge scholle martrid be, at on tyme in on place."  
 þe aunge[1] went wit þat word, he nyste wher he be com.  
 85 be two þingus eyber of oþer gret ioyȝe nom.  
 Tyburs com to chaumbre, to spe[k] wit his broþer þere,  
 He stood stille and be-held about, as he nyst wher he were.  
 "Broþer," he seyde, "howȝ goþ þis? In þis tyme of þe gere?  
 So swete smel smellid I neuere, as I do here.  
 90 þou þis hous were ful of newe rosin, and lylis al-so,  
 I ne myȝt sweter smelle nouȝt, me-þinkeþ, þan I do.  
 So ful I am of þis smel, and so moche is in my þouȝt,  
 þat I noot hou I am, sodeynlich, in an oþer wit I-brought."  
 "Leue broþer," quod Valerian, "garlondus we haueþ here  
 95 Of flourus þat þou myȝt nouȝt se, but þou were oure fere,  
 But so as þou hast þe swete smel þerfore, þorw oure bone,  
 Lif þou wolt be-leue as we do, þou myȝt hem se sone."  
 "Leue broþer," quod þe oþer, "wheyþer it soþ is,  
 Oþer I stand in meting and wene þat soþ it is?"  
 100 "In meting," quod Valerian, "we haue euer be,  
 Now we be of slep awak, now we mow ferst se."  
 "Sestow nowȝ," quod þe oþer, "bet þan þou hast er do?"  
 "Ie," quod Valerian, "wel me be-houȝt so,  
 ffor my Lordus aungel of Heuen haþ me goue lyȝt,  
 105 And for oure loue he wol be al-so, gif þou wolt be-leue aryȝt."

I ne wilny noþinge on eorþe so moche. seide ualerian  
 As þat tiburs mi broþer were. wiþ me cristen man  
 Mi lord wole þis angel seide. ȝeue him þulk grace  
 And boþe ge scholle martrid beo. at o time in on place  
 80 þe angel wende forþ wiþ þis word. hi miste whar he becom  
 Moche was þe ioie of þis clene þinges: þat aiper to<sup>1</sup> oþer nom (1 MS. co.)  
 To chamber com tiburs to speke. wiþ his broþer þere  
 Stille he stod and biheolde aboute. as þeig he miste whar he were  
 Broþer he seide hou goþ þis. in þis time of þe ger  
 85 So swote smul ne smulde ich neuere. as me þincþ ich so nou her  
 þeig þis hous were ful of newe floures. and white lylie also  
 Murgore migte hit smulle nouȝt. me þinkeþ þan ich nou do  
 So ful icham broþer of þe smul. and so moche hit is in mi þouȝt  
 þat icham sodeinliche inot hou: in oþer witte ibrought  
 90 Leue broþer seide ualerian. gerlauns we habbeþ here  
 Of rose and lylie þat þou ne migte seo. bote þou were oure fere  
 Ac as þou hast þe swote smul: þeroft þorwȝ mi lone  
 Also gif þou wolt bileoue as we doþ. þou migte hem seo wel sone  
 Leue broþer seide tiburs. Whar hit beo soþ þis  
 95 Ober þat istond in metinge. and mete þat his so is  
 In metinge seide ualerian. We habbeþ euere ibeo  
 Of slepe we beoþ nou furst awaked. and nou we mowe furst iseо  
 For oure lordes angel of heuene. haþ igeue me sigt  
 And for oure loue he þe wole ȝeue also. gif þou wolt bileoue arig

boute; L. als.; L. wher, C. ware; | 89. L. seyde; L. goþ, C. "þis is" (the þis is in a different hand); C. þat; C. in; | 90. C. suche smel; L. smelde, C. smelled; L. I., C. ic; C. neuer; L. þinkeþ (reg.); C. now; | 91. C. wer; L. ful, C. fulle (reg.); L. of newe roses; L. of lylie, C. of llyyen; | 92. L. myȝtteþ, C. myȝt; L. versschere, C. swettur; L. smelle, C. smellen; L. C. now; | 93. L. C. þe; C. smelle; C. so is þer on; L. þout; | 94. L. for-soþe, L. C. in an-oþer; L. wytte, C. wyt; L. I-brouȝt; | 95. C. he sede; L. garlandes, C. garlauns; C. habeþ; | 96. C. noȝt; L. i-se, C. se; C. but; L. C. oure; L. C. fere; | 97. L. als, C. &; L. þane swote smel, þis smyllie; L. þar-of, C. þer for; L. for, C. þorw; L. C. oure; | 98. C. If; L. be-leue, C. lyue; L. sen, C. se; | 99. L. seyde, C. sede; C. tyburs; L. wheþur, C. ys hit soþ oþer hit nys; L. be | 100. L. matyngge, C. metyng; C. ys; | 101. L. metyngge, C. metyng; C. sede; | 102. C. & now; L. ben; L. ferst; L. a-waked; L. ferst, C. furst; C. se; | 103. L. sestow, C. syxte; C. bete; C. sede tyburs; L. C. þan; C. ar; C. þis do; | 104. L. seyde; L. sone; L. be-, C. by; 105. L. ffor, C. for; L. aungel; L. I-ȝoue, C. ȝyue; L. syȝth, C. lyȝt; | 106 L. for oure\* L. schal; L. wile; L. leue, C. lyue;

- þo sede þis holi maide "tybors leue broþer.  
 Wat beþ þis maumetes bote wrechede : þou suxt non oþer.  
 Ne suxtou hou it is monnes werc · Imad of old tre.
- 110 þing þet ne mai him sulue helpe : hou mai it helpe þe"  
 "Noþing nys soþer" quaþ tibors : "þen þat þou hast ised.  
 Woder he weþer þen eny best : þat nolde do þi rede"  
 Seyn Cecile him custe anon : "leue tybors" heo sede  
 "To dai þou schalt my broþer be : vor þou wolt do bi rede.
- 115 poru clene loue of good bileue : þi broþer my spouse is  
 per-þoru þou schalt bicome also : my broþer wan þou art his  
 Myd valerian þou most go to þe bispoc vrban  
 & be icristned & do also : as he þe rede can."  
 "Is þat vrban" quaþ tybours : "þat so ȝerne haþ ibe isoȝt.
- 120 þat ȝare haþ ibe fleme & ihud : & ȝif he were uorþ ibroȝt.  
 Vorberne he scholde & we also : ȝif we wiþ him were  
 & so þe wole we heuene soȝte : vorberne we miȝte here."  
 "& ȝif þer nere" quaþ þis maide : "soulement bote þis lif.  
 Fol he were þat it wolde lese : vor eny strif.
- 125 An wen þer is so muri lif : þat we schulleþ her-after auonge.  
 Fol is þat nele an wule be wo : to be In Ioie so longe."  
 "Leue broþer" quaþ tybours : "ich biseche þe  
 Lede me to þulke gode monne : & haue mercy of me."  
 þat oþer ladde þat oþer : to þe bispoc Vrban
- 130 & let him vorsake is fole bileue : & bicom cristene man.  
 Tibours þo he com aȝen : þen angel he sei anon.  
 þat Cecile him hadde bihote: In þe chambre wiþ hire gon.

insensibilia et muta, ita ut Tiburtius responderet ac diceret: "qui ista non credit, pecus est." Tunc Cæcilia osculans pectus ejus dixit: "hodie te fateor meum esse cognatum, sicut enim amor Dei fratrem tuum mihi conjugem fecit, ita te mihi cognatum contemtus faciet ydolorum. Vade igitur cum fratre tuo, ut purificationem accipias et angelicos vultus videre valeas." Dixitque Tiburtius fratri suo: "obsecro te, frater, ut mihi dicas, ad quem me ducturus es." Cui Valerianus: "ad Urbanum episcopum." Cui Tiburtius: "de illo Urbano dicis qui totiens damnatus est et adhuc in latebris commoratur? hic, si inventus fuerit, cremabitur; et nos in illius flammis pariter involvemur, et dum quærimus divinitatem latentem in cœlis, incurremus furorem exurentem in terris." Cui Cæcilia: "Si hæc sola esset vita, juste hanc perdere timeremus; est autem alia melior, quæ nunquam amittitur, quam nobis Dei filius enarravit. Omnia enim, quæ facta sunt, filius ex patre genitus condidit, universa autem, quæ condita sunt ex patre procedens spiritus animavit. Hic igitur filius Dei in mundum veniens verbis et miraculis aliam vitam esse nobis monstravit." Cui Tiburtius: "certe unum Deum esse asseris, et quomodo nunc tres esse testaris?" Respondit Cæcilia: "sicut in una hominis sapientia sunt tria, scilicet ingenium, memoria et intellectus, sic et in una divinitatis assentia tres personæ esse possunt." Tunc cœpit ei de adventu filii Dei et passione prædicare, et multas congruitates ipsius passionis ostendere. "Nam ideo," inquit, "filius Dei est tentus, ut genus humanum dimittatur peccato detentum; benedictus maledictus, ut homo maledictus benedictionem consequatur; illudi se patitur, ut homo ab illusione dæmonum liberetur; spineam coronam accepit in capite, ut a nobis sententiam auferat capitalem; fel suscipit amarum, ut sanaret hominis dulcem gustum; expoliatur, ut parentum nostrorum nuditatem operiat; in ligno suspenditur, ut ligni prævaricationem tollat." Tunc Tiburtius fratri suo dixit: "miserere mei, et perduc me ad hominem Dei ut purificationem accipiam." Ductus igitur, et purificatus, angelos Dei sæpe videbat, et omnia quæ postulabat, protinus obtinebat. Valerianus

L. a-ryȝth; | 107. L. seyde; | 108. L. what; L. ben; L. maumettes, C. maumes; C. bot; L. wrechede, C. wrecches; L. sest, C. syxt; C. ne; L. on hem; | 109. L. sestou; þat þese maumets, C. beþ

- þo seyd þe holy mayde, "Tyburs, leue broþir,  
What beþ þe maumetus but nougt, þou schal se non oþer.  
þou mygt se it is monnus werk; mad of old tre;  
þing þat ne may hym-self help, how schold it helpe þe?"  
 110 "Noping is soþ," quod Tybors, "as þat þou hast of sede,  
Woddere he were þan any best, þat nold do by rede."  
Seynt Sycile hym kiste anon, "Leue broþer," ghe sede,  
"To-day þou schalt my broþer be, for þou wolt do by my rede.  
þorw clene loue and good be-leue, by broþer my spouse is,  
 115 And þou schalt by-come al-so my broþer, whan þou art his.  
Wit Valerian þou most go to be bysschop Vrban,  
And be cristenyd and do as þe rede can."  
"Is þat Vrban," quod Tyburs, "þat so gerne haþ be-sougt,  
þat long haþ be flemyd and hid? And gif he had be forþ brought,  
 120 Brend he schold be, and we alle-so, gif we wit hym were."  
"Ie," quod þe mayde, "gif it be so, we scholle to Heuin I-fere."  
"Lif þer nere," quod þis mayde, "onlich but þis lyf,  
Fool he were, þat it wold lese, for any maner strif."  
"Leue broþer," quod Tyburs, "haue mercy on me,  
 125 And leed me to þat good mon, I be-seche þe."  
þat oþroþer lad þat oþer to be bysschop Vrban,  
And leet him forsak his folyge and be-com cristin man.  
Tyburs, þo he com a-gen, be aungel he say anon,  
þat Sysile hym hadde be-hote in þe chaumbre to gon.
- f. 287 b.
- 100 þeo seide Cecilie þe holi maide. tiburs leue broþer f. 157. (at top of page)  
What is in oure maumetes bote wrecched. þou schalt iseo non oþer  
Ne seostou þat hit is maumetes work. imad of old tre "De Sancta Cecilia."  
þeinge þat mai nougt him sulf helpe: hou migte hit helpe þe  
Nopinge is soþer seide tiburs. þan þat þou hast ised
- 105 Gidiore he were þan eni best. þat nolde do þi red  
Seint Cicile custe him anon. leue tiburs geo sede  
To dai þou schalt mi broþer beo, for þou wolt don after rede  
þþorug clene loue and gode bileoue; þi broþer min spouse is  
þher þorug þou schalt also bicome. mi broþer whan þou art his
- 110 Wiþ ualerian þou most gon. to þe bischop vrban  
And beo icristned and do also. as he þe rede can  
Is þat vrban seide tiburs. þat so gurne haþ ibeo sougte  
þat gare haþ ibeo fleom and ihudde and gif he were forþ ibroughe  
Forbrenne he scholde and we also. gif we wiþ him were
- 115 And so þe while we heuene sougte. forbarnde we scholde beon þere  
Lif þat þer nere seide Cecilie. soulment bote þis lif  
A fole he were þat hit wolde. lese for eni strif  
Ac whan þer is as murie lif! þat we schollen her after fonge  
Fole he were þat nolde a while beo wo. to beon in ioie so longe
- 120 Leue broþer seide tiburs. haue merci on me  
And lede me to þulk gode man. ich biseche þe  
þeþe broþer ladde þo þen oþer. to þe bischop urban  
And let him forsake his fole lawe. and bicom cristen man.  
Tiburs þo hi com agen. þe angel he seig anon
- 125 þat Cecilie him hadde bihote. in þe chambre wiþ hire gon

hý of maumes werke; L. ben mad, C. & ymaked; | 110. L. C. sulf; C. helpen; L. myȝte, C. scholde;  
C. hý; | 111. L. soþere; C. sede; L. þanne, C. þan; L. i-seyd, C. ysede; | 112. L. gydiere, C. gydier; L.  
C. were þan; L. any beste, C. a best; C. nold; L. don; L. red; | 113. C. swete c.; L. tiburs, C. broþer;  
L. he seyde; | 114. L. to-day; L. wilt don; L. be, C. by; | 115. C. þorwe; L. C. and; C. goud; C.  
spous ys; | 116. C. þer þorwe; L. when; C. b. ben ywys; | 117. L. C. mid; | 119. C. sede; L. be souȝt;  
C. be souȝt; | 120. C. yflemed be; C. ȝef; L. forþ brought, C. forþ broȝt; | 121. L. ffor-berne; C. for;  
C. schold; C. ek; C. myd; | 122. L. while, C. wyle, L. souȝthen, C. souȝt; L. for-barnd, C. brende; L.  
scholde, C. schold; L. ben here, C. ben þer; | 123. C. sede cecile; L. onliche; C. bot; | 124. C. hit; L.  
any-maner; | 125. C. omits line; L. seþe; L. schulle after a-fonge; | 126. C. omits line; L. nelle a whyle  
ben; | 127. C. sede; L. þou; L. C. haue mercy of me; | 128. L. led; L. C. þat; C. goud; L. C. man; L.  
Ich be-; C. ie byseche; | 129. C. þe; C. lad þe o.; L. bisschop, C. byschop; | 130. L. þar he for-sok, C.  
To forsake; L. C. his foule lawe; L. became, C. bycome; C. cristen; | 131. C. come; L. þan, C. þe; L.

- Cecile, vor heo womman was ; atom heo moste abide.  
 Ac þis breþeren þat were men : aboute wende wide.
- 135 & wen me martred cristenmen : þuder hi wolde gon. f. 187<sup>b</sup>.  
 & stele to wen hi miȝte best : & burie hem anon. [don.  
 bi-uore þe Iustice hi were ibroȝt : me lefte hem wat hi wolde  
 Ho made hem so hardi : to ben þe emperours fon.  
 As hi burede twei gode men : þat Imartred were.
- 140 Come þe emperours men : & nome hem riȝt þere.  
 þe misbileued trechours : þat were aȝen our lawe.  
 þat wiþ riȝt Iugement of londe : were ibroȝt of dawe.  
 "Sire, we wolde," queȝe þis oþer : "þat we wurþi were  
 Hor knaues uorte habbe ibe : þat ge lette quelle þere.
- 145 Hi bileuede þing þat noȝt nas þei [it]<sup>1</sup> semblaunce hadde  
 & toke þat was aworþ : & no semblance nadde. (1 MS. omits.)  
 Vor þei worldes wele habbe semblance · uor soþe noȝt it nys.  
 & þei þe blisse of heuene þenche lute : uor soþe muche it is."  
 "Belamys," þe Iustices seden : "ge me þencþ wode.
- 150 Wurþe he i[s'] to habbe wo : hose kepeþ noȝt of gode." (1MS. it.)  
 "In wynter," quap valerian : "idelmen sitteþ & drinkeþ.  
 To busemar hi liȝeþ erþetilien : þat aboute gode swynkeþ.  
 In heruest wen hi mowe : vair corn repe. [grepe  
 In meseise hi mowe go vp & doun : vor hi nabbeþ neuer a
- 155 & we scholleþ uor our trauail : þi blisse repe atenende.  
 Wen ge schulleþ uor our Ioie : wepynge to helle wende"  
 "Eke we," quap þe Iustice : "þat lordes scholde be.  
 Beþ lasse worþ þen suche wreches : þat nelleþ neuer iþe."

igitur et Tiburtius elemosinis insistebant; et sanctorum corpora, quos Almachius præfectus occidebat, sepulturæ tradebant. Quos Almachius ad se vocans, cur pro suis sceleribus damnatos sepelirent, inquisivit. Cui Tiburtius: "utinam illorum servi essemus, quos tu damnatos appellas! Qui contemserunt illud, quod videtur esse et non est, et invenerunt illud, quod non videtur esse et est." Cui præfectus: "quidnam est illud?" Et Tiburtius: "quod videtur esse et non est, est omne, quod in hoc mundo est, quod hominem ad non esse perducit; quod vero non videtur esse et est, est vita justorum et pœna malorum." Cui præfectus: "non puto, quod mente tua loquaris." Tunc jubet adstare Valerianum dicens ei: "quoniam non est sani capititis frater tuus; tu saltem poteris sapienter dare responsum; constat plurimum vos errare, qui gaudia respuitis et omnia inimica gaudiis affectatis." Tunc Valerianus "se vidisse ait glaciali tempore otiosos jocantes, et operarios agricolas deridentes, sed æstivo tempore, dum advenissent gloriosi fructus laborum, gaudentibus illis, qui putabantur vani, cœperunt flere, qui videbantur urbani. Sic et nos nunc quidem sustinemus ignominiam et laborem, in futuro autem recipiemus gloriam et æternam mercedem. Vos autem nunc transitorium habetis gaudium, in futuro autem invenietis æternum luctum." Cui præfectus: "ergo nos invictissimi principes æternum habebimus luctum, et vos personæ vilissimæ perpetuum possidebitis gaudium?" Cui Valerianus: "homunctiones estis, non principes, tempore nostro nati, citius morituri et Deo rationem plus omnibus reddituri." Dixit autem præfectus:

C. sey; | 132. C. byhete; | 133. L. ge; L. wyfman, C. wymman; L. at hom, C. a com; C. most; | 134. L. ak þese; C. þe broþeren; L. whane, C. wan; L. martyreden; L. cristenemen; L. þider; L. he wolden, C. hÿ wold; | 136. L. to whan, C. to wan; L. he myȝtte, C. hÿ myȝt; C. beste; L. burien, C. bured; C. be a; | 137. ll. 139, 140 tr. 137, 138 in L. and C.; L. to-fore, C. to; L. C. iustise, L. he weren, C. hÿ were; L. i-brouth; L. þei askede, C. me eschete; L. C. hem anon; | 138. L. who, C. wo; L. C. ȝou; L. burie, C. bury; L. C. emperoures; L. foon; | 139. L. þei; C. hÿ; L. burieden, C. bured; L. y-martired; | 140. C. comen; L. C.-es; L. C. nomen; C. anon þer; | 141. L. trichours, C. traytoures; C.

- 130 Sysile, for *ȝ*he woman was, at hom moste abyde,  
But þe twey breþerin þat were men, about wente wyde.  
*And* whanne þey martrid Cristin men, þedir þey wende,  
*And* stele to whan þey mygte best, to bery heym at þe ende.  
As þey beriid twey men þat I-martrid were,
- 135 Com þe emperourus men, *and* nom hem anon þere.  
To-fore þe ioustise þey were brought; me askid hem anon,  
“Who made hem so hardy þe emperourus foon,  
Mys-be-leuid traytourus, bery, þat were agen here lawe,  
þat wit rygt iugement of lond were brought of dawe?”
- 140 “Syre, we wold,” quod þe oper. “þat we worþy wer  
Here cnauis to be, þat were quellid þer.”  
“þey be-leuid þou it semblaunt made,  
*And* tok to bing þat was good þou it semblaunt nade,  
For þe worldis ioy þat haþ semblaunt, nouȝt worþ it nys,
- 145 *And* þou þe blisse of Heuin þink lyte, moche *and* good it is.”  
“Belamys,” þe ioustise seyd, “me-þinkeþ gou wode,  
Wreþe it is worþy þat he haue wo, þat kepiþ nouȝt of gode.”  
“In winter,” quod Valerian, “men sitteþ *and* drinkeþ;  
To scorn þey lauge erþe tyliers, þat about here mete swinkeþ.
- 150 In heruest, whan þe tilyer may feyr corn *and* good repe,  
In myseyse þey gon vp *and* doun, *and* haue neuer a grepe.  
As we scholle for oure trauayl in blisse repe, at þe ende,  
Whan ge scholle, for goure ioyge, to pyne of helle wende.”  
þan seyd þe ioustise, “scholle þey þat lordus be
- 155 Lasse worþ þan soch wrecches? “þat nelle neuer þe!”

Cecilie for geo womman was at hom geo most abide  
Ac þis tweie breþeren þat were men. aboute hi wende wide  
Euere whan me martred cristen men, þider hi wolde gon  
And stele to whan hi migte best *and* binime hem anon

130 As hi bureden tweie holi men. þat martred were  
Com þe amperoures men anon. *and* nom hem rigt þere  
To fore þe ioustise hi weren ibrouȝt. he asked hem anon  
Who mad hem so hardi to burie: þe emperoures fon  
þis misbileouede trichours. þat weren agen her lawe

135 þat wiþ inggement of þe lond. were ibrouȝt of dawe  
Sire seide þis godmen. icholde þat we worþi were.  
Her knaues forto habbe ibeo. þat þou letest quelle þere  
Hi forsoke þinge þat nouȝt nas. þeig hit semblaunte hadde  
And toke þinge þat worþi was. *and* non semblaunte nadde

140 Bel amys þe ioustise seide. gou me þencheþ wod  
Worþi he is sorwe to habbe. Whoso kepeþ nouȝt of god  
Valerian seide in winter ofte. idel men sitteþ *and* drinkeþ  
To busmare hi ligeþ eorþe tilien. þat aboute sowinge swinkeþ  
In haruest whan gode swinkares mowe. gode corn inouȝ ripe

145 þan sitteþ hi at hom. *and* nabbeþ of corn a gripe  
As we scholle for oure trauaille. in blisse ripe attan ende  
Whan ge scholle for goure ioie nou. wepinge to helle wende  
þan we seide þe ioustise þat louerdes scholde beo  
Beoþ villore þan ge wrecche cheitius. þat neuere nolleþ iþeo

f. 157 b

agens; L. C. oure; | 142. L. ryȝth; C. Iuggement; L. of þe lond; L. i-brout; | 143. C. wolde god sede þes oþer, L. oþere seyde; L. worþi, C. so; | 144. L. C. here; L. forto; C. knaues . . . þat; L. þou let; C. ge aquelden; L. þare; | 145. L. he, C. hȳ; L. C. leften; L. nawt, C. naȝt; L. þei it; C. þey hit; C. semblant; | 146. L. good þing, C. to þe þyng; C. semblant; | 147. L. þe worldes ioye þat haþ semblant; L. so nawt, C. wors þan n. ys; | 148. L. and, C. ac þe Ioie; L. heuen; L. þinke, C. semeþ; L. lite, C. luyte; L. mechul *and* swete it is, C. ac much hit ys ywys; | 149. L. beaus, C. bens; L. a . . . me, C. sede þis justice; L. þat ge ben; L. þynkþ, C. þyncheþ; | 150. L. worþe, C. worþ; L. who-so, C. þat; L. keput; L. nat; C. no goude; | 151. C. sede; L. sitten; C. stille; L. drynkun; | 152. L. bismere, C. a scorn; L. leyen; L. here; C. in þe felde, L. sowyng; | 153. L. whan, C. wan; L. C. þe swynkeres; L. moweþ, C. rypeþ; L. fair scheff, C. corne; L. *and* good *and* rype, C. goud *and* rype; | 154. L. ge mowen gon, C. þe drynkeres goþ; L. he, C. *and*; L. neuere agripe, C. a gripe; | 155. L. als, C. so; L. C. schulle; L. C. oure; C. trauaile; L. C. rype; L. atte ende, C. at[nende]; | 156. L.

- "Certes" quaþ ualerian "þou art lasse itold  
 160 þen a beggare aȝen god : ne be þou ne so bold"  
 "Belamy," quaþ þe Iustice : "I ne kepe noȝt of þi Langlinge.  
 Doþ ȝoure sacrifice anon : oþer me schal ȝou to deþe b-ringe"  
 "Certes" queþ þis gode men : "þou ne bringest ous noȝt þerto."  
 þe Iustice hem let anon : In strong prison do:  
 165 Maxime þe gailer het : þat hem In warde nom.  
 So þat he & alle his : poru hem cristene bicom  
 Seyn Cecile com bi þe prison : loude heo gan grede.  
 "Wat doþ ȝe, stalwarde knyȝtes : cuþþ ȝoure stalward hede.  
 Figteþ nou stalwardliche : to bileue þis derkhede.  
 170 þat ȝe were In þe weie ibroȝt : þat to cler ligȝt ȝou wole lede"  
 Amorwe to þe maumet þis gode men were ibroȝt.  
 þe Iustice hem het do sacrifice : ac þo hi nolde noȝt.  
 Hor heden he het boþe of smyte : & maxime isei  
 War angles hor soulen nome : & to heuene bere an hei.  
 175 To þe Iustice he eode anon : "cristene icham" he sede  
 "Ich isei þe gode menne soulen : angles to heuene lede."  
 þe Iustice him let nyme anon : naked he let him bete.  
 Wiþ stronge scourgen vaste ibounde : vorte he gan þat lif lete.  
 þat bodi hi caste wiþþoute toun : þo gon Cecile uorþ gon. f. 188.  
 180 pis þre holi martirs : to-gadere heo burede anon.  
 Heo was sone Inome & ilad : byuore þe Iustice þo.  
 "Wat" he sede "hou geþ þis : beþ þer ȝut screwen mo.  
 Artou valerianes wif : bi þe fei ich owe mahon.

"quid verborum circuitu immoramus? offerte Diis libamina et illæsi abscedite." Sancti responderunt: "nos Deo vero quotidie sacrificium exhibemus." Quibus præfector: "quod est nomen ejus?" Cui Valerianus: "nomen ejus invenire non potiris, etiamsi pennis volaveris." Præfector dixit: "ergo Jupiter nomen Dei non est?" Cui Valerianus: "nomen homicidæ et stupratoris est." Ad quem Almachius: "ergo totus mundus errat! et tu cum fratre tuo verum Deum nosti?" Valerianus respondit: "nos soli non sumus, sed innumerabilis multitudo hanc sanctitatem recepit." Traduntur igitur sancti in custodiā Maximi. Quibus ille ait: "o juvenitus flos purpureus, o germanus fraternitatis affectus quomodo ad mortem quasi ad epulas festinatis?" Cui Valerianus ait, quod, si crediturum se promitteret, gloriam animarum eorum post mortem videret. Et Maximus: "fulminibus igneis consumar, si non illum solum Deum confitear, quem adoratis, si contingat, quod dicitis." Ipse igitur Maximus, et omnis ejus familia, et universi carnifices crediderunt; et ab Urbano, qui illuc occulite venit, baptismū suscepserunt. Igitur dum aurora nocti finem daret, Cæcilia exclamavit dicens: "eia milites Christi, abjecite opera tenebrarum, et induimini arma lucis." Quarto igitur milliariorum ab urbe sancti ad statuam Jovis ducuntur et dum sacrificare nollent, pariter decollantur. Tunc Maximus cum jurejurando asseruit, se in hora passionis eorum angelos vidisse fulgentes et animas eorum quasi virgines de thalamo exeuntes, quas in gremio suo in cœlum angeli detulerunt. Almachius vero audiens Maximum christianum effectum, eum plumbatis tamdiu cædi fecit, quoisque spiritum exussit. Cujus corpus sancta Cæcilia juxta Valerianum et Tiburtium sepelivit. Tunc Almachius facultates amborum cæpit inquirere, et Cæciliam tamquam Valeriani conjugem coram se fecit adstare, jussitque, ut ydolis immolare, aut sententiam mortis incurreret. Cum autem ad hoc ab apparitoribus urgeretur, et illi vehementer flerent, eo quod puella tam

whanne, C. wan; L. C. schulle; L. for ȝoure; L. wepynde, C. to pyne of h.; | 157. L. ek he, C. ek we; L. seyde, C. sede; C. schold lordis; | 158. L. C. þan; L. swiche; C. drynkeres; L. nolde neuere þe, C. yþe; | 159. C. sede; C. ert; C. of tolde; | 160. L. þan is a saly beggere; C. aȝens; C. goud; L. neuere, C. neuer, C. bolde; | 161. C. sede; L. yne, C. ic ne; L. nat, C. no; L. ianglyngge; | 162. C. oure godes; L. sacrefise; L. bringge; | 163. L. quaþ þis godeman, C. hÿ sede; C. þo; L. ne bringest me neuere, C. bringest hit noȝt; | 164. C. stronge; L. prisone; C. to do; | 165. C. Ieylere hete; C. in ward nome; | 166. C. al; L. þorw, C. þorwe; C. fongen; C. cristendom; L. come; L. ȝe; C. to g.; | 168. L. what; L. C. do; L. C. godes; L. knytes; L. kuþeþ; C. keþeþ; L. ȝour; L. stalewort, C. Stalword; | 169. C.

- "*Sertis*," quod Valerian, "þou art lasse I-told  
þan a begger þat nougt haþ, be þou neuuer so bold."  
"Belamy" quod þe iustise, "I kep nougt of þy iangling;  
Doh goure sacrefyse anon, or me schal to deþe ȝowȝ bring."  
160 "Sertis," quod þis good mon, "þou bringist vs neuuer þer-two."  
þe iustise hem bad anon in strong preson do.  
Maxime, þe iayler, heet þat hem in ward nom,  
So þat he *and* alle his, þorw hem, tok Cristindom.  
Seint Sysile com be þe preson; loud ghe gan to grede,  
165 "What do ge goddus knyȝtus kep goure monhede!"  
"ffygȝtiþ now strongliche to be-leue þis derk hede  
þat ge were in þe wey brought, þat schal gou to lyȝt lede!"  
On morw, to þe maumetus, bese good men were brought.  
þe iustise had hem do sacrefys, but þey nold nougt;  
170 Here heuedis he leet of smyte, *and* Maxime þo seyȝ  
Wher aungelus here soulus nome, *and* ber to Heuin on hyȝ.  
To þe iustise he went anon, "Cristin I am," he sede,  
"I say aungelus to þe ioyȝe þe good mennus soulus lede."  
þe iustise heet hym neme anon, *and* nakid hym bete  
175 Wit strong scorgus fast I-bound, til he þe lyf lete.  
þe body þey casste wit-oute þe toun, Secile gan þer forb goon;  
þe þre holy marteris to-gedir ghe berid anon.  
ghe was sone I-nome *and* lad to þe iustise þo.  
"What!" he seyde, "how gooþ þis; be git schrewis mo?"  
180 "Artow Valerianus wif? By þe fey I owe Mahoun

f. 288.

- 150 Certes seide ualerian. þou art lasse itolde.  
þban a sely beggar agen god. ne beo þou neuere so bolde  
Bel amy seide þe iustise. ý ne kepe nougt of þin ianglinge  
Ac doþ to oure godes sacrefize. oþer me schal gou to deþ bringe  
Certes seide þis god men. þou ne bringest hit neuere þer to  
155 Anon þe iustise for wraþþe het. in to stronge prisoun hem do  
Maxime het þe gailler. þat hem in warde nom  
So þat he *and* alle his men. þoru hem cristen bicom  
Seint Cecilie com bi þe prisoun. *and* loude gan to grede  
What do ge geo seide godes knigtes. cuþeþ goure staleworþhede  
160 Beoþ hardi *and* fȝteþ staleworþliche. to bileue þis derkhede  
þþat ge were in þe wey ibrought. þat to cler ligt wole gou lede  
Amorwe to þis maumetes. þis gode men weren ibrought  
þþe iustise hem het don sacrefize. ac þo hi nolde nougt  
He het her heuedes to smiten of: *and* Maxime þo iseig  
165 Whar angles nom her soulen boþe. *and* bere to heuene an heiȝ  
Maxime wende to þe iustise forþ 'cristen icham he sede  
Ich seige þis tweie godmen soules ' angles to heuene lede  
þþe iustise him let nime anon. *and* naked he let him bete  
Wiþ scourges stronge. faste ibounde. forte he þat lif gan lete  
170 þþe bodi hi caste wiþoute þe toun. *and* þo gan Cecilie forþ gon  
þþis þre swete martires, geo burede hire sulf anon  
Son geo was inome. *and* iladde. to fore þe iustise þo  
What he seide hou goþ þis. beoþ þer gut schrewen mo  
Artou he seide valerianes wif: bi þe trewþe ich owe Mahoun

wyteþ goure strongnesse, L. staleworþliche; C. now in; | 170. L. i-brouth; | 171. L. opon þe morue; L. maumets, C. þis maunes; C. þe goud; L. brouth; | 172. C. hete; L. don; L. þei ne wolde nat, hyȝ nold; | 173. L. C. here; L. heued, C. heuedes; L. let, C. lete; L. it I-sey, C. anon sey; | 174. L. whare aungles here soules, C. fourȝ angles here saule nyme; L. baren; | 175. L. ȝede, C. wende agen; | 176. L. godemannes soule, C. sey angles now here saules; | 177. C. lete<sup>2</sup>; L. C.nymen; | 178. L. skourgen; L. faste, C. fast; C. bounden; L. forto, C. fort; C. his l.; | 179. L. C. þe; L. þei, C. hyȝ; L. C. casten; L. wiþoute, C. wiþþoute; L. þet.; C. toune; L. gan, C. com; L. C. forþ; | 180. L. þese, C. þo; L. C. martires; L. ȝe.; C. bured; L. to-gydere, C. togadre; | 181. L. omits; C. nome; ladde; to; | 182. L. what; C. how; L. C. goþ; L. ȝet; L. C. schrewen; | 183. C. þou; L. Vallerianus; C. fay; L. mahoun,

- Bote þou oþer do, þi wite heu : worþ sone ibroȝt adon  
 185 Of wat kun artou icome : þat so folliche þe dop lere." "Of betere kunne" quaþ þis maide "þen þou euer were  
 In wuch maner lif quaþ þis oþer : þencstou þi lif lyue. [ȝ]iue  
 þou axst as a fol quaþ þis maide : & such vnsuere me schal þe  
 Vor al þi poer þou schalt ise : wen þou wost þen ende.  
 190 þat þou ne schalt fram ihesu crist : enes myn herte wende."  
 "Hou com it to þe" quaþ þis oþer : "to be so hardi her.  
 To clepe me fol þat am þi maister : ne suxstou my poer."  
 "þi poer wreche" quaþ þis maide : "worþ sone ibroȝt bi-hinde  
 Vor it nys bote as a bleddore : iblowe uol of wynde  
 195 þat be ipriked wiþ a pricke : awei it scrynkeþ al.  
 Also wiþ a lute sekenesse : þi wreche caroine schal.  
 þi poer þat þou ȝelpest of : worþ þenne suyþe lute."  
 "Hou geþ þis" quaþ þe Iustice : "dame, wenne comeþ þi prute.  
 Ne mai ich þe ȝeue deþ & lif : ne suxtou wiþ þin eie"  
 200 "Certes sire" quaþ þis maide : "þou luxt þer of wel heie.  
 A wreche caroine þou miȝte ȝeue deþ : þat wel schort is.  
 Ac of lyue þou miȝte noþing ȝeue : þi sulue noȝt iwis.  
 Wen þou miȝt deþ ȝeue : me þencþ bi pur riȝt.  
 þat þou art deþes sergant : & of lif nastou no miȝt  
 205 & wen þou deþes sergaunt art : deþ þi lord is.  
 & In deþ wipþoute ende : þou wolt be iwis."

decora et nobilis ulro se morti traderet, dixit ad eos: "hoc, boni juvenes, non est juventutum perdere, sed mutuare, dare lutum et accipere aurum, dare vile habitaculum et accipere pretiosum, dare brevem angulum et accipere forum pellucidum. Si quis pro nummo solidos daret, nonne velocius festinaretis? Deus autem, quod accepit simpulum, reddet centuplum. Creditis his, que dico?" Et illi: "credimus, Christum verum esse Deum, qui talen possidet famulam." Vocato igitur Urbano episcopo, CCCC et amplius baptizati sunt. Tunc Almachius sanctam Cæciliam ad se vocans ait: "cujus conditionis es?" Et illa: "ingenua sum et nobilis." Cui Almachius: "ego te de religione interrogo." Cui Cæcilia: "interrogatio tua stultum sumit initium, quæ duas responsiones una putat inquisitione concludi." Cui Almachius: "unde tibi tanta præsumtio respondendi?" At illa: "de conscientia bona, et fide non facta?" Cui Almachius: "ignoras, cuius potestatis sim?" Et illa: "potestas vestra est quasi uter vento repletus, quem si acus pupugerit, omnis protinus rigor pallascit et quidquid in se rigidum habere cernitur, incurvatur." Cui Almachius: "ab injuriis cœpisti, et in injuriis perseveras." Cæcilia respondit: "injuria non dicitur nisi quod verbis fallentibus irrogatur; unde aut injuriam doce, si falsa locuta sum, aut te ipsum corripe calumniam inferentem, sed nos scientes sanctum Dei nomen omnino negare non possumus, melius est enim feliciter mori, quam infeliciter vivere." Cui Almachius: "ad quid cum; tanta superbia loqueris?" Et illa: "non est superbia, sed constantia." Cui Almachius: "infelix, ignoras, quia vivificandi et mortificandi mihi tradita est potestas?" Et illa: "contra veritatem publicam probo te nunc esse mentitum, vitam enim viventibus tollere potes, mortuis autem dare non potes

C. to M.; | 184. C. an oþer; L. wyth, C. þy whyte hewe; L. I-brouth, C. broȝt; L. -doun, C. adoune; | 185. L. what; L. kynne, C. kunde; C. þou comen; L. þus foileliche wilt, C. þe wole þus; | 186. C. beter kunde; L. quaþ C., C. sede C.; L. C. þan; L. euere; | 187. L. wich, C. wuche I.; C. sede þe i.; L. C. þenkest; L. tou, C. þou; L. to lyue; | 188. L. ffor-soþe; L. axest, C. eschete; C. heo sede; C. foule; L. swich, C. suche; L. ansuere; L. schul; | 189. C. powere; C. se; L. C. by þat þou; C. þe; | 190.

- But þou ober-wey tornē by wit, þou schalt sone be brought a-doun."  
 "Of what kin art þou come, þat þus follich wolt þe leer?"  
 "Of beter kin," quod þe mayd, "þan þou euer wer."  
 "In what maner," quod þe oper, "benkistou by lyf leue?"  
 185 "þou askist," ghe seyd, "as a fool, and so me schal þe answer geue."  
 "ffor al by þouer þou schalt se by þat þou wost þe ende,  
 þat þou ne schalt fro Ihesu Cr̄ist onis myn herte wende."  
 "How com it þe," quod þe iustise, "to be so hardy heer  
 To clepe me fool, and am by mayster: ne sestou my power?"  
 190 by pouer, wrecce," quod þe mayd, "worþ sone brought be-hinde,  
 For it is but a bleddere bloue ful of winde,  
 þat be it prekid wit a prikke, awey it sinkeþ, al;  
 Also wiþ alyte syknes by wrecche careyne schal.  
 by pouer þat þou gelpest of, þanne worþ wel lyte."  
 195 "How goþ þis?" quod þe iustise, "Dame, whennus comyþ by pryte?"  
 "May I nouȝt geue þe deþ and lyf, ne sestow nouȝt wiþ bin yȝe?"  
 "Sertis, Syre," quod þis mayde, "þou lyx þeroft wel hyȝe."  
 "A wrecche careyne þou mygt geue deþ, þat wel schort is;  
 Of lyf ne mygt þou nouȝt geue by-self, I-wis.  
 200 Whan þou ne mygt geue deþ, ne lyf, me-pinkeþ be ryȝt  
 þou art deþus seruaunt, for of lyf hastou no mygt;  
 And whan þou deþus seruaunt art, deþ by lord is,  
 And in deþ wit-outen ende þou schalt be, I-wis."
- 175 Bote þou oþer do. þin white hew. worþ son ibrouȝt adoun  
 Of what kinne he seide artou icome: þat þus folliche þe wolde lere  
 Of noblere men geo seide icham icome. þan þou euere were  
 In whuche manere lif seide þe iustise. þenkestou forto liue  
 þþou askest geo seide as a fole. and soche answere me schal þe geue.  
 180 For al þin power þou schalt iseo. bi þat þou wost þen ende  
 þat þou ne schalt fram mi lord crist. enes min hert wende f. 158.  
 Hou bicomeþ hit þe. þe iustise seide: to beo so hardi her ("De Sancta Cecilia.")  
 To clupe me fole þat am þi maister. ne seostou mi power  
 þin power wrecche þis maide seide. worþ son ibrouȝte bi hinde  
 185 For hit nis bote as a bladdore. iblowe folle of winde  
 þat be he ipriked wiþ a lutel pricke. a wey he schrinkeþ al  
 As god wiþ a lutel sikenesse. þin wrecche caroyn schal  
 þin power þat þou gelpest of. þan worþ wel lute  
 Hou geþ þis þe iustise seide. fram whannan comeþ þin prute  
 190 Ne mai ich þe geue deþ and lif. ne seostou wiþ þin eȝe  
 Certes sire þis maide seide. þer of þou luxt wel heye  
 A wrecche caroyn þou miȝte geue: deþ þat schort is  
 Ac of liue þou miȝte noȝinge geue: bi sulf nouȝt iwis  
 Whan þou miȝte geue deþ and no lif: me þencheþ bi pure rige.  
 195 þat þou deþes sergaunt art: for of lif nastou no miȝte.  
 And whan þou deþes seriaunt art: deþ þin lord is  
 And in deþ wiþouten ende. þou wolt beon iwis

L. ones, C. enys; C. my þoȝt; | 191. L. comeþ, C. how come þou; L. seyde, C. sede; L. C. þe iustise;  
 | C. to ben; C. here; | 192. C. clype; C. foul and; L. ne sixte nower my per, C. ne syxt þou my  
 powere; | 193. L. per, C. powere; C. wrecche; C. sede heo; L. i-brouȝt, C. broȝt; C. þe; L. be-, C.  
 by-; | 194. C. hit; C. bot; L. bladre, C. biadere; C. yblown; C. ful, L. fol of a wreche w.; | 195. L. be  
 it, C. be hit; C. piked myd; L. a litel prikke, C. a prike; C. hit; C. schryneþ; | 196. L. als þi cariogne  
 wiþ sikenesse, wreche, a-dwyne schal, C. with a lyte sykenesse þy wrecche careyn schal; | 197. C.  
 powere; L. boȝe is þenne & lite, C. swyþe lyte; | 198. L. goþ; C. how is; L. sey  
 de, C. sede; L. whenne, C. wannes; L. al þis, C. þy pryte; | 199. L. I may  
 þe ȝiue, C. ȝyue; L. as þou sixth myd, C. syxt þou myd þy neye; | 200. L. þo; C.  
 sede; L. lixt, C. lyxt; | 201. C. a body; L. myȝth, C. myȝt, L. ȝiue; C. ȝyue (reg); L. and; | 202. L.  
 ak; L. C. lyf; L. myȝtte, C. myȝt; L. nat, C. ywys (reg.); | 203. L. seþe, C. wan; L. myȝth; L. &  
 no lif; L. þinkþ, C. þinkeþ; L. ryȝt; | 204. C. ert; L. seriant, C. seriaunt; L. for; L. hasto, C. ne  
 hast þou; L. myȝtte, C. wyȝt myȝt; 205. L. ffor whan, C. & wan; L. sergeant, C. seriant; C. ert; L.  
 louerd; | 206. L. wiþouten, C. with oute; L. wilt, C. schalt ben; | 207. C. sede þis i.; L. gydiheðe, C. wod-

- "Dame" quāþ þe Iustice : "of þi godhede ne kepe ich noȝt.  
 Do sacrifice to oure godes : oþer þou worst to deþe ibroȝt"  
 "þou seist þat ich gidi am" : Seyn Cecili sede.
- 210 "Ac þou art gidi & eke blynd : I sene on þi rede.  
 Scholde ich honoure þine godes : þat beþ of ston & tre  
 I lef ȝif ich segge soþ : ȝif þou miȝt noȝt ise.  
 Bote þou be blynd þou miȝt ise : þat þis þing soþ is.  
 Lif þou it suxst & leuest it noȝt : gidi þou art iwis.
- 215 Vor gidi he is þat nele ileue : þat he sucþ myd eie.  
 & as gidi mon & blynd þou schalt : In helle pyne deie."  
 po verde þe screwe as he were wod : & het þis maide take.  
 & lede hire to an out hous : & a gret fur make.  
 & þer ouer a led uol of water : & al amidde hire caste
- 220 & seþe hire þe wule þer wole : a lym of hire ilaste.  
 po þis Iugement was iȝeue : & me hire uorþ ladde  
 Wimmen & men þat it iseie : loude hi wope & gradde.  
 "Alas" hi sede "a þis<sup>1</sup> ȝong þing : & a þis<sup>1</sup> vair creature.  
 Schal nou ȝeue hire ȝonge lif : & deie pour fure." <sup>(1MS. p 9)</sup>
- 225 "Bep stille" quāþ þis holi maide : "uor me ne wepe ȝe noȝt.  
 Mi ȝonge lif ne lese ich noȝt : ac to lyue ich worþe ibroȝt  
 A scorte deþ ich schal auonge : & lif wippouten ende.  
 Fol were þat nolde so : god him me sende"  
 Me caste hire In þe seþende water : þer-Inne al nyȝt heo seþ
- 230 þe lengore þer-Inne heo was : þe verrore heo was hire deþ  
 Wiþ þe walmes heo sat & pleide : & prechede of godes grace.  
 Mo þen four hundred men : bicome þer cristene In þe place.  
 þe Iustice isei þat me ne miȝte : In such deþ q[e]ulle<sup>1</sup> hire noȝt  
 He let smyte of hire heued : þat heo were to deþe ibroȝt.
- 235 þe quellare hire smot wiþ is mayn : þre siþe in hire suere. <sup>(1MS. quille.)</sup>

es igitur minister mortis, non vitae." Cui Almachius: "jam depone amentiam et sacrificia Diis." Cui Cæcilia: "nescio, ubi oculos amiseris; nam quos tu Deos dicis, omnes nos saxa esse videmus; mitte igitur manum et tangendo disce, quod oculis non vales videre." Tunc iratus Almachius jussit eam ad domum suam reduci, ibique tota nocta et die jussit eam in bullente balneo concremari. Quæ quasi in loco frigido mansit, nec modicum saltem sudoris persensit. Quod cum audivisset Almachius, jussit eam in ipso balneo decollari. Quam spiculator tribus ictibus in collo percussit, sed tamen caput ejus amputare non potuit, et quia decretum erat, ne quartam percussionem decollandus acciperet, eam

hed; C. kep; L. ryȝth nowth; | 208. C. þy; C. schalt be; C. deþ; L. i-brouth, C. broȝt; | 209. C. wode; C. & ysene is on þy rede; | 210. L. i-sene; C. forto lete to do wel<sup>1</sup> & suyþe to do quede; | 211. C. schoulde; L. honure, C. honour; C. þyn; L. ymad; | 212. L. I nelle it do, for-soþe, C. welle þat ic sede þe souþ; L. for, C. þat; L. nat; | 213. C. bot; L. þat art b., C. blynde; C. souþ; | 214. L. sixt, C. syxt; C. lyuest; C. hit; L. naut; C. woud; | 215. C. wode; L. nelle; L. C. seþ; C. witþ; L. C. eye; | 216. L. gydi & blind; C. as wode & blynde; C. by þat skyde; | 217. L. ferde; L. schrewe; C. þe iustise was for wraþ wod; C. lete; | 218. L. leden; L. C. into; L. greth; C. fuyre; C. þer; | 219. C. & sete; L. led-ful; C. lede ful; | 220. C. seþ; L. while, C. þe wyle; L. any Lime hol, C. lyme hole; L. on h.; C. laste; | 221. L. C. iuggement; | 222. L. wifmen; C. hire seý; C. loud; L. þe wopen, C. hÿ wepe; C. gurdde; | 223. L.

- "Dame," seyd þe iustise, "of þy chydinge kep I nouȝt;  
 205 Do sacrefyse to oure godus, or to deþ þou schalt be brought."  
 "þou seydist þat I gedy am," Seint Sycile sede,  
 "þou art gedy *and* wood, sene it is on þy dede;  
 Schold I honoure þy godus þat beþ ston *and* tre  
 Fool gif ich segge soþ þou ne myȝt se.  
 215 But þou be blind, þou myȝt se þat his bing soþ is.  
 Lif þou it sest *and* lewist it nouȝt, þou art wood, I-wis,  
 ffor wood he is, þat nel leue þat he seþ wit his yȝe,  
*And* wood mon *and* blind In þe pyne of hewe þou schalt dyȝe."  
 þo ferde ferd þe schreue as he were wood; he het þe mayde take  
 220 *And* leed here in-to an hous, *and* gret fer about here make,  
*And* þer-ouer sette a leed wit water, *and* amyddle here caste,  
*And* seþ here whyl þer wold any lyf in here laste.  
 þo bis iugement was I-goue, *and* me here forþ ladde,  
 Men *and* women þat here syge, loude wep *and* gradde,  
 225 "Allas!" þey seyde, "þis ȝong bing, so feyr a creature,  
 Schal now lese here lyf, *and* deyȝe þorw þe fure!"  
 "Beþ stille!" quod þe holy mayd, "for me wep ge nouȝt,  
 My lyf I schal nouȝt lese, but I worþ to ioy brought.  
 A schort deþ I schal fong, *and* lyf wit-outin ende,  
 230 Fool he were þat so nold god it me sone sende."  
 Me cast here in seþinge water, al nyȝt þer-inne ghe seth,  
 þe lenger ghe þer-inne was, þe forþer ghe was here deþ.  
 Wit þe bolmus ghe sat *and* pleyde; ghe þonkid godduȝ grace,  
 Mo þan foure hondrid be-com Cristin in þe plas.  
 235 þe iustise say þat he ne myȝt wiþ soch deþ quelle here nouȝt,  
 He heet smyt of here heed, þat ghe to deþ were brought.  
 þe quellere here smoot wiþ al his myȝt þryis in þe swyre,  
 Dame seide þe iustise. of þin gidihede kepe ich nouȝt  
 Do here sacrificize to oure godes. oþer þou worþest to deþ ibrought  
 240 Seistou þat ich gidie am. þis holi maide seide  
 Ac þou art gidie *and* ek blinde. *and* þat isene is on þin rede.  
 Scholde ich honouri þin godes: þat beoþ of ston *and* treo  
 þþat noþinge worþi her power nis. gif þou miȝte iseо  
 Lif þou seost *and* ileouest hit nouȝt. gidie þou art iwis  
 245 Bote þou be blinde iseо þou miȝte. þat his bing soþ is  
 For gidie he is þat nele ileoue. þat iseоþ wiþ his eye  
 And as gidie man *and* blinde. þou schalt in helle deyȝe  
 þbis iustise was for wraþþe wod. he het þis maide take  
 And led hire into an oute hous: *and* grete fure þerinne make  
 250 And sette þer on a led ful of watere. *and* al amidde hire caste  
 And seþe hire while þer wolde alime. ihol of hire ilaste  
 þþo bis iugement was iȝeu. *and* me hire forþ ladde  
 Men *and* wimmen þat hire seye. loude hi wope *and* gradde  
 Alas hi seide of þis ȝonge bing *and* þis faire creature  
 255 þþat schal lese hire swete lif. *and* deyȝe þorus þe fure  
 Beoþ stille seide þis holi maide. for me ne wepe ge nouȝt  
 Min ȝonge lif schal ich nouȝt lese. ac to liue ich worþe ibrought  
 In þe seþinge watere geo was icaste. *and* þerinne al niȝt geo seþ  
 þþe lengore þat geo þerinne was. þe ferþer geo was þen deþ.  
 260 Wiþ þe walmes geo sate *and* pleide. *and* prechede godes grace  
 þþat mo þan foure hundred men þer bicom. cristen in þe place  
 þþo þe iustise iseig þat he ne miȝte. in soche deþ quelle hire nouȝt  
 He het þat me scholde hire heued of smite. þat geo were to deþ ibroȝt  
 þþe quellar smot wiþ al his maȝn. þreo siþe on þe swere
- f. 288 b
- f. 158 b

allas; L. þei seyde, C. hý seden; L. þat þis ȝonge, C. þat þus ȝonge a þyng; L. þus fair, C. so faire; |  
 224. L. lese, C. lete; C. now; L. ȝonge, C. ȝong; L. þoru þef., C. scal dy now in þef.; | 225. C. sede; L.  
 C. for; L. wepeþ nouȝt; | 226. L. ȝonge, C. ȝong; C. schal; L. nowth; L. Icham i-brouth, to lyf hit  
 worþ; | 227. L. aȝe schorte, C. an schort; C. wole; L. a-vonge, C. a fonge; C. to habbe; L. wiþ-outen,  
 C. with þouten; | 228. L. C. he; C. nold so; L. god he me sone hynes., C. sone; | 229. L. men casten, C.

- He ne smot it noȝt uolleche of : þe dep was iboȝt dere.  
 No quellare ne moste bi þulke daie : smyte ouer þrie.  
 Half slawe hi billeuede hire so : hamward he gan hie.  
 Nou an vuel stude god it wolde : vor he was a screwe.
- 240 Wo dude he þe holi maide : gulteles so hire to hewe.  
 & beleue hire so half alyue : welle wo him be.  
 Vor ho [n]uste<sup>1</sup> of no deol þer me miȝte ise. (i MS. muste.)  
 þis holi maide eode aboue : hire heued half of ismyte.  
 þat was half quic & half ded : þat reuþe it was to wite.
- 245 & pouere men muche of hire good : delede wiþ hire honde.  
 Hit was a uair grace of god : þat heo miȝte enes stonde.  
 Heo prechede & to ihesu crist : mony good mon wende.  
 & alle to Seyn Vrban þe bispoc : to baptise heo sende.  
 & bed him þat he schulde hire hous : þat heo wonede Inne.
- 250 Halwy In our lordes name : & a chirche þer bygynne.  
 & burie þer hire suete bodi : & þat our lordes seruice  
 Vþe is poer þer-Inne were ido : In alle wise  
 þe pridde day after hire martirdom : þis maide adoun lay.  
 & prechede cristene men : & bed hem habbe good day.
- 255 & sede "nou ichabbe ido : al þat my wille is to.  
 Wende ichulle to ihesu crist : & ȝe schulle also"  
 þis was two hundred ȝer : & þre & twenti riȝt.  
 After þat our lord was In is moder aliȝt  
 Nou bidde we our suete lord : uor hire holi martirdom.
- 260 To bringe ous to þulke Ioie : þat hire soule to com.

semivivam cruentus carnifex dereliquit. Per triduum autem supervivens, omnia quæ habebat, pauperibus tradidit, et omnes quos ad fidem converterat, Urbano episcopo commendavit dicens: "triduanas mihi inducias postulavi, ut nos tuæ beatitudini commendarem, et hanc domum meam in ecclesiam consecrare." Sanctus autem Urbanus corpus ejus inter episcopos sepelivit, et domum suam in ecclesiam, ut rogaverat, consecravit. Passa est autem circa annos domini CC et XXIII tempore Alexandri imperatoris. Alibi autem legitur, quod passa sit tempore Marci Aurelii, qui imperavit circa annos domini CCXX.

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heo was ycaste; L. seþing; L. þar-, C. þer in; C. a lyte; L. ȝe seeþ; | 230. L. lengere, C. lengur þat; C. in; L. ȝe sat; L. ferþere, C. ferre; L. ȝe; L. deep; | 231. C. witk; L. C. welmes; L. ȝe; C. sate; C. preched; | 232. C. more; L. C. þan; C. foure CCCC; C. cristi ne; L. þat; | 233. C. þo þe; L. sey, C. say; L. he ne myȝtte, C. myȝt; L. swich; C. so; L. naut; | 234. L. het, C. hete; C. þat me schold; L. ȝe; C. dep; | 235. L. C. quellere (reg.); C. myd; L. C. al his; C. syþ; L. C. in þe swere; | 236. L. nat C. myȝt ful smyt; L. hired; L. bouth to dere, C. he boȝt . . . weld; | 237. C. most; C. day; L. oftere C. after; L. C. þan þrie; | 238. L. leuede, C. bylefte; L. C. a-weyard; | 239. C. omits 4 ll; L. yuel stede gon he mote; schreve; | 240. L. dede; þat; | 241. L. bi-lefte; | 242. L. ffor who-so nuste; doel; men myȝtte it se; | 243. L. ȝede; | 244. C. omits; L. & was; quik; rewþe; | 245. C. poure; L. mechel, C. þat heo myȝt of wyte; L. ȝe delde, C. heo deled; C. honden; | 246. C. omits; L. It; wel fair; ȝe aut myȝtte; | 247. L. ȝe; C. preched; C. so þat; L. C. many a; L. god, C. goud; | 248. C. al; L. baptiȝe ȝe; C. baptiȝe; | 249. L. bad, C. bade; C. þat þe bispoc seint vrban; L. scholde; C. stede; L. ȝe hadde woned; C. woned; | 250. L. halewen; L. oure louerde (reg.); C. scholde a godes n.; L. C.

- He smot it nougt folleche of; þat deþ was bougt ful dere.  
 No quellere, by þat day, most smyt ofter þan þryȝe.
- 240 Half slawe he lefte here, and so aweward gan hyȝe,  
 To a leþer stede, god it woot, for he was a schrewe,  
 He dede þe mayde wo, giltles, here so to hewe,  
 And beleued here alyue half; wel wo hym be,  
 For who so nyste of no del, þere he myȝte se.
- 245 þe holy mayde went about, he heed hing half of smyte,  
 And was half quik and half ded, þat ruȝe it was to wite.  
 And pore men, moche of here good, delid myd here hond.  
 It was a fayr grace of God þat ghe myȝt onus stond.  
 Lhe prechid, and to Ihesu Crist mony men tornde,
- 250 And alle to Seint Orban, þe bysschop, to baptise ghe sende,  
 And bad hym þat he scholde, þe hous þat ghe wonyd inne,  
 Halw in oure Lordus name, and a chirche þer be-ginne,  
 And bery þer here oune body, and þat oure Lordus seruise,  
 Up his pouer were þer-inne ðo, in alle wyse.
- 255 þe briddie day after here marterdom, þe mayde adoun lay  
 And prechid Cristin men, and bade hem haue good day,  
 And seyde, "Nowȝ I haue don al þat my wille is two,  
 Wende I wil to Ihesu Crist, and ge scholle also."  
 þis was two hondrid ger and þre and twenty, ryȝt,
- 260 After þat oure Lord was in his modir alyȝt.  
 Now bidde we oure swete Lord, for here strong marterdom,  
 Bring oure soulus to þe ioyȝe þat here-to com. Amen.

- 225 He ne migte for noȝinge smiten hit of. geo bougte þen deþ ful dere  
 Non quellar moste bi þulk dai. smiten oftere þan þrie  
 Half aslawe he bileuede hire so. a weȝward he gan hyȝe  
 þis holi wimmon wende aboute. hire heued half of ismite  
 Wiȝ hire honden geo delede pore men. hire gode. þat geo migte of wite
- 230 Leo prechede and to oure louerd crist. mani men geo sende  
 And alle to þe bischop seint Vrban. to baptisy geo wende  
 And bad þat seint urban. hire hous þat geo wonede inne  
 Halewy scholde in godes name. and a churche þer beginne  
 þe briddie dai after hire marterdom. þis maide a doun lai
- 235 And prechede wel cristen men. and bad hem habbe gode dai  
 And seide þat geo hadde ido. alle þat hire wille was to  
 Wende geo wolde to oure louerd crist. and hi scholden after also  
 Hit nas bote two hondred ger. and þre and twenti also  
 After þat oure louerd ibore was. þat þis dede was ido  
 Nou louerd for þulc marterdom. þat saint Cecilie hadde  
 Graunte ous to þulk ioie come. þer þat angles hire to ladde. Amen.

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churche; | 251. L. burien þere; C. & þat he bured; L. swete body; C. oure; | 252. C. vp; L. C. his; C. powere; C. in; idon; L. on alle-kynne; | 253. C. marterdom; C. adoune; | 254. C. preched wel þe cristen, L. to þe c.; L. bad, C. bade; L. god, C. goud; | 255. L. seyde now; C. þo heo hadde; C. alle þat hire was to do; | 256. L. I wile, C. heo wolde to our̄ lord c. & hyȝ schold after also; | 257. L. hundred; C. hit nas bot cc ȝere; L. ryȝth, C. also; | 258. L. oure louerd; L. his; L. a-lyȝth; C. after oure lord ybore was þat þis dede was do; | 259, 260. L. oure swete louerd for; L. bringge vs to þat i.; C. lord for þe marterdom þat saint [Cecili was [...] e, graunt ous þulke Ioie : þat hire saule ys Inne. (Some letters are here illegible owing to a smudge on the parchment.)

## MS. COTT. TIB. E VII. [fol. 271 a—274 b.]

Jhesus Crist, ful of pete,  
 To mankind es of mercy fre  
 And schewes his pouste & his might  
 Of(t)-sithes here unto sum men sight,  
 5 So þat we may his mightes ken,  
 Als wele in wemen als in men,  
 And all-þermost in maydens ging  
 þat will be boun to his biding.  
 þat may men by ensaumple se  
 10 Of saint Cecill, þe mayden fre, <sup>(1)MS. Harl. mede.)</sup> 40  
 þat born was of ful gentill blode  
 And euer was haly & milde of mode,<sup>1</sup>  
 And in hir hert ful wele scho knew  
 All þe lare of oure lord Jhesu.  
 15 Vnto him was scho prayand euer,  
 Night and day, and sesid neuuer.  
 Of pape Urban scho was baptist  
 And trewly trowed in Jhesu Crist.  
 With hir frendes scho was ful dere  
 20 And with all oþer folk in-fere,  
 Bycaus scho was both fayre & gude  
 And untill all folk milde of mode.  
 Hir frendes maried hir till a man  
 þat named was Valirian;  
 25 Long he was and faire of skin  
 And komen of ful nobill kyn,  
 Bot hathin he was & unbaptist  
 And knew no-thing þe law of Crist.  
 Cisill durst none oþer do  
 30 Bot alſ hir frendes tald hir to.

þe day was sett: þai suld be wed.  
 In clathes of (g)old<sup>1</sup> þai both war cled;  
 Bot Cicill had þar-of no pride— <sup>(1)MS. cold.)</sup>  
 Ful hard clething was next hir hid;  
 35 Outward scho was richely arrayd,  
 So alſ hir frendes had puruayd.  
 þus on þis wise when þai war wed,  
 Ful fele folk þaire frendes fed.  
 When þe bridal was broght till ende,  
 40 þat ilka man þaire wai gan wende,  
 Cicill es þan to chamber went,  
 Calland to Crist with gude entent.  
 þai herd grete noyis, þat war hir nere,  
 Of angels sang and organs clere;  
 45 Scho made hir melody omang  
 And al þus said scho in hir sang:  
     Fiat cor meum et corpus meum im-  
     maculatum, ut non confundar:  
 þat es on þis maner to mene:  
     “Lord, þou mak my hert all clene  
     And saue my body unfiled within,  
 50 So þat I be noȝht schent with syn!”  
 When scho had tald all hir talent  
 þus unto god with gude entent,  
 With hir husband scho went to bed,  
 Als þe law wald, for scho was wed.  
 55 Bot in hert ful wele scho thought  
 To kepe hir clene, if þat scho moght.  
 So by hir lord when scho was layd,  
 Vntill him al þus scho sayd,  
 Scho sayd: “sir, if it war ȝowre will,

## MS. Camb. Univ. Lib. Gg. II. 6. [fol. 364 a—358 b.]

To say sume thinge is myne entent  
 Of sanct Cecile, þe fare & gent,  
 þat cumyne wes of þe best kine  
 þat Rome þane nere wes withine;  
 5 & scho folouyt wele þare trace,  
 For bath wyse & uertuse scho wes,  
 Fare of fasone for to se,  
 Enhornyt of al bewte;  
 & fosterit ves in Cristis fay,  
 10 & Cristis ewangele scho had ay  
 Hyd in hire brest & þare-one thocht,  
 Na nycht na day cesit noct<sup>1</sup>. <sup>(1)Here a couplet H.)</sup>  
 Mekly to god, þat kepe vald he is missing?  
 Clenly hir virginite.  
 15 & scho eftir pe custume þane  
 Ves handfast with a gungmane, <sup>f. 354 b.</sup>  
 & callit ves Valaryane,  
 þat in maryage vald hire haf tane.  
 þe day ves cumyne þat þai twa

20 þat band of mariage suld ma;  
 Next hire flesch, þat wes fare,  
 Scho had al tyme pe harsk hare  
 & ves<sup>1</sup> owtewart to be sicht <sup>(1)MS. wiþ.)</sup>  
 Cled in gold schenand brycht.  
 25 & quhene al mast mery  
 Mad with mouth & menstra(l)fy,  
 þane wald scho in hart<sup>2</sup> god pray  
 Be hir-ane & til hym say: <sup>(2)MS. hirt.)</sup>  
     “God, grant þat my hart ma I  
 30 Vnuemmyt kepe & my body,  
 Sa þat I thole na varldis schame  
 Bot ay be thankful to þi name;”  
 & for þat<sup>3</sup> fastinge & prayere  
 Scho mad to god tymis sere. <sup>(3)MS. þast.)</sup>  
 35 Bot quhene þa suld to bed ga  
 & nane wes þar bot þai twa,  
 Scho tuk hym by þe hand in hy  
 & til hym sad deuotely: <sup>(4)MS. cowit.)</sup>  
     “My maste swet & lowit<sup>4</sup> thinge,

- 60 A cownsail haue I gow untill,  
 þat bus be said now, with gowre leue —  
 And, gude syr, luke ge gow noght  
 greue!  
 Ane angell, syr, of heuyn ful bright  
 Es my speciall both day and night,  
 65 A seruand unto god es he —  
 I luf him wele, so dose he me.  
 And if he wit with any gin  
 þat þow my body file with syn  
 Or onclene lufing to me bede,  
 70 He will be wrath for swilk in dede  
 And vengeance will he on gow take,  
 þat ge sall all solace forsake [hede].  
 And lose þe flowre of gowre 'gowth-  
 Swilk grewance, sir, es gude to drede."  
 75 Valirian þan wex all wrathe,  
 For drede he durst do hir no schathe;  
 Of hir wordes he was noght payde  
 And all þus unto hir he sayde:  
 "Woman, if þou will þat I trow  
 80 þir wordes þat þou sais me now,  
 Bitwix vs twa here lat me se  
 Him þat þou sais so lufes þe!  
 So þat I may my-self assay  
 Whether he [be] angell uerray, (1H. he be.)  
 85 Seruand unto god of heuyn —  
 þan sall I do þi counsaill euyn.  
 And if þou luf ane oþer man,  
 Ful sare þou sall þe bargin ban;  
 Nowþer sall skape with-owten scath,
- 90 Bot I my-self sall sla gow bath,  
 With mikell schame I sall gow  
 schende."  
 þan answered scho with wordes hende:  
 "Gude sir," scho said, "greue noght þe  
 If þou may noght goddes angel se!"  
 95 For here may no-man se angell,  
 Bot if he trow, als I sall tell,  
 In a god þat made all thing,  
 þat was with-outen bygining  
 And es and euer-more sall be,  
 100 Mast of might and of mercy fre,  
 And als in his sun Jhesu Criste.  
 If þou will trow & be baptiste,  
 þan say I, syr, þat þou sall se,  
 þe angell — þat I tell to þe.  
 105 And, sir, if þou will þis aff[ay],<sup>1</sup> (1H. assy.)  
 Till bisschop Urban tak þi way  
 And tell him all þir wordes balde,  
 Right als I haue to þe talde;  
 And tell him all þi life till end,  
 110 So þat he may þi mis amend!  
 þan sall he, when þi growth es trew,  
 Cleth þe all in clething new: [þe].  
 Whitte clothes and clene sal he gif  
 þan sall þou in my chamber se  
 115 þe bright angell of god of heuyn  
 þat lufes me, als I gan þe neuyn,  
 And of him þan saltou haue  
 What thing so þou will efter craue."
- 40 I wald tel þe a priwe thinge  
 Sa þat I mycȝt sekire be  
 þu suld neuire discouer me,  
 For gud na Il na for mede."  
 "Tel one parfor & haf na dred!"  
 45 Scho sad: "goddis angel haf I,  
 þat kepis me ay Ithandly  
 & lufis me sa wele, þat he  
 Wil thole na warldly mene haf me;  
 þe quhilc gif he persawe þi wil  
 50 þat þu with lust nicht me til,  
 He sal þe sla, ore euire he fyne,  
 & þu þi fare guthed sal tyne;  
 Bot he þat be þi wil cane prowe  
 þat' þu me lufit of clene lufe, (1MS. Gyf.)  
 55 In gret daynte he sal haf þe  
 & luf þe als wele as me  
 & al his Joy (sal) saw þe til."  
 Valaryane pane, thru godis wil  
 Chastyit, sad: "gif þu wil I  
 60 Trow þi wordis parfytly,  
 Schaw me þe angel, þat I may
- Se þat þi wordis are verray:  
 & I sal do al þi bydyng;
- f. 355 a.
- Bot gif I ma haf persawynge  
 65 þat þu luffis ony warldis mane,  
 I sal sla þe & hymre rycht pane."  
 Quod scho pane: "gyf þat þu  
 Wil prowe it suth I sa now,  
 þu sal trew in god hicht me,  
 70 & in his name baptiste be:  
 & þu sal se þe suth rycht pane  
 þat he is angel & na mane.  
 parfor ga fra þe cyte ewine  
 Thre myle in name of god of hewine,  
 75 & in a rew, callit "via apia",  
 Syndry poure mene þu sal ourta,  
 & to pame sal þu sa but gyle  
 þat "me til ȝu has send Cecile,  
 To sanct Vrbane<sup>1</sup> to kene me (1MS. barbane.)  
 80 To tel hymre hire priwete."  
 & quhene þu fyndis hymre, þu ma  
 Tel hymre bire wordis þat I say.  
 & quhene he has hofine þe,  
 pane godis angel þu sal se."

- þan thurgh grace of þe haly gaste  
120 Vp he rase and went in haste  
Vntill þe gude bisschop Urban,  
And halely talde he to him þan,  
With him and his wife how it ferd.  
And when Urban his tale had herd,  
125 He heuyd<sup>1</sup> his handes to heuyn<sup>n</sup> on  
hight (H. heuyn.)  
And said þus to god moste of might:  
“Lord Jhesu Criste, loued mot þou be  
þat sawes þe sede of chastite  
And gifes unto men cha[s]te cown-  
saylle  
130 þat to þaire sawl m[*a*]y mekill availe!  
þou tak þe fruit now als þine awin  
Of þe sede þou has in Cicill sawn —  
For it waxes and multiplise,  
Als men may se on þis wise.  
135 A spows scho toke, with hir to dwell,  
þat als a lion was fers and fell  
And rebell both by night and day  
Ogains þe lessons of þi lay:  
Now meke to þe has scho made him  
140 Als a lamb, *in* sawl and lym — (H. moke.)  
For war he noght unto þe meke,<sup>2</sup>  
Saluyng of me wald he none seke.  
And, sen he has to saluyng soght,  
Lord, sauē him and forsake him  
noght!”  
145 þis when he had his praier end,

- 85 Valaryane þane but abad  
Passit furth þe gat scho hymē bad,  
& be þe taknys, he had tane,  
Fand þe bischope sanct Vrbane  
Lurkand, ymange pure mene mekly  
90 Quahare mony marteris cane ly.  
& quhene þat he pame tald had  
His erand as Cecile hymē bad,  
þe ald his handis but (ony) mare  
Vphewit to þe hewine rycht pare  
95 & gretand sad: "lord Jhesu,  
þat chast consal wele chewis nov,  
Of þat sede froit nov þu tak  
þat in Cecil þu cane mak!  
For Cecil as (a) besy be  
100 Ententify seruit has þe;  
For hymē, þat scho als fellone  
Til spouse (tuk) as a woud lyone,  
Mek as a lame scho has þe send,  
þi treucht til ek & til amend."  
105 & as þe bischope þis & mare  
had sad, þane apperit pare  
A gung mane, þat name cuth knew,



- Cled in quhytare thinge þane snaw,  
& in his hand (he) bare a buke,  
110 þe quhilc rycht fare ves one to luke,  
With goldine lettris wrytine brad.  
Quhame quhene Valeryane sene had,  
He fel for rednes in þat<sup>1</sup> sted f. 355 b.  
As a mane þat had bene ded. (1MS. þast.)

115 Bot rath þe gung mane raisit hymē  
& bad hymē rede þe buk with-inē.  
& he red: & fand (wrytin) þare:  
“ þar is a god, forout mare,  
& bot a treucht, & a baptyme,

120 þat sal al leilemene saf fra pyne,  
A fadir, a makare of al,  
A-beoufe althinge & euir be sal.”  
& as he had red pis wryt,  
þe bischope sais: “ trewis þu It

125 Or art þu get of dout  
Of It þu come here about?”  
Valaryane þane loud cane cry  
& sad: “ na thinge sa weile trew I  
Vndir hewine as I trew It

130 þat I saw wrytine in gone wryt.”

- 175 Whils Valirian þir wordes gan say,  
 þe ald man was sone o way —  
 And how he went, no-thing þai wist.  
 þan þe bisschop Valirian baptist  
 & bad him trow with conciens clene
- 180 Als he þare had herd and sene. (H. grantes.)  
 Valirian granted<sup>1</sup> with gude will *fol. 192.* 215  
 All his biddinges to fulfill.  
 þan hame ogain he bad him ga  
 Vnto Cicill, þat he come fra, (H. confert.)
- 185 And confort<sup>2</sup> hir with all his mayne.  
 þus to his wife he went ogayne.  
 To Cisill chamber sone he went,  
 To thank hir þat him so had sent  
 To get saluing of all his sin
- 190 And gude lifing so to bygyn.  
 Kneleand in praiers he hir fand,  
 And sone bifor hir saw he stand  
 Godes angel, schineand so bright,  
 þat all þe hows lemid of light;
- 195 Twa corons in his hand he broght —  
 So worthi neuer in world war  
 wroght:  
 Vnto Ciscill he toke þe tane,  
 þat oþer unto Valariane,
- 200 Opon þaire heuides he set þam rathe,  
 And all þus said he to þam bathe:  
 “Kepes þir corons gow bitwene  
 With chast bodys and hertis clene!  
 Fro paradis I haue þam broght —
- 205 For in þat ilk place war þai wrought;  
 To gow mi lord has þam puruayd.”  
 þan to Ualirian þus he said:  
 “For þat þow wald assentand be  
 Vnto counsail of chastite,
- Mi lord Jhesu, of mercy fre,  
 210 Sendes þe þus bodword by me:  
 What thing of him so þou will craue,  
 Ask: and sone þou sal it haue,  
 What thing so euer þou will of mele —  
 So þat it be to þi sawl hele.”
- Valirian þan made his asking  
 And said: “I gern none oþer thing  
 Ne no-thing es to me so swete  
 Als es, my broþer bale to bete.  
 Wald my lord, dere Jhesus,
- 220 Help my broþer Tyburcius  
 In his law forto be fre  
 And cristen man, als he mad me,  
 þat we might both parfitley lif  
 And both oure gastes unto him gif!”
- 225 When þe angell þir wordes herd,  
 To Valirian þus he answerd  
 And said: “þi will it sall be done,  
 For-whi þou askes in þi bone  
 þat mi lord likes forto haue
- 230 Better, þan þe likes it to craue.  
 þarfore, als my lord has won þe  
 Thurgh Ciscill, his seruand fre,  
 So thurgh þe now sall he win  
 þi broþer out of bandes of sin.
- 235 And þou and he sall samyn cum  
 Vntill þe mede of marterdome.”  
 When þis was said, he went up euyn  
 Wit grete brightnes to blis of heuyn.  
 And Valirian þan with his<sup>1</sup> wife (H. wisth.)
- 240 Ful halily ay led þaire life.  
 And after þis, right als god walde,  
 Tyburcyus, þat I of talde,  
 þat broþer was to Valiriane,
- þe gung mane þane wanyst away.  
 & Valeryane but delay  
 Of sancte Vrbane tuk baptyme,  
 & hame to Cecile went syne
- 135 & fand hire one hire bed stanand,  
 & ane angel, þat in his hand  
 Had twa cronis mad wynly  
 Of spanyft rose & quhyt lely;  
 Of fame to Cecile he gef ane,
- 140 & ane to Valaryane,  
 & sad: “þir cronys I brocht now  
 Of paradyse, to gif til gow;  
 þe quhilkiȝ gif ge kepe cleynly  
 With hart wnuemmyt & body,
- 145 þai sal neuir falow, na tyne  
 þe odour þat ge think sa fyne,  
 Na get na vthire sal fame se
- Bot gif he kepe chastyte.  
 &, Valeryane, sene þat þu  
 150 Has trewit heilesume conseil now,  
 Ask at me quhat-euir þu wil,  
 & I þi garnyng sal fulfil.”  
 Sad he: “gif sa þat it sal be,  
 þar is na thinge sa suet, think me,
- 155 As my nane brothire; pare-for I  
 Ask þat he (als) knew in hy  
 þe suthfastnes þat nov I kene.”  
 þe angel sad til hyme þane:  
 “For þine askyne is rychtwyse
- 160 & to god plesand mony-vise,  
 þu & þi bruthire, bath  
 Cronit to god, sal cume rath,  
 Of martirdome þe fare crone (MS. as.)  
 To bruk in hewineat<sup>1</sup> goure wardone.”

f. 356 a.

- Opon a day come him-allane  
 245 To luke how þat his broþer ferd,  
     For halines he of him herd.  
     And als he entred *in* þaire hows,  
     He kissed him, and als his spows,  
     He kissed Ciscell and said þus:  
 250 "Gude sauore es here omanges vs —  
     Of rose and lilyes me think it like —  
     Sen I was born,<sup>1</sup> felde I neuer slike,  
     So swete sauore feld neuer man." (<sup>1</sup>H. lorn.)
- þan spak his broþer Ualirian:  
 255 "Broþer, sen god vowches sauue  
     þat þou þis swete sauore may haue,  
     Hardily now hete I þe: (<sup>1</sup>H. stedfast.)  
     If þow *in* trowth will stedfast<sup>1</sup> be  
     And luf oure lord Jhesus allane,  
 260 Vnto whas lare we haue us tane:  
     þan sall tou se and here þe steuyn  
     Of þe angell of god in heuyn  
     And so be sauued, for certayne."
- 165 Tyburcyane syne enterit pare  
     Quhar Cecile & his bruthire ware,  
     & feld þe odoure in til hy  
     Of þe rose & þe lely,  
     & sad: "bruthir, hou hapnis here  
 170 þis swet sawoure þis tyme of gere,  
     Of Nouember in þe moneth,  
     Quhene flouris haldine ar vndirneth?  
     For betyre odire I cane neuir fele.  
     pare-for til gou twa I grant wele  
 175 þat I ame chengit<sup>1</sup> sudendly." (<sup>1</sup>MS. clengit.)  
     Valaryane sad: "na ferly;  
     For fare cronis & fresch haf we,  
     þat pine ene get ma nocht se,  
     Of rose & lyle wynly mad,  
 180 þat neuir-mare fal falou na fad.  
     Bot as þu nov be my prayere  
     Has feld wele þis odore here,  
     Sa sal þu, gif þu trewis me, (<sup>2</sup>MS. tybur-  
     It þat þou felis clerly se.") <sup>cium.</sup>  
 185 Tyburcius<sup>2</sup> cane hyme ansuere:  
     "Gif þis in slepe be at I here  
     Or it be in to suthfastnes  
     þou me tellis mar & les?"  
     pane sad til hyme Valaryane:  
 190 "Ve haf slepit al our tyme gane,  
     Bot in suthfastnes now we duel."  
     Tyburcius sad: "þu me tel  
     Hou þis ma be?" pane one-ane  
     Til hyme sad Valaryane:  
 195 "Godis angele it tacht to me;  
     þe quhilki<sup>3</sup> gif þu garnis to se,  
     Tak baptyme & renunce til al  
     Fals ydolis þat ge godis cal!"  
     pane Cecile prechit hyme in hy  
 200 & schewit it hyme al opynly  
     þat ydolis ma fele na thinge  
     Bot are dumbe & defe, but smelling  
     Na nocht ma grape na get se,  
     "Bot ar mad ne ma helpe þe, (<sup>3</sup>Metc., heke.)  
 205 & þu ma breke<sup>3</sup> þaime as þu wil; [til?"]  
     Quhy suld þu pane gif suth þaime  
     & as fcho had hire sermone done, f. 356 b.  
     Tyburcius sad til hire sone:  
     "Quha trewis nocht þis, mast & leste,  
 210 In fawte of wit is bot a beste."  
     Cecile þane hyme in armys hynt  
     & kissit his briste, or scho stynt,
- & sad til him<sup>1</sup>: "I grant þis day  
     þat þu art my mach verray; (<sup>1</sup>MS. hir.)  
 215 For, richt as'luf of god has mad  
     þi bruthire my husband, but bad,  
     Richt sa sal godis luf mak þe  
     My mache, gif þu wil treu me,  
     Gif þu al ydol(is) wil forsake  
 220 & treu in god & baptyme tak;  
     & sa sal god grace gif to þe  
     His angel in-to face to se.  
     For-þi se þu na lettynge ma  
     Bot with þi bruthire sone þu ga!"  
 225 Til his bruthire Tyburcyane  
     Sad: "tel me, Valaryane,  
     To quhat is it þu sal me led  
     To mak ful endyng of þis ded?"  
     Sad he: "to bischope Vrbane."  
 230 þane sad Tyburcius one-ane:  
     "Is þat Vrbane þat to þe dede  
     Has bene condamnyt in þis sted  
     (&) In til hydlis ay syne duellis?  
     For, be he fundine, as mene tellis,  
 235 He will be brynt for-out mare,  
     & we with hyme mone fal þare,  
     & sa, til we are sekande  
     Diuinite in hewine schenand,  
     Ve sal be wappyt in til yre  
 240 Percace in erde in brynnand fyre."  
     Quod Cecile til hyme: "gif ware nane  
     Life bot in þis warld alane,  
     Ferly var na mene wald dout  
     To tyne it, war þai neuir sa stout;  
 245 Bot þar is a fere bettyre lyf,  
     þat ma (nocht) tynt be for þis strife,  
     þat godis sone (h)as til ws tald,  
     þat mad al think, as his fadir wald;  
     þis godis sone command fra hewyne  
 250 Til lar<sup>2</sup>, tacht ws with his stewyne  
     þat (vthir) lyf is þat lestis ay, (<sup>2</sup>Metc. omits  
     In hewine, but oþir tene or tray      Til lar.)  
     þat he has grathit til al his,      f. 357 a.  
     Til bruk in euire-lestand blis."  
 255 Tyburcyane sad: "tel me þis:<sup>3</sup> (<sup>3</sup>MS. þus.)  
     Sene þu sais bot a god is,  
     Quhy is þat þu tellis me  
     þat þai are nov godis thre?"  
     & Cecile sad, þat ves war:  
 260 "As in a mane thre thingis ar,

- Tyburcius said to him ogayne:  
 265 "And I might godes angell se,—  
 A verrayer takin might noght be:  
 þan will I turn vntill his lay."  
 When Ciscell herd him sogat say,  
 Down scho fell and kissed his fete,  
 270 And þan scho said þir wordes swete:  
     "Now will I grante, whore so I  
         wende,  
     þou es my kosyn & my dere frende.  
     For als þe luf of Jhesu fre  
     Has made þi broþer assent to me,  
 275 So sall he turn þe forto take  
     His might & maumetry forsake.  
     And, sir, sen þou es redy now  
     To tak his trowth & trewly trow,  
     With þi broþer saltou ga  
 280 Vntill þe bisschop þat we come fra,  
     And be bowsom what he will bid."  
     Als scho has demid right so þai did.  
     Of þe bisschop was he baptist þan  
     And bycome a ful haly man.  
 285 So þat god gaf him slike grace,  
     þat he<sup>1</sup> might see in ilk a place  
     Angels of god ay at his will     (¹H. be.)  
     And all his likeing<sup>2</sup> tell þam till, (²H. liking.)  
     And of þam might he ask and haue  
 290 What thing so he wald efter craue.  
     þus þir breþer bot[ð]<sup>3</sup> in-fere     (³H. bot.)
- And Ciscill, þat was to þam dere,  
 Lifed in luf and charite  
 And honored god in all degré.—  
 Passio sanctorum Tyburci et Vale-  
     riani.
- 295 Tiburcius and Valiriane,  
 Fro-time þat þai had baptyme tane,  
 To serue god ay war þai boune,  
 And fast þai prechid in feld & toun  
 Ogains þaire mawmettes more & min  
 300 þat þai bifore affied þam in.  
 To tell þaire life, it war ful lang,  
 Or meruayles þat war þam omang;  
 Bot in þis tretice will I tell  
 What ferlis in þaire ded byfell  
 305 And what wonders god for þam  
     wrogt  
     Yn time þat þai to ded war broght.  
     þare wond a prince þare in þat land  
     Whare þir two breþer war precheand  
     þar lifed all on maumetry:  
 310 Vnto þam had he grete enuy  
     And said, with dole þai suld be dede  
     Bot if þai tite wald turn þaire rede.  
     Sone he has efter þam sent.  
     And when þai come in his present,  
 315 þai prechid so of Cristes lay:  
     þe prince had no power to say  
     Ne forto do na harm þam till,

- Wit frist, memor þe todire thinge,  
 & þe thred vndirstandinge:  
 Richt swa in þe mycht of godhed  
 Thre personis are but ony dred:  
 265 þe fadire, þe sone, þe<sup>1</sup> haly gast, (¹MS. he.)  
 & nocht ane of þire are in waste."  
 þane tald scho hyme mare & les  
 Quhy god in warld come & in fles,  
 & how hyme lykit for to tak  
 270 Passione of ded for mannis sak,  
 & tald hyme syne congruiyte  
 Quhy his passione suld nedful be:  
 " & first he tholit hyme-self ta,  
 At as mane suld be lattine ga  
 275 þat had bene haldine lang (in)<sup>2</sup> syne;  
 & to be myssad lykit hyme, (²MS. langsum.)  
 Sa mane, þat ves in malysone,  
 Mycht þar chese lestand benysone;  
 & he tholit scornyt to be,  
 280 To mak mene of fendis scorne fre;  
 & he tholit a crone of thorne  
 One his heid be put for scorne,  
 For þat þe heid<sup>3</sup> sensses suld be (³MS. he had.)  
 Fra mankind tane þat first gef he;  
 285 & gal he tastit, for to bet
- It þat mane tynt tastand þe swet;  
 & nakit one þe croice he wes,  
 Til hele Adamys nakitnes;  
 & hangit one þe croice ves he,  
 Of first trespass to mak ws fre."  
 Tyburcyus þane but delay  
 Til his bruthire þis cane<sup>1</sup> say: (¹MS. þan.)  
 " Gud bruthire, haf in þe mercy,  
 I pray þe, & me led in hy  
 295 To godis mane, þat I ma be  
 Clene mad, þe angel to se!"  
 His bruthire þane hyme has tane  
 Be þe hand & led til Vrbane; f. 357 b.  
 þat, baptiste þane, he  
 300 þe angel clerly mycht se,  
 þat vald gif hyme his askin[g]e  
 Debonarly but gruchinge. (²MS. beste.)  
 Tyburcius þane, or he fane,  
 & his bruthire Valaryane  
 305 þare faculte, til It mycht leste,<sup>2</sup>  
 Til poure folk disponyt faste,  
 & of þe marteris þe bodyis  
 Sa slane for godis seruice  
 þai enterit ful prywely.

Bot sone he granted to wirk þaire  
To Cristes law so turned he; [will.  
320 So did all halely his menge,  
& all þo men war turned ilkane

310 Almacius þane in (til) hy  
Gert þai brethire til hym bringe  
& sad to þame, as in hethinge:  
“Quharfor haf ge sa mykil cure  
& besynes and laboure

315 To grawe þame þat for trespass,  
As resone mad, condampnȝt ves?”  
Tyburcius þane but delay  
To þe prefet sadly cane say:  
“Vald god we war seruandis al

320 To þame (þat) ge dampnyt cal!  
þat has dispysit with clere thocht  
It þat aperis<sup>1</sup> & is nochȝt . . .”  
þe prefet sad: “þu tel me” (1MS. aperit.)  
Quhat manere þat may be?”

325 Quod he: “þat semys & is nochȝt  
Is al þat in þis wrold is wrocht  
& ledis mane to vanyte  
& til it þat nochȝt sal be;  
Bot<sup>2</sup> it þat semys nochȝt to be (2MS. for.)

330 & is, gif þu ma clerly se,  
Is of richtwise mene þe lyfe,  
& of Il mene þe Payne but strife.”  
þe prefet sad: “I trew nochȝt þis  
þu sais; of þi-self al is.”

335 & bad þane þat Valaryane  
Befor hymse suld be brocht one-ane,  
& sad hym: “þo þi bruthire be  
Nocht of parfyte wit, as think me,  
I consal þe for-out mare

340 þat þu to me mak gud ansuare;  
For it war lyk þai ware wod  
þat refusis bath Joy & gud  
Bot fooley þat maste garnis  
þat is maste fay to Joy & blis. (3MS. fele.)

345 For-þi is gud ge wyse gu weile,  
Or ge tyne al varidis fele<sup>3</sup>. f. 358 a.

Valaryane sad til hymse þane:  
In froist þat he saw Idil mene  
Playand þame, makand gud chere,

350 & scorne þame þat wirkand were,  
Bot in tymē of het. quihene þai  
Froyt of þare travale bar away,  
& gret Joy & mery mad,  
þane þai þat Idil bene had,

355 Mad anoy & ewil chere;  
“Richt sa til ws has hapnyt but were:  
For we thole nov cald & het,  
Quhile t(b):riste, quhyle hungire gret,  
Bot sal resawȝ (syne) til oure med

360 Ay-lestand Joy, þat is na dred;  
Bot ȝe, þat warldis glore has now,  
In tymē to cume ful sare sal grew  
& for a schort tymē lestand blis  
In gour foly are lyk to mys.”

365 þane þe prefet ansuert hymse but mare

þat suld haue bene þe breþer bane.  
And sone when saint Ciscill herd tell  
Of all þis fare how it bifell,  
325 Vnto þam ful sone scho soght;

& sad: “be þe pryncis, are  
Vndisconfit of þis varld hale,  
Sal thole, as ge say, lestand bale,  
& ge, þat are content wrechis here,  
330 Sic lestand blis sal bruk but were?”  
Valaryane sad til hymse þane:  
“Le ar na princys, bot smal mene,  
Borne in our tyme, & de sal sone  
& geld resone hou ge haf done.”

375 þe prefet sad, þat wes fel:  
“In sic spek ganys nochȝt to duel.  
Mak sacryfice for-out delay  
&, quhar þu lykis, pas þi way!”  
þai bruthire þane vnerely

380 Sad to þe prefet opynly:  
“Lele sacrifice to god we gife,  
& sal do, til we may lif.”  
Quod þe prefet to þame one-ane:  
“Of goure god tel me þe name!”

385 Valaryane til hymse þane cane say:  
“Certis, his name fynd þu na ma,  
þo þu had wengis for to fle.”  
þe prefet sad: “get thinkis me  
þat Jubiter is nochȝt þe name

390 Of god þat suld be I(n) mast fame?”  
Valaryane sad: “Jubitere  
Ves þe name of a murtherere  
& of a kyd houlloure, [oure.]  
þat racht noþire of mensk na hon-

395 þane ansuert hymse Almachius  
& sad: “gif suth be þu sais ws,  
Al þis wrold erris bot þu aне  
& þi bruthire, þat has gow<sup>1</sup> tane  
To trew in a god verraly?” (1MS. gone.)

400 Valaryane þane sad in hy:  
“It is nochȝt anerly we twa  
þat a god al-ane cane ta,  
Bot þai are sa feile ma þane we,  
þat þai ma nochȝt nomeryt be,

405 þat resawȝt þis halynes,  
& ay sal eke & be na les.”  
þane gert þe prefet tak þaime bath  
& put þame in til pressone rath,  
In gemsale of Maxymy.

410 þat sad til þame ful felloun(l)y:  
“Le, þat are gunge & fals alsar,  
& bruthire-lufe betwene ȝu twa,  
Me think ge haste ȝu to ded nov  
As til a feste men callit gow!”

415 Valaryane sad: “gif þat þu  
Wil hicht til ws þat þu sal treu,  
þe Joy þu sal se in þis sted  
Of oure sawlis, as we are ded.”  
þane Maxymyne sad: “fyre me bryne,

420 Gyf I þat god þane trou nochȝt ine  
þat ȝe treu, gyf þat I se

And prestes þe dir with hir scho  
broght,  
þat baptist þam biliue ilkane,  
To lif in Cristes law allane. (H. price.)  
When þis ilk pri[n]ce<sup>1</sup> Maximius  
330 And his menge war baptist þus  
Saint Ciscill confort þam ful wele  
And bad þam forsake ilka dele  
þaire mawmetri þat þai on trow.  
And unto Jhesu baynly bow; [night  
335 Scho bad þam leue þe werkes of  
And cleth þam in armurs of light.  
Scho said: "ȝowre cours ge haue ful-  
fild  
Ful worthily, als Jhesus wild"; (H. willd.)  
A grete bataile ouer-cumen haue ȝe:  
340 And þarfore sall ȝe corond be  
With corons þat Criste sall ȝow gif,  
In lastand blis ay forto lif.  
þarfore bese noght abaist, to take  
Marterdom for Cristes sake!"  
345 þai granted all to do his will  
And his biding forto fulfill;  
Almachius þan, þe cursed king,  
When he herd of þis tiþing,  
He cumand þat þai suld ilkane  
350 Mak sacrafise or els be slane.  
And for þai wald noght wirk his will,  
Ful hard paines he put þam till,

And at þe last with-outen lite (H. heuides.)  
All þaire heuiddes<sup>1</sup> he gert of smite.  
355 And when þaire bodis so war schent,  
þaire sawles sone to heuyn went,  
þat men might se with-owten mis-  
How angels led þam unto blis.  
And mani folk for þat ilk sight  
360 Turned to Crist and trowed right.  
Maximius, þat gude conuers,  
Omang þam gan þir wordes reherce,  
He said: "I se þaire sawles ilkane  
With angels vnto heuyn be tane  
365 In þaire wenges, þat þai noght fall,  
And like clene uirgins er þai all."  
Almachius þe king herd tell  
Of all þis fare how it bifell,  
And how Maximius had said,  
370 And how his folk war all affraid:  
He cumand smertly on þe morn *fol. 193.*  
To bring Maximius him byforn,  
And grefe turmentes to him he  
wroght,  
Vntill he vnto ded was broght.  
375 His saul was hastily hent to heuyn,  
With more solace þan men may  
neuyn.  
Almachius, þat wikked king,  
When he had done þus al þis thing  
And saw þus þat Ualiraine

þe thinge suth ȝe sa to me."  
þare Maximyne but ony mare,  
& al þat euire with hym ware,  
225 & þe fel tormentouris alsua,  
Of pape Vrbane cane baptyme ta,  
þat in hydlis come þame til  
& þare request (*did*) with gud wil.  
& in þe dawinge of þe day  
330 In hye voice cane to þame say:  
"Le, þat are Cristis knychtis mad,  
Putti's fra ȝou nov but abad  
Vorkis of myrknes, & clethis ȝu  
In armys of licht in hast nov!"  
335 Almachius þe prefet herd  
How þat þer cristine knychtis ferd;  
þane gert he tak þaime rycht sone,  
& syn eftire for-out home  
He gert leid þame of þe tone  
340 Four myle, one þat condicione:  
Gyf þai to Jubitere rycht þare  
Vald sacryfy but ony mare,  
þai suld ga fre at þare wil,  
& al þar gudis tacht þame til; f. 359  
345 & gif þai gruchit to do sa,

L. of C.

þare nekis suld þai strik in e twa.  
þane ware þe brethire one led,  
Til þai come til þe lymmytstede;  
& for þai wald nocht sacryfy,  
450 þai war vnhedit bath in hy.  
þane Maximyne, þat þare was  
Quhene þat ves done in þe place,  
Sad: he saw angelis cume done  
In þe tyme of þare passione,  
455 & þare fawlis vpe in hewine bare  
With þame in to wynly fayre.  
Sone eftire as þis ves done,  
To þe prefet ves talde sone  
þat Maximyne cristine ves mad.  
460 þe quhilke þane but (*mar*) abad  
Gert mene with lumpis of led  
Dynge hym, til he ves ded.  
þane Cecile tuk þe bodys thre  
& in a grawe gert þaime lad be,  
465 With sic honoure as scho cuth do  
& as þe tyme askyt to.  
Almacius þane wes besy  
To get þe gudis gredely  
Of þe forсад Valaryane

380 And all þir oþer saintes war slane,  
þarfore he thinkes in his mode  
At geder to him al þaire gude.  
To Valiriane hows first þai haste,  
For he was man of reches maste.

385 þai come unto Ciscill, his wife,  
Stoutly and with ful grete strife

470 þat til his spouse Cecile had tane,  
& of Tyburcius his bruthire,  
& lewitt nocht ane for vthire.  
& sowne wes fundyne þat Cecile  
þar gud(is) had to kepe a quhyle.  
475 For-þi hir gert he bryngē hymē til,  
To grype þe gudis in-to wil.  
& as scho brocht ves hymē befor,  
He sad til hire with sturt & schore:  
“Til ydolis þu mak sacryfice  
480 & þame honoure in al wyse,”  
Ore ellis for to thole gret Payne  
& fynaly þare-for be slane.  
pane turmentoris, bo þai vald fenge,  
Word of ned hire til distrenge,  
485 Gret ryght sare, for sa fare a thinge,  
Sa vyse, sa fare ,& sa ȝyngē  
Vald ta þe ded sa wilfully.  
pane sad scho til þame in hy:  
“It is nocht, gungmene, as ge thocht;  
490 For my gouthed here tyne I nocht,  
Bot gifis filth & takis gold fyne,  
& giffis a lacht place of duellinge  
& takis a place of bewte, f. 359 b.  
Sic as ma nocht comprisit be,  
495 & giffis bot a lytil wra,  
A vyd merkat þare-for I ta.  
Richt as mane suld gif gow (1MS. s.)  
Tene shillings<sup>1</sup> for a penny now,  
I trew þat ge suld haste ȝu þene  
500 To gife a penny & take tene;  
Sa to god gif we gife ocht  
Of warldly thinge þat he has wrocht,  
He sal gif ws þarefor in med  
Ane hundre tyme sa fele, but dred.”  
505 Sad scho þane: “trew ge þis?”  
La, sad þai, sa hafe we blis,  
Ve trew þat Criste is god verray  
þat sic a seruand has his day.”  
þay of a wil euiwilkane  
510 Gert bryngē þe bischope ald Vrbane:  
Of quahame richt þane baptyme cane ta  
Four hundre personis & ma.  
Almachius gert hire til hymē bring  
& sad hire, as with symlynge,  
515 He sad: “of quahat condicione is þu?”  
Scho sad: “gentil-womane, I trew.”  
Almachius sad (hir) syne tyte: (2 MS. þat.)  
“I spere, womane, of hi<sup>2</sup> ryte.”  
Cecile sad hymē: “þine askin(g)e  
520 Of foly takis begynnynge, (3MS. ansgere.)  
Venand I suld answer(is)<sup>3</sup> twa

And bad hir lay furth þe reches  
þat war hir maysters, more & les,  
“ For als traitur to dede he ȝode (1H. omits.)  
390 And þe<sup>1</sup> king soll haue all his gude.”  
Saint Ciscil gan grete mornig mak;  
And so unto þa men scho spak  
þat all þai turned þam unto Crist.

Vndir a demand þe to ma.”  
Almacius sad til hire bone:

“Quhene has þu sic presumpcione

525 Of redy ansuere til a mane?”  
& Cecile sad til hymē þane:

“Of conscience gud & clere  
& fath vnfenget, but were.” (1MS. A.)

Almacius sad hire one hicht: [mycht.]

530 “Me think þu knawis nocht my  
Scho sad: “gis, I cane wele fynd  
þi poweste lik a bose, of wynd  
þat fillit ware & with a prene  
Mocht out be latine for-out wene (2 Metc., sag  
535 & feige (?)<sup>2</sup> and to-giddire fal The word is i  
& tyne þe vowsty<sup>3</sup> blawing al.” legible in the  
Almacius cane til hire say: MS.)  
“Vith iniure<sup>4</sup> þu begynnis ay (3MS. bousty  
& in It syne perseueris; (4MS. inwy.)

540 Quhat is he þat þe his leris?” f. 360 a.  
Quod scho: “iniure is it nocht  
Bot fraud in word be thocht;

þar-for, gif I do wrang, me teche,  
Or with fals wordis I þe fleche,

545 Or<sup>5</sup> blame þi-selfe þat me blamys (5MS. &.)  
& of fraud me defamys.

Bot we, þe haly name þat wat  
Of god, ma nyt it na-gat,

&bettire is de happily

550 Na for to lif here<sup>6</sup> wrechitly.” (6MS. dehire  
Almacius sad in þat tyde:

“Quhy spekis þu with sic pryd?”

“Na, quod scho, pryd is It nocht,  
Bot It is stedfastnes of thocht.”

555 Almachius þane til hire cane say:

“þu wreche, wat þu nocht I may,  
Gift me lykis, now fa þe, (7MS. giffis.)

Or, gif me lykis, lat þe be?

For sic poweste is tacht me til

560 þat I ma do quhat-say I wil.”  
pane sad scho: “I ma prewe wele

þat þu has leyf Ilke deile

Agane opyne suthfastnes;

For, bo þu of poware wes

565 þe lyf to tak<sup>8</sup> of ony mane, (8MS. mak.)  
Of powere wes þu neuir get þane

To quhykine mane þat ded had bene;

For-þi is þu seruand but wene

Of doulful ded & nocht of lyfe,

570 & nocht of quyet, bot of stryfe.”

Almacius cane til hire say:

“þat wedand wodnes do away

& sacryfy oure godis til,

- And in his name þai war baptist,  
 395 þai forsoke all þaire maumetry  
 And trowed in Jhesu almighty;  
 Him þai wirschipt als þe wise  
 And lifed and died in his seruise.  
 Bot when Almachius herd of *yit*<sup>1</sup>,  
 400 Wode he was, out of his wit. (¹H. þit?)  
 He bad þat Ciscill suld be soght  
 And hastili<sup>2</sup> bifor him broght; (²H. hastily.)  
 And al hir howsing cumand he  
 þat it with fire all brint suld be.  
 405 Bot first he frained with eger mode,  
 Whare was all Valirian gude.  
 And scho said þat scho gan it take  
 Vnto pouer men for goddes sake.  
 At þa wordes was he full tene  
 410 And bad all suld be brint bidene  
 Hows and catell, more and min,  
 And als hir-self he bad þam brin.  
 And sone, to fulfill his desire,  
 Al hir place þai set in fire;  
 415 Hir-self in mides gert þai stand,  
 And all about þe fire brinand.  
 Bot all þat [f]here<sup>3</sup> to hir was sene  
 Als scho in ane erber had bene (³H. here.)  
 Clene and faire with flores bright.  
 420 So stode scho a day and night,  
 Prayand to god wit hert ful hale.  
 And when Almachius herd þis tale,
- He biddes þam þat broght þe tibandes  
 Smite hir hede of, þar scho standes.  
 425 His slaughter-man to Ciscill went  
 Whare scho stode in gude entent;  
 To god hir prayers gan scho make  
 And bed hir nec furth till þe strake.  
 þe custum<sup>4</sup> was in þat cuntry  
 430 þat none suld strike bot strakes thre.  
 And when he had thre strakes hit,  
 Lit was hir hals nocht sunder kit, (¹H. sun.)  
 Hale war sum<sup>5</sup> of sins and uaines.  
 And so he left hir in grete paines —  
 435 For þe lau was, als I said are,  
 He suld gif thre strakes & nomare.  
 So opon hir knese scho sat,  
 Lifand thre daies after þat.  
 And maidens þat had with hir bene  
 440 Come unto hir albidene,  
 And al þa daise scho sesed nocht  
 To confurt þam so als scho moght.  
 Efter þe pape Urban scho sent  
 And talde unto him hir entent:  
 445 "Sir, scho said, god has gifen me  
 In þis liue þir daies thre,  
 Als I him praied, and by þis scill:  
 þat I might tell to þe my will.  
 All my maidens to þe I gif,  
 450 To gome þam wele, ay whils þ[æ]i<sup>6</sup> lif,  
 And teche þam wiseli forto wirk; (²H. pi.)

- Gyf to luf langere, be þi wil!"  
 575 Sad Cecile þane, or scho stynt:  
 "It semys þu has þine eyne tynt;  
 For, þat þu godis cane cal,  
 Ar bot stanis & stokis al,  
 As þu ma with þi handis taste,  
 580 þo þu ma nocht se a laste."  
 þane ves Almacius rycht wa  
 þat scho sic ansuere cane til hym ma,  
 & gert mene til hire ine<sup>1</sup> hire led, (¹MS. me.)  
 For he wald (þat) scho war dede;  
 585 & al a day & al be nycht  
 He gert leid meelete in menis sycht,  
 & band hire faste fut & hand  
 & kest hir in þe led brynnande. f. 360 b.  
 Bot of het scho feld nomare  
 590 þane scho in a bath set þane vare,  
 For ocht þat scho cane se or here  
 Na changit contenance na chere,  
 Bot ves blyth, as scho had bene  
 In maste mycht þat euir wes sene.  
 595 And as Almacius þat herde,  
 As out of wit<sup>2</sup> nere he ferde; (²MS. wet.)

- Ine-to þat leid, þat brynnyt swa,  
 He bad strik hire nek ine twa. (¹MS. he.)  
 & þo þe<sup>3</sup> basar strak hire thrise,  
 600 He mocht vnhyed hire na-wyse;  
 &, for þe law bad, þat, quha  
 Suld haf þe hed strikine hym fra,  
 þe ferd strak suld haf na-way,  
 For-þe basare ged his way  
 605 & lefyd hire lyand in þat sted,  
 Thre days fullely, as nere ded.  
 & in þe meyne-tyme nocht-for-thy  
 Scho delt hire gudis vysly  
 Ymange powre folk þat had ned,  
 610 & til vntrowand godis sede  
 Sew & to god wysly wane  
 Thru hire prechinge mony mane,  
 & þame þat scho conuertit swa,  
 Fra Wrbane scho gert baptyme ta,  
 615 & sad hyme þat scho had mad purchas  
 To god þat scho mycht luf þe space  
 þat scho mycht þaime til hym com-  
 þat to be baptist scho hym send, [mend  
 & of hire house of lyme & stane

- And in mi name þou mak a kirk (<sup>1H. eyyn.</sup>)  
 þat mi maidens may dwell in euyn<sup>1</sup>  
 And serue god with will and steuyn."      Beried hir in þat same stede  
 455 When þis was said, ful sone in haste      And made a kirk of ful grete spens  
 Vnto god scho gaf þe gaste.  
 And þe bischop, when scho was dede,  
 620 Gert mak a kirk, of sancte Vrbane  
 Halouyt, & eftire lad hire þare [are.  
 Ouhare nov fele bischopis grawyne  
 & þis, þat I tel here, done wes  
 Eftire þat Criste had tane flesch  
 625 Twa hundre thre & thretty gere;  
 & þane wes emperoure but were  
 Marcyus, þat Arelyane      Had þane til his surname.—  
 Now, sancte Cecile, þat had sic grace  
 630 þat, quhat þu wald, þu mycht purches  
 Fra Jhesu, þat þu lufit swa:  
 Purches ws, ore we hyne ga,  
 Of þis varld þat we ma twyne  
 But schame, det or dedly syne