

þou hast robbed wiþ þi rout .ij. riche strondus,
 þere þe gravel of þe ground was of gold ore. 525
 þat on was called Ermus and þat oþur large
 þe peple callede Pactolus þat þou pore madest;
 So fale folewen þe folk to fonde þi heste,
 þat with hure drinkinke-drawht whan þei drie þirsten,
 3e maken stinte of his strem a stronde ful huge 530
 þat 'Nilus þe noble flod' namned is wide.
 So miche holdest þou þe, man, of miht and of strenke,
 þat þou miht ovur Oxian wiþ þin ost saile.
 So wis wenst þou þe be, þat þou by wit mihtest
 þorou þi maistrie miche maken to sclepe 535
 Tricerberus þe helle-hound þat holden is kene,
 Boþe wakrong and wikke and wardain of paine.
 3e no fonde no fast but fillen 3oure wombis,
 Eten evere whan 3e list and in ese libben.
 Unkinde kiþe 3e 3ou to kille 3our children 540
 To queme quedfulle godus þat quenchen 3our blisse,
 And to 3oure sovorain of sinne sacrifice maken
 Wiþ þat unblisful blod þat þei bled haven.
 Miche maugré 3e maken among many kingus,
 And gret werre in þis world to waste þe peple. 545
 Many men upon molde ful mek and ful simple
 þorou þe, provede prince, ful proude ben woxe.

Africam in paruo tempore concludere dicitis, uos lumen solis deficere facitis dum cursus sui terminos armis exquiritis. Vos Pactoli atque Armi fluuios splendidissimos auro currentes asque colore pauperes reddi<di>stis, <uos Nilum fluuium bibendo a cursu suo minuistis>, uos monstratis ut orribilem Oceanum nauigaret homo, uos Tartareum custodem, id est canem infernalem Tricerberum, soporari (*cod. soporasti*) posse pretio confirmastis. Vos omnia manducantes uultum semper ieiunum portatis, uos interficitis in sacrificio filios uestros, uos facitis adulterare matres uestras, uos mittitis discordiam inter gentes; et qui sunt humiles etiam et per uos superbi facti sunt; uos suadetis homines ut nequamquam sufficiant spatia terrarum, sed celi querere habitaculum prouocatis;

526 *MS.* erenus 527 *MS.* paccolus

3e wene winne noht inow on þis worde one,
 But 3if 3e hevene miht have and holden hit alse.
 Michel gilte 3e, gome, bi 3our godus falce, 550
 As þei were woned in þis word to wirchen in hure live.
 For ensample, bi my sawe soþ mow 3e fonge
 Of Jubiter þe joilese jugged to paine;
 He was alosed in his lif lechourus of kinde,
 þat in his licamus lust as a lie brente; 555
 He hadde while he here was to hordom i-eged
 Gret won in þis word of wommen alive;
 Forþei 3e holde him a god þat in helle lengus,
 And þat sorwful sinne for his sake usen.
 Y prove hit by Proserpine þat 3e praisen alle 560
 And holden godesse god to gien 3ou here;
 Hure was lecherie luf þe while hue livede alse,
 And many lud by hure lay hur lust to fulfille;
 Many men upon molde made hue by slithe
 To haunte hure in hordom hur hole liffime; 565
 Of hure tenful tach 3e taken ensample
 And ay wilnen hire wone in werkus to fonde.
 Alle 3e usen unrith and aftur þat wirchen;
 3e ben luþur of 3our lif and lawus 3e chaunge.
 Of more make 3e awaunt þan 3e mow forþen; 570
 Wis holde 3e no whi but 3if he wel conne
 Faire tempren his tounge his tale to schew.
 Miche matere of wit minegeþ 3our tounge;

uos et per uestros deos multa committitis sicut et illi fecerunt. Nam testimonium potest <is> accipere a Ioue deo uestro (*fol. 54v*) et a Proserpina dea uestra quam colitis quia ille multas feminas adulterauit et illa multos uiros secum fecit concu<m>bere. Vos homines non dimittitis in sua libertate uiuere, sed seruos illos habetis; uos iudicia recta non iudicatis, uos iudicibus mutare legem facitis. Vos multa dicitis que debeant fieri et non facitis. Vos alios non tenetis sapientes nisi qui habent facondiam loquendi; tamen multum

564 *MS.* made hure by] *emend. Sk.*
crossed out

568 *MS.* and and aftur] *first and*