

- Boþe oure reule & our riht · þat we þe rede holde.  
 3if þou our lif wole alowe · & oure lawe vse, 508
- [<sup>1</sup> MS. 'þei']  
 [Fol. 212]  
 [<sup>2</sup> Sic. Read  
 'of' (P)]  
 Be not angry.
- Hit schal þe profite, prince · whan þi<sup>1</sup> pres faileþ.  
 Hit is noht long in<sup>2</sup> us, lud · þei hit loþ seme,  
 For y haue sent þe my sonde · as þou þei-self bade.  
 But be þou nouht, bolde king · balful no tened, 512  
 þat þou miht trystli trye · þe trøweste lawe.  
 For we schulle minnge þe, man · swiche maner lorus,  
 þat þou miht lihtliche, lud · þe beste lawe kenne.  
 Whan þou hit wisliche wost · wilne hit in herte, 516  
 & lowe þi lordschipe · & þi lif mende.  
 Asie & aufrik · & europ þe grete  
 þou hast lowed to þe, lud · in a litil while.  
 þe lem of þe sonne-liht · þou lettest to schine, 520  
 So brem bringest þou þi men · alle in bryht armus ;  
 & þe guldene ger · þat þi gomus vsen  
 Wiþ þe blasinge ble · blenden þe sonne.  
 þou hast robbed wiþ þi rout · ij. riche strondus, 524  
 þere þe grauel of þe ground · was of gold ore.  
 þat on was called erenus · & þat opur large  
 þe peple callede paccolus · þat þou pore madest ;  
 So fale folewen þe folk · to fonde þi heste, 528  
 þat with hure drinkinke drawht · whan þei drie þirsten,  
 3e maken stinte of his strem · a stronde ful huge,  
 þat nilus þe noble flod · namned is wide. 531  
 So miche holdest þou þe, man · of miht & of strenke,  
 þat þou miht ouur oxian · wiþ þin ost saile.  
 So wis wenst þou þe be · þat þou by wit mihtest

auium audimus cantilenas. Ista siquidem naturas et consuetudines  
 obtinemus, quas si tenere volueris, tibi vident asperum et amarum.  
 Si autem eas obtinere nolueris et imitari, nobis aliam imponere non  
 valebis, quia secundum tenorem tue epistole actus nostros et doctrinam  
 tibi per presentem mittimus. Uolumus autem tibi de tua natura pau-  
 lulum enarrare, quia vita tua nobis dura esse videtur. Tu asyam Affri-  
 cam et Europam paruo tempore te dicis concludere. Tu lumen solis  
 facis deficere dum cursus sui terminos armatorum rabie postulas. Tu  
 pactoli et herimi fluuios splendentes auro arentes et absque colore et  
 pauperes reddidisti. Tu bibendo nilum fluuium minuisti; tu mon-

- þorou þi maistrie miche · maken to sclepe  
 Tricerberus þe helle-hound · þat holden is kene 536 Thou makest  
 Cerberus to sleep.  
 Boþe wakrongt & wikke · & wardain of paine.  
 3e no fonde no fast · but fillen 3oure wombis,  
 Eten euere whan 3e list · & in ese libben. Ye never fast.  
 Vn-kinde kiþe 3e 3ou · to kille 3our children, 540 Ye sacrifice your  
 children.  
 To queme quedfulle godus · þat quenchen 3our blisse ;  
 & to 3oure souorain of sinne · sacrifice maken  
 Wip þat vnblisful blod · þat þei bled hauen.  
 Miche maugre 3e maken · amongt many kingus, 544 Ye make war ever.  
 & gret werre in þis world · to waste þe peple.  
 Many men vp-on molde · ful mek & ful simple  
 þorou þe, prouede prince · ful proude ben woxe.  
 3e wene winne noht i-now · on þis worde one, 548 Ye cannot have  
 enough.  
 But 3if 3e heuene miht haue · & holden hit also.  
 Michel gilte 3e, gome · bi 3our godus falce,  
 As þei were woned in þis word · to wirchen in hure liue.  
 Your gods used to  
 work all evil.  
 For ensample, bi my sawe · soþ mow 3e fonge 552  
 Of iubiter þe ioilese · iugged to paine.  
 He was alosed in his lif · lechourus of kinde,  
 þat in his licamus lust · as a lie brente. Jupiter was  
 lecherous.  
 He hadde, while he here was · to hordom i-eged 556  
 Gret won in þis word · of wommen aliue.  
 For-þi<sup>1</sup> 3e holde him a god · þat in helle lengus,  
 & þat sorwful sinne · for his sake vsen. [1 MS. 'Forþel']  
 Y prove hit by proserpine · þat 3e praisen alle, 560 Proserpine was  
 equally wicked.  
 & holden godesse god · to gien 3ou here ;  
 Hure was lecherie luf · þe while hue liuede also,

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strasti vt horrible mare nauigaretur ; tu tartareum custodem, id est  
 canem cerberum supra posse precio confirmasti ; tu in sacrificio tuo  
 filios occidis tuos ; tu inter homines humiles semper discordiam semi-  
 nas. Suades hominibus vt nequaquam spacia terrarum sufficiant,  
 sed celorum querere habitacula preparata. Per dies tuos multa com-  
 mittis vt illi faciunt, et fecerunt. Nam testimonium potest accipi a  
 ioue deo tuo et proserpina dea tua quos colis. Iupiter enim multas  
 adulteratus est feminas ; Proserpina vero multos fecit sui adulterii  
 percipies (*sic*). Miserrime ergo colis deos tuos et aduersos et adulteros.