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Two Coventry Corpus Christi Plays.

Early English Text Society.
Extra Series, LXXXVII.
1902.
Two

Coventry Corpus Christi Plays:

1. THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS' PAGEANT,
   RE-EDITED FROM THE EDITION OF THOMAS SHARP, 1825;
   
   AND
   
   2. THE WEAVERS' PAGEANT,
   RE-EDITED FROM THE MANUSCRIPT OF ROBERT CROO, 1534;

   WITH A PLAN OF COVENTRY, AND APPENDIXES
   CONTAINING THE CHIEF RECORDS OF
   THE COVENTRY PLAYS.

BY

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Extra Series, LXXXVII.

RICHARD CLAY & SONS, LIMITED, LONDON AND BUNGAY.
PREFACE.

The appearance of this volume has been delayed first by the addition of appendixes not at first contemplated, but on second thought considered advisable owing to the peculiar value which has been given Sharp's *Dissertation* by the destruction of most of his sources in the burning of the Free Reference Library at Birmingham in 1879; then again by finding, when the work was almost completed, the manuscript of the Weavers' pageant in the possession of its owners the Clothiers and Broad Weavers' Company of Coventry. In issuing this book I wish to thank Prof. John Matthews Manly, to whom I have dedicated the volume without meaning to involve him in any share of its faults, for invaluable instruction when I was beginning the study of these plays, and for his kind permission to print from his text of the Shearmen and Taylors' pageant. I have also to thank Prof. T. W. Hunt and others of my teachers and colleagues at Princeton for kindesses more or less closely connected with this work. Acknowledgments are due in particular to Miss M. Dormer Harris, who has been good enough to help me with the Coventry manuscripts; Mr. Beard, formerly Town Clerk of Coventry; Mr. Seymour, secretary of the Clothiers and Broad Weavers' Company, and Mr. Brown, at the Free Public Library, have been extremely kind, as has been of course, beautifully and inevitably, Dr. Furnivall.
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INTRODUCTION.

MANUSCRIPTS AND EDITIONS.

Thomas Sharp's first publication of matter relating to the Coventry pageants was in 1817. The thin volume of 28 + 14 pages, large octavo, of which only 12 copies were issued, has the following title-page: *The Pageant of the Sheremen and Taylors, in Coventry, as performed by them on the festival of Corpus Christi; together with other pageants, exhibited on occasion of several royal visits to that city; and two specimens of ancient local poetry. Coventry—printed by W. Reader, 1817. The text of the pageant differs but little from that of the better known edition of 1825, which was evidently printed from the same transcript. All variations except in the spelling of insignificant words have been noted in the text of the pageant in the present volume. The remainder of Sharp's book is taken from the *Leet Book,* and is contained in Appendix III., except the two pieces of doggerel which relate to Laurence Saunders.

In 1825 Sharp published his well-known *Dissertation on the Pageants or Dramatic Mysteries, Anciently performed at Coventry, by the Trading Companies of that City.* His book shows that he had before him at that time, besides the *Leet Book* and the manuscript of the Shearmen and Taylors' pageant, the accounts of the cappers, dyers, smiths, and of Trinity and Corpus Christi Guilds, and other less important manuscripts. Sharp's method was the selection of interesting illustrative details and his object a general presentation of the subject of pageants and "dramatic mysteries." He drew for comparison upon almost everything available which concerned English or continental religious drama, though his chief attention was to "the vehicle, characters, and dresses of the Actors." He published here a second edition of the Shearmen and Taylors' pageant, and added also sections relating to Hox Tuesday Play, the pageants exhibited on the occasion of royal visits to Coventry, the

1 Coventry Corp. MS. A 3.
processions on Corpus Christi day and Midsummer's and St. Peter's eves, and on minstrels and waits. The matters which relate to the Corpus Christi play are made up for the most part of citations from the account books to which Sharp had access. They have been reprinted in Appendix II. of this volume. Sharp's arrangement has been followed and his own words quoted freely wherever he seems to possess information not directly derivable from entries quoted.

In 1836 Sharp edited for the Abbotaford Club The Presentation in the Temple, a Pageant, as originally represented by the Corporation of Weavers in Coventry. The manuscript of this Weavers' pageant had, he tells us, been unexpectedly discovered in 1832. To it he prefixed a prefatory notice based upon entries in an apparently newly-discovered book of accounts of the Weavers' Company. He follows the same plan as in the Dissertation, and he had gained further information about the location and ownership of pageant-houses which he also includes in the preface. His comments here are also of little value, but all actual information has been included in Appendix II.

The Coventry manuscripts which Sharp used for the Dissertation passed into the Staunton Collection at Longbridge House. There Halliwell-Phillips in his Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare made a few additional excerpts from them, which I have also copied into Appendix II. Later the manuscripts came into the Free Reference Library at Birmingham, where in 1879 they were destroyed by fire. The last Library catalogue issued before the fire, 1875–7, shows a full list of Manuscripts relating to Coventry; this includes, besides those mentioned above, a good many valuable documents, transcripts, and collections, but not the Weavers' pageant or account-book. It seems to have been taken for granted by students of English miracle plays that the manuscript of the Weavers' pageant was in this collection; but Halliwell-Phillips nowhere shows that he knew even of the existence of a Weavers' pageant and makes no mention of the weavers' account-book. William Reader's manuscript history of the Guilds of Coventry, now at the Free Public Library in that city, and other documents there, enabled me to find out that the Weavers' Company still exists under the name of the Clothiers and Broad Weavers' Company. The Manuscript was accordingly found in possession of Mr. A. Seymour, the secretary of this company. It is a codex on

1 The MS. is to be placed among the Corporation MSS. in St. Mary's Hall.
parchment in octavo, consisting of 17 folios, one missing, written by Robert Croo in 1534. It is in fair condition, with ancient binding, boards and leather; the names of the speakers, stage-directions (which in this play are of great interest), ornamental connecting lines between verses, are in red ink. Along with this Manuscript were two loose leaves in what seems to be a sixteenth-century hand, contemporary with Croo’s writing, on paper, torn, illegible in places, but certainly fragments of a purer and presumably an earlier version than Croo’s. The account-book used by Sharp (though there was one there from 1636 to 1735, and others later, and a book of rules from 31 H. VI.) was not to be discovered. The fire at Birmingham has made Sharp’s books more valuable than they could ever have been had the manuscripts remained; it has therefore seemed worth while, owing to the extent and importance of the information contained in them, to collect in the appendixes of this volume all matter relating to the Coventry Corpus Christi play.

Besides Sharp's two editions of the Shearmen and Taylors' pageant, there is one in William Marriott's Collection of English Miracle-Plays or Mysteries (Basel, 1838); this is an exact reprint of Sharp's text. The pageant is also included in the first volume of Prof. John Matthews Manly's Specimens of the Pre-Shakespearian Drama (Boston, 1897), where a great deal has been done to rectify the text and metre. Prof. Manly’s edition has been the basis of the text in this volume, though it has been carefully compared with the editions of Thomas Sharp. The Weavers' pageant has been published only once since the Abbotsford Club edition; that is, in Anglia, Bd. XIII. N.F., pp. 209–50, under the editorship of Prof. F. Holthausen.¹ Prof. Holthausen’s edition attempts to rectify the text and metre of the pageant without the aid of the manuscript, at the time of publication not re-discovered.

THE CYCLE.

The number of Coventry crafts which supported pageants was smaller than at most places, and combination of crafts and union of pageants seem to have characterized the movement. The following act of the Coventry leet was passed in 1445 to determine the order in which the trading companies should ride in the procession on the morning of Corpus Christi day; and it shows the whole number of companies taken into account to have been 17: “Pur le ridyng on

¹ See also Beiblatt zur Anglia, Bd. XIV., p. 65 ff.
Corpus xpi day and for watche on midosmer even: The first craft, fyshers and coke; baxters and milners; bochers; whittawers and gloves; pynners, tylers, and wrights; skynners; barkers; corvyers; smythes; wevers; wydrewers; cardemakers, sadelers, peynours, and masons; gurdelers; taylours, waklers, and sherman; deysters; drapers; mercers."—Leet Book, f. 122. This was doubtless for the most part an order of precedence already long followed; it is repeated in 1447 in this form: Et quod le ruydyng in festo Corporis Christi fiat prout ex antiquo tempore conserverint. The fullers were made a separate craft in 1447, and there were doubtless other changes; but the number was never very large. An order of leet passed in 1449 enumerating the companies (Leet Book, 143 a. ff.) shows a slightly different list: mercers, drapers, dyers, girdlers, tailors and shearmen, walkers, wydrewers, corvyers, smiths, fishmongers, whittawers, butchers, sadlers, cardemakers, masons, skinners, pinners and tilers, bakers, barbers, wrights, barkers, cooks. Of course a company usually included several minor crafts whose occupation was more or less closely connected. The full list of the smiths' fellowship was smiths, goldsmiths, pewterers, cutlers, and wydrewers. Something of the size and nature of the Mercers' Company can be told from the following memorandum at the end of their book of accounts beginning in 1578, quoted by Reader with the date 1566: "For as much as heretofore every one of the company sold generally commodities belonging to the mystery of mercers, linen-drapers, haberdashers, grocers, and salters, the charge of which was such that few or none could furnish the trade; in consequence whereof the company is of late greatly decayed. It is enacted that the company shall be divided into five parts, viz. —Mercers, 1.; linen-drapers, 2.; haberdashers, and all kinds of small silk wares, 3.; grocers and salters, 4.; all kinds of hats and caps and trimming thereunto, 5."

The cardmakers, sadlers, and ironmongers, and painters (after 1436), and masons (after 1443) were one company; so also whittawers, gloves, fellmongers, and parchment makers.

Of the companies enumerated above, only ten can be shown to

1 May 3, 1447. It is also enacted that the walkers of this citie shall hensfurther be a felishipp of themselfe, and have libertie to electe and choose maisters of their company for the good order of the same and mayntyng of true clothyng.—Leet Book, f. 406.


3 History of the Guilds, one of the valuable and little known MSS. by Wm. Reader at the Free Public Library, Coventry.
have supported pageants; the others were contributory to companies so charged, or in a few cases were able to evade the duty altogether, or for long periods at a time. In the list quoted above from the Leet Book, f. 122, the fishers and cockes were contributory to the smiths' pageant; the baxsters and milners, to the smiths'; the butchers, to the whittawers'; the whittawers and glovers supported a pageant; so did the pinners, tylers and wrights; the skinners contributed to the weavers' pageant; the barkers supported a pageant, to which the corvisors contributed; the smiths had a pageant, as did the weavers; the wiredrawers contributed to the smiths; the cardmakers, sadlers, painters, and masons had a pageant; as did the girdlers; and the tailors, walkers and shearmen; the drapers; and the mercers. The dyers seem always to have evaded the duty of supporting a pageant in spite of several acts of leet ¹ designed to make all crafts contribute equally. Only ten pageants are mentioned in the Leet Book or any other record, and these ten are mentioned repeatedly.² Another piece of evidence to show that the pageants were ten in number is found in the fact that, upon the reception of Queen Margaret in 1456,³ ten pageants are mentioned. Now in the Leet Book, 'pageant' means the vehicle on which the plays were acted; and ten vehicles were used. Nine were needed for the Nine Worthies, and one was left over, and stood within the gate at the east end of Bablake Church.

It seems then certain that there were ten Coventry pageants. There were also ten original wards in the city;⁴ namely, Gosford Street, Jordan Well, Much Park Street, Bayley Lane, Earl Street, Broad Gate, Smithford Street, Spon Street, Cross Cheaping, and Bishop Street. A good many stations where the plays were acted are mentioned in the records, and these stations seem all to be in different wards; so it seems probable that the ten pageants were wont to be acted at ten stations, one station in each of the ten wards. Gosford Street was the first ward in point of precedence,

¹ The act printed on pages 75 and 76 mentions the dyers, skinners, fishmongers, cappers, corvisors, and butchers as not bearing their due share of the charges of maintaining the pageants.
² Most of the pageant-houses, too, can be located. Reader places the whittawers' pageant-house in Hill Street, and the mercers' and drapers' in Gosford Street. The weavers had a pageant-house in Mill Lane, as did the shearmen and tailors (see p. 103) and the cappers (p. 98).
³ See Appendix III.
⁴ This was sometimes increased to eleven (once twelve) wards in town representation caused by the splitting up of one ward or another into two.
and it is known to have been the first station of the smiths' pageant.\(^1\) Jordan Well ward probably had its station at Jordan Well; for upon the visit of Henry VIII.\(^2\) a pageant was set at Jordan Well with nine orders of angels. Much Park Street ward seems to have had a station at New Gate; Much Park Street end is also mentioned, but New Gate stood at one end of Much Park Street.\(^3\) If there was a station in Bayley Lane ward, it was probably somewhere near St. Michael's Church. Earl Street ward had a station at Little Park Street end, on Earl Street, as there are two mentions of the house of Richard Woods, a grocer who lived in Earl Street. Queen Margaret lodged there and saw the plays, and the smiths' accounts show an expenditure for ale "at Richard Woodes dur."\(^4\) Broad Gate ward probably had a station at Grey Friars' Church; Henry VII. saw the pageants there in 1492.\(^5\) The most probable place for a station in Smithford Street ward is the conduit which at the reception of Queen Margaret was well arrayed and showed four speeches of four cardinal virtues.\(^6\) Spon Street ward had its station probably at Bablake Gate (St. John's Church). Cross Cheaping ward had its station certainly at the cross in Cross Cheaping. And Bishop's Street ward (called also Well Street ward) may have had a station near the ancient hospital of St. John the Evangelist.

The pageants were few in number as compared to other known cycles, and each pageant seems to have had a whole group of subjects. The two which have been preserved and are published here show this, as do the accounts of the smiths' and cappers' companies published in Appendix II. This grouping of subjects probably characterized the whole cycle. In the following table I have attempted in a general way to restore the cycle. In making up the list of probable subjects I have been guided on grounds of general relationship by the York (Beverley) and Towneley Cycles and the Hereford list of pageants in the Corpus Christi procession;\(^7\) rather than by Chester or Ludus Coventriae. For reasons which will appear later only New Testament subjects are considered:

\(^1\) See pp. 84–5. \(^2\) See MS. Annals below. \(^3\) See pp. 84–5. \(^4\) At the visit of Queen Elizabeth (see MS. Annals below) the smiths' pageant stood at Little Park Street end; see also pp. 74 and 84–5. \(^5\) Qy. 1493. \(^6\) See p. 111. \(^7\) Hist. MSS. Comm. 13th Rep. pt. iv., p. 288.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECTS</th>
<th>CRAFTS</th>
<th>CONTRIBUTORY AND ASSOCIATED CRAFTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annunciation</td>
<td>Shearmen and Taylors</td>
<td>Skinners, walkers.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visit to Elizabeth</td>
<td>(and walkers until 1447).</td>
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<td>Joseph’s Trouble</td>
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<td>Journey to Bethlehem and Nativity</td>
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<td>Shepherds</td>
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<td>Kings of Cologne</td>
<td>Weavers.</td>
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<td>Flight into Egypt</td>
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<td>Slaughter of Innocents</td>
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<td>Purification</td>
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<td>Doctors</td>
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<td>Baptism of Christ</td>
<td>Baptism of Christ</td>
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<td>Temptation</td>
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<td>Raising of Lazarus</td>
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<td>Entry into Jerusalem</td>
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<td>Conspiracy of the Jews</td>
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<td>Bargain with Judas</td>
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<td>Last Supper</td>
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<td>Agony in the Garden</td>
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<td>Betrayal and Capture</td>
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<td>Before High Priest</td>
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<td>Denial</td>
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<td>Before Herod</td>
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<td>Second trial before Pilate</td>
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<td>Repentance of Judas</td>
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<td>Way to Calvary</td>
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<td>Parting of Garments</td>
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<td>Crucifixion</td>
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<td>Mortificatio Christi</td>
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<td>Burial</td>
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<td>Descent into Hell</td>
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<td>Setting the Watch</td>
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<td>Resurrection</td>
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<td>Amazement of Soldiers, etc.</td>
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<td>Peter and John before Tomb</td>
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<td>Appearance to Mary Magdalen</td>
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<td>Appearance to Travellers</td>
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<td>Appearance to Disciples</td>
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<td>Doubting Thomas</td>
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<td>Ascension</td>
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<td>Pentecost</td>
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<tr>
<td>Death and Assumption of Mary</td>
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<td>Appearance of Mary to Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doomsday</td>
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1 See page 90.
2 See page 94.
INTRODUCTION.

The subjects of the smiths', cappers', and drapers' pageants can be told from the records preserved in Sharp; the pinners' from a document quoted by him, the rules and orders of the company, which speak of their pageant called the "Taking down of God from the Cross." One of the reasons for assigning the Assumption group of subjects to the mercers is, besides the importance of the subject and the priority of that craft, the fact that when the Princess Mary came to Coventry in 1525 she saw "the mercers' pageant play being finely drest in the Cross Cheeping." This, although a mere agreement of names, carries some weight when we compare it with the special exhibitions provided for the entertainment of Margaret, Edward, and Arthur. Besides this, and more important, is the fact that the mercers' seems to have been a fraternity in honour of the Assumption. Their arms, the same as those of the Mercers' Company in London, which may still be seen painted on a wall in the mercers' room in St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, are—gules, a demy Virgin Mary with her hair disheveled crowned, rising out and within an orb of clouds, all proper; motto, Honor Deo. St. Mary's Guild, or the Merchants' Guild, founded in 1340, had annual meetings in St. Mary's Hall, at the feast of the Assumption. St. Mary's, St. John Baptist's, St. Katharine's, and Trinity Guild were formally united in 1392; and they seem, with the Guild of Corpus Christi, always closely associated and finally united with the amalgamated guild in 1534, to have been from the beginning in control of the mercers and drapers. After the union of guilds there appear in 1539 in the Corpus Christi accounts entries of expenses on Corpus Christi day and evening which indicate a pageant of the Assumption in the Corpus Christi procession. The entries are: first, among several entries for food, peny bred for the apostles vij. d., betif for the apostles viij. d.; then, to the Marie for hir gloves and wages ij. s., for beryng the crosse and candelesticks the eeven and the day viij. d., to the Mr. to offer xij. d., the Marie to offer j. d., Katharine and Margaret viij. d., viij. virgyns viij. d., to Gabriell for beryng the tilly viij. d., to James

1 See Appendix II., p. 103.
2 There is every evidence of a devoted worship of the Virgin at Coventry; St. Mary's Hall and the Cathedral were both named in her honour.
3 If this was, as seems probable, a presentation of the regular mercers' play, it is also possible that in the four pageants set forth in honour of Queen Elizabeth the regular plays of the crafts were enacted, since nothing is said in the Annals to indicate that these pageants had anything else set upon them; see MS. Annals below.
4 M. D. Harris, Life in an Old English Town (Lond. 1898), Chs. 7 and 18.
5 Quoted by Sharp, p. 162; Coventry Corp. MS., A. 6.
and Thomas of Iule viij. d., to x. other apostells xx. d. (1541, xij. torches of wax for the apostles). With these entries are also to be connected the following items from an inventory of jewels 1493 in the same MS. (f. 53): a girdull of blue silk harvest with silver and gilt veying cord and all iiiij. unc. et dim., a girdull of rede silk harvest with silver and gilt veying cord and all vi. unc. iii. grt. These last entries and several others about payments and properties for the Mary on Corpus Christi day prior to 1534 seem to indicate that the presentation of the Assumption in the Corpus Christi procession had been controlled by the Corpus Christi guild even before the union of the guilds; but the connection with the mercers' company would not in any way be affected.

Two other facts are also to be brought into this connection:

The Smiths provided that Herod, the chief character in their pageant, should ride in the Corpus Christi procession, a circumstance which may indicate that other companies did a similar thing. Then it is to be remembered that the Shearmen and Taylors', as the guild of the Nativity, presented an appropriate subject. More will be said about their relation to the fullers later; at present it may be noted that their seal, impressions of which are still in existence, was (according to Fretton) round, about an inch and a half in diameter, of brass, representing the Virgin Mary seated and crowned with the infant Christ in her lap, receiving gifts of the three Kings of Cologne. These two circumstances might offer clues for the determination of the names of other pageants, if more were known about the Corpus Christi procession, and more of the patron saints of the different companies could be determined.

At any rate, we see that, out of ten pageants, the subjects of six can be told with certainty, and of another, the mercers', with some probability. This leaves three companies, tanners, whittawers and girdlers, the subjects of whose pageants are unknown. An examination of the table will show, however, three important groups of subjects unprovided for. First, there is John the Baptist. The popularity of this saint in Coventry was such that it may be taken as certain that there was a play upon this subject in the Coventry cycle. What other subjects may have been grouped with it is still more a matter of guess; but the four, or some of them, which succeed it in the list are the more probable. It is perhaps too slight a thread to connect the tanners with the subject, because their pageant stood before the Church of St. John the Baptist, and perhaps performed
the craft play there, when Queen Elizabeth visited the city. Secondly, the Last Supper is a most probable subject, inasmuch as no known cycle of plays is without it. It could hardly have been a part of the already over-crowded smiths' pageant, and it would certainly have been a part of any Corpus Christi cycle. Then, finally, there is a group of subjects centering in the Ascension, which is also of universal occurrence and would hardly have failed to appear at Coventry.

It will be noticed that this leaves no room for any Old Testament plays at Coventry, a characteristic which would be exceptional. Of course one of the unknown pageants may have been upon such a subject; but one hardly sees in the circumstances how it could have been. The following explanation may solve the difficulty. The Coventry plays in existence, except the Doctors' play, evidently grew up bit by bit with little influence from the outside. The Shearmen and Taylors' pageant and the first part of the Weavers' pageant, the Purification, are mosaics of different metres and hands, and show evidence of having undergone a course of amplification extending through a long period of time. It is still possible, as we shall see later, to discover in each of the three stories the traces of an earlier form, a complete outline, with all essential features, of a very early play. The peculiarity which may account for the absence of Old Testament plays is that the prophet plays and prologues in the two pageants preserved, which are probably the first two in the cycle, contain the outline of a Processus Prophetarum. Isaiah is the prologue to the Shearmen and Taylors' pageant, and two other prophets enter at line 332 between the parts of the play.\(^1\) There is no way of identifying these prophets, but the allusions in their speeches correspond in a rough way to the parts usually given to Moses, and there is a reference to David (l. 396) and to Habakkuk (l. 460–2).\(^2\) The Weavers' pageant is also introduced by a prophet play, and here we have to do with Balaam, Jeremiah, and Malachi (l. 23, 58, 68). Finally, Simeon refers to the Sibyl (l. 197) and to Daniel (l. 204, 244). In other words, those familiar Latin quotations, ultimately derived from the Augustinian sermon \(^3\) which is the basis of the Processus Prophetarum, appear or are alluded to in the two plays preserved. Besides that other lost plays appear from the

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1 See below.
2 Note also the reference to Adam, line 20 ff.
records to have had prologues and prophets. It looks very much as if the *Processus Prophetarum* had never been developed at Coventry, so that the prophets did not make their formal speeches by name as at other places. At York, it became the basis for many other plays (I–XI), and had enough left over for a prologue to the Nativity (XII). In the Towneley cycle, there are several Old Testament plays, some of which may be native to Wakefield and derived from the prophet-play—the remainder, probably incomplete as preserved, was an independent play. The fifth Chester play shows the *Processus Prophetarum* in a transition stage, with the Balaam and Balak play formed in the midst of it. The prophecies of Octavian and the Sibyl occur in the midst of the Nativity play (VI), a thing which still further bears out the theory of the origin; since Zachariah and Elizabeth, the proper node for the growth of the Annunciation and the Visit of Mary to Elizabeth, occur in the regular scheme of the prophet-play before the Sibyl and Caesar Augustus. There is nothing, then, inconsistent in believing, since at other places there are such wide differences, that at Coventry the Old Testament plays never developed at all.

**DUGDALE AND THE MANUSCRIPT ANNALS.**

Dugdale is the earliest authority for the belief that the Coventry Corpus Christi play told the story of both Old and New Testaments. In order to understand his error it is necessary to consider first a reference to the plays in several more or less trustworthy lists of Coventry mayors with annals, some of them still in manuscript. The annals have some bearing on the plays in general, so it is well to transcribe all of the references which they contain to the Corpus Christi play.

There are at least four of these books of annals still to be found in manuscript. Two, A. 26 and A. 43, are among the Corporation Manuscripts at Coventry. Neither is of very great age, and both contain pretty much the same matter. A. 26 has more references to pageants, and it, with Harl. 6388, have been used as a basis for the

1 Adam and Eve and probably other Old Testament characters were in the cappers' pageant and would appear always in the Descent into Hell; what use was made of the three patriarchs in Doomsday is more puzzling. See Appendix II., where the three patriarchs, Jacob's twelve sons and the Children of Israel are seen to have been represented at the reception of Prince Edward.

2 *Towneley Plays*, p. 64.

following collation. There are two also at the British Museum, Harl. 6388, and an octavo manuscript, presented by Mr. Joseph Gibbs, 11346 Plut. CXLII. A., which is of no great value as regards the pageants. Harl. 6388 was written by Humfrey Wanley, and bears the date Dec. 17th, 1690. He says: "This book was taken out of manuscripts, the one written by Mr. Cristofer Owen Mayor of this city which contains the charter of Walter de Coventre concerning the commons etc. to Godfrey Leg Mayor 1637, the other beginning at the 36 mayor of this city and continued by several hands and lately by Edmund Palmer late of this city, Counsellor, till Mr. Yardly late Mayor 1689 and another written by Mr. Bed ford and collected out of divers others and continued to Mr. Septimius Bott. And two other collected by Tho. Potter and continued to Mr. Robert Blake, and another written by Mr. Francis Barnett, to the first year of Mr. Jelliffs Majoralty, and another written by Mr. Abraham Astley, and continued to Mr. Sept. Bott, and another written by Mr. Abraham Boune to Humfrey Wrightwick, 1607." Wanley dates his list one year too late. In Dugdale's *Warwickshire* (1656) there is also a list of Mayors of Coventry; in the second edition, revised by William Thomas (1730), pp. 147–54, it appears with the following heading, the parts in square brackets being by Thomas:

"I will here subjoin a catalogue (Ex Catal. Majorum penes praefat. Joh. Hales) of the Mayors thereof [which I have carefully compared with another Manuscript Catalogue of them which is wrought in a brown leather cover, penes, and with that lately published by Mr. Hearne at the End of his Edition of Fordun's Scotichronicon which was printed from a Manuscript communicated to him by Mr. Tho. Jesson, A. M. et Aed. Christi apud Oxon. Cap]." Sharp quotes *MS. Annals* and *Codex Hales*, and there was at least one copy of annals in the Birmingham Free Reference Library at the time of the fire, so that Sharp may represent an original. In Poole's *Coventry* (London, 1870) there is a list of mayors without annals. Many of the annals are contradictory in date; in the following list the dates are from Dugdale, who seems to be fairly correct:—


Harl. 6388: Sir Robert Onley, merchant, Mayor, 1485[4]. At Whitson tide King Richard the 3d came to Kenilworth and at Corpus Christi came to Coventre to see the plaies.
Cov. Corp. MS., A. 26: Thos. Bailey, Mayor, 1486. The King [Henry VII.] came to Coventry to see our plays, and lodged at Rob. Onely's house in Smithford Street before the conduit. 1

Corp. MS., A. 26: John Wigston, Mayor, 1490. This year was the play of St. Katharine in the Little Park.

Corp. MS., A. 26: Thomas Churchman, bucklemaker, Mayor, 1492. 2 This year the King and Queen came to Kenilworth; from thence they came to Coventry to see our plays at Corpus Christi tide and gave them great commendation. 3 Harl. 6388: The King and Queen came to see the plays at the greyfriers and much commended them. Dugdale: In his Mayoralty K. H. 7. came to see the plays acted by the Grey Frires, and much commended them. 4

Corp. MS., A. 26: John Dadsbury, Mayor, 1504. In his year was the play of St. Christian 5 played in the Little Park.

Harl. 6388: Richard Smith, merchant, Mayor, 1508[7]. He made the bakers pay to the smiths 13s. 4d. towards prest and pageants.

Corp. MS., A. 26: John Strong, mercer, Mayor, 1510[1]. In this year King Henry [VIII.] and the Queen came to Coventry. . . . Then were 3 pageants set forth, one at Jordan Well with 9 orders of Angells, another at Broad gate with divers beautifull damsells, another at the Cross Cheeping with a goodly stage play. 6

S. p. 11: MS. Ann., 1519. New Plays at Corpus xpityde which were greatly commended. S. p. 11: id. Codex Hales, 1519–20. In that year was new playes at Corpus Christityd which playes were greatly commended. 7

Corp. MS., A. 26: Henry Wall, weaver, Mayor, 1526. 8 The Princess Mary came to Coventry and was presented with an 100 marks and a kercher, and see the mercers pageant play being finely drest in the Cross Cheeping and lay at the Priory. 9

S. p. 11: MS. Annals, 1561. This year was Hox tuesday put down.

Corp. MS., A. 26: Edmund Brownell, Mayor, 1567. The Queen came to this city. The tanners pageant stood at St. Johns Church,
the Drapers pageant at the cross, the smiths pageant at Little Park Street end, and the Weavers pageant at Much Park Street.\footnote{So A. 43; quoted also in S. and in Fordun's \textit{Scotichronicon}. \textit{S.} mentions a charge in the books of the Smiths' Company for painting and gilding many pageant vehicles on the occasion of the Queen's visit.}

Harl. 6388: Henry Kerwin, mercer, Mayor, 1568[7]. The Pageants and Hox Tewesday played.

S. p. 12: \textit{MS. Annals}, 1575. This year the Pageants or Hox tuesday that had been laid down 8 years were played again.

Harl. 6388: Thomas Saunders, butcher, Mayor, 1580[79]. The pageants laid down.\footnote{So 11364 Plut. CXLII. A. \textit{S.} has, again laid down.}

The item for the year 1492 gave rise to the impression in Sharp's mind, and in Dugdale's too in all probability, that there were plays in Coventry acted by the grey friars. The idea of plays acted by a religious brotherhood at so late a time, if ever, would probably have to be given up upon other grounds; but in this case it is easy to see that we have to do with a misunderstanding. "By the grey-friars" need not mean agency; but may mean "at the Grey-friars' Church," \textit{the grey-friars} being the common way of indicating the church. At any rate Wanley says, in Harl. 6388, "to see the playes at the grey-friers," which, seeing the list of manuscripts from which he compiled, is more apt to be an ancient reading than the other which Sharp speaks of as a "solitary mention in one MS. (not older than the beginning of Cha. I.'s reign)." Dugdale probably had this entry to start him wrong, and the manuscript of \textit{Ludus Coventriae} to confirm the error, the information gathered from "old people" being too vague to be definite as to who the actors were. Dugdale, writing of the \textit{Gray Friers} of Coventry, says:\footnote{\textit{Antiq. of Warwickshire}, by Sir William Dugdale, 2nd \textit{Ed.} rev. etc. by William Thomas, D.D. London: 1730, vol. i. p. 183.} "Before the suppression of the Monasteries, this City was very famous for the \textit{Pageants} that were played therein, upon \textit{Corpus Christi} day; which occasioning very great confluence of people thither from far and near, was of no small benefit thereto; which \textit{Pageants} being acted with mighty state and reverence by the Friars of this House, had Theaters for the severall Scenes, very large and high, placed upon wheels, and drawn to all the eminent parts of the City, for the better advantage of Spectators: And contain'd the story of the [Old and]\footnote{Not bracketed in first edition (1660). The passages do not differ otherwise in 1st and 2nd eds.} New Testament, composed into old English Rithme, as appeareth by an antient \textit{MS.} (In Bibl.}
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Cotton. sub effigie Vesp. D. 9 (8.) intituled Ludus Corporis Christi, or Ludus Coventriae.

"I have been told by some old people, who in their younger years were eye witnesses of these Pageants so acted, that the yearly confluence of people to see that show was extraordinary great, and yielded no small advantage to this City."

There would certainly have been a station where the pageants were acted at the Grey Friars Church, and there King Henry VII. and his Queen saw the pageants, just as Queen Margaret had seen them at a station in Earl Street. Reference has already been made to the performance of "the Mercers pageant play" in honour of Princess Mary, and the only other important entry is the one about the reception of Queen Elizabeth in 1567. It seems possible that the pageants put forth then had their own plays, or something connected with them, since no mention is made of any special pageant.

THE NATIVITY, THE THREE KINGS OF COLOGNE, AND THE PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE.

The Shearmen and Taylors' pageant is made up of two very well developed plays. The subject of the first is the Annunciation, the Nativity, and the Shepherds; it ends with line 331. Then comes a dialogue between three Prophets which belongs rather to the succeeding play than to the one before, if one may judge by the very similar dialogue prefixed to the Weavers' pageant; since there the dialogue rehearses the events of the Visit of the Kings which immediately precedes it in the cycle just as this reviews the Shepherds' play which it follows here. The second play, which begins at line 475, treats of the Visit of the Kings, the Flight into Egypt, and the Slaughter of the Innocents. The second is longer and more elaborately developed than the first, a thing no doubt resulting from the evident popularity of its subject at Coventry. Two crafts have apparently been united and their pageants acted one after another. There is no direct evidence for such a union in any of the records; but at the very first there may be a trace of it. The Shearmen and Taylors' Guild, the Guild of the Nativity, called also St. George's Guild, was established by licence in the reign of Richard II. In 1392 there is a mention of the "tailour pageant houswe", and before the formation of the Shearmen and Taylors' Guild, the tailors and the shearmen, whose occupation was not at that time separate from
that of the fullers, may each have had a pageant of their own. More than this, there is reason to connect the shearmen (and fullers), but not the tailors, in particular with the visit of the Kings; for when fulling had become a separate occupation from cloth-shearing, and the fullers had formed a company of their own, the fullers were granted in 1439 the privilege of using a common seal with the shearmen. This seal before referred to may perhaps be taken to be the original property of the shearmen. It represented the Virgin Mary seated and crowned with the infant Christ in her lap, receiving gifts from the Magi. The inscription in capital letters round the margin, according to Fretton, is, \textit{sigillus co\'e scissor\textsuperscript{4} fullonis\textsuperscript{2} frat\textsuperscript{3} nitat\textsuperscript{3} gilde nat\textsuperscript{1} tutat\textsuperscript{1} d\'ni de Coventre.}

The Shearmen and Taylors' pageant was probably very old at Coventry, and in its earlier stages was of course very much shorter and simpler than it is now. Its variety of metres and its mixed character generally are due to many additions and revisions, made during the two hundred years or more preceding the final "correction" by Robert Croo in 1534. It is possible to see in it a very much earlier stage in the development of pageants than at first sight it would seem to represent. The substance of the pageant (most of what is essential to the story and, presumably, oldest) is contained in the octosyllabic quatrains scattered throughout the play; these quatrains, it will also be noticed, contain a great many archaic words. Some of the quatrains are doubtless late, and some of the parts of the original story are now told in other metres, but in general this is not the case. The Presentation in the Temple (Weavers' Pageant (WCo), ll. 1–721), which is also probably an original Coventry play, shows also the bare outline of a story in quatrains, a fact which bears further testimony to the existence of an early cycle, or part of a cycle, in this form.

The Nativity (Shearmen and Taylors' Pageant (STCo), ll. 2–331) has the following passages in quatrains: ll. 47–54, 55–8 (f), 68–99, 168–203, 278–81, 295–6, 303–6, 321–4.

2 The arms of the Shearmen and Taylors' Company, which would be appropriate, though they may or may not be the original tailors' arms, are, as given by Reader: Argent tent royal, between two parliament robes guules, lined ermine, on a chief azure a lion of England. Crest a holy lamb in glory proper holding a flag. Supporters, two camels or. Motto: \textit{Concordia parvae res crescent.}
3 \textit{Loc. cit.} p. 44.
4 \textit{Scissor} seems to have meant shearmen, cp. Du Cange, \textit{Glos. Med. et Inf. Lat.} sub \textit{scissor.}
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The next most significant metre in these plays, though not necessarily older than the seven-line strophe of the longer speeches spoken of later, is a more or less successful attempt to conform to the riming scheme of the familiar eight-line stanza much used in the Chester Whitsun Plays.3 It rimes aababaaab, or aabacced, and has four accents to the line, except the fourth and eighth, which have three. Throughout the plays the passages written in Chester metre offer in general clear readings, and although this metrical scheme is used to corrupt every other variety of metre used, the passages written in it seem to be frequently uninterrupted. Moreover it is interesting to note that many of the most humorous parts of the plays, including most of the Shepherds' play, some of the Visit of the Kings, and nearly all of the dove episode in the Presentation in the Temple, besides a majority of the excrescences of story, the incidents and inessential speeches, are either in pure or approximate Chester metre. The natural inference is that one of the most thorough redactions these plays have ever had, and it must be added the only one of any spirit or excellence, was characterized by the use of the eight-line stanza, or an approximation to it in the use of the linking rimes. The passages which are written in this metre, or which show the influence of it, are:


The third metrical form is a seven-line stanza riming ababbcc.4

1 Borrowed from STCo, 47–50.
2 Manifestly new.
4 Schipper, loc. cit., § 171.
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This is of two sorts. The first, rime royal, has five beats to the line, and is used for the opening speeches of Isaiah (STCo, ll. 1–14), Herod (id., ll. 486–520), Simeon (WCo, ll. 177–204, 205–18 (?) and Anna (id., ll. 219–32). The other seven-line stanza has the same riming scheme, but has usually only four beats to the line. In both, the rime of the final couplet is continued in the first and third lines of the succeeding strophe; three riming lines are thus thrown together, a circumstance which has no doubt rendered the metre liable to misunderstanding and corruption. The second variety of seven-line stanza has been very extensively used in the Presentation in the Temple and in the Doctors' Play which succeeds it, and rather scantily in STCo. It seems to have been corrupted in places by the Chester metre, which may indicate that it is older in the cycle than the passages in the Chester form. It is noticeable that the Chester metre seems to make its appearance in the fragments of another probably earlier version of WCo. The parts of the plays remaining in the seven-line stanza of four beats, though traces of it no doubt appear at other places, are:


The Three Kings of Cologne: ll. 533–9, 870–83.


THE PROPHET PLAYS AND THE DOCTORS' PLAY.

It is impossible to make out anything like a consistent scheme in the metre of the Prophet play in STCo (ll. 332–474). Prof. Manly has broken up the long lines in Sharp, doubtless copied from Croo, since Sharp follows Croo very closely in transcribing WCo, into the short doggerel lines in which it was probably composed. The octosyllabic seven-line stanza was the original form of the Prophet play in WCo (ll. 1–176); but it is doubtful if some of the speeches of the second prophet (ll. 15–18, 46–9 (?), 75–8, 106–9), who is at first a sort of interlocutor, were ever in the regular strophe. The corruption which appears at ll. 46–50 is perhaps an attempt to conform to the Chester strophe. This metre makes its unmistakable appearance in ll. 110–76; the passage is evidently newer matter, telling as it does about the wonderful star upon the hill of Wawse,

1 The fragments show more of it; see below.
2 See below. 3 See Appendix IV., ll. 46–53.
and rehearsing the events of the Visit of the Kings which it followed in the cycle. This passage, besides being a parallel to the Prophet play in STCo, which tells the events of its preceding Shepherds' play, is also very irregular in metre and falls into the same doggerel which characterizes the Prophet play in STCo.\textsuperscript{1} This part and that play I should take to be from the same hand.

The Doctors' play (WCo, ll. 722–1192) also shows a mixture of metres. The first three stanzas (ll. 722–45) are double quatrains perhaps composed in imitation of the first eight lines of the York twelve-line strophe in which the body of the play was composed, if not originally a part of the parent play. Then comes one suspiciously modern sounding seven-line strophe (ll. 747–53), followed by a characteristic comic passage in Chester metre extending to line 815, where the parallel with the other Doctors' plays begins.\textsuperscript{2} From this point the play is in octosyllabic alternately rining stanzas of four to eight lines, based upon the northern twelve-line strophe, the hexasyllabic \textit{cauda}, having been lengthened throughout to four feet, except line 964.\textsuperscript{1} The discourse of the doctors (ll. 857–84) is in the seven-line strophe and is similar in kind to the Prophet play and other passages earlier in the plays. There are some metrical irregularities in the recital of the commandments, but its basis seems to be the northern strophe as is the case with the body of the play. This is interesting because the other versions of the Doctors' play show still greater irregularity at this point. The expanded leave-taking scene (ll. 1089–1145) is in Chester metre, which also appears in the final dialogue of the doctors (ll. 1146–92) probably originally composed in the seven-line form.\textsuperscript{1} The importation of the Doctors' play cannot have been a very recent thing since both metres, the Chester metre and the seven-line strophe, appear in it.

The fact that the Chester metre seems always to be the disrupting, interpolating element has led me to think that the passages written in it are probably more recent than those written in the seven-line strophe, a conclusion somewhat strengthened by the fact that the parts in the latter variety are more dignified, conventional and pedantic, and therefore probably older. Both metres were, however, in common use in the fifteenth century, and the statement that the seven-line stanza is the older would probably be true only of the bulk of the matter in each form.\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{1} See ll. 128–46.  
\textsuperscript{2} See below.  
\textsuperscript{3} Note the use of the seven-line stanza and the conventional style in the Pageants on Special Occasions published in Appendix III.
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THE FOUR PARALLEL VERSIONS OF THE DOCTORS’ PLAY.

The Disputation in the Temple (WC), which begins with line 722, is particularly interesting because the same play occurs with variations in the York Corpus Christi Cycle
1 XX (Y), in the Towneley Plays
2 XVIII (T), and in the Chester Whitsun Cycle
3 XI (Ch).

This agreement is mentioned by ten Brink,
4 and is the subject of a letter by Dr. Chas. Davidson to Modern Language Notes,
5 and of a chapter in his Studies in the English Mystery Plays.
6
Dr. A. R. Hohlfeld,
7 Dr. Charles Davidson,
8 and A. W. Pollard, Esq.,
9 agree with ten Brink that the original doctors’ play was of Northumberland origin, and probably grew up at York. It is evident for many reasons, corruptions, dialect, etc., that neither Ch nor WCo could have been the original for Y and T. Moreover, Y in its present form cannot have been copied; for in many cases T and one of the other plays preserve better readings than those of Y. On the other hand, Y is often nearer the original than T is; hence an earlier play than either Y or T, as they now exist, must have been copied by Ch and WCo. Dr. Hohlfeld
10 found the facts derived from a comparison of Y, T and Ch insufficient to indicate definitely the source of Ch; but he saw, other agreements between the cycles taken into consideration, probability of closer kinship between Ch and T than between Ch and Y. Davidson,
11 whose study was of all four of the texts, was of the opinion that Ch was borrowed from the Coventry cycle. The questions, then, which a further study may help to solve are: Is WCo more closely related to Y or to T? and are, as Dr. Davidson stated, Ch and WCo interdependent?

The Disputation in the Temple in WCo is much longer and more detailed in story than is any other version of the play. It begins (l. 722) with the preparation by Joseph and Mary for the trip to Jerusalem and not with Mary’s discovery that Jesus is

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1 York Mystery Plays, ed. Lucy Toulmin Smith, Oxford, 1885.
6 Doct. Diss. Yale, 1892.
8 Loc. cit. p. 281.
9 Towneley Plays, Introduction, pp. xv.–xxi.
missing, as do Y and Ch. After the preparation for the trip to Jerusalem and the journey itself (722–814) have been represented in the play, the parallel with Y and Ch begins with a speech of Joseph (l. 815); the agreement, however, is almost never word for word. In the following list of correspondences the comment refers in each case to the agreement last cited:

WCo 817–18, Y 3–4, Ch 219–20.

Y reads, *Of solempne sightis that we have sene* / *In that cite were we come froo*; WCo in substantial agreement has, *With these solam syghtys thatt we have seyne* / *In yondur tempull that we cam froo*; Ch perhaps introduces the first of its references to the temples as places of travel in the words, *of fearyl sightes that we have sene, / sith we came the Citie froe.*

WCo 819, Y 5, Ch 221.

" 820, " 6.
" 821–2, " 7–8.
", 823, " 9, Ch 223, 228.

Ch 221–8, which corresponds to Y 5–12 and WCo 819–26, is very much confused as to order, etc. On this and similar instances, see Hohlfeld, *Kollektiv-mist.* loc. cit. pp. 264–5. Y 9, *Hamward I rede we hye* becomes in WCo 823, *Then homwarde, Mare, lett vs goo.* Goo is substituted for the northern word *hie*, which the rime *cumpany* (l. 825) shows was original. Ch repeats this line, on which see Hohlfeld as above, where the repetition is accounted for by oral borrowing.

WCo 824–8, Y 10–4, Ch 225–7.

Ch here shows a decided divergence in story. WCo has expanded the idea in Y that company upon the journey is desirable, but Ch has gone far in the other direction. Instead of having Joseph urge Mary to make haste in order that the way may be shortened with good company, as he does in Y and WCo, Ch has (ll. 225–8), [Maria.] *In all the might ever we may / for dreed of wicked company / lest anie us mete upon the way,* / *Homward therefore, I red we hye.*

WCo 830–6, Y 20–6.

" 837, " 37.
", 844–8, " 40–4.
", 852, " 39.

On the defect in T, see Hohlfeld, *Kollektiv-mist.* loc. cit. p. 258, and subsequent references in that article.
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It is here simply to be observed that the discourse of the doctors occupies similar places in WCo, Y, and T, and that in Ch a colloquy of the doctors is implied; for Primus Doctor says before Jesus has spoken, Heare our reason right on a row, / you clarke that be of great coning; / me thinke this childre leerne our lawe, / he taketh great tent to our talking. In these passages the other texts show slight agreements with Y: Ch with confusion in speeches preserves practically one whole line and parts of others (Y 50, Ch 222; Y 49, 65–6, Ch 233–4, 236); WCo bears resemblance to Y all through this passage, but is in a different metre (WCo 857–8, Y 48, 63; WCo 870, Y 53; WCo 875–6, Y 63–5; WCo 878, Y 69; WCo 882, Y 59–60); even in the part of the colloquy preserved in T there is at least one slight agreement (Y 61–2, T 9–10).

WCo 885–94, Y 73–82, T 49–57.
WCo 890, and Y 78, warne; T 54, tell.
(WCo 899, Y 91, T 65, Ch 243.)
WCo 900–1, Y 87–8, T 61–2, Ch 233–40.

Y 90, He venes he kens more than we knaves; T 64, he venys he kens more than he knowys; Ch 242, he venes he kennes more than he knowes; WCo 903, All secretis surely he thynkith he knois. T, Ch and WCo here represent evidently the same reading, one which makes sense too; but in Y the sense seems somewhat more original and knaves is perhaps a northern plural.1 WCo 905 clere, Y 92 yitt, T 66 yit, Ch 244 cleane. Clary clere (Y 54, WCo 870) is indicated by alliteration.

,, 918–21, Y 101–4, ,, 73–6, Ch 253–6.

WCo 932 and T after 86 have the Latin quotation, Ex orin fiancium, etc.; it does not occur in Y. In WCo 922–34 the paraphrase is exceedingly free.

WCo 937–56, Y 117–36, T 89–108.2

In Ch it is Jesus who asks for the first commandment; in Y and T, the third doctor; in WCo, the first doctor. Ch 140, which is a part of the first doctor's answer, agrees with Y 140, T 112, WCo 960, where it is the second line of the question.

1 See, however, York Mist. Plays, p. lxxii. 2 See also Ch 268, 271–2.
FOUR VERSIONS OF THE DOCTORS’ PLAY. xxxi


,, 969–70, ,, 155–6, ,, 127–8.
,, 971–2, ,, 151–2, ,, 123–4.
,, 975–6, ,, 169–70, ,, 141–2.
,, 977–84, ,, 143–52.

Before considering this important correspondence of WCo and T, the following minor agreements might be pointed out: Y 171–2, T 143–4; WCo 985–6, Y 175–6; WCo 989–90, Y 181–2. The corresponding passages are: WCo 977–84. *The thryd beddith the, in any wey, / Thatt of thy labur thow schuldyst reste, / And truly kepe thy Sabett day, / Thy-selfe, thi servande and thy best. / The forthe bydithe the do thy best / Thy fathur and mothur for to honoure; / And when ther goodis are decrest, / With all thy myght thow shuldist them succore.* T 143–52, *The thyrd bydys, “where so ye go, / That he shall halowe the holy day; // from bodely wark ye take youre rest; / youre household, look the same thy do, / Both wyfe, chyld, servande, and beest,” // The fowrth is then in wyegyl and wo // “Thi fader, thi moder, thou shall honoure, // not only with thi reverence, // Bot in thare nede thou thygm socoure, / And kepe ay good obedyence.”* The writer or reviser of WCo was perhaps trying to make an eight-line strophe which would have prevented a closer agreement than exists, or, as is more likely, the difference has been increased by the rewriting of T. In any case, the diversity among the plays in their recitals of the commandments, and the metrical regularity and almost entire independence of Y being taken into consideration, the conclusion is almost unavoidable that WCo and T preserve here parts of the same original.


The placing of these speeches in Ch before the recital of the commandments was certainly accidental, the result of unskilful borrowing.

WCo 1022 and T 202, amend; Y 214 mende.
WCo 1027–40, Y 219–32, T 207–20, Ch 305–16.

The order in which lines of Y and T are reproduced in Ch is: 223, 224, 221 and 219, 222; 225 and 226; 231, 230, 229, 232. Ch omits the idea of hurrying home on account of the lateness of the hour (Y 227–8) and puts in (Ch 311–2), *thatt sitteth with yonder Doctors gay; / for we haue had of hym great care.* WCo follows...
Y and T closely in sense and order of lines except in ll. 1037-40, where the arrangement is that of Ch. This is the most important of the resemblances between Ch and WCo; it can be easily seen how it came about. The passages are: Ch 313-6, Mary, wife, thou wottes right well / that I must all my travayle teene, / With men of might I can not mell, / that sittes so gay in furres fyne. WCo 1037-40, Ey! Mare, wyff, ye kno ryght well, / Asee I haue tolde you many a tyme, / With men of myght durst I neyuer mell. / Loo! dame, how the sytt in there furis fyne / Y 229-32, With men of myght can I not mell, / Than all my tracylal mon I tyne, / I can noght with them, this wate thou wele, / They are so gay in furres fyne. T follows Y. Ch differs from Y and T in its displacement of genuine lines; but WCo differs from them only because of the exigencies of paraphrasing the archaic words in Y 230 (Ch 314).

WCo 1041-64, Y 233-56, T 221-44, (Ch 317-20).

WCo 1043 have regared you, Y 235 will take rewarde to you, T 223 will take hede to you. WCo 1044 this wott I well, Y 236 this wote ye wele, T 224 this wote I weyll. Mary’s speech to Jesus, Ch 317-20, follows Y and T in the use of the word deare and in the idea of the search for Jesus, but differs from them in having no reference to the distress of Joseph and Mary; it expresses their joy at having found him. WCo, on the contrary, uses the word sweete, omits all reference to the search and dwells upon the grief which Joseph and Mary have felt during the three days of Jesus’s absence.

WCo 1065-72, Y 257-64, T 245-52, Ch 221-8.

Y 257 (T 245, WCo 1065) Whereto shulde ye seke me soo? does not appear in Ch, where the stanza begins with (321), Mother, full oft I tould you till (Y 258), and ends with (324), that must I needes doe, or I goe, which is a special line composed to go with the three which had been borrowed. Ch 328, and found to do that they command, diverges slightly from Y 264 (T 252), To fonde what is folowand; WCo 1072, Ys were glade I have the fonde, uses instead of the northern word found, attempt, the past participle of find, discover, which may have been suggested by the former word.

In connection with this passage arises also the question of the supposed interchange of speeches between Joseph and Mary. Dr. Chas. Davidson¹ says (referring to WCo 1057-64, Y 249-56, T 237-44, Ch 317-28): “Mary addresses Jesus.—Agreement of Y

¹ Loc. cit. p. 177. See also Review by Ungemach, Anglia Betiballt, iv., pp. 258-9.
and W (T). Immaterial changes in W of Co, speech reduced to four verses of free paraphrase in Ch . . . Jesus replies.—Agreement among W of Co, Ch, and Y. W (T) adds verses after the manner of W (T) in the 'Harrowing of Hell.' Joseph addresses Jesus in Y and W (T), but Mary addresses Jesus in W of Co and Ch. This is a significant difference.” Further on, “Ch . . . because of agreement with W of Co in Mary’s speech, when Joseph speaks in the other plays, is without much doubt a borrowing from Coventry before the days of Robert Croo, i.e. before 15—." This conclusion rests upon a mistake, as will be seen by an examination of the texts. T 249–52 is the only case where there is any material difference in the plays as to speakers. In Y 261–4, Mary, and not Joseph as asserted by Dr. Davidson, addresses Jesus. Moreover, Mary’s speech occurs in T in an exactly similar place to the one it has in the other plays. The mistake was due to the fact that Mary’s speech is given in T to Jesus, who speaks immediately before her.1 The Towneley editor points out that the speech must have belonged to Mary by referring to Luke ii. (misprinted iii.), 51. These verses are not extraneous as Dr. Davidson implies, but hold their proper place as the conclusion of a twelve-line stanza. In WCo Joseph makes his own speech, but not until ll. 1122–4.

Ch ends at this point2 and WCo expands into an extensive leave-taking scene; some correspondences can be discovered:

" 1081–2, " 269–70, " 257–8.

There is no parallel in any play for the dialogue of the doctors with which WCo comes to an end.

Except for T 1–48 and Y 1–73, and T 145–78 and Y 173–90, Y and T are practically the same throughout. Ch and WCo are related to them in very different ways. Ch usually corresponds closely in language and rime, when it agrees at all; strophes and verses are often out of their original order; parts of lines are pieced together; and the story, where it is deficient, is filled out with matter in many cases peculiar to Ch. It is an imperfect version, just such

1 It must have been spoken by Jesus when the present version of T was written, for not has been changed to well.
as would have resulted from oral transmission. WCo is also corrupt but in a different way. In story it seldom departs from Y and T except to interpolate and expand or to paraphrase into later English. As we have seen, WCo and Ch never coincide in their deviations in story. The few cases in which WCo and Ch have in common readings which differ from Y and T are insufficient to indicate interdependence. Indeed, from agreements in text of WCo with any other play, very little can usually be told; so much has WCo been altered in revision and transmission. This applies also to the relation of WCo to Y and T, as concerns its derivation from one or the other. The best piece of evidence, the agreement in the third and fourth commandments, is in favour of its derivation from T. Several smaller agreements point in the same direction.¹

A fact, which adds to the presumption in favour of T as the original of WCo, is that in the Towneley cycle the Doctors' play stands next after the Purification; but in the York Cycle the corresponding play came between the Massacre of the Innocents and the Baptism of Jesus.² The order of plays in the lost Beverley Cycle was virtually the same as in York: . . . Fyschers, Symeon. Cowpers, fleyng e Eipeg. Shomakers, children of Israel. Scryvners, disputacion in the temple. Barbour, sent John baptyste, etc.³

In light of the whole matter, therefore, it seems probable that some Northumbrian nucleus of craft or church plays⁴ was in possession of this Doctors' play, and, since the subject was unusually attractive, the play spread to the south and west. On its way to Coventry it perhaps fell under the influence of T, or under influence which also affected T. This was probably also the case in its journey to Chester; but there is no reason whatever to think that the Play of the Doctors passed from Coventry to Chester or that Ch and WCo in any way interdepend.

² If Towneley XVII and XVIII had possibly been combined into one like Ch and WCo, the play would not have been inordinately long. There is a gap in the MS. between the plays; see Towneley Plays, p. 185.
³ Lansdown MS. 896, fos. 133, 139–40; Seauce's Beverlac, by Geo. Poulson, Esq., Lond. 1829, p. 272; the list, taken from Beverlac, has been corrected from Leach; see below, note 4.
NOTES ON THE FRAGMENTS OF ANOTHER VERSION OF THE WEAVERS' PLAY. 1

Fragment I. is a variant of WCo ll. 1–58; Abbotsford Club print, pp. 31–4. The following are the significant variations and readings. MS. indicates the principal manuscript, MS. b. the fragments, S. the Abbotsford Club print, H. the edition of Prof. F. Holthausen, Anglia, N. F. XIII., 209–50.

1. Ye gret, MS. E'/ grett (cp. WCo, I. 864), S. grett.—2. With youre, S. Yours, H. ye.—3. aspect, MS. reyspecte.—4. fracis, MS. seynge.—7. MS. Apon the hill of Wausse. This seems to me to indicate a later origin of MS. than of MS. b. Croo was probably familiar with the play, and repeated in line 7 the reference to the Hill of Wausse from line 115, where it belongs. In that place is an account, derived from the Legend of the Three Kings, of the appearance of the star of prophecy upon the Hill of Vaus. See The Three Kings of Cologne, E.E.T.S., Orig. Ser. No. 85, pp. 6 ff., and the Latin version by John of Hildesheim in the same volume, pp. 213 ff.—9. makis, MS. makyth, S. in wyth. No other instance of the plural in s. occurs.—10. For, in MS., is at the beginning of l. 9; MS. b. has the better reading.—15. further-more, MS. Yet further, I pra you for my larning.—15–8. In MS. there is a request; in MS. b., a mere proposition.—19. demonstracion, MS. after a strange deformacion. This is a characteristic mistake on the part of Croo.—25. Orrestur . . . Jacob . . . exurge, etc., MS. Oriestur . . . Jacobo . . . exsurget, etc.—32–4. MS. Of this nobull prince of soo hi degree, / The wyche of all men, shal have demeneon, / Vndur what maner borne he schuld be. MS. b. has the better and more metrical reading.—35. Worthete, MS. wonderfulle, S. wonderfull, corr. emend. by H.; MS. b. has the better reading.—39. MS. Before progostefide this to be done.—41. . . consepith aparet, fillium, MS. . . . concepient pariet filium; the Latin is much more correct in MS.—43. schuld be reysed, MS. spryng; MS. b. is nearer the original.—45. MS. vocabitur, better than vocatur of MS. b.—46–9. MS. Yeit have I grett marvell, / How that men schuld tell / Off such strangis before the fell, / And man beyng here but a mortall creature. Note that here and in the neighbouring strophes, which are very obscure in MS., MS. b., though slightly more archaic, is entirely clear and is metrical. 52. espret, MS. sprete.

Fragment II. offers a variant of WCo, ll. 182–233 circa, S.

1 See Appendix IV.
INTRODUCTION.

pp. 39-41. It is a portion of the Presentation in the Temple, beginning with the sixth line of Simeon’s opening soliloquy and including everything to the entrance and first speech of Anna. The reply of Simeon is broken off after the fourth line. This is probably the fourth page of the original:

MS. b. 183, Under man . . . there, MS. Vndur hus . . . the.
—184. anseant, MS. formere.—186, aboundant ulis, MS. From the hy pales and.—187. Down . . . mundall, MS. Downe into this wale and meserabull mundall. MS. b. has the better reading, whatever mundall may mean; it probably refers to the world.—188-90. MS. For the wyche transgression all we ar now mortall, / Thatt before wasse infinite for eyuer to remayne / And now shal take yend be depth and cruelle payne. The passages are much at variance; MS. is a paraphrase of MS. b.—191. ded most dolorus, MS. Wyche grevoise sorro.—192. bytturle, MS. byttur teyris.—195. MS. syence; this probably indicates that senes is written for siemis.—196. MS. In there awturs aperith to hus right manefestly.—197. Sebellis, MS. Sebellam, a mistake of Croo’s which would not have been corrected when once made.—198. MS. In hart beske I the.—202. This line omitted in MS.—203-4. MS. The wyche be reydemcion schall hus all reyles, / At whose cunynng the tru owcion of Juda schall seyse. MS. b. has here the more literal translation of the Latin words usually given to Daniel in the Processus Prophetern;¹ these words also occur in STCo, ll. 6 and 7.—206. MS. For age draith me fast apon. 208. from, MS. fro.—209-25. MS. 209-18 shows a curious abridgment:

Now, Lorde, ase thou are iij in won,
Grant me grace, yff that thy wyll be,
In my nold age that syght for to see!

Then at thy wyll, Lorde, fayne wold I be,
Yff thou soche grace woldist me sende,
To loue the, Lorde, with all vmelyte,
And soo of my lyff then to make an ende!
Yett, Lorde, thi grace to me now extende,
Suffer me rathur yet to lyve in payne
Then to dy, or that I that solam syght have seyne!

How to account for this is not very easy. At first sight it looks as if lines 209-18 had been overlooked by Croo in his redaction. He may simply have composed lines 209-11 from the ordinary

¹ See Towneley Plays, VII, 216 f.
FRAGMENTS OF ANOTHER VERSION OF THE WEAVERS' PLAY. XXXVII

jargon of the first part of the play to complete the stanza, taking up the earlier version again at lines 219–25 (MS. b.), which agree fairly well with 212–8 (MS.) above. It might have been accidental, as omissions of lines and even stanzas often occur in this way. It seems, however, much more probable that Croo was rewriting the play with a rather free hand, and that he had already put the substance of lines 209–17 (MS. b.) into the speech of the first Prophet, lines 61–74 (MS.); and since he had used it there, omitted it here. MS. 61–74:

Wyche caussid Isaee to cast up his ies
   Toward heyvin with all his inward syght,
Seyng, "Good Lord, aframing thy promes,
   Send downe to hus this wooly sun off myght,
   Huse to reystore unto owre right!
Out of deserte, from the hard stone,
   Reycomfordyng thi doghtur dwylling in Sion!"

Also Jaramo, thatt wholle mon,
   Seyd in heyvin God schuld make seede,
A greyne off Davith, thatt now ys cum,
   Wyche eyuer in gracys shall spring and speyde
And kepe Juda out of drede
And also Isaraell sett in surenes,
And he schall make jugementis of rightwesenes.

These lines are probably in place in the prophet play for two very slight reasons: Because of the use of the names of Isaiah and Jeremiah, and because of the number of lines. Of the original manuscript b., we have probably pages 1 and 4. Page 1 has 58 lines, page 4 has 61 lines. The lacuna, judging by MS. a., is about 120 lines. On the other hand, these speeches of Isaiah and Jeremiah are very puzzling. It is difficult to find a source for them; there is nothing in the original Processus Prophetarum from which they may be derived. The supposition that Croo substituted parts of the original speech of Simeon for earlier and more customary speeches of Isaiah and Jeremiah would clear up the difficulty. All of this is on the supposition that MS. b. is earlier than MS. It must be admitted, however, that almost nothing can be determined for or against the idea of a greater age for MS. b. from the handwritings. But it should be remembered that after the preparation of Robert Croo's codex there would have been no necessity for another "original"; and MS. b. is to be regarded as the fragments of a complete version and not as players' copies. Sharp seems to
have found no entries in the account-book which pointed to the making of another play-book after Croo's or even parts of another.

The agreement of the versions practically ends with the first strophe of Anna's speech (l. 226), and is not very close there. MS. b. represents, I think, no very early form of the pageant; but it seems to be somewhat nearer the source (S. Luke ii. 22-39) in these speeches of Simeon and Anna, than is MS.; see ll. 224-5, 233-6. It may be too much to suppose that ll. 233-43 show any evidence of having been once in the form of quatrains, in which I am disposed to think the body of the play was originally composed. They are, at any rate, simpler and more essential to the play of the Presentation in the Temple than the corresponding lines in MS.

In all respects, except the correctness of the Latin quotations, MS. b. is better than MS.—spelling, readings, metrical regularity, strophe-form, sense, and style. It is probably the version which Robert Croo "translated", or a transcript of it.

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KEY TO MAP.

This section of Bradford's map shows intramural Coventry in 1750.

Stations of pageants, some known, some conjectural [v. Introd. xiii-xiv], are, one in each of the ten wards of the city, beginning from the east of the central thoroughfare. (1) In Gosford Street. (2) In Jordan Well, a continuation of the thoroughfare; or possibly at the junction of New Street and Mill Lane, as a prolongation of New Street, not marked in this map, was anciently called Corpus Christi Lane. To the south of the thoroughfare in Much Park Street on the London Road is (3) New Gate. (4) Little Park Street ends in Earl Street. To the north of the thoroughfare in Baily Lane ward is (5) S. Michael's Churchyard [picture of church in map]. In the centre of the city in Cross Cheaping ward is (6) The Cross [picture in map]. Further north, near Bishop Street, is (7) S. John's Hospital [Free School and Library in map]. To the south of the thoroughfare again in Broad Gate ward is (8) Grey Friars' Church [picture of steeple in map]. Continuing the thoroughfare along Smithford Street we arrive at (9) The Conduit [just legible in map opposite the "Bull" and "Green Dragon" inns]. Further on, close to Spon Street Gate is (10) S. John's or Bablake Church [picture in map].

Pageant houses were in Hill Street by Bablake Church, and in Mill Lane, which runs at right angles to Jordan Well.
The Pageant of the Shearmen and Taylors.¹

[DRAMA TIS PERSONAE.

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<th>Isaiah as Prologue (Ll. 1-46).</th>
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<td>Nuncius as Prologue (Ll. 47-331).</td>
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[Enter Isaiah as prologue.]

ISAIE. The Soffereint that seith oveere seycrete, (83)
He saue you all and make you parffett and stronge,²
And gave us grace with his marce forto mete I
For now in gret messere mankynd ys bownd;
The serpent hathe gevin vs soo mortall a wonde
That no creature ys abull vs forto reyles
Tyll thy right vnction of Jvda dothe seyse.

Then schall moche myrthe and joie in-cresse;
And the right rote in Israell sprynge,
That schall bryng forthe the greyne off whollenes;
And owt of danger he schall vs bryng
In-to thatt reygeon where he ys kyng
Wyche abowe all outhur far dothe a-bownde,
And thatt cruell Sathan he schall confounde. 14

¹ Reprinted from A Dissertation on the Pageants or Dramatic Mysteries Anciently Performed at Coventry . . . by Thomas Sharp. Coventry, 1825. In most matters I have followed by permission the edition of Professor John Matthews Manly in his Specimens of the Pre-Shakspearian Drama, Boston, 1897, vol. i, pp. 120-52. His treatment of lines and strophes has not been altered; stage-directions, punctuation, and text but seldom. M. in the notes indicates this edition; S., the edition of Thomas Sharp above referred to. The MS. was destroyed in the burning of the Free Reference Library at Birmingham in 1879. Numbers in parentheses are pp. in S.

² M. Qy. sounde. Op. II, 222-4. ² S. gevenus, emend. by M. 
C. C. PLAYS.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

There is a comfort in spite of Adam's fall.
Wherefore I cum here upon this grounde
To comforte eyuer creature off birthe;
For I, Isaye the profet, hathe fownde
Many swete matters whereof we ma make myrth
On this same wyse;
For, thogh that Adam be demid to dyethe
With all his chilidur, asse Abell and Seythe,
Yett Ecce virgo\(^2\) concepeet,—
Loo, where a reymede schall ryse!


The child of a virgin shall restore us to grace
Be-holde, a mayde schall consewe a childe
And gett vs more grace than eyuer men had,
And hir meydis-[h]od\(^3\) nothing defylid.
Sche ys deputyd to beare the Sun, Almyghte God.
Loo! sufferitis, now ma you be glad,
For of this meydis all we ma be layne;
For Adam, that now lys in sorrois full sake,
Hir gloroes birth schall reydlene hym ageyn
From bondage and thrall.
Now be myrre eyuer moñ
For this dede bryffly in Isamael schalbe done,
And before the Fathur in trone,
Thatt schall glade vs all.

More of this matter layne wolde I meve,
But lengur tyme I haue not here for to dwell.

Benediction.
That Lorde that ys marcefull his marce soo in vs ma preve
For to save owre sollis from the darknes of hel; 40
And to his blys
He vs bryng,
Asse he ys
Bothe lord and kyng,
And schalbe\(^4\) eyuerlastyng,
In secula seculorum, amen!\(^5\)

1 S. eyuer, corr. by M.
2 The sign for er is used for ir, ri, ar (marce), e (under), as well as for er and re.
3 Correct. by M.
4 So S., M. shall be.
5 Lines 41-46 as two in S., the first ending with kyng.
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS.

[Exit Isaiah; enter Gabriel to Mary.]

GABERELL. Hayle, Mare, full of grace!
Owe Lord God ys with the;¹
Above all wemen that eyuer wasse,
Lade, blesside mothe thow be!

MARIE. All-might Fathur and King of blys,
From all dysses thou saue me now!
For inwardely my spretis trubULD ys,
Thatt I am amacid and kno not how. (85) 54

GABERELL. Dred the nothyng, meydin, of this;
From heyvin a-bowe hyddur am I sent
Of ambassage from that Kyng of blys
Unto the, lade and virgin reyuerent!
Salutyng the here asse most exsolent,
Whose virtu aboue all othour dothe abownde,
Wherefore in the grace schalbe fownde;
For thow schalt conseuye apon this grownd 62
The Second Persone of God in trone;
He wyblc borne of the alone;
With-owt sin thou schalt hym see.¹
Thy grace and thi goodnes wyll neyuer be gone,
But eyuer to lyve in virgeneto.

MARIE. I marvell scorie how thatt mabe.
Manis² cumpnyey knew I neyuer yett,
Nor neyuer to do, kust I me,
Whyle thatt owre Lord sendith me my wytt. 71

GABERELL. The Wholle Gost in the schall lyght,
And schado thy soll soo with virtu
From the Fathur thatt ys on hyght.
These wordis, turtill, the³ be full tru.
This chylde thatt of the schalbe borne
Ys the Second Persone in Trenete;
He schall saue that wase forlore
And the fyndis powar dystroie schall he. 79

¹ This and the preceding line as one in S.
² The contraction here is for us, and is used to represent the genitive and the plural throughout. It has been written is, the customary spelling in S. ³ M. here and throughout prints the[y].
These wordis, lade, full tru the bene,
And furthur, lade, here in thy noone lenage

Be-holde Eylesabeth, thy cosyn clene,
The wyche wasse barren and past all age,

And now with chyld sche hath bene
Syx monethis and more, asse schalbe sene;
Where-for, discomforde the not, Mare!
For to God onpossibull nothyng mabe.

MARE. Now, and yt be thatt Lordis wyll
Of my bodde to be borne and forto be,
Hys by pleysuris forto full-fyll
Asse his one hande-maybe I submyt me.

Gabriell. Now blessid be the tyme sett
That thou wast borne in thy degre!
For now ys the knott surely knytt,
And God conseyvide in Trenete.

and farewell.
Now fare-well, lade off myghtis most!
Vnto the God-hed I the be-teyche.

MARE. Thatt Lorde the gyde in eyuere cost,
And looly he leyde me and be my leyche!

Matt. 1. 18-28.
Pseudo-
Matt. 2. xi.

Here the angell departyth, and Joseff cumyth in and sayth:

JOSEFF. Mare, my wyff soo dere,
How doo ye, dame, and whatt chere
Ys with you this tyde?

MARE. Truly, husebonde, I am here
Owre Lordis wyll forto abyde.

JOSEFF. Whatt! I troo thatt we be all schent!
Sey, womoñ; who hath byn here sith I went,
To rage wyth thee?

MARE. Syr, here was nothur man nor mans eyvin,
But only the sond of owre Lorde God in heyvin.

JOSEFF. Sey not soo, womoñ; for schame, ley be!

Ye be with chyld soo wondurs grett,
Ye nede no more therof to tret
Agense all right.
Forsothe, this chylde, dame, ys not myne.
Alas, that syuer with my nynne
I suld see this syght!

Tell me, womon; whose ys this chylde?
MARE. Non but youris, husebond soo myld,
And that scharbe seyne, [ywis].

JOSOFF. But myne? alas! alas! why sey ye soo?
Wele-awey! womon, now may I goo,
Be-gylde as many a-nothur ys.

MARE. Na, truly, sir, ye be not be-gylde,
Nor yet with spott of syn I am not desylde;
Trust yt wel, huse-bonde.

JOSOFF. Huse-bond, in feythc! and that acold!
A! weylle-awey, Josoff, as thow ar olde!
Lyke a folle now ma I stand
And truse;2
But, in feyth, Mare, thou art in syn;
Soo moche ase I haue cheyrischyd the, dame, and
all thi kyn,
Be-hynd my bake to serve me thus!

All olde men, insampull take be me,—
How I am be-gylid here may you see!—
To wed soo yong a chylid.

Now fare-well, Mare, I leuve the here alone,—
[Wo]1 worth the, dam, and thy warkis ycheone!—
For I woll noo-more be be-gylid3
For Frynd nor fooc.2
Now of this ded I am soo dull,
And off my lyff I am soo full,
No farthur ma I goo.2

[Lies down to sleep; to him enters an angel.]

I. ANGELL.4 Arysse up, Josoff, and goo whom ageyne
Vnto Mare, thy wyff, that ys soo5 fre.

To comford hir loke that thow be fayne,
For, Josoff, a clevyn meydyn ys schein:

1 Emend. by M. 2 This and the preceding line as one in S.
3 S. be gylid be, emend. by M.
4 S. ANGELL 3; so below for angels, shepherds, kings, knights, and women, alteration by M.
5 M. so.
Sche hath consevvyd with-owt any trayne
The Seycond Person in Trenete;
Jesus\(^1\) schalbe hys name, sarten,
And all thys world sawe schall he;

Be not agast.\(^2\)

Josoff. Now, Lorde, I thanke the with hart full sad,
For of these tythynge I am soo glad
Thatt\(^3\) all my care awayo ys cast;
Wherefore to Mare I woll in hast.

[Returns to Mare.]

A! Mare, Mare, I knele full loo;
Forgoeve me, swete wyff, here in this loud!
Mare, Mare! for now I kno
Of youre good gouernance and how yt doth stond.

Thogh\(^4\) thatt I dyd the mys-name,
Mare, Mare! Whyle I leve
Wyll I nevuer, swet wyff, the greve
In ernyst nor in game.\(^5\)

Mare. Now, thatt\(^5\) Lord in heyvyn, sir, he you forgye!
And I do for-geve you in hys name
For euermore.\(^2\)
Josoff. Now truly, swete wyff, to you I sey the same.

But now to Bedlem must I wynde
And scho my-self, soo full of care;
And\(^5\) I to leyve you, this grett, behynd,—
God wott, the whyle, dame, how you schuld fare.

Mare. Na, hardly, husebond, dred ye nothyng;
For I woll walke with you on the way.

I trust in God, all-myghte kyng,
To spede right well in owre jurney.
Josoff. Now I thanke you, Mare, of youre goodnes
Thatt\(^5\) ye my wordis woll nott blame;
And syth that to Bedlem we schall vs dresse,
Goo we to-gedur in Goddis wholle name.

---

\(^1\) S. Jhu *here and throughout.*
\(^2\) *This and the preceding line as one in S.*
\(^3\) M. That.
\(^4\) So M., S. *has THought.*
\(^5\) Qy. Am.
\(^6\) M. your.
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS.

[They set out and travel a while.]

Now to Bedlem haue we loygis three;
The day ys ny spent, yt drawyth toward nyght;
Fayne at your es, dame, I wold that ye schulde be,
   For you grove1 all werely, yt semyth in my syght. 183

MARE. God haue marce, Josoff, my sposse soo dere; (89) The time
   All profettis herto dothe beyre wyttnes,
   Thatte2 my chyld wolbe borne, wyche ys Kyng
   of blis. 187

Vnto sum place, Josoff, hyndly me leyde,
   Thatt I moght rest me with grace in this tyde.
The lyght of the Fathur uer hus both spre dyde,
   And the grace of my sun with vs here a-byde! 191

JOSOFF. Loo! blesсид Mare, here schall ye lend,
   Cheff chosyn of owre Lorde and cleynist in degre;
And I for help to towne woll I wende.
   Ys nott this the best, dame? whatt sey ye? 195

MARE. God haue marce, Josoff, my huse-bond soo
   And hartely I pra you, goo now fro me.
Josoff. Thatt schalbe done in hast, Mare soo3 swete!
   The comford of the Wholle Gost leyve I with
   the. 199

Now to Bedlem streyght woll I wynd
   To gett som helpe for Mare soo free.
Sum holpe of wenmen4 God may me send,
   Thatt2 Mare, full off grace, pleysid ma be. 203

[In another part of the place a shepheard begins to speake.]

I. PASTOR. Now God, that art in Trenete,
   Thow sawe my fellois and me!
For I kno nott wheyre my scheepe nor the be,
   Thys nyght yt ys soo colde. 207

1 M. changes to grove, but suggests that it may be for growe.
2 M. That.
3 M. so.
4 M. wenmen.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

Now ys yt nygh the myddis of the nyght;
These wedurs ar darke and dym of lyght,
Thatt of them can hy haue noo syght,
Standynge here on this wold.

But now to make there hartis lyght,
Now wyll I full right
Stand apon this loo,⁠¹
And to them cry with all my myght,—
Full well my voise the kno:
What hoo! fellois! hoo! hooe! hoo!

[Two other shepherds appear (in the street).]

II. PASTOR. Hark, Sym, harke! I here owre brother
on the looe; (90)
This ys hys woise, right well I knoo;
There-fore toward hym lett vs goo,
And follo his woise a-right.
See, Sym, se, where he doth stond ²
I am ryght glad we haue hym fond!
Brother, where last thow byn soo long,
And hit ys soo cold this nyght?²

The first shepherd explains.

I. PASTOR. Eli fryndis, ther cam a pyrie of wynd
with a myst suddenly,
Thatt⁸ forth off my weyis went I
And grett heyvenes then⁴ made I
And wasse full sore afryght.⁵
Then forto goo wyst I nott whyddur,
But travellid on this loo hyddur and thyyddur;
I wasse so were of this cold weddur
Thatt here past wasse my might.

³ It is nearly day;

III. PASTOR. Brethur, now we be past that fryght,
And hit ys fae within the nyght,
Full sone woll spryng the day-lyght,
Hit drawith full nere the tyde.

¹ This and the preceding line as one in S.
² S. And thy; nyght hit ys soo cold, corr. by M.
³ M. That.
⁴ S. in, corr. by M.
⁵ S. afayde, emend. by M.
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS.

Here awhyle lett vs rest,

And repast owrself of the best;

Tyll thatt the sun ryse in the est

Let vs all here abyde.

There the sheppardis drawys furth there myste and doth
eyte and drynk; and asse the drynk, the fynd the star,

and say thus:

III. PASTOR. Brethur, loke vp and behold!

Whatth thyng ys yondur thatt schynith soo

bryght?

Asse longe ase eyuer I haue wachid my fold,

Yett sawe I neyuer soche a syght

In fyld.

A ha! now ys cum the tyme that old fathurs hath
told,

Thatt in the wynturs nyght soo cold

A chylde of meydyñ borne be he wold

In whom all profecyi schalbe fullfyld.

I. PASTOR. Truth yt ys with-owt naye,

Soo sayd the profett Isaye,

Thatt a² chylde schuld be borne of a made soo

bryght

In wentur ny the schortist day

Or elis in the myddis of the nyght.

II. PASTOR. Loovid be God, most off mysght,

That owre grace ys to see thatt syght;

Pray we to hym, ase hit ys right,

Yff thatt his wyll yt be,

Thatt³ we ma haue knoleyge of this syngnefocacion

And whyt hit sperith on this fassion;

And eyuer to hym lett vs geve lawdcacion,

In yerthe whyle thatt we be.

There the angelis syng "Gloria in excelsis Deo."

III. PASTOR. Harke! the syng abowe in the clowdis

clore!

Hard I neyuer of soo myrre a quere.

¹ This and the preceding line as one in S.
² S. has I. Emend. by M. ³ M. That.
Now, gentyll brethur, draw we here
To here there armony.\(^1\)

I. Pastor. Brothur, myrth and solas ys cum hus
among;
For be the sweetnes of ther sone,
Goddis Sun ys cum, whom we haue lokid for long,
Asse synguefyth thys star that we do see. \(^2\)

II. Pastor. "Glore, glorea in exeelsis," that waso
ther sone;
How sey ye, fellois, seyd the not thus? \(^3\)

I. Pastor. Thatt ys wel seyd;\(^2\) now goo we hence
To worschipe thatt chyld of hy manyfecomce,
And that we ma syng in his presence
"Et in terra pax omniibus." \(^4\)

There the scheppardis syngis "Asse I ouct Rodde,"\(^2\) (92)
Josoff seyth:

Josoff. Now, Lorde, this noise that I do here,
With this grett solemnete,
Gretly amendeid hath my chere;
I trust by nevis schortly wolbe. \(^5\)

There the angellis syng "Gloria in exeellsis" aveyne.

Mare. A! Josoff; husebond, cum heuddur anon;
My chyld ys borne that ys Kyng of bys.

Josoffe. Now welcum to me, the Makar of mon,
With all the omage that I con;
Thy swete mothe here woll I kys. \(^6\)

Mare. A! Josoff, husebond, my chyld waxith cold,
And we haue noo fyre to warme hym with.

Josoff. Now in my narmys I schall hym fold,
Kyng of all kyngis be fyld and be fyryth;
He myght haue had bettur, and hym-selfe\(^b\) wold,
Then the breythynge of these bestis to warme
hym with. \(^7\)

\(^1\) M. armouye.
\(^2\) S. welseyd.
\(^3\) The song (l.) is at the end of the pageant.
\(^4\) M. hymselfe.
MARK. Now, Josoff, my husband, fett heddr my chylld,
The Maker off man and hy Kyng of blys.
Josoff. That schalbe done anon, Mare soo myld,
For the brethyng of these bestis hath warmynd
[hym] ¹ well, i-wys.

[Angels appear to the shepherds.]

1. ANGELL. Hyrd-men hynd,
Drede ye nothyng ²
Off thys star thatt ye do se;
For thys same morn
Godis Sun ys borne ³
In Bedlem of a meydin fre.

296

11. ANGELL. Hy you thyddur in hast;
YT ys hys wyll ye schall hym see
Lyng in a crybbe ⁴ of pore roypaste,
Yett of Davithis lyne cumoñ ys hoe.

302

[The shepherds approach and worship the Babe.]

1. PASTOR. Hayle, mayde-modur ⁵ and wyff soo myld!
Ass the angell seyd, soo haue we fonde.
I haue nothyng to present with thi chylde
But my pype; hold, hold, take yt in thy hond;
Where-in moccie pleysure that I haue fond;
And now, to onowvre thy gloreose byrthe,
Thow schallt yt haue to make the myrthe.

313

11. PASTOR. Now, hayle be thow, chylnd, and thy dame!
For in a por⁶ loggyu here art thow leyde,
Soo the angell seyde and tolde vs thy name;
Hole, take thow here my hat on thy hedde!
And now off won thyng thow art well sped,
For weddur thow hast noo nede to complayne,
For wynd, ne sun, hayle, swoo and rayne.

320

¹ Suppl. by M.  ² This and the preceding line as one in S.
³ M. cribbe.  ⁴ M. mothur.  ⁵ S. apere, corr. by M.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

III. PASTOR. Hayle be thow, Lorde ouer watur and landis!
   For thy cumyng all we ma make myrthe.
Haue here my mytten to pytton on thi kondis,
Othur treasure haue I non to present the with. 324

MARE. Now, herdmeñ hynd,
   For youre comyng
To my chyld schall I prae,
Asse he ys heyvin kyng,
To grant you his blessyng, 1
And to hys blys that ye may wynd
At your last day. 1

There the shepperdis syngith 2 ageyne and goth forths of the place; and the is profetts cumyth in and seyth thus:

Wonderful tidings!

I. PROFETA. Novellis, novellis
Of wonderfull marvellys, 1
Were hy and deface vtnto the heryng!
Asse scripture tellis,
These strange novellis
To you I bryng. 3

II. PROFETA. Now bartely, sir, I desyre to knoo, (94)
Yff lytt wolde pleysse you forto schoo,
Of whatt maner a thyng.

The nativity of a king,

I. PROFETA. Were mystecall vtnto youre heryng,—
Of the natyvete off a kyng. 342

II. PROFETA. Of a kyng? Whence schuld he cum? 1
I PROFETA. From thatt regynd ryall and mighty mancion,
The sede seylesteall and heyvynly vyseedome,
The Seycond 4 Person and Godis one Sun,
For owre sake now ys man be-cum.

This godly spere,
Desendid here 1

1 This and the preceding line as one in S.
2 The song (III.) is at the end of the pageant.
3 Lines 335-7 as one in S. 4 M. Second.
In-to a virgin clere,\(^1\)
    Sché on-defyld;\(^2\)
Be whose warke obsevre
Owre frayle nature
    Ys now begilde.\(^3\)

II. **Provét.** Why, hath sche a chyld?  

I. **Provét.** E! trust hyt well;
    \(\textit{And neuer the las}^4\)
    Yet ys sche a mayde evin asse sche wasse,
    And hir sun the king of Israeell.  

II. **Provét.** A wondur-full marvell
    Truly marvellous!  
How thatt ma-be,\(^2\)
    And far dothe exsell
All owre capasete: \(^2\)
    How thatt the Trenete,
    Of soo hy regalle,\(^2\)
    Schuld jonyd be \(^5\)
    Vnto owre mortalle! \(^2\)

I. **Provét.** Of his one grett marce,
    Adam's progeny shall be redeemed.
Throgh whose vmanyte
    Man must redeem man.
All Adam's progene \(^2\)
    Reydemyd schalbe owt of perdyssion.

Syth mañ did offend,
    But the seyd moñ and no nothur?  
Who schuld amend \(^2\)
    For the wyche caewe he  
Incarnate wold be \(^2\)
    And lyve in mesere asse manis one brothur.  

II. **Provét.** Syr, vnto the Deyite,  
    (95)
I beleve parfettle,\(^2\)
    Onpossibull to be there ys nothyng;

\(^1\) M. puts a period here and a comma after Scé; he suggests that a line is omitted after 351.
\(^2\) This and the preceding line as one in S.
\(^3\) S. be jonyd, emend. by M.
How be yt this warke
Vnto nie ys darke
In the opperacion or wyrkyng.

I. PROFETA. Whatt more reypriff
Ys vnto belyff
Then to be dowtyng.

II. PROFETA. Yet dowtis oftymés hathe derevacion.

I. PROFETA. Thatt ys be the meynes of comenecacion
Of trawthis to have a dev probacion
Be the same dowts reysoning.

II. PROFETA. Then to you this won thyng:

Of whatt nobull and hy lenage ys schee
Thatt myght this verabull 8 princis modur be

The lineage of Mary.

I. PROFETA. Ondowtis schee ys cum of hy parrage,
Of the howse of Davith and Salamon the sage;
And won off the same lyne joynid to hir be mareage;
Of whose trybe

We do subscribe
This chyl[1]dis 4 lenage, 6

II. PROFETA. And why in thatt wyss e

I. PROFETA. For yt wasse the gysse
To conte the parant on the manys lyne,
And nott on the feynyne, 7
Amonist vs here in Israell.

II. PROFETA. Yett can I nott aspy be noo wyss e
How thyss chylde borne schuldbe with-ow[t] naturis
prejudyse.

God may act contrary to nature;

I. PROFETA. Nay, no prejudye vnto nature, I dare
well sey;
For the kyng of nature may
Hawe all at his one wyll. 1

consider
Aaron's rod.

Dyd not the powar of God
Make Aronis rod
Beyre frute in on day 8

---

1 This and the preceeding line as one in S.
2 Lines 385-7 as one in S.
3 M. Qy. renable. 4 S. subscrive, corr. by M.
5 Corr. by S. 6 Lines 388-400 as one in S.
7 M. prints feynyn[e]. 8 Lines 411-3 as one in S.
II. PROFETA. Truth yt ys in-deed.

I. PROFETA. Then loke you and rede. (96)

II. PROFETA. A! I perseyve the sede.

Where apon thatt you spake.\(^1\)

Yt wasse for owre nede

*That he frayle nature did take,*\(^1\)

And his blod he schuld schede

Amens forto make\(^1\)

For owre transgression;

Ase yt ys seyd in profece

*That of the lyne of Jude*\(^1\)

Schuld spryng a right Messe,

Be whom all wee

Schall\(^2\) haue reydemcion.\(^1\)

---

The second prophet now understands the plan of redemption.

---

I. PROFETA. Sir, now ys the tyme cum,

And the date there-of ruñ,

Off his Natevete.

II. PROFETA. Yett I beske you hartele

*That ye wold schoo me how*\(^1\)

Thatt this strange nowelle

Were broght vnto you.

---

The time is come.

---

I. PROFETA. This othur nyght soo cold

Hereby apon a wolde

Schepardis wachyng there fold,

In the nyght soo far

To them aperid a star,

*And*\(^3\) eyuer yt drev them nar;

Wyche star the did behold

Bryghter, the sey, M folde

Then the sun so clere

In his mydday sper,

And the these tythyngis tolde.

---

The sheep-herds have seen his star,

1000 times brighter than the noonday sun.

---

II. PROFETA. Whatth, secretly?\(^1\)

I. PROFETA. Na, na, hardely;

The made there-of no conseil;

---

No secret.

---

\(^1\) This and the preceding line as one in S.

\(^2\) So M.; S. schalld; Qy. schuld.

\(^3\) M. And.
AGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS.

i, schevaleris de nooble posance! 1
omos, 2 companionys petis egraphance! 3
ad dugard treytus 4 sylance.
vottur nooble Roie syre ese prescence! 5 479
rson eee non fawis perwynt 7 dedfer-

de frappas; 9 mayis gardus to to 10
ioe,—

11 voter senoor to cor 12 reyuerance; (98)
r Roie to to puy scarce. 18

Pase tos! je vose cummande,

ett la grandeaboly vos vomport. 15 485

statis 16 in Jude et Rex Israell,

myghtytyst conquerowre 17 that eyuer
on grownd; 17

he that made bothe hevin and hell,

myghte powar holdith vp this world

mad Madroke, bothe the[m] 18 did I con-

bryght tronde there bonis I brak on-

ryde worlde on those rappis did wonder. 492

Discussion of the most perplexing of the difficulties.

nearly neglected to take any notes at the time, i
his, except in one or two cases, to remember to
such suggestion belongs. Of course they are not
mistakes that may appear here. I have printed
change except in punctuation. All of the notes
were taken directly from M.

1 probably only a careless form of e.
2 de garder trousts.
3 nulle.
4 non fasse point.
5 Ne se.
6 gardes toto.
7 before the indirect object seems unnecessary.
8 Sheldon: Car il est votre roi tout puissant.
9 de lui (Sheldon suggests loi instead of lui).
10 notes that the line properly ends with grand (modify-
11 rhyming with 484)—diable vos emporte! being
12 seldom pleasantness addressed to the audience.
13 red in B.

15 18 So M.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

For the song ase lowde
Ase eyuer the cowde
Presyn the kyng of Israell.

II. PROFETA. Yett do I marvell
In whatt pyle or castell
These hardmeñ dyd hym see.

451

*In what
place was
it?*

i. PROFETA. Nothur in hallis nor yett in bowris
Born wold he not be,
Nothir in castellis nor yet in towris
That semly were to se;

But att hys Fathurs wyll,
The profeci to full-fyll,
Be-twyt an ox and an as
Jesus, this kyng, borne he was.

Heyvin he bryng us tyll!

463

*In no such
place;*

The shep-
heardes went
forth re-
joicing.

between two
beastes ac-
cording to
prophecy:
Rab. iii. 2
(Sept.).

ii. PROFETA. Sir, a! but when these scheppardis
had seyne hym there,
In-to whatt place did the repeyre?

i. PROFETA. Forthe the went and glad the were,
Going the did syng;
With myrthe and solas the made good chere
For joie of that new tything;

And after, asse I hard the[m] tell,
He reywardid them full well:
He graunt them hevyn ther-in to dwell;
In ar the gon with joie and myrthe,

singing a
Christmas
song.

And there songe hit ys "Neowell."

474

There the profeti gothe furthe and Erod cumyth in, and
the messenger.

A herald.

NONCROSE. Faytes pais, dyvis, baronyes de grande
reynowe!
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS

Payis, senecis, achevaleris de noible posance! 
Pays, gentis homos, companions petis egranice. 
Je vos command dugart treytoy sylance. 
Payis, tanque vottur nooble Roie syre ese presence, 479 
Que nollie persone ese non fawis perwynt deaience, 
Nese harde de frappas; mayis gardus to to paceance,— 
Mayis gardus voter seneor to cor reyuerance; (98) 
Car elat vottur Roie to to puysance, 
Anoñ de leo, pase tos! je vose cummande, 
E lay Roie ecott la grandeaboly vos vmport. 

Erode. Qui statis in Jude et Rex Israell, 
And the myghtyst conquerowre that eyuer 
walkid on grownd; 
For I am evyn he thatt made bothe hevin and hell, 
And of myghte powar holdith vp this world round. 
Magog and Madroke, bothe the[m] did I confownde, 
And with this bryght bronde there bonis I brak on-sunder, 
Thatt all the wyde worlde on those rappis did wonder. 492

pretty lively oral discussion of the most perplexing of the difficulties, and as I unfortunately neglected to take any notes at the time, I find myself unable, except in one or two cases, to remember to which of the two each suggestion belongs. Of course they are not responsible for any mistakes that may appear here. I have printed the text with no change except in punctuation. * All of the notes upon this passage are taken directly from M.*

1 puissance. 
2 The second o is probably only a careless form of o. 
3 et grands. 4 de garder trestous. 
5 roi soit ici present. 6 nulle. 
7 Kittredge: ici non fasse point. 8 Ne se. 
9 frapper. 10 gardez toto. 
11 A proposition before the indirect object seems unnecessary. 
12 toto. 13 Sheldon: Car il est votre roi tout puissant. 
14 A (=su) nom de lui (Sheldon suggests loit instead of lui). 
15 Sheldon suggests that the time properly ends with grand (modifying Erott and rhyming with 484),—diable vos emporte! being merely an unattached pleasantry addressed to the audience. 
16 Qui statis is in red in S. 
17—17 M. that . . ground. 
18 So M. 

C. C. PLAYS.
Two Coventry Corpus Christi Plays.

I am the cause of this great light and thunder;
Yet is through my fure that the soche noyse doth make.

My seyrefull contenance the clowdis so doth incumbur
That ofymis for drede ther-of the verre yerthe
doth quake.

Loke, when I with males this bryght brand doth schake,
All the whole world from the north to the sowthe
I ma them dystrois with won worde of my sowthe!

To reycownt vnto you myn innevernabull substance,—
Thatt were to moche for any tong to tell;

For all the whole Orent ys under myn obaydeance,
And prync am I of purgatorre and cheff capten of hell;
And those tyraneus trayturs be force ma I compell
Myne enmyis to vanquese and evyn to dust them
dryve,
And with a twynke of myn iew not won to be lafte alyve.

Behold my contenance and my color,
Bryghtur then the sun in the meddis of the day.

Where can you have a more grettur succur
Then to behold my person that ys soo gaye?
My fawcun and my fassion, with my gorgis araye,—
He that hath the grace all-vey thur-on to thinke,
Lyve the myght all-vey with-owt othur meyte or drynke.

And thys my thryomfande fame most hylist dothe abownde
Throgh-owt this world in all reygeons abrod,
Reysemelyng the fauer of that most myght Mahownd;
From Jubytor be desent and cosyn to the grett God,

And namyd the most reydowndid kyng Eyrodde,
Wyche thatt all pryncis hath under subjeccion
And all there whole powar vndur my proteccion.

And therefore, my hirecode here, callid Calcas,
   Warne thou eyuer\(^1\) porte thatt noo schyppis
   a-ryve,
Nor also aleond stranger throg my realme pas,
   But the for there truage do pay markis fyve.\(^{524}\)
   Now spele the forth hastele,
   For the thatt wyll the contrare
   Apon a galowse hangid schalbe,
   And, be Mahownde, of me the gett noo grace!\(^{528}\)

Noncios. Now, lord and mastur, in all the hast
   Thy worethe wyll ytt schall be wroght,
   And thy ryll cuntreyis schalbe past
   In asse shorty tyme asse can be thoght.\(^{532}\)

Erode. Now schall owre regeons throg-h-owt be soght
   In eyuere\(^1\) place bothe est and west;
Yff any katyfis to me be broght,
   Yt schalbe nothyng for there best.
   And the whyle thatt I do resst,
Trompettis, vialis, and other armone
Schall bles the wakyng of my maiste.\(^{539}\)

_Here Erode goth away and the iij kyngis speykyth in the strete._

I. Rex. Now blessid be God of his swet solde,
   For yondur a feyre bryght star I do see!
Now ys he cofnon, vs a-monge,
   Asse the profet\(^2\) seyd thatt yt schuld be.\(^{543}\)

A seyd\(^3\) there schuld a babe be borne,
   Comyng of the rote of Jesse,
To sawe mankynd that wasse for-lorne;
   And truly comen now as he.\(^{547}\)

Reyuerence and worshipp to hym woll I do (100)
   Asse God and man, thatt all made of noghth.
All the professis acordid and seyd evyn soo,
   That with hyss presseos blod mankynd schuld be
   boght.\(^{551}\)

\(^1\) _Contraction for er._  \(^2\) S. _professis, emend. by M._
\(^3\) S. _Aseyd, corr. by M._  Qy. A seyd = they said.
He grant me grace,
Be yonder star that I see, ¹
And in-to that place
Y Bryng me ¹
Thatt I ma hym worschipe with umellete
And se hys gloreose face.

11. Rex. Owt of my wey I deme thatt I am,
For toocons of thys cuntrey can I non see;
Now, God, thatt on yorth madist man,
Send me sum knoleyge where thatt I be!

Yondur, me thynke, a feyre, bryght star I see,
The wyche be-tocunyth the byrth of a chyld
Thatt hedur ys cum to make man fre;
He borne of a mayde,² and sche nothyng desyld. 565

To worship thatt chyld ys myn in-tent;
Forth now wyll I take my wey.
I trust sum cumpany God hath me sent,
For yonder I se a kynge labur on the wey; 569

He sees the other King.

To-warde hym now woll I ryde.
Harke! cumly kyng, I you pray,
In-to whatt cost wyll ye thys tyde,
Or weddur lyis youre jurney?

1. Rex. To seke a chylde ys myne in-tent
Of whom the profetis hath me sent;
The tyme ys cum, now ys he sent,
Be yondur star here ma [you]³ see.

11. Rex. Sir, I prey you, with your lysence,
To ryde with you vnto his presence;
To hym wyll I offur frank-in-sence,
For the hed of all Whole Churche schall he be. 581

The third King is also lost.

111. Rex. I ryde wanderyng in veyis wyde, (101)
Ouer montens and dalis; I wot not where I am.
Now, Kyng off all kyngis, send me soche gyde
Thatt I myght haue knoleyge of thys cuntreys name.

¹ This and the preceding line as one in S.
S. amayde, corr. by M. ² Supplied by S.
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLOBS.

A! yondur I se a syght, be-sembung all afar,
    The wyche be-toucums sum nevis, use I troo;
Asse me thyneke, a chyld peryng in a stare.
    I trust he be cum that schall defend vs from woo. 589

To kyngis yondur I see,
    The Kings meet,
And to them woll I ryde¹
Forte haue there cumpane;
    593
I trust the wyll me abyde.¹

Hayle, cumly kyngis augent!²
Good survs, I pray you, whedder ar ye ment?

i. Rex.  To seke a chylde ys owre in-tent,
    Wyche be-toucums yonder star, asse ye ma see. 597
ii. Rex.  To hym I purpose thyss present.

iii. Rex.  Surs, I pray you, and thatt ryght

vmblee,
    With you thatt I ma ryde in cumpane.

[! All.]³  To all-myghte God now prey we
    and ride in company.
Thatt hys pressiose personse we ma se. 602

Here Ereode cumeyth in agayn and the messengere syght:

Nuncios.  Hayle, lorde most off myght!
Thy commandement ys right;
In-to thy land ys comyn this nyght
    and ride in company.
iij kyngis and with them a grett cumpane. 606

Erod.  Whatt make those kyngis in this cuntrey?
Nuncios.  To seke a kyng and a chyld, the sey.
Erode.  Of whatt age schuld he bee?
Nuncios.  Skant twelwe deys old fulle. 610

Erod.  And wasse he soo late borne?  (102)
Nuncios.  E! ayr, soo the schoode me, thys same dey
    in the morne.
Erod.  Now, in payne of deyth, bryng them me
    Bring them before me on pain of death.
beforne;
And there-fore, harrode, now hy the in hast, 614
In all spede thatt thow⁴ were dyght
Or thatt those kyngis the cuntrey be past;
Loke thow bryng them all iij before my syght; 617

¹ This and the preceding line as one in S.
² M. Qv. and gent. ³ Suggested by M. ⁴ M. thou.
And in Jerusalem\(^1\) inquire more of that chyld.
But I warne the that thy wordis be mylde,
For there must\(^2\) thow heede and crafte wey[le]\(^3\)
How to for-do his powere; and those ij kyngis shalbe
begild.

**Noncios.** Lorde, I am rodde att youre byddlyng
To sarve the ase my lord and kyng;
For joye there-of, loo, how I spryng
With lyght hart and fresche gamboldyng
Alofte here on this molde !

**Erode.** Then sped the forthe hastely,
And loke that thow beyre the eyvinly ;
And also I pray the hartely
Thatt thow doo comand me
Bothe to yong and olde.\(^4\)

[The messenger goes to the kings.]

**Noncios.** Hayle, syr kyngis, in youre degre ;
Eroed, kyng of these cuntryewis wyde,
Desrith to spyeke with you all thre,
And for youre comyng he dothe abyde.

**Rex.** Syr, att his wyll we be ryght bayne.
Hy us, brethur, vnto thatt lordis place ;
To spyeke with hym we wold be fayne ;
Thatt chyld thatt we seke, he grant us of his
grace !

[They go to Herod.]

**Noncios.** Hayle, lorde with-owt pere !
These iij kyngis here have we broght.

**Erode.** Now welcum, syr kyngis, all in fere ; (103)
But of my breght ble, surs, basche ye noght !

Sir kyngis, ase I vndurstand,
A star hathe gydid you into my land,
Where-in grett harie\(^5\) ye haue fonde
Be reysun of hir beymis breght.

\(^1\) S. Jerusalem, corr. by M.
\(^2\) S. mast, corr. by M.
\(^3\) *Enend. by M.*
\(^4\) *Lines 629-631 as two in S., the first ending with doo.*
\(^5\) *M. changes to harting.*
Wherefore I pray you hartely
The vere truthe that ye wold asertely,
How long yt ys surely
Syn of that star you had furst syght.

1. Rex. Sir kynge, the vere truthe to sey
And forto schoo you ase hit ys best,
This same ys evin the xijth day
Syn yt aperid to vs to be west.1

Erode. Brethur, then ys there no more to sey,
But with hart and wyll kepe ye your jurney
And cum whom by me this same way,
Of your nevis thatt I myght knoo.
You schall tryomfe in this cuntre
And with grett conquorde bankett with me,
And thatt chyld myself then woll I see
And honor hym also.

II. Rex. Sir, youre commandement we woll fullfyll
And humbly abaye owreself there-tyll.2
He thatt wedith all thynge at wyll
The redde way hus teythe,3
Sir kynge, thatt we ma passe your land in pes!
Erode. Yes, and walke softlye eyvin at your one es; 669

Your pace-porte for a C deyis
Here schall you haue of clere cummand,
Owre reme to labur any weyis
Here schall you haue be spesschall grante.

III. Rex. Now fare-well, kyng of hy degre, (104)
Humbly of you owre leyve we take.
Erode. Then adev, sir kyngis all thre;
And whyle I lyve, be bold of me!
There ys nothyng in this cuntre
But for youre one ye schall yt take.

1 1817 Ed. has to us be west, which is probably the original reading.
2 M. Qy. there-to. 3 M. Qy. show.
TWO COVENRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

[Exeunt the three kings.]

Now these ii j kyngis are gon on ther way;
On-wysely and on-wyttely have the all wroghte.
When the cum\(^1\) augeyne, the schall dy that same day,
And thus these vyle wreychis to deyth the schalbe
broght,—
Soche ys my lykyng.
He that agenst my lawis wyl hold,
Be he kyng or keysar seyuer soo bold,
I schall them cast in-to caris cold
And to deyth I schall them bryng.

There Erord goth his wayis and the ii j kyngis cum in
augeyne.

I. Rex. O blessid God, moche ys thy myght!
Where ys this star that gawe vs lyght?\(^6\)

II. Rex. Now knele we downe here in this presence,
Be-sekyng that Lord of hy mangnefecens\(^2\)
That we ma see his hy excellence
Yff that his swct wyl be?\(^3\)

III. Rex. Yondur, brothur, I see the star,
Where-by I kno he ys nott far;
Therefore, lordis, goo we nar
Into this pore place.

There the ii j kyngis gois in-to the jesen, to Mars and hir
child.

I. Rex. Hayle, Lorde thatt all this worlde hath
droght!
Hale, God and man to-gedur in fere! (105)
For thow hast made all thyng of noght,
Albe-yt thatt thow lyist purely here;
A cupe-full [of]\(^4\) golde here I haue the broght;
In toconyng thow art with-out pore.

II. Rex. Hayle be thow, Lorde of hy mangnyffecens\(^5\)
In toconyng of prest[e]h[od]\(^6\) and dyngnete of office,

\(^1\) M. cum. \(^2\) S. mangnefecn, corr. by M.
\(^3\) S. wylbe, corr. by M. \(^4\) Corr. by S.
\(^5\) S. mangnyffecn, corr. by M. \(^6\) So M.
To the I offer a cup-full off insence,
    For yt be-hovith the to haue soche sacrfyce. 708

III. REY. Hayle be thow, Lorde longe lokid fore!
    I haue broght the myre for mortalete,
In to-cunyng thow schalt mankynd restore
    To lyff be thy deth apoñ a tre. 712

MARL. God haue marce, kyngis, of yowre goodnes;
    Be the gydyng of the godhed hidder ar ye sent;
The provyssion1 off my swete sun your weyis whom
    reydres,
And gostely reywarde you for youre present! 716

[As the kings go away, they say:]

I. REY. Syr kyngis, aftur owre promes
    Whome be Erode I mvst nedis goo.

II. REY. Now truly, brethren,2 we can noo las,
    But I am soo for-wachid3 I wott not wat to do. 720

III. REY. Right soo am I; where-fore I you pray,
    Lett all vs rest vs awhole upon this grownd.
I. REY. brothor, your4 seyng ys right well vnto my
    pay.
    The grace of thatt swet chylde saue vs all sownde! 724

[They lie down, and while they sleep, an angel appears.]

ANGELLUS. Kyng of Tawrus, Sir Jeepar,
    Kyng of Arraby, Sir Balthasar,
    Melchor, Kyng of Aginare,
    To you now am I sent. (106) 728

For drede of Eyrode, goo you west whom;
In to those partes when ye cum downe,
Ye schalbe byrrid with gret reynowe;
    The Wholle Gost thy5 knolegye hath sent. [Exit] 733

I. REY. Awake, sir kyngis, I you praye,
    For the voise of an angell I hard in my dreyme.

II. REY. Thatt ys full tru thatt ye do sey,
    For he reyherssid owre names playne. 736

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1 1817 Ed. puyssian.  2 S. berthur, corr. by M.
3 S. far wachid, corr. by M.  4 Contr. for er.  5 S., M. thus.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

III. Rex. He bad that we schuld goo downe be west
For drede of Eyrodis fals be-traye.

1. Rex. Soo forto do, yt ys the best;
The Child that we haue soght, gyde vs the wcy! 740

Now fare-well, the feyrist of schapp so swete!
And thankid be Jesus of his sonde,
Thatt\(^1\) we iiij to-geder soo suddenly schuld mete,
Thatt dwell soo wyde and in straunge lond, 744

And here make owre presentacion
Vnto this kyngis son clensid soo cleyne
And to his moder for owre saluacion;
Of moche myrth now ma we meyne,
Thatt we soo well hath done this obblacion. 749

II. Rex. Now farewell, Sir Jaspar, brothur, to yoeu,
Kyng of Tawrus the most worthe;
Sir Balthasar, also to you I bow;
And I thanke you bothe of youre good cumpay
Thatt we togeddor haue bad. 754
He thatt made vs to mete on hyll,
I thanke hym now and eyuer I wyll;
For now may we goo with-owt yll,
And off owre offerynge be full glad.\(^2\) 758

and the third king.

III. Rex. Now syth that we must nedly goo (107)
For drede of Erode thatt ys soo wrothe,
Now fare-well brothur, and brothur also,
I take my leve here at you bothe
This dey on fete.\(^3\) 763
Now he thatt made vs to mete on playne
And offur\(^4\) to Mare in hir jeseyne,
He geve vs grace in heyvin a-gayne
All to-geyder to mete!

[They go out, and Herod and his train occupy the pageant.]

\(^1\) M. That. \(^2\) S. fayne, *corr. by M.* \(^3\) S. fete, *corr. by M.*
\(^4\) S. offurde, *corr. by M.* \(^5\) M. kyng.
Hayle, the most myghty styst that eyuer bestrod a stede!  
Hayyle, in thyne hoonowre!  
Thesse ii kyngis that forthe were sent  
And schuld have cum ageyne before the here present,  
Anothur wey, lorde, whom the went,  
Contrare to thyne honowre.  

ERODE. A-nothur wey! owt! owt! owtt!  
Hath those fawls traytyrs done me this ded?  
I stampe! I stare! I loke all abowtt!  
Myght I them take, I schuld them bren at a glede!  
I rent! I rawe! and now run I wode!  
A! thatt these velen trayturs hath mard this my mode!  
The schalbe hangid yf I ma cum them to!  

*Here Erode rags in the pagond and in the strete also.*  

E! and thatt kerne of Bedlem, he schalbe ded  
And thus schall I for-do his profece.  

How sey you, sir kynghtes? ys not this the best red,  
Thatt all yong chyldur for this schuld be dede,  
Wyth sworie to be slayne!  
Then schall I, Erod, lyve in lede,  
And all folke me dowe and drede,  
And offfur to me bothe gold, rychesse, and mede;  
Thereto wyll the be full fayne.  

I. MYLES. My lorde, kyng Erode be name,  
Thy wordis aegenst my wyll schalbe;  
To see soo many yong chylde dy ys schame,  
Therefore consell ther-to gettys thou non of me.  

II. MYLES. Well seyd, fello, my trawth I plyght.  
Syr kyng, persayve right well you may,  
Soo grett a morter to see of yong frute  
Wyll make a rysyng in thi noone cuntrey.  

ERODE. A rysyng! Owtt! owt! owtt!  

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1 Corr. by S.  
2 Qy. his profece for-do.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

There Erode ragis agyne and then seyth thus:

Owt! velen wrychis, har apon you I cry!
My wyll viturly loke that yt be wroght,
Or apon a gallowse bothe you schall dy,
Be Mahownde most myghtyste, that me dare hath boght!

1. Myles. Now, cruell Erode, syth we schall do this
dede!
Your wyll nedefully in this realme mvste be wroght;
All the chylder of that age dy the mvst node;
Now with all my myght the schall be vpsogh.

II. Myles. And I well sweyre here apon your byrght
swordes,¹
All the chylder thatt I fynd, sclayne the schalbe;
Thatt make many a moder to wepe and be full sore
aforde ²
In owre armor byrght when the hus see. (109)

Erode. Now you have sworne, forth that ye goo,
And my wyll thatt ye wyrke bothe be day and
nyght,
And then wyll I forayne trypp lyke a doo.
But whan the be ded I warne you bryng ham³
be-fore my syght.

Mutt. ii. 12-15. [Herod and his train go away, and Joseph and Mary are,
while asleep, addressed by an angel.]

Angellus. Mare and Josoff, to you I sey,
Swete word from the Fathur I bryng you full
ryght:

Owt of Bedlem in-to Egype forth goo ye the wey
And with you take the King, full of myght,
For drede of Eroddis rede!

Josoff. A-ryse up, Mare, hastely and sone;
Owre Lordis wyll nedys mvst be done,
Lyke ase the angell vs bad.

¹ M. changes to swerde.
² This line as two in S., the first ending with wepe.
³ M. prints [t]ham.
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS.

MARE. Mekely, Josoff, my none spowse,
Towarde that cuntrey let vs reypeyre;
Att Egyp 1 to sum cun off 1 howse,
God grant hus grace saff to cum there! 829

Here the women 2 cum in wythe there chyldur, syngyn 3 them; and MARE and Josoff goth awrye clynye.

I. WOMAN. I lolle my chylde wondursly swete,
And in my narmis I do pyt kepe,
Be-cawse thatt yt schuld not crye.

II. WOMAN. Thatt babe thatt ys borne in Bedlem,
so meke,
He saue my chylde and me from velany! 834

The mothers hush their babes.

III. WOMAN. Be styll, be styll, my lyttull chylde!
That Lorde of lordis saue bothe the and me! (110)
For Erode hath sworne with wordis wyld
Thatt all yong chyldur sclayne the schalbe. 838

I. MYLES. Sey ye, wyddurde wyvis, whydder ar ye a-wey? 1
What beyre you in youre armis nedis mvest we se.
Yff the be mañ-chyldur, dy the mvest this dey,
For at Eroddis wyll all thyng mvest be. 842

The soldiers will obey Herod's commands.

II. MYLES. And I in handis wonys thef hent,
Them forto sleyn noght woll I spare;
We mvest full-fyll Erodis commandement,
Elis be we asse trayturs and cast all in care. 846

I. WOMAN. Sir knyihtis, of youre curtessee,
Thys dey schame not youre chevaldre,
But on my child 4 haue pytte
For my sake in this styde; 850
For a sympull sclaghtur yt were to sloo
Or to wycke soche a chylde 5 woo,
That can noder speyke nor goo,
Nor neuer harme did. 854

1-1 M. introduces this emend. by Kittredge; S. sum tocun off.
2 M. women. 3 The song (II.) is at the end of the pageant.
4 M. chylde. 5 M. chylde.
II. Woman. He thatt aleyis my chyld in syght,
Yff thatt my strokiis on hym ma lyght,
Be he skwyar or knyght,
    I hold hym but lost.
Se, thow fawls losyngere,
A stroke schalt thow beyre me here
And spare for no cost.

III. Woman. Sytt he neyuer soo hy in saddull,
But I schall make his braynis addull,
    And here with my pott-ladull
With hym woll I fyght.
I schall ley on hym, a[s] thogh I wode were,
With thys same womanly geyre;
There schall noo man steyre,
Wheddr thatt he be kyng or knyght.

[Here they kill the children.]

I. Myles. Who hard eyuer soche a cry
Of wemen thatt there chyldur haue lost,
And grettly reybukyng chewaldry
Throgh-owt this reme in eyuer cost,
Wyche many a mans lyff ys lyke to cost?
For thys grett wreyche that here ys done
I feyre moche wenganche ther-off woll cum.

II. Myles. Ei brothur, soche talis may we not tell;
Where-fore to the kyng lett vs goo,
For he ys lyke to beyre the perell,
Wyche wasse the cawser that we did soo.
Yett must the all be broght hym to
With waynis and wagyns fully fryght;
I tro there wolbe a carefull syght. [They go to Herod.]

They report. I. Myles. Loo! Eyrode, kyng, here mast thow see
How many M' thatt we haue slayne.

II. Myles. And nedis thy wyll full-fyllid must be;
There ma no mon say there-ageyne.

---

1 M. Woman.  2 Contr. for or.
3 S. athog, corr. by M.  4 So M., S. eyueer.
PAGEANT OF THE SHEARMEN AND TAYLORS.

[Enter Nuntius.]

NUNCIOS. Eyrode, kyng, I schall the tell,
   All thy dedis ys cum to noght;
This chylde ys gone in-to Eygipte to dwell.
Loo! sir, in thy none land what wondurs byn
   wrought!

EROD. Into Eygipte! alas, for woo! (112)
   Lengur in lande here I canot abyde;
Saddull my palfrey, for in hast wyll I goo,
   Aftur yondur trayment now wyll I ryde,
   Them for to sloo.
Now all men by fast
   In-to Eygipte in hast!
All thatt cuntrey woll I tast,
   Tyll I ma cum them to.

Fynes lude de taylars and scharmen.

Tys¹ matter / newly correcte be Robert Croo / the
   xiiijth dey of marche / senyschid in the yere of owre Lorde
God / MCCCCC & xxxiiijte. / then beyng mayre mastur
Palmar / also mastris of the seyd fellyschipp Hev Cor-
   bett / Randull Fynkard and / John Baggeley.

These songes (113) / belongs to / the Taylors and Shearemens
Pageant. / The first and the laste the shepheardes sings / and the
second or middlemost the women singe.

THOMAS MAWDYCKE

Die decimo tertio Maij anno domini milllesimo qua-
gentesimo nonagesimo primo. / Praetor fuit Gesta
Couentries D. Mathevs² Richardson, tunc Consul /
Johannes Whitehead et Thomas Grauener.³

SONG I.

As I out rode this enderess night,
Of thre ioli shepheardes I saw a sight,
And all a-bowte there fold a star shone bright;
   They sanget terli terlow;
   So merel the shepheardes ther pipes.

¹ S. T[h]ys.  ² S. Mathaens, corr. by M.  ³ M. C współprac.
Song II.

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,
By by, lully lullay, thou little tyne child,
By by, lully lullay!

O sisters too,
How may we do
For to preserve this day
This pore yongling
For whom we do singe
By by, lully lullay!

Herod, the king,
In his raging,
Chargid he hath this day
His men of might
In his owne sight
All yonge children to slay,—

That wo is me,
Pore child, for thee,
And ever morne and may
For thi parting
Nether say nor singe,
By by, lully lullay.

Song III.

Doun from heaven, from heauen so hie,
Of angeles ther came a great companie,
With mirth and joy and great solemnitye,

The sange terly terlow:
So merel the shepards ther pipes can blow.

---

1 This and the preceding line as one in S.
2 S. say; M. attrib. corr. to Kittredge.
The Pageant of the Weavers

[DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

i. Profeta
ii. Profeta
iii. Profeta
Simeon
Anna
i. Angel
ii. Angel
Claudius
Gabriel
Mary
Joseph
Mary
Jesus
i. Doctor
ii. Doctor
iii. Doctor

In the Prophet Play (Ll. 1-176).

In the Purification (Ll. 177-721).

In the Disputation in the Temple
(Ll. 722-1191.)

PROFETA PRIMUS. Ye grett astronemars now awake, (31) "Strange news! A star has appeared in the east."

With youre famus fatheres of felesyf,

And in-to the oreient reyspecte ye take,

Where nevis and strangis be cum of lately,

Affermyng the seyng of old profecie,

Thatt a star schuld apere

Apon the hyll of Wawse among hus here!

PROFETA. Ye brethur all, then be of good chere,

For those tythings make my lycht!

We haue desirid many a yere

Of thatt star to have a syght,

And spesschalli of that kyng of myght

1 Reprinted from The Presentation in the Temple, A Pageant, as originally represented by the Corporation of Weavers in Coventry. Edinburgh: Printed for the Abbotsford Club, 1836. The editor of this was Thomas Sharp. In the footnotes, S. indicates this edition. H. indicates the edition by Professor F. Holthausen in Anglia, N. F. XIII., 209-50. The MS., with which this text has been collated, belongs to the Clothiers and Broad Weavers' Company of Coventry, and is to be placed among the Corp. MSS. MS. b refers to the fragments of another version printed for the first time in Appendix IV.


3 H. emends to astronomars, many similar changes below.

4 S. youre, H. ye. MS. b. aspecte. H. inserts "of Jacob."

5 S. PROFETA II; so below for prophets, angels, and doctors.

6 S. in wyth, corr. emend. by H.

C. C. PLAYS.

D
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

Of whose cumyng we haue playne warnyng
Be this same star aftur profettis desermyng.1 (32) 14

Yet furthur, I pra2 you for my larnyng,
Lett hus hawe3 sum comeneacion
Of this star be oldd prognostefyng4
How hit apere5 and under whett fassion. 18

1. PROFETA. Sir, aftur a strange deformatacion5
As be atorite reyhers I can;
For this same star be interpretacion
Syngneyth7 the natetve of a man;
As the profett Balam
In his text afarnyth right well,
Seyng: "Orietur stella ex Jacobo, et exsurget homo de Israel." 22

He sayd of Isaco a star schuld springe,
Wyche syngneyth only this same kyng
Thatt amongst vs now ys cum.
And as towchyng the letter folloyng:
Et ipse dominabitur omni generacione. 25

The manner of his birth.

II. PROFETA. Sir, here ma be movid a questeon
Of this nobull prince of soo hi degree,
The wyche of all men schall haue domeeneo,
Vndur what maner borne he schuld be.

1. PROFETA. Ase ye schall here right wonderfulle8
Be devine powar of a virgine pure,
Afarnyng the profeci agenst all nature. (33) 37

II. PROFETA. Where fynde you that in whole scripture
Before progrostefide4 this to be done?

I. PROFETA. Issae the profett wryth full sure,
Ecce virgo concipiet,9 pariet filium! [f. 14]
Balam seyng of the heyvynly wyssedome10

1 H. changes to desermyng; many similar alterations throughout.
2 H. writes pra[y], similarly below in numerous other cases.
3 H. changes w to v; so below in other similar words.
4 Contraction for pro. 5 S. aperi. 6 MS. b. demonstration.
7 S. Syngneyfyn, MS. illegible, MS. b. singneft. 8 S. wonderfull.
9 H. inserts [et]. 10 H. puts this line in the foot-notes.
A man schuld spryng here in Israell,
    The 1 seyd Isayee answeyryng to that questeon ; 2
    Et vocabitur nomen eius Emmanuel.

II. PROFETA. Yet haue I grett marvell,
    How thatt men schuld tell 8
Off such strangis before the fell,
    And man beyng here but a mortall creature. 9
i. PROFETA. Be devine powar, I make you sure,
The sprete of profese to them was sent,
    Soo to subscriye in wholle scripture,
And yeet them-selpe wyster not watt yt ment.

II. PROFETA. Now lande be vnto hym that soche
    knolege sent
Vnto hus wreychis of pore symplecete.
Where he ys Lord and God omnipotent,
    In this hys wyll to make hus preve!
i. PROFETA. Did noth that profett man Malache
Resite vnto hus on this samo wyse
    Thatt the sun of lyff schall spring and arise?
Wyche cawsid Isase to cast up his ies
    Toward heyvin with all his inward syght,
Seyng, “Good Lord, afaryng thy promes,
    Send downe to hus this wonly sun off myght,
Huse to reystore vnto owre right!
Owt of deserte, from the hard stone,
    Isa. H. 5.
Rycomfordyng thi doghtur dwyllying in Sion!”

Also Jaramo, 5 thatt whole moñ,
    Jeremiah’s prophecy.
Seyd in heyvin God schuld make seede,
    Jer. xxxiii. 21 (?)
A greyne off Davith, thatt now ys cum,
    Wyche eyuer in gracys shall spring and spreyde
And  kepe Juda owt off drede
And also Israell sett in surenes,
And he schall make jugementis of rightwesenea.

1 H. emends Th[en].
2 This and the preceding line inverted in H.
3 This and the preceding line as one in H.
4 H. has Where[as]. 5 H. alters to Jarama.
II. PROFETA. I wondre to here you this expres,
    Be actoris hi, this worthe mysterie,
And spesschalle of this virtu rightwessenes,
    Where hit schalbe vsid and in whatt parte.  78

More about the coming of the Messiah.

I. PROFETA. Apon the yarthe bothe with hy and loo
    degree;
    And rightwessenes men schall hym call,  (35)
When he schall cum to sit in the see  [L 3]
    Of King Davit, that most riall stall; 1
    And ther schall he before the pristis all
Of Juda and Leyve be his powar device,
    With nev 2 insence to do sacrifyce.  85
To God aboue for the grett offence
    Of the peple and for 3 yngnorance, 4
With there offeringe to make reycompence
    For the lenage of Adamis progeny.
    This schall this childe by theym free
From all the offencis that the haue done
    Be cruell deyth and bytter passion.  92

Further question about the star.

II. PROFETA. Good 5 sir, yett under produstacion 6
    Owre feyth thereby for to incresse,
Of this star lest hys haue reylacion,
    How hit aperid and vndur whatt fassion,
    Yff hit wold pleyse you for to expressse. 7

I. PROFETA. With diuers streymis of grett
    brightnes,

A child therin of flagrant sweetnes,
    Wyche apon his bake a crosse did beyre,
And of an eygull hit bare the lykenes,
    Beytyng his wyngis into the eyre;
    A woise there-in off lange feyre 8
Thatt wasse hard throgh-owt the cuntrey,

Luke ii. 11.

Seyinge: "Natus est nobis oddie rex Judeorum—ct
    sethere." 9  (36)  105

1 S. of all.  H. omits of all.
2 H. changes v to w; so below in similar words.
3 H. inserts [their].  4 H. inserts [hi].
5 H. God.  6 H. changes to protestacion.
7 H. inserts this and the preceding line.
8 S. lange feyfe; H. has lange fyer.
9 H. corr. [h]odie ... cetera.
II. PROFETA. Of a farthur declaracion I wold you praye, for further question.
Whatt trybus the were and in whatte parte, Twelve lords of Chaldes kept watch.
The were date, and whatt maner a wey 500 years for the star, They haue made probate of this profece.

I. PROFETA. And thatt schall I scho you right eyvedently.
The grett lordis of the land of Caldy Twelve lords of Chaldes kep watch.
Fowndid twelve masturs of asestronomy kept 500 years for
For to se this star apere; the star,
And when these masturs were eylecte,
On the hill of Wawse ther wache the kepte
And the all togedder neuer selepte
Above ix° yere.

II. PROFETA. And dide the soo lone wache that hill? which was a
[I. 86] guide for the three Kings.
I. PROFETA. Ye truly, tyll that hit was this kyngis will
This seyd profece for to fullfyll,
That strange star to send them till,
Whereof the had intellengence;
That aftur the darkones of the nyght
In the day hit schone soo bright,
That when the sun and the stare
In the yeye togeythur warre,
Betwyx them wasse lyttl or non indyfference. Betwyx them wasse lyttl or non indyfference. 127

And soo this stare wasse a serveture
And vnto iij kyngis a playn cundeture
Vnto the mancion of a virgin pure.

II. PROFETA. But ar you sure for whatt intent? The offerings of the Kings.
I. PROFETA. Forsote to Bedlem streyght the went, With grett omage a famus present.
Whereasse the offurd to this childe reverent
With the furst wasse gold, as most myghte kyng;
The seycond wasse myr, asse prist of pristis beyng;
The thryd wasse insence, in tokyning of byrring.

1 H. inserts [on].
2 H. changes to there.
3 H. changes to byrlling.
II. PROFETA. Yet wold I kno the cause speechally,
Whatt movid thee kyngis to cum so hastely,
And whedur the cam oopun or prey.

I. PROFETA. The star broght them throughe eyuerre cuntre;
And eyuer as the cam oopunly,
The dide inquere of those nevis;

Eyuer the axid, "Where ys he
Thatt ys borne for to be
The kyng of Juys?" 1

Therefore lett hus with all ledegene
Vnto that chyld geve honowre and reyuernce, (38)
And thatt we ma cum vnto his presence
To haue fruysion of his hi deyit[e].
And, brother, I thank ye of yore pacynce;
For now att thys tymde departhe wyll wee.

Exeunt. 2

II. PROFETA. Now, brother, for your swete sentence,
Att all tymes welcum to me—

Loo! fryndis, there may you see
How God in man workith alwey.
Now all we that his servandis be [2.1]
Hathe grett cause in hym to jote,
Wyche seyndyth hus kneolyge the truth to sey;
And he soo meroculosly wyryng therwith
Thatt of all saycretts we wryte the were pyth;
Wherefore moche cause haue we to make myrth,
When we reymembur the gloreose birthe
Of this virgyns sun.
He the Seconde Person in the Trenete
Eyquall with his Fathur in deyite
And under the curteyne of owre vmanete,
For hus wold man becum.

Wherefore, here I exsorte you all,
That in this place here asemblyde be,
Vnto this chyldre for merce cawll,

1 This and preceding line as one in S., corr. by H.
2 Stage-direction omitted in S. Speech of second prophet begins at line 155 in S.
3 H. inserts [dare].
4 H. changes to wyte.
5 H. omits And.
Wyche schall reydeeme vs apone a tre.
And thatt gloreose blys thatt we ma see,
Wyche he hathe ordenide for all men
In his selesteall place to be
\[ \text{In secula seculorum, amen!} \]

Heres Semon intrythe and the last profett goth the ouett.

Semon. The seylesteall Soferent, owre by Gode eternall!
Wyche of this meravelus world ys the fowndatur,
And create\(^1\) the hy heyvins his one see emperell
With sun, monn and staris, yorthe,\(^2\) sky and watter\(^3\)—
And al for the sustenance of owre vmayne nature—
With fysche, fowl, best, and eyuere othyr thyng,
Vndur hus to haue the naturlwr owre and beyng.

Yet owre formere parence at the begynnynge
Throgh dyssobeydence had a grevoase fawll
From the hy pales and blys eyuerlastyng
Downe into this\(^4\) wale\(^5\) off\(^6\) meserabull mvndall;
For the wyche transgression all we ar now mortall,
Thatt before wasse infinit for eyuer to remayne
And now schall take yend\(^7\) be deyth and cruell payne.

Wyche grevoise sorro ofte dothe me constrayne
Inwardly to syghe and byttur teyris to wepe,
Tyll thatt I reymembur the grett comforde ageyne
Of anceant profetis with ther sentons swete, \(r.30\)
Whose fructus syence of profownde larnyng depe
In there awturs aperith to hus right manefestly,
Of Isase, Sobellam,\(^8\) Balam, and Malache.

O Lorde of lordis! In hart beseke I the,
Of this infinite worke to send me the tru lyght.

---

\(^1\) H. omits And and writes Create[d].
\(^2\) S. thorte. H. changes to for the.
\(^3\) S. matter.
\(^4\) Omitted in S.
\(^5\) H. changes to vile.
\(^6\) So MS. b.
\(^7\) S. thend.
\(^8\) MS. b. has the Sebellis.
Truly to expownde this seye wholle professe;
And also of that kyng that I ma haue a syght, (40) 201
And that we ma walke in his weyis uppright,¹
The wyche be reydemcion schall hus all reyle,
At whose cumyng the tru ovncion of Juda schall seye.

Now, Lord, fulfyll that th hy tyme of pes!
For age draith me fast apone.
Fayn wold I see that th holles of thollenes,
Or this mortall lyff fro me were gone.
Now, Lorde, ase thow art iiij in won,
Grant me grace, yff that thy wyl² be,
In my nold age that syght for to see!

Then at thy wyll, Lorde, fayn wyld I be,
Yff thow soche grace woldist me sende,
To loove the, Lorde, with all vmelyte,
And soe of my lyff then to make an ende!
Yett, Lorde, thi grace to me now extende,
Suffur me rathur yett to lyve in peyne
Then to dy, or thatt I thatt solam syght haue seye! 218


Here Anne cumyth in to Semoon and seythe:

ANE. O sufferent Semoon! With all solenmote,
Thatt of owre golose tempull hath the govern-
ance,
With all dev reuerance here bescke I the
Thi³ olde frynde in God to haue in reymem-
burance,
The wyche hathe tirred be a long contenvance
For the comyng of the right Messee,
Wyche hathe byn promysyd vnto hus be profese.  225

O Lorde! thogh that I be nothynges worthe
To see the fassion of thi most presseose pytore,
Yett, Lorde, asepte me of thi grett marce,  (41)

¹ This line supplied from MS. b.
² H. insertis [hit]. ³ H. writes thi[n].
PAGEANT OF THE WEAVERS.

Asse thy pore serwond and feythfull creature.
To se the, Lorde, yff that I myght be sure,
No lenger on groud wold I reyquere
In this mortall lyff to contenev here. [44] 232

SIMION. O feythfull frynde and louer dere!
To you this text ofte haue I tolde,
That the lyght of Leye amonge vs here
In Israell schuld be bough and sold;
Asse avnceant profetis hereof hathe told,
That in this lande here he schuld make surenes,
And he to be cawld the Kyng of Pes. 239

Asse Isace hymselfe herein to wyttynes,
"In facie popolorum," this did he sey,
"Cum venerit sanctus sanctorum cessabit unctio vestra."
And soo when owre ryght blod schall seyse,
Moche virtu and grace then schall increse
With hy jugementis of rightwesse
Amongst hus evyn here in Israell. 246

ANE. Yff that I myght abyde that dey,
Thatt wholle off wholleis for to see
Wyche thatt I haue desyrid allwey,
In this worlde1 well were me.
Now, Lord, and yff thy wyll hit be,
Grant me my hoope, longe lokid fore;
Then joie nor welthe kepe I no more. (42) 253

SIMION. Now, Ane, systur and dere frynde,
Lett hus bothe with a whole intent
In thyss tru feyth owre lyvys yend,
Lawdyng thatt Lorde wyche ys omnipotent;
Wherefore I thynke hyt full expedytente2
In conteniall preyar for to indure,
To kno therby his graceose plesure. 260

ANE. O sofferent Semeon! Thi famus consell
Inwardely gladyth me in my hart.
No-thyngh contentythy my mynd soo well,
Wherefore at this tyme woll we departe. 264

1 H. inserts [so].
2 S. expedytente. H. changes to expedyent; so other similar words.
SIMEON. Now, Anse, syth that ye wol hence nodeth
Vnto the tempull with all speedeth [r. 42]
Owre Lordis wyll for to abyde,
That Lord of lordis be thy gyde
And sendes the that wyche thou lovist most;
Bothe heyleth and bote for the provyde,
Where-eyeuer thou gooo in any cost! 271

Anse goes out.

Fryndis, now ys hit tyme to prey.
Before that I my rest do take,
My custome hath yt byn alwey,
Asse long asse eyeuer I am awake,
Intersession vnto that Lorde to make
Of hym to obteyne all my reyquest,
And then full peysable to take my rest. 278

His prayer.

Now, Lorde, that madist all thyng of noght,
Both heyn and hell and eyuer creature,
Asse thow knoist myn inwarde thoght,
Reyncomforde [me] when hit ys thy plesure;
For I do covett no more treysure
Then the tyme of thy naytevete
With my mortall yees thatt I myght se. 285

But asse thow wolt, Lorde, all thyng must be,
And reysun hit ys thatt hit be soo;
My wyll therto schall eyuer agre.
My wholle desyre now dost thou kno.
Or thatt I vnto slepe do goo,
I commytt my warkis with all the circumstance
Wholly vnto thy lawis and ordonance. 292

There Semoen settyts hym downe to rest, asse hit were, and
the Angell seythe to hym:

1 S. yede. H. changes to rede and inserts [I] before it.
2 Changed by a later hand to heyth.
3 Omitting in S.
4 Supplied by H.
5 So H., S. sendyght.
With the, hys frind, a solame metyng; [44]
Hys blessid bode vnto thi kepyng
Within schort tymte schal be broght,
And here in thy tempull thow schalte be soght. 299

SEMEON. Lorde, whence cam this solam noyse (44)
That awoke me here soo suddenly?
My spretis therwith did soo rejoyse,
Thatt no lenger slope cowlde I.
Me-thoght he sayde right perfettly,
Thatt solam Sufferent that I schulde see
And haue hym here in my custode. 306

II. ANGELL. Semeon, thatth Lorde in Trenete
Whom thow hast desirid to see alwey
At thy tempull offurde schal be
Vnto thy honde this same day;
Therefore spede in all thatt thow may,
That the tempull in ordur be
This prynce to reyseyve with all vmelete. 313

[Exeunt the two angels.]

SIMEON. Now, Lorde of lordis, thankis be to the! These gloriose tythyngis that here be tole
In my hart soo gladith me
Thatt I am lyghter a M folde
Then eyuer I wasse before. 318
Therefore wyll I1 with al my myght
To se my tempull soo pressecoosly pyght
In gorgis araye thatt hyt be dyght
This prynce for to ownowre.2 322

Thare Semeon gothe to his Clarks and seyth:

Now, frynys all, be of good chere,
And to owre tempull draw we nere;
Soche solam nevis now I here,
Thatt all my spretis dothe glade. 326
Thatt babe ys borne of dyngnete
Thatt we soo long hathe desirid to see,

1 H. inserts [spede]. 2 H. has [h]onowre, similarly below.
Oure Lord and Kyng\(^1\) most myghte,
Thatt all this world\(^2\) made.

CLARECUS. Now blessid mot that lorde\(^3\) be,
Thatt dey and owre thatt we schall see
His gloryose bodde in Trenete,
Thatt flowre that neuer schall fade!\(^3\)

SEMEO\(N\). No lenger, Surs, lett vs abyde,
But to the tempull with all spede
To reysewe the Sauseower of this world wyde \(f.5\sb{a}\)
And hym to serve with lowe and drede!
Now, Sirs, loke thatt ye take good hede
To wayte and serve with all deleence,
His grace to ownoure with humble reuerence!

CLARECUS. To serve a prync of soche magneffecens,
Sir, I wasse neuer wont there-to.
Sythe ye therin hathe more intellenge,
Instructe me, Sir, how that I schuld do,
Lest thatt I do offende;
For rathur then I wolde hym greive,
Thatt Lord on whom I do beleve,—
Yett had I leyuer my-self reymeve
Vnto the worldis yende.

SEMEO\(N\). Sith thatt ye for knoleyge dothe make sute,
Your wyttis the better do I reypute.
With humble hartis and\(^4\) meke,
Won of hus must holde the lyght
Ande the othur the sacrefyce;
And I on kneis, asse byt ys right,
The office to exseraye
Vnto thatt babe soo swette.

CLARECUS. Then hast we this alter to araye
And clothis off onowre theron to laye
Ande the grownde straw we with flowris gay
Thatt of oddur swetely smellis.

\(^1\) H. *inserts [that]. \(^2\) H. *inserts [hath]. \(^3\) H. *has lord[ingle]. \(^4\) H. *inserts [ful].
SHEMEON. And when he aprochis nere this place,
Syng then with me thatt conyng hasse
And the othyr the mayne space
For joie ryngye ye the bellis.  \textit{Cantant.} 1  366

\textit{There Semeon and his Clarkes gothe up to the tempull and
Gabereill cumyth to the tempull dore and seyth: \textit{[Mary
and Joseph with the child have occupied the front part
of the pageant.]}}

\textit{Luke ii. 22-25.}

GABEREIL. Hayle, Mare, meke and myld!  \textit{(47)}
The virtu in the schall neyuer fade.
Hayle, meydyn, and thy chylde,
Thatt all this world 2 made!

370

Thy stylesteall Fadur wyche ys omnipotent
Of his 3 ambassaye hethur hath me sent
Unto the, lade and virgyn reyuerent,
\textit{With thy sun, owre heyni\textit{\^} Kyngye!}  374
Unto the tempull thatt thou schuldist goo,
And to whyt turtuls with the also,
And present the chyld and them to,
\textit{All iij of them in offerynge.}  378
Spede you forth thatt ye were gone!
But leyve not ye 4 wold Josoff at whome;
For nedely, lade, he myst be won
\textit{In this sacrefyce doyng.}  382

MARE. \textit{With\^} hart and wyll hit schal be done
In pleysing of that fathur of myght.
Thydur wyll I bothe hastely and sone
And take [with] 5 me my child soo byrght.  386

GABEREILL. \textit{Then to Josoff goo ye full right,
And make hym preve of this case.}
Byd hym hast \textit{that} he were dyght
To gyd you theddur into that place.
Now rest well, Mare, with moche solas!  \textit{(48)}
\textit{For I myst thiddur asse I cam froo.}  392

\textit{[Gabriel goes out.]}

1 \textit{This song (I.) is at the end of the pageant.}  \textit{2 H. inserts [hath].}
\textit{3 S. this.}  \textit{4 H. changes to the.}  \textit{5 So H.}
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

MARE. He thatt ys ande eyuer wasse
   Be thy gyde where-euer thow goo,
And send hus all¹ of his grace!
   I pray here knelynge hit ma be soo.

[Addresses Jesus.]

She addresses
Jesus.

Now, cum heddur to me, my darlyng dere,
My myrthe, my joie, and al my chere!
Swetter then eyuer wasse blossum² on brere!
   Thy swete mowthe thew wyll I kis.
Now, Lorde of lordis, be owre gide,
Where-eyuer we walke in cuntreyis wyde,
And these to turtuls for hus provide
   Off them thatt we do nott mys!

Here Mare goth to Josoff and seyis:

and tells
Joseph of the
command.

Rest well, Josoff, my spouse soo free!

Josoff. Now welcum, Mare! Dame, whatt say yee?

MARE. Swet nevis, husebond, I bring to thee;
The angell of God with me hath be
   To geve hus bothe warneyng,
Thatt you and I with a whole intent,
Aftur the law thatt here ys ment,
Schuld in the tempull owre chyld present
   In Jerusalem, ther to make offeryng.

(49) 413

He is ready
to go.

Josoff. Now, Mare, thatt wull I neuer deny;
But aftur my powar for to apply
And thatt you kno, dame, ass well asse [I]³;
   You neuer cawll but I am reddy.
MARE. Now, husebond, ye speyke full gentylle;
   Therfore loke, Josoff, and ye cold spy
To turtyll dowis, how thatt we myght cum ny:
   For nedely turtullis offer mvst we;
   Thatt offeryng fawlyth for owre degre.

Josoff. Nay, nay, Mare, thatt wol not be.

Indeed he
will not.

Myne age ys soche, I ma not well see;
There schall noo duffus⁴ be soght for me,
   Also God me saue!⁵

¹ H. inserts [the gift].
² MS. (1) blossom. It is often difficult to differentiate the scribe’s e’s and o’s, and o’s and a’s.
³ Supplied by S.
⁴ Contraction for us.
⁵ H. adds [so fre].
MARE. Swette Josoff, fullfyll ye owre Lordis hestes.
Josoff. Why and woldist th[o]u haue me to hunt
bridis nestis?  
I pray the hartely, dame, leve thosse jestis
And talke of thatt wol be.
For, dame, wol I neuer vast my wyttis,
To wayte or pry where the wodkoe syttis;  (50)
Nor to jubbard among the merle pyttis,
— For thatt wasse neyuer my gyse.
Now am I wold and ma not well goo:
A small twyge wold me ouerthroo;
And yche were wors lyggyd aloo,
Full yll then schulde I ryse.  438

MARE. Ye hardely, Josoff, do nott drede!
Owre Lorde wyll quyte right well youre mede,
And att all tymes be youre spede,
And further you in youre viage.  442
Josoff. Ey! dame, ey! God helpe hus all!
Me-thyuke youre meymore were small,
On me soo whomly eyuer to call:
You mynde nothynge myne age
But the weykist gothe eyuer to the walle;
Therefore go thyself, dame; for me thou schall,2
Ye, or ellis get the a newe page.

MARE. Husebande, these be no womens dedis;
Therefore, Josoff, ye must forthe nedis;
For surely there ys no reymedy.
Josoff. Noo remedy then but I must goo?  [5.7]  
Now be my trowthye,3 I ma tell you,
Thosse tythingis ar but cold.  455
Then nedis myste thatt nedis schall;
And now he thatt ma worst of all
The candyll ys lyke to holde.

MARE. Now, gentyll Josoff, when wyll ye goo
To make an ende of this owre juryne?  

1 H. writes veré.  2 H. supposes that a line is here omitted.
3 See note on line 399.
complaining of his lot in having married a young thing.

JOSSOF. That shal be or I have any lust thereto
And that dare I boldly sey.

How sey ye all this company
Thatt be woddid asse well asse I?
I wene that ye suffur moche woo;
For he thatt weddyth a yonge thyng
Myst fullfyll all hir byddyng,
Or els ma he his handis wryng,
Or watur his iis when he wold syng;
And thatt all you do knoo.

MARE. Why sey ye soo, sir? Ye be to blame.
JOSSOF. Dame, all this company wyll sey the same.
Ys itt not soo? Speyke, men, for schame!
Tell you the trothes asse you well con!
For the that wolle natt there wyffis plese
Ofte-tymis schall suffur moche dysees;
Therefore I holde hym well at es
Thatt hathe to doo with non.

MARE. Leyve of these gawdis for my lowe;
And goo for these fowlys, Sir, I you pray.
The Fadur of heyvin thatt ys abowe
Wyll spedye you well in youre jurney.

JOSSOF. No reymede but I myst forthe nede.
Now owre Lord grant me well for to spedye!
Loo! feyre wordis full ofte doth leyde
Men cleyne agen there mynd.
Now, Lorde God, thow sende me feyre weddur,
And thatt I ma fynd those fowlis togeddur,
Whytt or blake, I care nott wheddur,
So thatt I ma them fynde!

MARE. Full well schaill you spedye hardely,
Yff thatt ye goo abowt hytt wylllyngly.
JOSSOF. Then I woll goo by and by,
Thogh hit be not full hastely.
With all my hart I wol goo spy,

1 So H., S. thereta.  2 MS. and S. full.  3 MS. then.  4 S. Thoght.
Yff any be in my wey,
I wyll them fynd and I may,
Or thatt I make an ende.

MARE. Now that Lorde, thatt best may,
He be your speed in youre journey,
Ande good tythyngis of you me send !

Josoff. Yea, he thatt hath soche on on hym to craue
He schal be sure, asse God me sawe,
Eyuer the worse yend of the staff to haue,
Att the lattur yend.

Here Josoff goth from Mare and scyth:

I wandur about myself alone,
Turtulis or dowis can I non see.
Now, Kyng of heyvin, thow amend my mone ;
For I tro I seke not where the be !

My myght, my strenght ys worno fro me ;
For age I am waxun almost blynd.
Those fowlys the ar full far fro me
And were yvill for me to fynde.

I loke fast and nerer the nere ;
My wynd for feynt ys allmost gone.

Lord, benedissete ! What make I here
Among these beggis myself alone ?

For-were I ma no lenguor stond ;
These buskis the teyre me on eyuere syde.
Here woll I sytt apson this londe,
Oure Lordis wyll for to abyde.

1. ANGELL. Arse vp, Josoff, and take no thoighth (54)
For these to fowlys thatt thow hast soght.
Evyn to thy hond I haue them bright,
And therefore be off good chere.

Take them here bothe to
And ageyne to Mare thy wyff thow goo
Yn all the hast thatt hit be doo ;
Thow tarre noo lenguor here !

1 This and the preceding line as one in S. and MS.
2 H. inserts [so].
3 H. prints to have with the following line.
4 Qy. into the street.
5 So H., S. [me] frome.
C. C. PLAYS.
O! lawde be vnto thatt Lorde soo excellent
For those to fowlis thatt I haue soght!

Fullfyllid now ys myn intent;
My hart ys evyn asse yt oght,¹
All care fro me ys past,
Now thatt Mare my wyff these birddis had!²
For to make birc hart asse glad³
To hir wyll I in hast.  [Returns to Mary.]  537

Now rest well, Mare, my none darlyng!
Loo! dame, I haue done thy byddying
And broght these dowis for oure offeryng;
Here be the bothe alyve.
Womon, haue them in thy bonde,
I am full glade I haue them⁴ fond.
Am not I a good husbonde?
Ye! dame, soo mot I thryve!

Now, the Fathur of heynvin that ys above,
He quyrt you, Josoff, for this dede;  (55)
And furthur I pray you for my lowe,
Vnto the tempull lett vs make spede!  549

Ey! bloo a whyle, dame, I the pray!
For soft and essele men goo far.
I haue laburde all this day;
Yett am I vere lyttull the nar.
I tro thatt I schall noynor be war.
Soo full of feyre wordis these wemen be,
Thatt men theerto must nedis agre;
And therefore, dame, alsoo mote I the.
Aftur my labur fayne wolde I rest;

Therefore goo thyselfe thow schalt for me,
Or tarre att whome wheddur thou thynkist beste. 560

Na, swet hussbond, ye do well kno
To goo alone ys not for me;
Wherefore, good sir, I pray you soo
Thatt I ma haue your cumpany.  564

¹ Manly's suggestion. S. and MS. have wold be; H. has wold be [thoght].
² As two lines in H., first ending with wyff; he adds the words [as fast].
³ H. substitutes blith.
⁴ Bracketed in H.
PAGEANT OF THE WEAVERS.

JOSEPH. Loo! fryndis, here ma you knoo
The maner of my wyff ys soo,
Thatt wthyr nedis mvest I goo,
Whedur I wyll or nyll.
Now ys nott this a cumburs lyff
Loo! aye, whatt ytt ys to haue a wyff!
Yett had I leyuer, nor to live in stryff,
Apply evyn to hir wyll.

For syth that here ys no remede,
Take vp youre chylde, I sey, Mare,
And walke we togedur fayre and essele
And soo to stynt all strywe;
And I woll trusse vp thys gere,
For I se well I mvest hit beyre.
At Jerusalem I wold all ye were,
Also mote I thrive.

MARE. There schall we be when God wyll,
For at his plesure all thyng mvest be.

JOSEPH. Dame, and thatt ys bothe theysun and skill;
Sett forward then and let me see.

[They continue in the front part of the pageant as if making a journey. An angel appears in the temple.]

II. ANGEL. Awake, Semeon, and drede the noght!
In all the hast thatt eyuer ma be,
And reysyve that Lord thatt all hathe wroght,
With hym his modur Mare.

Make spedel, Semoen, thath sowere were dyght
To reysyve thath chylde with all thy myght
Now schalt sowere see the blessidst syght
Thatt eyuer sowere didist see.

SEMEON. O Lord of lordis! this solam noyse
From the Maker of heayvin and hell,
My hart therewith soo dide reynoise,
Thatt the myrth the roff can noo tong tell,
Nor hand with pen subscreybe.

1 H. inserts [dare]. 2 H. writes cumburs; so similar words below.
3 S. omits; H. writes [I]. 4 H. omits And.
5 H. changes to we.
6 S. Also.
7 Line in later hand, Also well that ye thrive; line as printed by S. canceled but legible.
I thanke *that* Lorde and Kyng of myght,
Thogh all my lust throgh age be worene,
Thatt I schall see this gloreose syght.
Blessid be the owre that thow wast borne,
This dey *that* eyuer I do abide.

Now to reyseve this Kyng of pes
Thatt owt of dangyr schall hus reles.
Owre hy merrettis schall he inres
In joiye abundantly;
For here kepe I no more blis,
But thatt he marke me¹ for won of his,
And then whan his swete wyll² ys,
Am I evyn redde to dy.

Now, Clarkis, cum forth and do your offeres,
And this awter hastily *that* ye aray;
For here schal be the solamyst sacrefyce
Thatt eyuer wasse seyne in Juda.

Make sure, fryndis, and³ all thatt ye may
Thatt ordur be hade in eyueres place.

Clarrrous. *Now* that Lord of lordis thatt best may
To do oure devtyes he grant vs grace!

And for to plese hym to his paye
Sey al you *Deo gracias*.

*All is ready.*
Loo! mastur⁴ bothe man and⁵ place
Be all rede at your byddynge.

Semeon. Then, surs, cum forthe⁶ apase
And myrrel the bellis ryng.

Ane, systur, goo ye⁷ with me
For to reseyve that prince of onowre
And hym to welcum reuerently,
Ase of this world lorde and gouernoure.

Anne. *Now*, fathur Semeon, I am obeydentt,
Youre graceose pleysure for to obey.
To serve that Lorde wyche ys omnipotent,
Lett vs goo mete hym on the way.

¹ H. brackets me and puts it before marke. ² H. inserts [hit].
³ H. changes to in. ⁴ H. inserts [now].
⁵ H. inserts [with me']. ⁶ H. inserts [also].
CLARECUS.  Mastur, now ar the belliis rong
    And rede att hond ys eyuere thyng.
SEMÆON.  Then lett me see with hart and tonge.
How myrrely that ye can synge.  Cantant.  636

Here the cum doune with presession⁴ to mete them:

MARE.  Heyle, suffuuent Semeon so good!
    My semely-sun here I bryng to the 
(59)
To offr hym vp in flesche and blode,
    Asse be the law he ought to be.  640
SEMÆON.  Now, wholle Mare and Josoff also,
    Ye be ryght welcum vnto this place;
For of God ar ye blessid bothe to
    Thatt hath you grondid in soche grace:
        And ye, Josoff, of soo grett age 645
Thatt soche a babe forth can bryng,
    In whom all owre reydemcion dothe hyng,
And offf this worlde ys lorde and kyng;
    This² wase a graceose mareage.  649

Josoff.  Now gentill bysschope, I the pray,
Evyn the verre truth thow woldist me sey,
Ys nott this a prette bewey
    Asse eyuer thow hast knone?  653
Now, be hym that made both heyvin and hell,
This lyttull myte I lowe as well,
    Asse thogh he were myn oone!  656.

MARE.  Reyseyve [him], Semeon, with good chere;
    The law⁴ wyll hit schall so be,  660
For wyche cause I bryng hym here;
        Here in thi hondis take hym the.
SEMÆON.  Now welcum, Lord of honowr!  65
    Now welcum, Prince, vnto this place!  66
Welcum, owre sufficient Saweowre!  7

¹ H. writes presession.  ² S. and MS. Thus.  ³ So H.
⁴ H. inserts [hit].
⁵ S. prints vnto my hand, which is written on an erasure; a
    smudged and obliterated termination of the line has what looks like
    of honowr.
⁶ S. omits of honowr from end of this line; it is in different ink
    and above.  ⁷ H. inverts sufficient and Saweowre.
Welcum, the Growndr of owre grace!
    Welcum, owre joie! welcum, owre myrthe!
Welcum, owre gracesese Gouernowre!
Welcum to huse, thatt heyvinly flowre!
Now, blessid be the day and owre
    2Of thy golosee byrthe!

Anne's wel-
come.
ANE. Now welcum, Kyng of kingis all!
    Now welcum, Maker of all mankynd!
Welcum to huse, bothe grett and small!
    Good Lord, thy servandis now haue in mynd
    Thatt longe hath levid here,
    In clenes pure without offence,
    With grett desyris for to be hence;
    But now the syght of thy presence
    Hath amendid all owre chere.

The clerk's
welcome.
CLARECUS. Now welcum, Lord, vnto all huse,
    Thi none tru servandis, as reysun ys!
Welcum, owre God and Kyng of blys,
    Owre Lorde, longe lokid fore!
All the profettis thatt of the spake
    Seyd thow schuldist, for owre sake,
    Fleysche and blod of a meydyn take
    (61)
    Owre joyes to restore.

Simeon re-
ceives the
Child and
begins his
prayer.
SEMISON. On, on with me, my fryndis dere,
    With this chylde thatt we haue here,
    Of this worlde the lanterne clere
    Of whom all lyght schall spryng!
    With hoole harte, now lett hus praise!
    Thatt owre and tyme now blese we may
    That eyuer we abode the day
    Of this chyldis comynge.

Cantant. 694

Here Semon goth to the autere with the chylde in hys
    arms and seyth:
Now art thou cum, Lorde, to my honde,
    Thogh thatt I onworthes were;
Yett, Lorde, forgeve thi pore servandis—

1 MS. velcum; H. omits this word.  2 H. here inserts [Child].
3 H. supposes that a line is omitted here.  4 Qy. [Song II.]
5 MS. repeats SEMISON.  6 Folio 10 is missing.
[MARE.] Whyle\(^1\) the weddur ys sooy feyre; [L. 11] And I woll cum aftur sasse I may,
    For now att whome I wolde we wyre. 700

JOSOFF. To\(^1\) goo before now I woll asaye,
    Thogh thatt my fetemansci\(^2\) be not full gaye.
I pray God spede vs in oure jurnye;
    For I schall be were or thatt I cum there. 704

*There Mare and Josoff departis out of the upper parte of the pagand.*

SEMONE. Loo \(\text{fryndis, how God for vs hathe wroght,}
    And schode hymself here at this tylde!
Blessid mot he be in word and thought,
    \(3\)Myghtefull Maker of thy\([a]\)\(^4\) world wyde! 708

I wasse lame of fote and hand,
    And now am whole ase ye ma see.
I thanke thatt\(^5\) Lord of his sond,
    And eyuer his servande wyll I be,
    Thatt Lorde soo moche of myght. 713
Now, Lorde of lordis that hath no pere,
    Wyche att this tyme wase offurd here,
    Sende you all the fuysson cler
    Of his hevinly macion soo bryght! 717

CLAREOUS. And of owre mys he amend vs,
    And from owre foys\(^6\) defend vs,
    And\(^7\) his hy trone he send vs,
    *In secula seculorum, amen! 721

*Here goth Semeon and his Clarkis out of the tempull.\(^8\)*
    * * * * * * *
    * * * [Mary and Joseph enter the lower front-part of the pageant.]

JOSOFF. Now, Mare, my wyff here present,
    Vnto [God]\(^9\) myche bondon, dame, ar we (63)
Thatt soo goodly a childe here hath vs sent;
    In this world a feyrrear ther canott be. 725

MARE. I thanke that Lord omnipotent,
    For yt dothe me good hym for to see;

\(^1\) Repeated in MS. \(^2\) H. changes to fote. \(^3\) H. insert [The]. \(^4\) Emend. by S. \(^5\) H. inserts [hi]. \(^6\) H. insert [he]. \(^7\) H. inserts [to]. \(^8\) Presentation in the Temple ends and Doctors' Play begins. \(^9\) Emend. by H.
Wherefore, Josoff, I wold he went
Vnto Jerusalem with you and me.

For now he ys xij yere of age,
Full well reyconieth ma be,
Of lymbys he waxith feyre and large,
And moche he desyrith cympane.

Josoff. Now, dame, he ys a prette page
And, as ye sey, full well cum on.

I kno non soche on of hys age;
I pra God make hym a right good mon.

Mare. Now, Jesus, my son, with you whatth chere?
Whatth m[y]cht be make ye, chyld, this dey?
Thow art he thatt I love moost dere,
My joie, my myrthe and all my pley!

Jesus. I thanke you, my modur, in all thatt I may;
And at youre hand, I am here
To do you serves, bothe nyght and dey,
And redde alwey to make you chere.

Now, Gods blysayng haue you and myne!

Josoff. Loo! fryndis, here doth apere,
Yt ys cyrly sparc thatt wol be thorne.

How glad he ys his modr to pleyse!
And euyer hathe byn syth he wasse borne.
Thogh thatt my vthe frome me be borne,
Yet in his dedis I have moche joie;
For, in feythe, he woll preve evin a prette bwey.

Cum, my sun, well mot thou thee!
Thow schalt to Jerusalem with thi modur and me,
Sum goodly syghtis, sun, for to see
Apon this owre fostefawll dey.

Mare. Now truly, Josoff, as ye sey,
And merely for to pase forthe the wey,
Sum vertuus company I wold we had.

---

1 S. Jhu here and below.  
2 Corr. by S.  
3 Deleted in MS.; glee substituted in later hand, Mawdycke's (!).  
4 This line in parentheses in S.; in footnotes in H.; in contemporaneous hand but different ink and in margin in MS.  
5 H. inserts [dere].  
6 H. omits evin.  
7 S. thriv thee; H. changes to yoe.
Josoff. Ye, dame, God shal be owre gyde. 1

Dame, I kepe noo moo but evyn this lad;
For you nor I canot be sade
Thatt day that we hym see. 1
Mary, you kno thiat I am olde,
And in cunpany canot be soo bolde,
Asse I waase wont to be; (65) 767

Therefore, Mare, leyde ye the wey
And essely lett vs togeddr goo;
Thogh yt be far furth on the day,
Yett all be owre fryndis I dare wel sey,
And neuer a won owre foo.
Mare. Now, God hold 2 thatt wyche best may; 3
And, gentylle Josoff, lett vs goo!
Be the hand the chylde wyll I leyde;
I trust the bettur for to spede,
Ande ye, 4 Josoff, alsoo.

Josoff. Ye dame, lett hym goo before ye and me, 5
And 6 be nothyng afayde! 7
For the best foteman of hus thre, 8
In good feyth, dame, thatt ys hee,
Yff he were well assaye. 782

Jesus. I am full redde with you to goo
At your bydding in weyle and woo,
And to do you serve bothe to,
In hart with all mekenes. 786
Cum on, my mothur, and drede ye noght;
And on your journey, see you oght,
The Fadur of heyvin that all hat[h] 7 wroght,
He kepe you from dystres! (66) 790

Josoff. Now, thys ys wyttelte sayde and wyll! 8 791

1 This line in parentheses in S.; in footnotes in H.; as 746 in MS.  
2 H. changes to wold.  
3 H. inserts [rede].  
4 So H., S. yo.  
5 S. ends line with goo and retains hardly after Ye; H. adds [fre]; MS. has in margin as 746: Ye, dame, let hym goo before ye and me.  
6 H. inserts [Mare].  
7 Corr. by S.  
8 H. changes to wall; line in margin as 746.
the prosperity of children.

Now, Lord, when I to mynde do call
In the when I was were small,
   Many wyntures agone,—
    Lord God, *benedicete* !
Yong chyldur now more wyser be,
Nor wase then an olde mon.

[They set out and travel a while.]

The journey.

Mare. Now welcum be owre Lordis soun !
Therefore cum on, gentyll husband,
The sytte ys evyn at owre honde ;
   Good cumpany there ma we fynd.
Josoff. Ey! ey! dame, in feyth, I can noo more ;
My leggis byn were, my fete be soore.
That man that canot goo before
   Nedis mvst cum behynd.

*THERE the all goo up to the awter and Jesus before. The syng an antem.*

Now, Mare, my wyff, cum hethur to me !
   (Now, Mare, harke what I shall say !)\(^1\)
All thynge ys done as yt schuld be
And *serves* song full sollamle
   For this owre festefawll dey.
Mare. Now, husebad, then lett vs iiij
   Make the hast that\(^2\) ma be
Whom to goo with cumpane
   To bryng vs on the wey !

Luke ii. 45-51. *THERE the goo done into the for pagond and Jesus steiyth away.*

Josoff. Mare, my spretis be ravisschid cleyne,
And clerely cast owt off all woo
With these solam syghtys thatt we haue seyne
   In yondur tempull that we cam froo.
Mare. Now, serten, Josoff, you wold not wene [l. 18]
   Whatt myrthe I make without \(^3\) woo,
Thatt my chylde with hus hathe bene
   And those solam syghtis seyne alseoo.

\(^1\) *This line is entirely omitted in H.; in margin as 746.  \
\(^2\) H. inserts "made."  \
\(^3\) H. writes without[en].
PAGEANT OF THE WEAVERS.  

JOSOFF. Then whomwarde,¹ Mare, lett vs goo.² Whyle thatt we haue the lyght off the day; For you haue eyuer lovid cumpany, For yt dothe schorttun well youre wey.  826

Yett in good owre we ma bothe sey, For othur did we neyuer fynde.
MARE. Alas! Josoff, and well-awey! Now haue we lefte owre chyld behynd. (68) 830

JOSOFF. Whatt! Mare, I sey amend thy chere! Parly! dame, he dothe but as othur done; Chyldur togedur woll draw nere, He woll I warrand ouertake vs sone.  834

MARE. Ouertake vs sone? quotha nay! sertes na! Whatt nede you me soche talis to tell? He ys gon sum othur wey, Or serten, Josoff, he ys not well.  838

JOSOFF. Dame, he ys nott far awey. From vs no man wyll hym wytle.
MARE. Hyt helpyth not, Josoff, soche wordis to sey; My chylde ys gone, alas the whyle!  842

JOSOFF. We schall haue [hym],³ dame, or hit be longe, Yff we serche well yondur sytte; Sum chyldur there he ys amonge, Or elis surely whomwarde ys he.
MARE. Off sorro now schal be my songe, My chylde ageyne tyll I ma see. (69) 848

JOSOFF. Dame, of his welfare I wold be glade, And of the othur I wolde be woo; Therefore, Mare, no more be sade, But agene to the sytte lett vs goo.  852

MARE.⁴ Make hast, Josoff, thatt we were thare; For had I neuer more lust thereto.
Bake agane lett vs reypeyro; For thatt ys best for vs to do.  856

Here Mare and Josoff goth downe into the tempull-warde. [f. 13]

¹ S. homwarde.  ² H. substitutes the original word [hye].  ³ Supplied by S.  ⁴ So H., S. JOSOFF, mar. in MS.
i. **Doctor.** Now, lordynge, lystyn to me a whyle;
Wyche hathe the lawis vndur honde,
And that no man fawll in socche perell
Agenst any artyeull for to stand;
For the comes statute of this lande
Wyll that all socche personys schulde be tane
And in the face of⁴ peple oopenly slayn. 863

ii. **Doctor.** E! and the othur whole decryis ageyne,
Wyche vnto Meyes wonly wasse sent
In tabulis of ston only to reymayne
Vndur an hy and streyte cummandement,
Wyche at thys tymes we thynke convenent (70)
There-upo to holde dyssepyssions⁵ here
Be polatike syence of clarge clere. 870

ili. **Doctor.** Wherefore, all peple, now draw nere
And in this place gewe your stendence.
How ye schulde lyve, here ma you lere
Acordyng vnto your aleygence;
For yt ys well knone vnto thys presence
Thatt doctoris we ar aud⁶ of hy degre,
And hauye the lawis in custode. 877

The law of Moses.

i. **Doctor.** Ley forth youre reysonis; now lett me see
How lawe⁷ of leygence oght to be lade,
Wyche of the Ebruys subscribyd be
With othur of Meyes that now ys hade.
To contend herein I wold be glade
Amonge the peple here manefestly,
And the truthes expound⁸ to them oopinly. 884

[Jesus comes in.]

\[Peace be among this company!\]

**Jesus.** Lordis, moche lowe with you be lent,
And pes be amonge this company!

\[Run away!\]

iii. **Doctor.** Sun, awe I wold thow went,
For othur haft⁹ in hand hauye we. 888

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¹ H. inserts [*the*].
² H. has dysept[aj]sions; *similarly below.*
³ H. has lawe[s].
⁴ S. expoundid, H. *amends* [were] expundid.
⁵ So H., S. and MS. hast.
II. Doctor. Chylde, who-soo-eyuer the hyddur sent,
The were not wyse thus warnes I the;
For we haue othir talis to tent,
Then with chyldur bordyng to bee.

I. Doctor. Good sun, thow art to yonge to lerne
The hy mystere of Moses law;
Thy rysun canot yt deserne,
For thy wytt ys\(^1\) not worthe a strawe;
And no marvell thoug thou shuldist be rawe,
In soche hy poyntis for to be rysonyng
For of age art thow a vere yonglyng.

Jesus. E! Surs, what-soo-eyuer to me you sey,
Me nedith not of you to lerne nothyng.

II. Doctor. This besse bweise\(^2\) of his tong
All secretis surely he thynkith he knoys.

III. Doctor. Nay, serten, sun, thow art to yonge
Be clarge cler to kno owre lawis.

Jesus. Ye doctoris all, thatt be present,
Suffyece and mve no more off me;
For off your lawis the wholl intent,
No-thynge theroff ys hyde froo me;
For in those placis haue I be
Where all owre lawis furst were wroght.

I. Doctor. Cum, sett the here and we schall see!

For sarten, sun, soo semys yt noght.

There the Doctoris settyth Crysst among them.

Now were yt nott a wondurs thyng,
Thys chylde owre reysuns that he schuld reych\(^3\)
And yet he seyth he hath a felyng
Owre lawis truly for to teychye.

Jesus. Suris,\(^4\) the whoole goste in me hath lyght,
Thatt my powar ys to preychye;
And of the Godhed most of myght
Most perfettly here ma I teychye.

\(^1\) S. wyttys, H. insert [sr].
\(^2\) H. insert [proud].
\(^3\) H. [Doctor II.], S. [Doctors].
\(^4\) S. Syria.
III. Doctor. Whence cam thys chylde, I marvell sore of thyne
thatt speykyth to vs this mystecawilly?
Jesus. Surs, I wasse all you before
And after you agen schal be.

1. Doctor. Surs, ye not this a wondurs thyng, (73)
And also a moche more mervell;
How be yt, surely, in his workynge,
The actis thereof ma follo right well;
For as Daui th in his salme dothe tell,
Be chyldur yong, seyng of them,
Ex ore infancium et lactansium perfecta laudem. 932
Of chyldurs mothys, ye kno right well,
God hath performyde loving;
But of such on hard I never tell,
He beyng but soo yong a thyng. 936

Yett Jesus had spoken too freedly;
Yett, sun, sum whath thew schuldest haue let
In this place here to speyke so large;
Where nobull doctors togeddurr are met,
There chyldurs wordis ar at no charge.

he cannot know their law.
For sure, yff thow woldist never so fayne,
Labur thi wyttis to lerne owre lawe;
Yett art thow nodur of myght nor mayne
To perseyve thatt ase a clark ma knoe.

Jesus will not debar the truth
by silence.
Iesus. My wordis in soo wyse wol I reyfrayne,
The tawthathe thereby for to debarre;
I woll them prove both platt and playne
Be youre one lawis, and never arrre.

II. Doctor. Mastur[s] all, what ma this mayne?
I wondur score how this can be;
Soo yong a chylde haue I nott seyne
With clarkis to talke soo conyngle.

Astonishment.
Soo yong a chylde haue I nott seyne
With clarkis to talke soo conyngle.

III. Doctor. As wyde in wor[1]de asse eyuer I went,
Saw I neyuer non soche before;
But I troo amonst vs he be sent
To be the saluer of owre sore.

1 Later hand puts iij.
2 MS. infanciom.
3 H. inserts [him].
4 Corr. by S.
PAGEANT OF THE WEAVERS.

Iesus. Suris, I woll prove be actoris evident
Har mysteres than eyuer you red or saw.

I. Doctor. Sey, sun, wyche wasse the furst com-
mandement
Thatt wasse subscribyd in Moses lawe? 960

Iesus. Sythe all you masturs togethur be sett
And youre bokys here leyde on breyde,
Ley forthe youre reysunis and do nott lett
How right that ye can rede. 964

II. Doctor. I rede this in the furst byddynge,
Wyche Moses dyd rede vs vntill,
Furst honor God aboue all thyng
With all thy hartt and all thy wyll,
And asse thy-self love thy neybur (75)
And in noo wyse to do hym yll. 970

Iesus. Ye rede noo nodur bokis to bryng;
But these to pwntis for to insey,
In whome the whole afecte doth hynge
Of all owre lawis bothe olde and nev. 974

III. Doctor. Syth he these to, son, hath the schoide,
Tell me the othur, chylde, I the pra.
Iesus. The thryd beddith the, in any wey, [T. 14 a]
Thatt of thy labur thow schuldyst reste,
And truly kepe thy Sabett day,
Thy-selfe, thi serwande, and thy best. 980

The forthe bydithe the do thy best
Thy fathur and mother for to honowre;
And when ther goodis are decrest,
With all thy myght thow schuldist them succure. 984

The fytte commandythe the for any reygar
Man nor woman that thou schuldist kyll.
To fie advltre ys anothure,6
And all that towchis any yll. 988

1 H. changes to is. 2 H. changes to teche. 3 H. has ufffecte.
4 H. has [y]wr. 5 H. has [The fourthe beddith, the alderbest].
6 S. another.
The vijth seyis thow schuldyst nott steyle
Thy neyburis goodis, more nor les.
The viijth forbyldyth the to cownsayle
Or to bare any faws wyttines.

The ixth forbyldyth othys grett,
In any wise thow schuldist nott swyere.
The lust wold thow schuldist no[t]1 covett
Thy neyburis goodis, hym to apere;2
And this Moses, amonge vs here,3
Hathe declarid amonge all men,
Aftur scripture that we schulde lero,4
How to kepe these commandementis X.

1. Doctor. Beholde, owre lawis how he dothe expownde,
   Thatt nuer larny5 on boke to rede!
   Then all we, he ys moche more profownde
   In all trawthis, yff we take heede.

2. Doctor. Brother, lett hym goo his weyis;
   For yff this abrode were knone perfethly,
The pepole wold geve him more prese
   Then we doctor for all owre clarge.

3. Doctor. Ye fryndis bothe, syth yt is soo,
   He knois no7 farthur of owre lore;
   But aso he cum soo let hym goo,
   For with vs he schall medyll no more.

There cumyth Josseff and Mars sekyng the chyld and Mare seyth:

MARE. A! dere Josseff, whatt ys youre rede?
   Of my grett dolor noo bote ma be ;
   My hart ys hevye as any leyd,
   My chyld ageyne tyll I ma see.
   We hauo hym soght in many a stede,
      Vp and downe these dayis iij;
   And whaythur that he be quyke or deel,
   I do not kno thatt; woo ys mee!

1 Corr. by H. 2 H. changes to impere. 3 S. omits two half lines: amonge all men, / Aftur scripture. 4 H. changes to ken. 5 So II. 6 H. writes us. 7 H. changes to mo.
PAGEANT OF THE WEAVERS.

Josoff. In sorro wasse there neyuer man more,
    But mornyng ma nott ytt amend;
Mare, wyff, lett vs therefore
    Take the grace that God woll send. 1024

Yff chyldurs cunpany he haue coght,
    Abowt yondur tempull he ys full right.
[They turn toward the temple.]
Mare. A ! Josoff, I see that I haue soght!
    In this worldly wasse neuer soche a syght. 1028
See, husebond, where he syttyth aloft
    Amongs yondur masturs soo moche off myght.
Josoff. Now blessid be hym1 thatt hethur vs broght,
    For now in hart I am full lyght! 1032

Mare. Josoff, ye kno the ordur well,
    Goo ye and feyche youre chylde and myne.
Now I see hym owt of all peryll, 78
    Whom he schall with vs semyne.2
Josoff. Ey ! Mare, wyff, ye kno ryght well,
    Asse I haue tolde you many a tyme,
With men of myght durst I neyuer mell.
    Loo ! dame, how the sytt in there furis fyn! 1040

Mare. To them youre arand for to say,
    Therein, Josoff, ther ys no perell;
The haue reygardid you alwey
    Because of age, this wott I well. 1044
Josoff. To them, wyff, what schulde I sey?
    In feythe, I do nott knoo full wele.
Surely, I schall be schamyde to-dey;
    For I cane nothur croke3 nor knele. 1048

Mare. Then goo we theddur bothe to
    To them that sytt soo worthie in wede;
Yff ye woll not the arrande doo,
    No reymedy but I must nede. 1052

1 H. changes to he. 2 H. substitutes go hyne.
3 S. troke, corr. emend. by H.
C. C. PLAYS.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

JOSOPH. E! dame, goo tell them thi tale first;
     For lyke thou art to do thatt dede.  (79)
I wold tell mynde and I durst,
   [I come be-hynde] also God me spede. ¹
   [They go up toward the altar.] ¹

MARY reproaches JESUS.

MARE. A! JESUS, JESUS, my sun soo swete, ¹ [v. 15a]
     Thy gooyng froo me soo suddenly
     Hathe cawaid vs bothe for to wepe
     With byttur teyris abundantly.  ¹
     Thyn olde fathur here and I
     For thy sake, sun, hath the lykyd full yll.
     Owre yis the were but seldum dry,
     But now thatt we ar cum the tyll.

JESUS. Modur, why did you seek me soo? ¹
     Hyt hath the byn oft seyde vnto you,²
     My Fathurs wyll I mvst fullfyll
     In eyuer³ pwynt, for well or woo.⁴

MARE. Sun, these talis thatt you me tell
     Aso yet I cannot undurstand;
     But my hart, this kno I well,
     Ys were glade I haue the fonde. ¹

   1. DOCTOR. Now truly, dame, no mervell ys
     Thogh thow in hart were full woo
     To lose soche a chyride asse this.  (80)
     How long, wyff, hathe he byn thee froo? ¹

MARE. Syr, yt ys now these dayis iij,
     Synth that he departid furs fro me;
     I am full [glade]⁵ here hym to see
     Alyve withowt⁶ woo.  ¹

JESUS bids farewell to the doctors.

JESUS. Now farewell, masturs of myght and mayne!
   For with my modur now must I nede
   For to reyscomford hyr aseyne,
   Wyche soo longe for me hath levid in drede.  ¹

¹ Bracketed words supplied from Y 248; following this line is MS. a line erased and illegible: My place... this tym... behynd.
² H. writes you until.
³ Contraction for or.
⁴ H. rearranges according to Y and T: My fathurs wyll for well or woo / In eyuer[y] pwynt I must fullfyll.
⁵ Corr. by S.
⁶ H. writes withowt[en].
PAGEANT OF THE WEAVERS.

1. DOCTOR. Now thatt Lorde of lوردis be thy spede, They invite him to stay.

Where-eyuer thow goo in any quest!¹
But yff thow wolt tarre, thow schalt² not nede
Any more to put thy fryndis to cost.³

III. DOCTOR. How saylst thow, fathur, for thy
goo[d]⁴ wyll,
Wolt thow grant thi help thyre-tyll, [t. 16]
Awey thatt he do not goo ?
JosOFF. Noo, Sir, in good feyth, that I nyll,
Nor neyuer forgoo hym be my wyll,
Nodur for frynde nor foo.

A long whyle we have hym myst,
And gone he wasse, or thatt I wyst;
But hade I hym wonis be the fyst,
He schall noo more doo soo !

MARRe. Now, lordyngis, of your curtesse,
Do⁵ ye nott wyll my chylde fro me ;
For with my wyll yt schall nott be,
Whyle thatt owre lyvis last.

I. DOCTOR. Then yt is noo bote for to intreyte,
Thy chylde I see I cannot gete ;
I tro yt be wast to speyke,
Thatt tyme I thinke ys past.

IESUS. Now lordyngis all, with youre lysence,
Good tyme yt ys thatt we were hence;
I thanke [you]⁶ of youre hy sapence
Thatt I with you haue hade.

II. DOCTOR. Now, sun, when-eyuer thow cumyst this
wey,
Be bold of hus, I the praye.⁷
Yff thow to age lyve may,
Thy fryndis ma be full glade.

MARRe. Now farewell, lordis of hy degre !
I take my leyve at you all three ;
Thatt Lorde thatt ys in Trenete,
He kepe you all from care !

¹ H. alters to sheet. ² So H., S. schult; MS. vowel illegible.
³ H. alters to quest. ⁴ Corr. by S. ⁵ So H., S. De.
⁶ Supplied by S. ⁷ Contraction for ra.
TWO COVENTRY CORPUS CHRISTI PLAYS.

JOSOFF. And for the fyndyng of thisoure sun, ¹

In heavynis blyss thatt we² ma wonë,³
And geue you well to fare. ¹¹²¹

Now, cum on, Mare, with myrrre chere,
And brynge youre chylde with you here;
At Nazareth the now I wold wee weyre.
MARE. Sir, in good tyme wee schall cum there;
The wy and weddur and all ys fayre,
Whereoff am I right fayne. ¹¹²⁷

JOSOFF. In this place whyle we ar here, ¹¹³⁰
Loke thatt we haue all owre gere,
Thatt we cum nott agayne.

MARE. Josooffe, husebonde, we myse nothyng;⁴
But at youre wyll let vs be gooyng
Asse fast ase eyuer we can. ¹¹³³
Ande now att all this cumpany,
My leyve I take and thatt full humbly; ¹¹³⁷
Vnto thatt Lorde most myghty
Now I betake you eyuere mon.

JOSOFF. Now farewell, my fryndis all!
For I mvst goo whatt-eyuer befall;
Nedis mvst thatt nedis schall,
Be me here may you kno. ¹¹⁴¹
A! thatt all you ma vse thatt weyis,
At all tymis youre wyvis to pleyse;
Then schall you awoide moche dysees.
God grant thatt you ma do soo! ¹¹⁴⁵

[They go out.]

1. DOCTOR. Now, ye lordis thatt hathe the lawis to

Marke well the wordis thatt hathe byn seyde
Be youndur chylde of wysedome grete, ¹¹⁴⁸

¹ A line seems here to be omitted. ² H. changes to ye.
³ H. supposes the line omitted here.
⁴ H. supposes that a line is here omitted.
Wyche at this tyme amonge vs here
Declarid owre lawis be clarge clere,
Wyche be his actis dothe aper,

That of God he ys eylecte!

II. Doctor. Now surely yt can no nothur be,
For he ys nott leyng that eyuer see
Soch hy knolegge of exselence

In soo tendur vthe;

For in owre moste hyist dysspcionis,
To them he gawe tru solyssionys,
And also made exposysionis

Acording to the truthe.

III. Doctor. Ys not thyss a wondurs case,
Thatt theis yonge chylde soche knolege hase?
Now surely he hath asposschall grace,

Soo hy dowties deserneyng;

Thatt we wyche nobull docturs be,
And gradudis gret of old3 antequete,
And4 now on this place with yonge5 infance

Agyeyn ar sett to larnyng.

I. Doctor. Now, bredur6 bothe, be my consell
These myghtte matters you sett on syde,
And in avoidyng of more perell

Thatt here-apon myght betyde;
Therefore lett vs no lengur abyde

In these cawis for to contende,
For this day ys almost at an yende.

II. Doctor. Now, brethur bothe, syth yt ys soo,
Ase vere nature dothe me compell,
Here my trowthe I plyght you to

In hart for eyuer with you to dwell.

III. Doctor. Now, masturs all, be won assent,
All owre matters reyjurnyd be,
Tyll thatt a dey of argument

1 H. writes dysspulfajcions.  2 H. writes a spesschall.
3 H. omits old.  4 H. omits And.  5 H. omits yonge.
6 S. brodur.
Ma be apwyntyd indyfferentle;
Where all you, the comenalt,
You ma departe on this condyssion,
Thatt ye atende at the next monyssion. 1186

1. Doctor. Now, fryndis, tochyng owre festefall dey,
Ys there oght els that I ma sey?

1190

2. Doctor. No more now, but evyn awyev,
For the nyght drawis fast apon.

3. Doctor. And of youre cumpny I wold you pra.
And here I take my leve at eyuere mon. 1192

Tys matter nevly translate be Robert Croo in the
yere of oure Lord God Mvxxiii, then beyng meyre
Mastur Palmar, beddar; and Rychard Smythe and
[Here] Pyxley masturs of the Wewars; thys boke
yendide the seycond day of Marche in yere above seyde.

[Song I.] 6
[T. 17a]

Thomas Mawdycke. (86)

Rejoyce, rejoyce, all that here be!
The Angell these tythyn[g] hath browght,
That Simion, before he dye,
Shalle se the Lorde which all hathe browght; 4

Wherefore now let vs all prepare
Owre temple that yn order be!
For he hathe put away owre care,
The Seconde Persone in Trinitye.
Rychard. 8

[Song II.] 7

Beholde, now hit ys come to pase,
That manye yeres before was tolde,
How that Christ, owre ryght Messyas,
By Jwlas scholde be bowght and solde! 4

1 H. transposes all and you.
2 H. inserts [teche] and ends sentence with this line.
3 So H.
4 Supplied by S.
5 H. inserts [the].
6 In late hand.
7 In contemporaneous hand, but unlike MS.
8 S. how.
For owre offence he man became,
    His fathers wrathe to pacyfye,
And after, mekely as a lamb,
    Vpon the crose there dyd he dye.  

O Lorde! as thou hast bowght vs¹ all,
    And suffryd at Mownt Callverye,
Recownfort vs¹ bothe gret and small,
    That yn thy trewh we lyve and dye!

James Hewyt.

¹ Contraction for us.
Appendix I.

Extracts from the Coventry Letc Book. 1

1424 (Oct. 25). Wevers . . . Item. Arbitrati sunt et ordinamurant quod dicti jorneymen et eorum quilibet solvet dictis magistris annuatim in futuro quatuor denarios ad opus de le pagant cum, et quod ipsi le jorneymen habeant cum magistris suis potencion sive collectionem [sicut] ante consuerunt, etc. 5

—f. 27.

1427 8 (Conv. St. Paul). Hit is to bave in mynde that at a lete holde atte fast seynt Mich. the yer off kyng Herre the sixt the wij the snythes of Coventre put up a bille foloweng in these wordes: To you ful worship full meire, recordour, bayles, and to all your discrute counsell shawen to you the craft of symthes how thei were discharged of the cotelers pachand be a lete in the tyme of John Gote then meire, and quyntances made betwene the forseid craftes eder to eder, lik as hit is well known and redy for to showe, and nowe lathe Giles Allesley in his office of myrallte preyed the forseid craft of Smythes to tak the governance of the seid pachand as for his tyme and no forthr. And the seid craft did hit wilfully to his plesaunce for the whiche cause the forseid pachand is yetu put to the forseid craft, and thei han no maner of dute to tak hit to hem; wyche thei besche the ye of your grete goodnes discharge the forseid craft of snythes of the pachand atte romance of God and of truthes, and ordre hit elles where ye han better avisad be your good discrssion.

The whiche bill 2 be the avis of all the wurthy of the seid lete and all eder upon the same lete been was onsered and ende[r]ed in this wise: Hit is ordenyed that the snythes shall 3 ocupie the seid pachand forthe every yeru upon the payne of xii to be payd at every defaute to the use of the chambr.—f. 45 b.

1434 (E.). The ordre that the saddlers and the peynours of the city of Coventre be fro this tymas forward contrebory unto the poynt of the cardemakers; and that they paye as the cardes—

1 A Calendar of Books, Charters, etc., in the Muniment-room of St. Mary's Hall, Coventry, J. C. Jeaffreson. Coventry, 1896. A 3. Lec Books (of 8 Hen. V. . . . 1 and 2 Philip and Mary. Most of the following extracts are given or referred to in Sharp's Dissertation, pp. 4, 8-11, 43-5. Insignificant variations from Sharp's text have not been noted. (E.) Easter Letc. (M.) Michaelmas Letc.

2 MS. bill.

3 MS. shall.
APPENDIX I.

makers don yerly uppon the payne of C s to be payd to the use of the chamburles.—f. 88 b.

1435 (M.). Thei will that the carpyneters be associate unto the tilers and pynners to mayten her paygent and her lyvery that now 5 is; and that the maior call the substance of the carpyneters and sett him to-gether as one felaushipe.—f. 82 b.

1441 (E.). Ordinatum est quod Robertus Greene et omnes alii qui ludunt in festo Corporis Xpisti bene et suficierent ludant, ita quod nulla impedicio fiat in aliquo loco sub pena xx s cuiuslibet 10 deficientis ad usus muros levanda per majorem et camararios, etc.—f. 102 b.

1443-4 (C.S.P.). For-also moche as the crafe of cardemakers, sadelers, masons, and peyntours of the cite of Coventre be long tyme y-past haue byn as oone felaunship in beryng costys charges 15 and all other duties of old tyme to ther paygent and to the said felaunship longyng. And now late that is to say in the tyme of Ric. Braytoft maior of the said cite, the said felaunship for cernet causes among hem movyd wer lyke to departe and to breke the felaunship wherfor cernet persons of the said crafe, shemyng to the 20 maiour the causes of ther grevance, besought hym in this manner to sett due remedye. And so by goodly leysur the maior, callyng a-fore hym and his counseil all the said hoole felaunship, rehersid unto them the grousse complayntes that wer made to hym by cernet persons of the said felaunship. The for-namyd felaunship 25 willyng to be ruled compromytte hem to abyde the rule and ordynaunc of the meyr and his counseil. And so by advyse of the said meyr and his counseil, hit is ordeynyd that the said iij crafe of shalbe oone felaunship beryng costes, charges, and all other duties to her paygent and to ther felaunship longyng. And that thei shall 30 yerely chose new masturs a-pon saunt Thomas day in Xmas weke in the forme and maner folowyng: That is to say, ther shalbe of every of the said crafys iij men in a place consuette within the said cite; and ther in in the fest of Saynt Thomas thai shall chose of every of the said iij crafe of oone master for the yer folowyng.

And if so be that any of the said crafe a moneth afore the said fest be reasonable cause unfayned may excuse hym that thei may not be at that eleccion of the masturs at the said feste. That then the crafe or the crafys that may nott be ther shall bryng in iij menys names of the crafe that may nott be ther at the eleccion and what-soever the iij personnes with other that shalbe a-pon the eleccion doo, thei that ben away to agre thereto, and also sone as the masturs be chosen that same day or thei departe the new masturs so chosen shall take that consuett othe. And allso every person of the said crafys shall pay yerely to the masturs xijd and all other 45 duties, customes, and launfull charges that long to the paygent and to the said felaunship and all money that shalbe reryd [b] for

1 MS. of of.
makyng of new brethren or els in other wais to the craftes renued, as hit is gadered hit shalbe put in a comen box ther to be kepte to the use of the said felauship and to the wurship of this cite. Also every mastur of the said iiiij craftes shall haue due correc-
cion of of his own crafte of all the prize poynts that long to his crafte, without medalyng or entermettyng of any other craftys. Also that ther shall no man of the said iiiij craftes play in no pagent on Corpus Xpi. day save onely in the pagent of his own crafte, without he have lycence of the maior that shalbe for the yer. All-
so that every man that hath any money of forfeotts that have byn 10 made or els money for makyng of brodren afore this tymes in the said crafte that hit be brought in be-twen this and the fest of All Saynts next comyng, and that to the maior. And also that all the masturs of the said felauship that have not accompted a-fore this tymes that they mak ther accompte be-twene this and the fest 15 of All Saynts next comyng and all the arerage, if any be, that hit be brought in the same day and dalyveryd unto the comen box. And also that all masturs that now byn and all the masturs of the said felauship that shalbe herafter yerle, shall make ther accompte, every mastur for his tymes at the fest of 20 Estur. Provdyed allwey that the crafte of masons, ne none of hem, shall not be charged to com to noo buryeng, weddyng, ne offring of the said craftes on workedaie. And who of the said felliship disobeith this ordynaunce, or forsettyth in any of them, shall pay at every forfeett x li to the maior of the cite of Coventre, 25 that tymes beyng withouten any grace.

Nomina consilij maioris in hoc casu: (list).—f. 109 a and b.

1457. (The king came to Coventry on) Fryday the xj of Fevyere the yere reynyng of kyng Herry the xij the xxxvi th . . . The quene (margin). On Corpus Xpisti yeveyn at nyght then 30 next suyng came the quene (Margaret) from Kelyngworth to Coventre; at which tymse she wold not be met, but came prively to se the play there on the morowe; and she sygh then alle the pagenes pleyde save domes-daye, which myght not be pleyde for lak of daye. And she was loged at Richard Wodes the grocer, 35 where Ric. Sharp some-tyme dwelde; and there all the pleys were furst pleyde. At which tymse the meyre and his brethren sende unto her a present which was siche as here suyyn: That is to wit, ccc paynemaynes, a pipe of rede wyne, a dosyn capons of haut greece, a dosyn of grete fat pykes, a grete panyer-full of pese- 40 codes and another panyer full of pipyns and orynges and ij cofyns of conffetys and a pot of grene gynger. And there were with her then these lorde and ladyses that here folowen: That is to sey, the duke of Bukkyngham and my lady his wyff and all ther childern, the lord Revers and my lady hys wyff, the lady of 45 Shrowesbery the elder, and the lady of Shrowesbery the younger, with other mony moo lorde and ladyes. And the Friday then next suyng she remewe to Colshull to her mete and so to Eculsale
to the prynce; at which tyme the seid meire and his brethern
with right a good feliship of the seid cite, which plesid her highnes
right well, brought her to the utmost syde of theyre franchise
where hit plesyd her to gyff them grete thank bothe for theyre
5 present and theyre gentyill attendaunce.—f. 173 b.

1460 (E.). Also hit is ordeyned that every craft that hath
pagant to pley in, that the pagant be made redy and brought furth
to pley, uppon the peyn of C s to be reased of iiiij maisters of the
crafts that so offend.—f. 182.

10 1474 (E.). Hit is ordeyned at this present leete that every crafte
with-in this cite com with their pageants accordyng as hit haith
byn of olde tyme, and to com with their procesions and ridynys
also, when the byn required by the meir for the worship of this
cite [upon the] peyne of xli. at every defalte.—f. 227 b.

15 1493 (Apr.). Also hit was ordeyned at this present lete that
the tallowe chaundelers shuld be unyed unto the craft of smythes,
accordyng as hit hath be ordeyned be lete aforetyme, which they
nowe conferme uppon the peyn of every singler persone of the
seid tallowe chaundelers that refuse this order nowe comfirmed to
20 lese C s to this city, and his body to prison till he so will do.—f.
270 b.

1493 (Oct.). It. They ordeyned at this lete that the chaund-
ellers shuld pay yerely to the smythes ijs towards their paitent.—
f. 271.

25 1494 (Apr.). Also hit is ordeyned, as hath be ordeyned and en-
acted be dyvers letes in tymes past, that the chaundelers and cooks
of this cite shall be contributory to the smythes of this cite and to
pay yerely towards the charge of ther preste and pageant, every
chaundeler and cooke ijs; every man faylyng of such payement
30 to lese at every tyme x ijs and to have enprisonment till he paye the
seid ijs with the arrerages in that partie, if eny be, and the seid
peyed; the mair for the tyme beynge to hawe a noble thereof,
and the craft of smythes another noble, and iiij nobles to the
wardeyns of the cite to the use of the cite. Provided that no
35 such persone which their wyfe occupie making and sellyng of
candell be constrayned to be master or keper with the smythes in
no wyse.—f. 272 b.

1494 (Apr.). For-asmocche as the unyte and amyte of all citees
and comenalees is principally atteyned and contynued be due
40 ministration of justice and pollytyk guydyng of the same; for-
saying that no persone be apprised nor put to forther charge than
he convenyntly may bere and that every persone withoute favor
be contributory after his substance and facultees that he useth to
every charge had and growyng for the welth and worship of the
45 hole city; and whereso it is in this cite of Coventre that divers
charges have been continued tymse oute of mynde for the worship of
the same, as pagants and such other, whicche have been borne be
dyvers crafts whicch crafts at the begynnyng of such charges were
more welthy, rich, and moo in nombre then nowe be, as openly appereth; for whiche cause they nowe be not of power to continue the seid charges without relief and comfort be shewed to them in that partie; and inasmoch as there be dyvers crafts in this cite that be not charged with like charges; as dyers, skynners, fysshe-5 mongers, cappers, corvisers, bochers, and dyvers other. Therfor hit is ordeyned be this present lette that the mayre and viij of his councell have auctorite to call all the seid crafts and other that be not charged for the seid charges and them to adioyn to such crafts as be ouercharged with the forseid pagants uppon peynes be 10 hym and his seid councell to be sette. And if ey persone refuse such unyon and contribucions, or such reasonable mease to be taken be the discreson of the seid mayre and his councell, such persone so refusing to forset and paye such peyn in that partie so tobe sette be the seid mayre and his councell. And that such 15 reasonable mease in the premisses so to be taken be the seid mayre and his councell to be of like force and effect as yf it had be made at the present lete.—f. 273.

1494 (M.). Where hit was ordeyned at the laste lette that such crafts that were not contributory to the crafts as bere yerely 20 charge in this cite to the worship of the same shuld be unyed and adioyned to the crafts so charged be the discreson of the maire and his councell, which ordenaunce hath not be put in execucion caused be dyvers self-willed persone whiche be their willes wold obbye no other rule ne ordre but after their owne willes grounded without reason, which may not be suffred yf this cite shulde prosper and contynue in welth. Hit is therfore ordeyned at this present lette that all maner crafts and persone occupying ony craftes within this cite not beying charged to ony yerely charge that is had and made in this cite for the worship 30 of the same, as paiants and such other, that they, betwixt this and the fest of Seynt Martyn next comyng, of their towad-lovyng disposicion applye them-self to joyn and unye themself or to be contributory to other craft that is charged, as is forseid, in relief of their charge; which their so doyng shall principally please 35 God and contynue the gode name and fame that this cite hath had in tymes past. And that every craft and persone that woll not of their goode willes be the seid fest applye them to such unyon as is aforerehered, that then such persone and craftes that refus-5 yng obbye, stand, and performe suche order and direction of the 40 maire and his councell in that partie to be ordred and made, uppon the peyn of every persone and craft that disobeith to lose at the first refusell C s, at the ijde x li, and at the iiijde xx marc.—f. 273 b.

1494 (M.). Also it is ordeyned, at the same lette, at the 45 request of the inhabitants dwellyng in Goseford strete, that the pageants yerely frohe nfurther be sette and stonde at the place there of olde tyme used and lymyt appoynted, uppon payn of
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every craft that doth to the contrary to lose at every default vj's viij d to the use of the cite to be levyed and paide.—f. 273 b.

1494-5 (Jan. 12). Memorandum. That the feliship and mys-tery of bochers in Coventre, remembryng the ordenaunce lately made be auctorite of lette for contribucion to be had and made be such crafts as be not charged to such ordinary charges and costs as be yerely made and boren for the worship of this cite, callyng also to theyr mynde the olde acquyntaunce and anyte that of

10 long tyme hath be and contynued, be measne of entercours and of bying and sellyng, betwixt them and the feliship of whittawers, whoch be overcharged to the charges above rehearsed; and for their relief in the premisses, at Coventre aforesaid the xijth day of Januare the xth yere of the reign of our soveraign lord king

15 Henre vijth in the presence of Robt. Grene then beyng maire, were aegreeable and ther graunted to bere and pay yerely frothensfurth to the said feliship of whittawers towards the yerely charge of their painant as long as they there shalbe charged with the said painant xvj s viij d be the hands of the kepere and maisters of the

20 seid feliship of bochers to be paide to the kepere and masters of the seid feliship of whittawers yerely iiijs in the vigil of the Holy Trinite withoute ferther delaye, without any other or ferther charge or besyness be them to be made or doon to the seid feliship of whittawers.—f. 273 b.

25 1495 (Apr.). Also hit is ordeyned at the peticion and desire of the craft of cardmakers towards their charge that they yerely bere in kopynge their pageant that the crafts of skynners and barkers shall yerely frothensfurth bere and pay to the seid craft of cardmakers xij[s] iiijs d in the forme suynge: That is to say, the maisters of the

30 crafts of skynners and the maisters of the barkers shall yerely in the vigil of the Holy Trinite pay unto the maisters of the cardmakers, either of them, vj s viij d, and ye eyther of the seid crafts fayle of payement at that day, they and every singler persone of either of the seid crafts, that payement denying, to lease at every

35 default vj s viij d, and in default of payement, their bodies so forfeyng to be commyte to prison their to remayn unto the tyme they have paide that fyn and over that to fynde suerte that eftsones he shall not defende in that partie.—f. 275.

1495 (Apr.). Also hit is ordeyned, etc., at the peticion of the

40 crafte of wrights and tylers and pynners that these persone whos names here followen shalbe ioyned and contributory to the crafte of wrights frothensfurth for ever, and to pay and bere yerely after their pocion as other wrights doo towards the charge of their pageant, uppon the peyn of every person doyng the contrarie to

45 lese at every default vj s viij d, and in default of payement of that peyn, their bodies to prison till they have paide hit and over that fynde suerette that he eftsones ofende not in that partie. These be the names: John Okley kerver, Rich. Percy wright, John
Cokkes wright, Nicholas Slough cartwright, John Norton wheelwright, and John Knyght wheelwright.—f. 275 b.

1495 (Apr.). Also where hit was shewed at this present lete be bill put in be the girdlers that the crafte of cappers and fullers of their goode will were agreable to paye in the fest of the vigill of the Holy Trinite to the masters of the crafte of girdlers yerely xij s iiiij d towards the charge of their preste and pageant etc. It was ordyned and stablished be auctorite of this present lete that that agrement and acorde shuld stande stable and to be performed & kept for frohensfurth for ever, with more that yf payement yerely be not made in this seid vigill then every person that denyoth such payement to lese at every defalt vj s viij d with imprisonement, as is abovesaid in the crafte of carpenters.—f. 275 b.

1507 (Apr.). Memorandum. That it is ordyned at this lete that the craft and feliship of bakers shalbe contributories and charged from hensforth with the craft and feliship of smythes and to pay yerely to them toward theyre pagent at Corpus Xpisti tyde xij s iiiij d, and so to contynue from hensforth yerely.—f. 297 b.

Itm. It is ordyned at this present lete that the feliship of corvoers shalbe contributory and chargeable with the crafte of tanners yerely from hensforth and to pay xij s iiiij d, and to begyn theyre payement of the hole at Corpus Xpisti tyde next comyng, and so forth yerly at every Corpus Xpisti tyde to pay xij s iiiij d.—f. 297 b.

It. It is ordyned and agreed that from hensforth the feliship and crafte of bochers shalbe yerly contributory to the felship of whittawers toward ther pagent at Corpus Xpisti tyde xvj s viij d, and so to continue yerly forthlyke as they dydde afores, etc.—f. 297 b.

1524 (Apr. 12). Item. It is enacted that so long as the crafte of shomakers fynde and keip ther priest, they shall reteyne and keipe in ther hands to ther own use yeirelie the mark of money whiche they were wont to paye yeirely by act of leete to the craft of tanners, and provided alwayes that the said craft of shomakers shall pay unto the said tanners at Corpus Xpisti tyde next ensuyng vj s viij d.—f. 339.

1526. Item. It is enacted that all carvers within this citie frome hensfurth shalbe associat with the craft of peyntors and that every carver shall pay yeirelie to the peyntors towards the charges of their pagiaunt xij d without contradiction upon peyn for every defalt to forfett vj s viij d to the seid craft of peyntors, and that the said carvers frome hensfurth shalbe dismyssed and discharged frome the craft of carpenters, and that Richard Tentvynctor shall pay such arrearages to the carpenters as he oweth theme for the xij d which he shuld haue payed theme yeirelie in tymes past.—f. 344 b.

1529 (Apr. 8). Itm. It is enacted at this lete that the crafte of cappers of this citie frome hensfurth shalbe owners of the weyvers
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pagiaunt with all the implements and apparell belonging to the same pagiaunt, and that the seid craft of wayvers shall yeirelie frome hensfurthe pay unto the master of the seid crafe of cappers vjs viijd; and so the seid craft of wayvers frome hensfurth to be 5 clerlie discharged of the seid pagiaunt and of the name therof.— f. 350 b.

1531 (Oct. 2). It. Wher as the company, feliship, and craft of cardemakers and sadelers of this citie meny yeires and of longe continuaunce have hadd and yet haue the chiefe rule governaunce 10 reparyng and meyntenaunce, as well of a chappell within the parische churche of Seynt Michells in the seid citie, named Seynt Thomas Cappell, and of the ornamentes, juells, and lightes of the same, as also of a pagiaunt with the pagiaunt house and pleynge geire with other appartenaunces and apparells belonging to the 15 same pagiaunt. The meyntenaunce and reparacion wherof haith been and is yeirelie to the greit charge, cost, and expenses of the seid company and crafe, beyng now but a fewe persone in number and havyng but smale eyde of eny other craft for the same. So that ther said charge is and like to be more ponderouse and 20 chargeable to theme then they may convenyntlie bere or susteyn in shorte tyme to come, onelie provision for a remedy may be spedilie haid. In consideracon wherof and for-asmoch as the company, feliship, and craft of cappers within this citie, now beyng in number meny welthy and honest persone, and have maid dyvers 25 tymes sute and request unto the meire and his brethern the aldermen of this citie to have a certeyn place to theme assigned and lymyte, as dyvers other crafts have, to sitt to-gether in ther seid parische churche to hère ther dyvynne service and bere suche charges for the same as by master meire and his brethern the aldermen 30 shalbe assigned; it is therefor by the mediacon of Mr. Richard Rice now meire of this citie and of his seid brethern the aldermen at this present lete assembled and by auctoritie of the same with the agrement, consent, and assent of all the seid partes, companyes, and crafts, enacted, ordeyned, and constituted that the 35 seid company and craft of cappers frome hensforthe shalbe associat, joyned, and accompanied with the seid crafts of cardemakers and sadelers in the governaunce, reparyng, and meynteynyng, as well of and in the seid Chappell, named Seynt Thomas chappell, and of the ornamentes and lights of the same, as of and in the seid pagiaunt [b] and pagiaunt house with the implements, appartenaunces, pleers, reherces, and pleynge geire accustomed, belonging and necessarie to and for the same, after suche maner or better as it haith been used and accustomed before tyme. And that every householder or shop-keper of every of the seid companyes and 40 crafts toward and for the charges and expenses abovesaid shall not onelie pay yeirelie to the maisters and kepers of the seid crafts at such tymes and day as the seid crafts shall appoynt viijd; and upon Seynt Thomas day, named the Translacion of Seynt
Thomas, shall also offere yeirelie every of them that at the high
masse seid in the seid chappell. But also the seid maisters, com-
pany, and crafts fromehensfurthe shall applie and bestowe to and
upon the seid reparacions and charges all the revenues, rents, and
profitts of all soche lands, houses, and tenements as they or eny of
theme now have or herafter shall have to the use and behalf of
the seid companyes and crafts; and the vijs of yeirelie pencion
which is yeirelie payed by the paynters and carvers unto the seid
charges shall yeirelie be payed and go to the same charges. And
that the seid maisters now electe and hereafter to be electe maisters
of the seid crafts shall yeirelie, upon suche a day as the seid
maisters shall appoint and agrre accompany themselvs togethers
and bryngh in and make a true and a full accompt every of them
to the other of all ther seid receites, revenues, and profitts. And
the seid charges and the charges of the kopyng of harnes belong-
yng to the seid crafts with the weiryng of the same in the watches
and other necessarie charges and busynes for the seid crafts
allowed, payed, and performed, the overpluse of the seid money of
the seid revenues, profitts, and money shalbe bestowed and put in
a box with two locks and two keyes, the on key to remeyne with the
masters of the craft of cardmakers and sadelers, and the other
key to remeyne with the maisters of the craft of cappers, sauelie to
keip the seid money in the seid box untill they have nede to
bestow it upon the seid charges or otherwise, as they shall thiynk
conveneunt; and the seid box to remeyn in the seid chappell fastoned with a cheyne.

Also it is enacted by the autoritie and consent aforseid that
the maisters and company of the craft of cappers shall fromehens-
furthe famyliarlie and loveynglie accompany and sit togethers in
the seid chappell with the seid company and craft of card-
makers and sadelers to here ther divyne service, and also shall
go togethers in ther processions and watches too and too togethers;
and that the seid company and craft of cardmakers and sadelers
shall haue the preemynence and overhaunde in ther sittyngs and
goyng togethers oon yeire, and the seid craft and company of
cappers shall lykewise haue the preemynence and overhaunde in
ther sittyng and goyng the other yeire, and so contynue frome
yeire to yeire loveynglie fromehensfurthe; so that the seid card-
makers and sadelers shall not lack ther rone nor sittyng in the
seid chappell.—f. 357 a and b.

1531 (Oct. 2). Itm. It is enacted also that the company and
craft of barbars of this citie shall yeirelie fromehensfurthe pay
unto the company and craft of gurdeles of this citie vijs viijd
toward ther charges of the pagyant and processions at suche
day and tyme as they were wont to pay the seid some unto the
craft of cardmakers, upon peyn every of them to forfeit for ther
default viijd to be levied by distresse to the use of the
citie.—f. 358.
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Itm. It is also enacted that the company and craft of walkers of this citie shall yeirelie pay unto the company and craft of weyvers vij s viij d towards the charges of ther paygant at such day and tyme as it hath be wont to be payed. And that the company and craft of skynners shall likewise pay unto the seid craft of weyvers yeirelie v s towards ther seid charges.—f. 358.

1532 (May 14). Itm. It is enacted that the craft of peynters shall pay yeirelie fromehensfurth iiiij s of the viij s that they wer wont to pay to a pagiaunt unto the craft of gurdeles and the other iiiij s of the seid viij s unto the craft of cardemakers.—f. 359 b.

1533 (May 6). Also it is enacted, that such persones as be not associat or assistant to eny craft which is charged with eny pagiant of this citie, as fischemongers, bowyers, flechers, and suche other, shall now be associat and assistaunt to such crafts as the Mr. 15 Meire shall assigne and apoynt theme.—f. 361.

1537 (Apr. 24). Item. Wher as the meire, aldermen, beileffs, and cominaltie of this citie by ther wrytyng indented and sealled with ther comen seall have graunted, given, and dymysed unto the master, kepers, fraternitie, and company of the craft of cappers of this citie the chappell, pagyaunt, and pagyaunt house which was latelee surrendered and given upp by wrytyng to them by the fraternitie and company of cardemakers and sadelesers. It is nowe enacted by auctoritie of this lette that the seid fraternitie and company of cappers shall enjoy the seid pagiaunt, pagiaunt house, 25 and chappell accordyng to the tenour of the seid wrytyng indented, etc.—f. 368 b.

1547 (May 3). Item. It is also enacted that the cowpers of this citie shall fromehensfurth be associat with the tilers and pynners and bere suche charges as thei haue done in tyme past; and that the cowpers shalbe the hodde and cheeffest of theim and stand charged with the pagyaunt.—f. 400.
Appendix II.

Records and accounts of the trading companies of Coventry referring to the Corpus Christi Play.1

SMITHS’ COMPANY.2

(13) Characters.3 God (Jesus), Caiaphas, Herod, Procule (Pilate’s wife), headle (or porter), the Devil, Judas, Peter and Malchus, Anna (or Anna), Pilate, Pilate’s Son, two knights, four tormentors, two princes.

(14) Machinery, dresses, etc.3 The cross with a rope to draw it up and a curtain hanging before it, two pair of gallows, four scourges and a pillar, gilding the pillar and the cross, scaffold, fanes to the pageant, mending of imagery (1469), a standard of red buckram; two red pensils of cloth painted and silk fringe, iron to hold up the streamer; four gowns and four hoods for the tormentors (afterwards described as jackets of black buckram with nails and dice upon them), other four gowns with damask flowers, also two jackets party red and black, two mitres (for Caiaphas and Anna), a rochet for one of the bishops, God’s coat of white leather (six skins), a staff for the devil, two spears, 15 gloves (twelve pair at once), Herod’s crest of iron, scarlet hoods and a tabard, hats and caps—straw hats, cheverel (chevelure, peruke) for God, three cheverels and a beard, two cheverels gilt for Jesus and Peter, faulchion for Herod (gilt), scarlet gown, maces, girdle for God, a newe sudere to God vijd, a seldall for God xijd, sceptres for Herod and his son, poll-axe for Pilate’s son, (15) blue buckram 5 yds. and 6½ yds. satint purchased in 1501; velvet hose were sold in 1590 at the breaking up of the pageant. Music. 1584 (only), trumpet and bagpipe; minstrels is a common entry, and the waits are paid for “piping.” 25

1 Mainly reprinted from Sharp’s Dissertation on the Coventry Mysteries and from the introduction to the Abbotford Club edition of the Weavers’ Pageant. Numbers in parentheses refer to pages in Sharp’s Dissertation; when preceded by A., to the Abbotsford Club edition. H.-P. refers to Halliwell-Phillips, Outlines of the Life of Shakespeare, 7th edition, from which some records have been quoted. Graphic signs have been put in ordinary letters. Direct quotations from Sharp are preceded by Sh.

2 Sh. The accounts of this company commence in 1449... 1585 [was] the last year of their exhibiting.

3 Sh. list.

4 Sh. ... the latter appears to have been used for Herod’s gown, and most probably the buckram also.
(15) Agreement. 1 1452–3. These men above writen wer acordid and agreed on Monday next befor Palme Sunday, anno H. (6th) xxxj, that Thomas Colclow, skynner, fro this day forth shall have the rewle of the pajaunt unto the end of xij yers next 5 folowing, he for to find the players and all that longeth thereto all the seide termes; save the kepers of the craft shall let bring forth the pajaunt and find clothys that gon abowte the pajaunt and find russels thereto. And every Wytsen-weke who that be kepers of the crafte shall dyne with Colchow and every master ley down 10 iij d., and Colchow shall have seerey for his labor xlvj s viij d. and he to bring in to the master on Sunday next after Corpus Xpistie day the originall and fech his vij nobulleg, and Colchow must bring in at the latter end of the termes all the garments that longen to the pajaunt as good as they wer delveryed to hym.

15 This was ordeyned in the time of Will. Melody, Th. Warner, and Will. Bynglely, then kepers of the crafte.

Specimen of Pageant Expenses, Entry for 1490. This is the expens of the furste rehershe of our players in Ester weke; inprimis in brede iij d, it. in ale viij d, it. in kechyn xij d, it. 20 vyngre j d; summa ij [s] ij d.

(16) It. payd at the second rehershe in Whyttson-weke in brede, ale, and kechyn ij s iij d.—Inprimis for drynkynghe at the pagent in haveinge forthe in wyne and ale vij d ob, it. in the mornynge at diner and at supper in costs in brede vij d ob, it. for ix galons of ale xviij d, it. for a rybbhe of befe and j gose vj d, it. for kechyn to denner and supper ij s ij d, it. for a rybbhe of befe iij d, it. for a quarte of wyne ij d ob, it. for an-other quarte for heyrynghe of Procula is gowne ij d ob, it. for gloves ij s vij d, it. spend at the reparelynghe of the pagante and the expences of havyng it in and 30 furthe xij d, it. in paper ob.; Summa xij s j d ob.

Mem. 4 payd to the players players for Corpus Xpistie daye; inprimis to God ij s, it. to Cayphas iij s iij d, it. to Heroude iij s iij d, it. to Pilatt is wyffe ij s, it. to the bedull iij d, it. to one of the knights ij s, it. to the devyll and to Judas xviij d, it. to Peter and Malkus xvj d, it. to Anna ij s ij d, it. to Pilatte iij s, it. to Pilatte is sonne iij d, it. to an-other knighte ij s; Summa xxviiij s; the mynstrell xiiij d.

Mem. that these bene the garments that wer newe reperalelyd a-gaynste Corpus Xpistie daye; inprimis iij jakkets of Blake 40 bockeram for the tormentors with nayles and dysses upon them, it. other iij for tormentors of an-other suett wythe damasco flowers, it. ij of bockeram with hamers crowned, 5 it. ij party jakkets of rede and blake, it. a cloke for Pilatte, (17) it. a gowne for Pilattes sone,

1 Sh. A similar agreement was made in 1481 with Sewall and Ryngald.
2 itin and below, sometimes it'.
3 Sfna and below.
4 Mf and below.
5 Sh. The arms of the smiths' company is three hammers crowned.
a gowne for the bedull, it. a hode for the bedull, it. twoo burlettis, it. a creste for Heroude, it. a fawchon for Heroude, a hatt for Pilatte, a hatt for pilatts some, it. ij myteres for the bysschoppis, it. ij hatts for ij princes, it. iiiij hatts for the tormentors, it. other ij hatts for the tormentors, it. a poll-ax for Pilatte some, it. a 5 septur for Heroude, it. a masse, it. a septur for Pilatte some, it. iiiij scorges and a piller, it. ij cheverels gyld for Jhe and Petur, it. the devyls bede; the somme of all the costes and workemanschyp and colours drawyth to xv s.

(18) The Pageant. 1 1578, ij new berars of yron for the seyt 10 in the padgand. (19) 1440, it. p. cloth to lap abowt the pajent, payntyng and all iiij & vi d ob. 2

1471, expens for burnerysshyng and payntyng of the fanes to the pageant xx d; 1553, 3 it. payd for payntyng of the pageant tope xxij d. 4

(20) Scaffold for spectators. Making of a new post to the scaffold, tryndyll and theal to ditto, two new scaffold wheels 6s. 8d., iron pins and colters to the scaffold wheels, boards about the scaffold, three boards and a ledge for the scaffold, clamps and iron-work, setting in of the pageant and scaffolds, driving the 20 pageant and scaffolds. 5

Moving of the pageant, Stations. 6 1450, spend to bryng the

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1 Sh. . . . we may form some idea of the appearance presented by the smiths' pageant by a consideration of the following items: thus, the cross was painted and gilt; there is a charge for setting up the "morts of the crosse" and for a piece of timber to it; also a rope to draw up the cross, and the cloth that hange before it. The pillar to which Christ was tied when scourged was also painted and gilt.

2 Sh. These cloths were obviously hung round the pageant vehicle, so as to conceal from the eyes of the spectators the lower room in which the performers "apparelled themselves," as well as the machinery underneath the "rowne," or stage of action; such as the hogheads in the new pageant of this company, the windlass which in the cappers' pageant had three men to attend on it and in the drapers' had a rope three fathom long, the apparatus for representing the earthquake in the drapers' pageant, and hell-mouth, etc. There are constant charges for nails, tenterhooks, rings, wire, thread, small cord, and similar articles, which of course were used for the curtains and in the machinery and dresses. See also H.-P. II., 289; 1569, "halfe a yard of Rede Sea" 6d; 1565, ("theatrical appliances of another company") three paynted clothes to hang abowe the pageant; (2 Edw. VI.), payd for makynge of the hooke to hang the curten on iij. d. Some of the pageant accounts include payments "for curten ryngus."

3 H.-P. 1564.

4 Sh. . . . the use of pencils or streamers, or both, may be discovered in all the remaining accounts. They were also used in processions.

5 Sh. . . . the usual charges are for having out of the pageant, setting the scaffolds; and setting in of the pageant and scaffolds to the pageant-house after the performance was over.

6 Sh. The smiths' was usually "dryven" by a number of men not specified. It appears that the first station of this pageant was in Gosford street, and as that is the first ward in point of precedency, it seems very probable that all the pageants commenced playing there; another was at Much Park street end, most likely the corner of Jordan Well, in which case a third was at New Gate. See Introduction.
APPENDIX II.

pagenta into Gosford stret; 1471, expens at Mikelparke stret
ende for ale to the players x d, it. at Richard Woodes dur for ale to
the players v d; 1486, it. for ale at the New 3ate j d ob; 1497,
it. for the horsyng of the padgeant xijd; 1498, it. payd for ij
5 cords for the draught of the paygaunt j d; 1562, it. for settyn
the padgande yn the first place vjd.

(21) Rehearsals.1 1466, it. in expense at the rehers in the
parke iiijd; 1576, pd for Sent Marye hall to rehearse there ij id,
spent on the comyanye after we had hard the second rehearse ijd,
10 1579, pd to the plears rehersyng in the Palys2 xijd; 1584, payde
the players at the last rehearse in Seint Nicholas hall iiijd.2

Dresser.3 1474, pd for sweepyng the pagent and dressyng
vijd.

Ale and wine.4 1450, it. payd for a pynt of wyne for Pilatt
15 jd; 1480, pd for a quart red wyn for Pilat ijd; 1494, it. in
expence on the pleares for makyn them to drynkyn and heete at
every reste iiijd.

Men about the pageant. 1469, it. for iiijd jaked men about the
pagant iiijd; 1564, pd for a chassyng stafhed 6d.5
20 The oath of the masters of the company: They swear to “kepe
unto the uttermasse all suche laudable customs as pagans, quart-
rage, weddings, burings, and such other like things as hathe be in
timis past usyd and customyd.”

(22) Annual pageant penc." 6 Edw. VI., reseyved of the craft
25 for pagent pencys iiij s iiijd.

Journeymen. 13. Hen. VII., Rules of the Smiths' Company:
Also that they wate upon the hede mayster upon Corpus Xpisti
daye to goo upon possession, also to wate upon the maysters
and attende upon the pageaunt to the worshpipe of this cite and
30 the crafte; in like wyse to wate upon the maisters of the crafete
and so likewise to goo upon wache on Myssomer ny3ht and
Santte Peter ny3ght.

(26) Characters. God. 1451, it. payed for vj skynnys of
whit leder to Godds garment xviiijd, it. payed for makyn of the
35 same garment x d; 1490, it. a cheverel gyld for Ihè; 1498, it.
payd for mending a cheverel for God and for sowyng of Gods
kote of leddur and for makyn of the hands to the same kote

1 Sh. Annual rehearsals (usually two in number) took place before the
respective companies.
2 Sh. The "palys" was the bishop's palace, part of which was rented by
the company for their quarterly and occasional meetings. The smiths'
company had their annual dinner on St. Loy's day in St. Nicholas Hall.
3 Sh. A person was appointed dresser of each pageant.
4 Sh. . . . ale was given both to the players and drivers. Pilate being the
principal character in the smiths' pageant, the performer was allowed wine.
5 Sh. conjectures that these entries refer to officials stationed in the street to
prevent intrusion by the spectators. He says that no such charge occurs in the
accounts of the other companies.
6 Sh. This varied from 2s. 2d. to 3s. 4d. and sometimes more.
xij d; 1501, it. pd for a newe sudere for God vij d; 1553, it. payd for v schepskens for Gods coot and for makyng iiij s; 1560, it. for a selddall for God xij d; 1565, pd for payntynge and glydyng (inter alia) Gods cote, pd for a gyrldyll for God iiij d.

Caiaphas and Annas. 1486, it. for a tabarde and an hoode [the hire of] iiij d; (28) 1487, it. paid for hyryng off a skarlet hood 1 and a raygete 2 for on off the biasbopps vd; 1499, it. payde for colours and gold foyle and syluer foyle for ij myttyrs; 1544, payd for a bysschops taberd of scarlet that we bowght in the Trenete Church xs.

(28-9) Herod. 3 1477, it. to a peynter 4 for payntynge the fauchon and Herods 5 face x d. It. for assadyn, silver papur and, gold paper, gold foyle and grene foyle ij s j d, it. for redd wax iij d, it. payd to Thomas Suker for makyng the creste xxij d; 6 1478, it. for assalen for the harness x d; 1480, expense for a slop 15 for Herod (inter alia), pd for payntynge and dressyng Herods stuf iij d; 1487, it. for mendyng of Arrodes crast xij d; 7 1489, 8 it. paid for a bowen to Arrode vij s iiij d, it. paid for payntynge and steynyng 9 ther-off vjs iiij d, it. payd for Arrodes garment peynytynge that he went a prosasayn in xx d 10; 1490, a fawchon, a septur, and a creste for Heroude repaired; 1494, 11 it. payd for iiij platis to Heroddis crest of iron vij d, it. payd for a paper of aresdyke xij d, it. payd to Hatfield for dressyng of Herods creste xij d; 1499, it. payd to John Hafefele for colours and gold foyle and syluer foyle for the crest and for the fawchyn (inter alia); 25 1501, it. for vj yarls satten iiij quarters xvjs x d, it. for v yards of blowe bokeram ijs xijd, it. pd for makyng of Herodus gone xv d 12; 1516, it. payd to a peynynter for peynytynge and mendyng of Herodes heed iiij d; 1547, pd to John Croo for mendyng of Herods 13 hed and a myter 14 and other thynge ij s; (H.-P. II. 290) 30 1554, payd to John Hewet paynter for dressyng of Erod hed and the faychon ijs.

1 Sh. wood [hood].
2 Sh. adds [rochet].
3 Sh. points out that the smiths’ pageant followed S. Luke 23. 6 ff.
4 H.-P. peyntour.
5 H.-P. Herodes.
6 Sh. The (last three) items anno 1477 follow each other in the account book. They relate to the ornamenting of crests, of which most likely Herod’s was one; no other instances of crests occur in the smiths’ pageant accounts. Two would therefore probably belong to the knights, who would be clad in armour, of which the company had three suits.
7 Sh. Many similar entries occur in subsequent years.
8 H.-P. 1490.
9 H.-P. peynytynge and steynyng.
10 Sh. (164). By this and the preceding item (1476, it. for hors hyre to Herod iiij d), it appears that the character of Herod... joined the (Corpus Christi) procession, being the only instance of this nature that has been observed.
11 H.-P. 1495.
12 Sh. (30). A satin gown (probably) blue was provided for this character, whereas in other instances a painted dress sufficed.
13 H.-P. mendyng of Herrode.
14 H.-P. mytor.
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Additional items concerning Herod. 1 1490, item paid for mendyng off Arrodes gauen to a tailour viij. d; item paid for mendyng off hattes, cappus, and Arrodes creste with other smale geyr belonging iiij. s; 1508, item paid for colour and coloryling of 5 Arade iiij. d.

(30) Pilate's wife Procula. 2 1477, it. for sowynge of dame Procula wyff shevys iiij d; 1478, it. for mendyng of dame Procula garnements viij d; 1487, it. to reward to Maisturres Grymesby for lendyng off her geir for Pylatts wyfe xij d; 1490, it. for a 10 quarte of wynne for heyrnyng of Procula is gowne iij d ob; 1495, Ryngold's man Thomas thatt playtt Pylatts wyff; 1498, it. paid to Pylatts wyff for his wages ij s.

Beadle or porter. 3 1480, expense for a jacket for the bydull (inter alia); 1490, it. a gowne for the bedull, it. a hode for the 15 bedull, repaired.

(31) Two knights. 4 1449, it. ij spears iiij s iij d.

The devil. 5 1451, it. payd for the demons garment makynge and the stof v s iiij d ob, it. payd for collyryng of the same garment viij d; 1477, it. for mendyng the demons garment (inter alta), it. for newe ledder to the same garment xij d; 1490, it. the devyls hede (repaired); 1494, it. paid to Wattis for dressyng of the devells hede viij d; 1498, it. paid for petyntng of the demones hede (inter alta); 1567, it. payd for a stafe for the demon iij d.

Judas. 6 1572, pd for canvys for Judas coote ij s, pd for the makynge of hit xd.

(32) Peter. 7 1490, it. a cheverel gyld for Petur.

Malchus. 1477, the performer received 4d.

Pilate. 8 1480, pd for mendyng Pilat's hat iij d; 1490, it.

1 H.-P. II. 290.
2 SA. Few traces of her dress are to be discovered; and it appears to have been considered of little importance, as not one new article of apparel belonging to her has been noticed.
3 SA. Only two items occur applying to his dress.
4 SA. conjectures that the knights wore armur with which of course the smiths were well provided. As two or three suits were used at the Midsummer-eve processions, the expenses of cleaning and repairing it might occur in that connection rather than here. He appropriates to them also two crests and the two spears of the entry.
5 SA. The devil in the Smiths' pageant had a dress made of leather and coloured in all probability black; he had also a painted vizor, which was frequently repaired or new painted, and a staff.
6 SA. The following (entry for 1572) is all that appears respecting his dress. In conformity with the well-known popular belief that Judas had red hair and beard, there can be little doubt of this character being so represented in the mysteries. In the enumeration of articles belonging to the pageant, we find "3 cheverels and a beard," besides those for Jesus and Peter, which were gilt.
7 SA. A single entry decisively belonging to this character is all that occurs. Sh. remarks that itd. was paid to the performer in 1477.
8 SA. conjectures that Peter also wore a gown and a beard.
9 SA. Few traces of his dress are discoverable. The performer was paid
Appendix II.

A cokle for Pilatte, it. a hatt for Pilatte (repaiored); 1494 it. paid for braband to Pylatts hate v d and for canvas ij d ob.

(33) Pilate’s son. 1490, it. a goune for Pylatts sone, it. a hatt for Pilats sone, it. a poll-ax for Pilats sonne, it. a septur for Pilats sonne.

Tormentors. 1451, it. payed for makyng of iiij gownys and iiij holds to the tormentors and the stof that went therto xxiiij s x d ob; 1490. Mem. that these bene the garments that were new reparelleyd a-gaynste Corpus Xpisti daye; inprimis iiij jakketts of blake bokeram for the tormentors with navies and 10 dyssse upon them, it. other iiij for tormentors of another suett wythe damaske flowers, it. ij of bokeram with hamers crowned, it. ij party jakketts of rede and blake; 1501, it. for makyng off iiij jakenes ij s, it. for iiij eelne clothe for the jakkets and the hatts xvij d; it. pd to the paynter for hys 15 warke monchipe xxj s vij d.3

(34) Two Princes. 1490, it. ij hattas for ij princes (repaiored).

(35) Miscellaneous. 1489, mending of hatts, cappis, with other smale gyr iiij s; 1490, it. twoo burlellis (repaiored); 1494, it. paid for a strawen hate ob, a leFFE of roche clere jd; 1497, 20 payntyng of the players harnys xx s; 1499, it. for colours and gold foyle and sylver foyle for iiij capps (inter alia); 1501, it. for borrocyng off a skerlet gone and a cokle ij d, mending the massas; 1564, it. payd for iiij cheverels and a borde xij d; 1584, it. payd for ij beardes vij d.

Gloves. 1477, it. xij peryr gloves to the players xvij d, (under the head soluciones ad le players) inprimis to Jh’s for gloves and all xxij d; 1505, pd for a dos’ off whyght gloves xijd, pd for ij payr off reed gloves viij d.

Painting faces. 1498, it. paid to the paynter for peyntyng of 30 ther fasses viij d.6

Music. 1451, it. payed to the mynstrells viij s, it. spend on mynstrells dinner and their soper on Corpus Xpisti day xx d; 1471, it. paid to the waytes for mynstrelship vijs; 1477, it. paid

3s. 4d. in 1477; afterwards it was advanced to 4s. being the highest sum paid in this pageant.

3 Sh. Perhaps these dresses might be appropriated with more probability to the two princes.

4 Sh. remarks that these charges are relatively very great referring to the miscellaneous entry for 1497.

5 Sh. . . . this is the only . . . occurrence.

6 Sh. points out that the garment worn by that character had gloves of the same material attached to the sleeves.

7 Sh. It is evident that those characters which were not played in masks or visors, as was the case with Herod and the devil, were represented with the faces of the performers painted. Indeed many other similar entries occur.

8 Sh. In general the entries of this portion of expenditure are confined to the following items (1451, 1471, and 1477).

9 Sh. Two and sometimes three are specified as the number of minstrels.
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to the waytes for ppyynge vs; 1549, it. payd to the waytes for the pagent ij s viij d; 1554 (164), pd to the mynstrells for prosessyon ij d and pageants ij s viij d.

(36) The play-book. 1494, it. paid to John Harryes for beryng 5 of the orygynall that day vj d; 1495, payd for copyynge of the ij knyghts partes and demons; 1506 (15), resevvd amonge bredren and other good felowys toward the orygynall ij s ix d; 1563, it. to Robert Croo for ij leves of ore pley boke viij d.

Additional items referring to the pageant, dress, etc. 1462, 10 item expended at the feast of Corpus Christi yn reparicion of the pagent, that is to say, a peyre of new whelys the pryece viij s, item for naylys and ij. hokys for the sayde pagent ij. d, item for to have the pagent ynto Gosford strete xij d; 1467, item in met and drynk on mynstrelles and on men to drawe the pagent xxij d; 15 1470, item rysshesh to the pagent ij. d, item clampys of iron for the pagent viij d, item ij. legges to the pagent and the werkemanship withal vj. d; 1471, expenses to brynge up the pagent into Gosford strete amonge the feliship viij. d, expenses for burnye shyng and peynynge of the fanes to the pagent xx. d, item cloutnayle and 20 other nayle and talowe to the pagent and for wayshyng of the seid pagent and rysshesh vj. d ob, item at brynycg the pagent owt of the house ij. d, item nayles and other iron gere to the pagent viij. d ob, expenses to a joyner for werkemanshipp to the pagent viij. d; 1480, item for havynge furth the pagent on the 25 Wednesdy ij. d, item paid for ij. peyre newe whelis viij s, expenses at the settyng on of hem viij d, item for byndyng of thame viij d, paid to a carpenter for the pagent rowf vj. d; 1498, item for the horsyng of the pagent and the axyl tree to the same xvij. d, item for the hawynge of the pagant in and out and 30 wasshynge it viij. d; 1499, item paid for ij. corde for the draught of the paygaunt j. d, item paid for shope and grese to the whylles j. d, item paid for havynge oute of the paygant and swepyng therof and havynnge in and for naylles and ij. claspe of iron and for mended of a claoge that was brokyn and for coterellis and for a 35 bordur to the pageantene xix. d; 1547, paid for dryvyng of the pagent iiiij. s iiiij d, paid for russys and soop ij. d; 1554, item payd to paynter for payntyng of the pagent tope xxij. d; 1570, paid for laburrers for horsyng the padgang xvij. d, spent abowt the same bessynes xvij. d, for takyng of the yron of the olde whele x. d, paid for poynetes and paper iiiij. d; 1572, paid for canyvs for Jwdas coote ij. s, paid for the makyng of hit x. d, paid to too damsselles xij d, paid for a pollyye and an yron hoke and mending the padgang xvij. d, paid for cowntters and a lase and pwenetes for Jwdas iij. d; 1573 (new play'), paid for pleyng

1 Sh. In 1491, a certain writing is called in their accounts "the new rygenale."
2 Sh. add's in sums of 1d. and 2d. each.
3 H.-P. I. 398-41.
of Petur xvj d, paid for Jwdas parte ix d, paid for ij. damsylles xij d, paid to the deman vj d, paid to iiij. men that bryng yn Herod viij d, paid to Fastoun for hangynge Jwdas iiij d, paid to Fawston for coc-croyng iiij d, paid for Mr. Wygsoun gowne viij d; 1574, Paid for pleynghe of Petur xvj d, paid for Jwdas ix d, paid for ij. damselles xij d, paid to the deman vj d, paid to iiij. men to bryng yn Herode viij d, paid to Fawston for hangynge Jwdas and coc-croyng viij d, paid for Herodes gowne viij d; 1576, a payment of 18 d. "for the gybbyt of Jezie"; 1577 (new play), "for a lase for Jwdas and a corde" 3d.; (old 10 pageant) paid to the pleares at the fyrst rehearse ij s vj d, paid for ale iiij d, paid for Sent Marye Hall to rehearse there ij d, paid for mending the padgand bowse dore xx d, paid for too poste for the dore to stand upon iiij d, paid to the carpynur for his labur iiij d, paid to James Beselley for ij. plantes on the 15 post enedes vj d, for great nylones to nayle on the hynge ij d, paid to vj. men to helpe up with the dore vj d; 1578, (new play) paid for the cockroing iiij d, paid to Thomas Massy for a trwse for Judas ij s viij d, paid for a new hoke to hange Judas vj d, paid for ij. new bears of yron for the new setyt in the padgand 20 vij d; 1502, item paid for gloves to the pleyares xix d, item paid for penyng off ther fussa ij d; 1548, payd to the payntor for payntynge the players facys iiij d.

Smiths' New Play. 1573, pd for pleyng of Petur xvj d, pd for Judas parte ix d, pd for ij damsylls xij d, pd to the deman 25 vj d, pd to iiij men that bryng yn Herod viij d, pd to Fawston for hangynge Judas iiij d, pd to Fawston for coc croyng iiij d, pd for Mr. Wygsoun's gowne viij d; 1576, for the gybbyt of Jezie xvij d; (37) 1577, for a lase for Judas and a corde iiij d; 1578, pd for a trwse for Judas ij s viij d; pd for a new hoke 30 to hange Judas vj d; 1579, pd for a gowne to the tayllers and shermens x d.

Destruction of Jerusalem, a new pageant performed 1584.5

Items from the charges attending the rehearsals: It. payd to Cockram in earnest for to playe on his baggypes iiij d, it. payd to 35

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1 H.P. II. 290.
2 Sh. In 1573, after the usual entry of payments to performers and other expences of the pageant as heretofore, a short break occurs, and in the margin is written "New pley," after which follow these items. Most of these items are given in the preceding paragraph also.
3 Sh. This was a gown belonging to Sir William Wigston, as appears by other entries, and was frequently borrowed by the smiths for their pageant. The charge of 8d. is for wine given in return for the use of the gown, which was worn by Herod.
4 Sh. This new performance was continued (except in 1575 when no play was exhibited) until 1580, and seems to have been acted after the old pageant. During the years 1580-3, the smiths did not exhibit their pageant.
5 Sh. No less than six rehearsals took place previous to the public exhibition of this new pageant.
a trumpeter in earnest at Seynt Nycholas hall iiiij d, it. payde to
John Deane¹ for takynge paynes abowte the pageant ij s ij d.

Literal copy of the entry of expenses: Expencys and pay-
mentes for the pagente: Inprimis payd to the players for a
5 rehearse ij s vij d, it. payde to Jhon Grene for wrytynge of the
playe-boke v s, it. payde to the trumpeter for soundynge in the
pagent v s, it. payde to hym that playde on the flute ij s vij d, it.
payde to Jhon Foxall for the hyer of Frysshe mantyllys viij d, (38)
it. gyvyn to the dryvers of the pagent to drynke iiiij d, it. payde
10 for sope for the pagent wheles iiiij d, it. payde to Cooke son for
makyng of a whele to the skaffolde vijij d, it. payde for a iron
pynne and a cotter for the skaffolde whele iiiij d, it. spent on the
companye on the pley even ij s viij d, it. payde to Will’s for
makyng of ij payre of galleys ij s (Under the head other
15 paimentes and espenes . . . it. payde for lace for the ij payre
of galleys xv d,²), it. pd for the masters breakfast on the playe
daye xx d, it. pd for the players drynke to the pagent ij s, it. pd
for starche to make the storme in the pagente vij d, it. pd for
carryenge of our apparaill from pagent to pagente vij d, it. pd for
20 drynke for the musiçions ij d, it. pd to Hawette for fetchynge of
the hogges-heads vij d, it. pd to the souldyers for waytynge on
the captaynes ij s, it. pd for a pottell of wyne to the pagente x d,
it. pd to the musiçions for playenge on theyrre instruments in the
pagente v d, it. pd for the Master and the players sowper viij s vij d,³
25 it. pd to Jhon Deane for bys dyner sowper and drynkyng xij d,
it. pd for russen packthryd and tenter hookes viij d, it. pd to ij
drumme players x d, it. pd to the dryvers of the pagentes iiiij d, it.
pd to Hewet for his paynes ix d, it. pd to Reignolde Headley for
playenge of Symon and Phyne v s, it. pd to Gabryel Foster for
30 playenge of Justus Ananus Eliasar and the choros vj s viij d,
it. pd to Jhon Bonde for playenge of the captayne Jehoannes
and the choros vj s viij d, it. pd to Will’ Longe for playenge of
Mayers Jacobus Hippenus and the choros vj s viij d, it. pd to
Jhon Hoppers for playenge of Jesus and Zacharys iij s, it. pd to
35 Henry Chamberleyne for playenge of Pristus, a pece ⁴ of Ananus,
and Zilla iij s iiiij d, it. pd to Jhon Grene for playenge of Mathias
and Eson iij s, it. pd to Jhon Cope stocke for playenge of Eson
his parte xx d, (39) it. pd to Lewes Pryce for playenge of Niger
his parte xvij d, it. pd to Frauncys Coccks for playenge of Solome
40 xij d, it. pd to Richard Fitiharbert and Edward Platte for
playenge chylde n to Solome xij, it. pd to Xpofer Dygbye for his
ij drummers vj s viij d, it. pd to the awnytyente berer xij d, it.
pd to Robert Lawton for kepynge of the booke ij s, it. pd to

¹ Sh. John Deane was the company’s sumner.
² Sh. suggests these were merely tressels to support the pageant floor.
³ Sh. s.
⁴ Sh. apeco.
Edmund Durrant for payntynge ij s. it. pd to Thom’s Massye for the temple and for his beardes iij s; Som is vli iij s vij d. 1

Pageant and pageant-house sold. 1586, it. recd of Mr. Pyle for the pageante howse xx s, it. recd of Henry Bankes for the pageant x s.

In 1591 the smiths paid instead of performing. 1591, it. payd to Mr. Mayor towards the playes of the pageantes xx s.

Additional Items 2 concerning the Pageant-House. 1571, paid for a lode of cley for the padgyn howse vj d, paid for iiij sparis for the same howse vj d, paid to the dowbery and his man to xiiij d, paid to the carpyntr for his worke iiij d, paid for a buche and halfe of lathe ix d, paid for vj. pynnye naílyes ij. d; 1576, spent at Mr. Sewelles of the company about the paynyng of the pagen howse vi d, payd for the paynyng of the pagen howse xxij d, payd for a lode of pybeles xij d, for a lode sande vj d; 1586, item paid to James Bradshawe for mendsynge the pageant-howse doores iiij d, item to Christofre Burne for a key and sattyng on the locks on the doore v d, item paide to Baylyffe Emerson for halfe yeres rente of the pageant-howse ij s. vj d, item goven to Bryan a sharmen for his good wyli of the pageant-howse x d.

The putting down of the pageants. 3 1580, (MS. Annals) The pageants were again laid down. 4 1584, (id.) This year the new play of the Destruction of Jerusalem was first played. 5

(40) City Accounts: Paid to Mr Smythe of Oxford the xvth 25 dayes of Aprill 1584 for his paynes for writing of the tragedye xiiij li vjs viij d. 1591, 6 (12) At a Counsell House held 19th May: It is agreed by the whole consent of this house that the Destruction of Jerusalem, the Conquest of the Danes, or the historie of K[ing] E[dward] the X., at the request of the Comons of this cittie 30 shalbe plaied on the pagens on Midsomer dayes and St. Peters

1 Josephus, The Jewish War, iv.
3 Sh. (37, 39) says that no company whose accounts have been preserved (smiths, cappers, drapers, and weavers) exhibited a pageant during the years 1580-3, and attributes the discontinuance to the influence of the Protestant religion. He says, “The good men of Coventry, who in 1574 amuses Queen Elizabeth at Kenilworth castle with their Hox Tuesday performance, complained that although there was no papistry or superstition in it, yet owing to the zeal of certain of their preachers, it had been of late laid down.”
4 Sh. says that the pageants generally are here alluded to, and that “again” is used in consequence of the Hox Tuesday shows having been put down in 1581. 1581, (MS. Annals) This year was Hox Tuesday put down; cp. also 1575, (Id.) This year the pageants or Hox Tuesday that had been laid down 8 years were played again.
5 Sh. All of the companies (exhibiting pageants) whose records of the period exist, performed this new one, whence it may be inferred that application was made for a revival of the pageants, and that they were willing to gratify the people in their favourite amusement; also at considerable charge, provided them with a new subject, free from the objections raised against their former representations.
6 Sh. This elaborate performance was not repeated until 1591.
APPENDIX II.

daye next in this cittie and non other playes. And that all the
mey-poles that nowe are standing in this cittie shalbe taken downe
before Whit-sonday next and non hereafter to be sett up in this

THE CAPPERS’ COMPANY.

5 (42) History. Sh. speaks of a very curious book of accounts
belonging to the cappers’ company which commenced in 1485. The
first charge for exhibiting their pageant occurred in 1534. (43–5)
Until 1530 they had been contributory to the girdlers’ pageant.
In 1529 also by act of leet, the cappers had been authorised to
10 possess the weavers’ pageant; the weavers’ accounts show how-
ever that the order was not carried out. In 1531, an act of leet
associates the cappers with the cardmakers and sadlers in chapel
and pageant.1 The first time the cappers’ company exhibited
15 their newly acquired pageant was in 1534, when it appears that
31s. 5d. was expended in “reparacions made of the pageant and
players ger,” and 30s. 4d. for rehearsals and charges of playing.
From this period until 1580 the pageant was regularly exhibited;
a pause then ensues until 1584, when in conjunction with the
shermen and taylors, a new pageant, the Destruction of Jerusalem,
was performed. In 1591 they played once more “at the
mayors commandment.”

Contribution to pageantry. (43) 1532, payd for dyvers besynesse
aboute the cardemakers iijs xjd; 2nd quarter, idem vijs. In
1574 and for subsequent years the cardmakers and sadlers con-
25 tributed 13s. 4d. annually to the cappers towards their pageant,
likewise the company of walkers 6s., skinners 4s., paintres and
joyners 3s. 4d.

(47) Machinery, Dresses, etc.2 Wind rope and a locker to
the wind, requiring a man sometimes three men to “tend” it;
30 hell-mouth; boards about the sepulchre side of the pageant;
apple-tree; two ledges for the pageant, two standers for the same,
charges for “setting up” the fore part of the pageant and timber
to bear the side of it. Cloak for Pilate, coat for Mary Magdalen,
coat made of buckram for the spirit of God, coat for the demon,
35 surplices or albs for the angels, gowns for the bishops, hoods and
mitres for ditto, “roles” for the Maryes, gloves, stars, diadems,
censers, our Ladies crown, the Marie’s crowns, flowered, mall or
club for Pilate, balls for Pilate, mail or club for the demon, the
demon’s head (or vizor), rattle, spade, two crosses, poleaxe, bow,
40 four white harness, two streamers and pensells, thread, cord,
wire, “white incol,” nails, tenter hooks, rings, points, rushes.

The pageant. (Inventory of ornaments, jewels, goods, etc. be-

1 Sh. In January 1586, the cardmakers and sadlers conveyed the afore-
named chapel and pageant to the mayor, aldermen, etc., and in the same
month they were re-conveyed to the cappers.

2 Sh.’s list.
longing to the cappers' chapel) 28 Henry VIII. (1536, 1537): it. ij pajont clothes of the passion; Accounts (no date), it. pd for luyen clothe to paynt v s, it. pd to Horseley the paynter xxxij s iiijd. 1

1597. Inventory of yarl's belonging to the cappers' company 5 includes ij. pawles, sixe cressittes, ij. streamars and the poles, ij. bishhopes myters, Pylat's dublit, ij. curtaynes, Pylates head, fyve Mariæ heads, one c:yff, Mary Maudlynus gowne, iij. beardes, sixe pensils, iij. rolles, iij. Marye boxes, one play-boke, the giandes head and clubbe, Pylates clubbe, hell-mowth, Adams spade, Eves 10 destaffe.

(48) Play-books. Pd for making of the new 3 plea book v s; 1540, pd for the matter of the Castell of Emaus xij d 4; pd for writyn a parte for Herre Person j d.

Usual expenses of performing. 5 Dressing the pageant 6 d.; a 15 person going with it 10 d.; the clerk for bearing the book or "the keeper of the playe-book" 12 d. 6; spent at the first rehearsal, to the players 18 d., on the company 7 s. 4 d.; spent at the second rehearsal to the players 18 d., on the company 7 s.; players' supper 2 s.; drink to the drivers of the pageant 12 d.; twelve (sometimes 20 eight or ten) men driving it 2 s.; drink to the players between the play times 13 d.; pd Pilate, the bishops and knights to drink between the "stages" 9 d. The annual charge for playing the pageant was about 35 s. until 1550, afterwards 45 s. to 50 s.

(49) Illustrative Charges. Payd for the players dreykynge at 25 the Swanne dore ij s viij d; pd for our supper on the play day for ourselves, goodman Mawpass, the minstrell, the dresser of the pageant, and the somner and his wyfe iiiij s; pd for haryng the pageant in and out xij d; pd for four whit harnesse xvj d; pd for v dosson payntes iiiij d; pd for ryshes j d; pd for sone and 30 gres ij d.; 1553, pd to the carpenter 7 for tendyng on the pageant xij d.; 1554, pd the carpenter for tendyng the pageant (and some repairs) xvj d.

Entire entry for 1565. Costes and charges of the pagyande: it. payd to Pylate iiiij s, it. payd to the iiiij knygghts iiiij viij d, it. 35 payd to the ij, bysshopes ij s, it. payd to God xx d, it. paide to the sprytt of God xvj d, it. payd to the ij angelles viij d, it. payd to the iiij Maryes ij s, it. payd to the demon xvj d, it. payd to the mynstrell xijd, it. payd for vj dosyn of payntes xijd, it. payd

1 Upon the basis of these entries and the relatively large sums paid, Sh. conjectures that these cloths were displayed on the vehicle, or used for covering the lower room at the time of representation. He points out that a painting of the passion would agree with the subject of the cappers' pageant.

2 H-P. 1, 342.

3 Sh. says of the.

4 Sh. conjectures that the Appearance to the Travelers was added to the cappers' pageant this year, the parts of Caiphas and Luke being taken by performers playing other parts earlier in the pageant.

5 Sh. 's list.

6 Sh. points out that this was probably the prompter.

7 Sh. says that it was not unusual to have a carpenter in attendance.
for rep[a]rsyons of the pagyand tymber nayles and iren viij s viij d, 
it. p'd for the hyer of iijj harnes and scorrynge of our harnes iijj s, 
it. p'd for dreysyng and colorynge the bysshoppes hodes iij s, it. 
p'd for makyng the hodes and mendsyng Maudlyn costs xij d, 
5 it. spent at Tavern xij d, it. payd for a hoke of iren xvij d, it. payd 
for one whelle iij s iij d; som xij s x.d. (50) More charges of the 
pagyand: it. spent at the first rehearse at the brekefast of the 
companye v s viij d, it. spent at the second rehearse vjs iij d, it. payd 
to the players at the second rehearse iij s, it. payd at the havynge 
10 out and settyng in of the pageant xij d, it. payd for dressyng 
the pagyand and kepyng the wynde xij d, it. payde to the dryvers 
iiij s, it. payde to the dryvers in drynke viij d, it. payde to the 
players between the stages viij d, it. payd for the players sopper 
iiij d, it. payd for rosshes and small corde iij d, it. payd for 
15 balles x d, it. payd for iij gawnes of ale in the pagyand xij d, it. 
payd to the syngers xvij d, it. payd for a payre of gloves for Pylate 
iiij d, it. payd for grece iij d, it. payd for our sopper at nyght iij s, 
it. payd for furrynge of the hodes viij s; som xxix s x.d. 

Other entries. (37) 1543, pd for a lace of jorne to compas the 
20 beame xij d; (48) 1548, rec'd. from the whittawers for the “hyr 
of our pageand” 3 s. 4 d.; (22) 1562, rec' of the fellowship for 
pageant xxxij s iijj d₁; (20) 1565, it. spent at the first rehearse at 
the brekefast of the companye v s viij d, it. spent at the second 
rehearse at the brekefast of the company vjs iij d; 1584, pd the 
25 dresser of the pagent; (21) (no date) payd for dressyng the pagyn; 
(no date) pd for drynkynge for the players between the play tymes 
xiiij d (sometimes between the stages), pd for drynk in the pagent, 
drynkyng at the Swanne dore iij s viij d. (66) 1544, payde for 
drynk in the pageant for the plears for bothe days viij d₂.

Additional items concerning the pageant. ³ 1562, item spent 
on the craft when the overlookd the pagyand iij s, item payd for 
iiij. harneses hryrynge iij s, item payd to the players betwene the 
stages viij d, item payd for dressyng the pagyand vj d, item 
payd for kepyng the wynd vj d, item payd for dryyng the 
35 pagyand iij s, item payd to the dryvers in drynke viij d, item 
payd for balls vj d, item payd to the mynstrell viij d; 1568, item 
paid for a ledge to the scaloofe vj d, item paid for ij. ledges to 
the pagiand viij d, item paid for grett nayles vj d, item for 
makyng clene the pagiand house ij d, item paid for wassenge 
40 the pagiand clothes ij d, item for dryvinge the pagiand viij s vj d, 
item paid to the players at the second stage viij d.

1567,⁴ item payd for a cloutt to the pagiand whelle ij d, item 
payd for a ponde of sope to the pagiand iij d, item payd 
to the players at the second stage viij d, item payd for balles 
45 viij d, item payd to the mynstrell viij d, item payd to Pilat for

¹ Sh. No other entry of a like nature has been observed.
² Sh. supposes from this item that the pageants were occasionally exhibited 
for two days.
⁴ I. 340.
his gloves ij. d., item payd for assyden for Pilat head ij. d., item payd to Jorge Loe for spekyng the prologue ij. d.; 1568, item payd for balles viij. d., item payd for Pylatt gloves iiij. d., item payd for the spekyng of the prologue ij. d., item payd for prikyng the songes xij. d., item payd for makyng and coloringe the ij. myters iij. d., item payd for makyng of hellmothes new xxij d.; 1571, item payd for meldonkyng the pagiand geirre iij. d., item payd for a yard of bokeram xij. d., item payd for payntyng of the demons mall and the Maris rolles vij. d., item for makyng the rosex ij. d., item payd to the players att the second stage viij. d. 10

The characters. Pilate. (50) Item for “a skeane of grene silke” to mend Pilate’s cloak, and the “mendyng” 6 d.; makyng of Pylatts malle xxij d.; A new malle xx d.; ditto ij sj d.; pd Richard Hall for makyng Pylates clube xij d.; pd for ij pounde and halfe of woole for the same clube x d.; pd for mendyng of Pylattz 15 malle iij d.; pd for balles for Pylatt iij d., letter for balles ij d., balles iiij d.—xij d.; pd for makyng of xvj balls and for ij skyns of letter v d.; pd for a skyn for balls for makyng and sowyng v d.; pd for balls and for mendyng of Pylattz cloobs iiij d.; (51) p’d for a payre of gloves for Pylatt iiij d.; p’d for assyden for Pilat head 20 iij d.; p’d for canvas vj d and the makyng of Pylatt doblet xvj d.—xxij d.

God. (53) There is a charge for painting inter alia the rattle, the spade, and ij crosseys, and hell mowthwe and also an item of expenses for boards used about the sepulchre side of the pageant. 25

Mother of Death. (54) Sh. gives no information.

Four Knights. Sh. For these characters four suits of white (or bright) armour were procured for which a regular entry of 16d. occurs, being the sum paid for the use of them.

Spirit of God. It. payd for the spret of Gods cote ij s, it. 30 payd for the makyng of the same cote viij d., it. payd for ij yards and halfe of bokkram to make the spirits cote ij s j d., it. payd for makyng the same cote viij d. 3

Our Lady. (55) It. paide for mdenyng our ladys crowne.

Two bishops. It. paide for makyng the ij byshoppes gowynes 35 xxij d., it. p’d for furryng the sayd gowynse ij s iiij d., it. payd to Mr Warynge for the rest of the bysshoppes gowyne vij d., it. an ell of bokkram for one of the byshoppes xij d., it. pd for makyng

1 Sh. supposes from this that Pilate’s cloak was green.
2 Sh. (51) states that about 1790 in an antique chest within the cappers’ chapel he found (together with an iron cresset and some fragments of armour) a club or mall stuffed with wool, the covering of which was leather; the handle, then broken off, had evidently been of wood.
3 Sh. There is a charge for painting the mall.
4 Sh. No article of dress explicitly intended for this character appears in the account.
5 Sh. Very many instances of painted buckram dresses occur in these accounts.
6 Sh. conjectures that the two bishops were Jewish priests, probably Caiaphas and Annas as in the smiths’ pageant.
a whod for on of the byshoppes iiiij d, it. payd for dressyng and
colorynge the byshoppes hodes iij s, it. payd for furrynge of the
hodes viij d, it. paide for makyng and colorynge the ij myters
ij s iiiij d, it. payd for payntyng the bisshoppes myters; likewise a
5 charge of 6 d. “for mendyng of ij sensars.”

Two angels. It. payd for waschynge the angells als ij [d], (56)
it. pd for mendyng the angells surprissses and wasshyng iij d.

The three Maries. It. p’d for mendyng Maudlyns cote iiiij d,
it. payd for skowryng of Maryes crowns j d, it. for payntyng the
10 Maries rolles iiiij d, it p’d for a yard of bokeram xij d, it. p’d for
makyng the roles ij d, it. p’d for mendyng the Maries rolles ij d,
paid for mendyng the Maries heare viij d.

The demon and hell-mouth. It. payde for mendyng the
devells cote and makyng the devells heade iiiij s vjd, it. payd to
15 Harrye Benett for mendyng the demons cote and makyng the
head v s, it. pd for making the demons head xvij d, it. payd for
a yard of canvas for the devells maile and for makyng viij d.

“selects” the following entries referring to hell-mouth: It. p’d
20 for mendyng hellmowthe ij d, it. payd for payntyng of hell-
mought iiij d, it. payd for makyng of hell-mothe new xvj d, it.
paid to Horsley (inter alia) for pentyng hell-mowthe.

Deadman. Entries in 1574 and 1576 only.

Prologue. It. p’d for the spekyng of the prologue ij d, it. paid
25 to Jorge Loe for spekyng the prologue ij d; in 1573 4 d. is paid for
speaking the preface, and the same sum in 1574 for the prologue.

Singers and minstrels. Sh. (48) A customary charge is “paid
to the minstrell” usually 8 d. There also occur these items: “for
makinge the songe” and “for prikyng the songes xvjd.” It. p’d
30 to the singyngmen xvjd, it. p’d to the singers and makyng the
songe ijs iiiijd.

Miscellaneous entries. (64) It. p’d for vj payr of gloves iij s iiiijd,
it. a staf for a polax ij d, it. payd for mendyng of the bowe iiijd., it.
p’d for halfe a yard of rede sea vjd; (46) it. pd for a pece of tymber
35 for an apetrie ijs iiiijd, it. pd for ij cloutes, a clamp and other yron
work about the apetrie xijd; (16) mendyng the players reparell.

1569, payd Thomas Nycelys for prikinge the songes xijd.

1 Sh. suggests that “ij starns” 12d. and “a dyadem,” 4d. (sic) be approp-
priated to these characters.
2 Sh. This character (the demon) was furnished with a vizor or mask,
and a club made of buckram and painted.
3 Sh. suggests that it was a person delivered from hell.
4 Sh. Preface or more frequently prologue.
5 Sh. Singers and singing men is an article of regular entry after the
term “minstrell” is discontinued. 6d. and 8d. was the accustomed fee to
the minstrell.
6 Sh. Adam and Eve, though not particularized in the list of performers
in the cappers’ pageant (in consequence probably of these parts being taken
by persons who had played other characters in an earlier portion of the
pageant) were nevertheless indispensable requisites, and the introduction of
this appropriate and distinguishing symbol is thus readily accounted for.

C. C. PLAYS.
APPENDIX II.

The Destruction of Jerusalem. Sh. gives the following as an exact copy of the entry for the pageant of the Destruction of Jerusalem in 1584, when the cappers were at joint expense with the shearmen and taylors:

1584. Paymente for our partes for the pagyn and actes: Payd for fyve rehearse s v s; spente at the same rehearse xx s; spente at Thomas Robynsone bytymes at the appointing of thinges x d; paide for our partes at the setting and drivinge of the pagyn and skaffoldes ij s vj d; payd for dressynge the pagyn vj d; paide towards the hyre of a drum xij d; payde for playinge of the same 10 drum iiij d; payde for mendynge of the skaffolds vij d; payde for iij bearldes ij s vj d; paide svice musicissions; payd for the hyre of a trumpet vj d; payd for mendynge of the players reparrell vij d; paide towards the players breakfast and drynke in the pagyn and a-nyght\(^1\) when the had played vs vj d; paide for more\(^2\) ale that 15 was droncke at the settings in of the pagyn and skaffolds iiij d; payde for makynge in of oure pagyn dories and small cordes iiij d; (65) payde for oure suppers and the iij masters of the sharmen and taylors and the clarke and sumneres iiij s; the same is xxvij s ix d. Paymente to the players: Payde to Owton v s, payde to Thomas 20 Symcox v s, payde to the barber iiij s vj d, payde to the butler iiij s vj d, payde to Hollandes iiij s vj d, payde Xphere Tayller iiij s x d, payde to Hawkes xvj d, payde to Mathewe iiij s iiij d, payde to Hawmon xvj d, payde to Mr Myles sonne xvj, payde to Holbage xvj d, payde to Jhon Shewels man vij d, payde to the captaynes 25 lackies xij d, payde to xij soullyars to were red cotes iiij s, payde for iiij garland made of bayes vj d, payde for the temple xij d, payde to Jhon Grene for makynge the booke v s\(^3\); payde for the kepynge the boke xij d; the same is xliij s iiij d; the same of our partes is xxij s iiij d.

Last record. 1591, payd to Thomas Massey towards the playes xx s.\(^4\) In 1589, the company had sold the lead and tile off their pageant house; in 1596, “furs of players gowns” were sold for 14 d, also rd of Ric. Dabson for byshoppes holds viij s.\(^5\)

The pageant-house. Sh. mentions numerous items for repair-35 ing the pageant-house and for securing the doors, and states that it was situated in Mill-lane.

Drapers’ Company.\(^6\)

The Pageant-house. In 1392–3 (16 Richard II.), a tenement in Little Park street (Cartulary of St. Mary’s, leaf 85 b) is described

\(^1\) Sh. anyght.  \(^2\) Sh. more for.
\(^3\) Sh. He furnished copies of the play to the smiths’ and mercers’ companies on the same terms.
\(^4\) Sh. says that the cappers lent their pageant, dresses, and other apparatus, contracting with Massey for the exhibition.
\(^5\) Sh. says (68) this is the last trace of the pageant history of the cappers’ company.
\(^6\) Sh. The oldest book of accounts of this company now to be found commences in 1534.
as *inter tenementum priorum et conventus ex parte una et domum pro le pagent pannarum Coventre ex altera*.¹

In 1520, the Trinity Guild sold to this company timber “to make their pageant” value 7s. 7d.; 1534, an entry occurs in their accounts of 4s. received for the rent of “the old pagent howse,” the new one being also mentioned in the same account. The orders and rules of the company “gathered owt off ould and ansyent boukes” in 1534 contain an order that the masters shall “se the prossecon kept on Corpus Cristy daye, the pageon and 10 play well broughte forth with harnessyng of men and the watche kept at Mydsomer on Seynt Peters nyght with oder and good costumes usyd in old tyme to the lawde and prays of God and the worschyp of thys cytte” (160).

*Characters.*² God, two demons, three white (sometimes saved) 15 souls, three black (sometimes damned) souls, (67) two spirits, four angels, three patriarchs, two worms of conscience, prologue, two clarks for singing, one to sing the basse, Pharisee.

*Machinery,*² etc. Hell-mouth—a fire kept at it; windlass and three fathom of cord; earthquake, barrell for the same, a pillar 20 for the words of the barrel painted; three worlds painted and a piece that bears them; a link to set the world on fire³; pulpites for the angels; cross, rosin, a ladder.

*Dresses.*² God’s coat of leather, red sendal for God; demon’s head (or visor); coats, hose, and points for the demon; coats for 25 the white and black souls, hose and points for them; suit for angels—gold skins, wings for angels; three cheverels and a beard; four diadems; black, red, and yellow buckram; hair 3 lb. for the demon’s coat and hose; hat for the Pharisee.

*Music,* etc.² Trumpets, organ, regalls. 1566, payd to Thomas 30 Nydes for setting a songe xij d.

*Play-books.* 1557, paid to Robert Crowe for makyng of the boke for the paggen xx s.

*Pageant.* 1540, it. for mending the bateling yn the toppe of the pagent viij d.; 1567, payd for carvyng bords and crest for the 35 toppe of the padgen iiij s.; (68) 1561, pageant driven by ten men who received 2s. 6d.

*Miscellaneous items* (77). 1538, p’d to hym that drowe the pagent iij d., it. for pakke thrzydde and sope ij d ob; 1556, payd for nayllys, resyys and rosyn vij d.; 1557, payd to the plears when the 40 fyrste paggen was pleyd to drynko ij s.; 1569, payd for alle at the Swanne dore ij s.

*The charges of performing* vary from 21s. to £4 8s. 6d.

*Payments to Performers.*⁴ 1538, it. payd to hym that

¹ *SH*. It may be remarked that this is the first instance of pageants in Coventry that has been discovered.

² *Sharp’s list.*

³ *SH*. The worlds were provided annually, and the number three seems to indicate that the performance was limited to as many representations on Corpus Christi day.

⁴ *SH*. The character of God commences the list in payments to performers.
playeth goddes parte iij s iij d, it. payd to iij angeles xvij d, it. payd to iij patriarches xij d, it. payd to iij white soules xvij d, it. payd to iij blakke souls ij s, it. payd to ij demons iij s, it. payd for kepyng the wynde vij d; 1556, it. payd to God iij s iij d, it. payd to ij demons iij s, it. payd to iij whyte sollys (1565, savyd 5 sowles) v s, it. payd to iij blake sollys (1565, dampnyd sowles) v s, it. to ij spryttys xvij d, it. payd for the prologue vij d, it. payd to iij angellys ij s, it. payd to iij pattraykys xvijd, it. payd to ij clarkys for syngyng ij s, it. payd to the trompyttar iij s iij d (afterwards 5 s.), it. payd for playng on the reygalles vij d; 1557, 10 it. payde to Jhon to synge the basse iij d; 1566, it. payd to the pageant players for their songs iij d; 1560, it. payd to Robert Cro for pleayng God iij s iij d; 1561, it. payd for playeing of the protestacyon vij d, it. payd to ij wormes of conscience xvij d; 1562, it. payd to ij wormes of conscience xvij d; 1569, pd for alle 15 when thei (the players) dresse them iij d.

(69) The characters. God. 1556, payde for vij skynnes¹ for Godys cote (inter alia); 1557, paid for a peyre of gloves for God ij d; 1562, payd for a cote for God and for a payre of gloves iij s; 1565, p’d for iij yards of redde sendall for 20 God xx d.

Demons. 1536, it. for mending the demons heed vij d; 1540, it. for peyntyng and makyng new ij demons heds (inter alia); 1556, payd for a demons face ij s; 1560, it. payd to Cro for mending the devells cottes xx d; 1568, payd for makyng the devells 25 hose vij d, payd for paynts for the demon (inter alia), payd for canvas for one of the devells hose xj d, payd for makyng the ij devells facys x s, payd for makyng a payre of hose with heare xxij d, paid for iij li. of heare iij s vij d; 1572, it. pd for ij pound of heare for the demons cottes and hose and mendingyng.

White and blacke souls. (70) 1536, for mendingyng the white and the blake souls cotes viij d; 1537, it. for v elnes of canvas for shyrtie and hose for the blakke soules at v d the elne ij s j d, it. for coloryng and makyng the same cotes ix d, it. for makyng and mendeinge of the blakke soules hose vij d, it. for a payre of newe 35 hose and mendingyng of olde for the whyte soules xvij d; 1543, it. p’d for the mendedyng of the whytt solls kotts with the iij skyns that went to them xvij d; 1553, payde for a dosayne of skyrans for the sollys cottys iij s vij d, p’d for makyng the sollys cottys iij s; 1556, p’d for canvas for the sollys cottys xix ellys xiiij s iij d, 40 p’d for ix elys of canvas made yellow xij d, pd for x elys of canvas made blacke xd, payd for ij pessys of yallow bokeram vij s vij d, payd for iij yards of rede bokaram ij s viij d, payd for makyng the sollys cottes vij s viij d, p’d for blakyng the sollys fassys (inter alia); 1565, p’d for ix yards and a halve of bukram for 45 the sowles coates viij s; 1566, p’d for the paynts for the souls (inter alia); 1567, p’d for iij elnes of yelloo canvas iij s x d,

¹ Sh. refers to smiths’ accounts, pp. 85–6.
it. for collering the solles cottes yellow xvjd, p'd for a solles cote xij d.¹

(71) Two spirits.² 1556, payd for iij elys of Lynyne cloth for the playars gownys iij s viij d, payd for makynge of iij gownys and 5 a cote vij s.³

Four angels. 1538, it. for makynge an angells scytte xij d; 1540, it. for peyntyng and makynge new iiiij peire of angells wynges (inter alia); 1556, payd for iiiij pere of angyllys wyngys iij s viij d; payd for iiiij dyadymes iij s viij d, payd for vj goldyn skynnys; 1565, payd for iiiij yards of boorde to make pulpytts for the angells viij d, payd for a pece of wode to make feete for them iiiij d, payd to the carpenters for makynge ij pulpytts etc. iiiij s.⁴

(72) Three patriarchs. 1556, payd for iij chefferellys and a berde of here iij s x d.⁵

15 Two worms of conscience. Introduced in 1561.⁶

Prologue.⁷ 1561 (only), it. payd for playeing of the protestacyon viij d.⁸

Pharisee. 1562, it. payde Robert Croo for a hat for the Pharysye viij d.⁹

20 Machinery, etc. Windlace. 1538, it. for mendyng a rope to the pagent there fedom longe vj d; 1543, payd for a new rope for the wynd xvij d; 1556, payd for dryvyng of the pagand kepyng the wynde iiiij s; (73) 1568, payd for a cord for the wynde iij s vij d, payd for mendyng the wynde iij d.

25 Hell-mouth (61). 1537, it. paide for payntyng and makynge newe hell-hede xij d; 1538, it. payd for mendyng of hell-hede vij d; 1542, payde for makynge hell-hede viij s iij d; 1554, it. paid for payntyng hell-hede newe xx d; 1556, payde for kepyngne hell-hede viij d; 1557, it. payd for kepyng of fyer at hell-mothe iiiij d; 1563, p'd to Jhon Huyt for payntyng of hell-mowthe xvjd; 1567, p'd for makynge hell-mowth and cloth for hyt iiiij s.

¹ Sh. suggests that the damned souls wore a parti-coloured dress which represented flames.
² Sh. says that the two spirits were first introduced in 1556 in which year many new dresses and properties were acquired.
³ Sh. assigns these entries to the two spirits because of the linen material.
⁴ Sh. appropriares for general reasons the diadems and the six golden skins to the angels; the latter item he says immediately follows the former in the original entry. Sh. (77). In 1566, Aug. 17, Queen Elizabeth visited Coventry; on which occasion the drapers' pageant stood at the cross; it appears from their accounts that pulpitts for the angels and other special preparations were made for that exhibition.
⁵ This also is Sh.'s assignment.
⁶ Sh. There is no entry of dress or apparatus that can be applied to them.
⁷ Sh. This was amongst the additions made in 1556.
⁸ Sh. This might probably (as well as the prologue, for both were introduced subsequently to the Reformation,) be spoken for the purpose of pretesting against any papistical notions, notwithstanding they played the pageant as it had been accustomed.
⁹ Sh. In the payments to performers no such character appears, and besides the above there is only one other notice of it.
APPENDIX II.

Earthquake. 1556, payd for the baryll for the yerthequake \textit{(inter alia)}, payd for the pyllar for the wordys of the baryll iij s iiij d, payd for payntyng the pyllur \textit{(inter alia)}; 1557, payd for kepyng the baryll \textit{(inter alia)}, it. payd for tyntynge the yerthequake iiij; 1556, payd for keveryng the erthequake to porter iij s.

Three worldes. 1556, payd to Crowe for makynyng of iij worldys ij s, payd him more for same iij s viij d; 1560, paid to him for the worlds 3s. 8d.; (74) 1558, payd for iij worldys iij s viij d, payd for payntyng of the worldys \textit{(inter alia)}, payd for settyng the world of fyer v d, payd for kepyng fyer \textit{(inter alia)}.

Cross. 1537, it. for makynyng of the crosse and coloryng yt ij d.

Ladder. 1557, payd for a larthar iiij d; 1566, payde for fetchyng and kepyng the ladder ij d.

Music. 1538, it. payd for mendyng the trumpetst vij d; 1557, it. to the trumppter iij s iiij d, payd for fetchyng a pere of horgens and the carrege of them whoyme iij s; 1558, p’d for beryng of the orgens vj d; 1559, it. payd for playng on the regylals vj d; 1565, it. payd to James Huyt for the rygalls xij d.

Extra entry 1572. Sh. After the usual entry of particulars of the pageant charges for 1572 occurs the following: The charges 20 of iij new gownes and iij surplesses; payd to Wyliam Walden for stufe xlijij s j d, payd to John Grene for canvas ljj s iiij d, payd to John Gosnell for furrynge the gownes xx s, payd for makynyng the gownes x s, payd for makynyng the surplesses xvij d, payd for wrtyng the booke x s; sma vj li xvij s ix d.

Destruction of Jerusalem. 1584, cost of £6 4s. 9d.

Last entries. 1591, payd Thomas Massye 4 for the pageant xl s, payd for corde and horsyng the pagan vj d, 5 1595, Recd. for the hyer of our players clokes with other such stufe iij s.

MERCERS' PAGEANT. 6

(77) 1579, Charges of the pagante: Paide for olde ordynarye 30 charges aboute the pagante for plaieres wages and all other thinges the same of iij li viij s viij d.

1 Sh. The representation of an earthquake was first introduced in 1556; all the items are given.
2 Sh. suggests that this may have been a supplementary pageant, but inclines to think it a play performed before the company at their dinner.
3 Sh. Not particularized, only a general entry.
4 Sh. Massye seems to have been a general contractor for managing the pageants that year; the cappers and mercers as well as the drapers agreed with him. It will be seen by referring to the accounts of 1584 that he furnished the “temple & beards” to the smiths’ company, and probably did the like as to the “temple” for the cappers. He was certainly paid 16d. for services toward the mercers’ pageant in 1584.
5 Sh. One instance only occurs of horses in the drapers’ pageant, viz. 1591, the very last time of their performing (20).
6 The oldest account book of the mercers’ company now remaining commences in 1579, the last year of a regular performance of the pageants.
APPENDIX II.

Trinity Guild accounts. 1473 (13 Edward IV.), R' Joh'e Trumpton et Thoma Colyns custodibus de mercers pro redditu de pagant house lijs viij'd.1 MS. annals. 1523, The mercers' pageant gallantly trimmed stood in the Cross Cheaping this year, when the Lady Mary came to Coventry.

(78) Destruction of Jerusalem.2 1584, Charges of the pagante and the playe3: P'd for hieringe apparell for the playeres and for carrig xxxijj's, p'd for makinge ij greene cloks x s iiij'd, p'd Green for the playe booke v s, p'd for mendinge the skaffoldes iiij's 10 iiij'd, p'd Digbym for dromminge viij's, p'd iiij boyes that plaid xvij'd, p'd for musiken v s iiij'd—p'd the trumpeter iiij's iiij'd— viij's viij'd, p'd the painter iiij's, p'd 12 souldiours iiij's iiiij'd— p'd a standard bearer xiij'd—v s iiij'd, p'd for drivinge the pagante and skaffolds v s iiij'd, p'd for settinge up the pagant viij'd. One 15 performer received 6s. 8d.; others 5s., 4s., and 3s. each.

1588, "pagante stufe" sold to the amount of 59s. 8d.; the only article specified "a copper chayne" produced 2s. 4d.

1591, p'd Thomas Masseye towards plainge the pagants xxxiiij's iiiij'd.4

20 Pinners' and Needlers', Tilers', and Coopers' Pageant.5

Harl. MSS. 6466, the Tilers' Book of Rules and Orders, copied by H. Wanley.

(79) 1453 (Rich. Wood Mayor). Also yt ys ordeynyd bye a general counsel of all the craftes and craftes6 that the wryghtes craft of Coventre shal paye to the pageant x s uppon Whytsonday or else by Corpus Christi daye upon the payne of xx s halfe to the 25 mayor and halfe to the craftes and by cause they to haue no more to do wyethe the pageant but payeyng there x s.—f. 5.

Be hyt knone to all men be thys wring in the tyme of Richard Jackson then beyng meire of Coventre be a wolfe concall

1 Sh. a like payment occurs so late as 1516.
2 Sh. gives the sum of the expenditure as £8 9s. 6d. to which the girdlers contributed 52s. 2d.
3 Sh. speaks of these charges as a selection from the entry.
4 Sh. suggests that this was contributed in aid of a pageant exhibited by some other company.
5 Sh. (78) The rules and orders of the company of pynners and nedelers, agreed upon 2 Henry V. (1414) before Laurence Cooke then mayor of Coventry and others, "evermore for to stonden and to lasten," recite inter alia, that the said craft are to bear the charges and reparations of "her pageant callyd the takynge down of God fro the cro s for evermore amongs hem;" and to eschew faults and mchiefs of false mon of the same craft, they agree that they shall be clothed in one livery against Corpus Christi day, from year to year, and ride on that day with the mayor and bailiffs, "all in asute in worship of the citee on pain of 2s. each, and every member of the company who intends having a livery against Corpus Christi feast, to bring 40d. to the master on the 25th of March, and the remainder when he fetches his livery, and if he has an hoo, then to bring 6d. more on the 25th of March and the remainder when he takes his livery.
6 MS. and also that,
made at a let that all the tylle-makers of Stoke schall pay to crafts of pinnars, tylars, and cappers of Coventre every yere,\(^1\) Sd a man,\(^2\) how many so euer\(^3\) be, and hyt to be payd apone Corpus Christi day, apone the pene of 20 s halff to the mere and halffe to the crafte and thys ordeyn\(^4\) and grauntyd in the tyme of Rycherd 5 Cokke then byeg merre of Coventre, tyng byeg keppe of the seyd crafts Thomas Thenell, John More; Henry \[\_\], wittenes therof.—f. 6.

1501 (R'd Jackson mayor). Also yt is ordeynd and agred by the wholl body of the craft of the bowyers\(^5\) and felters of the 10 citie of Coventre in this behalfe and by ther on will that what stranger that is mad brother to them after ther ordonsance afor-seid, that 6s 8d of his brotherhode to remayn to the cost and reparacion of the pagent of the pynners, tylers, and coupers of Coventre in payne of 20s halfe to the maire and halffe to the crafte.—f. 7. 15

Also hit is ordeynd and agred by the wull body of the craft of bowyers & felters of Coventre in the tyme of John Duddersbury beynge myre of the citie of Coventre and by the wholl councell of the same at Estur lett ther holden, that the keperis of the craft aforseid shall paye to the maisters of the pynners, tylers, and coupers 20 of Coventre for the yere beyng, and to ther successours for ever yerely, the 12th day aftur the fest of Corpus Christi 3s 4d, apone the pene of 20 s half to the myre and halffe to the craft of pynners, tylers, and coupers a-for-seid ; and mor-over the wholl body of the craft of pynners, and tylers, and coupers of Coventre graunteh that 25 the wholl body of the craft of bowyers and felters of Coventre be at ther libert be to come amonge them, nother to weddyngs, nor byrryngs, nor to wache, nor to no other costom, but be at ther libert for ever.—f. 7.

1502. Also hit is ordeyned and a-grede by the wholl body of 30 the craft of the tylmakers of Stoke in the tyme of Richard Jackson beyng myre of the citie of Coventre and be the wholl councell of the same at Estur lett then holden, that the maisters for the yere beyng of the tyl-makers shall paye to the craft of the pynners, tylers, and coupers at Coventre and to ther successours for ever 5 s, ther to be delvyrerd to the maisters of the craft for the yere beyng apon Corpus Christi daye, appon the payn of 20 s, halfe to the myre and halffe to the craft, and this ordinance was confermyde afor master Richard Cooke in hys meyralte and afor other of his worshipfull brethrun.—f. 8.

1504 (John Duddersbury mayor). Also hit is ordeynde and a-grede by the wol body of the craft of the tylmakers of Stoke by ther one will that what stranger that is made brother with them after ther ordinsance, that 6s, 8d. of his brotherhode to remayn to the cost and reparacion of the payant of the pynners, and 45

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\(^1\) MS. herre. \(^2\) MS. in one. \(^3\) MS. money to every. \(^4\) MS. orfyn. \(^5\) MS. err. Cottyers, here and throughout; so Sh.
APPENDIX II.

tyllers, and coupers of Coventre in payne of 20s, halfe to the major and halfe to the crafte.—f. 8.

Carpenters contributory. 1448, it. solutum ad le pineros pro le pagent x s. 1461, payd to pynners and tyllers for the pagent x s.

5 Similar regular entries occur in their Book of Accounts now in the Muniment-room in St. Mary's Hall.

TANNERS' PAGEANT.1

1517. Sh. (80) Wm. Pisford of Coventry by a will dated this year gives to the tanners' company his scarlet gown and his crimson gown to make use of at the time of their plays. Also to 10 the craft of tanners and to every other craft finding priest or pageant, to the augmentation of the service of God and upholding of the laudable custom of the city 3s. 4d. each.

OTHER PAGEANTS.

Other pageants considered by Sh. (80–2) are:

Girdlers' Pageant. No information except that derived from 15 the Leet Book.

Whittawers' Pageant. 1548, the cappers "recieved of the craft of the whittawers for the hyer of our pageant iiij s iiiij d." The butchers were contributory and Sh. gives these entries from their account book: 1562, paid to the whittawers towards their 20 pagant xij s xijij d.2 1591, it. pd at Mr Mayors commandement towards the pageants xxij s iiiij d.

Painters' Pageant. The authority for supposing that the painters had a pageant is the order of leet 1526 requiring the carvers to contribute 12d. each to the painters' pageant. But in 25 1532 another order commands the painters to contribute 4s. yearly to the girdlers. The 1526 order refers to the cardmakers' pageant in which the painters were associated.

Cardmakers' Pageant. Various orders of leet are the only records preserved. In 1537 their pageant passed into the hands 30 of the cappers.

Shearmen and Taylors' Pageant. Sh. (66) A deed 19 Hen. VII. (1503) describes the pageant house belonging to the shearmen and taylors as situated there (in Mill-lane) betwixt the pageant houses of the pinners' and weavers' companies.3 In 1579 the 35 smiths hired a gown of the shearmen and taylors for the use of their pageant.

1 Sh. states that the account books and other documents belonging to the company have been destroyed.

2 Sh. This payment was regularly made, with the exceptions of the years 1568, 1580–3, until 1584 when they paid 20s.

3 See also account of weavers' pageant-house below.
1453. Also it is ordenydy that the jornyemen of the seyd crafte schall have yerely vj.s viij.d and for that they schall have owte the paggent and on Corpus Christi day to dryve it from place to place ther as it schal be plyed and then for to brynghe it ageyn into the paggent howse without ony hurt ye nyther defawe and they for to put the master to no more coste.—Ordinances of the Company of Weavers.  

1523, spend on Corpus Christi day xxij.s viij.d ob; 1525, same item xxx s viij d ob.

Entry for 1525. Expencys on Corpus Christi day: It.5 payd for met and drynk for the players ij.s xd, it. payd to Symyon for hys wagys ij.s iiiij.d, it. payd to Joseph xiiij.d, it. payd to Mare x.d, it. payd to Sedden for Ane xd, it. payd to Symyons clerk x.d, it. payd to Jhux xx d, it. payd to the angles 15 xx d, it. payd for glovys viij.d, (A. 20) it. payd to the synggers xvijd, it. payd Homon for dryving of the pagent vs iiij.d. Under the head of receipts occurs for this year only: It. res.7 of the masters for the pagynt money xvjs iiiij.d.

Subsequent History. Sh. No other than general entries occur 20 until 1541. The charges for Corpus Christi day regularly occur in the accounts from their commencement in 1523 to 1533 inclusive; after which no payment is found until 1537. From 1537 the weavers' pageant was regularly performed until 1579. 1566, (Queen Elizabeth's visit), weavers' pageant at Much Park street 25 end. (A. 21) 1587, r.6 of John Showell for the padgant xle, payd at James Ellidges when we sold our padgant xiijs, payd at Pyringses when we sold the payntyng of the ... xvijd; 1591, it. payd to Mr. Mayor for the padgantes xx s; 1593, it. payd when we resewed the moneye for the players apparell xijd; 1606, it. pd. 30 at Pyringses when we hired our apparell to Thomas Masie xvijd; 1607, it. pd. when we lente our players apparell ijijd.

(A. 22) Players. 1544, it. pd to Symyon iij.s iiiij.d, it. payd to Joseph ijs iijijd, it. pd to Mare xxd, it. payd to Jhux xxd, it. payd to Symyons clerk xx d, it. payd to Ane xx d, payd to the ij angells 35 viijd, payd to the synggers xvijijd (1550, synggers for the pagent); 1551, it. payd to the woman for her chyld iijijd; 1553, it. payd to the letell chyld iiijd. Sh. remarks that in 1523 five performers became love-members of the weavers' company and paid on admis-

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1 Sh. The most ancient account-book of the weavers' now called the clothiers' company commences in 1523. In a footnote in which Sh. explains that the weavers must have had a pageant long before that, he refers to an agreement between the masters and journeymen wherein it is stipulated that every journeyman shall annually contribute 4d. ad opus de le pagent. All references to Sh. in the account of this pageant refer to Abbotsford Club edition 1836 (A.).

2 H.—P. 1. 339. 3 Sh. corpus xpi and below.
4 Sh. 8, d, ob, and below. 5 Sh. Ijm and below.
6 Sh. Four leaves are here wanting in the account-book; so that the entry is not completed. 7 Sh. res and below. 8 A. 27. 9 Sh. R. and below.
sion 10d. each: 1523, res. of Symons clarke x d, res. of Jocho
x d, res. of Our Lady x d, res. of Jhu x d, res. of Anne x d.

Fines. 1450, r. of Hary Bowater of hys fynys beyng Symeons
clerke x d, r. of Crystover Dale playing Jhu of hys fynye x d, r. of
5 Hew Heyns pleyne Anne for hys fynye vjd.

Pageant Dresses. 1523, it. pd for makynge of a whyt ford
prellat for Jhe viij d; 1541, payd for a amys for Symyon ij d;
1542, payd for makynge of Symonys mytor viij d; 1543, it. payd
for hyre of the grey ames iiij d; 1570, it. paid for the hyer of ij
10 beards to Hary Benet ij d; (A. 23) 1576, it. payd for ij beards
and a cappe vjd; 1578, it. payd for mendyng of the two angilis
crownes ij d.

Music. 1536, payd to the mynstrall for Corpus Cristy day
and myssomer nyght ij s; 1554, payd to James Hewet for hys
15 reyggals viij d; 1556, payd to James Hewett for playing of hys
rygols in the paygent viij d; 1561, it. payd James Hewett for his
rygols and synggyn ij s iiij d; 1586, payd to Mr. Goleston for
mendyng our instruments xvij d.

Play-book. 1535, it. payd for makynge of the playe-boke vs.
20 Pageant Vehicle. 1535, paid to the wrght for mendoing the
pagent iiij s ij d, payd to Ryhard Walker for a theyll v d, payd for
smale pesys of tymber v d, payd to the whylwryght for mendoing
the whyle viij d, payd for iron worke to the pagent x d (1542, xij d),
payd for gret naylys to the wheelis iiij d, payd for v pene nayle
25 and vj pene nayle viij d, payd for bordys to the pagent xij d;
1542, payd to the wrght for makynge the ij lyttly whelys iiij d;
1563, payd for payntyng of the vane iiij d; 1569, it. payd for
smythy worke belongyng to our pagent xx d, it. payd for hangyng
up our pagent doore viijd; 1570, it. paid for mendoing of a
30 pretyste broken with the pagyent xjd.

(A. 24) Sundries. 1535, payd for russys pynnys and frankyn-
sence ij d (Sh. sometimes 4d.—and soap is occasionally added);
1546, it. pd for rosshes and pakke thread ij d (tenterhooks some-
times); 1556, it. pd for the wast of ij tapars iiijd; 1558, it. pd
35 for the wast of ij tapars and insence ij d; 1570, it. paid to John
Hopperis for ij rserys in the halle iiijd. Sh. says that charges for
rehearsals were of regular occurrence, and that "there is good reason
to believe" that the hall here referred to was St. Nicholas' hall
which the company usually attended.

40 Specimen Entry. 1563, in primis for ij rserys ij s, it. payd
for the dryvynge of the pagente v d, it. paid to Symeon iiij s iiijd,
it. paid to Josephe ij s iiijd, it. paid to Jesus xx d, it paid to
Mary xx d, it. paid to Anne xx d, it. paid to Symoens clarke xx d,
it. paid to the ij angells viijd, it. paid to the chylde iiijd, it. paid
45 for russhes packthryd and nayls iiijd, it. paid to James Hewete
for his rygoles xx d, it. paid for syngyng xvjd, it. paid for gloves
ij s ij d, it. paide for meate in the bocherye x s ix d, it. paid for
bread and ale viijd; summe xliiiij s iiijd.
Pageant house. Sh. From deeds belonging to the now Clothers' company it appears that, so early as 13th Hen. VI., 1435, a parcel of land in Mill Lane, adjoining the "tailour painct," being 30½ feet wide and 70½ long, was granted and let for 80 years to John Hampton and 7 others, paying 3s. 8d. rent, and covenanting to erect thereupon during that term "nam domum vocatur a painct hows" and to keep the same in good repair during the said term. By another deed dated 12th May, 17th Hen. VI., 1439, Richard Molle, weaver, and others, demise to Wm. Gale and Wm. Flower masters of the Cardmakers' company, Richard Twig master 10 of the company of Saddlers, John Ward master of the Painters' company, and Henry Stevens and Henry Clerk masters of the Freemasons' company, and their successors, a void piece of ground in Mill Lane, adjoining certain land held by the master of the weavers, for 101 years, paying 4s. rent during the life of Thomas Wotton and 2s. afterwards during the lives of the grantees, covenanting also to keep in repair any building erected thereon. On the 6th October 1455 the same parties convey to Richard Cockes and 5 others, weavers, in fee, "a place of land, built upon, called wevers' pageant-howe in Mill Lane," reserving 1d. yearly rent to the master and brethren of St. John's Hospital. On the 10th of the same month the above-named Cockes and others grant a rent charge of 4s., during his life, to Thomas Wotton, payable out of the weavers' pageant house; and on the 6th June 1458 Cockes and Pace release their interest in the 25 same to John Tebbes and 3 other cofeoffees. On the 18th Dec. 1466 the surviving feofees grant the pageant house to Wm. Jones and Laur. Hyron, weavers, in fee.

Repairs, etc., to pageant house. 1531, payd for mendyng of the pageant-howe wyndo ij s; 1537, pd for makyng 30 of a hyunge to the pageant-howe dore viij d.

New building on the site of pageant house. 1587, r. for the journe of the pagent house xs vjd; paymente for bulding of the paygente house in the Myl Lane: Item in prymys payd at takinge doune of the house and the tilles, for hieryng of a rope 35 and caryinge the leade to the store house, and for drynked to the worke-men that same day ij s x d, it. payd to carpenters for ther wages iiij li iiij s iiij d, it. payd to the masons for ther wages viij s iiij d, it. payd to the tileys for tiling and daubing xvij s viij d, it. payd for stone and for caryinge of stone xijs, it. payd for sand 40 and claye vs iijs, it. payd for lyme and for heare to make mortar ix s viij d, tiles 9s. 6d., timber 30[25]s. 8d., spars and stoods 11s. 8d., it. payd for a hundred and halfe of bryckes iijs ij d, it. payd at the rearyng of the house and on the nyght befor xs vj d;

Pageant. 1535, payd to the journeymen for dryvying the pagent iiij s ij d, spend between the plays vjd; (A. 27) 1564, it. for mendyng of the pagyon viij d, it. for payntyng of the vane
iiij d, it. pd for nayls for the pagente v.d, it. paid for iij cartes nayls for the wheels iiiij d; 1566, it. payd for a whole for the pagente iiiij s, it. payd for byndynge the whele and for cartes nayles and other workemanship that belongyth unto hym iij s iiiij d, it.
5 payd for a spoke ¹ for the whele xijd, it. payd for naylles and sope and a clawte for the axetre xijd; 1568, it. paid for greate nayles for the pagent wheles iij s, it. payd for makynge of iij trestles and mending the pagent xiiijd; 1570, it paid for makynge an exalte for the pagyante xijd, it. paid for a trendell for the scaffold and
10 the makynge iij d; 1572, it. pd for a trendyll for the scaffold iiiij d; 1573, it. paide for mendinge the pageand x d.
(A. 27) Miscellaneous. 1564, it. paid for setttyng e one of Jhesus sleues ijd, it. paid for payntynge of Jesus heade viijd, it. paid for solynge of Jesus hose j d, it. paid to John Dowley to
15 make oute the money for his gowne viijd; 1566, it. payd for mending of ij poleaxes viijd.
(A. 21) Destruction of Jerusalem. 1584, item paide for rehearses ijs, item paide at the settinge out of the pagion vjd, item paide on the pagion dayes for bread and drincke ijs viijd,
20 item paide for nayles and rushes vjd, item paide to John Smythe xvijs, item paide for drivinge of the pagion vs, item paide to Robert Baggesley for mending of the pagion vjd; rentgatherer's account: payd for that whych belongeth to the pagaunte xij s, payd for nayles and mendingy of the pagyent iij d.

Appendix III.

Pageants on Special Occasions. Extracts from the Coventry Leet Book.

25 Reception of Queen Margaret in 1456.² Md.³ That the Thursday next aftur the fest of seynt Bartholomewe the postyll, the yere reynynge of Kyng Herry the sixt aftur the Conquest xxiij, Richard Braytoft then beyng meyre, was made assemble yn seynt Mary Halle, of worshipfull persons, whos names
30 folowen:— (List of 90 persons.)

The wheche persones aboven rehearsed then ordyned and provyded, that ther shold a C marke be levyed by the wardes yn Coventre, wherof L marke to be yeven to oure souerayne lady the

quene and other L marke to the prynce, at her next coymg to Coventre.

Afturward, that ys for to sey at the fest of the Holy Crosse the xxxv yere of Kyng Harry the sixt, at Coventre, L marke was yeven to oure soverayn lady the quene; and the xx day of 5 January then next folowyng, he the seyde meyre and his counsell, the other L marke of the seyde C marke, was relivered to the collectours of every warde after the rate, as hit be endentures severally made be-twix the seyde meyre and the collectours apereth, savely to kepe to the use of the prynce, when he comes 10 to Coventre.

Ml. That the demene and rule that was made and shewed un-to oure soverayn lady the quene, at Coventre, was thus as it foloweth yn wrytyng; that is for to sey, furst at Bablake there was made a Jese over the yate right well [arayed], and there were 15 shewed too specches, as foloweth:

**YSAY.** Princes most excellent, born of blode riall,¹
  Chosen quene of this region, conforte to all hus,
I, Ysay, replete with the spirite propheticall,
  Wordes to your magnificens woll I say thus:² 20
  Like as mankynde was gladdid by the birght of Jhsus,
  So shall this empyre joy the birthe of your bodye;
  The knyghtly curagge of prince Edward all men shall joy to se.

**JEREMY.** Emprecce, quene, princes excellent, in on person all iiij.
  I, Jeremy the prophete trew, theis wordes of you wyll say: 25
  This reme shall joye the blessyd tyme of your nativyte;
  The mellyflue mekenos of your person shall put all wo away.
  Unto the rote of Jesse³ likken you well I may;
  The fragante floure sprongon of you shall so encree and spredde, 30
  That all the world yn ich party shall cherisshe hym, love and drede.

Afturward with-inne the yate at the est yende of the chirche,
was a pagent right well arayed and therin was shewed a specche
cf seynt Edward and an-other of seynt John the Evaungelist, 35
as foloweth:

⁴S. EDWARD. Moder of mekenes, dame Margarete, princes
  most excellent,
I, kyng Edward, welcum you with affeccion righ[t] cordiall,
  Certefying to your highnes mekely myn entent. 40
  For the wele of the kyng and you hertely pray I shall,
  And for prince Edward, my gostly chyld, whom I love principall,

¹ f. 169 b. ² This and the preceding line inverted in MS.
 ² MS. rote of Jesse rote. ⁴ f. 169.
APPENDIX III.

Praying the, John evangelist, my helpe therin to be;
On that condition right humbly I gif this ryng to the.

JOHN EVANGELIST. Holy Edward, crownyd kyng, brother in
virgynyte,
My power playnly I wyll prefer thi wyll to amplifie.
Most excellent princes of weymen mortall, your bedeman wyll
I be.
I knowe your lyf so vertuus that God is plesyd therby;
The birth of you un-to this reme shall cause grete melody.

The vertuus voyce of prince Edward shall dayly well encrease;
Seynt Edward, his godfader, and I shall pray therefor dowteslesse.

Afturward the cundit yn Smythfonde strete was right well
arrayd and there was shewed iiij speches of iiij cardynall vertuus,
as foloweth:

15 RIGH[t]WESNES. I, Righ[t]wesenes, that causeth treuth to be
had,
Mekely as a maydym my langage wyll I make,
And welcum you, princes right cherefull and glad;
With you wyll I be dwellyng and never you forsake.

20 TEMPERAUNCE. I, Temperaunce, to plesse you warly wyll wake,
And welcome you as most worthy to my power,
Besechynge youre highnes this langage to take;
I wyll feythfully defende you from all manner daunger.

STRENGTH. I, Strength the iiij vertewe, wyll playnly appere,
Clerely to consevye yo yn your estate most riall,
And welcum yowe, princes, gladly with chere;
For to do that mowe plece you, aray ws we shall.

25 PRUDENCE. I, Prudence, of the iiij vertewes highest in degre,
Welcum you, dame Margarete, queene crowned of this
lande.
The blessyd babe that ye have born, prynce Edward is he,
Thurrowe whom pece and tranquilite shall take this reme
on hand;
We shall enowe both you and hym clerely to understonde;

30 We shall preserve you personally and never fro you dissever.
Doute not, princes most excellent, we iiij shall do our dever.

1 Afturward at the crosse yn the Crosehepyng, there were
ordeyned diverse angels sensyng a-high on the crosse, and there
ranne out wyne at mony places a long while.

35 Afturward betwix the seyde crosse and the cundit benethe
that, were sette ix pagentes right well arrayd and yn every
pagent was shewed a speche of the ix conqueroures; yn the furst
was shewed of Hector, as foloweth:

1 f. 169 b.
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Hector. Most pleasant princes recordid that may be,
I. Hector of Troy, that am chefe conquerour,
Lowly wyll obey yowe and knele on my kne,
And welcum yowe tendurly to your honoure
To this conabull cite, the princes chambr;
Whome ye bare yn youre bosom, joy to this lande,
Thro whome in prosperite this empyre shall stand.

In the secunde pagent was shewed a specche of Alexander, as foloweth:

Alexander. I, Alexander, that for chyvalry berith the balle,
Most curatjon in conquest, thro the world am y-named,
Welcum yowe, princes, as quene principall.
But I hayle you ryght handly, I wer worthy to be blamyd;
The noblest prince that is born, whome fortune hath famyd,
Is your souereyn lorde Herry, emperour and kyng;
Unto whom mekely I wyll be obeying.

In the thridle pagent was shewed of Josue as foloweth:

Josue. I, Josue, that in Hebrewe reyn principall,
To whome that all Egipte was fayn to inclyne,
Wyll obey to your pleur, princes most riall,
As to the heghest lady that I can ymagyne.
To the pleuure of your persone, I wyll put me to pyne,
As a knyght for his lady boldely to fight,
Yf any man of curage wold bid you unright.

In the foureth pagent was shewed of David, as foloweth:

David. I, David, that in deynte have led all my dayes,
That slowe the lyon and Goly thorowe Goddys myght,
Will obey to you, lady, youre persone prayse
And welcum you curtesely as a kynd knyght,
For the love of your lege lorde, Herry that hight,
And your laudabull lyfe that vertuus ever hath be;
Lady most luff, ye be welcum to this cite!

In the fyth pagent was shewed a specche of Judas, as foloweth:

Judas. I, Judas, that yn Jure am callid the belle,
In knyghthode and conquest have I no pere,
Wyll obey to you, princes, elles did I not well
And tendurly welcum you yn my manere.
Your own souereyn lorde and kyng is present here,
Whome God for his godenes preserve in good helthe,
And ende you with worship to this landys welthe!

1 MS. curims. 2 S. deynes, MS. deynets. 3 f. 170.
APPENDIX III.

In the sixt pagenet was shewed a speche of Arthur, as foloweth:

Arthur. I, Arthur, kynge crownyd and conquerour,
That yn this lande reyned right rially;
With dedes of armes I slowe the emperour;
The tribute of this ryche reme I made downe to ly—
Ihit unto [you], lady, obey I mekely,
As youre sure servande; pleur to your highnesse,
For the most plesaunt princes mortal that es!

In the vij pagenet was shewed a speche of Charles, as foloweth:

Charles. I, Charles, chefe cheftan of the reme of Fraunce
And emperour of grete Rome, made by election,
Which put mony paynysms to pyne and penance;
The holy relics of Criste I had in possession—
Ihit, lady, to your highnesse to cause dieu reseccion,
Worshipfully I welcum you after your magnificens;
Yf my service mowe plese you, I wyll put to my diligence.

In the viij pagenet was shewed a speche of Julius, as foloweth:

Julius. I, Julius Cesar, soverayn of knyghthode
And emperour of mortall men, most hogh and myghty,
Welcum you, princes most benyng and gode;
Of queenes that byn crowned so high non knowe I.
The same blessyd blossom, that spronge of your body,
Shall succede me in worship, I wyll it be so;
All the landys olyve shall obey hym un-to.

In the ix pagenet was shewed a speche of Godfride, as foloweth:

Godfride. I, Godfride of Bollayn, kynge of Jerusalem,
Weryng the thorny crowne yn worshyp of Jhesu,
Which in battayle have no pere under the sone beme;
Yhit, lady, right lowely I loute unto yowe.
So excellent a princes, stedefast and trewe,
Knowe I none crystened as you in your estate;
Jhesu for hyss merci incresse and not abaste!

2 Afturward and last the cuntit yn the Crossechepyng was
arayed right well with as mony virgyns as myght be therupon,
and there was made a grete dragon and seynt Margaret sleyn
hym be myracull, and there was shewed full well this speche
that foloweth:

S. Margaret. Most notabull princes of weymen erthe,
Dame Margarete the chefe myrth of this empyre,
Ye be hertely welcum to this cyte.

1 Smiths' Accounts, 1455(6). Item. To have oght the pagenet at the
comyng of the queene, that ys the parell to the pagenet and herneste men and
the hernes to [harnes] hem wyth and a cote armyr for Artur and a creste
with iij greveys, xviis xi d ob.—Sh. loc. cit. p. 149. 2 f. 170 b.
C. C. PLAYS.
To the pleasure of your highnes, I wyll sette my desyre;
Bothe nature and gentilnes doth me require,
Seth we be both of one name, to shewe you kyndnes;
Wherefore by my power ye shall have no distresse.

I shall pray to the Prince that is endeles
To socour you with solas of his high grace.
He wyll here my peticioun this is doutles,
For I wroght all my lyff that his wyll wase;
Therfore, lady, when ye be yn any dredefull case
Calle on me boldely, ther-of I pray you,
And tryst to me faythefully, I woll do that may pay yow.

Md. Payde to John Wedurby of Leycester for the provicion and makynge of these premisses of the welcomynge of our soverayyn lady the queene, and for his laboure inne and out xxvs.

Itm. payde for a tonne of wyne that was yeven to our soverayn lorde the kynge viij li iiiijd; itm. for ij gyllt cuppes, of the which on was yeven to our soverayn lady the queene and the other is keppte for our lorde the prince unto his comynge, the whiche cuppes wuyen xliij oz. qrt. and dr., price le oz. iiij s viijd, sma. xliiiij s j d, and over that, for giltyng of the fete of the seid 20 cuppes with inne iiij s, sma. tot. xlii x s j d; itm. the meyre gaze by the avyse of his counsell to diverse persone of the kynges house xx s; itm. he payde for a glase of rose-water that my lord Ryvers had iijs.

Reception of Edward IV, in 1460. One hundred pounds and a cup was given by the city to Edward IV. “to his welcome to his cite of Coventre from the felde yn the north.”

Reccevymge Prynce Edwarde [in 1474]. Memorandum. That the xxvij. day of the moneth of Aprill cam oore lorde prince Edward out of Walys se by Warrewik to Coventre and the meire 30 and his brethren with the divers of cominalte of the seide citie, clothed in grene and blewe, metyng oore seid lorde prince, upon horsbake by-yonde the Newe Crosse, in a chare, byeng of age of iiij yere, ther welcomynge hym to his chaumber and gyving hym ther a C mark in a gylt coppe of xv oounces with a keryff of 35 plesaunce upon the seid coppe; and then comyng in-to [the] citie. And at Babulake yate ther oderneyd a stacion, therin byeng Kyng Richard with xiiij other arrayed lyke as dukes, markises, erles, vicouns, and barons, and lordis with mynstrallcy of the wwayts of the cite, and Kyng Richard ther havynge this speche her folowyng: 40

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2 *Smithes' Accounts*, 1460, Item for the havyng owght of the pagent, when the prynts came, yn brede and ale, and to Samson wythe his iiij knyghtys, and to an harper iiij s vijd; it. for golde for Samsons garments and pouytys iiijd.—*Sk. loc. cit. p. 152.*
APPENDIX III.

Rex Richardus. Welcom, full high and nobull prince, to us right special, 5
To this your chaumber, so called of antiquite!
The presens of your noble person reioyseth our1 harts all;
We all nowe blessye the tyme of your nativite.
The right lyne of the royall blode ys now as it schulde be;
Wherfore God of his goodnes preserve you in bodily heles,
To us and your tennautes here, perpetuall ioy; and to all londis, welth!

Also at the Condite afore Richard Braytoft the elder, another stacion with iiij patriarkes ther stondying upon the seid Condite, 15
with Jacobus xij sonnes with mynstralye of harpe and dowsemeris, and ther rennyng wyne in on place; and there on of the seid patriarkes havyng this speche writtyyn:

[PatrIarch.] O God most glorious! Grounder and Gyver of all grace!
To us iiij patriarkes thou promysed, as scriptur maketh
That of our stok lynially schuld procede and passe
A pryncye of most nobull blode and kyngs sonne imperiall;
The wich was full-fylled in God. And nowe referre itt we schall
Unto this nobull pryncye that is here present,
Wich entreh to this his chaumber, as pryncye full reverent.

Also at the Brodeyzate a pagiont; and seint Edward beyng therin with x a-states with hym, with mynstralye of harpe and lute, and Kyng Edward havyng this speche next folowyng:

[King Edward.] Nobull pryncye Edward, my cssyn and my knyght,
And very pryncye of our lyne com yn² dissent!
3 I, seint Edward, have pursued for your faders imperiall right,
Wherof he was exclusid by full furiosus intent.
Unto this your chaumber, as pryncye full excellent,
Ye be right welcom; thanked be Crist of his sonde!

For that that was owres is nowe in your faders hande.

Also at the Crose in the Croscheypynge, were iiij prophets standing at the crose saynysynge, and upon the crose a-boven, were Childer of Issarell syngyng and castyng out whete obles and floures, and iiij pypy rennyng wyne.

Also in the Croscheypynge a-fore the Panyer, a pagent and iiij Kyngs of Colen theirein with other divers arraied and ij knyghts

1 MS. your. 2 MS. comyn. 3 f. 222 b.
4 This was perhaps the shearmen and taylors' pageant. Smith's Accounts, 1474, Expense for bryngynge furth the pagent a-tenet the comynge of the queene and the prince vj.d.—Sh. loc. cit. 154. The shearmen and taylors would have the necessary costumes for the kings.
armed with mynstralay of small pypis, and one of the Kyngs havynge this speche under writyn:

[A KING OF COLOGNE.] O splendent Creator! In all our speculacion,
   More bryghter then Phebus, exceedent all lyght!
We thre kyngs besche the, with make mediacion,
   Specially to preserve this nobull prynce, thi knyght,
   Wich by influens of thy grace procedeth a-right.
Of on of us thre lynnyally, we fynde,
   His nobull moder, quene Elizabeth, ys comyn of that kynde.

Also upon the Condite in the Crochepynge, was seint George armed; and a kynges daughter knelyng a-fore hym with
   a lambe; and the fader and the moder, beyng in a toure a-boven,
   beholdynge seint George savyng their daughter from the dragon;
and the Condite rennyng wyne in iiiij places, and mynstralay of
   orgonpleyinge, and seint George havynge this speche under
   wryttyyn:

[SAINTE GEORGE.] O myghty God! Our all Socour celestiall!
   Wich this reymye hast geven to dower
To thi moder, and to me, George, protection perpetuall,
   Hit to defende from enemys fere and nere;
   And as this mayden defended was here,
Bi thy grace, from this dragon devour,
   So, Lorde, preserve this noble prynce, and ever be his socour!

1 Reception of Prince Arthur in 1498.2 Md. That this yer the 25 Wensday the xvij day of October Anno xiiiij R. H. viij, prince Arthur, the first begoton son of kyng Henre the viijth, then beyng of the age of xij yrs and mor, cam first to Coventre and ther lay in the priory fro Wensday unto the Munday next suyng, at which tyme he removed towards London. Agaynst whos comying 30 was the Spontetre gayte garnysshed with the ix worthy[s], and kyng Arthur then havynge this spech, as foloweth:

[KING ARTHUR.] Hayle, prynce roiall, most anymable in sight!
   Whom the Court sterniall, thurgh prudent governaunce,
Hath chosen to be egall ons to me in myght,
   To sprede our name, Arthur, and acts to avasunce,
   And of meanys victorious to have such habundance,
That no fals treitour, ne cruell tirrant,
   Shall in eny wyse make profer to your lande
And rebelles all falce quares schall eschewewe,
   Thurgh the fere of Pallas, that favoreth your lynage
   And all outward enemys laboreth to subdue,
To make them to do to yewe as to me dyd homage.
Welcome therfor, the solace and comfort of my olde age,

1 f. 281 b.
APPENDIX III.

Prince pereless, Arthur, icome of noble progeny,
To me and to your chamber, with all this hole companye!

And at the turnyng into the Croschepyng befor Mr. Thrumpton's durr, stode the barkers paiant well appareld, in which was 5 the Quene of Fortune with dyvers other viryns, which quene has this spech folowyng:

[QUEEN OF FORTUNE.] I am dame Fortune, quene called, full expedient
To emprours and princes, prelates, with other moo;

As Cesar, Hector, and Fabius, most excellent,
Scipio, exalted Nausica, and Emilianus also,
Valerius, also Marchus, with sapient Cicero.
E and noble men, brevally the truth to conclude all,
My favour verily had, as styrys maketh reyersall;

With-oute whom, sithen non playnyng can prosper,
That in this muiteable lyfe ar nowe procedyng,
I am come thurgh love. Trust me intiere.
To be with yewe and yours evirmor enduryng,
Frynce, most unto my pleasure of all that ar nowe reynyng;

Wherfor, my nowne hert and best beloved treasu,
Welcome to this your chaumber of whom ye be inhabitur.

And the Crosse in the Croschepyng was garysshed, and wyne ther reynyng, and angels sensyng and syngyng, with orgayns and other melody etc.1. And at the Cundyt, ther was 25 seynt George kyllyng the dragon, and seynt George had this speche folowyng:

[SAINTE GEORGE.] O most soveraigne lorde, be dyvyn provision
to be
The ruler of cruell Mars and kyng insuperable!

Ye rejoyce my corage, trustyng hit to se,
That named am George, your patron favorable;
To whom ye are and ever shalbe so acceptable,
That in feldre, or cite, wher-so-ever ye rayne
Shall I never fayle yewe, thus is my purpose playne.

35 To protect your magnificence myself I shall endeuer,
In all thyngs that your highnes shall concerne,
Mor tenderly then I yit did ever;
Kyng, duke, yerle, lorde, also berne,
As ye be myn assistance in processe shall lerne,

Which thurgh your vertue, most amorous knyght,
I owe to your presence be due and very right.

1 Chamberlains' Accounts, made up anno 1499, It. pd. for settyng of the posts in the Croschepyng, when the kyng was here, in gret ijs; it. for takyng down of the same posts a-gyn x d; it. for pavyng in the Cros-chepyng ther as the posts stode, of viij yards viij d.—SA. loc. cit. p. 156.
Like-wyse as I this lady be grace I defended,
   That thurgh myschaunce chosen was to dye,
Fro thys foule serpent whom I sor wonden;
   So ye in distresse preserve ever woll I
Fro all parell and wyked veleny,
That shuld your noble persone in eny wyse distrayn;
Which welcome is to this your chamber and to me right fayn

And this balet was song at the Crosse:

Ryall prince Arthur,
Welcome newe treaur,
With all our hole cur,
Sithen in vertue der,
Lorde, ye have no per,
Of your age tender;
Cunyng requyred,
All hath contrived,
And so receyved—
That Yngland, all playn,
Maye nowe be right fayn— to their extollence.
Yewe long to remayn,
Syng we therfor all;
Also let us call
To God immortall
In this breve beyng
Your estate supportynge, — to your lyfes yend!
And vertue ay spredyng,
Appendix IV

Fragments of another version of the Weavers' Pageant.

1. PROFETA. Ye gret astronomarris now awake,
   With youre famus fadurs of phelossefe
   Into the orrent aspecte you take,
   Where in nevis and strangis aperid latele,
   Ase towching the fracis off the wholle professe,
   Afirmyng that a star schuld appere
   Evin in Yseraell amongst vs here!

II. PROFETA. Bredur all, then be off good chere,
   Those tythingis makis my hart ful light!
   For we haue desirid many a yere
   Of that star to haue a sight,
   And speachalle off that king off myght
   Off whose cumyng we haue had warnyng
   Be the seyd star of profettis desernyng.

Yet furthurmore for owre larnyng,
   Let us naue sum commenecasion
Of this seyd star be old prognostefying
   How hyt apperud and vnudur what fassion.

I. PROFETA. Aftur a wondurfull strange demonstracion
   Ase be the experence prove yt I con;
   For this star be interpretacion
   Singnejith the natveete of a mou;
   Ase the profet [Balam] 2
   Be the spret off God affirmithe well
   Orrectur stella ex Jacob, et exurge homo de Yseraell.

He seyd of Jacob a star schuld spryng,
   Wyche singnessis only this same king
   Wyche amonst vs now ys cum
   And ase towching the lettur folloing,
   Et ipse dominabitur omni generacione.

1 See Introduction, pp. xxxv, ff.
2 Obliterated in MS.
II. PROFETA. Here be your favour wold I move a questeon
Of this princis high geneloge,
Wyche ouer the gentillis schuld haue domeneon,
Where and off what sort born be schuld be.

1. PROFETA. ASE ye schall here right worthale
Be devin powar off a virgin pure,
Affirmyng the profettiis agenst all nature.

II. PROFETA. Where fynd you that in whole scripture
Of any right awter wyche that woll mention?

I. PROFETA. Isae the profet wrytith full sure,
Ecce virgo concepith aparet fillium
Balam seying of the heyvins wyssedom
A man schuld be reysid here in Yseraell,
In confirmynge the seyd questeon
Et vocatur nomen eius Emanevell.

II. PROFETA. Yet to me yt ys moche marvell,
Vndur whatt sort that men schuld tell
Soche high mysteres before the fell,
He being but a mortall creature.

I. PROFETA. Be Godis provedence ye ma be sure
The espret of God to them was sent,
And lafft to vs in whole scripture
And them-selvis not knoyng what hit met.

II. PROFETA. Presid be to hym wyche that espret sent
Vnto vs pore wrenchis of loo symplessete.
He beying the lord owre God omnipotent
In this his workis to make vs preve!

I. PROFETA. Did not that profett man callid Malache

[Semenon] 1

With fyshche, fowle, and best and euere odur thing,
Vndur man to haue there naturall curse and being.

Yet owre ancgent parence at the beginnyng
Through this dissabeydence had a grevas fall
From the abowndant blis euervalining

1 See WCo, line 182.
APPENDIX IV.

Down into the vale off this mezerabull mundall;
Owre nature creatid be hym to be inmortall,
And now throught syn fallin into 1 mortalle;
And vtturle distroid withowt the gret marce

This ded most dolorus ofte doth me constreyne
Inwardle to sigh and bytturle to weep,
Tyll that I remembur the gret comford again
Off aneant profetis with the sentencis swete,
Whose fructuos senciis off profonde larnyng depe
Wyche apon aneant awters grundid constantle,
Off Izae, the Sebbelis, Balam and Maleche.
O Lord off lordis! yff thy swet wylb
Off this thi infrinit worke send me the tru light,
Justle to expend this thy whole mystere,
And that I wonse ma se that only king of myght,
And that we ma walke in his wywis uppriht
At whose cumyng ase the profetis do expres
The right ungciion off Juda schall seyse.
Oh Lord, fullfyll that hy tyme off pes!
For my crokid age davys fast apon.
Fane wold I see thatt wholle off whollenes,
Or this mortall lyff from me were gon.
O Lord, remembur thy doghtur Syon,
Relive hir, Lord, in this hir mezer
Releyesche hyr gracesoe God off hir callamete
Oh Lord, at thi wyll all thing mvst be,
Yet, Lord, thy grace to us do extend
The to serve with all vmylyte,
And with thy grace huse rule and defende;
Owre solis and bodeis to the we commend
Ernystyle loking for thy wholle promes
Owt off danger Yseraell and Jvda to reles.
Oh Lord, reley owre inbesyllyte
And thy only sun off lyff to us do send
Hym to reseyve with all vmylyte
And off this mortall lyff thou to make amend.

1 MS. to immortallte.
APPENDIX IV.

O Lord, thy powar no man ma comprehend,
Yet grant me my petyssion to obtayne
Not to dy till that I thatt solam sight have sayne. 225

ANE. Oh suffrent Semeon, with all vmylete,
Wyche art owre gide in gostle gouernance,
With all due reverence beseche I the
Thy humble obedient off longe contenevans
Yet haue me, Semeon, in thy rememburrans,
When it schall plesse that hy Messe
Vnto Ysraell and Juda reveylied to be. 232

Amongst the othur remembur me
Wyche this iiiij skore yeris and more
In this tempull contenevalle
Thatt lord owre God euere looking fore
Wyche Ysraell and Juda schall restore
From dredo full bonde vnto lyberte
As well apperis be anceant profece 239

SEMEEON. Systur An, welcum to me!
Youre hoope ryght hyle I do commend
Wych wyll appere ondowtedle
When thatt Lord the tyme doth send 243

cetera desunt.
GLOSSARY.

A, 19/544, he.
accompanied, 74/14, rendered an account.
actoris, 36/76, authors.
adiown, 76/9, join to, unite; pp. 76/22.
asfecte, 63/973, effect.
asforde, 28/812, afraid.
aleonde, 19/523, alien.
all-myght, 3/51, almighty.
amacid, 3/54, amazed.
ames, 107/9; amys, 107/7, amice.
amseyent, 99/8, ancient, old.
antem, 58/805 f., anthem.
sper, 64/996, for a pair, impair.
assay, 85/701, essay, attempt.
aspecte, 119/3, consideration, view.
asposschall, 69/1163, especial.
asadyn, 86/12; assaden, 86/15, etc.; arsedyke, 86/23, arsioned, gold coloured alloy.
associat, 78/33, 79/35, associated.
augent, 21/594, prob. for and gent (noble), or for argent (white); third king was a black-amoor.
awe, 60/887, away.
awter, 120/39, 121/196, author.
awntyente, 91/42, ancient, flag.

Bassche, 22/643, shrink back abashed.
bayles, 72/10, bailiffs.
bayne, 22/636, ready, inclined.
before, 21/615, before.
bedull, 83/33, 84/1, beadle, crier (?).
berars, 84/10, bars.
berne, 117/38, baron.
bess, 61/902, busy.
betake, 68/1137, commend, commit.
be-teyche, 4/97, commit.
be-traye, 26/738, betrayal.
bewey, 55/652, hoy.
ble, 22/643, complexion.
bloe, 50/550, blow, to take breath and rest.
bokeram, 83/42, etc., buckram.
bordynge, 61/892, jesting, trifling.
bote, 64/1014, 67/1103, boot, remedy, profit.
brand, 88/2, brow-band.
breere, 46/309, brier.
brether, 22/637, etc., brethren.
breyde, on breyde, 63/962, (open) widely.
bronde, 17/491; brand, 18/497, brand, sword.
burletis, 88/19, padded rolls of cloth for head or ruff.
bwye, 56/753; bwye, 61/902, boy.
bwydlyng, 65/965, commandment.
bwydull, 87/13, beadle.
byrrynge, 104/28, buryings.

Can, 25/719, can do.
charge, 62/940, import, value.
chaussynge, 85/19, chasing, hunting.
chefferallys, 101/13, chevelures, wigs.
cheverels, 84/7, for chevelures.
childur, 2/21, etc., children; man-chylurdur, 29/841.
clarce, 60/870, 61/905, etc., knowledge, learning.
clowte, 109/6, clout, iron plate.
cofyn, 74/42, boxes, cases.
colters, 84/18, for cotters, bolts.
comenaltie, 70/1184; comenaltie, 114/31, commonalty.
comyn, 19/542; comen, 19/547; comyn, 21/605, pp. come.
compromytted, 73/25, bound themselves mutually.
conabull, 112/5, convenient, suitable.
comfetyes, 74/42, comfits, sweetmeats.
consuett, 73/43; consuette, 73/32, accustomed.
cost, 20/572, 30/873, etc., coast, region.
cost, 4/98, way.
coterellis, 89/34, cotters, bolts.
cowneters, 89/43, counters, things used in reckoning.
coyff, 94/8, coif, head-dress.
cun, 29/828, sort, kind.
cundure, 37/129, conductor, guide.
cundit, 111/12, 40, conduit.
cur, 118/11, heart.
customyrd, 85/23, accustomed, wont.

decryis, 60/864, decrees.
defende, 77/38, appear in court (?).
decoracion, 34/19, ignorantly used to mean form.
deme, 20/558, deem, judge; pp. 2/20.
dezerte, 85/66, desert or wilderness (?).
dever, 111/36, duty.
deynte, 112/27, for dainty, honour (?).
dissent, 115/30, descent.
dowsemeris, 115/12, dulcimers.
dresse, 6/176, direct one's steps.
dresser, 95/24, person who prepared or tended the pageant.
dressing, 86/31, etc., making ready, preparing.
dyght, 21/615, 43/321, etc., light, ready.
dysepsyon, 86/869; dyspecys,

El 80/864, 61/900, etc., ay! alas! eder, 72/14, either.
eftsones, 77/37, again, a second time.
elane, 88/14; elnes, 100/32, ells.
endres, endere night, 81/1, night recently past.
entermettyng, 74/6, intermeddling.
espret, 120/51, 54, spirit.
eyvin, 4/108, quasi ab. equal or like.

Fanes, 82/8, 84/13, etc., vanes.
fawchon, 84/2; faunichon, 86/12; faychon, 86/32; fawcun, 18/511 (?), etc., fachion, sword.
fayne, 2/29, 5/145, etc., fain, glad; 28/816, ab. gladness.
sedoun, 101/21, fathoms.
fer, in fere, 22/642, 24/700, in company.

fet, 11/293, fetch.
fetemancipe, 55/702, footmanship, action of walking.
feyrear, 55/725, fairer.
feyrmyne, 14/404, feminine.
for-alsomene, 73/12, forasmuch.
ford, 107/6, furred.
for-do, 27/786, undo, ruin.
for-wachid, 25/720, weary with watching.
for-were, 49/518, tired out.
foteman, 57/78a, traveller on foot.
fowndatur, 39/178, founder.
frasis, 119/5, phrases (?).
frute, 27/799, fruit, offspring.
frught, 30/882, freighted.
frythe, 10/290, frith, wooded country; assoc. c. field.
fynise, 3/79, fiend's.

Gawdis, 48/479, gauds, jests.
gawnes, 95/15, gowns.
gere, 68/1129, etc.; geire, 79/41; geir, 87/9; geyre, 96/7, etc., gear, goods, apparel, properties.
giandes, 94/9, giant's.
gled, 27/780, fire.
gostely, 25/716, spiritually.
gradus, 69/1166, graduates.
greece, haut greece, 74/40, fat, well-fed.
groue, 7/183, grue or shudder (?).
gyse, 14/402, guise, custom.

Haft, 60/888, business.
har, 28/802, harrow, denunciation.
har, 63/958, higher.
harode, 19/521; harrode, 21/614, herald.
harie, 22/646, S. connects. c. harry, distress.
hayles, 112/13, greet; salute.
heddur, 11/293, etc., hither.
hell-hede, 101/26–8, hell-mouth.
hem, 72/20; ham, 28/817; hymne, 73/36, etc., them.
hendly, 112/13, gently.
hent, 29/843, seize.
heyryng, 83/27, etc., hiring.
horgena, 102/15, organs.
hy, 21/614, he, go.
yle, 122/241, highly.
hight, 112/30, hight, is called.
hyght, on hyght, 3/74, on high.
hylister, 18/514, most mighty (?).
hynd, 11/297, etc., gentle, kind.
hyndly, 7/188, kindly.

Ihit, 113/7, 15, yet.
incol, 98/41, inkle, tape.
in-fere, 22/642, see fere.
insamplull, 5/133, example.

Jeseyne, 25/765; jesen, 24/698 f.,
gestine, childbed.
Jesse, 110/15. Jesse, genealogical
tree of Christ.
jubbarb, 47/433, jeopardy, risk
danger.
journe, 108/33, journey, day's work.

Kast, 3/70, cast, form a purpose.
katyfis, 19/535, captives.
kerne, 27/784, vagabond, term of
contempt.
keveryng, 102/5, covering.
knytt, 4/94, tied.

Lange, 36/103, language.
large, 62/938, freely.
larthar, 102/12, ladder.
led, 27/789, & fame, popularity.
ler, 60/873, learn.
leyche, 4/99, leech, saviour.
leygence, 60/879, ligeance, alle-
giance.
leygin, 7/180, leagues.
 lend, 7/192, remain.
link, 99/21, link; torch.
loggyn, 11/315, lodging.
londe, 49/520, plough furrow in
pasture land, Warm. prov.
looe, 8/214, 218, hill.
losyngere, 30/859, flatterer, de-
ceiver.
lett, 63/963, desist, forbear; pp.
62/937.

Make, 21/607, do.
males, 18/497, malice.
markisses, 114/38, marquises.
mede, 47/440, meed, merit.
mell, 65/1030, mix, meddle.
mellyflue, 110/27, mellifluous.
merle, 47/433, marl.
mete, 74/48, meeting or assembly (?),
meyne, 26/748, be disposed.
move, 2/37, move.
moght, 7/189, might.
molde, 22/626, the earth, the ground.

mon, 2/33, man, one.
monysson, 70/1186, monition, sum-
mons.
moo, 57/762, etc., more.
mote, 3/50, etc., may, must.
mowe, 111/27, etc., may,
mundall, 39/187; mundall, 121/187,
the world (?).
muse, 61/907, consider, or wonder
at (?).
myddis, 8/208; meddis, 18/508,
midst.
myght, 18/516, mighty.
myttens, 12/332, mittens, gloves.
myre, 25/710, myrrh.

Nar, 50/553, nearer.
ne, 74/21, 76/25, nor.
Neowell, 16/474, Noel, Christmas.
nothur, 4/108; noddur, 67/1094,
neither.
novellis, 12/332, 336, news, tid-
ings.

Obles, 115/38, obleys, little cakes of
bread.
obskevye, 13/352, obscure.
occupie, 75/35, follow a business.
od, 72/14; odor, 120/182, other.
oddur, 44/362, odor, perfume.
oyve, 115/25, olive.
oppossibill, 4/87, 18/381, impos-
sible.
on-sunder, 17/401, asunder.
or, 21/616, etc., ere, before.
original, 83/12; orygynall, 89/5, 7,
play-book.

Page, 56/734, boy.
pardy, 59/832, parde, verily.
paffette, 13/380, perfectly.
parrage, 14/395, family, descent.
parrsies, 25/730, parts, regions.
pay, 26/723, content, satisfaction.
paymenaynes, 74/39, paindemaines,
white bread.
payynums, 113/13, pagans.
pensils, 82/9; pensells, 93/40, pen-
cels, streamers.
pipyns, 74/41, apples.
platt, 62/947, plain, clear.
poollye, 89/42, pulley.
pottell, 91/22, potte, measure.
postyill, 108/26, apostle.
prelatt, 107/7, a garment (?).
premises, 114/13, what has been stated above.
prentise, 107/30, for prentice, pent-house.
preve, 2/39, prove.
prikyng, 96/4, 97/29, setting to music (?) .
probate, 87/109, proof.
producastion, 86/93, protestation.
prognosteting, 34/17, 119/17, prophesying; pp. 34/39.
protestacyon, 100/14, protestation, declaration of dissent (?) .
pyle, 16/45, edifice; pallays, prob. better reading.
pyne, 112/23, 113/13, pain, torment.
pyrie, 8/226, gust of wind.
pwynt, 86/1068, point; plu. 63/972.
pwyntis, 89/44, points, laces.
pyght, 43/320, arranged, set in order.
pytt, 12/323, put.
Quere, 9/265, choir.
quost, 67/1086, quest, search.
quyke, 64/1019, quick, alive.

Raygete, 86/7, rochet, garment, worn by bishop.
recownik, 71/11, recomfort.
rede sea, 97/34, cloth (?) .
rede, 63/965, 966, interpret, or recite.
red, 27/786; rede, 28/822; rede, 64/1013, rede, plan, counsel.
reherceses, 79/41; rehearse, 85/8, etc., rehearal.
reycomforde, 42/282, etc., recomfort, give new strength to.
reYGalles, 100/10, etc.; rygols, 107/16, rigolls, musical instruments.
reygeng, 12/344, region.
reyger, 69/985, rigor, violence, fury.
reyjurrid, 69/1181, adjourned.
reylyeash, 121/211, release.
reynve, 44/349, remove.
reparelyd, 83/38, etc., repaired; pre. part. 83/29.
reyryd, 73/46, raised, contributed.
reyrif, 14/385, for refriep, reproof.
roche, 88/20, rock (?) .
royses, 89/15; ruyshes, 89/21; roshes, 95/14; reseyes, 99/3, etc., rushes.

Sabbet, 63/979, Sabbath.
saluer, 82/956, healer.
sapience, 67/1109, sapience.
schapp, plu. (f) 26/741, shape, figure.
scyty, 101/6, S. suit (?) .
sede, 12/345, seed (?) .
seddall, 82/20, 86/3, settle or seat (?) .
sendal, 99/23, 100/20, sendal, silken material.
sensars, 87/5, censors.
sertes, 59/835, certes, in truth.
serviture, 37/128, servitor.
seyneyng, 115/37; sensyng, 111/38, etc., burning incense in censors.
shervys, 87/7, shoes.
shope, 89/31, soap.
singler, 76/18, etc., single.
sith, 4/106, etc., since.
sithen, 117/15, etc., since, because.
slop, 86/15, an outer garment.
socerent, 39/177, sovereign; plu. suффerentis, 2/28.
sond, 4/109; same, 19/540, etc., messenger; message.
sparis, 92/9, spars, pieces of timber.
speed, 43/311, make haste.
sphere, 12/348, spear; op. holy lance.
spret, 119/24, spirit.
sprìtis, 3/53; sprytyys, 100/7, spirits.
stablished, 78/8, established.
stoonds, 108/42, stude, posts, joists.
strangis, 35/49, sb. news.
styte, 29/850, stead place.
styn, 31/376, stop.
sudere, 82/20, 86/1, sudary, handkerchief.
syung, 77/29, 116/29, following.
syn, 23/651, since.
syth, 6/178, etc., since.
syngnefocacion, 9/260, signification, manifestation.

Tabarde, 86/5; taberd, 86/9; tabard, tunic or mantel.
tabulis, 60/866, tables.
tane, 60/852, taken.
tast, 31/899, explore, examine.
tent, 61/891, heed, attend to.
thel, 84/17; theyll, 107/21, etc., thill, shaft.
thee, 50/537, thrive, prosper.
this, 36/93, thus.
thrrall, 2/32, bondage.
GLOSSARY.

thyddur, 8/231, etc., thither.
thyne, me thyne, 20/562, etc., methinks.
thyre-tyll, 67/1090, thereto.
till, 37/121, etc., to, unto.
toocune, 20/559, landmarks.
toward-lovynge, 76/32, docile.
translate, 70, revised, presented in a new form.
trayne, 6/147, treachery, deceit.
trendell, 109/9; trendyll, 109/10; tryndyll, 84/17; trindle, small wheel.
trone, in trone, 2/35, 3/63, on throne.
troo, 4/105, etc.; tro, 30/883, trow, believe.
truage, 19/524, tribute.
true, 5/129; 51/577, truss, bind up; trwise, sb. 90/120.
turtill, 3/41, turtle, term of endearment.
turtulis, 45/376; turtillis, 46/421, etc., turtledoves.
twynke, 18/500, wink.
tyll, 66/1064, to, unto.
tymtyng, 102/4, attending to.

Umellete, 20/556, humility.
untill, 63/960, unto.
unye, 76/33, unite; pp. unyed, 75/16, etc.

Velen, 28/802, villainous, servile.
verabull, 14/394, for venerable (?) ; S. valuable; M. suggests renable.
viulis, 19/538, viols.
ypsoacht, 28/809, sought out (?).
vthe, 56/751, etc., youth.

Warly, 111/20, cautiously, warily.
waxun, 49/511, waxed, grown.
waynis, 30/882, wains, wagons.
wede, in wede, 28/768, costume.
wedure, 8/209, skies (?), cloude (?).
well-awey, 68/829, welaway, alas!
wene, 58/819, ween, think.
were, 12/341, etc.; wereie, 49/513; werre, 58/793, very.
wheldder, 50/560, whether, which of two.
whyddur, 8/230; whedder, 21/595, etc., whither.
where, 76/19, whereas.
whomly, 47/445, homely, rudely.
wode, 30/866, mad.
wodkocce, 47/432, woodcock.
wone, 68/1120, dwell, abide.
worth, 5/137, betide.
wott, 65/1044, know.
wyyddurde, 29/839, widowed (?), or withered (?) ; women would be bending over as if old to conceal the children they were carrying.
wyle, 58/840; wyll, 67/1100, wile, allure.
wynde, 6/168; wynd, 7/200, etc., go.
wynde, 101/22; wynde, 100/4, etc., windlace.

Yche, 47/437, I.
ycheone, 5/137, each one.
yhit, 113/30, yet.
yeayre, 37/126, air.
yonglyne, 61/899, youth.
yorth, 20/562; yarthe, 36/79, etc., earth.
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BY

HARDIN CRAIG, PH.D.,
INSTRUCTOR IN ENGLISH IN PRINCETON UNIVERSITY.

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And Mrs. Allen came to see us. We played tennis.