

<County: Yorkshire North Riding>
 <Code: L0457>
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 <Text: Mandeville's Travels>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 18v><line 14>BAbilon y^e lesse whar~ y^e Sowdann dwelles and
 y^e citee of Cair~ y^t es negh yerby er bathe grete
 citee³ and faire . And y^e tane yam es sett apon y^e
 ryuer of Syon y^t es also called Nilus . and it commes
 oute of peradys terrestr~ // ¶ Yis ryuer ilka 3er~ when~
 y^e son~ entr~ into y^e signe of Cancr~ begynnes for+to flow
 and so it flowes *continuelly* als lang as y^e son~ es in
 y^t signe . And in y^e signe of lyon~ it flowes so yat
 summ tyme it es . xx . cubites depe . And yan~ it ouerflowe³
 <mrg>all</mrg> y^e land / and of tyme duse mykill harme . to place³ .
 yat ligges ner~ y^e ryuer . For yer may na man~ y^t tyme
 labour aboute tillyng of land . And swa yer falles oft
 sithes grete derth of corne in y^t cuntree by-cause of
 ouermykill wete . And on y^e same yer falle³ grete derth .
 whenn y^t ryuer ryse³ no3t bot lytill by-cause of ouermykil
 drught . And when~ y^e son~ enters y^e signe of virgyn
 yan~ begynnes Nilus to decreesse vntil y^e sonn entr~
 <fol. 19r>in-to y^e signe of libr~ . and yan~ it halde³ it w^tin ye
 bankes ¶ Yis ryuer as J said before commes oute
 of peradys and rynnes thurgh y^e desertes of Jnde &
 yan~ it synkkes doune into y^e erthe . and rynnes so
 vnder y^e erthe a grete cuntree . and commes vp agayne
 vnder a mountayne y^t hat Alloche . y^e whilk es betwix
 Jnde and Ethiope : as it war~ fyue moneth iournees
 fra y^e entree of Ethiope And yan~ it rynnes all aboute
 Ethiope & mauritane & so all y^e lenth of egipte to ye
 citee of Alexander / and yar~ it enters into y^e see at ye
 end of Egipte ¶ Aboute yis ryuer er grete plentee

of fewles y^t er called *in* latyne Ciconie . or . Jbices .
 YE land of egipte es lang ; bot it es narowe
 for menn may no3t inhabit it on brede for de
 sertes whar~ grete defaute es of water . And yar
 fore it es inhabit on lenth endlang y^e forsaid
 riuer . for yai hafe na moistur~ . bot yat y^e forsaid
 ryuer ministers For it raynes no3t yar~ . bot y^e land
 es ower flowed yerw^t certayne tymes of y^e 3er~ as
 J said before . And for yar~ es na trubling of y^e aer
 thurgh raynes . bot y^e aer es yar~ all-way fair~ and
 cler~ w^touten cloudes / yerfore yer was wont to be y^e
 best astronomyers of y^e werld . // ¶ Y^e forsaid citee of
 Cayr~ in y^e whilk y^e sowdann dwelles ; es be-syde
 y^e citee of babilonn as J talde before . no3t bot a lytill
 fra y^e forsaid riuer of Nilus to-ward y^e desertes of surry
 // ¶ Egipte es diuysed in twa perties / y^e ta perty es betwix
 Nilus and ethiope . and y^e toyer betwix Nilus and Ara
 bie // ¶ In egipte es y^e cuntree of Ramesses & y^e cun
 tree of Geson . whar~ Jacob y^e patriarc & . <mrg>his</mrg> off-spring dwelt
 <fol. 19v>Egipte es ri3t a strang cuntree and many perlious
 hauens er yerin / For yer lies in ilke a hauenn many grete
 craggas of stane in y^e entree of yam~ // ¶ Egipte hase
 on y^e este syde . y^e reed see . y^t rynnnes vnto y^e citee
 of Coustonn . And on y^e wast syde es y^e land of liby
 y^e whilk by-cause of ower mykill hete es barayne
 & ber~s na maner of fruyte // ¶ On y^e south syde es
 Ethiopie / and on y^e north . es y^e grete desertes yat
 laste3 vnto surry // ¶ And yus es egipte strang on ilke
 a syde // ¶ Y^e land of . <mrg>egipte</mrg> hase on lenth . xv . day iournee .
 / and on brede bot three . w^touten~ desertes // ¶ Betwix
 egipte and y^e land yat es called Numid . er . xij .
 day iournee3 in desertes // ¶ Y^e folk yat wonnes *in* yat
 cuntree er called Numidianes & yai er cristned . bot
 yai er blakk of colour . / and yat yai hald a+grete bew
 tee / And ay y^e blakker yai er ; ye fairer yam~ think
 yam~ . And yai say / yat & yai schuld paynt ane
 aungell & a+fende ; yai wald paynt y^e aungell black
 and y^e fende qwhite // ¶ And if yai think yam~ no3t
 black ynogh whan~ yai er borne ; yai vse certayne

medecynes for+to make yam~ black w^t all // Yat cun
 tree es wonder hate ; and y^t makes y^e folk yeroff so
 black . // ¶ Jn egipte er v. cuntree3 . / Ane y^t es
 called Sahic / anoyer Demeser / y^e thridd Besich
 and it es ane ile in y^e riuer of Nilus / y^e ferthe es
 Alisaunder / y^e fift es Damiete ¶ Y^e citee of Damy
 ete was summ tyme ri3t strang ; bot it was taken~
 twys thurgh cristen~ men~ / And yerfore afterwardes ye
 sare3enes kest doune y^e walles yeroff and of all ye
 castelles in y^t cuntree / And yai made anoyer citee apon~
 <fol. 20r>y^e see-syde / and called it new Damyete / At yis ci
 te of damyete es ane of y^e hauens of egipte / and
 anoyer at Alisaunder~ ye whilk es a strang citee and
 a wele w<ill><2-3 chars></ill>ed / bot yai hafe na water bot y^t commes .
 in cundites fra y^e riuer of Nilus . And yerfore . and
 men~ w^ddrew water fra yam ; yai myght na while endur~
 Jn egipte er bot fewe castelles . for y^e cuntree es strang
 ynogh of y^e self
 YN ye deserte of y^e land of <exp>ye</exp> Egipte . a+haly hermite
 mette on a tyme a+beste for schapen~ . For it had y^e
 schappe of a mann fra y^e nauel dunward . And fra
 yeine vpwardes y^e schappe of a gayte w^t twa hornes
 standand on y^e heued / y^e hermite asked him in goddes
 name what he was / And ye beste answerd & said
 J am <a long dash> a creatur~ dedly as godd hase made me . and in
 yis deserte J dwell and gase to gete my sustinaunce
 / wharfore J pray y^e hermite y^t you will pray to godd
 for me . y^t he yat come fra heuen~ till erthe for y^e sal
 uacionn of mannes saule / & was borne of <ill><1 letter></ill> mayden~
 & sufferd . hard passion~ thurgh whamm we all liffe
 stirres and hase beyng ; yat he hafe mercy on me / 3it
 es y^e heued of y^t beste w^t y^e hornes . halden & keped
 at Alisaunder for a miracle .
 JN egipte also es a+citee y^t es called Eliople y^t es als
 mykill at say as y^e citee of y^e sonn Jn yis citee
 es a temple round in y^e maner of y^e temple of ierusalem
 Ye preste of y^e temple has writen~ in a buke y^e date of
 a fewle y^t men~ calles Fenix And yer es bot ane in
 all y^e world . And yis fewle liffes fyue hun<ill><1 char></ill>reth

3ere . And at y^e fyue hundreth 3er~ end he *commes* to
 <fol. 20v>y^e forsaide temple and apon~ y^e awter he brynnes *him-self*
 all to powder / And y^e preste of y^e temple y^t knawes by his
 buke . y^e tyme of his *commynge* ; makes y^e awter redy . and lays
 y^eraponn diuerse spicerie and sulphur~ viue . and stikkes of
 y^e iunipr~ tree . and oyer thinges yat will sone brynne ; and
 yan~ y^e fewle *commes* & lightes apon~ y^e awter & fanne³ w^t
 his wenges ay till y^e forsaide thinges be sett on fir~
 and yar~ he brynnes *him-self* all till asches . / On y^e morne
 yai fynd in y^e asches as it war~ a+worme / On y^e secund
 day yat worme es *turned* till a+fewle *perfitely fourmed* .
 And on y^e thridd day . it flies fra y^t place . to y^e place
 whar~ it was wont to dwell / And so y^e es neuermar~
 bot ane // ¶ Yis ilke fewle betakens our~ lord ihesu *criste*
 in als mykill as y^e es bot a godd y^t rase on y^e thridd
 dayy fra deed to lyfe // ¶ Yis forsaide fewle es oft tymes
 sene ayr+and aboute . whenn y^e weder es fair~ & cler~ .
 / And yai say yar~ . y^t when~ yai see y^t fewle sore in y^e aer
 yai sall *afterward* hafe gude 3er~s & miry . For yai say it
 es a fewle of heuen~ . And yis fewle as na mar~ yan~ ane
 egle of body <symbol> he has on his heued a+creste as a pacok ;
 bot it es mykill mar~ yann y^e *creste* of a+pacok . <symbol> his nekk
 es 3alow / & his back es ynde colour / his wenges er reed
 and his taile es barred ouerthwert w^t grene and 3alowe
 and reed // ¶ And in y^e sonne he semes wonder fair~ . for yir
 er y^e colour~s yat er fairest schewand .

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 54v><line 18>FOr als mykill as J hafe spoken~ of Sar3enes and
 of yair~ landes ; J will now tell 3ow a+party of
 yair~ lawe and yair~ belefe *after* y^t it es contende
 in y^e buke of yair~ lawe y^t es called Alkaron . and
 summ calle3 it messaph . and summ . harme *after* lang
 age3 of diuerse cuntree3 . y^e whilk buke Machamete
 gafe to yamm . ¶ Jn y^t buke amanges oyer thinges es contende
 as J hafe oft tymes redd y^erin and sene ; y^t gude menn
 when~ yai er deed sall ga vnto *peradys* / and yai y^t er
 wikked sall ga to y^e payne of hell . And yis trowe3 sted

fastly all sar3enes ¶ And if a+mann ask yamm . of whilk
 paradys yai mene ; yai say it es a+place of delyte3
 whar~ a+mann schall fynd all maner of fruyte3 all tymes
 <fol. 55r>of y^e 3er~ . and riuers rynnand . with wyne / mylke & hony
 and fresch water ¶ And yai schall hafe fair~ palayce3 &
 grete and fair~ house3 and gude after yai hafe disserued
 And yase palace3 & house3 er made of *precious* stanes . gold
 and siluer . And ilk a+mann sall hafe .iiij^{xxx} . wyfes of
 fair~ damiselles / And he schall hafe at do w^t yamm ay
 when~ him list . and he sall euermar~ fynd yamm maydens .
 Yis trowe yai all yat yai sall hafe in *peradys* / and yis
 es agayne our~ lawe ¶ Also y^e sar3enes trowe3 y^e in
 carnacionn and gladly will yai speke of y^e virgin mary
 and saise y^t scho was lerned by y^e aungell / and y^t ye
 aungell gabriell said to hir yat scho was chosenn of
 godd before y^e begynnyng of y^e werld for+to consayfe
 ihesu criste and for+to bere him / wham scho bare and scho
 maydenn efter as scho was before ; And yis witnesse3
 wele y^e buke of Alkaron ¶ And yai say yat criste spak
 alssone as he was borne / and yat he was & es a+ha
 ly prophete and a+verray in worde and in dede & meke
 and ri3twise to all / and w^touten~ vice ¶ Yai afferme also
 y^t whenn y^e aungell grette our~ lady . and talde hir of y^e
 incarnacionn . by-cause scho was 3ung . scho was grete
 ly aschamed . ^[and] astonayd of his wordes / and principally
 as yai say by-cause of a mysdoer y^t was y^t tyme in
 yat cuntree y^e whilk hight Takyna . yat delt w^t sorce
 ry and thurgh his enchauntement3 feyned him ane aun
 gell / and begyled 3ung damyselles oft sythes and lay
 by yam . / And yerfore was marie fered and coniured ye
 aungell y^t he suld say hir wheyer he war~ Takyna
 or no3t . / And y^e aungell answerd hir / and bad hir hafe
 na drede for he was verrey messenger of godd .
 <fol. 55v> ¶ Also yair~ buke of Alkaronn saise y^t when mary
 was delyuer of hir childe vnder a palme tree ; scho
 was gretely aschamed / and weped and said scho
 wald scho ware deed and alssone y^e childe spakk &
 comforted hir / and said . Be no3t affered . for in ye
 godd hase his sacrement for y^e saluacion~ of yis werld

And in many oyer place³ wittenesse³ yair~ buke of Al
 karon . y^t ihesu chreste spakk alsone as he was borne
 ¶ And y^t buke saise y^t criste was sent fra godd all
 myghty in til erthe for+to be ensauple & mirrou~
 til all men~ // ¶ Yat buke also speke³ of y^e day of dome
 how y^t godd schall comme and deme all men~ . Y^e gude
 he sall drawe on his perty / and glorifie yamm in ioy
 w^touten end / And y^e wikked he sall dampne till ay
 lastand paynes of hell // ¶ Amanges all prophetes
 yai say y^t criste es ye best y^e worthiest . and next
 to godd . / and y^t he made y^e ewangels . in y^e whilk es
 helefull teching & sothefastnes . and preching til yaim
 y^t trowes in godd . / and yat he was mar~ yan~ prophete
 liffand w^touten syn~ y^t gafe sight to y^e blynd / & heled
 meselles / and raised men~ fra deed to lyfe / and went
 all qwik in-to heuen~ / And when~ yai may . <mrg>get</mrg> y^e gospels
 writenn . yai do grete wirschepe to yamm . and namely
 y^e gspell of <lat>Missus est</lat> / whilk gspell yai y^t er lettred
 amanges yamm kisse³ w^t grete deuocion~ and saise it
 oft tymes amanges yair~ praier ¶ Yai fast ilk a+3er~
 a hale moneth . and ete³ na mete bot at euen~ . and
 Abstene³ yamm fra yair~ wyfe³ all y^t moneth . Bot yai
 yat er seke er no3t constreyned to y^t fast // ¶ Also y^e
 buke of Alkaron speke³ of y^e Jewes & saise y^t yai
 er iwilled & cursene<?> for yai will no3t trowe yat
 <fol. 56r>ihesus was sent fra godd // ¶ And y^t yai lye falsly on mary
 and hir sonn ihesu criste . when~ yai say yat yai didd him
 on y^e crosse ; for yai crucified no3t ihesus / as yai say / for
 godd tuke him vp til him w^touten deed . and transfigured y^e
 fourme and y^e likness of his body in-to Judas yscarioth
 and him didd y^e iews on y^e crosse . and wend it had bene
 Jhesus . Bot Jhesus was taken~ all qwik / yai say in til heuenn .
 and so sall he comme to deme all y^e werld . And yis
 wate no3t cristen~ men~ / and yerfore yai say yai er no3t
 right belefand . when~ yai trowe y^t ihesu criste was done
 on y^e crosse // ¶ All yir poyntes er contende in y^e buke of
 Alkaron // ¶ Y^e sar3enes saise also . y^t if ihesu criste had
 bene crucified ; godd yan~ had done agayne his ri3t
 wisness . for+to suffer swilk ane Jnnocent die w^touten

gylt /. And in y^t yai say we err~ . neuer . <mrg>y^e les</mrg> in y^t err~ yai . //

// ¶ Yai graunt wele y^t all y^e werkes of criste / and all his
 wordes / and his techings and his+ewaungelles er gude
 and trewe / and his myracles verray and clere / and y^t
 y^e virgyne mary was a gude maydenn and a+haly be
 fore y^e birth of criste and efter also and vnwemmed / &
 y^t yase y^t trowes perfutely in godd sall be sauf // ¶ And
 for als mykill as yai ga yus ner~ our~ faith in yir pointes
 and many oyer ; me think y^t mykill y^e titter and y^e light
 lier yai schuld be conuerted till our~ lawe thurgh preching
 and teching of cristen~ men~ // ¶ Yai say yai wate wele
 and finde3 by yair~ prophecies y^t machometes lawe . <mrg>sall faile</mrg> as
 y^e iewe3 lawe es failed / and y^t y^e cristen~ lawe schall
 last to y^e werldes end . ¶ And if a+menn ask yamm
 of yair~ beleue / and how yai trowe / yai answer~
 and saise / we trowe in godd yat made heuen and
 <fol. 56v>oyer thinges of noght . and w^touten him es na thing
 made / And we trowe y^e day of dome schall comme .
 whar~ ilk mann schall hafe his mede after his disserte
 // ¶ we trowe also verrailly y^t all es sothe yat godd
 has spoken thurgh y^e mouthes of his haly prophete3
 whils yai welk in erthe // ¶ Also yai say yt Macho
 mete bad & commaundid in y^e buke of Alkaron . y^t ilk a
 mann schuld hafe three or four~ wyfes . Bot now
 take yai ma . For summ of yam hase nyne . / Bot of
 concubines ilke man~ takes als many . as he may sustene .
 of his gudes // ¶ And if any of yair~ wyfes do amisse
 agaynes hir husband and lat anoyer man~ lye by hir ;
 yan~ is it leuefull till hir husband to putte hir
 away fra him / and take anoyer in hir steed / bot him behufe3 gyffe hir a porcionn of his gudes // ¶
 Also when~ menn spekes
 to yamm of y^e trinytee ; yai say yai er three persones .
 bot no3t a godd / for yair~ buke of Alkaron spekes
 no3t of trinitee // ¶ Neuery^eles yai graunt & saise y^t godd
 has worde . and elles war~ he dummbe / and yat he
 hase a spirit and y^t elles behufed him be w^touten
 lyf . // ¶ And when~ men~ spekes to yamm of criste3 incarna
 cionn . how by y^e worde of y^e aungell godd sent wisdomm
 in til erthe / and lightid in virgin mary / and thurgh



y^e worde of godd yai y^t er deed . schall be raised aponn
y^e day~ of dome . yai say y^t all yis es sothe / and all
yis yai trowe / and yt goddes worde has grete vertu
and he y^t knawe3 no3t goddes worde he knawe3 no3t
godd // ¶ Yai say also y^t criste was goddes worde . and
so saise yair~ Alkaron . yar~ it saise . y^t y^e aungell spakk
to mary & said . Mary godd sall send to ye worde of
<fol. 57r>his mouth / and his name sall be called ihesu criste