Alle þe boþ in sinne ibounde
And þencheþ godes merci to abide
Lusneþ & herknþ on stounde
Hou sinne on eorþe spredeþ wide
Bote for non sinne þe man mai do
Jn wanhope loke þe noþ man falle
Of alle sinnes is bote þerto
Þeiþ on man hadde idon hem alle
Þeiþ on man hadde as ic þou telle
Jdon alle þe sinnes under sonne
His soule fram þe pine of helle
He mai saue 3if he conne
Schriue him clene & beo sorie
And do penaunce þe him is tau3t
As dude þe pope Gregorie
þe fende him hadde wel neiþ icau3t
Jn sinne his lif he bigan
And dude hit ofte time & lome
And supþe he was an holi man
And was imad pope of Rome
3if 3e wolþeþ a while dwelle
And understand mi tale wel
Of his lif ichulle þou rede
Hou wonderliche hit bifel .
Þer was an eorl in aq'tayne
þe mani man stod of eye
And hadde a wif þe het edayne
Bitwene hem com children tueye
A knaue child as 3e mowe heore
þe supþe leouede þe fendas red
And a dou3ter leof & dere
þþ wiþ hire was hire moder ded
þe leuedi was on eorþe ibrou3t
þo deþ hire hadde idriue to grounde
<fol. 154ra>And þer-after liuede nou3t
Hire lorde bote a+lutel stounde
Ac er he deide he was bipou3t
Of his dou3ter þþ faire maide
His sone biforn him was ibrou3t
And þeos wordes to him he saide
Sone ne þertou noþinge wepe
þei3 ï deie & fram þe falle
Jchulle leue inou3 þe to kepe
Min londes & rentes alle
whan þþ schalt alle min londes haue .
And welden al min eritage
whan icham under grete graue
Do þþ pin soste non outrage
Þan seide his sone þer he stod
Sore he wepe & miþte noþt blinne
Fader we beþ of on blod
Oure loue schal neuere parti atwinne
Nou þþ hauest me bisou3t
þþ y ne schal don hire non outrage
Fader for hire cary þþ nou3t
Riche schal beo hire mariage
Þis eorl miþte no+lengore liue
Deþ huppede upon him faste
He was ihouseled & ischriue
And son deide ate laste
Whan he was ded þþ gode kni3t
þo halpe hit nou3t forþto wepe
Þan was þþ maide bri3t
Hire broþer itake forþto kepe .
At eche time whan he was glad .
He cloþed his soster in þþ cloþ
He þou3t what his fader bad
þeo was him leof & noþinge loþ
Jn a chambre hi leie ifere
Loð hem was to parti atwinne
And þið is rupe of to here
Þe fende tempted hem wið sinne .
He lai stille & slepe nouȝt
Jn cloþes riche al bihed
<fol. 154rb>Þe feond pult hit in his þouȝt
To gon to his soste r bed
Hire bodi ne miȝte 3eo fram him wite <mrg>. b .</mrg>
Bote let him al his wille do
And þo was Gregorie biȝte
His soste þo he com hire to <mrg>. a .</mrg>
Þe leuedi bigan for+to grete
As wimmen doþ neiȝ her time
And hire murþes for+to lete
Þu rupe hit is þer-of to rime
And seide alas & waylaway
Þu ich euere was womman ibore
To sorwe is ituȝnde nou al mi play
Alas mi soule is nou forlore
Hire broþer hire herde siche sore
And seide soste beo nou stille
Gode soste wepe þu na+more
Þu makest min hert for+to grille
Broþer 3eo seide so god me rede
Jȝ mai wepe ay & oo
we habbeþ ido a sorid dede
Þu art ilore & iȝ also
Þis dede iȝ rede þiȝ we hide
Certes oþer we beon ischende
Godes merci we moten abide
Of þe fendes combremente
Quaþ hire broþer care þu nouȝt
Sostere iȝ hopie wel to spede
For sop icham redi biþouȝt
Jchot a kniȝt schal bete oure nedde
Broþer seide þe leuedi þo
Let sende after him anon
Þu noman iwite bote we two
whar-for men scholle after him gon .
3if men witen of oure care
Jn fer lond & hit beo isprad
Certes broþer y schal forfardre
wo.þre i^neuer þer after glad
Soster quaþ hire broþer þo
For him þi haueþ ous dere abou3t
<fol. 154va>Er þu bringe me in more wo
Let soche sorwe out of þi þou3t
And ichulle sende after þe kni3t
þe schal oure consail hele
And þoru3 þe uertu of godes mi3t
Al oure wo schal turne to wele
A messager þen morwe forþ hi sende
þo noman hit wuste bote hi tuo
And to þe kni3t anon he wende
þo scholde hem helpe out of þo wo
Anon so his kni3t hit herde
þo his lord after him sent
He leop to hars & forþ he ferde
To don his lorde comauandement
Anon as þe kni3t was icome
þe eorl in hert was wel glad
Bi þe hond þe kni3t was ynome .
And to a chambre forþ ilad
Jn to þe chambre þo he was brou3t
And þe eorles soste also
Hi tolde þe kni3t al her þou3t
Hou hi were ibrou3te in wo
Seide þe kni3t so god me fede
while þi ich mai ride & go
Jchulle 3ou helpe at þis nede
Forþo bringe 3ou oute of wo
Boþe in wo . [&] in wele
Jchulle 3ou helpe al þi i^c mai
And al 3oure consail wo lehe
Boþe bi mi3t & bi day
þe eorl seide 3eo greteþ faste
Of sclaunder sore icham adrad
3if 3eo dwelleþ here ate laste
Þe sclaundre wole beo wide isprad.
Sire quaþ he care þu nou3t
And þou wolde do after me
To mi court 3eo schal beo ibrou3t.
And þer 3eo schal deliuered be.
And iþ rede þu þou take
Þe wey to þe court of Rome
<fol. 154vb>And ichulle hire loke for þin sake
Trewliche al forte þu come
For drede of deþ er þu wende
Make þi sosteres stat so stronge
Þu noman to hire liues ende
Beode hire non manere wronge
Þe eorl grauntede him his bon
Of þu he hadde him bisou3t
Alle his grete consail son
Bifore him þo hi were ibrou3t
Her consail was son itake
Hi comen ful redi to his hond
And gode chartres he let make
And sesede his soster wiþ his lond
Þe eorl biteke his soster þe kni3t
Þu trewe was of tonge & tale
To kepe þu leuedi faire & bri3t
Til 3eo were bet of hire bale
Þe kni3t þu leuedi under-nom
And ladde hire forþ wiþ moche <binding>
And to his owne court he com
And brou3te hire priueliche in his <binding>
Þo þu leuedi was ali3te
And in to chambre was ibrou3t
To his wif went þu kni3te
Lengore wolde he abide nou3t
And seide dame bi þi lif
For non þinge þu mai be
þu þu ne segge maide ne wif
Of þinge þu ichulle telle þe
Dame þe leuedi þu here is
For soþe dame hit is non oþer
Hit is þe eorles dou3ter iwis
And is with child bi hire broþer
Sire quaþ þe leuedi þo
Swete leuedi hire unbinde
For me schal iwite namo
Bi him þ' mad leof on linde
Þo hit time come non lette þer nas
þer 3eo scholde deliuerede beo
<fol. 155ra>Of a knaue ideliuerede 3eo was
De leuedi þ' was bri3t on bleo
De storie bereþ witnesse a-ri3t
who so takeþ þer-of gome
Suþpe þe child was mad kni3t
And þer-after he was pope of Rome
De leuedi seide wiþ milde chere
Me þenkeþ min hert wole to-breke
3if þe child is bi me here
Mani on wole þer-of speke
Bote 3e do as i² 3ou telle
Hasteliche wiþoute delai
A-liue ne mai i² longe dwelle
J² deie attan haste dai
Carpenteres 3e schollen take
Loke þ' 3e ne faille nouzt
And a tonne let hem make
Hasteliche þ' hit beon wrou3t
Loke þ' hit beo anon idi3t
Þe þe tonne beo stronge & god
And in bote aboute midni3t
Hit schal beon ipult in þe flod
3if iesu cri3st is ipaide þer-one
Þ' hit was bi3ite & ibore
He wot wel what is to done
He wolde nou3t soffre þ' hit be lore
And 3if hit were a3en his wille
Oþer ibore oþer bi3ite
And in þe see let hit spille
Per schal no+man hit iwite
Þe kni3t sei3 þe leuedies wille
And seide madame hit schal be do.
Anon he wende forp wel stille
And hiede carpentres faste þerto
As mani as mi3te wurche þeron
To make þe tonne hi were ibrou3t.
Hi wuste what hi hadden to don
Anon hit was þer iwrou3t
Þo þe tonne was imad al preste
Þe leuedi for hire child was wo.
<fol. 155rb>3eo mad þe croi3 uppon his breste
And seide alas me is wo bigo
Þe furst child þi ich haue ibore
Nou schal î c hit neuere more iseo
And mi soule þerfore beo lore
Nou swete îesu mi soker~ þ³ beo
Þo 3eo hadde hit 3eue ones souke
3eo mad þe croi3 uppon his brest
Forte hit saue fram þe pouke
Þo hit was in þe crudel fest
3eo toke a somme of seluer & golde
And leide hit under þe crudel heued
For som man scholde hit biholde
And helpe þ³ hit were nou3t ded
A peire tables anon 3eo toke
Of yuorie þ³ hire leie bifore
3eo wrot & in non ôper boke
Hou þ³ child geten & ibore
And bad on lond whar hit com
A-liue 3if hit were ibrou3t
Men scholde hit 3eue cristendom
For his loue þ³ alle hap iwrou3t
3eo leide þe tables under his hed
Of yuorie þ³ were iwrou3t
And anon þe leuedi bed
To watere þ³ hit were ibrou3t
To þe bote hit was ibore
And ipult in þe salte flod
Þe moder was sori þerfore
And ful dreri in hire mod
Þe eorl hire brother he was gon
For sorwe ofte he siked sore
And lai adoun sike anon
Ne aros he neuere þer-after more
Sori he was for his sinne
Þe wiþ his soster dude
And for hi scholde parti atwinne
Ros he neuere up of þe stude
Þe leuedi to churche was igon
In child bedde as 3eo lai
<fol. 155va>Þer com a messager anon
Riþt wiþinne þen þridde dai
And tolde þi hire brother was ded
Erliche in a someres morwe
Þó was to hire a wel colde red
Þo was hire bodi fulle of sorwe
Þan seide þe kniþt þi was trewe
Conforte þe dame for charite
Hit nis . <mrg>non</mrg> bote his deþ to rewe
For as god wole hit schal be
Dame þi schalt þe make 3are
And let sorwe out of þi þouȝt
And to his buringe þi schalt fare
Er he beo to eorþe ibrouȝt
Þo was þe leuedi idiȝt al boune
Þó was boþe gode & hende
And isette uppon a stede broune
To hire brother forþo wende
wiþ sorweful hert & dremi mod
Toward þe burienge forþ 3eo rode
Þorȝout hire eyen ronne ablod
Þó neuere a ter oþer abode
Þo 3eo com in to þe halle
Hire songe was wope & weilaway .
3eo fel adoun amonge hem alle
Vpon þe bodi þer hit lai
For sorwe þer 3eo swoowened þrie
And amonge alle þi þer were
Hi wend alle 3eo wolde deie
Hi nom & ladde hire fran þe bere
Þo þe eorl was burede an under molde
Noþman dude hire non outrage
As riðt was þþ 3eo scholde
3eo entred in to þe eritage
Þo was hit pulped & nouȝt ihud
þþ al þe eorldom was hire owe
For clene maide 3eo was ikud
Boþe wiþ heye & ek wiþ lowe
De leuedi liuede wiþ worldes winne
Dai & oþer & 3eres fele
<fol. 155vb>And was sori for hire sinne
And partede of hire worldes wele
To pore men þþ hadde nedé
3eo 3af boþe mete & cloþ
Of hire godes 3eo nas nouȝt gned<>
To weorne þe pore hire was lop
þer was a duke of moche miȝte
And in his hert he hit fond
Forte wedde þþ beord briȝt
þþ was so riche womman of lond
He sende þider kniȝt & sweyn
Forte withe what was hire þouȝt
And 3eo him sende word aȝeyn
þþ 3eo wolde him habbe nouȝt
Þo þþ he hurde of hire answere
þþ þe leuedi him hadde forsake
He gadrede ost wiþ schelde & spere
Þo bigan werre forte awake
Bote he miȝte þe leuedi winne
He þouȝt to schende al hire lond
werre he þouȝt forto biginne
And ate laste inouȝt he fond
Þan seide þþ beord briȝt
Þo werre bigan forto awake
To þe gode trewe kniȝt
þþ hire broþer hire hadde itake
þþe duke schal neuere mi bodi welde
Bote hit beo wiþ strenþþe wonne
Er mi sone beon of elde
Þif he haþ lif iwonne
Þoru3 helpe of him þi haþ wrou3t
Þis werre þi is nou bigonne
He mai helpe to bringe to nou3t
Þo þe grete lordes of hire lond
Þo hi wuste wharto hit drou3
And comen al redi to hire hond
And founde þe duke werre inou3
Let we nou þi leuedi freo
werre wiþ þe duke a+stonde