<County: Warwickshire>
<Code: L4682>
<MS reference: London, BL Egerton 826>
<Text: Book to a Mother and Pater Noster>

<Tranche 1>

<fol. 19v>my leue dere modur . cese þou
not ni3t ny day . for to þou haue
founden a gladnesse in þi soule
to be þis marchau  þe crist
lykenep to þe blisse of heuene
þat is þat þou haue a stable
loue . durable to þi lyues ende
& forsak al maner properte first
for-sakyng þin oune wille for
þat god chargeþ moste . þat
þou suffre no þoutes reste in
þy soule a3eynes godes wille
Bote 3ef þou parsceyue any
suche . cese þou not for to preie
for to god haue don hem fro
þee for preyer is beste help
a3eynes þou3tes / in speche
þat þou þenke er þou speke
to wurchipe god þer-whit
& elles speke þou not chesyng

<fol. 20r>raþer to plese god þen þe world
/ in etynge drynkynge . clepynge
wakynge / not as þe flech
wole bote as resoun techyþ / redy
for to dye / raþer þenne þou
woldest do anyþing a3eynes
godes wille þou art neuer in &
charite for to þou haue þis
wille ny in þe wey of heuene
// And þerfore my leue dere
modur to haue þis wille of
god or þat þou dye y preye
þee for charite vse sum special
preier to seynt lucye þe holy
mayden & martir / And y wol
also þat scheo preye god  . þat
he 3eue þe grace . sofely to seie
as scheo seyde . byfore þat scheo
schulde dye for scheo ne wolde
not offre to deueles / þuse

<fol. 20v>þre 3eer scheo seide y offrede to
nonr oþer þing bote my-self to
herye god / do he wþ his sacrifice
what hym-self likeþ / for
þenne þou schalt not grucche
what so euer he do wþ his oune
þing / & bote þou parte in þis
wille sory þenke i to be / & glad
3ef þou do / for what day þou
hast þis wille . þou hast þe
blessyng þat crist 3eueþ to þe
poure in spirit / & þe kyndam
of heuene is þin / And so þe book
is lerned bou3t & sold . for þou
hast bou3t crist . wþ forsaking
propurte and þou art maad a
Nunne . of cristes religionn  . þat
holy writt spekeþ of & seþ
þat þer was a multitude þþ
leuede in crist þer abbot of oo

<fol. 21r>herte & oo soule and þis is þe
bettur . þen for to haue þe mantel
& þe ryng . þe wympul & þe
veyl . whit propurte for crist louþ
no propurte & so crist & þei
han not oon herte & oo soule
& þis was openly schewed whenne
petre cursyde ananye &
saphire his wyf. for þei haden
propurte & gret multitude is
now. of þis secte saue hem lakkeþ
oon herte & oo soule. and
Alle suche hou þei euer semen
to hem-self oper to foles. þat
demen aftur hire wittes not
aftur reson. tofore god þei ben
apostataes. of þe irreligionn
of þe grete anticroist. þat is
lucifer. þat wolde haue had
propurte in heuene bote seynt
<fol. 21v>myȝhel & oper angeles hurleden
hym doun to helle / & adam & eue
wolden haue haad propurte in paradise
Bote [god] commaundide þe angel
whit an hoot brennynge
swerd. to dryuen hem out and
so wende to helle and so schulen
alle þat consenten to hem. bote
þei forsake propurte in þis world
for it were aȝynes riȝtifull dom
þat a man þat hade trespassed
schulde be more at his large of
his wille. þe while he were in
prisonn / þenne he was or he trespassedede
. for þenne hit were no peyne
<gap> þerfore my leue dere moder
. holde we vs comelynges
& pilgrymes in oure prisonn streynynge
oure loue whit-inne þe
hestes of god & for we ben heuy
<fol. 22r>þorw erþely loue. nayle we vs
whit foure nayles vpon þis
cros. loue we crist aboue al oþer
þing for þe hed of þe cros. on
þe frendes as oure-self. for
þe riȝt+half / oure enemyes as
oure-self for þe <add>lifte</add><different hand, on erasure?> half alle
worldly þinges bynepen þuse
oon in as muche as þei ben nedful
to vs . þe foure nayles þi
is whit loue to fulfulle þe foure
euangelyes / And . <mrg>þus</mrg> bygynne we
to lurne to oure a . b . c . eiper
of vs seying / Cros crist me
spede . & hauynge laumentaciones
for oure synnes & seyinge
whit þe prophete Jeromye a . a .
. a . lord j can not speke fulfullynge
<fol. 22v>in þou3t in word & dede
whit-outen medelyng of my
wykednesse for I am a child folowyng
domes of my wittes / &
þat god here us þe spedlyer for
dauïpes loue . seie we as he seis
in þe ei3te & þrittìpe psalme to
god / lord here myn orisoun And
preier . whit þine eeres parcyue
my teres . Be þou not stille .
þat þou ne here me for I knowelache
me . a strauenger fro þee þorou
synne / þat i am in prisoun Inne &
pilgrym as alle my fadres weren
þus schule we beste bygynne
. for to lurne oure . forseid bok
<space for initial>f þis book spekeþ dauyd þe
prophete & seiþ þis is þe book
of godes hestes . & þe lawe þat is
euerlastynge . alle þat holden hure
schulen come to lyf . who þi forsakeþ
hire in-to deþ þis is god oure
<fol. 23r>god þis fond alle weyes of good
lore & took hire Iacob his sone . &
to yrael his derlynge & aftir þis
he was seyen in erþe . & w× men coneursaunt
<gap> þis is þe book þat
Jon þe euangelist spekeþ of in þe
book of pryuytes J sawe he seiþ
in þe ri3t+hond of hym þi sitteþ
in trone . a+book y-writen whit-inne
& whit-oute J-selyd whit seuene
seles & y wep muche . for nonn is
founden wurþi . to opene þis bok
ny see hym / & J saw3 in þe myddul
of þe trone . a+lobe as he were
slawe hauynge seuene hornes
& seuene y3en . þat ben seuene
spirites of god i-send in . <mrg>to</mrg> al þe
erþe & þe lomb come & took þe
book of hym þat saat in trone
& openede hym and whenne he
<hade openyd þe bok . foure euangelistes
& foure & twenty aldre men
fellen dou3n byfore þe lomb hauynng
harpes & vyoles of gold ful of odoures
. þat ben preieres of seynþus
& þei songen a newe song seyinge
wurþi art þou lord . to take þe bok
& opene þe seles for þou art slawe
& hast bou3te us to oure god /
in þi blod of alle kynraden tunge
& folk & nacioun & hast mad
vs to god a kindam & prestes
& J sawe & herde a voys of mony
angeles in þe circuyte of
þe trone þe nou3bre was þousendes
of þousendes wþ a gret
voyce seyinge wurþi is þe lomb
þat is y-slawe to take vertu
& dyuynite wisdam & strengþe
. worchep & ioye & blessyng
<abouen erþe & vndur erþe & in
þe see alle y-herde hem seyinge
to hym þat satt in þe trone & to
þe lomb Blessyng & wurchep &
ioye . & power in worldes of worldes
& þe foure euangelistes seiden
ameN & þe foure & twenty aldre
men fellen down on hire faces . &
wurchipeden hym in þe trone Blessyd
be he seip seynt Jon þi redeþ
& hereþ þe wordes of þis bok &
keþ hem þat ben written þer
Jnne þerfore modur 3ef we wolyn
vndurstonde þis bok . þer
as he is hud whit þe seuen seles
wepe we muche as Jon þe euangelist
dude & lyue we as þe aposteles
duden þenne þe lomb þat
is on þe fadur ri3te+lond þat dyede
for vs & bou3te vs whit his
<fol. 24v>blood to his fadur wol opene
ye bok whit þe seuene seles to
vs . þat is hym-self as muche
as vs nedep while we lyuen here
& perfitye in heuen / as he dude on
whitsonday . 3euynge here þe seuene
3iftes of þe holy gost / þis
is þe book also . þi eþeþiel þe
prophet spekeþ of . þer god seip þus
to hym þou marne+sone . here al
þi i schal seye to þee / & be þou
not a grucchere as þe children
of irael ben / Opene þi mouþe
& eet þat y 3eue þee / & y sawh
þe prophete seip an hond sent to
me in þe wuche was a bok closed
& he openede hym before .
me / & he was written whittinne
& whit-outen . And in þat bok
weren written lamentacionns
<fol. 25r>songe . & sorwe and he seide to me
Mannes sone / what so euer þou fyndest . ett / ette þis bok . & goynge
þou schalt speke to þe children of israel / And y openede my mouþ :
& he fedde me whit þis bok & he seide to me mannes sone þi wombe schal ete & þine entraylles schulen be fulfuld whit þis boke þat y 3eue to þee & y ette þe bok & he was maad in my mouþ : as swete as hony and aftur þat i satt seuene dayes sorwynge and wherme þe seuene dayes weren passyd : god seide to me . mannes sone J haue maad þee a+spie to þe hous of irael / & þou schalt here my word : & telle it hem 3ef y ordeyne þe wikede man to dye & þou speke not to hym <fol. 25v>þat he leue his wykednesse : he schal be dampned & þou schalt be gulty of his dep / 3ef þou telle hym my word : þou hast delyuered þi soule / þus schulden we here paciently alle þe hestes & counseyles . þat crist spekeþ vn-to us fulfullynge hem in dede . for so he wol þat we eten hym as seynt austyn scheweþ wel in his bokes of confessionns þer god spekeþ to hym & seiþ J am mete of gret folk be þou gret & þou schalt ete me / & þou schalt not turne me in-to þee as þou dost bodily mete . bote þou schalt be turned in-to me þat is J am mete to holy folk þat dispisen worldly wurchipes . & richesses . lustes & lykyng <fol. 26r>ges of hire flech & setteþ hire loue stably in hym as seynt poule
dude þat held alle þinges
of þis world as dritt for to haue
cristes loue & þus duden martires
& virgines / for seynt gregore
seyþ 3ef we token 3eme
what þinges ben byhoten vs
in heuene . alle þinges in erþe
schulden semen foule to vs bote
we han loren oure taste

<Tranche 2>

<fol. 32v><line 5> / / And marke modur in al þis
hou he þat my3te not erre : worchipede
his modur . suffrede hire
to haue child : in a comon stable
/ & bere hym in-to a feer cuntre
: on hire rugge . & on hire
armes þis maner wurchepe
now in þis world : & a child mi3te
donr oper weyes : schulde be
holde vnworchip þefore modir
þenk on þe reule : þat i spak of
er . þat cristes dedes ben more
to be y-leued . þen al þe world
contrarie to his dom for þe
world is a blend folewynge
flechly dom not þe dom of re
<fol. 33r>soun . more chargynge false
wurchep of þis world & delyces
as hire dedes schewe wel
for þei trauylen more for hem
in þou3t . in word . in dede . þen þey
don to haue þe þre principal
vertues . þat crist marie & Jon
hadden . þat ben mekenes pouert
& chastite þat schulden
bringen hem to verrey wurchepe
of heuene þer no man
schal be wurchipeþ: bote for
vertues: ny nonn may come þer:
bote 3ef he haue þuse þre vertues
// þerfore modir marke
wel þuse & charge as muche
for to haue þuse þre vertues
As for to haue heuene and þei
þat wolen not do so bote setten
hire lykyng in false worldly
<wol. 33v>wurchep: þei schulen han as
muche peyne & schame as þei
han had lykyng in suche false
worschipes as holy writ seip
for þei donn maumetrie. for &
þat may be prouded þus
<space for initial, with a indicated> man is holde to conforme
hym to godes wille þer
as he knoweþ hit: and
god wurchipeþ no man: bote
for vertues: ny wol not þat
no man do for as clerkes tellen
& soþ it is: wurchipe is due
mede for vertues þenne a man
is holde to do so. & þey donn þe
contrarie. for þei wurchipeþ
þer is no vertu. bote alle vices
& so þei ben ydolatreres. þat is
doyng wurchep to maumetrie
. <gap> her-to is a feir ensaun
<wol. 34r> ple in holy writ in þe bok of
Hester. hou þe holy man mardocheus
preiede to god & seyde
lord help me as wysse as y sparede
to wurchipe þe proude
prince aman for drede þat J
hadde taken to hym þe wurchep
þat is only due to þee.
þipir for vertues þat þou 3euest
& god herde his bone / for þilke
proude prince was so wood
wroþ as he came by þe holy
man as he satt . for he roos
not to wurchipe hym þat he
maade galewes in his hous
fyfty cubites on heilpe . for to
haue honged on mardochee
þe holy man / bote god delyuerede
þe holy man / & ordeynede
þat þe proude prince was hon
& wurse
<fol. 34v>ged on his oune galewes . & wurse
schulen þei ben honged þi j spak
of eer / for þei maken in hire soules
hire vnordinate loue . hi3er þen þe
galewes weren of fyfty cubites
for þei maken hire loue aboue þe
wille of god . þat is þe hei3este þing
þat may be & þerfore . þei schulen
ben honged in helle whit lucifer .
& Þet hit semeþ lower . for he desyrede
to be euene whit god : & þey
aboue þerfore crist curseþ hem in
þe gospel : & seïþ wo be to 3ou ypocrites
þat donn alle 3oure dedes :
to be seyen of men spredynge abrod
3oure philateries . & making
gret 3oure hemmys 3e louen þe
firste place in soperes . þe firste
cheieres & setes in chirches . gretynges
& salutaciones in þe Market
<fol. 35r>& be clepid of men madames or
maystres & þenne folewyng a
nonn aftur . he techeþ hise disciples
a noble lessoun a3eynes þis proud
folk & seïþ wilne 3e not to be clepyd
maystres . oon is 3oure maister
/ ne wilneþ not to clepe to 3ou
fadur on erþe oon is 3oure fadur
in heuene / ne beþ not clepid maistres
ny madames for 3oure maister
is oon crist / wuche of 3ou is
gretter schal be seruannt / who loweþ
hym schal be hi3ed & who þ
hi3et hym schal be lowed <gap> By
þis lessonn of crist . my3t þou see
mekenes preyseyd : & false wurchipes
of þe world despysed / &
3et he fulfulleþ his fadur hest
of wurchipyng fadur & modur
more þen any ôper may wur
<sfol. 35v>schipe or can he made his modur
moste meke . moste poure . & moste
chast : aftur hym self & he þefore
now in heuene moste wurchipeþ
hire . makyng hire quen
of heuen / þefore my leue dere
modur for þis maner wurchipinghe
as crist wurchipede his
modur is moste sykereste and
beste & moste medeful . & ly3test
to fulfulle : J ches þis boke byforen
alle ôper / for þis is þe beste
bok . techyng al wysdam /
þefore preie þis child þ lay
in þe stalle byfore þe oxe & þe asse
for his modur loue . þat he
tech þe spedfully to þi lyues
ende : þuse þre vertues : mekenesse
. pouert & chastite . as
he tau3te his modur & spare
<sfol. 36r>not for no schame ny peyne
þat god wol suffre þe to haue
bote lef it studefastely as seyntes
duden . þat it is wynnyng
to þee : an hundred fold as crist
seþ in þe gospel for þis byleue
made þe aposteles & martires
joyful & glad. to renne to þe deþ
<gap> Oon ensaumple lo of seynt
Andrew þi patron þi now bettur
þen euer he was. 3ef þou loue
god bettur / whenne he sawh afeer
þe crosse. he cryede wha
a gret voyce / crosse. god þe saue
/ þat whit cristes body art
maad holy / & whit his lymes
Y-maad feyr : as whit margarites
/ byfore þat oure lord
hongede on þee. þou were
dredful / now whit heuenly
<fol. 36v>desyre : þou art rescyued / aþouer
of þee y haue euer be. desyryng
to clippe þee to me.