The Abridged *Polychronicon* in Cleveland MS W q091.92 C468: A Diplomatic Edition
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Introduction:

Cleveland MS W q091.092 C468,\(^1\) an unassuming manuscript housed in the Cleveland Public Library, has only been analyzed in great detail by Phyllis Moe.\(^2\) However, her critical edition of the manuscript, though providing an overview of the object itself, focuses on the *Bible en français*, found in the latter portion of the manuscript. The manuscript is written primarily in one hand\(^3\) which, according to Moe, is dated around 1470.\(^4\) It is written on unruled paper measuring 185 mm x 110 mm.\(^5\) According to the Cleveland Public Library manuscript description:

> Contains the book-plate of Herr H. Gibbs, Baron Aldenham. Gibbs' autograph and a letter to him from Sir Edward Maunde Thompson giving the contents of the manuscript tipped in. The manuscript includes an abridged text of the Brut, 34 lines of *Cur mundus militat*, and chapters 5-24 of *Bible en français* all translated into Middle English.; Two unnumbered pages of parchment at the beginning and end. Pages are numbered 1-99 on the right-hand pages only. The numbered pages are paper. Decoration in red and blue ink.

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\(^2\) Two additional hands appear briefly in ff. 75v-76r
\(^3\) p. 11.
\(^4\) Moe, p. 10.
Contents of the Manuscript

I. ff. 1r-75v: Abridged version of the Prose Brut, preceded by the universal chronicle which closely follows Trevisa’s translation of Higden’s Polychronicon

II. ff. 76r-76v: “Cur mundis militat”

III. ff. 77r-99v: Chapters 5-24 of the Middle English translation of Roger d’Argenteuil’s Bible en Francois

Scribal choice in terms of textual arrangement is certainly of interest, particularly in consideration of possible political motivations. Prefacing the Prose Brut with the Polychronicon simply could have been the scribe’s desire to create a more complete universal history by providing a robust “prequel” to the Brut. An alternate (and as probable) intention, though, is manifested through a textual positioning used as a means to create a subtle propaganda piece, one that includes tones of xenophobia and antisemitism. An abridged Polychronicon, with a particular attention spent creating worlds of terror and often incorporating dragons, serpents, and “wilde bestis,” opens the manuscript’; the Middle English poem, Siege of Jerusalem, closes it. If Trevisa’s intention were to disseminate the Polychronicon in the vernacular with the ultimate goal of reaching a larger audience, then it might be argued that the Cleveland scribe took that intention a step further, culling Trevisa’s work and attaching this version to an abridgement of the Prose Brut, one of the most widely read texts in the late Middle Ages as a vehicle to deliver the scribe’s political message. In other words, if the purpose of the Cleveland manuscript were to disseminate xenophobia and antisemitism, an effective means would be to insert those messages into three well-known and widely-read texts: Polychronicon, Prose Brut, and the Bible. It should be noted

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6 Clearly, xenophobia and antisemitism were visible throughout the medieval and early modern periods; I am proporitng that the scribe took the already present elements and pushed them a step beyond what the reader would have known or expected.

7 Unlike the Cleveland scribe, the Polychronicon, though also intent on exposing the wildness of foreign lands, rarely invites dragons and serpents into the narrative.

that a derth of *Brut* manuscripts that begin with the *Polychronicon* arguably exacerbates the scribe’s culpability in authoring a propaganda piece. If this method were identifiable as procedure, then the onus perhaps could be lifted from the scribe; however, without other examples, an argument could be made for the scribe’s subjectivism and authority in creating political commentary.⁹

**Methodology and Editorial decisions:**

Several choices were made in editing the abridged *Polychronicon*, beginning with choosing a base text to use as a point of comparison. For this, I have used Churchill Babington’s edition of *Polychronicon Randulphi Higden Monachi Cestrensis; Together with the English Translations of John Trevisa and of an Unknown Writer of the Fifteenth Century*. The Trevisa text is a transcription of London, BL MS Additional 24194. For the sake of comparison, I have included references to Trevisa’s text in the marginalia. Each notation shows where the references can be found in the text, but also specifically in the Babington edition (page numbers) and where Trevisa’s translation corresponds to individual segments of the Cleveland manuscript’s abridged *Polychronicon*. Consideration of Ranulph Higden’s original Latin is used in the transcription, but Trevisa’s Middle English translation is that from which the Cleveland scribe pulls his abridgement. Although there are some footnotes referencing the *Polychronicon’s* “auctours”, attention focuses on the parallels between Trevisa and the Cleveland scribe.

**Abbreviations and Punctuation**

As manuscript studies is important pedagogically for the medieval studies classroom, one purpose of this edition is as a teaching tool, both for cultural and paleographical studies. As a way to illustrate scribal practices, I have expanded all abbreviations with brackets: [ ]. The Cleveland scribe is fond of otiose strokes, particularly where the terminal “r” is concerned. The edition has limited expanding the terminal “r” to an “re” only for an “r” with descenders (or for those that are much clearer beyond the scribe’s typical ascending stroke). These examples typically make a much more pronounced motion to abbreviation, and it is more comfortable to see those as purposeful moves to abbreviating the “e”. Also, the Cleveland manuscript is an excellent example of early punctuation usage. This is again beneficial in making this manuscript a teaching tool. Therefore, all virgules have remained in the edition. Finally, a modern hand (noted in the text ominously as “Hand X”) has made corrections to the original text. Those corrections are noted with single chevrons: ⟨ ⟩. If Hand X has made an addition, the addition is simply noted with the chevrons; if Hand X has made an alteration, the alteration is shown in brackets and an explanation of the alteration is found as a footnote.

Usability

For the purpose of accessibility of a wider audience, proper names of people and places have been capitalized, regardless of scribal decisions. Attempts to preserve the aesthetics of the manuscript have been made by using colored (red or blue) pillcrows to indicate corresponding paragraph symbols in the manuscript. Likewise, the litterae floriassae (each in blue ink with red flouriation,  

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10 For example, an “r” which has an ascending stroke that moves to close into a loop.
three lines high) that indicate chapter breaks in the Polychronicon are colored in blue and enlarged. Finally, colored line breaks have been included in the transcription.

Transcription Choices

The transcription follows the following guidelines:

- Yogh (ȝ,ȝ) and thorn (þ,þ) have not been modernized to “z/y/gh” or “th”, respectively
- Both Ethiop[e] and Europ[e] are consistently expanded if the ascender on the “p” is present. Both places have examples of the scribe using the full spelling, so it is arguably abbreviated elsewhere
- The points around numerals have been maintained to correspond to punctuation in the manuscript
- It is undecided whether it was the scribe or a later hand (not Hand X) who added faint hyphens connecting words at line breaks. For usability, the hyphens were included in the transcription
- Unless the differentiation between lowercase “t” and “c” has been noted clearly by the scribe, transcription defaults to “c”
- The scribe varies between “ml” and “thousand”. Rather than use “mille”, “ml” is expanded to “thousand” for consistency in the transcription
Bibliography:


Matheson, Lister M. “Printer and Scribe: Caxton, the Polychronicon, and the Brut.” *Speculum* 60, no. 3 (1985): 593-614.


Wood, Ian N. “Universal Chronicles in the Early Medieval West.”
Cleveland MS W q091.92 468, fol. 1r. “Universal History”
Text: The abridged *Polychronicon* from Cleveland MS W q091.92 C468

Iosephus of Lewis the noble was the first author of the book of Policronica\(^{11}\) / which fro the begynnynge of the world þe xiij\(^{th}\) yere of Donacian themp[er]our compilid

5 in ·vij· Bokis // Also Eusebius //Ieronim[i]us] Theod[ð]œ[r]us Orosius / Alfridus / Cassiderus and many diuers oþ[er] auctours made Stories of diuerse Regions & p[ro]uinces wherof many diu[er]se bokis be compilid / Also Gregorie of m[er]ueils of Rome and Bede of England in honour[e] of almighty God which made althing in ·vij· daies and restid the seuenth day / So is Policronica drawen in ·vij· bokis // The first book is callid Mappa (1) mundi and tretih of landes placis & cuntrrees of al the world // The seconde book conteineth the doing (2) of the lasse world and the ·iij· Agis / that is to seyn from the creacion of Adam to the brennyng of the temple of Lewis // The third book conteineth fro þe (3) tir[æ]nsmigration of the peple to the comyng of Crist The fourth book conteyneth from the birth of Crist (4) to [th]e\(^{12}\) first comyng of Saxions into Britayn. The (5) fift book conteyneth from the first comyng of Saxons to the comyng of Danes into Englund // The (6) vj· book conteineth from the comyng of Danes to the comyng of Normannes into Englund // The vij· book (7) from the comyng of Normannes into the time of king Edward the third / And thus bi the p[ro]pheeye of Ysaie this Policronica is dividid in ·vij· parties / ¶ One auctour rehercith ·iij· principall-kingdomes that were callid sumtyme in the world / that is to sey

10 The kingdom of Surre / The kingdom of Perce / The kingdom of Greece / and the kingdom of Romayns Aftir writing and course of the world the first king- (1) dom was vndir rule of oure olde fadirs from Ada[m] to Moysen / The seconde vndir Iugis fro Moyses (2) to Saule / The third vndir kings / fro Saule to (3) 30 Ørobabel / The fourth vndir Busshope from Øro- (4) babel to Crist / ¶ Also ther[e] ben ·iij\(^{13}\) maner lyves / The first is in the first age vndir lawe of kynde

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\(^{11}\) Although the scribe sounds confused, he is stating that Josephus is the first author mentioned in the *Polychronicon*, not the first author of the *Polychronicon* (see Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 2 (p. 21))

\(^{12}\) Damage to the manuscript has made the first part of the word illegible

\(^{13}\) Scribal error; there are five *maner lyves*, as he notes on f. 1v
comon to alle men / The secunde lif of mystrowing\textsuperscript{14} men in the secunde age when thei wurshipt first \(\text{\textsuperscript{(1)}}\)
fals goddis and mametis\textsuperscript{15} in time of Ninerus kyng of Ninive / The third lif in the third age when he circumcision and lawe disseuered the children of Israel from the vnlawes peple / The \(\text{\textsuperscript{iiij}}\) lif vtnto Crist that is to sey of cristen peple when thei were ha- \(\text{\textsuperscript{(2)}}\) lowid bi ther true bileue / The \(\text{\textsuperscript{vi}}\) lif is of Sarajins which began vndir Macametis lawe\textsuperscript{16} \(\text{\textsuperscript{(i)}}\) Also ther ben \(\text{\textsuperscript{vj}}\) Agis / The first age from\(\text{\textsuperscript{(e)}}\) creacion of Adam vnto Noe / The secunde from Noe vnto Abrah[ajm]

The \(\text{\textsuperscript{iiij}}\) lif from Abraham vnto Davyd [the fourth]\textsuperscript{17} to the transmigracion / The \(\text{\textsuperscript{vi}}\) age from the transmigracion to

the birth of crist / The \(\text{\textsuperscript{vij}}\) age to the ende of the

world / \(\text{\textsuperscript{(i)}}\) Also ther ben \(\text{\textsuperscript{vij}}\) maner parsons of who
the dedis shewen in stories / First a king in his Ream

A knight in batail / A luge in ple\(\text{\textsuperscript{(e)}}\) / A Bussshop in
clergie / A sanfulman in the peple / An husband in the\(\text{\textsuperscript{he}}\) house // And a religious man in the church // Of he
which \(\text{\textsuperscript{vij}}\) parsons springen \(\text{\textsuperscript{vij}}\) maner fame\textsuperscript{18} dedis
that is to sey / making of citees / victorie of enemys

making of lawis / Correcccion of trespace / help of
comune profite / Dominance of meyne and honsgold //
and acting of holi merite /

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In time of Iulius Ce\(\text{\textsuperscript{ar}}\) it was ordeined by

al the Senatoures of Rome / that the wisist

men of Geometrie & connyng were ordey-

ned to yeue veray distriuction and knouleche to the
Romaines of the merueiles and usage of enemys land
in the world / This labour continueth from time of

Iulius Ce\(\text{\textsuperscript{ar}}\) vnto the time of Saturn bi \(\text{\textsuperscript{xxxij}}\) yer[\text{\textsuperscript{e}}]

In which time it was certified to Rome bi recorde

of Capitaynes Iugis and deputis vndir the Romayns
withyn the same landes / Pilat p[ro]uost of \(\text{\textsuperscript{he}}\) Iuwis
certified to Tiberi\(\text{\textsuperscript{(us)}}\) Emp[er]jour[e] of Rome the merueils
of Crist that he wrought / Tiberius certified the

same vnto the Senatoures / but thei wold not trow it
for they herd neuer of eny such merueiles tofore \(\text{\textsuperscript{hat}}\)

\begin{flushleft}
\textsuperscript{14} distrusting; disbelieving
\textsuperscript{15} representation of a pagan deity
\textsuperscript{16} “Mohammad’s Law” set dietary restrictions including the prohibition of alcohol consumption (cf. The Book of John Mandeville, lines 571-547)
\textsuperscript{17} Scribal correction made above the line
\textsuperscript{18} Damage to the manuscript between fame and dedis
\end{flushleft}
The boundaries of the world / ccc xv· times / an hundrith thousand passe / The length of the world from the Est into the West / that is to sey from the Estpartie of Ynde in the Gaditan see conteineth · lxxv· times an c & lxviiij· myles / but it is not so much bi wat[er] / The breed of the world from the South into the north that is to sey from the Cliff of the gret See to

Ethiopi[e] that is the lond of the bloo men & to þe mouth of the Ryuer of Taney conteineth · liij·c lxij mylis / Every myle conteinyng a · thousand passe / The deppist place of eny of the Sees about the world conteineth · xv· furlong in depnesse / Tholomens seith that the rounde circle about the world conteyneth thrises asmuch as the brede and the seventh part of the brede / and by this rekenynge it conteyne

in circuite · xx·thousand·and·xl·myle / The thiknesse of the erthe conteineth almost · vx·thousand·and·ccc·myle / for at most it faileth not · ix·myle of the nombres And the depnes of the erthe conteineth · iij·thousand·cc and·xlj·myles/ The diuision of the world aftir Seint Austyn

The gret See callid the Occian goth about alle the world / and diuidith þe world in · iij·gret partis / that is to sey / Asia / Europ[e] / and Aufrik // Asia is the more part / for it conteineth þe half of the world / And extenidith from the South by the Est into the north / and it is closid about with

the gret See callid Occian and endith in the west at the gret See // Beda seith the ende of Asie in the South is the mouth of the Ryuer of Nyes / And that othrìe ende in the north is the mouth of þe Ryu[er] of Taney Isodre seith that Europ[e] extendith

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19 India
20 Arguably a reference to Lake Tana in Ethiopia, the source of one of the two major tributaries of the Nile River
21 A modern signature appears here in the right margin
22 The scribe stops short of where Higden/Trevisa determine the distance to hell (Tr. “So þif helle is in myddel of þe erþe doun riȝt, me myȝte knowe how meny myle is to helle.”)
vpward from the Ryu[er] of Thaney bi the gret Occian in the north to the costis of Spayn And ioyneth to þe gret See in the Est and in the South & endith in þe Ile of Gadre\(^{23}\) / Isodre seith that Aufrïk extendith fro ðe West into the south bi the costis of Egypt // Aufrïk & Europ[e] ben diuidid bi an arme of the see wherof ðe mouthis conteineth ·xv· thousand· passe in length and ·v· thousand in brede / The myddil see of the world begynep at the same mouthis & extendith bi Dulphis armes about diuerse landis\(^{24}\) / Al be it so that Asie is the most partie yit Europ[e] hath more quantite of grounde & not of peple like to the tothir ·ij· parties / therfor[e] sum auctours discriue but only ·ij· partis of þe world Asye and Europe / And thei ioyne Aufrïk to Europ[e] for Aufrïk is narow and ful euel peple / wild beste and venenous s[e]pentis And ther[e] is more wildn esse and wast in Aufrïk because of the gret\(^{25}\) hete of the sonne then is in eny of the oþ[er] ·ij· partis / Europe is cold / and thinkis bi kinde grow more bi kinndly cold than bi vnresonable hete / In Europ[e] ben peple feirer[e] strenger harder more of stature the[n] in Aufrïk / because of the shynyng of the hote son[n] drieth their[e] humours & brennyth their skynnes that makith hem blac and their bodies mai not wex kindli / Also their gret hete takith awey her corage in complexion / And in contrarie wise of the peple of Europe / **Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 7 (p. 51)**

The gret mydle See of the world begynneth at west at ⟨h⟩Ercules pilers where the gret Occian callid Athilant\(^{26}\) brekith out & mak[ith]

the see Gaditan in length ·xv· thousand· passe and in brede ·v· thousand· passe / and hath on the right side Aufrïk and on the left side Europ[e] and oþir inward sees sp[ri]ngen out therof / Thendis\(^{27}\) of the midle see is the Ryu[er] of Thandy in the north / And the Ryuer of Nïlus in the south / This gret see is but ·v ij fur-long in brede at Bosorn[us]\(^{28}\) beside Grece / Where Exercísc\(^{29}\) the king made a brigge bi craft of duelis to

\(^{23}\) Cadiz, Spain

\(^{24}\) Dulphus seems out of place. (Tr. “and by dyuers armes spredeþ and wexeþ inward the londes”)

\(^{25}\) Large space between gret and hete; possible deletion

\(^{26}\) Atlantic Ocean

\(^{27}\) the ends

\(^{28}\) Bosphorus

\(^{29}\) Xerxes
were vpon Grece / The space betuyx Asie and Europ[e] is so narow there that men mai here dogges
bark from that one side to that othir // It is callid pe
arm of seint George and goth betuyx Asie & Europ[e]
to Constantinople /// Anothir see callid Ensonum\[a]t
goth bi the lasse Asie Hillary & Armame\[a] / it neithir
ebbith ne flowith but kepith alwey his cours / And
that is for the gret strength and swiftnes of fressh
Ryuers that comen into the see ¶ Also the see that
is callid Ponticus\[b] in the same maner neithir ebbiȝ
ne flowith and holdith his cours into the north as
yfodre tellith bi the landis of Tracy / and Misye\[a] //

The gret Occian see goth about the world and
swolouth into it many sees and ebbith and flow[i]th
the wawis therof rise more then ·iiiij· score cubit[es]
in hight /// The Rede see cometh from the north
est / and partith south Ynde from Ethiop[e] & Egipt /
Then it diuidith in ·ij· sees / that one callid Persicus\[c]
toward the north // That othir · Arabicus\[d] toward
the west // The watir of this see is rede because
onli that it flaishith and betith upon the Clevis
which ben rede as eny vermelen stone all the
costis about / and that makith the wat[er] rede of pe
same colour /// ¶ Beside the see callid Caspius
ben the hillis callid Ca(s)pij · in length ·vij· thousand pas
and in brede aboue vnneneth ·xij· foot // The land
of Caspij: is drie and so ful of serpentis that no
man mai abide theryn in Som[er] // Maiстirs of the
Stories tellen that the hillis of Caspij were ioy-
ned togidre bi the praier of king Alijandre and
clossid with gatis of yron in the som[er] ceson be-
cause of s[er]pentis and wormes /¶ Foure p[ri]ncipal

swolowis ben in the gret Occian / Wherof two
ben betwyx Ytaly and Cecile callid Stella / · Virgil
tellith the damigers of thees ·ij· SwoIous\[e] // An
othir Swelon is callid the navil of the See beside
the west clyvis vpon the coste of lesse Britayn

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30 Propontis Sea (Sea of Marmara) in Turkey
31 Kingdom of Iberia and Armenia
32 Black Sea
33 Thrace (region split among Bulgaria, Greece, and Turkey) and Moesia (modern-day Central Serbia, Kosovo, Northern Macedonia, Northern Bulgaria, and Eastern Romania)
34 Persian Gulf
35 Arabian Sea
36 Scylla and Charybdis
The fourth Sweloys is betwux more Briteyn & Walis / Thes ·i· Swelous drawen up watur and cast hem out ageyn twice in the day & in þe nyght. 

Paradise is callid in erth as many auctours

witnessen / ¶ Iosophon tellith that al the watirs that discenden from the hilles i[n]

Paradise fallen into a gret Staugn37 / wherof springen ·i·ij· gret flodis38 // The first is callid Phijon that renneth about Ynde / which is adionant to

paradise / In that flood cometh grauel like gold and many p[re]cious stones ¶ Giȝon the secunde flood and the Ryuer Nilus gon about all Ethiop[e] and Egipt /// The thirde flood is Tiger / it renneth most swiftly / therfore it is likened to a beste callid fourth is39 flood is callid EufraTes & renneth toward Caldees40 / Tigre renneth toward Assury41 / ¶ Para- ⟨2⟩
dise is a ful large cuntees as Ynde or Egipt // It is few plesant fulle and plentenoous of alle goodis /

and frutis that eny man can think // It is (as) mouch as a gret partie of the world // Isodre callith p[ar]adise an Orchard of delite / The flood of Noe come in to paradise / and it is the hiest part of the world & closid about with an high walle / Alle the trees in

paradise beren frutes of gret sweetnes & delites ¶ Asia is named aft[er] Asia a woman as Isodre tell[i]th

The first p[ro]uince of Asie is Ynde which hath þe rising of the Sonne in the Est partie // In þe south the gret Occian ¶ In the west a Ryu[er] callid Inde // In

the north the gret montaine callid Caucasius / ¶

In Ynde ben the precious stones / Ther[e] is (a) b[i]rde42 y callid pheticus43 / Ther[e] is a m[er]euelous tre called heban / Ther[e] ben hillis of gold / but it is ful p[er]ilo[us] to go to the hillis for dragons gripis and othr s[er]- ⟨2⟩

pentis and wilde bestis // Also men ben ther[e] in thoo hillis horrible like deuels // Of alle londis

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37 a pool or pond
38 rivers; these are the four rivers that flow from the Garden of Eden: Pishon (Phijon), Gihon (Giȝon), Hiddekel (Tigris), and Phrath (Euphrates) (see Gen. 2:11)
39 is has been crossed out in black ink by Hand X
40 Chaldea
41 Assyria
42 Hand X has changed brede to birde
43 Psittacus, an African parrot
in the world Ynde is most feuer most plentenous most riche most merueious & most pleasant ¶ In Ynde be fige trees and othir trees of frute spredde so brode

230 bi the temp[er]ance of the grond / that gret nombre of the peple mai rest vndir a tree ¶ In Ynde be ma-
y kingis & much multitude of peple / And ther[e] ben trees of so gret heijt that vnneth eny man may shote to the tappe / Ther[e] be men in length ·v· cubit[es]

235 that neithir be seke ne dye / Ther be men horrible to behold / and ther ben many diu[er]se peple of diu[er]se stature / Ther[e] ben pigmes but in length one cu-
bite / thei geten children at ·pe· age of ·iij· yere / At vii· yere thei wax[en] in age / they ridden on Shepe &

240 fight with Cranes and destrueth their eggis for thei haue continuell werre with Cranes / ther[e] ben peple with godis as doggis and berk as dogg[es] and fight with her teth and with her nailes / bei ben cledde in skynnes of bestis and eten the raw

245 fleish of wilde bestis / Othir peple ben ther[e] hat han no mouthis but lyven only bi sauour and by tast / and thei ben cledde in bark of trees ¶ Othir peple be in monteins and thei haue but one foot & one hand and ·viiij· fingirs / the sol of the foot is tur-

250 ned upward ¶ In Ynde is a countree and ther[e] a ma[n] shal haue many wyues / And when he dieth þe wif that he most loued shal be buried quikke w[th] him / & that is callid the most wushrship that mai be to that wif / ther[e] is also the tree of the Sonne and the

255 tree of the mone / and thoo trees ben of m[er]ueilous height and of right gret vertue // Prestis that of olde time eten frute of the trees lyued ·v·c yere & more / Also when the bemes of the Sonne & þe mone shone upon the trees / then then same trees shoke

260 m[er]ueilousli and spak and gaue answer to þe peple kyng Aljynander was warned bi the trees that he shuld not come in Babilon ¶ In Ynde is a Ile and ther[e] is gret plente of gold / who wil go ·se· þ[a]t yle must

44 Three instances of notes/annotations in the right margin; the first two are the same hand
passe by the greet See or by the Reed See

265 Perse\textsuperscript{45} for feirnes and gret multitude of peple
and for strength of that land / sumtime it
conteined ·iii· landis / that is to sey / P[er]sida
Meda· Assuria· & Carmadia\textsuperscript{46} / And extendith in lenghe
from the See callid Caspium vnto the Rede see / &
in brede from the Ryuer callid Ynde to the Ryu[er] of
Tigre that is (pe) begynnyng of the lond of Macidane\textsuperscript{47}
Trogus the auctour tellyth in his Stories & callip
the peple of Perse outlawes / for when they of
the kyngdom of Perside had conquerid alle the lond

270 of Mede / then thei exilid alle the peple of Perse
Men of that lond haue many wyues / for thei ben
right lecherous and of few wordis / Thei drede
gretely their lordis / they punyssh aduontr\textsuperscript{48} most
of alle trespass / thei lyven right scarcely / they

275 ete no fleish but venesone / The peple be most
partie bonde And thei go on fote / and the fre men
ryde // In batail alle fight on hors / thei vse in the
myddis of their batail gret deceit / that is sodeinly
to fle attones and sodeinly turn ageyn al attones

280 & then thei disturnfitt\textsuperscript{49} her enemies being out of
array // Persis ben most angry & cruell in fyrting
Thei be not buryed / but wilde bestis first eten her
fleish and then thei bury her bones

285 Assuria that is Surry // Isodre tellyth [a]t lond

290 was named Assuria after Assurus that was
sonne to Sem the first sonne of Noe // Ass-
sur[e] inhabit first that lond aftir the flood // Surry\textsuperscript{50}
is betuyx Ynde on the est partie And Mede on the
south // Tigre the ryu[er] on the west / And Caucase\textsuperscript{51}
the gret hille on the north partie // In Surry ben
the gatis of Caspij the gret hille closid // Medus
sonne of king Athenis in mynde of Mede his modir
made the gret cite of Medee // The land of Medee
is betuyx Ynde on the est partie And Perse of þe

295 North // Caldee\textsuperscript{52} on the west And Perside on the þe south

\textsuperscript{45} Parthian Empire

\textsuperscript{46} Persia, Media (north-western Iran), Assyria, and Carmania (modern Kerman Province in southeast Iran)

\textsuperscript{47} Mesopotamia

\textsuperscript{48} lechery

\textsuperscript{49} prevent; resist

\textsuperscript{50} Assyria

\textsuperscript{51} Caucus Mountains

\textsuperscript{52} Chaldea
partie // Persida is named aftir P[er]sons that co[n]querd
the same lond as Isodre tellith And is betuyx Ynde on
the est partie and the Rede see on the west And þe
lond of Medee in the north And the lond of Carmane
in the south // In P[er]sida was first founde wichcraft
in the time of Nembrath the geant // Elam þe son
of Sem made the chefe cite of P[er]side and callid (it) Elam
at[er] his name / The land of Mesopotanea is betuyx
Tigre the Ryu[er] on the est / And Eufrates on the west
and begynneth in the north betuyx ·ij· hilles callid
Taurus and Caucasus / And hath Babilon on the
south partie // Isodre tellith that Babilonia that lo[n]d
was sumtyme so wurthy that it conteyned ·ij· lond[es]
that is to sey / Surry· Caldey and Mesopotane· /
Nembrath the geont bildoed Babilon the chefe ci-
te of the lond of Babilon / Semerana the quene
made it afterward more large / Petre and Orac[i]us
iij· auctours rehercion of the Toure of the cite of
Babilon / That toure was named Babill53 / And
the cite of Babilon was made ·iij· squar[e] w[ith] ·iij·
gatis / And the wallis / cc· cubitis in hight / And
·l· cubitis in thiknesse / And from eu[er]y corn[er] to qhir
was ·xv· myle of space / The circuite of the
wallis of the cite was ·l·xiiij· myles / Alle the mort[er]
of the wallis was made of brent tiles and glue
mengid togridr54 / which neither be watir ne bi fir[e]
might be dissoluid / To that cite were an ·c· gat[es]
and without the wallis a m[er]uelious diche / The
Ryuer of Eufrates renneth thurgh that cite / Sy-
rus king of Parside toke the cite of Babilon and
destrued it / And with the bilding of that cite he made
ij· grete citees in his lond of P[er]side / The cite of Ba-
bilon is now alle wildernes and waste ¶ Caldea
was named bi Casseth the sonne of Nachor that
was brothir to Abraham // Beside Eufrates upon
the mount of Semac3 was the high toure of Babel
made / Withyn the wallis of the cite of Babilon
be now dracons serpentis and many wilde bestis
The tour[e] of Babil was in hight ·cc·lxiiij· paas

53 At this point, according to Trevisa’s text, Petrus’s history ends and Orosius’ begins
54 mended them together
Another auctoure\(^{55}\) in his Stories tellith that the tour[e] of Babil was ·v· myle and almost ·cc· paas in hit:

In the lond o Babilon is Mirre and Canell\(^{56}\) and op[er] spicis & frutis / \(^{\ddagger}\) Josephus tellith that in þe lond of Araby is the hills of Sinaye / And the mount /

Oreb\(^{57}\) is part of the mount of Sinaye / vpon this mount of Sinaye ben herbis of most v[er]tue / Moises drove his bestis upon that hille / Crist showid / first lightnyng & thundere upon that hille / If is of m[er]ueilous hight / noman durst go upp to the hight of that hille but he were eylene of synnes / Therfor[e]

at the front of that hille god gave the lawis to þe children of Israel / Treuisa the auctour tellilp þ[a]t in Araby is a birde callid fenix of m[er]ueilous kinde for ther is neuer more briddis of that kinde on lyve but one / And when it cometh to a certeyn age it fleeth up toward the sonne so ferre that it is consumed bi the hete of the sonne to pondre / And of that pondre springith a new fenix / \(^{\ddagger}\) In\(^{58}\) Araby ben the hillis of libany that parten þe londis of Araby Ynde and Fenice\(^{59}\) / And the hillis ben so high that thei kepen snowe many yeres // Maryners taken their markis by tho hilles in the gret See to draw to diuers portis / Sipre\(^{60}\) trees and Cedre trees and othir trees of gret vertue grow in the hillis / And out of hem springith gume & oyle bi which seke peple ben recou[er]ed And hit destrueth al venym / \(^{\ddagger}\) Sirria is a lond named aftir Sirus the nevew of Abraham and lithe be twix Eufrates in the est side / and the gret See in the west side / And in the north Armenia & Capydote / And in the south the See callid Arabicus / Siria conteneth ·vj· p[ro]uinces / that is to sey / Comogina Fenice· Palestina· Canaan· Idumea· and Judea\(^{61}\) / Eldéjer s[er]uant of Abrah[a]m began the cite of Da-

maske the most famous cite of that lond in the same place where Cayin slouȝ his brother[e] Abell and hidde his body in the Sande / therfore by this

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\(^{55}\) Josephus

\(^{56}\) cinnamon

\(^{57}\) Mount Sinai/Mount Horeb, the location where Moses received the Ten Commandments

\(^{58}\) The scribe began writing Araby here, but deleted it

\(^{59}\) India and Phoenicia

\(^{60}\) Cyprus

\(^{61}\) Kingdom of Commagene (south-central Turkey), Phoenicia, Palestine, Canaan (Southern Levant), Edom (Southern Jordan), Judea (Southern Palestine)
name Damascus\textsuperscript{62} is vn'dirstond a place of Blood
Iudea is the kingdom of Surry and art
of palestine / And it hath the name aft[er]
Iudas the sonne of Ioab / but sumtyme
It was callid Cananea aft[er] Cam the second son[n]
of Noe \texttt{¶} Iudea is callid bi · iij · man[er]s / First it is na-
med the lond of behest / that is to sey the children
of Israel that now be callid Iewis // Sumtime it is
taken for a kingdom / as Archilanus reigned in
Iudea whom they drede \texttt{¶} The land of Iudea co[n]-
teyneth in brede from Dan to Bersabe \texttt{¶} Ieronimi[us]
seith that the lond of Iudea is vnnenth an · clx
myles / The lond of Iudea hath in the South p[ar]ty
the Dede See and so extendith b(y)\textsuperscript{63} Sina and Cadas\textsuperscript{64}
to the Ryu[er] of Egypt and so to the Gret See in the
west / And in the north the hille callid Tauris / And
in the est the hillis of Libany / The See callid Theba
Radis and the Ryuer of flum Iordan springen at
the fote of the hilles of Libany / The ryuer of flum
Iordan renneth into the Gret See\textsuperscript{65} and disseweth be
londis of Iudea and Arabie / In the lond of Iudea
is wine · hony · oyle · milk · and spices / Cedre trees
Cipres trees / plente of pomegarnades and of
al othir spices bawmes and frutes // In the mydd[es]
of the land is the cite of Ier[usa]ll[e]m // Isodre tellith h[a]t
the Iuwe sayen ho\textsuperscript{3} Sem othirwise named Mel-
chi\textsuperscript{66}adeth the first sonne of Noe bildid first Ier[usa]ll[e]m
aft[er] the flode and callid it Salem / Then aft[er]ward
othir peple callid Iebusye that dwellid ther[e] callid
it Iebus And so of thees · iij · names it is callid Ier[usa]ll[e]m
Aftirward bi Salamon it was named Ierosalomyn
Aftirward bi the poetis it was named Salama //
Then Eleus themp[er]our closid that cite with wallis
and made it more large and callid it Elea / The
Sepulcre of Crist was afore that time without
the cite / but now it is withyn the wallis / Holy
Scripture seith that ther is anothir cite callid Sa-
lem in the lond of Canaan beside Sicopoline\textsuperscript{66} wher[e]
is yit the palais that Melchi\textsuperscript{66}adeth bildid // In Ieru-

\textsuperscript{62} Damascus
\textsuperscript{63} Hand X corrected from be
\textsuperscript{64} Kadesh/Qadesh; Josephus identifies this place as Petra, Jordan (cf. Antiquities of the Jews, IV, vii)
\textsuperscript{65} Scribal error; the Jordan River flows into the Dead Sea (as Travisa and Higden write)
\textsuperscript{66} Sichem/Shechem; the first capital of the Kingdom of Israel
salem is no welle but only as the wat[er] descendith fro
the mounte of Syon thoruȝ the cite and is kept in
Cistornes / & then it renneth into a Broke callid

420 Cedron / Vpon the mounte of Sion was sum
tyme a fyn · tou[r(e)] of gret hight And betuyx that
toure and the cite was the temple / And because
the cite was lowe vnrdr the temple (& þe) tou[r(e)] / therfor
it was callid then the dought[er] of Sion / Const-
tine themp[er]tou[r(e)] bildid a church upon that hille in
the wurship of the Sepulcre / And euer pasch
day67 come a fire from heuen and light al þe lampis
in that church / Therfore the miscreaunts wold ne-
vir dispoil that church ne defoule it / Salamon

430 closid that cite with ·iij· wallis / withyn the ymmost
walle duellid the Senatours and Statis // Withyn
the secunde walle duellid Elida68 the p[ro]phetesse and
othir wise p[ro]phetis and philosophirs / Withyn þe
vtemast walle duellid all merchants & crafty me[n] /

435 In the north partie of ier[usa][l[e]m is the mount of Oliuete
where Salamon in his madnesse made templis for
mamets69 // holy writ hercith in the secunde book
of kingis that Crist ascendid to heuen upon the
mount of Olyuete / And upon the same mounte

440 he shal deme all the world // From þ[a]t mounte
of Olyuete renneth the brook Cedron into the
vale of Iosephat / betuyx the bank of the brook / &
the same mount is an orchard wheryn Crist was
wont to preye / And in the same orchard was he
take with the lewis / On the north side of
the mount Sion is the place of Caluary wher[e] crist
was crucifid / othir wise callid Galgatha that is
to sey a place of bare soulis / for in the same p70
place alle felones were behedid and their hedis

450 lay ther stille til thei were al bare / q In ludea
is the dede see ·iij· c furlong from ier[usa][l[e]m / and diuid[ith]
the landis of Iude palestine and Arabie / And so it
descendith from the endis of the lond of lude to
lerico / that conteineth ·vij· c iij xx furlong which

455 Makith ·iij xx & xiiiij· myles / That same lake is

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67 Pascha/Easter
68 Olda
69 representation of a pagan deity, an idol; pagan god or goddess
70 This “p” seems to be an uncorrected mistake. There appears to be a light scratching in a possible attempt at elision, possibly by a
later reader.
ful of glue / therfor[e] ir susteyneth no shippis but if thei be glued / Petrus the auctour seith nothyng may destrue that glue ne dissoule it but only sang[i]s moustruus\(^{71}\) / This dede see wil sustene withyn it

no living thing / And al thing that is dede sodeynly sinkith to the grounde // Isodre tellith for proof here of that many times men that were iugid to \(\langle\)dethe\(\rangle\) were bounden handis and fete and cast in \(\langle\)to\(\rangle\) þ[alt] lake thei might neu[er] sinke but alwey wer[e] cast ageyn to the lond / That lond is now callid pentapoll for V· grete citees that wer[e] most plenentous of al riches brent for synne / for Iob witnessith that trees and frutes in the citees as some as thei were touchid their fill into asshis / for het of fire of vengeance

The lond of Canae is named af[er] þe child[en]
of Canae that first inhabit that lond af[er]
the flood / The children held ·vij· naco[u]ns which were cursid / that Cam the oldist sonne of Noe held in his time / This land hath in the south

Egipt // In the west Tirus // In the est Edomea / & i[n]
the north Iudea ¶ Edomea is named af[er] Edom þe brother of Iacob // Edomea is a lond ful of hillis and right hete // It extendith to the Rede See / ¶ Isodr[e]
tellith þat in Edomea is A welle callid Rabins / that

\(\langle\)iiij\(\rangle\)· tymes in the yere chaungith colour[e] / ·iiij· monh[i]s it is pale / ·iiij· monthis grene // ·iiij· monthis rede as blood / and ·iiij monothis like watir[e] // Palestina þ[alt] lond summite conteyned alle the lond of Samary\(^{72}\)
And the chefe cite was callid Samary · now callid

Sebaste // The lond of Samary berith the name af[er] an hille callid Samer / and lithe betuyx the lond of Judee and galilee ¶ Sichema\(^{73}\) is but a little lond withyn the lond of Samarye And is maned af[er] Sithim the sonne of Emor ¶ In Sichema

is a cite callid Theopoll that Iacob summite bouȝt and gave to ioseph his sonne / This lond was of the kynrede of Effrayn wer[e] the bones of Ioseph was buryed after thei wer[e] brought our of Egipt In the same place the broþ[er] of Ioseph kept bestis

\(^{71}\) Menstrual blood
\(^{72}\) Samaria
\(^{73}\) Sichem/Shecham
Aftward Abymaleth the sonne of Ierobabel destroyed that lond and place. In that cuntree ys Iacobis welle wher[e] Crist restid oft times when he was wery for going. The lond of Galilee is betwyx[en] the lond of Iude and the lond of Palestine / Ther[e] ben both ou[er] Galile and nepir Galile ioyynyng togidir / Also the lond of Sirya and the lond of fenicia be ioyynyng togidir. In the nethir Galile betuene the Gret See and the cite of Acon is a welle that channgith all thing into glas that is cast into it. Cedar is a lond int he vpper partie of palestine And so it is named aft[er] Cedar that first inhabit p[a]t lond aft[er] the flood / Cedar was first sonne of Ismail therfore the peple of that lond be callid Ismalite But thei shuld be callid Agareni for thei come of Agar the modr of Ismael / She was s[er]uau[n]t to Sara and now their haue channgid the name of Ismalite and name hem aftir Sara Saracens Thees Saracens in time of Eraclius Emp[er][o]ur when Macomete the fals prophe reigned / pey conquerid and dispoilid and robid and destreed al o[p][er] londis about hem bi lv[er][e] / Thei destreed all churchis and holi placis of Religion Fe-nicia is a lond conteynyng ij londis Tirus and Sidon / Fenicia hath in the est the lond of Arabi In the South the Rede See / In the north the hillis of libani / And in the west the Gret See / Fenicis founde first capitall lettirs to be made in diu[er]se colo[ur]s Egipt is named aft[er] Egipon the brothir of Dauid / and hath in the est the Rede See And in the south the ryuer Nilus / And in he north Ethiope that is the lond of blomen / And in the west the gret See and the ou[er] partie of Siria / In that lond is but seldom eny reyn but only as the cours of the ryuer of Nilus su[m]time flowith ou[er] and watrith alle their cornes / In Egipt is gret plente of frutis / But eu[er] when hei haue plente of cornes / then haue they starsnes

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74 Hand X seems to have crossed this word out
of herbage / And when thei haue plente of herbage
then their haue starcenes of cornes ¶ In þe est
partie of Egipt is a gret wildernes ful of dracons
and wilde bestis ¶ In Egipt is the yle of Canop[e]
wher[e] the ryuer Nilus fallith into the gret see
Sum men seyn that Nilus cometh out of p[ar]adise
but du[er]se auctours tellith that Nilus springip in
the lond of Ethiop[e] beside the mount Archiles and
descendith into Egipt // Ieronim[us] and Amos aucto[ur]s
seyn that bi pordinate of god Nilus ou[er]flow[ith]
diu[er]se times & leueth a slyme on the grounde
which is fatte and causith the ground to bring
first so gret plente of fruits / Seint Bede seip
þat the north windis stoppen the ryuer of Nil[us]
with grauell & makith it rise and (once) flowith alle þe
cuntrees

Scicia is a gret lond / ther ben ·ij· londes and
ben callid Sicia / The ou[er] Sicia is in Asia
that othir is in Europ[e] / Sicia in asia is
a cold lond and hath much wildernes / It lieth be
tuene ynde on the est partie and the gret occian
on the south north / On the south the mount Cau
case / And in the west the lond of Ermay // In þ[i]s
lond is gret plente of gold and p[re]cious stones &
gripes & othir du[er]se bestis / Trogus the auctor
tellith that the peple of this lond force not of no
man riches / ne thei haue no lord ne wer[e] neu[er] con-
erid / Thei were no man cloth / but men & wom[e]n
be cladde alle in skynnes of bestis / Thei force of
no man biding / but thei cary their wyues and her
children about in cartis / Thei wil suffre no man
robery among hem / Thei werriours desiren
but onli wurship / Thei sle the king of Egipt
in batail / thei sle Sirus the king of peple / þei
discumfit and chacid Darius the king off
They discumfit ·iij· times the chier p[ri]ncee that was
gouvernor of the hostis of king Alijanndr[e] / They
conquerid alle Assia and kept it ·xv·c yere / The me[n]
of Siria were bi hemselue And the women bi he[m] selue / The men ordeined their kingdoms / P[er]sia
and Bactria76 / The women ordeined hemselue
a strong kingdom callid Amo3onia / The aucto[ur]s
can not telle the more wurthi werriours of
the men or of the women / First when þe me[n]
began the werriis in Asie / their conquerd & abode
ther[e] out of her own lond bi -xv· yer[e] / & neuer
com home til her wyues sent for hem / And þe[n]
thei come home / And afterward thei went aye[n]
into Asie and in a bateil be77 deceit Al þe noble
werriours of Siria wer[e] slayn / and therfore
then wyues assemblid gret hostis of women
and went into Asie And ther[e] they vengid cru-
ely the deth of their husbandis // The thirde
time thei of Sirie werrid ageyn in Assie & bode
there so longtime that her wyues wer[e] mary-
ed vnto their own s[er]uantis and bondmen //
Thei of Sirie come home with noble victorie
but their wyues assemblid cruelli and gaue ba-
teil to their own lordis / In which bateil neyþ[er]
partie had the victorie / Then bi councel the
princis and lordis put away their armures and
took stavis / and in that bateil thei discumfit alle
her bondmen & s[er]uantis that had wedded their[e]
wyues / And then put their wyues to cruell deþ
Bactria wher[e] Cam dwellid is betuene the
See caspin and the ryu[er] of ynde And hath in þe
west side the hille of Caucasus / And in the south
the lond of þ[er]se / Caucasus is the hugist hille
of alle the est / And goth from the endis of Iude
to the hille of Taure / and ther[e] the mount Cau-
casus and the mount Taurus ben alle togider
one hille // Caucasus is to sey white / and þerfor[e]
it is callid mount Caucasus the white hille / for it
is euer white with snowe // Albert seith that
men of the west partye of that hille may se þe

76 Historical region of Central Asia that borders Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Northern Pakistan
77 A later hand has written over the “e”, correcting it from “be” to “by”
Su[n]ne (a) gret part of the night // Ther[e] is a lond callid

Hircania78 / it lieth betuyx the See callid Aspin79 on
the est partie & Armenia in the south // Albany if[n]
The north / And Irlond80 in the west // It is named hir

cany aft[er] a best that is so callid // Ther be pant[er]s

Tigres & othir diu[er]se bestis / And xliiiij man[er] of peple

wherof sum[m] ete only the fleisch of men // Ther[e]

is a foule callid hircan //And the fedirs therof

shyne be night[es] // hibery an hille lighth vndir the

hille of Taurus beside the see callid Pontus81 &

Ioyneth to Armenia // Alban lith betuyxen the See
callid Caspie on the Est / and goth bi the watur
callid Metiodes82 / Peple in that cuntre han white

here as sone as thei be born / and salowy iyen

Thei see alis clere in the night as in the dayes

Their houndis ben so gret and strong that þei

take wilde Bullis and leons // An hounde of þ[a]t
cuntree sumtime was sent to king Alýjanndre

& fough in listis allone Aynest a Bore

an Olynant83 & a leon / And the hounde slye he[m]

alle ¶ Gotha is an yle of the lower partie

of Sirie toward the yle of Sirroie // In Gotha

is an yle callid Gothland full of m[er]chandise // &
named Goth aft[er] Gob the sonne of Iaphet / Dan-

mark lith on the north side of Gotha // Armenia

is named aft[er] Armen a knight of Iason / It ex-
tendith to the mount Caucasus // Armenia co[n]-
teineth in length / xj· hundrith thousand passe &
vij· myle in brede // In Armenia is the mount Ar-

rarate where the Shippe of noe restid // Ther[e]
is Armenia the more and Armenia the lesse ﾂ ﾂ ﾂ

84

Capidociâ85 is a gret lond and norishith goode

hors / it lieth betuyn[en] Asie the lesse on the

west partie And Amazona in the north / &

the mount Taur[u]s] in the south // Asya the lesse is

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78 Hyrcania; historical region south-east of the Caspian Sea in Iran
79 Caspian
80 Higden notes this as being Iberia or Hiberia (Monachi Cestrensis, Lib. I. 143), seemingly a mistranslation by the Cleveland scribe
81 Southern coast of the Black Sea
82 Meotides
83 Elephant
84 It appears that some words were erased from the manuscript by scraping, resulting in a blank line.
85 Floriated capital letter
closid about w[ith] the Gret See. And hath in the north þe

see callid Eusym // In the west p[ar]tie the see callid
Yponcides86 // In the south the see of Egipt // In Asia
the lesse ben diu[er]s p[ro]uinc[es] // In the north p[ar]tie þerof
is the p[ro]uince callid / more Frigia87 // And the p[ri]ncipal
cite of Frigia is callid Nichomeda / Also ther[e] is /

lesse Frigia othir wise callid Dardanea88 aft[er] Darda
the sonne of Iubiter / And it is callid Frigia aftir
Frigis the dough[er] of Agonoris // On the Est p[ar]ty
of Frigia is the p[ro]uince of Ledy89 / And on the west
partie a see callid Elyspontus90 // In the p[ro]uince of

Ledy Cresus the riche king reigned sumtyme / þen
Ledy and Tirus ·ij· brethirn wer[e] kinges therof
And for it might not sustene hem bothe Tirus
went oure and conquerid a p[ro]uince and callid it Tir[ε]91
aftir his name / Smyrena is chefe cite of Ledy /

Pamhilia92 is anop[er] p[ro]uince / Antiochus the gret ki[n]g
bildid the gret cite and chefe therof callid Sili-
cia / In the p[ro]uince of Silicia is ·ij· citees that is
to sey Illustris and Derbyn93 / but the p[ri]ncipalle
cite therof was Tars94 sumtyme / ¶ Amazona is su[m]
dele in Asia and sumdele in Europ[e] / the peple þ[er]of
ben callid Amazines that beth the wyues þ[a]75
vengid the deth of their husbond[es] that wer[e] slayne
yn Asie b(y)96 deceit As it is aforn seid // The Amazo
nes chose among hem ·ij· Quenes / One reigned

& gou[er]ned al the p[ro]uince of Amagine / The secon
d queene kept the werris & conquerid gret part of
Asie and Amazines kept it an ·C· yere and mor[e]
& so they libid without eny men among hem / þe[n]
by counsell they toke husbondis of Albany and of

othir londis ioynyng to theym / And if they hadden
sonnes they sende hem to the fadirs / And if they
hadde doughtirs thei kept hem stille and bitte of þeir
right pappe(s) and then brent it / therfore thei were
callid Amazines that is to sey brent brestis / ⚒

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86 Propontis/Marmara Sea (Turkey)
87 West Central Anatolia (Asian Turkey)
88 Kingdom of Dardania; presently portions of Serbia, Kosovo, North Macedonia, and Albania
89 Lydia
90 Ellispontos; municipality in Greece
91 Troy
92 Pamphylia; region in southern Turkey between Lycia and Cilicia
93 Lystra and Derbe
94 Tarsis
95 Two-character space after “wyues”; appears to have been scraped off
96 Hand X has corrected be to read by
Affrica is named aft[er] Affer the sonne of Maddan that was sonne to Abrah[a]m [a]t was goten in Sirria // Affrica goʃr fro the endis of Egipt tot he nethir Ethiope vunto þe mount Athiles / and it is closid in the north / and from the est partie with the Gret See / and þe Occ- cian is in the west side thereof // Affer discumfit the peple of Luby 77 bi help of hercules / therfore Affer gave Etheam his douȝt[er] vnto hercules i[n] mar- riage ¶ Affrica conteineth the Est partie of Ethiop[e] & hath many pr[oj]unces // Ethiop[e] hath ·iij· partes / one is ful of hilles & conteineth from the mount Athiles to Egipt // The secunde part is ful of grauell / þe third part i(s) 99 most parte wildernes // ¶ Ethiop[e] hath the gret occian in the south / and the Rede See in the Est // It is named Ethiop[e] because the peple be bloo for hete of the su[n]ne / therfore gianttes be folc ther[e] and of m[er]eurilous stature and horrible y callid Trogedite / Ther ben peple swift[er] then eny hert / they curse the su[n]ne for the feruent hete

700 Sum inhabit hem vndir erth / Sum speke not ne haue no voice but only chuking 99 with her teþe Sum man[er] peple gon al nakid as bestis / Sum man[er] peple ben without hedis & haue men in her brestis / Sum peple ther[e] haue an hound for her kyang / Sum peple lyue only ther[e] bi hony souk[es] dryed with the Su[n]ne / Ther ben Dragons that haue precious stones in her hedis / ther be Basiliscus 100 that ben kingis of s[er]pent[es] for they slee bestis and foulis bi their tastis and bi her sight

710 In this lond is a welle of gret v[er]tue / it makith every creature that drinkith of it haue cler[e] vois Anothir welle is ther so cold on the day and so hoot on the night that noman my touche it ¶ The lond of Liby hath Egipt in the south side & Ethiop[e] in the west // Sum auctour 101 seith that libia is named aft[er] libian the dought[er] of Ephasie that was doughtir to Jupiter // Sum auctour seip

715

97 Libya
99 Hand X has corrected ist to is
90 Making a clicking sound
100 lizards
101 Isidore, book xv
it is callid Libia aft[er] lie a winde that cometh outhe of Affrica / The peple of Libie be callid Putey after 

Pute the sonne of Cam // The lond of Tripollita 
hath Arras in the est side / ther be ·ij· placis in þe see callid Sirces the more and the lesse And thei ben ·ij· the most p[er]ilous placis in thas sees in the est / Trypollitan hath in the south a m[er]ifulous peple callid 

Garomantes102 / And in the north the middle see of the erth // Getula103 is a lond in ⟨pe⟩ myddis of Aufrik/ & þaþ name aftir Gethes / that peple were of the lond of Gother aboue rehercid

Europe as Isodre tellith hath the name aftir

Europe dough[er] of the king of Libie whom Jubiter raumnshid // Europe is the third part of the world / and begynneth at the Ryu[er] of Thaney and goth down by the north Occian toward the endis of Spayne and so to the endis of 

Gades and is closid in the est and in the south with the gret See // The Ryu of Taney percith in the north the more Asie and Europ[e] / The ryu[er] of the same Thaney berith the name aft[er] Tan[us] the first king of Sitie104 And it begynneth at the 

mount Rippius and goth into the middle See / þe nethir Sitia is cold and begynneth at the Ryu of Thaney and goth to ⟨pe⟩ north Occian to Germany And by the Ryuer Danibius105 // Alania106 is the nethir part of Sitie and goth bi the wat[er] of meotides toward Denmark // Misia107 is closid in the north and in the est with the Ryu[er] of Danibius108 and ioyneth to the lond of Tracy and to þe lond of macidone in the south partie and to þe lond[es] of histria109 and Dalmatia in the west // In the 

lond of Misia is plente of cornes / Ther[e] is ioy nyng to it ·ij· londis / Sclandia the more & Sclandia the lesse / In the more Sclandia dvelleth wood men / In the lasse Sclandia be more meke peple ¶ The þ[ro]juince of Panonye is a greet 

lond / The hillsis of Alpes110 partith Panony &

---

102 See Herodotus’ Histories
103 A Berber-speaking nation, though the historical accuracy of its existence is questioned
104 Sythia
105 Hand X has added a minim, changing Danibius to Danubius
106 Most likely Alania, Iran based on other geographical points mentioned (as opposed to Alanya, Turkey)
107 Note that Hand X did not correct the spelling here
108 Most likely Alania, Iran based on other geographical points mentioned (as opposed to Alanya, Turkey)
109 Note that Hand X did not correct the spelling here
110 The scribe originally wrote Panonye and crossed it out in red ink, writing Alpes below in black
ytaly // Ano[er] lond beyond Sitia is callid panony / Er-

ditus the auctour seith that a peple callid hunnj in
hunting pursued their houndis / and the hertis we[nt]
to lasse Panonlye And afterward thei come ayen

760 with gret host / and conquerid the lasse panony And
then callid it hungry // Whereof one part is callid Bul-
gary that ioineth in the est / to the lond of Misye
In the south to the lond of histrie // In the west to
The hillis of Alpes and to Gallia Belgica callid new

765 Frannce And in the north to Germanye 

greece as Auctors tellith is callid lady of Re-
gions / norice of knighthode / modir of philo-
sophie And finder of craftis and sciences
and named Grece af[er] Grecus that first reigned [er]e

770 when gret Constantine themp[er]our[e] made the cite of
Constantinople he callid it new Rome // Ranin[us] se[th]
that the Grekis calle hemselue yit Romaises And
Isodr[e] tellith that palles and minerua hold scoles
of knighthode and clergie first in Grece // The lond

775 of Grece ioineth to the gret see and conteyne[n] al
thees cuntrees that is to sey // Tracion / Lacidemo-
niam / Macidoneia / Archaiam / Archadiam / Tessalia
Gladiam / and Boiciam11 // ¶ Tracia is betuyx Ege-
dius the see in the south & Macidon in the west ///

780 In Macidon is a welle the wat[er] therof slokenth
brennyng trees & makith hem brenne ageyn / Co[n]-
stantinople is the principall cite of the londis It w[a]s
sumtime callid Besancia the chief cite of the Est
like as Rome was the chief cite of the west // Ma-

785 mryners that come from the portes of Asie & Europ[e]
may see this cite from ferre / if is closid w[i]th the gret
See / The wallis ben  mille pace in circuite / The
gret Ryuer Dan(ub)ius renneth in gutters vndir the
erth thrugh that cite / And when thei open their

790 Scuces12 the wat[er] renneth thrugh an  streitis in þ[a]t
cite attones // Lustinianus em[er]our[e] made the gret
minstre of Sophie chief of that cite / Andrew / Iames
Mathie / appostles / Elesius / Samuell & Daniel p[ro]phetes

11 Thrace, Laconia, Macedonia, Achaea, Arcadia, Thessaly, Helladia, and Boeotia (regions in Greece)
12 Water gates
Basilius Gregorius John with the golden Bouche

Agatha and Lucia virgins / And Lucas theu[a]ngelist\(^{113}\) &
many other seintes be buried ther[e] / Lacidemonia
is named aft[er] Lacidemon that was Sanlis sonne
Trogus the auctour tellith that the peple of La-
idemony sumtime bisegid a cite callid Mesana

\[b(y)\textsuperscript{114} \cdot v x \cdot yere\] And dredde of their wyues & [p[a]t] their
cuntree shuld faile / And ordeined yong maidens &
yong men all in gen[er]all to dele togidir because of
gen[er]acion / And so the sonne lay by the modir / the
brother w[i/th] the sust[er] / the fadir with the dou[r]t[er] and
multiplied so much / the lond might not suffice he[m]
This man[er] folk were callid Sp[ar]tinij // vnneth eny
of hem know his own fadir // Therfor alle þe yong
men & women of that gen[er]acion assemblid <a> gret
multitude and passid bi see to ytalie & conquerid

\textit{Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 22 (p. 183)}

it and putte alle the peple out of italye and þey
inhabit that cuntree / Macidone ioynth in þe
est to Egeus the see / to Achaia in the south / In
the west side is Dalmacia / And Misia in the north
side // Olimpiades the gret hille is in Macidonye

\textit{Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 22 (p. 185)}

and partith Tracia and Macidonia / That hill
extendith to the cloudis / vpon the topp of that
hille cometh neithir winde aye reyn but on-
ly shinyng of the sonne or of the mone // Lett[er]s
and figures that were written on that hille ma-
ny yeres tofore / the ben vndefacid\(^{115}\) no foulis
mai abide on the topp of that hille for clerenes
of the ayer / Athos anothir hille is in þ[a]lt cuntre
and it passith aboue the cloudis as auctours tell[i/th]
and the shadow therof extendith to Iles that be

\textit{Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 22 (p. 187)}

from it more then ·lx· myle \(\textsuperscript{115}\) In the [p[ro]uince of
Achaia Corinth is the chief cite where king Ali-
yanndir assemblid first his hostis to conquer[e] the
world / Paule wrote ther[e] thepistles \(\textsuperscript{115}\) Dalma-
cia is anothir p[ro]uince ioynyng therfo / Archadia

\textit{Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 22 (p. 187)}

is a part of Achaia & named aftir Archades that
was Iubiter sonne / Ther[e] be white stones &

\(^{113}\) Scribe added superlinear correction

\(^{114}\) Hand X has corrected \textit{be} to read \textit{by}

\(^{115}\) decomposing
if they be ones a fire they wyll[e] neu[er] be slakid\textsuperscript{116} \& Also thei ben white wesils // Tessalia ioyynth to Macidonye / peple of t\textsuperscript{e}\textsuperscript{117} that cuntree first daunted hors and used to ryde up on hors with bridils // Ther[e] is a famous hille callid P[er]-nasus that hingith upon ·ij· stones // vpon the topp b[er]of is the temple Dolph(c)i)cus\textsuperscript{118} // vpon that hille philosophirs were first espirid to hold Positions // Two Rouyers ben ther[e] if that shepe drinke in that one Ryu[er] bei shall be blake // if thei drink of that op[er] thei shal be white / ¶

Philosophirs and poetis seyn in that cuntree be places of gret dilectacion of of floures // Theodolus and Ovidius seyn hough that in that cuntre was the thirde flode in tyme of Deucalij the prince as poetis s(ey)\textsuperscript{119} in their[e] stories / the same p[ri]nce and Pirra his wyue made folk of stones aft[er] that flode / ¶ The p[ro]unce of Elidia\textsuperscript{120} & Grece lith beteene Macidonie and Achaie / And was named aft[er] the son of Deucalij / Ther[e] is the gret cite Athnes where as the vniu[er]sall studie of alle naciou[n]s was sum time holden / Children in that cite shul neu[er] bere thei[er] name aft[er] thei[er] modir / The peple of Athenes helith peple of biting of venemous s[er]pent[es] / Also thei began first to make cloth of wolle / ¶ The p[ro]unce of Bos\textsuperscript{121} hath the name aft[er] an Oxe / for when Cadm<uw>s the son cite\textsuperscript{122} of Agenoris sought Europa his sust[er] that lubiter vanysshid as it is rehercid bifor / he folowid the stepp[es] of an Oxe and founde that Oxe / And for that he found not his sust[er] / he durst not turne ageyn for wrath of h[is] fadir / but duellid in that lond and began ther[e] the gret cite of Thebes / Herculus and Appollo were born ther[e] Also ther[e] is a wat[er] who that drinth therof shal be dis posid to lechery / Also ther[e]ben ·ij· welles who drink[ith] of that one welle shal be forgetfull eu[er] aft[er] / And who drinkith of that othir welle shal eu[er] aft[er] be of greet remembrance

\textit{Italy was sumtime inhabit w[ith] Grekis} / And then was it callid greece / It was callid also Hes[per]ia aft[er] the name of the Sterre\textsuperscript{123} that taught the Grekis theyr course by see into ytalie\textsuperscript{124} / Aft[er] it was

\textsuperscript{116} extingushed
\textsuperscript{117} Scribal error
\textsuperscript{118} Hand X has corrected from Dolphocus
\textsuperscript{119} Hand X has corrected from seen
\textsuperscript{120} Illyria
\textsuperscript{121} Boeotia
\textsuperscript{122} The scribe has crossed out the word cite in red ink
\textsuperscript{123} star
\textsuperscript{124} The scribe momentarily uses “y”s instead of “i”s in this line
callid Saturna aft[er] the name of Saturnus that was lord of Italie // And for Saturnus hidde himselfe on a tyme from lubi[te]r his sonne / lubiter callid that lond Latia b[a]t is an hiding place // Alf[er] it was callid Eusonia aft[er] the dowr[t][er] of Vlix // And last it was named Italie aft[er] Ital[us] king of Cecile // It is the most noble p[ro]juince of Europe It hath Adriak the See in the north side / And þe gret See in the est // In the south partie is the lond of Ce-
cile and the See callid Terrem225 / And in the west Alpes
the hillis / Dan[w]bius and Rone126 ·ij· Ryu[er]s sp[ri]ng out of þe
same hilles / Ther[e] is callid a lake Cutorious / Whoso
drinkith of that wat[er] shal neu[er] aft[er] be drunke / þe see
ben the p[ro]juine[cs] withyn Italie that is to seye / Calabr[e] Puly/ Campanya / Tucia / Gimlia / Liguria / Lumbardia / A-
pulea / and Boneventany127 // Grekis bildid Brundes
wike128 for chief cite of Italie /// In Ytaile be hoot wellis
and Rome and Cartage be most famous cites of þ[a]t
lond / The bathis of Virgil be ther[e] /// Ther be ·ij· lond[es] callid Champynes / the more and the lesse // The lesse
Champaigne is in Franne / Trois129 is the chief cite þ[er]of
When the toure of Babil was made Noe went in A
Shippe into Italie & made diu[er]se cites and tovnes / Iau[us]
the sonne of Iaphet made Ianiele the cite beyond þe
wat[er] of Tiberie / In the same time Nemroth othir
wise callid Saturne that was geldid of Ianis his son[ne]
he went to the kingdom of Ianus / and bildid diu[er]se ci-
tees // Then[n] come Tibers king of the est / and king
of Archadye / they inhabitid in Italie & made many tow-
ynyse · And so did Ciculus king of Cicile // Then[n] come
ij· brother out of the more Britayn callid twelining[es]
Remo & Rinulus130 and thei conquerid Italie And closid
alle the citees with wallis that were made aforne
their[e] time / Thei began Rome on the mount Pa-
lientine ·ccc·xxiiij· yere aft[er] the destruccon of Troy
Rome hadde on the wallis of high toures / ccc·lxj / ¶
All Rome conteyneth in circuite rounde aboute ·xlij·
myle Rome had ·xvj· ·p[ri]ncipal gatis / The toures and
wallis were made so strong that Gregor[us] doutid yf

125 Tyronian Sea
126 Rhine River
127 Calabria, Naples, Campania, Tuscan, Emilia, Liguria, Lombardy, Apulia, and Benevento. Of note is that neither Higden or T revissa mention Puly/Naples in their texts.
128 Brindisi
129 Trecase (Campania)
130 Remus and Romulus
131 A modern signature appears here in the left margin
they were made bi men or by sorcery ¶ In Rome
every Emp[er]our[e] made a palaisce for himselue / but
890
in (pe) myddis of Rome was the chief palaise of the
world // Ther[e] is anothir palaisce callid the palais
of peace / wher[e] Romulus sett his ymage in golde
and seid that ymage shuld neuer faile til a clene
virgine have a child / when crist was born[e] the
895
ymage fille dou // Dioclesian ordeined a palais
with high plers / that vnneth eny men might cast
so high with a stone / An hundrith men might vnn-
nethe make a pilere in a yere /// In Rome was A
Temple callid Panthion of alle their[e] fals godd[es]
900
now it is a church of alle seint[es] And for our[e] lady
is chief of all seint[es] that church is named aft[er] hir
seint Marie rotonnde / it conteineth ·CC·lx· fote in
brede /// Seint Sebastian destroyed the temple of
Astonomie that was peintid with Sterris & signes
905
of heuen / now it is a church of seint Stephen
In the Capitall were high wallis cou[er]ed w[ith] glas
and gold / as a myrrour to alle the world / The
Senatoures of Rome held her counseils ther[e] / And
ther[e] stode an ymage of Iubit[er] in a throne // ¶ In
910
Rome was sumtyme a hous made all of gold &
p[re]cious stones / which was p[re]ysid132 at that time to
the thirde part of alle the richesse in the worlde /
In that hous was for euyer cunte that was vnd[er]
subieccion of Rome an ymage of bras / And eche
Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 23 (p. 215)
915
ymage had the name of the same cuntree wrote
on his brest / And a Belle about his necke /// In pe
myddis of alle the hous was a pilere of gold And
an huge ymate of gold ther upon As chief for Rome
When euy p[ro]ince or cuntree rebellid aynest Rome
Tre. Lib. 1, Cap. 23 (p. 217)
920
then the ymage of the same cuntree made by pe
craft of sorcery wold turn his bak to the ymage
of Rome and ryng the belle /// The prestis that
kept that ymage gave warnyng to the princes /
Then the ymage of Rome held in his hand a sper[e]

132 valuable
And putte the point of his sper[e] to the ymage of þ[a]t cuntrey that was rebelle / And so the Romaynes were warned at all times of their enemyes // In the same hous was made a fire alwey brennyng and neu[er] might be slokend133 or a maiden had born a child // That same nyght that crist was borne that riche hous fille dou[n] And the fire quenchid Appollo bi his craft made of bremston and blak salt putte in a vessel of bras / and ordainëd it eu[er] uiore to brenne And so he made the hoot bathis //

In Rome was an ymage sitting / on an hors of iren The ymage and the hors weyed ·xv· thousand pound / & bi craft was made to hinge in the ayre for a ni134 veil / and nouthir destendid ne astendid / ¶ Aucto[u]rs and maistirs of histories affermë bi scripture alle the distripe[j]ons of p[ro]uincis / landis / citees / hillis Sees and alle othir merueils that ben tofor[e] re hercid / Which ben here more shortly drawen out of Pollicronicon / which is witnessid p[ro]uëd / & auto-rised by scriptur[e] bi many right notable maisturs of Stories Doctours and auctours / Whos names both in the begynnyng of the first book of policroni con more pleiuly hercidi And the scriptur[e] And Chapit[er]s accordyng to the same / ¶ Here folowith the Cronicles of Englund shortly abreggid

133 extinguished
134 Unclear; the second character is much more verticle (leaning left) than any of the scribe’s single stroke letters. The “&” in line 12 seems to have been corrected or embellished with additional ink, bleeding into the characters in line 13, making the second character indecipherable.
Appendix: XML/TEI Markup for Cleveland MS W q091.092 C468, ff. 1r-6r (line 1)

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        <!-- gmd means "general material designation"-->
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Iosephus of Lewis the noble was the first author of the book of Policronica which from the beginning of the world the 12th year of Donacian the emperor our compiler compiled.

In the 7th book Alfridus and many divers op compilers made stories of divers regions and many divers books were compiled also Eusebius Ieronimius Theodorus Orosins Alfridus Cassiderus and many divers authors made stories of divers regions and princes whereof many divers books were compiled also Grecie of meueils of Rome and Bede of England in honour of almighty God which made all in the 6 days and rested the seventh day.

The first book is called Mappa mundi and treateth of lands placis and cuntries of the whole world and the 3rd book containeth from the creation of adam to the burning of the temple of Lewis.

The second book containeth from the first coming of Saxons into Britain. The third book containeth from the first coming of Saxons to the coming of Danes into England.

The fourth book containeth from the coming of Danes to the coming of Normannes into England.

The fifth book containeth from the coming of Normannes into England to the time of Edward the third. And thus by the progress of these stories this Policronica is divided in 7 parties. That were called sometime in the world that is to say.
The kingdom of Surre <pc>/</pc> The kingdom of Perce

After writing and course of the world the <hi rend="ul">first king</hi> <add place="marginRight" hand="handx">1</add></l></p>

was vndir rule of oure olde fadirs from ada<expan>m</expan> of to moysen <pc>/</pc> T</l>he seconde vndir Bisshope from

<babel to crist <pc>/</pc> hi rend="rb">¶</hi> hi rend="ur">Also</hi> ther ben ·iiij· maner

lyves <pc>/</pc> T</l>he first is in the first age vndir lawe of kynde</l></p>

comon to alle men <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">T</l>he secunde lif of mystrowing</l></p>

men in the secunde age when thei wurship first <add place="marginRight" hand="handx">1</add></p>

goddis and mametis in time of Ninerus kyng</l></p>

of Ninive <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">T</l>he third lif in the third age whan

be</l></p>

circumcision and lawe disseuer<expan>er</expan> the children of israel</l></p>

from the vnlawes peple <pc>/</pc> chi rend="ur">T</l>he ·iiij· lif in the third age when

that is to sey of cristen peple when thei were ha <add place="marginRight" hand="handx">2</add></p>

lowid bi ther true bilee <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">T</l>he ·v· hi rend="superscript">te</hi> lif is of Sarajins</l></p>

which began vndir macametis lawe <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> hi rend="ur">Also</hi> ther</l></p>

ben ·vj· Agis <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">T</l>he ·iiij· age from <add place="supralinear" hand="handx">e</add> creacion of Adam</l></p>

vnto Noe <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">T</l>he secunde lif from Noe vnto

Abrah<expan>a</expan> from Abraham

viunto Dauid <add place="supralinear" hand="handx">the</add> to the transmi</l></p>

the birth of crist <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">T</l>he ·v· hi rend="superscript">te</hi> age to the ende of the</l></p>

world <pc>/</pc> hi rend="bl">¶</hi> hi rend="ul"> Also ther ben ·vj· maner parsones of who</l></p>

the dedis shewen in stories</l></p> First a king in his Ream</l></p>

A knight</l> in batail <pc>/</pc> hi rend="ur">A iuge</l> in plee

A Busshop</l> in</l>
clergie man in the peple An husband in þe
house And a religious man in the church
which parsones springen Þ maner fame dedis
that is to sey þe making of lawis þe help of
comune profile þe D omnance of meyne and honsgold
and acting of holi merit
n time of luliæ Ceçar it was ordered by
al the enatoures of Rome þe wisist
men of Geometrie & connyng were ordey
ned to yeue veray distripcion and knouleche to þe
Romaines of the merueiles and usage of enemy lond
in the world þe
luliæ Ceçar vnto the time of þe S bi ·xxxij· yer certified to Rome bi recorde
in which time it was certified to Rome bi recorde
of þe Þ apitaynes lugis and deputis vnþ the Romay
withyn the same landes þe P þi ilat
þe certified to Tibery þe US
Of crist that he wrought þe þe Romay
same vnto the Senatoures þe but thei wold not trow it
for they herd neuer of eny such merueile tofor
By which c er tification so made to the Senato
It was prueed that the world hath þe Þ xxx· Sees in
the circuite þe þeul” þe þe illes ·lxxij· þe þeül
þe famous hillis ·xl·
þe f famous þe
famous Ryuers ·lvii· þe þeül
f famous citees...
þe f famous Ryuers ·lvi· þe þeül
þe f diuers na
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in the Gaditan see conteineth ·lxxv· times an c &amp; ·lxxviij· myles <pc>/</pc> but it is no so much bi wat <expan>er</expan> <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="tr">T</hi>he <hi rend="ul">T</hi>he breed of the world from the South into the north <expan>us</expan> &lt;expan>us</expan> that is the lond of the bloo men &amp; to þe mouth <expan>cliff of the great see</expan> the Ryuer of Taney conteineth ·liij· c lxij mylis in the Gaditan see conteineth ·lxxv· times an c &amp; ·lxxviij· myles <pc>/</pc> but it is no so much bi wat <expan>er</expan> <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="tr">T</hi>he <hi rend="ul">T</hi>he breed of the world from the South into the north <expan>us</expan> &lt;expan>us</expan> that is the lond of the bloo men &amp; to þe mouth <expan>cliff of the great see</expan> the Ryuer of Taney conteineth ·liij· c lxij mylis
Monthis contenteth ·xi· thousand· passe in length and ·hi rend="ur"·v· thou·hi·

sand in brede ·pc/· ·hi rend="tr"·T· hi· he myddil see of the world begyn·

at the same mouthis & extendith bi Dulphis armes·

about diverse landis ·hi rend="rb"·/· hi· Al be it so that Asie is the most·

partie yit Europ·expan·/· expan· hath more quantite of grounde·

not of peple like to the tothir· ij· parties· pc/· pc/· therfor·

sum auctours discrie but only· ij· partis of þe world·

asye and Europe· pc/· pc/· And thei ioyne Aufrîk to Europ·expan· e· expan·/·

for ·hi rend="ur"· Aufrîk· hi· is narow and ful evel peple· pc/· pc/· wild beste·

and venemous s·add place="supralinear"· hand="hand1"· e·/· pentis And

the·expan· e· expan· is more wildn·

nesse and wast in Aufrîk because of the gret het·

of the sonne then is in any of the op·expan· er· expan· ·ij· partis· pc/· pc/· Eu·

rope is cold· pc/· pc/· and thinkis bi kinde grow more bi kin·

dly cold than bi unresonable het· hi rend="rb"· pc/· pc/· hi· rend="tr"· l· hi· n

Europ·expan· e· expan· ben·

peple feirer·expan· e· expan· stronger·expan· e· expan· harder· of more of stature

the·expan· n· expan·/·

in aufrîk· pc/· pc/· because of the shynyng of the hote son·

drieth their humours & brennyth their skynnes·

that makith hem blac and their bodies mai not wex·

kindli· pc/· pc/· hi· rend="ur"· Also· hi· their gret het·

in complexion· pc/· pc/· And in contrarie wise of the peple·

of Europe·

hi· rend="o3"· hi· rend="bl"· T· hi· hi· he gret mydle See of the world begynneth·

of the sonne then is in any of the op·expan· er· expan· ·ij· partis· pc/· pc/· Eu·

hi· rend="tr"· O· hi· cian callid· hi· rend="ur"· Athilant· hi· brekith out &

mak·expan· th· expan·

the·expan· us· expan· in length · hi· rend="ur"· x· thousand· hi·· passe and in

brede·

hi· rend="ur"· x· thousand· hi·· passe· pc/· pc/· and hath on the right side aufrîk·

on the left side Europ·expan· e· expan· and other inward sees sp·expan· ri· expan· n·

gen out therof· pc/· pc/· hi· rend="tr"· T· hi· hendis of the midle see is the·

Ryu·expan· er· expan· of· hi· rend="ur"· Thandy· hi· in the north· pc/· pc/· And the

Ryu·expan· er· expan· of·

hi· rend="ur"· Nilus· hi· in the south· pc/· pc/· hi· rend="tr"· T· hi· his gret see is but·

cer<ref>fur</ref>

long in brede at Bosorn· expan· us· expan· beside Grece· pc/· pc/· Wher· expan· e· expan·

ex·expan· er· expan·

cise the king made a brigge bi craft of deuelis to·

<ref pb n="3r" facs="CPL3r.jpg"/>

werre upon Grece· pc/· pc/· hi· rend="tr"· T· hi· he space betuyx· expan· en· expan· Asie

and·

Europ·expan· e· expan· is so narow there than men mai here dogg· expan· es· expan·

bark from that one side to that othir· pc/· pc/· hi· rend="rb"· pc/· pc/· pc/· pc/· hi· It is callied þe·
arm of seint george and goth betuyx en asie &
Europ en e &

to C &
onstantinople &
hi rend "rb" &
 pc &

Anothir see callid Ensonu &
m &
hi at &

toth the lasse asie hillary &
Armane &
 pc &
it neithir e &
 pc &

that is for the gret strength and swiftnes of fressh &

Ryuers that comen into the see &
hi rend "rb" &
 hi rend "ur" &

is callid ponticus in the same maner neithir ebbip &

ne flowith and holdith his cours into the north as &

yfodre tellith bi the landis of Tracy &
 pc &

hi rend "tr" T &

he gret &
hi rend "tr" O &
cccan see goth about the world &

swolouth into it many sees and ebbith and flow &
th &
 pc &

the wawis therof rise more then iiiij store cubit &

in hight &
 pc &

hi rend "rb" &
 pc &

hi rend "tr" T &

he watir of this see is rede bicause &

onli that it slaishith and betith upon the clevis &

which ben rede as eny vermelon stone all the &

costis about &
 pc &

and that makith the wat &
r &
 pc &

same colour &
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hi rend "bl" &

hi rend "tr" B &

eside the see callid &

rend "ur" Caspiu &
 hi &

ben the hillis callid &
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add place "supralinear" hand "handx" &
s &
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and in brede aboue vnethi vij foot &
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hi rend "tr" T &

he land &

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 hi rend "ur" Caspij &
i is drie and so ful of serpentis that nos &

man mai abide theryn in Som &

er &
 pc &

hi rend "rb" &
 pc &

hi rend "tr" T &

he fourth &
 hi rend "tr" S &

hi welouȝ is betwuynen more Briteyn &

Walis &
 pc &

hi rend "tr" T &

hees vij Swelous drawn up watur &

pb n "3v" facs "CPL3v.jpg" &

hi rend "tr" T &

hi &

s &

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hi welouȝ is betwuynen more Briteyn &

Walis &
 pc &

hi rend "tr" T &

hees vij Swelous drawn up watur &
and cast hem out ageyn twice in the day; in þe

and cast hem out ageyn twice in the day &

The first/hi is callid phignon

that renneth about ynre which is adionant to

and many p/expan>re<expan>xious stones <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> <hi rend="tr">G</hi><hi

flood and the Ryuer nilus on about all Ethiop/expan>e/expan></

and Egipt <pc>/</pc><hi rend="rb"><pc>/</pc></hi><hi

third/hi flood is Tigere <pc>/</pc> it rennep</

most swiftly <pc>/</pc> therfore it is likned to a beste callid

A Tige that is the swif<hi>hi list beste of alle othir <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> þe</

fourth <hi rend="strike">is</hi> <hi rend="tr">flood is callid Eufrates &amp; renneth toward</

C<hi rend="ur">hi renneth <hi rend="ur">ur</hi> aldee</hi> <pc>/</pc><hi rend="tr">T</hi><hi rend="ur">hi renneth</

igre<hi rend="ur">hi renneth toward Assyr <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> hi renneth "Tr"<hi rend="ur">hi renneth</

ara<hi rend="bl">¶</hi> <add place="marginRight" hand="handx">2</add></

dise is a ful large cuntree as ynre or Egipt <pc>/</pc><hi rend="rb">¶</hi><pc>/</pc><hi rend="tr">I</hi>

two plesant fulle and plentenous of alle goodis <pc>/</pc><pc>/</pc>

and frutis that eny man can think <pc>/</pc><pc>/</pc><hi rend="tr">T</hi><hi rend="ur">hi renneth</

Asia<hi rend="ur">hi is named aft<expan>er</expan> er/expan> asia a woman as

<hi rend="ur">so</hi> tell/expan>er/expan> eth/expan>

an Orchard of delite <pc>/</pc><hi rend="tr">T</hi><hi rend="ur">he flood of Noe come in</

<pc>/</pc><hi rend="tr">pe</hi> and it is the hiest part of the world &

<pc>/</pc> Alle the trees in</

paradise beren frutes of gret sweetnes &amp; delites<

<hi rend="bl">¶</hi> <hi rend="tr">Asia<hi rend="ur">hi is named aft<expan>er</expan> er/expan> asia a woman as

<hi rend="ur">so</hi> tell/expan>er/expan> eth/expan>

T<hi rend="ur">he first prouince of <hi rend="ur">Asia<hi rend="ur">hi is yne which hath þe</

rising of the Sonne in the Est partie <pc>/</pc><hi rend="rb">¶</hi><pc>/</pc><hi rend="tr">I</hi> in þe south<

the gret Occian <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> <hi rend="tr">In the west a Ryu/expan>er/expan> callid Inde

the north the gret montaine callid Cantasius <pc>/</pc><hi rend="bl">¶</hi><hi rend="li</

<hi rend="tr">I</hi> hi renneth <hi rend="ur">ynde<hi rend="ur">hi ben the precious stones <pc>/</pc><pc>
<hi rend="tr">T</hi><hi rend="ur">her/expan>e/expan> is <add place="supralinear" hand="handx">a</add></
<add place="supralinear" hand="handx">b</add></
<add place="supralinear" hand="handx">e</add></
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<add place="supralinear" hand="handx">y</add></
<add place="supralinear" hand="handx">z</add></>
pentis and wilde bestis <expan>/</expan> Also men ben ther<expan>e</expan> in/<hi rend="rb">/
<expan>thoo</expan> horribile like deuels <expan>/</expan> O<hi rend="tr">O</hi> alle londis/<l>
in the world ynde is most feuer. most plentenous most/<l>
rique most merueilous & most pleasant <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> In ynde be/<l>
fige trees and othir trees of frute sprede so brode/<l>
b the temp<expan>er</expan> ance of the grond <expan>/</expan> that gret nombre of/<l>
the peple mai rest vndir a tree <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> In ynde be ma/<l>
ny kingis & much multitude of peple <expan>/</expan> And ther<expan>e</expan> ben/<l>
trees of so gret heigt that vnneth eny man may/<l>
shote to the tape <expan>/</expan> here be men in length · v ·
cubit/<hi rend="tr">T</hi>her be neithir be seke no dye/<l> T<hi rend="tr">T</hi> her be men
horrible/<l>
to behold <expan>/</expan> and ther ben many diu<expan>er</expan>se peple of
diu<expan>er</expan> <expan>/</expan> here ben <hi rend="ul">pigmes</hi> but in length one
cu/<l>
thei geten children at þe age of ·iii· yere <expan>/</expan> At/<l>
vii· yere thei wex<expan>en</expan> in age <expan>/</expan> they riden on <hi rend="tr">S</hi>hepe
<&amp;/l>
fight with cranes and destrueth their eggis for/<l>
thei haue continuess wrere with cranes <expan>/</expan> <hi rend="tr">T</hi>her<expan>e</expan> e/<expan>/</expan>
ben pele with godis as doggis and berk as dogge/<l>
and fight with her teth and with her nailes <expan>/</expan> bei/<l>
ben cledde in skynnes of bestis and eten the raw/<l>
fleish of wilde bestis <expan>/</expan> <hi rend="tr">O</hi> thir peple ben ther<expan>e</expan>
pat/<l>
han no monthis but lyven only bi sauoure and by/<l>
tast / and thei ben cledde in bark of trees <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> <hi rend="tr">O</hi>thir/<l>
pele be in monteins and thei haue but one foot &<l>
one hand and ·vilj· fingirs <expan>/</expan> the sool of the foot is tur/<l>
ed upward <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> <hi rend="tr">I</hi><hi rend="ur">N</hi> ynde/<hi rend="tr">T</hi>her<expan>e</expan> e/<expan>/</expan> is a countree
and ther<expan>e</expan> a ma<expan>en</expan>n/<expan>/</expan> And when he dieth þe wif/<l>
that he most loued shal be buried quikke w<expan>en</expan> him / &<l>
that is callid the most worship that mai be to that/<l>
wif <expan>/</expan> <hi rend="tr">T</hi>her<expan>e</expan> e/<expan>/</expan> is also the tree of the <hi rend="tr">S</hi>onne and the<expan>/</expan>
tree of the mone <expan>/</expan> and thou trees ben of m<expan>er</expan>ueilous/<l>
hight and of right gret vertue <expan>/</expan> <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> <expan>/</expan> <hi rend="tr">P</hi>restis that of/<l>
olde time eten frute of the trees lyued ·v· c yere &<l>
more / <hi rend="ur">Also</hi> when the bemes of the Sonne &<l> þe mone/<l>
shone upon the trees <expan>/</expan> then then same trees shook/<l>
mexulous and spak and gau answer to be peple
to kyng "ur" was warned bi the trees that he
shuld not come in Babilon "bl"
a lie and
is a lle and
e is gret plente who wil go <add place="supralinear" hand="handx">se</add> at ye must

<q>4v" facs="CPL4v.jpg"
passe by the greet S/ee or by the Reed S/ee
and for strength of that land sumtime it
to sey that is to sey <pc/>
rend="ur">
P<expan>er</expan>sida</q>

<q>C/armadia</q> And extendith in lenge
from the See callid <pc>/</pc> &amp; <hi rend="ur">Caspius</hi> vnto the Reed see &amp;
in brede from the Ryuer callid ynde to the Ryu<expan>er</expan> of
Tigre that is <add place="supralinear" hand="handx">be</add> begynnynge of the lond of
Macidane</q><sup>l</sup>

Trogus the auctour tellith in his Stories &amp; callit
the pepe of perse outlawes <pc>/</pc> for when they of
the kyngdom of perside had conquerid alle the lond
of mede <pc>/</pc> then thei exilid alle the peple of perse
of that lond gau many wyues <pc>/</pc> for thei ben
right lecherous and of few words <pc>/</pc>
<hi rend="tr">T</hi>hei drede
<hi rend="ul">Men</hi> of that lond / they punyssh adouentre most
of alle trespas <pc>/</pc> thei lyven right scarcely <pc>/</pc>
rend="rb">pc</pc>//hi</q>

ete no fleish but veneson <pc>/</pc> T/he peple be most
partie bonde And thei go on fote <pc>/</pc> and the fre men
ryde <pc>/</pc>
thei vse in the
myddis of their baile gret deceit <pc>/</pc> that is sodeinly
to fle attones and sodeinly turn ageyn al attones
&amp; thei disturbfit her enemies being out of
array <pc>/</pc>
hi rend="rb">pc</pc>/hi</q>

Thei be not buryed <pc>/</pc> but wilde bestis first eten her
fleish and then thei bury her bones
<hi rend="o3">A</hi>/hi/issuria that is Surry <pc>/</pc>
was named Assuria aft<expan>er</expan> Assurus that was
sonne to <hi rend="tr">S</hi>/em the first sonne of Noe <pc>/</pc>
rend="rb">pc</pc>/hi</q>

sur<expan>ia</expan> inhabit first that lond aftir the flood <pc>/</pc>
is betuuyxen ynde on the est partie And Mede on the
<l>south</l> / Tigre the <hi>ryu</hi>er on the west / And <hi>aucase</hi>/
The gret hille on the north partie / Surry ben /
The gatis of <hi>aspij the gret hille closid</hi> /<hi>M</hi>/
sonne of king Athneis in mynde of Mede his modir /
made the gret cite of Medee /<hi>rb</hi>/ C /<hi>aldee on the west And perside on the <hi>rb</hi>south /

<pb n="5r" facs="CPL5r.jpg"/>
partie / Persida is named aftir p<expan>ers that co<expan>nd querd</expan>/
the same lond as Isodre tellith And is betuyx /<expan>en</expan>/ ynde on /
the est partie and the rede see on the west And <expan>pe</expan>/
land of Medee in the north And the lond of <hi>ul</hi>Carmane </hi>/
in the south /<expan>rb</expan>/ C /<hi>aldee on the west And <expan>pe</expan>/ n
Persida is named aftir p<expan>ers that co<expan>nd querd</expan>/
in the time of Nombroth the geant /<expan>rb</expan>/ C /<hi>aldee on the west /

<hi>ur</hi>am /<expan>pe</expan>/
of Sem made the chere cite of P<expan>ers side and callid</expan> /<add place="supralinear" hand="handx">it</add>/ Elam /
af<expan>er</expan> his name /<expan>rb</expan>/ /<hi>tr</hi>/ he land of Mesopotanea is betuyx /<expan>en</expan>/
<hi>tr</hi>/ igre the Ryu<expan>er</expan>/ on the est /<expan>rb</expan>/ And Eufrates on the west /

and begynneth in the north betuyxen ·ij· hilles callid /
Taurus and Caucasus /<expan>rb</expan>/ And hath Babilon on the /
South partie /<expan>rb</expan>/ C /<hi>sodre tellith that Babilonia that lod /
was sumtime so wurthy that it conteynd ·iij· londe /
that is to semy Surry · Caldey and Mesopoutane · /
N <expan>tr</expan>/ N /<expan>tr</expan>/ <expan>tr</expan>/ S /<hi>emerrana the quene</hi>/
made it aftarward more large /<expan>rb</expan>/ /
unde and Oraticus /
ij· auctours rehercion of the Toure of the cite of /
Babilon /<expan>rb</expan>/ T /<hi>hat toure was named Babill</hi>/ And /
the cite of Babilon made ·iij· squar /<expan>rb</expan>/ w /<expan>tr</expan>/ ·iij· /
gatis /<expan>rb</expan>/ And the wallis /<expan>rb</expan>/ cc · cubitis in hight /
And /
·i· · cubitis in thiknesse /<expan>rb</expan>/ And from eny corn to obir /
was · xvj· myle of space /
wallis of the cite was ·xiiiij· myles /
wallis of the cite was ·xiiij· myles /
of the wallis was made of brent tiles and glue /
<expan>tr</expan> which neither be watir ne bi fir /
might be dissoluid To that cite were an ·c· gate
and without the wallis a m<expan>er</expan>ueilous diche <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="tr">T</hi>he cite of Ba<lb>

bilon is now alle wildernes and waste <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> <hi rend="tr">C</hi>aldea<lb>

was named bi Casseth the sonne of Nachor that<lb>

brothir to Abraham <pc>/</pc> Beside Eufrates upon<lb>

the mount of Semacȝ was the high toure of Babel<lb>

made <pc>/</pc> Withyn the wallis of the cite of Babilon<lb>

now dracons serpentis and many wilde bestis<lb>

<hi rend="tr">T</hi>he toure of Babil was in hight ·cc·lxxij·paas<lb>

Anothir auctour<expan>er</expan> in his Stories tellith that the toure<expan>er</expan> in the lond o Babilon is Mirre and Canell and ob<expan>er</expan>

spices & frutis / <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> Iosephus tellith that in þe lond<lb>

Araby is the hills of Sinaye <pc>/</pc> And the mount <pc>/</pc>

<hi rend="tr">O</hi>reb is part of the mount of Sinayye <pc>/</pc> vpon this<lb>

mount of Sinayye ben herbis of most<expan>er</expan>tue<lb>

drove his bestis upon that hille <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="tr">C</hi>rist showid<lb>

first lightnyng & thundre upon that hille <pc>/</pc> If is <hi rend="ul">of</hi> in</lb>

m<expan>er</expan>ueilous hight <pc>/</pc> noman durst go upp to the hight<lb>

of that hille but he wer<expan>er</expan> cleane of synnes <pc>/</pc>

Therfor<expan>er</expan> of Babil was in hight ·cc·lxxij·paas<lb>

at the front of that hille god gave the lawis to þe<lb>

children of israel <pc>/</pc> tellþ at<expan>er</expan>

in Araby is a birde callid fenix of m<expan>er</expan>ueilous kinde<lb>

for ther is neuer more briddis of that kinde on lyve<lb>

but one <pc>/</pc> And when it cometh to a certeyn age it<lb>

fleeth up toward the sonne so ferre that it is con<lb>

sumed bi the hete of the sonne to pondre / And of<lb>

that pondre springith a new fenix <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="bl">¶</hi> In</lb>

Araby ben the hills of libany that parten þe londis<lb>

of Araby ynde and fenice <pc>/</pc> And the hills ben so<lb>

high that thei kepen snowe many yeres <hi rend="rb">¶</hi> Mary<lb>

ners taken their markis by tho hilles in the gret<lb>

See to draw to diuers portis <pc>/</pc> <hi rend="tr">S</hi>ipre trees and<lb>

Cedre trees and othir trees of gret vertue grow<lb>

in the hills <pc>/</pc> And out of hem springith gume &<lb>

oyle bi which seke peple ben recou<expan>er</expan>ed And hit<lb>
destrueth al venym

destrueth al venym <pc/>

S</hi>irria is a lond

named</l>

aftir Sirus the newe of Abraham and lithe be</l>
twix Eufrates in the est side <pc/>

twix Eufrates in the est side <pc/> and the gret See in</l>
the west side <pc/>
And in the north Armenia &amp; Capy</l>
dote <pc/>
And in the south the See callid Arabicus <pc/>
ria conteneth ·vj· p<expan>ro</expan>uinces <pc/>
that is to sey <pc/>
C</hi>omogina</l>
Fenice· Palestina· Canaan· Idumea· and ludea <pc/>
Eldeger s<expan>er</expan>uant of Abrah<expan>a</expan>m began the cite of Da</l>
maske the most famous cite of that lond in the</l>
same place where Cayin slouȝ his brother Abell</l>
and hidde his body in the Sande <pc/> therfore by this</l>

name damaske is vnirstond a place of Blood</l>